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The Alpena Community College newspaper, 666 Johnson Steet, Alpena, MI 49707

## Concrete Tech Wins Grant

By KILE RONDEAU  
STAFF WRITER

After a competitive evaluation of 87 proposals, the State of California Integrated Waste Management Board has awarded one of ten Research and Development contracts to Alpena Community College's Concrete Technology Program.

"Our Concrete Tech proposal was the only one outside of California to win an award this year," said Robert Eller, Concrete Technology instructor.

The focus of the competition was to propose new technologies which could eliminate the growing number of waste tires by creating novel rubber products. Concrete Tech's winning proposal is an experimental process which will make ground waste rubber compatible with concrete. Using ground-up rubber tires in concrete, result-

ing in a concrete/rubber composite, could enhance the physical properties in comparison to normal concrete.

Concrete Tech in conjunction with Coalition Technologies of Midland, Michigan, will conduct a research program to test skin-sulfonated tire rubber in masonry and concrete. Completion of these tests will prove or disprove the concept. The first step toward future commercialization of this project is research.

"With the amount of available landfill space in the United States decreasing, alternative recycling methods must be developed," said Eller. "The creation of new products from recycled materials opens the door to huge new business opportunities."

According to Eller, a major concern facing the U.S. is the disposal of old tires. Rubber from used tires has zero or negative value. If this re-

search project is proven successful, commercialization of this process could rid the United States of virtually all used rubber tires.

If only two percent of the novel rubber High Performance Concrete Additive were added to the 400,000,000 tons of concrete poured annually in the U.S., 8,000,000 tons of waste rubber (one billion tires) could be used each year.

"Commercialization of the Coalition Technologies, Ltd. (CTL) sulfonation process for the production of High Performance Concrete Additive could eliminate tires, create business, and a substantial amount of employment for companies worldwide," Eller said.

The current project will continue for approximately 12 months. The project will focus on three major objectives.

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Billy Vogt, second year Concrete Technology student, sifts a handful of ground-up rubber, the raw material of a new project to test the use of waste rubber tires as an ingredient in concrete blocks. Block pictured above is one of the first samples of this new technology.

## ACC prepares for Accreditation

By HOLLY MACE  
STAFF WRITER

In 1998, consultants from the North Central Association will be evaluating Alpena Community College for reaccreditation.

According to Curt Davis, Executive Dean of ACC, accreditation is essentially a self and peer review of the college.

There are certain criteria that have to be met:

(1) "The institution has clear and publicly stated purposes consistent with its mission and appropriate to an institution of higher education."

Davis said this would include long and short term goals for the institution, appropriate decision-making processes, and efforts to keep the public informed of the institution's goals through catalogs and pamphlets.

(2) "The institution has effectively organized the human, financial, and physical resources necessary to accomplish its purposes."

In other words, Davis said, the institution should have adequate learning resources to support its academic programs. It also looks at the qualifications of the faculty and staff.

(3) "The institution is accomplishing its educational and other purposes."

Davis explained that the institution is required to have educational programs that are appropriate for its level of education. There should be student services that support the purposes of the institution. The staff and faculty should contribute to the effectiveness of the institution.

(4) "The institution can continue to accomplish its purposes and strengthen its educational effectiveness."

The institution should have a resource base (financial, physical, and human) to prepare for the future. It should also have adequate resources to support its plans for strengthening both the institution itself as well as its programs.

(5) "The institution demonstrates integrity in its practices and relationships."

The institution is to have publications that describe its operations and programs. The institution is to have ethical and responsible relationships with other institutions.

Once these standards are met, then every so often the institution is reaccredited. This is the case here at ACC

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## Opening Day '95



PHOTOS BY KILE RONDEAU

## Titus to retire after 30 years at ACC

By LYNLY  
STAFF WRITER

Keith Titus is one of Alpena's more colorful citizens. In December, he will retire after 30 years of teaching at Alpena Community College to move to Holland, Michigan.

For the last ten years,

Titus has taught primarily Speech.

"The last ten years have been the best for me," Titus said.

Titus has also taught theatre courses and related speech classes. He says he's taught ten to thirteen different courses that just disappeared over the years,

which has made his decision to move easier.

The first five years he was at ACC, from 1965 through 1970, Titus was managing director at the Alpena Civic Theatre.

Titus has written plays that were produced at Thunder Bay Theatre which he helped found in December of 1967.

TBT began as a summer non-profit theatre sponsored by ACC. After 1970, TBT closed down, and it was not re-opened until 1976, when Titus helped revived it. From 1976 until 1982, the theatre was housed at ACT, moving into their current building on Second Avenue in 1983.

In 1988, Titus pulled out of the theatre, turning it over to the capable hands of its directors.

His latest project was a one-man show called "Finale." It opened November 1 at ACT. Titus sang, read poetry, and reminisced.

Titus has a weekly column that started in September in the Alpena News, in which he talks about his memories of living in Alpena.

About his memories of Alpena and those he has left out of his weekly column, Titus laughs and says, "My image doesn't need any tarnishing. The community knows me quite well!"

From 1974 - 1980, Titus was a three-term Alpena County Commissioner. He also served as President of Northeast Michigan's Council of Governments for two terms.

In 1994, Titus ran for the 37th District State Senate seat, but withdrew before the election.

In 1984, Titus was arrested for protesting nuclear weapons on the Wurtsmith Air Force Base. The AFB barred Titus from teaching at

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Keith Titus, long time speech instructor, plans to retire at the end of the fall term to pursue a Divinity degree.



Construction of the new Student/Community/Business Learning Center is moving indoors for the winter.