

ACC to host Community College Press Day

• A dozen colleges to attend

By **HOLLY MACE**
STAFF WRITER

On April 12, 1997, Alpena Community College will be hosting the Michigan Community College Press Association (MCCPA) Conference for the first time ever.

"It's an honor, but it requires a lot of work, commitment and responsibility," commented Polemic Advisor, Don MacMaster.

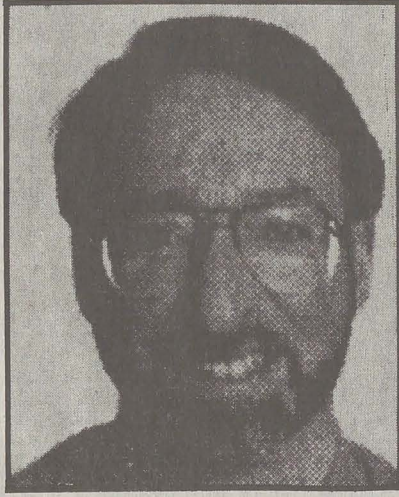
The conference enables advisors, editors and staff members of Michigan community college newspapers to get together for a day of special presentations, a keynote address, and also various awards.

Nearly 100 student journalists and their advisors from a dozen community colleges will be attending.

From 9:00 to noon, presentations will be given in various classrooms in the new Center building.

Lorraine Reuther, Training Coordinator, Besser Company,

and Cheryl Pell, Michigan State University Instructor, will focus on Graphic Design -- "What's in, what's out and

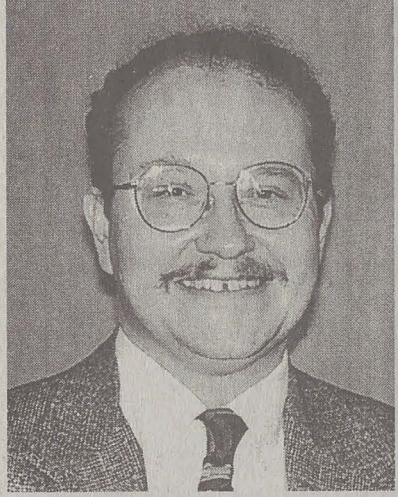


Neal Rubin
Detroit Free Press

how it integrates with writing," said Reuther. "People today are not the readers they used to be. You have to entice them."

Jane Briggs-Bunting, Professor of Journalism at Oakland University in Rochester,

Michigan, and a press law attorney, will discuss legal guidelines, specifically Michigan's Open Meetings Act (OMA) and



Bill Speer
The Alpena News

the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Following her presentation she will be holding a book signing at Waldenbooks in the Alpena Mall.

Bill Speer, Editor-Publisher of *The Alpena News*, will talk about Michigan Up North, the

web page of the newspaper. Following the presentations will be a lunch break.

The conference will resume in the Robert and Jacquelyn Granum Auditorium for keynote speaker, Neal Rubin's address which he titled, "Why Journalism is more fun than selling shoes."

Rubin came to the *Detroit Free Press* as a feature writer thirteen years ago but says that now he considers himself more of a columnist.

From 1989-1992, he had a column titled "Department of State" in the *Detroit Free Press* Sunday magazine. He also had a column in the *Detroit Free Press* titled "Neal Rubin's Names and Faces." Currently, his column, "Neal Rubin's People," appears once a week in the "The Way We Live" section.

When asked why he chose this career, Rubin responded, "I don't know if I chose it or it chose me."

According to Rubin, he has

always been fascinated with newspapers in general, ever since he was an eight-year-old in Southern California reading box scores in the *L.A. Times*.

Rubin earned his degree in Journalism at the University of Northern Colorado and his Master's degree at Michigan State University.

Lorraine Reuther, who met Rubin back when she was teaching high school journalism as well as teaching summer workshops at MSU, describes Rubin as a "man of well-chosen words" with a "brilliant feature writing style."

Following Rubin's speech, Sonya Titus, who chairs ACC's English Department, will announce the winners of each of the following categories:

News story, editorial, feature story, light column, editorial commentary, analysis, headlines, sports story, sports column, in-depth story, review, news/feature photo, sports photo, photo essay, cartoon/comic strip, graphic illustra-

tion, informational graphics, student ad, ad placement, front page, feature, Turkey of the Year, and Best Overall Newspaper.

Janet Mendler from the University of Michigan coordinated the judging, getting all of the entries out to the various judges.

"People today are not the readers they used to be. You have to entice them."

~ Lorraine Reuther ~

The Kalamazoo Valley Community College *Tower Times* is co-hosting this event. Journalism advisor Tom Thinnies and his students have been key partners in this event.

Students abusing Internet access

By **MISSY PORTER**
STAFF WRITER

Alpena Community College has been having problems with students abusing the internet system.

According to Lee Kirkpatrick, instructor of office technology, too many of the students are abusing their privilege of using the computers at ACC. The Netscape Browser has been having problems with students downloading things such as pornography screen savers and other types of programs. People print material off the computer, but do not check to see how long the articles are and end up printing over 50 pages, therefore tying up the printer.

Kirkpatrick said teachers have told her that students are beginning to fail classes because they use the computers too much for recreational things instead of school work. There are some students who sit in the labs all day and never do homework. When these things begin to happen there is a problem. Students should put their focus on school work first. Many use the internet for the chat rooms, the E-mail, and other activities instead of for informational use.

If this abuse does not stop, Kirkpatrick said, there will have to be some action taken.

"The internet should be treated like a prize when all school work is finished," said Kirkpatrick.

Kirkpatrick thinks mandatory IDs to use any computer on campus and that students be required to take an internet course before they are allowed to use the computers might happen if the abuse does not stop.

"The internet's a wonderful tool, but if it's their life they need to find something better to do."
~ Lee Kirkpatrick ~

If the misuse becomes worse, the open labs might have to be omitted all together also. So not only will the misusers be punished, but the whole school will be also.

According to Kirkpatrick, the people who are abusing the system are not amateurs. They know exactly what they are doing and they know it's wrong. They are usually the people who spend all their time in the labs.

When students go on-line, it's a way to meet people without being able to see them. No one can see your imperfections, you can pretend you're someone else. Did you ever wonder who was on the other end? Are they pretending to be someone else? Maybe they're really a serial killer or a rapist? Sometimes it can be fun to talk to people you don't know and can't see, but when students start giving out their names and addresses it can get dangerous.

Most of the students here should be mature enough to make their own decisions.

They should know what is in good taste and what is not. Students really need to start taking responsibility for their own actions.

"I want people to use it (the internet), it's a wonderful tool, but if it's their life they need to find something better to do," said Lee Kirkpatrick.

Comet passes lighthouse



William Lewis from Presque Isle took this remarkable photo near the new Presque Isle lighthouse Tuesday night, March 31. Using ASA 400 Kodak film and a Minolta X-D11 camera, he left the shutter open for approximately thirty seconds. He also used a 50 millimeter 1.4 lens. Lewis advises amateur photographers wanting to take photos of the Hale-Bopp comet not to use a telephoto lens to avoid streaking.

World Center awaits soil test

By **CARRIE COLLINS**
STAFF WRITER

As of March 20, there have been no definite dates set for the construction of the new World Center for Concrete Technology at Alpena Community College. Staff from the college have been working with architects from Hobbs & Black Associates, Inc., an architectural firm out of Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Hobbs & Black is one of the 10 largest architectural firms in Michigan with over 30 years of experience. The company has received many honors and awards for their work, such as the Showcase of Excellence Award and the National Excellence in Partnership Award. They have also received awards for their designs on the Volkswagon of America Headquarters in Auburn Hills, the Olds Plaza Building and the Grand Office Tower, both in Lansing, Michigan.

The architects and staff at ACC had a meeting March 25 to make some final plans on the layout of the building. Architects Dan Sonntag and Bill Meier from Hobbs & Black were there and showed some of the plans for the new building. Some of the issues discussed were the placement of the bins and parking spaces. Sound control between the rooms was also an issue.

The total area of the building will be 41,600 square feet. The plant area will be 16,931 square feet, according to current design specs. The planned site for the building is between Woodward Avenue and the graphic arts building. Dr. Donald Newport, ACC President, said, "It will be depending on soil samples and those haven't been scheduled yet. But they have been authorized by the Trustees."

Testing will be done by the company, Newport said. "The architect will bring a soil testing kit to do borings and see what is there. If we find it's good ground and everything smells good and feels good, then I'd say that that's a fairly definite location."

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