

# THE POLEMIC

VOLUME 8 / ISSUE 6

ALPENA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

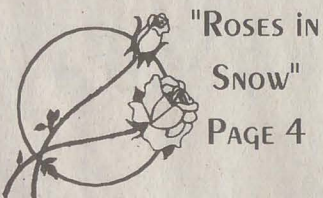
MARCH 2, 1999

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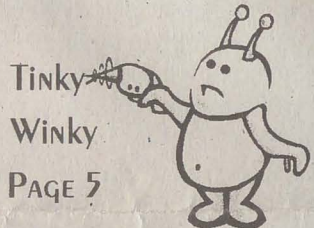


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## ACC Party

BY AMY WALLOT  
STAFF WRITER

ACC's men and women's basket victories over Delta were celebrated at the 1999 homecoming dance.

During halftime of the men's game the homecoming court was presented and the king and queen were announced.

The court consisted of *Polemic* representatives Beth Kline and Kevin Brown; ACC Players, Bobbi Jo Suchey and Dale Haske; Phi Theta Kappa, Nicole Hewitt and Nathan Kroll; Student Senate, Greta Nowak and Josh Helsel; Women's Basketball, Mari Klinger and Jamal Edwards, Men's Basketball, Christine May and Brian Veitengruber; Cross Country, Heather Griffiths and Curt Hansen; Women's Softball, Stacie Bey and Casey Smith; Nursing, Carrie Adams and Jim Engel; and Crimson Crew representatives Ashleigh Burton and Jeff Guy.

King Jamal and Queen Mari were crowned by Dr. Newport and last year's homecoming queen, Missy Bisson.



## STDs leave lasting impression

BY BETH KLINE  
EDITOR

*Editor's note: This is the second in a series of articles concerning the dangers of STDs. Look to the next edition of the Polemic to find where help can be received and how to deal with an STD.*

About 50 percent of students at Alpena Community College have experienced a Sexually Transmitted Disease, according to a survey conducted by *Polemic* staffers.

"There is some understanding about STDs but there is still a lot of thought that 'it won't happen to me, you can't get anything like that in Alpena,'" said Dr. Tina Rossi of the Alpena Medical Arts Clinic.

## Mutilation, vandalism, damage

BY AMY WALLOT  
STAFF WRITER

Mutilation of the pool table in the student lounge has led to its ultimate demise.

On Friday, January 26, the pool table was returned to Ray's Amusement.

According to Mike Crick, ACC's director of special projects, the removal of the pin ball machine and pool table was a result of vandalism being done to the room and its utilities. The decision was made after Crick and Max Lindsay, dean of student services, toured the room and evaluated the damage.

Custodian Jean Nowak said she considered the damage beyond normal wear and tear. According to Nowak, approximately 30 ceiling tiles have had to be replaced.

"The ceiling tiles had numerous holes in them punctured from the sticks. (There were) a lot of broken sticks. We've found pieces of the sticks laying around," Nowak said.

She also noted that the doors to the lounge are often closed and people can do whatever they want in there without anyone noticing.

With the Student Senate office being in the lounge, Student Senate President Amanda Nielsen has noticed the damage.

"I'll be sitting in the office and I'll see pool balls go flying across the floor," Nielsen said. "I've seen people kick (the pin-ball machine), beat it, and shake it enough so the cord would come right out of the wall."

Nielsen said there was a suggestion to put a ping pong table in the lounge, but because of the recent vandalism the idea was rejected.

The pinball machine and pool table were being loaned to ACC from Ray's Amusement. The proceeds were split evenly between ACC and Ray's.

Crick said the table was put in November of 1996 to "give students a place to relax between classes."

"I begged off doing this for some time, said Crick, "(But) you can't just go around damaging things."



More than 20 different kinds of diseases that can be spread through oral, anal or vaginal intercourse can be damaging life-long for the disease carriers.

Viral, bacterial, parasitic, protozoan or fungal diseases can cause side effects which range from annoying lesions

to death.

"As usual, women get the brunt of the symptoms. I've known females that have had to be hospitalized. They just couldn't function because they had so many herpes in their vagina," said Barb Mink, RN, at District Health Department

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Herpes don't cause any detrimental side effects but the blisters may be annoying, said Rossi.

Other diseases, however, such as AIDS, syphilis or chlamydia, cause health threatening problems if left un-

treated.

Pregnant women are screened for chlamydia and gonorrhea but AIDS screening is optional.

"Active cases of herpes or genital warts are call for a c-section in pregnant women." *see STD on page 2*

## More than 100 scholarships

BY ERIN BRUSKI  
EDITOR

Alpena Community College has 190 scholarships available, and anyone can apply for one. While there are certain requirements that need to be met, there are scholarships available for ev-

ery program of study, and there are also several general education scholarships.

"One thing that students don't realize is that there are scholarships available for returning sophomore students, and for non-traditional students," said Cathie Rogg, Executive Director of the

Alpena Community College Foundation, which distributes the scholarships.

The ACC Foundation has \$105,000 in scholarships to distribute annually. This is made possible mostly by gifts from individuals and

*see scholarship on page 2*



## Homecoming Royalty

Above: The 1999 basketball homecoming was held Saturday, February 6. The homecoming court was introduced during halftime of the ACC men's basketball game. ACC President Dr. Don Newport and 1998 homecoming queen Missy Bisson crowned Jamal Edwards and Mari Klinger 1999 homecoming king and queen. Right: Sports editor Kevin Brown and co-editor Beth Kline were in the homecoming court representing *The Polemic*. See page 8 for more photos.



## Volunteers for ACC millage campaign Students reach out to touch voters

BY AMY WALLOT  
STAFF WRITER

Many students have volunteered and many more are needed for the ACC Millage Campaign phone bank.

Using the phone bank, ACC hopes to raise voter turnout at the March 23 special mill-

age vote.

The two issues on the ballot include a renewal of the 1.18 charter millage that the college currently has, and a request for an additional .8 mills that is earmarked primarily for technology upgrades. Each issue is for five years.

The phone bank will take

place on nine nights between March 3 and March 23 at the GTE building in Alpena.

Volunteers will be calling approximately 60 voters each, reminding and encouraging them to vote.

Callers will be working in two hour shifts. There are two shifts per night a person

can choose to work.

While calls are being made, dinner will be served for the volunteers. The menu includes pizza, subs, pop, and other snacks.

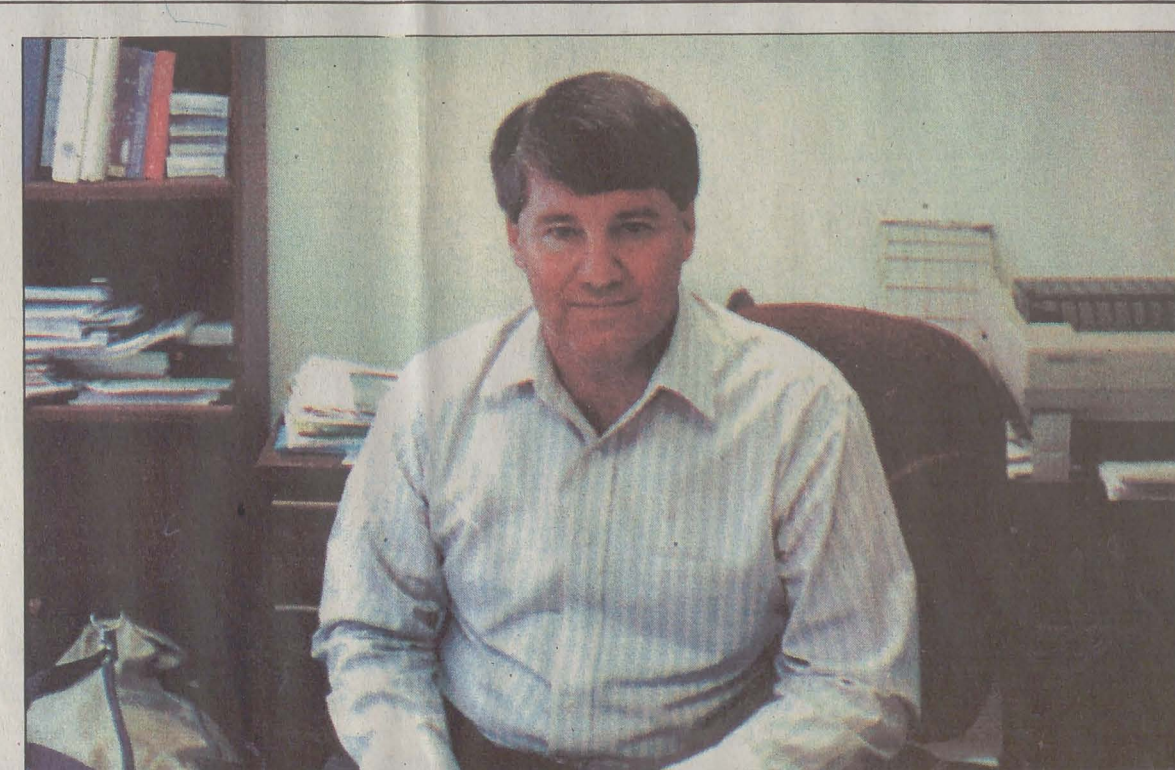
Members from Phi Theta Kappa, ACC Players, Student Senate, and the Nursing program have been collecting volunteer names. If you haven't signed up yet and would like to, contact Executive Dean Dr. Davis, at extension 233.

**You can help out by voting and reminding your friends and relatives to vote.**

**Max Lindsay  
Student Services**

If you're not up to two hours of calling people, you can help out by voting and reminding your friends and relatives to vote.

"It's real important for our students and our former students to vote because we think people who are here now or who've been here in the past, want programs to continue to grow," said Dean of Student Services Max Lindsay.



Max Lindsay, dean of student services, is coordinating student volunteers for the phone bank in preparation for the millage campaign March 23.

STD

When babies are born, it is a state mandate to put an antibiotic ointment in their eyes to wash out any infections picked up in the vaginal tract," Rossi said.

If a female contracts chlamydia or gonorrhea and it is not treated, a pregnancy may never be an option.

Pelvic inflammatory disease is a result of untreated bacterial infections and can cause scarring in a females reproductive organs. The infection can also spread into the abdominal cavity.

Scarring can be so severe that the fallopian tubes become blocked and cannot fit an egg through, or the egg can get stuck resulting in an ectopic pregnancy, Mink said.

Gonorrhea can also

travel through the blood stream and infect the body elsewhere causing arthritis and other complications, Rossi said.

Some of the best defenses against contracting an STD are abstinence, a monogamous relationship, and the use of condoms during every sexual encounter. Condoms, however, are not 100 percent effective against STD infection.

Sixty-nine percent of ACC students practice safe sex every time, as stated by the survey. Thirty-five percent believe that condoms are very effective against spreading STDs.

In a pamphlet distributed by the Department of Health and Human Services, condoms are not 100 percent effective but they can reduce

the chance of transmitting diseases.

The effectiveness of condoms is decreased when protecting against genital warts, genital herpes or during anal intercourse. Condoms may break easily and if not stored properly, can deteriorate.

"The best things to do are get an evaluation to see if you have anything. Remember that if you have one sexually transmitted disease, you may have another," Rossi said.

To get tested for the presence of STDs contact the Health Department at 356-4507 or your family doctor.

If more immediate answers are needed, call the STD hotline at 1(800)621-8335 between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. Press 3 after the recording.

## The repercussions of STDs

**VIRAL**

**HIV/AIDS**

- Death
- Can be passed to child during birth
- Incapacitates immune system

**Herpes**

- Can be passed to child during birth
- Frequent outbreaks of painful blisters in genital area

**Genital Warts**

- Can lead to cervical cancer
- Can be passed to child during birth
- Warts appear near genital area or mouth/throat
- As warts spread, they are harder to get rid of

**Hepatitis B**

- Death
- Can be passed to child during birth
- Permanent liver damage

**BACTERIAL**

**Pelvic Inflammatory Disease**

- Severe pelvic pain
- Scarring in fallopian tubes
- Sterility

**Chlamydia**

- Can cause PID
- Damage to reproductive organs
- Sterility in men and women
- Can be passed to child during birth

**Gonorrhea**

- Can cause PID
- Damage to reproductive organs
- Sterility in men and women
- Can be passed to child during birth

- Can cause heart trouble, skin disease, arthritis and blindness

**Syphilis**

- Death
- Can be passed to child during birth

•Miscarriage

- Can cause heart disease, brain damage, blindness
- Paralysis

**VAGINAL DISORDERS**

**Bacterial Vaginosis**

- Can cause PID
- Pain during intercourse

**Vaginitis**

- Itching, burning, pain near vagina will continue
- Men can get infections in the penis, prostate gland or urethra.

**Yeast Infection**

- Persistent, unusual-smell in vaginal area
- Continual vaginal discharge

**PROTOZOAN**

**Trichomoniasis**

- Itching, discharge from vagina will continue
- Urethritis in men

## ACC art student at juried show

By JEFF WILLIAMS  
STAFF WRITER

Alpena Community College has produced an art student talented enough to exhibit among the best.

The All Michigan Student Competition at Central Michigan University ran from January 20 through February 17.

This art show show-

cased 39 works selected from over 130 applicants from colleges across Michigan.

One of the pieces on display was a work by Ed Hoover of ACC. Hoover's clay sculpture was the only piece representing a community college.

Hoover said that most of the entrants had master's degrees in fine arts from larger universities and that he

was honored to be among their ranks as a community college student with an associate's degree in fine arts.

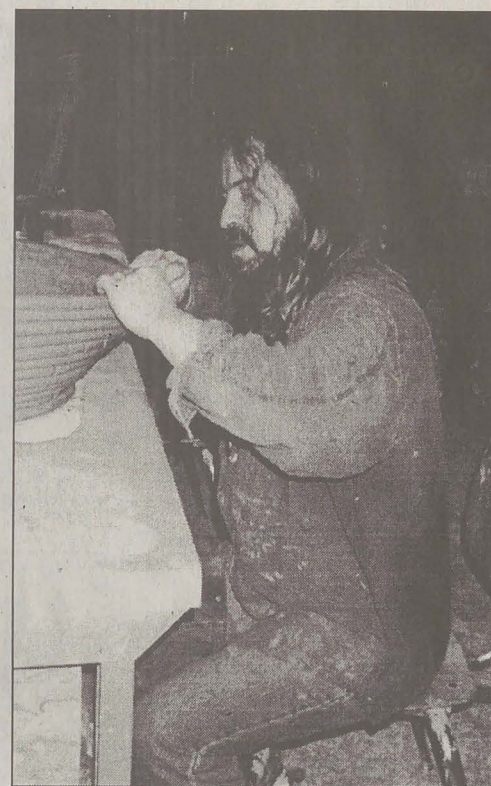
The juried show included a wide array of works. In addition to Hoover's and many other ceramics pieces there were paintings, photographs, and jewelry, among other things.

Art instructor Laurie Wade said that the organizers of the show usually select one person to serve as the jury and he is the person that chooses who gets awards.

Hoover says that his focus isn't on any specific piece, in fact he has many works in progress right now, but his focus is on learning from what the other pieces teach him and storing that away for later use.

"There comes a point where you don't even think about the work...all of this stuff just piles up in your mind and through everything...all the stress...the drugs...everything...the work just pushes out your hands into the clay," Hoover said.

He says that he never really plans any project ahead, he just starts and goes wherever the clay takes him.



Ed Hoover, Alpena Community College art student, attended a juried art show in Mt. Pleasant at Central Michigan University. The event showcased 39 works of art selected from more than 130 applicants. Hoover's clay sculpture was the only community college exhibit. Hoover holds an associates degree in fine arts.

## Student Senate meets needs

By BECKIE FILIPIAK  
STAFF WRITER

The Student Senate is here to give the students at Alpena Community College the assistance they need.

If you want a change in the way something is being done in this school, you should attend an open-forum meeting for a chance to be heard.

They have also placed suggestion boxes around campus for students who don't have the opportunity to attend a meeting. Either way, the Student Senate is interested in finding out the ideas and opinions of the student body.

The president this year is Amanda Nielsen; vice-president is David Bruning; treasurer is Jim Gunderson; and Ginger Davis is in charge of public relations.

The sophomore class representatives are Erin Bruski, Dale Haske, Greta

Nowak, and Mandi Pröll.

The freshman class representatives are Jessica Brege, Beckie Durfee, Josh Helsel, and newcomer Jeff Guy. They are advised by Matt Dunckel.

Nielsen said that, "the thing I like best (about being on Student Senate) is that there are a lot of people with a lot of talents who are good problem-solvers. We work together to get things done."

The Student Senate is involved in many activities throughout the college. It coordinates all of the dances, approves new clubs and organizations, bring in speakers, and is involved in the Christmas Caper and cookie-decorating during the holidays.

The Student Senate also uses its funds to benefit the students of ACC and anyone who is in need.

It helped finance the Chinese film series, used some of their money to get discount prices for students who like to attend theater productions, and funded a trip to the slopes

for the ski club.

As you can see, the Student Senate is very interested in student life and wants to help make the college-going experience a little easier.

The group members are also involved in a number of volunteer projects. They helped post fliers for the League of Women Voters, work as a welcoming committee for students, work with the tutoring program in the Learning Center, and spend time at the Boys and Girls Club in Alpena.

The Student Senate is a very involved group of people who are trying to make a difference in the quality of campus life at ACC. They are interested in the student body's opinions and would like to hear more of them so they'll know how to assist the students.

If you have something to bring up to them, visit the Student Senate office in BTC 188A, call them at extension 287, or leave a message on their door.

scholarship

businesses in the community.

After students receive scholarships, there are two things expected of them. The first is that they send thank you notes to the donor(s). The students are also asked to attend a reception in November where the students are introduced to the donors.

"Many of the donors like to know who the students are and how they are doing," Rogg said.

Two areas that have really grown in scholarship support in recent years are the

business and computer-aided drafting and design areas.

"The Foundation is really proud that they can provide as many scholarships as they can. Each year we can give out more due to the generosity of the community and fund-raising activities, said Rogg.

One scholarship recipient is Jennifer Domke. Domke is a 1998 graduate of Onaway High School. She received the Robert R. Chater Scholarship.

"It was very helpful be-

cause it helped my parents with the cost of attending college," said Domke.

A brochure containing a description of all of the available scholarships is put out every January. Interested students should fill out the application and submit it before April 8. Certain scholarships may require an essay and or letters of recommendation.

For more information, contact Cathie Rogg at extension 297 or Max Lindsay at extension 200.

# The Polemic

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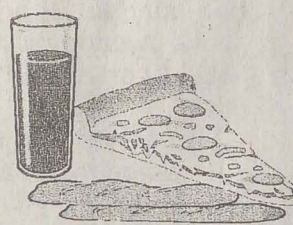
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# Utility Technician

By NICK EWING  
STAFF WRITER

The Utility Technician program offered at Alpena Community College is a unique one-year program that offers excellent hands-on training, experience and job placement.

Started in 1990, the program trains students in various aspects of the electrical, telephone and cable industries.

Heavy equipment which the students gain experience on include bucket trucks and trenchers.

Underground fault detecting equipment is used in case of a power outage to help locate the specific area of a problem.

Roy Smith, UTT instructor, said that students "learn how electricity is produced at the generating plant, goes from the plant, to how it's used in the home, so it covers electricity basically from one end of the spectrum to the other."

Upon completion of the UTT program, students can find work in one of the various electrical service industries with a pay rate starting upwards of \$10 per hour, depending on location and type of work. Many graduates find work in the lower region of the state but can travel nearly anywhere and find work.

According to Smith, Michigan Electric Cooperative Association wanted to start a program that could give individuals the necessary training to step out onto the job site and begin work.

One problem in the past was a company may train an individual for months, then once ready for work in the field, that person may not be able to perform the required services on a 40-foot pole.

The UTT program came to Alpena because ACC showed an interest in the program, offered training facilities and also had an instructor available, Charles Scheufler. Scheufler had just retired from Alpena Power Company but still wanted to work in the industry and taught through the 1994-95 school year.

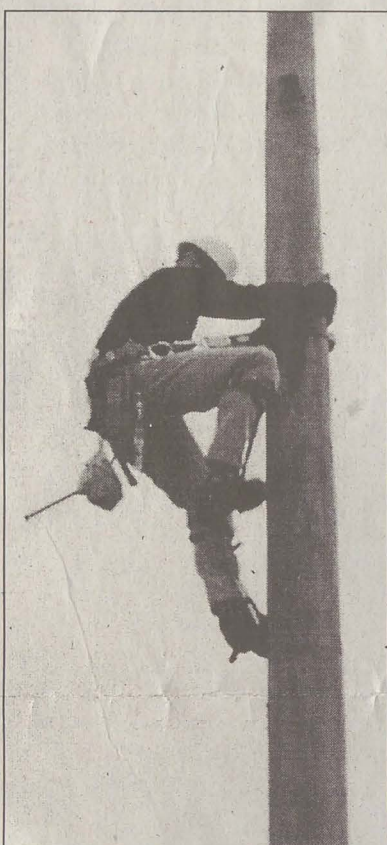
Scheufler still returns to talk to students and offer instruction. The program is limited to 20 students per year.

Students come to Alpena from throughout the state. This year there are four students from the Upper Peninsula, four from downstate, and several from the western side of the state.

Matt Birk, from Newberry, had been working in the tree services industry in the U.P. Often the tree services work in conjunction with the power company and Birk was informed about the UTT program at ACC by a past graduate of the program.

Birk said that he would have come to ACC out of high school if he had heard of it earlier.

Smith said the program is good for people who like to work outdoors, and like mental and physical challenges.



Utility Technician students practice their lessons at ACC.

Also included in the training is Red Cross First Aid and Commercial Drivers License training.

# Local educator featured in Parents magazine

Alpena has made its mark in the March 1999 issue of Parents magazine with the help of Michael Meharg.

Meharg is the husband of Alpena Community College secretary Katherine and father of ACC student Kelly. He teaches fifth grade at Maple Ridge Elementary School.

In the two-page article by Felicia E. Halpert, Meharg's teaching achievements are outlined. His students have shared weather data with first-graders in Australia, written poems with eighth-grade students in Israel and received information about the north pole from a team dogsledding across the Arctic all with the help of the Internet.

The article details the positive effect of using the Internet in the classroom. A 1997 report issued by the President's Committee of Advisors on Science and Technology found that students who used computers in class out performed those taught without them by anywhere from 25 to 41 percent.

Meharg has been teaching in the Alpena area for many years. A few of his numerous classroom activities have included class ponds, class theater productions, and daily weather reports.

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# Then and Now...

## August 2, 1966



# Alpena College Instructor One of 15 Killed by Texas Sniper

## Crazed Student Gunned Down After Campus Rampage

Austin, Tex. (UPI)--A crazed student went on an 80-minute campus rampage with an armload of weapons Monday in the worst mass killing in U.S. history. He killed 15 persons, including his mother and his wife, and gunned down 30 others before a shaken off-duty policeman shot him dead atop the 27-story University of Texas tower.

Harry Walchuk, a respected first-year instructor in political science at ACC, was an unfortunate victim of this sniper. Walchuk, 39, and his wife, Marilyn, an English teacher at Alpena High School, had six children. Walchuk had been highly successful in business before deciding to become a teacher.

On his job application at ACC, he said: "During the last nine years with Honeywell, I discovered that the part of my job most satisfying was the part spent in teaching classes. The realization that there was more to life than just selling and that I could contribute more to society as a teacher led to my entering graduate school."

Walchuk had finished his first year of teaching at ACC and was at the University of Texas working on his doctorate when he was struck down.



Community Is Shocked by Murder of Harry Walchuk

# Fielder makes Taming of the Shrew a success

By JOHN KISSANE  
STAFF WRITER

Thom Fielder, who directed *A Midsummer Night's Dream* last year at ACC, directed *Taming of the Shrew* this year.

Fielder attained a Bachelor of Arts degree at the University of Michigan. He acted in some Shakespearean plays there, participated in some workshops in the field, and attended shows put on by touring Shakespearean groups. He went to Mississippi to get his Master of Fine Arts degree, because he wanted to be closer to the family he had in Arkansas.

Fielder spent two years as company manager and an actor for the now-defunct Michigan Shakespeare Festival. Two years ago, he worked at the Shakespeare Festival in Arkansas.

Fielder, who got involved with Thunder Bay Theatre, wanted to bring Shakespeare to Alpena.

"So many people shy away from Shakespeare," he said, "[but] the sooner you can understand it, appreciate it, and get past the difficulty of the language, then it's much more accessible to you."

"Not every theater in every place does Shakespeare," he said, but he was thoroughly convinced that this town could do it, that the talent was here and that [he] could make interesting enough that people would appreciate it.

People did. *A Midsummer Night's Dream* went over very well last year. Fielder both directed and acted in it.

This time, he chose to direct *Taming of the Shrew*. In fact, he'd wanted to direct it last year, with himself playing the lead male role, but found it was too much. The play is one of his favorites, and he got to direct it this year, with Aaron O'Rear as the lead male, Petruchio.

Due to a lack of males, Fielder had to cut some minor male roles and have some of the others played by females. (The final count is fifteen characters). Also, he had to cut a good deal of the play, because the large amount of words could have proved daunting to some of the actors. In addition, Fielder pointed out that today's audiences have built up a small attention span, not being used to the complexity of Shakespeare.

"If you sort of slice off some of the stuff that's not necessary, then today's audience can appreciate it," he said.

To those who would condemn such a practice, Fielder notes that Shakespeare stole a good deal of the play from one called *The Taming of the Shrew* (having an added "the"). He tried only to cut scenes that had been stolen from the earlier play (and they'd been reproduced sometimes nearly word-for-word).

As of a few days before the first performance, he said, "I'm proud of all the hard work everybody's done."

His pride was justified on Thursday, February 12, during the opening morning performance.

The first thing to impress viewers was undoubtedly the costuming, Carla Kurzenhauser

did a marvelous job creating clothing reflecting the style of the time.

Another impressive facet of the play was the way in which Fielder blocked it, adding all manner of physical-acting features to the play.

In fact, most of the actors excelled in physical acting. Aaron O'Rear and Laura Beth Brown played with grand comic sweep, as did Matt Huebsch and Katie Call. Rachel Baumgardner, who seems to be a prodigy, made every motion fluid and believable. The physical flourishes in the play added greatly to the accessibility and entertainment value

of it.

The play is, of course, dialogue-driven, and the actors, for the most part, did justice to the words. O'Rear was loud and haughty, Call was charmingly vampy, and Brown was, well, shrewish. Some of the actors were wooden and monotonous, but the bulk of them delivered the lines in the melodramatic fashion necessary for Shakespearean comedy.

*Taming of the Shrew* brought Shakespeare to the stage at ACC once again.

Those who experienced it owe gratitude to Fielder, who made it possible, and to the actors, who made it great.



Thom Fielder was convinced that Alpena would appreciate Shakespeare's finest productions. *Taming of the Shrew* opened Feb. 12 in Granum Theater.

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MATERIALS FOR BUILDING OUR WORLD

## A rose in the snow

By JOHN KISSANE  
STAFF WRITER

Stacey's dying. She won't last through this summer. I only met her once. I respected her before that, because she's the best friend of a good friend of mine, someone I love. The liveliness and humor she displayed when I met her justified that respect. She had vibrance, like a rose in the snow.

They diagnosed her with brain cancer. She lost a good deal of memory. Complications in surgery made half her face paralyzed, which has caused her to have a speech impediment. Most of her hair is gone, which forces her to either wear a wig in public or be ridiculed.

She's told those close to her that she won't last through summer. She's made peace with the idea of death, and is only worried about the effect it will have on her loved ones.

Somehow, she's doing all right. Up and down, but mostly all right. If she were to greet the situation with rage and fear and terror, that would be perfectly understandable, but she isn't. I think she derives some of her calm from her faith: she's a Christian. Most of it, though, seems to come from the strength of her character.

She's dying and is all right. Compare that to most healthy people, dwelling on their neuroses and "picking at mental scabs," as Stephen King put it. In comfort and luxury, we focus inward and cry over perceived lacks. "Prozac Nation" is what Elizabeth Wurtzel dubbed America, and she's right.

Anti-depressants are incredibly over-prescribed. Pets have been prescribed Prozac. Depression, a terrible and debilitating disease, is attributed to far too many people, people who are simply self-absorbed.

But it's easy for me to pound in the nails. It's a bit harder to nail my own flesh to the boards. However, I should: I'm as guilty as anyone else of dwelling on things that don't really matter, rubbing sandpaper across my psyche out of a desire for melodrama, swathing myself in a downward-focused outlook.

And I can't even write a column about a dying girl without putting myself in it.

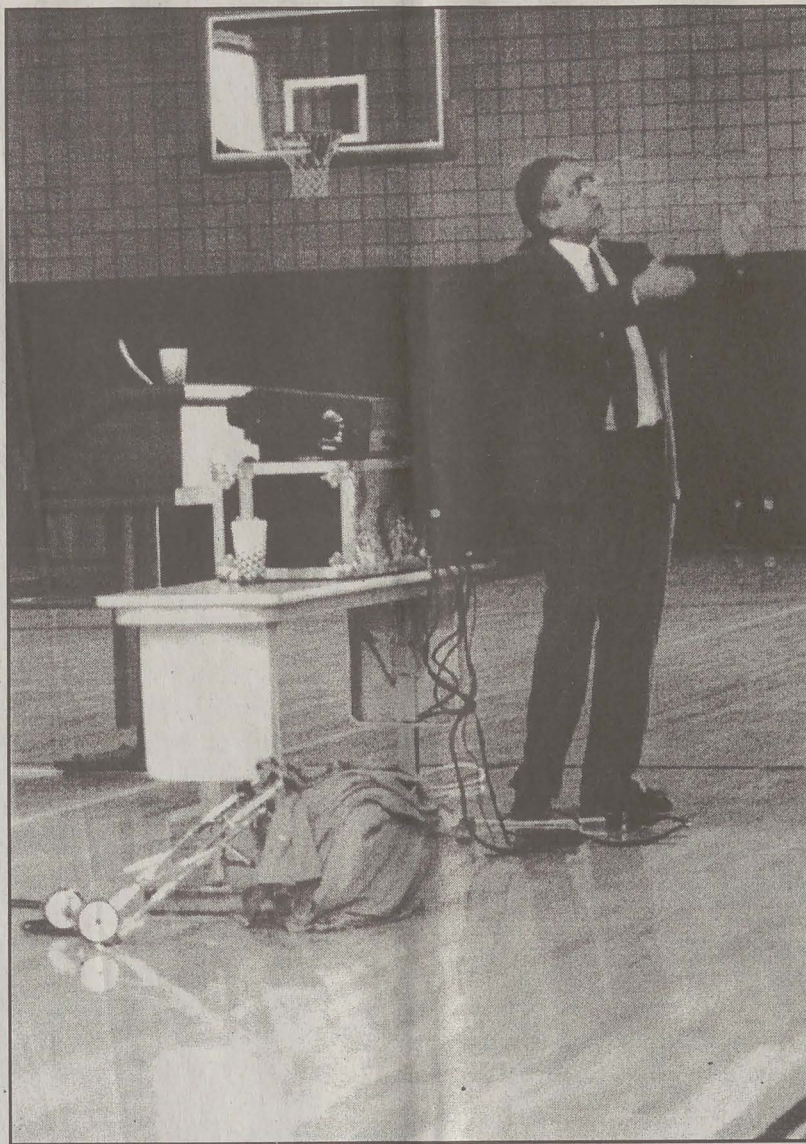
I'm going to re-meet Stacey. Again, most of her memory's gone, so she won't remember me. But maybe I can learn something from her about how to live.

She'll be gone soon. The dusty white snow will cover the rose.

But there will always be the memory of red petals.

She's dying and is all right. Compare that to most healthy people, dwelling on their neuroses and "picking mental scabs." In comfort and luxury, we focus inward and cry over perceived lacks.

## "We're off to see the Wizard--the Wonderful Wizard of Work!"



The Wizard of Work, Dick Gaither, entertained and enriched ACC students, staff, and administrators with his hands-on advice on how to prepare for and land a job in today's workforce. Gaither's common sense message listed stability, reliability, honesty and trustworthiness as traits employers look for in their employees. To educators, he suggested helping students to make realistic vocational choices early on, then pushing students to succeed until they either "fly or fall into the safety net." A best-selling author and accomplished presenter, Gaither works with thousands of job seekers annually.

## Music for the masses; some new stuff, too

### Sharp Metal Objects

by Jeff Williams

"Varsity Blues: Music from and Inspired by the Motion Picture"

Various Artists

Hollywood Records

From the new Paramount Pictures/MTV Films coming of age football movie *Varsity Blues* comes an album filled with the stars of today's modern rock world and some cutting-edge rookies.

The album is full of songs written as exclusives for the soundtrack as well as songs from previously released albums.

The CD is headlined by Collective Soul's "Run," the first single from the album. The Georgia power baladeers deliver again with this song that was written exclusively for the soundtrack.

Other bands contributing exclusive songs are Fastball, Third Eye Blind, and Days of the New. Sprung Monkey adds to the bill with their cover of AC/DC's "Thunderstruck."

Among previously released songs are "Nice Guys Finish Last" by Green Day from their album *Nimrod* and "My Hero" by Foo Fighters from *The Colour and the Shape*. But the cream of this crop is "Hot for Teacher" by Van Halen from their album *1984*.

But the real bonuses on this disc are the tracks by some fairly unknown bands. Caroline's Spine perform the title track, a stirring song about the pressures and expectations placed on a small town football hero. Up-and-comers Monster Magnet rock out on their track "Kick out the Jams." Other new bands appearing on the album are Loudmouth, Redd Kross, and Janus Stark.

Bottom line: A decent album with good selections from established bands and newcomers alike.

★★★★☆

## Horror fiction goes to the top floor and beyond

By JOHN KISSANE  
STAFF WRITER

Larry King asked Clive Barker one time what he had to say about the idea that the elevators of readers and writers of horror fiction don't exactly go up to the top floor. Barker said that he thought that, on the contrary, their elevators do go up to the top, and stop at rather more places on the way.

There is no floor denied to Poppy Z. Brite's elevator, especially in her latest novel. It's a love story between two necrophile/cannibal/serial killers and is named *Exquisite Corpse*.

Andrew Compton is a serial killer, likeable in the way that Hannibal Lecter is likeable: articulate, cultured, and disturbing. He escapes from a hospital and eventually makes his way to New Orleans.

Jay Byrne, a kindred spirit, meets up with him. At first, the two each plan to kill the other, not realizing that both are alike. However, they realize their similarities, and discover a strange sense of connection, and fall into a sort of love.

Tran, a teenage Vietnamese boy, runs away from home when his conservative father finds out his son is gay and

asks if he violated his little brother. He subsists on friends from his crowd: a crowd of young, sexually deviant, drug-taking kids.

One of the people he falls in with is the older Jay Byrne, who once offered to take pictures of him.

At the same time all this is occurring, a guy who hosts a pirate radio station under the name of Lush Rimbaud is getting sicker and sicker with AIDS and more and more over the edge. He spouts anti-heterosexual propaganda and rails against the entire world.

He was an ex-lover of Tran, who is being looked on by the two cannibals as a fine, fine treat.

The novel is over-the-top and gaudy, but the best of horror/suspense usually is. Brite's

plotting is sharp and tight, her characterization excellent, and the gruesomeness of her images is coupled with a gift for writing so strong that on a couple of occasions, this reviewer, no stranger to extreme literature, almost vomited.

This isn't a safe book. You won't know how far Brite's going to take you, how dark the tale will get.

It will keep you interested, though, which is the ultimate measure of its worth. If it were just violence for violence's sake, that would be pornography, and the reader

wouldn't be hooked into finishing the book.

The novel may be filled with disturbing, devilishly creepy images, but the true pull is your concern for and fascination with the characters.

Remember how you felt the first time you heard that the big bad wolf had eaten Grandmother? Remember how you felt when you were certain that Hansel and Gretel weren't going to leave the house alive?

Prepare to feel that way again. The elevator doors are opening.

*"This isn't a safe book. You're never sure how far Brite is going to take you."*

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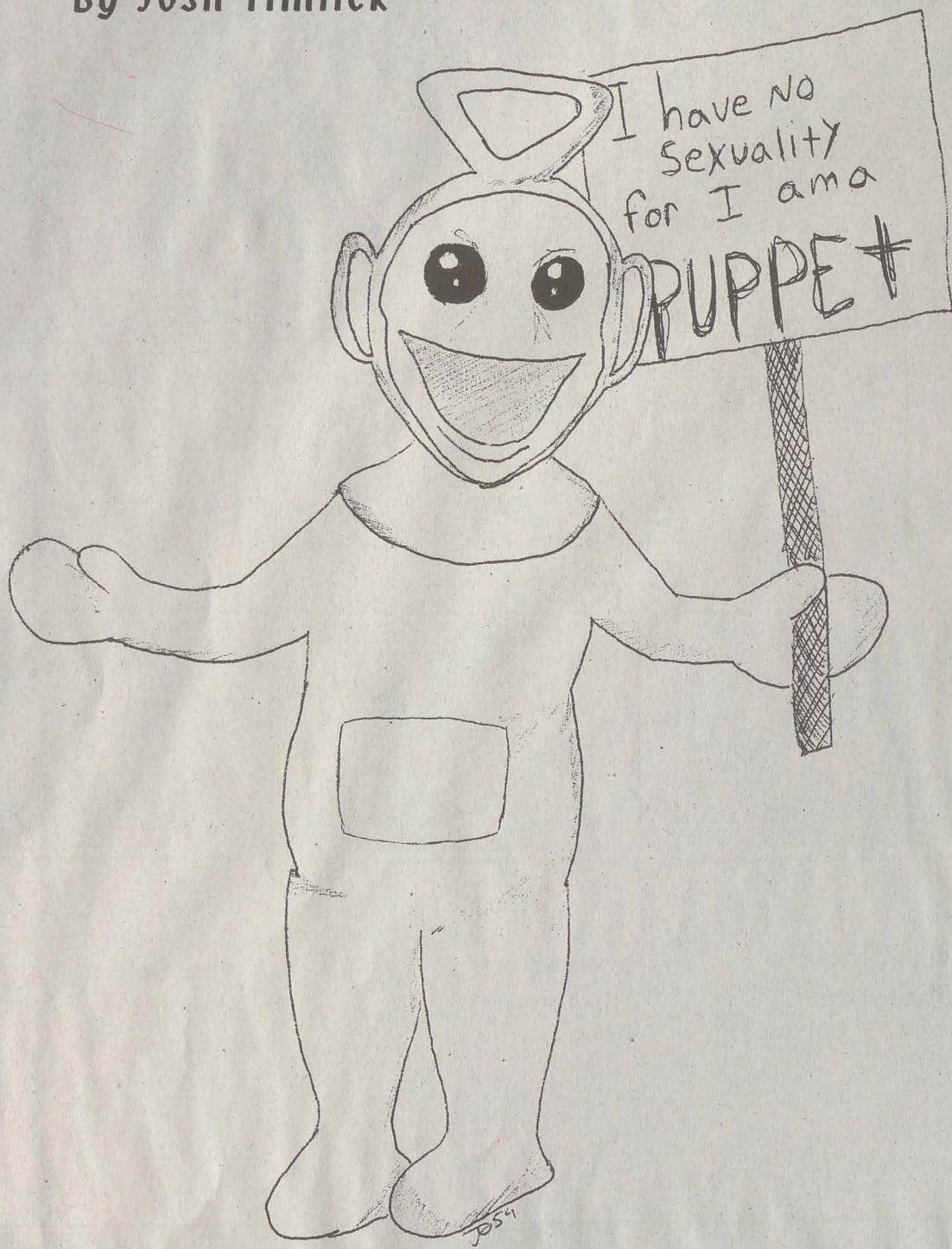
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The POLEMIC

# Superfluity

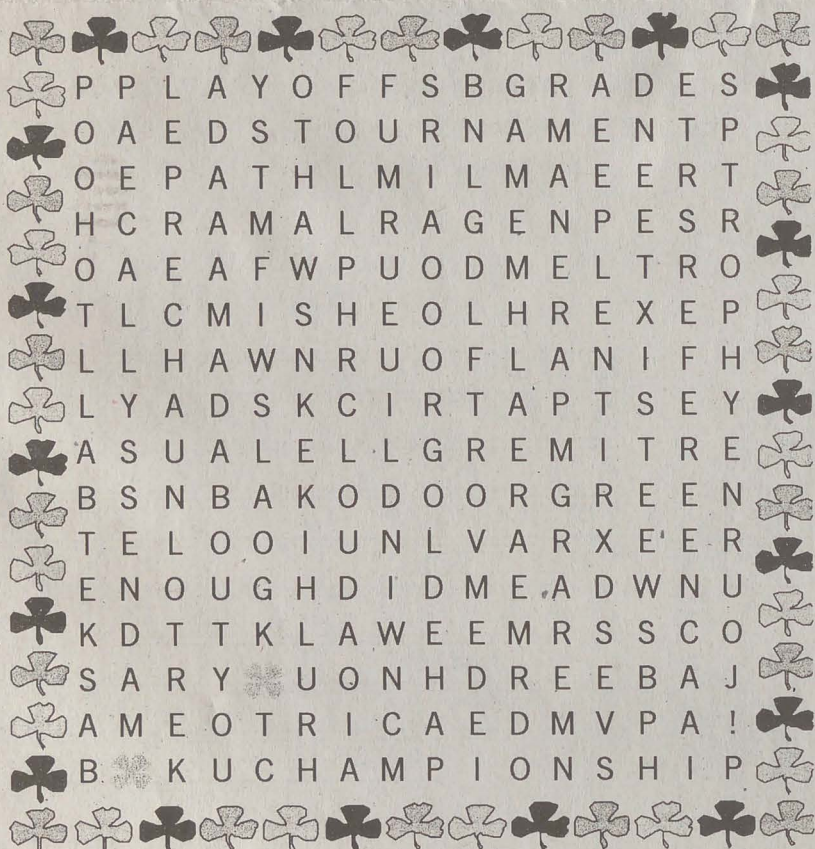
By Josh Timlick



## Word Find

"March" "Madness"

After finding all the words, circle the left over letters for a hidden quote. (answer below)



- |              |            |               |                   |               |
|--------------|------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Arena        | Enough     | Ides          | MVP               | Step          |
| Basketball   | Final Four | Journey       | NCAA              | Sweet Sixteen |
| Beer         | Foul       | Lent          | Path              | Thaw          |
| Call         | Game       | Leprechaun    | Playoffs          | Timer         |
| Championship | Goal       | Mad About You | Rage              | Tournament    |
| Cheer        | Gold       | Madhatter     | Rain              | Trek          |
| Cloud        | Grades     | MadMax        | Referee           | Trophy        |
| Clover       | Green      | Madness       | Roll              | Walk          |
| Crowd        | Hike       | March         | St. Patrick's Day | Wind          |
|              | Hoop       | Melt          | Spring            |               |



Quotation answer:  
Bad spellers of the world,  
untie! Graffito

# Tinky Winky and friends

By JOHN KISSANE  
STAFF WRITER

My first reaction to the reverend Jerry Falwell's labeling of a Teletubby as gay was this: hysterical laughter. Hysterical laughter also comprised my second and third reactions, and, come to think of it, my fourth and fifth.

I found the humor fleeing, though, in the quick, disorienting way that hope leaves a person who's just gotten back the positive results of an HIV test.

Self-righteous anger came to replace the humor. I wish it hadn't; I hate self-righteousness. But maybe I don't have any choice in what I write about, and how I write it.

I don't even get to choose what I write about; deep down, my nature draws me to subjects and styles. In the same way, homosexuals are drawn to members of their own sex not by choice but by something deeper.

As one male comedian whose name I wish I could remember said, "I thought of becoming gay, but, man, I can't get in that kind of shape."

Even ignoring the constant grooming and musical-attending it would require, no one would choose to become gay. It would mean harassment, certainly vocally, possibly physically, and maybe to the point of life-taking.

And, though I know I'm setting myself up here for cries of "bigot!" and "you're stereotyping!", you can definitely tell most gays from their speech, their attitude, even their posture. It's genetic.

Falwell doesn't seem to think so: he worries that the promotion of homosexuality he so idiotically imagines occurring on The Teletubbies will convert the kiddies.

Or maybe Falwell belongs to that group of people who think that the impulse to have sex with members of your own sex is sinful and should be denied.

If so, he's denying gays the right to act in accordance to the second-strongest instinct we have, that of the sex drive. More importantly, he's mocking their attempts to do the one thing most important on this earth: to ease loneliness through the love of another person.

Love cannot be consciously directed in conformist paths. If a black female MD finds herself in love with a white mechanic, and her family chews her out for seeing a "worthless honky," she should go on with it anyway.

Guess who's coming to dinner? Katherine and her fiancée...Lisa.

Gay rights are tremendously important. Our culture has to send out the message that we're tolerant of alternate sexualities, if for no other reason than part of all of us would like to engage in them as well.

That's right. In the words of Rivers Cuomo, lead singer of Weezer, "everyone's a little queer." It's an idea that's getting acceptance in the psychological field, and why not? Men in prison demonstrate the ability to leap over the fence to gayness.

My belief is that all of us contain the seeds, somewhere in us, of attraction to the same sex and to the opposite sex. Those called bisexuals have both of those polarities close to the surface. For those of a decidedly straight or gay bent, the other part is hidden deep, and should probably stay there: I know that I would get pretty freaked out if David Hasselhoff started to appeal to me. At any rate, I hope that when you hear people like Falwell speak, you laugh...but you also cringe.

Ani DiFranco, the singer/songwriter, had the line "if you're not angry, then you're just stupid and you don't care." It doesn't refer to this, and if it did, it would be an over-simplification. In short, in some instances, it would be just plain wrong.

But not in all that many.

# Reflections of Chinese Culture

By JOSH TIMLICK  
STAFF WRITER

*Eat, Drink, Man, Woman* was shown in the NRC building, room 101 on February 16.

This was the third movie in the series titled "A Reflection on Chinese Culture." The three films, *To Live*, (shown on

January 19), *Pushing Hands*, (shown on February 2), and *Eat, Drink, Man, Woman* were sponsored by the Association of Lifelong Learners and the ACC Student Senate.

The combination of excellent acting, perfect direction and beautiful cinematography makes *Eat, Drink, Man, Woman*

a powerful, gorgeous movie. The film centers around the theme of family relationships and how they affect each individual family member in their own social settings. The film also deals with the aspect of the americanization of traditional Chinese culture.

"It's fascinating to learn about other cultures, to see how they react to things, and how that is different from how I would react," said one of the viewers.

*Eat, Drink, Man, Woman* is an instant classic.

It's fascinating to learn about other cultures, to see how they react to things, and how that is different from how I would react.

— seminar participant

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# Lowellnomics



by Kevin Brown

## Hall of Shame

Lawrence Taylor was without a doubt one of the most dominant football players of his time. Some even argue that he is one of the best of all time. To be honest though, I can't remember ever watching the man play the game. By the time I was an avid football fan, he was already well past his prime playing days. Therefore, I have no place to argue how good or great the man was on the field.

I have watched enough ESPN to know a little about the Giant legend. Lawrence Taylor was known for his cocky sound bites and his devastating hits. He was revered just as much for his mouth preceding a game as he was respected for his great football abilities. Always with an earring dangling from his ear, Taylor was never at a loss for words and almost always backed those words up with a great game.

In recent years though, Taylor has disgraced his name, the game of football, and all professional athletics. He continually shocks people with his illegal antics and his excuses made for them. On numerous occasions Taylor has been arrested on drug charges (most recently in December). Every time, though, the ex-New York Giant is quick to give excuses and explanations of the conspiracy against him. Not once has he owned up to his actions or admitted he has a problem.

It has been suggested by some that these drug problems may have had a part in shortening Taylor's career or at least his dominance in it. Because of his addiction and many related legal fees, Taylor ran out of money in the mid-90s. Still, he showed no remorse and took little blame for what he had brought upon himself.

Now, I don't want you to think that the only reason I am writing this column is to blast Lawrence Taylor. In fact, I can think of a lot of people that are just as disgraceful in their respective sports. Boxing has Tyson, basketball has Sprewell, baseball has Pete Rose, and football itself has Eugene Robinson. The reason for my anger is Taylor's recent induction into the Professional Football Hall of Fame.

You see, it is my opinion that professional athletes should be held responsible and judged accordingly for their performances in and out of the game. Therefore, Lawrence Taylor should not be treated and honored as if he were one of the best. His name should have never appeared on the Hall of Fame ballot.

A few years back, major league baseball had the right idea by expelling Pete Rose from the game of baseball for gambling. They showed the public and players that no matter how good you are, nobody is above the law, and that life isn't lived in a game. Sure the man was the all time hit leader, but he showed by gambling on baseball that he had no respect for himself, the game, or most importantly, us.

In Taylor's case, what is being said to fans and other players by placing him in the Hall of Fame? Do all the drugs you want, say what you want, and treat people like crap, but as long as you're a good player you're still a hero to my kids. That sounds about right to me.

Maybe I am just a nobody columnist for a small time community college news paper. It doesn't change the fact, though, that I'm more intelligent than the so-called professionals who voted Lawrence Taylor into the Hall of Fame. These people are singlehandedly destroying the integrity and ethics of professional sports.

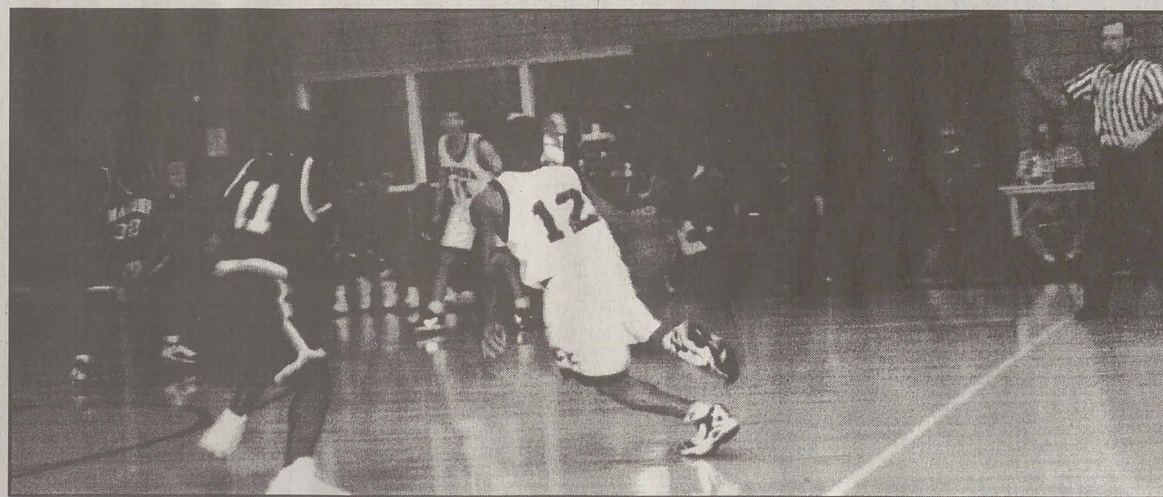
# ACC to host Region XII Tournament

The National Junior Community College Athletic Association Region XII division II men's basketball tournament will be held at Alpena Community College March 2-6 in Park Arena.

Tuesday through Thursday, games are scheduled at 2 p.m., 4 p.m., 6 p.m. and 8 p.m.

The championship game will be held on Saturday at 2 p.m.

The Lumberjacks earned a playoff berth and will be playing Tuesday at 8 p.m. against an athletic, well-coached Kalamazoo Valley Community College squad.



Guard Larry Copeland penetrates into the lane past a Macomb defender. Copeland was a bright spot on the ACC team this season.

# Lumberjacks receive awards

The Michigan Community College Athletic Association recently handed out awards to some outstanding ACC athletes.

Alicia Kilbourn, a sophomore point guard from Alcona, was named first team all-conference. Mari Klinger, a sophomore from Tawas, received all-conference honorable mention.

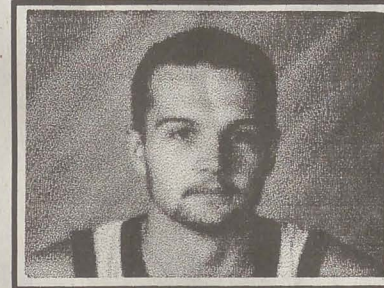
From the men's team, swingman Jeremy DeLauter was named first team all-conference. Sophomores Kevin Brown, Jamal Edwards, Dennis Smolinski, and Jason Tapio all earned honorable mention.



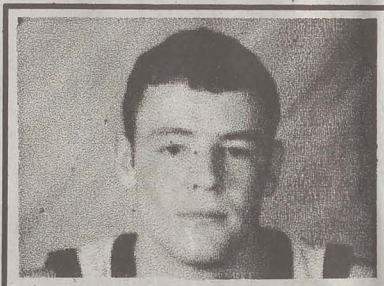
Alicia Kilbourn  
Sophomore  
Alcona



Mari Klinger  
Sophomore  
Tawas



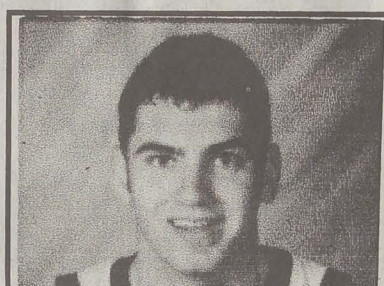
Jeremy DeLauter  
Sophomore  
Flint



Kevin Brown  
Sophomore  
Lowell



Jamal Edwards  
Sophomore  
Taylor



Dennis Smolinski  
Sophomore  
Rogers City



Jason Tapio  
Sophomore  
Republic

### MCCAA WOMEN'S BASKETBALL STANDINGS

SCHOOL	CONFERENCE		
	WON	LOST	PCT
X-SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE	16	0	1.000
Y-MOTT CC	12	4	.750
Y-HENRY FORD CC	10	6	.625
Y-ST. CLAIR CCC	9	7	.562
Y-OAKLAND CC	8	8	.500
Y-ALPENA CC	7	9	.437
WAYNE CCCD	4	12	.250
DELTA COLLEGE	4	12	.250
MACOMB CC	2	14	.125

### MCCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL STANDINGS

SCHOOL	CONFERENCE		
	WON	LOST	PCT
X-MOTT CC	14	2	.875
Y-SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE	12	4	.750
Y-HENRY FORD CC	11	5	.687
Z-WAYNE CCCD	8	8	.500
Y-OAKLAND CC	8	8	.500
Y-ALPENA CC	8	8	.500
Y-DELTA COLLEGE	6	10	.375
MACOMB CC	3	13	.187
ST. CLAIR CCC	2	14	.125



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# Fan Feedback

By Heidi Skuse

## Now what?

Here we go again. Another dark day for sports. Eugene Robinson of the Atlanta Falcons was arrested the Saturday night before the Super Bowl for soliciting prostitution. Less than 12 hours earlier, he had received an award for being an outstanding man of the year. The prostitute happened to be an undercover policewoman.

John Elway, the Denver Bronco quarterback, got up on the same day and started getting ready to play the Super Bowl. Elway discovered to his surprise that he was a day early. Elway was probably still preparing at the same time Robinson was being arrested.

Now then. Robinson is an easy target here, just as Elway is so often passed off by the media as a heroic figure. The reality is no doubt more complicated than that, being both are humans. My question is this, however: When an athlete is found having faults (being human), why are fans so ready to turn on him/her?

I believe part of the reason is because the athlete has for so long been put up on pedestal that we automatically perceive them to be somehow larger than life, not burdened by the same flaws that bedevil everyday folks like ourselves. Of course, anymore there is no shortage of incidents among pro athletes that would prove this thinking to be a fallacy, if we'd only pay attention.

Look at the Dallas Cowboys and their problems with drugs and sexual assault. Latrell Sprewell and Dennis Rodman are not model citizens. Charles Barkley threw a bar patron through a plate glass window. Mike Tyson is back in prison.

Personally, I enjoy many sports, and yes, I have favorite athletes. One thing I realized long ago is that athletes are humans, too. They have faults just like you and I, and that they aren't perfect. But I believe that once they sign their name on that dotted line and become a professional athlete, they're held to a higher standard and they should uphold that higher standard. If they can't, then they shouldn't play professional sports.

When someone competes in the Olympics, for example, they have to be drug and alcohol free. If an athlete tests positive, they are automatically disqualified. If they have already received a medal, the medal is taken away and given to the next qualified performer. Why can't the professional leagues do this? If so, at least a child who idealizes an athlete will not be idealizing the wrong person.

When a child says "I wanna be like Mike," or "I am Tiger Woods," it would be nice to know that Michael and Tiger are worthy of this, beyond their exploits on the playing field or their dominance of their respective sports. At least in the case of Jordan and Woods, probably the two most famous sports figures on the planet, both appear to be good guys, capable of standing up to the scrutiny we give all our athletes and celebrities.

Unfortunately, we can't say the same about Mr. Robinson.

I'm suggesting a modest proposal. I think we should figure out that athletes many times do not deserve to be on the pedestal we place them, nor in many cases do they wish to be placed there. I propose that we look closer to home for our role models, and look to place the people on pedestals who earn our respect on a daily basis.

For instance, Pam Rich, a lady Lumberjack standout, stated that her favorite player growing up was her dad. She looked up to him as he taught her the game. Another ACC student, Erin Fraley, looked up to her father also. These are the role models who matter. These are the role models who last. Let's reserve our pedestals for the people who count.

## Go Jacks!

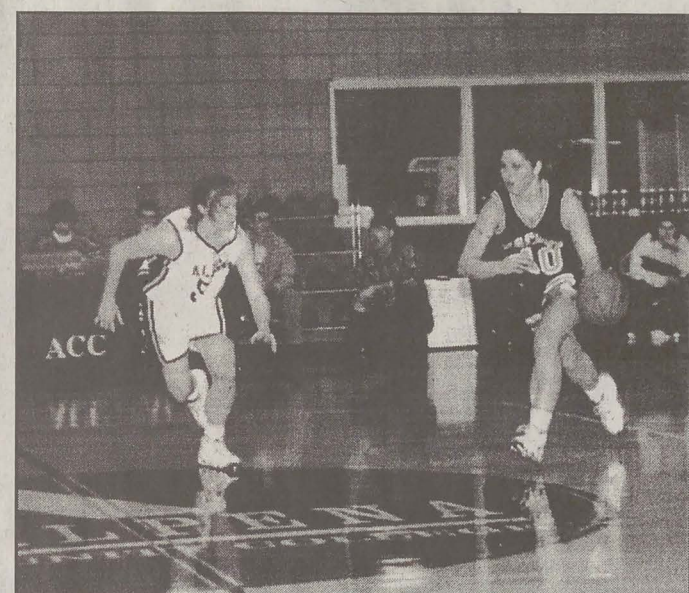
Good luck in the  
Region 12 Tourney

- The Polemic Staff

# The Year in Review--1998-99

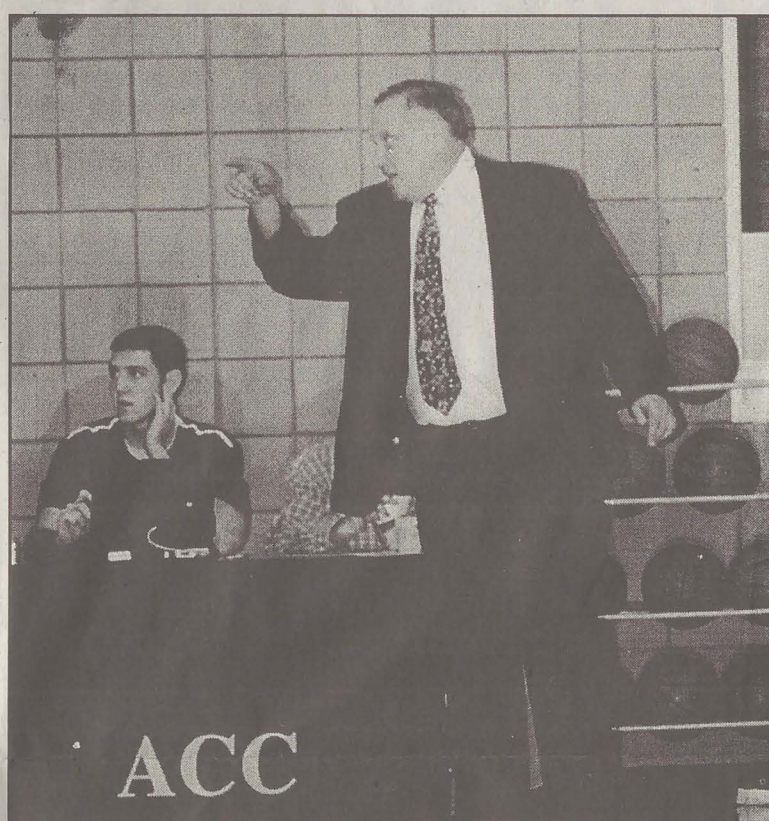


Mari Klinger battles down low for a rebound.



Pam Rich tries to stay in front of her Macomb opponent. Rich was a big defensive force for the Lady Lumberjacks all year.

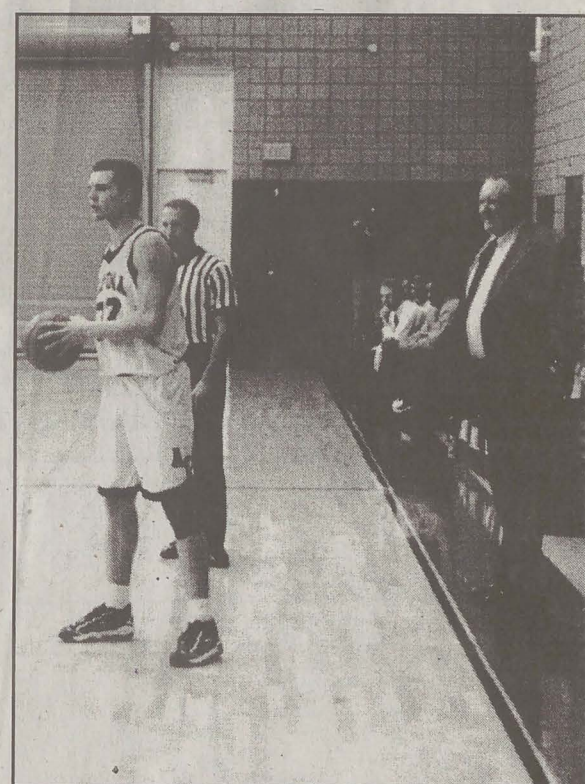
Photos by  
Don Dihle



Men's Coach Frank McCourt calmly makes an point to an official.



Laura Parks tenaciously defends the inbound pass during the Lady Lumberjacks game against Macomb.



Jeremy DeLauter calls out a play during the Lumberjack's game versus Delta College.

# Industrial Technology Education

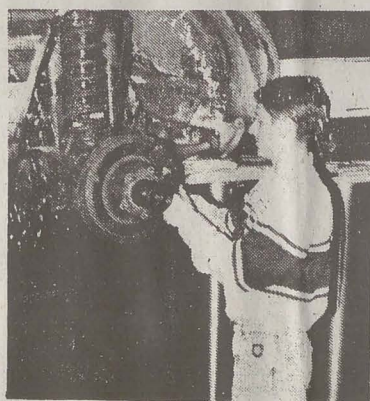
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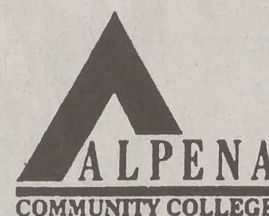
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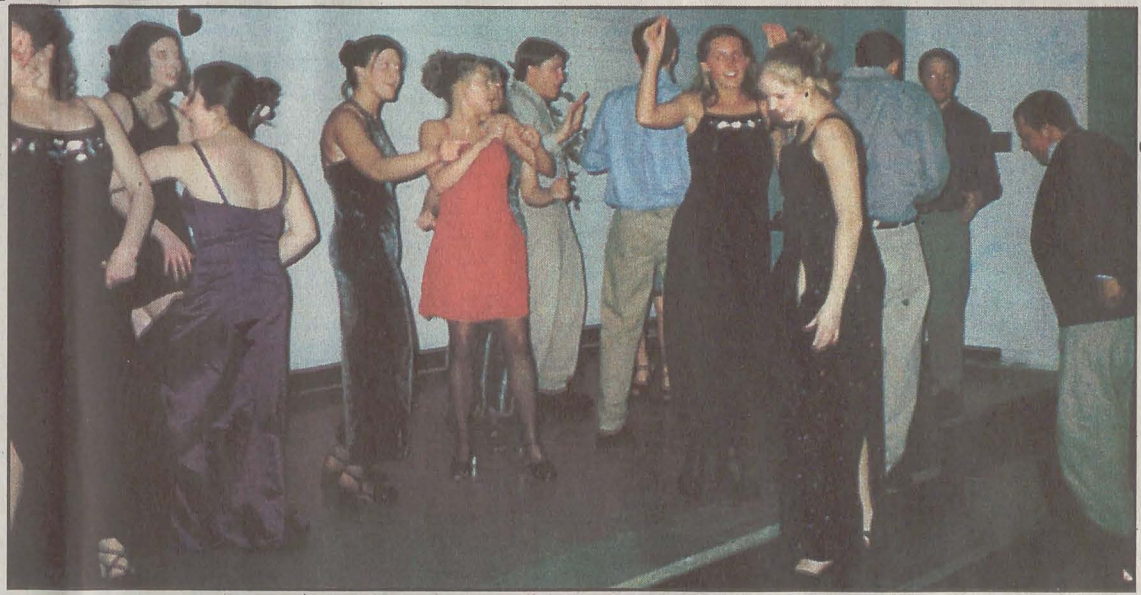


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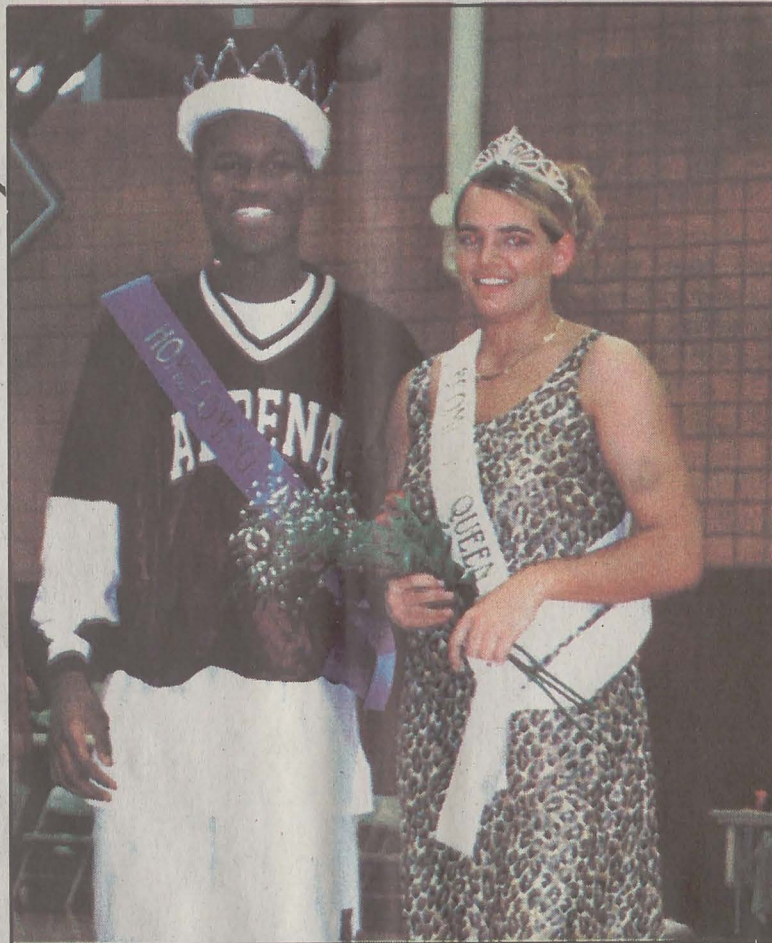
# 1999 ACC Basketball Homecoming



Polemic co-editors Beth Kline, left, and Erin Bruski pose in Park Arena during the men's basketball game. The Lumberjacks defeated the Delta Pioneers 88 to 61.



Many people attended the Homecoming dance, held in the Playhouse of the Alpena Civic Center.



Jamal Edwards and Mari Klinger were crowned King and Queen.



Chip Redker, Sarah Minnick, Sarah Barnard, and Katie Call arrive at the dance. The dance took place on Saturday, February 6, and had a Valentine's Day theme.



Phi Theta Kappa president John Dietlin, and Student Senate member Jessica Brege take a break from dancing.

## MARCH

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 NJCAA Region XII Tournament Games 2 p.m., 4 p.m., 6 p.m., 8 p.m.	3 Representatives: LSSU, 10-2; Alma College, 10-1 in front of VLH lounge. Tournament Games:	4 NJCAA Region XII Tournament Games 2 p.m., 4 p.m., 6 p.m., 8 p.m.	5	6 Midland Concert Band, 7:30 Alpena High School Auditorium
7	8 Rita Noble, School of Forestry and Wood, MTU. 10:30-2:30 VLH	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 Staff Development Day--No classes; college closed. St. Patrick's Day	18	19	20
21 Vernal Equinox (First Day of Spring)	22	23 Alpena Community College Millage Election	24	25	26	27 ACC Spotlight Series: The Friars, 7:30 p.m. Granum Theatre
28 Palm Sunday	29	30	31			