

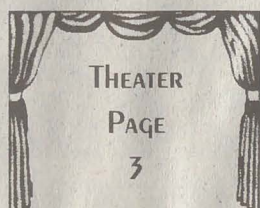
# THE POLEMIC

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ALPENA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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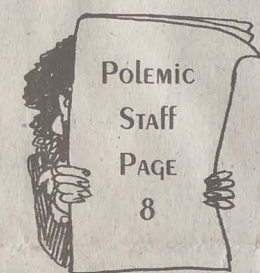


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## Newport: WCCT will expand technical programs

By Amy Wallot  
Co-Editor

Construction on Alpena Community College's newest addition, the World Center for Concrete Technology (WCCT), is well under way and is expected to be completed in the summer of 2000.

The new 45,000 square-foot facility opens up many opportunities for students. New course series are to include masonry and heavy equipment operations. All current concrete tech programs will be relocated to the WCCT. A complete block plant will also be housed in the facility. Once the classes are in place at the WCCT, ACC is looking at providing more classes in the construction industry. Possibilities include plumbing, carpentry, and electrical classes.

"We're trying to stay current with industry and to be the training vehicle for that industry," said Dr. Donald Newport, president of Alpena Community College.

Extra donations are coming in from the industry for new machines to keep the WCCT on the cutting edge.

The added space also allows for increased enrollment. Currently more than 400 students come from around the world to ACC for the certified block makers program.

"We could easily see that double," Newport said.

The possibility of future expansion is being looked at along the Woodward Avenue corridor, the land the college owns along Woodward Avenue all the way down to Hamilton Road.

"It's one of the few undeveloped areas of the city. We really want to think through the options," Newport said.

Currently a professional land-use planner is looking at the area and will have a preliminary plan in four to six months. ACC is paying one-third of the cost for the planner. Besser Company and the city of Alpena are paying the rest.



Photo by Amy Wallot

Construction is well underway on ACC's World Center for Concrete Technology.

Three Rivers Construction Co. started construction on the \$6.7 million WCCT project on

April 4, 1998. Half of the cost is being covered by the state. ACC is covering the other half

through grants and donations. Classes are expected to begin in fall of 2000.

## Danish basketball student is a tall addition to ACC's population

By Heidi Skuse  
Co-Editor and  
Sports Editor

The student population of ACC consists mainly of students from the surrounding areas. The rest are made up of

students who live throughout the state of Michigan -- with one tall exception.

Christian Adolfsson is from Copenhagen, Denmark, the capital city with a population around 2 million. He is here playing basketball for the Lumberjacks.

Adolfsson came to the United States in May and lived in Mio for a while. He then traveled throughout the state of Michigan with his friend Ty McGregor and they made a trip to Las Vegas, Nevada.

"I have always wanted to come to America ever since I

was a little kid," said Adolfsson. In Denmark many people talk about the United States and, according to Adolfsson, it is always on the news in Denmark.

McGregor who played professional basketball in Europe talked to Bobby Allen and Frank McCourt who ended up giving Adolfsson a scholarship to play basketball at ACC.

Adolfsson a 6'8" freshman, who plays power forward and center, has played basketball since he was 12 years old. He played on a team called Vaerloese a half-professional and half-amateur team. In Denmark students don't play basketball for their school they play outside of school. They had practice after school and in their spare time.

Adolfsson attended Norre G from kindergarten through 10 grade and 11 through 13 grade. In Denmark, students go from kindergarten through 10 and then they decide if they want to do something with their hands or with books. If they choose books, then they go to school for three more years (11-13) to a school similar to junior college. At this school they must choose between math and language. If they choose their hands, then they go and find a job at a company which provides training.

If a student chooses to go to school at the end of the third year, they pick which university they want to attend.

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## University Center renamed in honor of Madeline Briggs



Photos by Don MacMaster

ACC President Donald Newport (left) watches as the Madeline Briggs University Center is renamed in a ceremony honoring the late Madeline Briggs, the first graduate from Spring Arbor's elementary education master's program. Briggs died suddenly last spring just weeks before commencement ceremonies. John Briggs (above), Madeline's husband and an ACC trustee, awards the first Briggs Scholarship to Mary Beth Ponik.

## Count shows fewer students enrolled for fewer credit hours

By Lora Bauer and  
Catherine Gilmet  
Staff Writers

Despite predictions, Alpena Community College enrollment for 1999 is down slightly.

Last year at the end of enrollment, a total of 2,115 students were enrolled at ACC with a credit hour generation amounting to 17,901. This year, 2,068 students are enrolled with a credit hour generation of 17,379, a 2.92 percent decrease in credit hours and 2.22 percent decrease in actual students.

Richard Sutherland, vice president of administration and finance, said, "A strong economy seems to be the cause of this decrease. When the economy is good, jobs are more plentiful. This often re-

sults in smaller enrollment numbers at community colleges."

For instance, the enrollment for evening classes is up 11.75 percent exemplifying students requirement to work during the day.

What will ACC do to ensure that enrollment does not continue to decrease in upcoming semesters?

Sutherland states, "Additional marketing is being planned to let people know that Alpena Community College has a lot to offer. Students can stay in this area and earn up to their master's degree with Spring Arbor College and Lake Superior College programs located right here. Alpena Community College is a wonderful campus with so much to offer. We just need to work on getting the word out."