

What's Inside



Lumberjack basketball teams facing tough competition this season. See Page 7.



"Nonsense" delighted audiences. See Page 6.

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Preparation prevented the disaster that never materialized. See Page 4.

Parking: a major issue at ACC

Concern shown over parking at VLH

By Josh Helsel
Features Editor

Many students have been upset when arriving at Van Lare Hall and not being able to find a parking spot. Students have expressed frustration over this issue.

"I feel there is a real need for additional parking spaces for students," ACC student Marie Pollard said. "With sometimes limited time spans between classes, it is difficult to be to classes on time."

What can be done to solve this issue? Don Witt, director of facilities management, sees only two solutions to this problem:

1. Increase the size of the existing VLH parking lot to accommodate students who have classes there at a cost of about \$3,000 per parking spot.
2. Park in the Besser Tech Center (BTC) parking lot and walk to VLH. The walk takes about four minutes.

Witt does not believe the lot will be expanded any time soon.

"To eliminate the congestion immediately, I recommend solution number two," he said. "Solution number one could be

instituted if extra funds become available. It may be hard to justify funding additional parking spaces in the VLH lot when there are empty spaces four minutes away."

Student James Motley doesn't agree with Witt's concept.

"I believe the parking lot should be extended," Motley said. "It may cost, but it would be more practical. The parking lot would be safer. People wouldn't be parked on the side of the road waiting for a parking spot."

Witt feels that only a few students are left with out a parking spot and it is usually due to last minute arrivals.

"Often, during peak times when arriving on the last minute, students will not be able to find a spot and park in faculty spots," noted Witt speaking of the trend that's been noticed by parking attendents.

During peak times approximately 160 students attend classes in Van Lare Hall, while VLH supplies only 107 student

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Photo by Amy Wallot

ACC parking control, Terry Szczesniak patrols the parking lot looking for students parked in unauthorized zones. Don't let this happen to you.

Tickets may now be appealed

Amy Wallot
Co-Editor

ACC's Parking Lot Appeals Committee now gives students the chance to appeal their parking tickets.

The committee was formed this year after a member of parking control three years ago brought up the idea. Last year Donald Witt, director of facilities management, brought the idea to Student Senate, and this year it was implemented.

Student Senate members make up the committee. They meet once a week to discuss the appeals. Based on the reason the student gives for making the appeal, they approve or revoke the ticket.

"It's important to give students, with a valid explanation, a chance to appeal their tickets," said Beckie Filipiak, a Student Senate member.

All students must register their vehicles to park at ACC. According to Terry Szczesniak of parking control, tickets are

not the only reason students have to register. If students leave their lights or there is a problem with their car, they can be tracked down and informed.

The most common tickets given out are for parking in staff parking and for students parking in the NRC parking lot. Unauthorized staff parking occurs most often in the VLH parking lot.

"Parking at VLH is all timing," Szczesniak said. He encourages students to park in the BTC parking lot. "It's a four minute walk from the middle of the BTC parking lot to the front door in VLH."

Tickets must be payed before students can receive their report card or transcript. Tickets cost \$10 or \$25 for parking in handicap zones.

Students can pick up an appeal form from BTC 101. After their case is reviewed, a copy of the appeal form with the decision is mailed to the student.

Trustees adopt Legislative Action Plan

By Stacey M. Zbytowski
Contributing Writer

Bringing attention to Michigan's community colleges is one goal of the Legislative Action Plan adopted by ACC Board of Trustees at the Jan. 20 meeting.

The seven-point plan was proposed because of two years of changes in state government with more change on the way. The plan's main role is to provide information to government leaders about how state appropriations and grants affect ACC and other community

colleges.

The trustees instructed ACC President Donald Newport to oversee implementing the plan.

The seven priorities are as follows: friendship building, workforce development, operational funding, categorical

funding, performance goals, local tax support, and federal support.

Newport explained that friendship building is a way to "get state-wide information through all 28 community colleges" within Michigan.

ACC's operating funds come from three major areas, 51 percent from state legislative appropriations, 32 percent from tuition, and 17 percent from property taxes levied in the college's service area. These three areas support the college like a three-legged stool, he said.

Without the funding from the state, the other two legs must grow to support the stool, increasing tuition or property taxes and undermining the overall stability of the college, he said.

The action plan calls for a 3.5 percent increase in operating funds from a variety of sources, including local taxes and state appropriations.

Newport says he supports the plan and is eager to begin work on something that will ultimately benefit students.

"This is our drive, to focus our energy for students," he said. "We have our marching orders - to slay dragons."



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ACC's Homecoming will be Feb. 5 against Schoolcraft. Homecoming king and queen will be announced during half-time of the men's game. The court is (L to R) Women's Basketball, Joe Maupin and Melissa VanStedum; Cross Country, Mike Kenney and Angie Boutell; Polemic, Tris Coffin and Amy Wallot; Softball, Joe Case and Stacey Gagnon; Student Senate, Chip Redker and Beckie Filipiak; ACC Players, Chris Person and Liz Visger; PTK, Andrew Zbytowski and Carrie Taratuta; Dance Team, Dale Saranen; missing Men's Basketball, Gary Greenwood and Katie Konicek.

A new student?

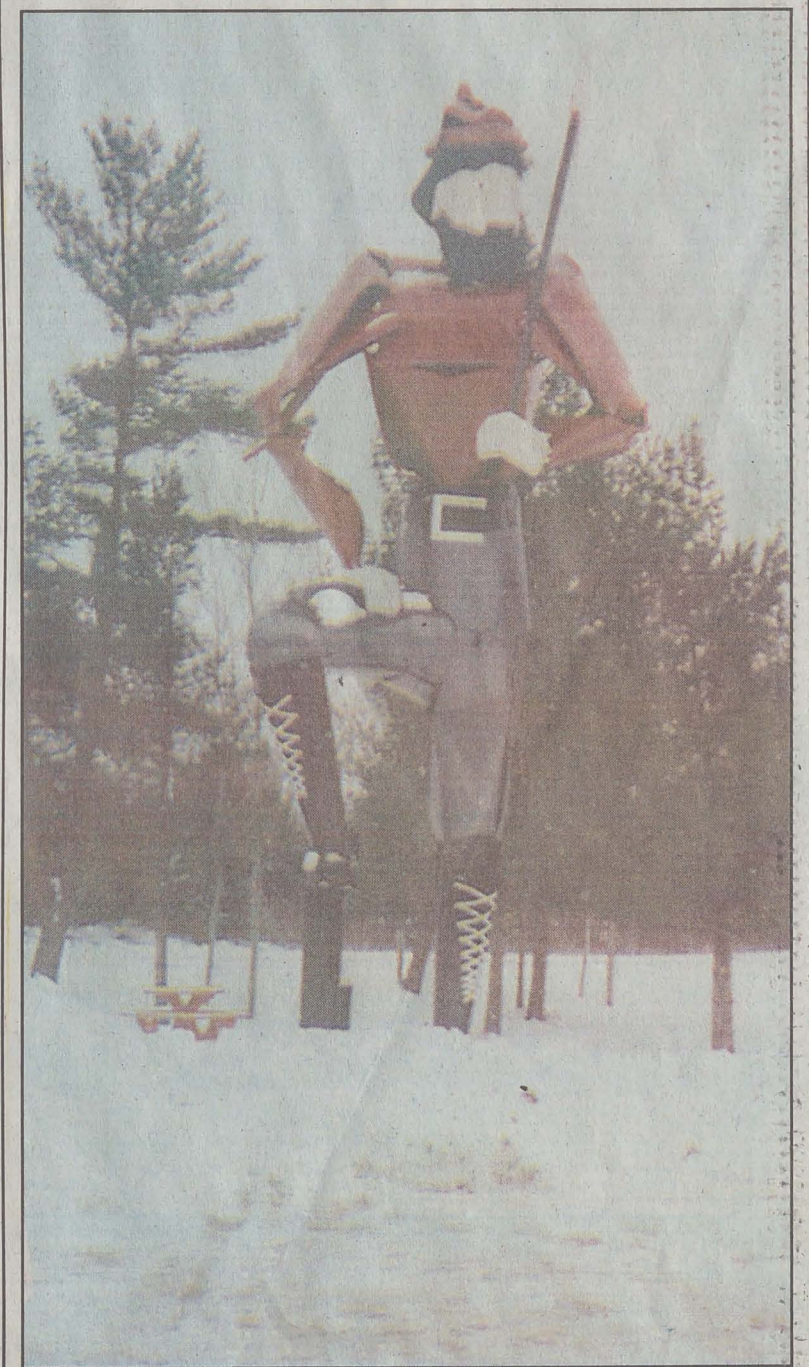


Photo by Heidi Skuse

This 30-foot lumberjack statue serves as a mascot and puts fear into incoming competitors. See story on page 3.