



McCormack retires after 20 years of service

by Kim McClure

John McCormack, External Dean, has retired from Alpena Community College after over 20 years of service.

His background consists of a Bachelors Degree from Detroit Institute of Technology, and a Masters Degree from Central Michigan University in Education Administration.

Before moving to Alpena, McCormack was an office manager in Warren and worked for 10 years at Ford Motor Company in Utica.

While on vacation with his family, McCormack responded to a job advertisement for a position with the Intermediate School District writing federal programs. Upon being hired, he and his family moved to Alpena.

In September of 1969, McCormack began working for ACC as part-time Director. McCormack also held another part-time position at NEMROC.



Mary Skiba presents John McCormack with gift at retirement luncheon

McCormack was responsible for transforming NEMROC from a small jewelry-making operation into the industry-oriented sawmill and pallet manufacturing operation that it is now.

While McCormack was Education Director at ACC, the program grew and became a full-time job.

McCormack also took on the added responsibility of Dean of Students, until his transfer back to Wurtsmith in 1988.

McCormack was part of a team that worked their own special brand of magic on ACC's Wurtsmith campus, transforming the program from a few technical courses to an entire two-year accredited campus.

McCormack noticed many changes in ACC over the years, such as the growth in the WAFB enrollment and faculty, the number of single parents that are attending ACC, the recent success of the Job Placement Office, and the fact that more local kids are choosing to attend ACC. McCormack said that he

would like to see a student center or facility put up to make the students feel a little closer rather than attending classes and then going home. He would also like to see more student participation.

McCormack's hobbies include fishing, walking and spectator sports. McCormack has a wife, Marion, and three children, Carol, Michael, and Gregory. He also is very proud of his grandson Christopher.

McCormack's plans for the future entail first, traveling with his wife, and then getting involved in a small business venture. "How does that saying go?" he said, "You spend your first 25 years preparing for a job, then you get a job and support your family for 30 years, and you spend the rest of your years smelling the roses while you still have your good health."

"I enjoyed it...but now it's time to smell the roses".

ACC hosts 4th annual Science Olympiad

by Jay McDonald

ACC will host its 4th annual Science Olympiad this Saturday, March 17, from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm.

Under the direction of Dr. Richard Moreau and with the help of 100 volunteers, 21 schools will be represented in competition in 31 different events.

The Science Olympiad is a national competition with ACC being the site of the regional competition. The olympiad is made up of two divisions, 6th grade through 8th grade and high school age students. At this regional level, 1st and 2nd place

winners in each division will advance to state competition and perhaps to the national level.

Schools competing in 6th grade through 8th grade division are: two elementary schools and the junior high school from Cheboygan (these schools are first-time participants) middle schools from Elk Rapids and Whittemore - Prescott, and junior high schools from Inland Lakes, Kalkaska, Pickford, and Tawas.

In the high school division, the competing schools will be: Alpena, Cheboygan, Elk Rapids, Harbor Springs, Inland Lakes, Kalkaska, Ogemaw

Heights, Oscoda, Pickford, Rogers City, Tawas and Whittemore-Prescott.

Competitive events vary widely. Events range from what could be called "scientific" events to areas of communication.

A sample of events include an egg drop competition where teams consisting of two people, construct a package to protect an egg from breaking when it lands on the ground following a free-fall from the balcony on the 4th floor of NRC.

In the Write it/ Read it competition, one student is shown a contraption built from such things as blocks,

tinker toys, and science equipment. That student then has 25 minutes in which to write a description of the object and how to make it. Another student, isolated from his team mate, is given the directions that his team mate had written and then is given 20 minutes in which to build the original object.

Scoring for these events is done by volunteer judges/supervisors. The supervisors are from ACC, area high schools, junior high and elementary schools, Alpena Power Company, The Intermediate School District, the Department of Natural Resources, and Froggett Jewelers.

Dr. Moreau said everyone is welcome to come view the events but with "300 kids running around", observers should "walk in and stay out of the way!" The excitement during the day is "pretty high", according to Moreau.

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Editorial reviews daycare issue

This year the National Issues Forum is sponsoring a series of town meetings in Alpena. Modeled after the town meetings our country's founders participated in, they're a great idea, an opportunity for "average" citizens to participate in government.

How much influence these meetings will have and what changes and improvements they will bring about remains to be seen. Hopefully, with enough grassroots support from you and me--they'll make a difference.

The first meeting addressed the issue of drugs, the second was entitled "The Daycare Dilemma," and the third will deal with the environment.

I wasn't able to attend the first meeting; I had no babysitter. I didn't have a sitter for the second meeting either, but kids are a topic that is very near and dear to my heart, so I went anyway, and so did Stephanie, my 6-year old daughter.

Yes, we got a few looks coming in. After all, it takes nerve to bring kids to adult functions. If you don't believe me, try it sometime.

The gratifyingly large group which gathered for the meeting were a terrific group of people, open, accepting, and flexible, all looking for answers, just like me. They all really cared about kids.

Stephanie pasted on a name tag, and during the introductions, I introduced her as well as myself. Was I trying to be cute? Make a statement? I'd like to think the answer to those questions is no. This isn't about showcasing one kid--this is about all kids and about our responsibilities to them.

The meeting was well run, presenting a professional atmosphere in which to mull over differing viewpoints and possible solutions. The structure of the meeting was set after opening remarks which framed the issues into three choices.

The Daycare Dilemma is about kids, but it's a huge and emotional issue, a great hairy beast which angrily defies categories. To categorize is to over-simplify the issue.

Today, 1 out of 4 kids lives in a single-parent household, compared with 1 out of 10 in 1970. Next year it is estimated that 80% of married women with children under six years of age will be working outside the home. Compare that to only 20% in 1950. Today, 50% of women with children under one year of age are in the work force.

Times are definitely changing, and the trend

shows no signs of reversing itself. How can we make this situation as positive for the kids as possible? Kids are raised differently now than in previous generations. It could be debated endlessly whether today's kids are better or worse off, but the debate would be pointless. This is our situation; how can we make it work so that the kids don't suffer?

It's about money and the concern about "too much government influence" but the statistics are frightening and compelling. The purse strings are going to have to be loosened. There are five billion "latchkey" children in this country from the ages of 5 to 13. How will a five-year-old handle an emergency situation without adult supervision?

The town meeting format directed discussion to three choices. Choice #1 advocated stay at home moms (who possibly brought their work home), job sharing, parental leaves, and tax breaks, a very naive choice that isn't really a viable one in today's world.

Choice #2 would direct assistance for welfare recipients and single parent households, labeling these kids "at risk."

Choice #3 is realistic enough to admit that women are a vital, irreplaceable part of this country's work force and advocated universal daycare regardless of income or family status.

But it stops just short of a viable solution. What part should government play? What part can private industry play?

Child and Family Services was well-represented by two caring and well-informed individuals. (Child and Family Services is a network of agencies around the state, several of which are involved in daycare assistance for disadvantaged moms).

The staffs of Children's Corner and Oxbow Daycare of Alpena were also in attendance. These were intelligent, kid-conscious, people. ACC was also represented. But perhaps more significant were those not in attendance.

There were no politicians from the area, no local government officials. I understand John Pridnia has lent some support to the needs of the children. However, more government action is needed.

Kids can do great things, but only if they

believe in themselves and it is hard for them to believe in themselves when no one else does. Your influence could be changing the life of a future President of the United States! All kids are "at risk"; don't allow them to fall through the cracks!

The business community could get the ball rolling by exploring the possibility of on-site daycare. It could affect the mighty bottom line in a surprising way. Instead of costing, it could save a company money in lost time from work and increased productivity from employees who aren't draining their energy and creativity by worrying about how things are going at home.

Although employer daycare efforts are often a breakeven arrangement, don't forget that the purpose of caring for kids isn't to make money.

Parents should always be ultimately responsible; no one wants to shift the entire burden of responsibility to society. Moms are in the work force out of necessity, not because they are trying to escape their parental responsibilities. Help save the kids.

by Jackie Skaluba

STUDENTS SPEAK

Should the college seek to offer a child care center?



Kim Stein--freshman

It would be good to have a center. If I had to hire a sitter now, I couldn't find someone for every day, I'm sure.



Debra Krupnik--freshman

Amen! The age group here is older and many have children. I'm lucky. My kids are in school but there really is a need.



Kitty Angel--freshman

Yes. It would be so convenient to be able to have them here on campus when I am in school or studying. I could check on them when I wanted to instead of having them forty miles away.



Joyce Strange--sophomore

For me it is not a personal problem, but I think it would be good to have the center available for students interested in going into day care as a career. I would have liked to do that and it would be great to have "hands on" experience.

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Town meeting addresses daycare dilemma

by Staci Radke

The Daycare Dilemma was the topic for the second town meeting, held February 20. Approximately 25 people attended to raise questions and opinions on the issue.

These meetings are nationally coordinated by NIF (National Issues Forums). The forums are a method for the public to become informed and discuss public issues. NIF chooses three topics for discussion each September.

NIF does not advocate a specific solution or point of view, but seeks to provide an open, friendly atmosphere for discussion. The study circles provide people with the opportunity to inform themselves on issues, consider a range of choices, and share opinions with others.

During the session, choices are presented to the group to approach solving

the problem. Three choices to solve the daycare problem were offered:

Choice #1: The Pro-Family Solution: What Parents Do Best. Advocates of this choice feel that the best care is provided by the parents. These backers feel that the problem is not in daycare, but in the rising cost of living, forcing many moms into the workplace. They believe in job sharing, flex-time and the concept of "paid child rearing," or paying parents to raise their children at home.

Choice #2: Social Investments: A Head Start for the Disadvantaged. Choice 2 supports daycare for the low-income, possibly single-parent, families.

Proponents of this choice believe that the first order of business is to take care of those children in need, children at risk. Because some parents cannot afford quality daycare, these

children are denied an "opportunity to take part in a verbal, literate, caring way of life." Backers of this choice want to see more programs such as Head Start (the first major government-financed effort to meet the needs of poor children before entering kindergarten).

Choice #3: A Public Commitment: Universal Day Care. "The care of preschoolers is a public problem that requires a clearly defined government role. All families with young children should have access to affordable, high-quality day care." Proponents of Choice 3 believe that the care of preschoolers is a public problem and responsibility.

The government should step in and propose higher wages for personnel to provide high-quality facilities. The importance of daycare should be reflected in the priority to provide a stimulating, nurturing

environment for young children, and higher salaries to dedicated, well-trained daycare professionals. Thus, everyone would have equal access to the advantages of a quality system.

After viewing these options, the meeting divided into two smaller groups to discuss the issue.

Some questions that were raised included:

-What is the definition of the term "daycare"? (and what ages should be included).

-Should facilities provide care as well as an educational environment for the children?

-What is the role of business and industry in providing adequate daycare for employees?

-Should the government step in and provide a universal system of daycare, available to all families for rates varying according to income?

-Should ACC sponsor

on-campus daycare for students?

Participants in the meeting did agree that daycare is a definite problem in Alpena and perhaps businesses should take a look at providing daycare for their employees.

Perhaps a national survey would be helpful in determining the various needs of all families.

Clearly a consensus must be reached concerning what is in the best interests of the children and how the public at large feels about one choice as compared to another. After a "needs assessment" is established, then society as a whole can choose which direction it intends to follow.



Staff surveys daycare programs

by Jay McDonald

As more women enter the market place each year, child care has become a national problem and as more women prepare for that entry, colleges, including community colleges, are asked to assist in providing quality care for children.

There is no child care center at ACC at this time, although it has been on the list of long range goals and a topic of discussion for many years, and remains a concern for the administration.

In attempting to answer the question of what other community colleges provide, the Lumberjack made contact with three schools, Oakland Community College, Kirtland Community College, and Northwestern Community College.

When Oakland began its program 15 years ago, it was a free service to students, subsidized totally by the college. Start-up costs for equipment were covered by faculty donations, fundraising, and "scrounging", according to Ms. Eunice Gilton, Director

of the center. At one period of time, the center was subsidized from student activity funds.

At the present time, Oakland's program costs participants \$1.25 per hour for the first child, and \$.85 for the second child if the children are regular attendees. Drop-in service costs \$2 per hour. The center operates 8am-4pm, Monday-Thursday and from 8am-1pm on Fridays, with a director and an assistant director in charge of work study students who actually man the center. The college provided a subsidy of \$15,500 for salaries and \$15,000 for equipment last year.

Kirtland, a northern Michigan community college, had a program for 15 years that always ran at a deficit. In 1988, the decision was made to establish the program as a private business with subsidy from the college.

At the present time, the college furnishes space and pays insurance and utilities. The center also includes the Head Start program, which provides no income to the

center, but does provide staff. Other staff positions are filled by work study students.

At Northwestern in Traverse City, the six-year program has been run by the college for the last two years. The program has three classrooms with a teacher, an assistant teacher, and work study students providing supervision and instruction. Cost to the parents varies according to the age of the child: under 2 is \$15 for a full day, 2-4 is \$13, and 4-6 is \$12.

This year the center is also open to parents in the area who are not students at Northwestern in an effort to reduce the amount of money required to subsidize the program, and students are encouraged to schedule classes in at least half-day blocks of time. The college is subsidizing the program by providing space, paying utilities, insurance and custodial fees, and "taking up the slack" in the program, which last year amounted to \$5,000. The subsidy is less than Oakland's, probably because of the amount of

money paid by parents.

From this "spot survey," the conclusion seems to be that daycare centers on community college campuses in Michigan experience difficulty in

being self-supporting. Some creative efforts to balance the budget would seem to be a necessity or the college involved must subsidize the center.

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Wurtsmith's a winner!

by Karl Hardesty

ACC is part of another success story.

The college's Wurtsmith Air Force Base extension was part of an educational team which won the service's Nathan Altschuler Award for outstanding management of volunteer education programs during the 1989 fiscal year.

According to Mr. Howard Spencer, civilian director of the base education program, the award is named for a founder of the U.S. Air Force's education program which now operates at air bases around the world.

This is the second consecutive year Wurtsmith has won the Altschuler award. Mr. Spencer explained that each year the Air Force selects nine recipients.

The three major commands, Military Airlift Command (MAC), Tactical Air Command (TAC), and Strategic Air Command (SAC), each select three programs; one from small, medium and large (category I, II, III) bases. Wurtsmith

won the FY '89 category II award. Each air base is automatically considered a campus of the Community College of the Air Force.

This is a fully accredited two-year institution that offers Associate degrees. Airmen wishing to enroll are given credits for their military training, physical education, and military technical skills. Additional credits are earned through other institution extension programs in a unique program known as "dual tracking". Spencer explained that this allowed students to earn Associate degrees from the CCAF and ACC.

"ACC has had a tremendous impact," he added, citing the general education, biological science, and data processing courses which are offered at the center. In the upcoming summer semester, ACC will offer 66 course selections. During an average fall or spring, 120 sections are offered.

While ACC makes an outstanding contribution to

Wurtsmith's program, Spencer also said that Saginaw Valley State University, Central Michigan University and the Oscoda Area Adult Education programs enrich the offerings of the center as well. SVSU enables a student holding an Associates to progress towards a Bachelors degree while CMU provides Bachelors and Masters degree programs on base.

Additionally, those who may need assistance in completing a high school diploma or GED can find help through adult education.

While the first priority of Air Force Education Centers is to further the knowledge of active duty personnel, Spencer pointed out that civilians employed by the Department of Defense, family members of active and retired military personnel and civilians from the surrounding communities (with consent of the base commanding officer) can also participate in the programs.

In this way, citizens from Oscoda, Hale, Tawas and

Whittemore are given the chance to gain a college education. Military and civilian counseling and career guidance services are also available to any student enrolled at Wurtsmith through the Base Education Center.

An added bonus to the service is the recruiting and commissioning coordination that on-base education centers provide.

Spencer, who is also a Fellow of ACC, was highly complementary of his staff and the outstanding support the center receives from its parent unit, the 379th Mission Support Squadron under the command of Lieutenant Colonel LaMarr Anderson. When asked to single out any individual for recognition, Spencer replied, "I'd hate to pick people specifically. It involves our staff and those of ACC, SVSU, CMU, and the Oscoda Adult education Center. We work as a team."

This dedicated group has helped achieve an enrollment of over 90% of the eligible

airmen in the Community College of the Air Force and assisted in the education of the 136 people who earned degrees or certificates.

Spencer's staff at the center includes Staff Sergeant David Bourgeois (an ACC graduate-Phi Theta Kappa member) who is the non-commissioned officer in charge of the education center; Technical Sergeant James McDuffie, education supervisor; Senior Airman DuWayne Hadler, who is the administration specialist (who has transferred but was involved during the period of the award); Airman Tina Paige, education technician; Walter Ewing, senior guidance counselor; Phillip Hampton, testing specialist; and Ms. Tanya Knorinski.

The Air Force Education Program allows young men and women to build a strong foundation on which to start their higher education as well as benefitting the military and civilian community as a whole. The Wurtsmith Center is an example of this 'program at its best.'

Dive into the job pool

by Kim McClure

College is demanding for students physically, mentally, and especially financially. It is difficult to find a job that will synchronize with school hours. Realizing the need for students to obtain extra money, Yvonne Norkowski, Placement Coordinator for ACC, devised a plan to allow students the opportunity to earn extra money through working on temporary jobs in between classes, on weekends, or simply whenever they find spare time. Not only did this plan achieve a solution to the students' financial problems, but it also assisted the community in getting odd jobs completed.

The temporary job pool was presented to the community through brochures and advertisements urging them to hire a college student temporarily for tasks that they need completed.

The whole process begins when someone from the community calls Norkowski with a job that needs to be

done. The information on the job, such as the job number, job description, and the name and telephone number of the employer is entered into a computer. The students who requested assistance with temporary employment on their college applications are contacted first.

If they do not fill the position, Norkowski posts a brief description of the job and the job number on the career planning/placement boards, located in both BTC and VLH. The job card remains posted for two weeks. Students are to read the ad and contact Norkowski, by phone or in person, if they are interested in a particular job. When the student contacts her, she will give them information on the job and refer them to the member of the community who requested the employee.

It then becomes the student's responsibility to contact the employer and set wages and hours. If after two weeks, a job has not

been filled, the job advertisement is altered somewhat to draw more interest.

The temporary job pool has never been attempted before. Within one week, there were six job requests from the public. Some of the jobs included house-sitting, washing walls, stacking wood, painting a house, babysitting, housekeeping, and trimming trees. With the advent of spring, Norkowski expects to receive numerous requests.

The Temporary Job Pool should not be confused with Job Placement. They differ in the respect that Job Placement is Norkowski's responsibility, as Placement Coordinator, to place students who request assistance with employment on their college applications. Temporary Job Pool is a first-come-first-serve based program with Norkowski acting only as a referral for students to reach employers.

The whole idea of the Temporary Job Pool is

an outreach from the students to the community and from the community to the students. It is an attempt to serve ACC students better financially and allow the students and the community to realize each others needs.

As Norkowski supportively affirmed, "We care about our community and we care about our students."

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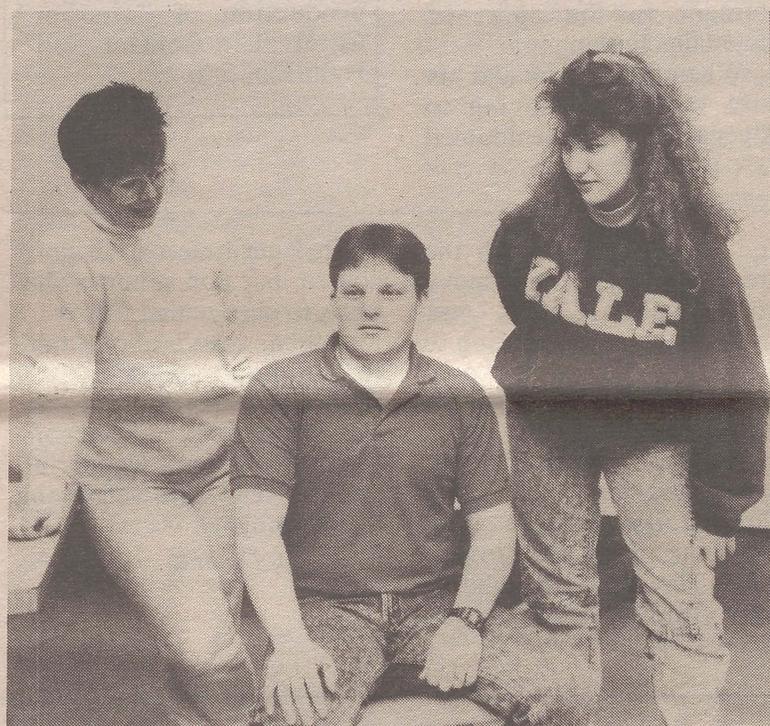
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Janet Collard, Donette Meyers
and Mary Horn



"Woody" Kienzle, Fred Daleski
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Karen Mason, "Woody" Kienzle
and Mary Horn

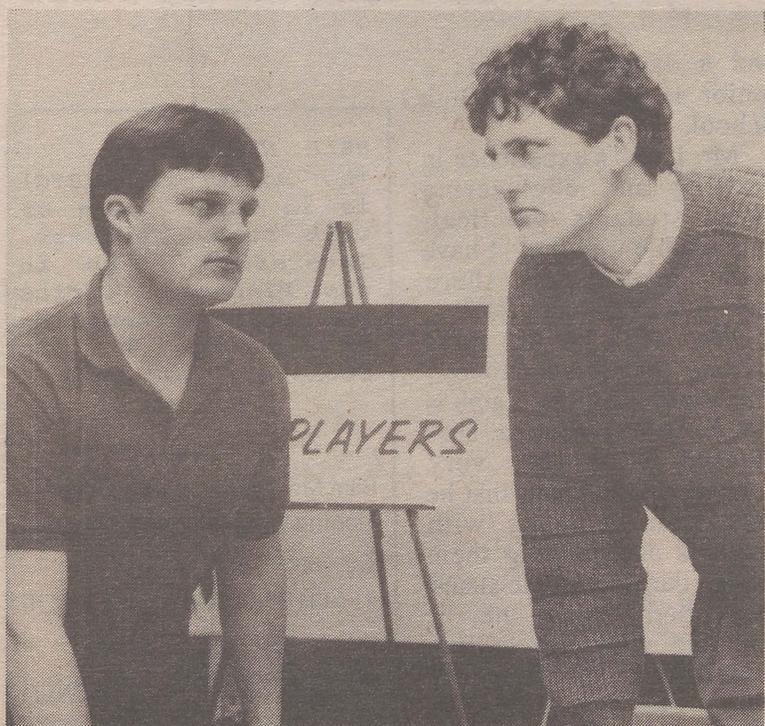
Drama Day at ACC

ACC's Drama Club, under the direction of Nan Hall, held its first Drama Day on February 21, 1990.

They are now involved in rehearsals for their production of "Thurber Carnival."



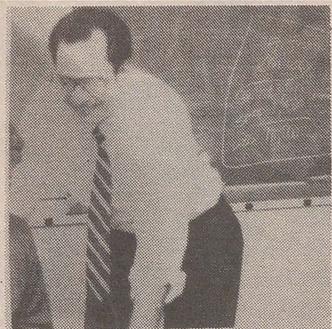
Janet Collard and Derek Gray



"Woody" Kienzle and Derek Gray



"Woody" Kienzle and Keiker Doyle



by Jay McDonald

David Eger, new instructor in the ACC Business Department, comes to Alpena with 18 years of business experience and a growing love of teaching.

Eger, who lives in Hale, with his wife Ramona, holds a M.A. in Economics from the University of Michigan and recently left his job at the Farmers and Merchants State Bank in Hale to assume his full-time teaching position at ACC.

Since 1981, Eger has been a member of the adjunct faculty at Delta, Kirtland and Alpena Community Colleges,

as well as Saginaw Valley State University. Eger stated that as he continued to teach part time, he came to realize that he was enjoying his teaching more and the world of business less. It became obvious to him where his future should be.

A change in direction does not seem to be something Eger avoids. Born and raised in Detroit, he and his wife moved to Hale in the late 60's because of her teaching career. He left a job in United States Customs and began a new direction in a small northern Michigan community. Eger felt his wife's career was "important to both of us" and continues to support her professional development as an instructor of students with reading difficulties in the Hale Community Schools.

Eger views the study of economics as a "broadly applicable, general way of viewing human problems, not as a narrowly defined, generally inapplicable, discipline. To clarify his philosophy, Eger stated, "If you view accounting as 'what is', measuring limited resources, and the study of finance as what choices will cause me to be better than I was at my last assessment, then economics is more subtle. It could be expressed as, 'how will I decide what the optimum is and how will I know what direction to go in to get there?'" Consequently, the study of economics is a study of human behavior, which is understanding how humans behave in a rational way.

Eger has a great interest in mountain climbing and has

climbed extensively. His mountain climbing repertoire includes expeditions in the Canadian Rockies, The Grand Teton and Yosemite. He registered regret that he had climbed very little in the last five years due to the pressures of obtaining his M.A. degree but is planning a trip to Europe which may include some mountain climbing experiences. This will depend heavily on "getting in shape" for this activity which includes a year's worth of work consisting of lifting weights to gain strength, as well as doing yoga to develop flexibility, which, according to Eger, is the most important element in the sport of mountain climbing.

When asked if he and his wife would be moving to Alpena, Eger said he doubted

they would. His wife's career in Hale is important and they would find it hard to leave the house which they built from materials on their farm and from a building in Detroit that was scrapped. They built their house, by hand, over a ten year period and are "invested in it". But after driving to Ann Arbor from Hale for five years to do graduate work, Eger says, "driving from Hale to Alpena is a jaunt around the block."

NEEDED: Students to help with scene building, costuming, gathering props, lights, and sound for ACC Players production of "Thurber Carnival." Contact Nan Hall, Ext. 306.

Linda Suneson, C.P.A. and former elementary school teacher, is one of the new members of ACC's Business Department.

Replacing Paulette Frantz, who left ACC to further her career, Suneson is teaching principles of accounting, intermediate accounting, and auditing.

Prior to joining the ACC staff, Suneson taught

elementary music for 9 years in Kalamazoo, Birmingham and Bloomfield Hills. She then enrolled in Walsh College, an upper level business accounting school. Suneson then worked in private industry but knew that teaching was her first love. After teaching one semester at Walsh College, she was certain that she wanted to teach at the college

level of instruction. Suneson and her husband



have owned a cottage in Black River for five years

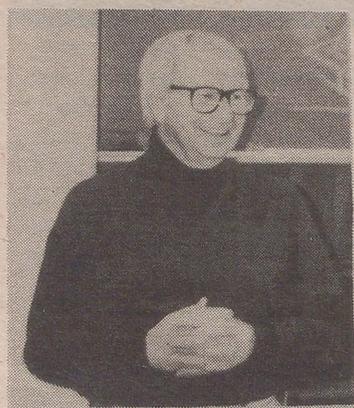
and were familiar with the area. The permanent move north to teach at ACC, "was an easy choice" according to Suneson. Her husband is employed by Alpena Wholesale Grocers.

Suneson enjoys music and sang in the Troy Community Chorus. She plays the piano and "loves" golf. Having a son who is only three-years-old has

limited her time on the golf course, but this summer she plans to change that.

When asked about her first impressions of ACC, Suneson's response was very positive. Suneson finds "the students wonderful and the ACC staff welcoming and helpful."

by Jay McDonald



by Jackie Skaluba

Owen Lamb has been chosen to receive this month's Lumberjack of the Month award.

ACC President, Dr. Donald Newport, presented Lamb with the award for his contributions to ACC of his talent, enthusiasm, and practical experience in the world of engineering outside the classroom.

With this honor, Lamb will receive an ACC coffee mug, privileged parking,

and a Holiday Inn gift certificate.

The award came as a surprise to Lamb. "That's a very, very, very nice honor; it really is! But I think, you know, that we've got a few other people around here that I really feel are very deserving, more so than I. I appreciate it!"

Lamb is a full-time instructor in the drafting department at ACC. The drafting program is a 2-year Associate Degree program and ACC drafting students reap the benefits of an instructor who makes it a point to be informed about new technology and advances in his field.

Born and raised in Rogers City, Lamb received his degree in engineering from General Motors Institute and

spent 17 years as an engineer at GM. While working there, he attended Wayne State University and received a Bachelors Degree in Industrial Education.

Now, Lamb again lives in Rogers City. On the subject of commuting, Lamb said, "I drive every day. I was thinking about that coming in this morning. This is my 23rd year here and if you figure 200 days in a year and if you figure a minimum of 75 miles a day, I must have spent a year or more of my life on the road!"

As for family, he's glad to be raising his children "up north". Lamb and his wife, who is an elementary principal with the Rogers City schools, have two children - a son who is currently a freshman at ACC

and a daughter who is a junior at Rogers City High School.

Mr. Lamb's experience in drafting and engineering gives students practical, employable training. "I have some people out there making \$100,000 a year."

Why isn't he out there making that much money? The reason given by Lamb is that he is very content. He's pleased with that very intangible something that he gets from working with students and helping them realize their goals. He states, "Somebody asked me, 'if you had your life to live over, would you change it?' No, I wouldn't change it. I'd go the same route. I really enjoyed my life in the engineering world and I really love it here."

Lamb awarded Lumberjack of the Month

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Irish for a Day

by Staci Radke

Top O' the Mornin' and Luck O' the Irish to ya! No, I'm not Irish. In fact, I am German, so the few Irish jingles I know are the most common ones we all hear. But, come March 17, I, too, will find my favorite outfit for the 'Wearing O' the Green'.

Few of us have ever kissed the Blarney Stone or actually found that pot of gold, but if you've noticed, many area residents spend a considerable amount of time turning homes and establishments into 'The Emerald City.' Shamrocks hang in many windows and any bar or restaurant is decorated with leprechauns, a pot of gold, and signs bearing the words "Erin Go Braugh". Do we all know what that means? (That's because you're German as well).

It strikes me as a wee bit strange to see our celebration of St. Patrick's Day. Since this town is not full of Irish citizens, it makes me wonder why so much green? With all the German descendants, we should declare next

month for them and wear dundelkleids and lederhosen and eat sauerkraut, which, by the way, is an acquired taste.

Maybe we all have some good ol' Irish spirit because we need something to pick up our mood after (at least) six months of winter. Why not use St. Patrick's Day as a sort of welcome to Spring? After all, every other holiday has a special significance (hearts and candy for Valentine's Day, the Easter Bunny on Easter...you get the idea).

And do you remember your teacher telling you to make sure to wear green on this special day or get pinched because of it? Or do you still have black and blue marks?

Jerry Lewis steps in to help his cause for muscular dystrophy by using shamrocks against MD.

Even McDonalds gets in on the act with its shamrock shake promotion (for a wee bit of time only, my friends). It must be the next best thing to green beer.

Hoping this forces you into the spirit, I would like to see you start rampaging through every closet in your

house for that green shirt or whatever you find. I know I will, for the lodge I work at has a weekend of festivities planned, and we'll have to wear green.

It's a good excuse to dress up and have some fun. So pick your favorite establishment and enjoy some corned beef and cabbage, mulligan stew, and some Irish whiskey or a green beer or two. Who knows? You may enjoy being Irish for a day!



An Irish Blessing

May the road
rise to meet you.
May the wind
be always be at your back.
May the sun
shine warm upon your face.
And the rains fall soft
upon your fields.
And until we meet again...
May God hold you
in the palm of His hand.

Happy St. Patrick's Day!

College members give 'extra' efforts for Die Hard II

by Jay McDonald

Student Steve Gurd and staff person Donna Gilmet are two of the members of the college community that took part in the filming of the Bruce Willis movie, "Die Hard II." The filming in Alpena involved the end of the movie with "extras" being passengers on the plane, paramedics, firemen, policemen, and coroners.

Gurd "showed up early" at 8:00am for the 9:00am casting call to find about thirty people already there and waiting. When Gurd reached the room for auditioning, he discovered that each participant needed to introduce himself and had a few seconds to say something while notes were taken by casting director Lorilee Casten. Gurd spoke of being happy to be in the beautiful city of Alpena and feeling glad to see someone from California. When selected participants were announced, the casting director just said "Steve," and there were three Steves in the casting session. In doubt of which Steve, Gurd approached the director to ask and was told, "it could be you. Stay." Assertiveness paid off.

Gurd has previously considered a career in film and sought a part in the Willis movie to see "how things work." He feels with this exposure, he might

"just settle on a new career, so this could be a significant, once in a lifetime experience for me."

Donna Gilmet, director of the college's Upward Bound program, went to the casting session just to give her son, James, a ride. When they arrived, James decided the lines were "too long" and after "discussing" the issue, they decided to leave. Gilmet, however, "backed into a car." In seeking a phone to call authorities, Gilmet found herself talking, in a rather agitated state, to her insurance company while seated next to the casting director. The director suggested that Gilmet audition.

Gilmet was selected after her presentation in which she expressed the desire that she get the part "because she needed the money to pay the deductible on her car insurance policy."

When asked what she gained from the experience, Gilmet spoke of the camaraderie that was present immediately from the people there. "That was fun and I was interested in how a film was made," said Gilmet. What did she do to prepare for this experience? Gilmet said, "I bought a pair of insulated socks!"

ALPENA COMMUNITY COLLEGE COMMENCEMENT SURVEY

Dear Student:

The Instruction and Students Services Division would like your opinion on the best time to conduct commencement activities. We'd like to know what days of the week and times would be best for you, your friends, and family to attend commencement. Please indicate your preference for one of the following times and days:

MARK ONLY ONE BOX

- Thursday evening -- 7:30pm - 9:00pm
- Friday morning -- 11:00am - 12:30pm
- Friday evening -- 7:30pm - 9:00pm
- Saturday morning -- 11:00am - 12:30pm
- Saturday evening -- 7:30pm - 9:00pm
- Other (specify) _____

STUDENT NAME (PLEASE PRINT) _____

SOCIAL SECURITY # _____

To have your opinion count, cut out this survey and place it in the boxes marked "ACC Commencement Survey" in Van Lare Hall, Besser Technical Center and the Charles R. Donnelly Natural Resource Center.

ONLY SURVEY FORMS WITH STUDENT NAMES AND SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS WILL BE COUNTED.

LET US HAVE YOUR OPINION!

Did you notice...

by Karl Hardesty

Spring break, or mid-semester break, as our institution calls it, often beckons students from all parts of our nation to a warmer climate.

If you were among the fortunate ones to make a pilgrimmage south, I sincerely hope you enjoyed it. (If you can read between

the lines, I am actually saying "I hope your body was burned and that somewhere between Michigan and the sun you caught a cold and had nasal drip all vacation!")

I obviously didn't get south of the state line. I got as far as Bay City for a reserve drill. But, I'm not jealous, really.

Well, wherever you spent break I hope you took a few minutes and got away from people and just had time to look around.

Maybe you went for a stroll down a southern beach with a special someone and watched the interaction between land and water. It was fascinating wasn't it?

Did you notice the way a small trace of bubbles may rise from the sand as the waves wash in? If you did, it was probably a sand flea or glass shrimp burrowing its way into the sand. Maybe farther down the shore a gull or pelican was fishing.

Did you notice the way they quickly fold their wings back just before they dive below the surface after its prey? Was the bird successful, or did it resurface, shake off, and fly away?

Some of you may have gone skiing. If you did, how did the bright sun on your face make you feel as you pushed off down the slope? Maybe you skied through a snow squall. Could you see the base of the slope and the lodge? Were the lights of the buildings shining up at you?

The cold, crisp air probably stung a little when you stepped outside the next morning, but it was refreshing, wasn't it? Did your heart beat faster when you looked up at the mountain or hill again as you made the lift? What about the trees? Were they covered in

snow or had the wind blown them clean?

Chances are you stayed here, you saw the same things you see every day--same trees, same lake or river, and the same kinds of animals that you are used to. Hopefully, though, you took a minute to study each of them a little more closely. After all, it was vacation. If you didn't take a little extra time, take a few minutes today and, by yourself, think about what you see every day.

The warm water and the life it supports, or the trees in the mountains, and even the every-day life around our area are all under the same sun and stars. They will always be up there, shining day and night, but the life around us and the clean air could all end quickly if we are not careful to help preserve it.

I guess I am trying to say that we are all in this together and that the outdoors is something we all need to keep for those who come after us. If you understand, then fine. If not...have someone else take the time to explain it to you.

Say Huh???

by Karl Hardesty

Is it just me or is there something strange happening in professional sports? While we all know professional sports are a branch of the entertainment industry, when did they begin specializing in comedy? What happened to the old ABC saying "...the human drama of athletic competition" anyhow?

In the past year, professional sports have undergone some startling changes. Take, for example, Major League Baseball's redefining of certain terms in the English language.

1) "Banned for life" really means "take some time off, recoup your losses on

the Cable Value Network, and see us next season, Pete."

2) "Home run" now means "that Steve Garvey can sleep with several different women and not be caught by the husbands or boyfriends."

Hockey had its moments, too. While the NHL didn't know of Bob Probert's drug problem until he was stopped by U.S. Customs officials, his team had suspected something amiss early last season. It seems he was always last off the ice after practice and then not until he had made several "lines" of snow with his skates and neatly bagged them in ziploc

bags stored in his hockey pants. A fixation to be sure.

Finally, if anyone still believes boxing is a "pure" sport, I have news for you; anytime a champion of a sporting event will officiate a so-called professional wrestling match, a real problem exists. I don't know who talked "Buster" Douglas into refereeing the WWF bout in Detroit, but it is pathetic to think a man who has worked so hard will put himself into an arena with a pair of ego-maniacs out to fake their way to fame. Besides, I could have used the money.

Golf team tees off

by Karl Hardesty

As the warm weather and longer days of spring draw closer, the ACC Golf Team is making plans for another season. Head coach Bill Peterson, entering his seventh year guiding the program, is looking forward to the 1990 matches.

Peterson, who is also an assistant coach for the AHS football program, began his association with the Lumberjack Golf Team as a student. After a football injury while playing for Michigan Tech, he returned to Alpena and played two years of golf for the Lumberjacks. "The experience, travel, and having fun are all part of a good collegiate experience," stated Peterson.

The goal of the season is to once again qualify a player for post-season competition, like Bob Centala's performance last season when he qualified for the Region 12 playoffs. Coach

Peterson stressed that while post season play is always a plus, player enjoyment and development are just as important.

Only five golfers compose the travel squad, but any interested male is welcome to join the team. The entire team will make the April 16 spring trip to Kalamazoo to open the season, and all members will also compete in the home-and-home series against ACC's Oscoda campus.

The team will begin practice in early April at the city golf course, "loosening up" on the driving range and putting green.

As the season progresses, Coach Peterson is hoping that all members will be able to improve their game and get an opportunity to compete on the road. With some hard work, and a little fun, ACC can once again send a golfer to post-season play, according to Peterson.

Lumberjack

Welcomes

Sports

Writer

by Staci Radke

Dear readers, may I introduce you to the Lumberjack's version of Mitch Albom, our newest sports writer, Karl Hardesty.

I make the comparison between Karl and Mitch because, if you have ever seen the wall nearest my desk, you will see that it is covered with articles written by Mitch, only my absolute all-time favorite columnist and my idol. If I suddenly relinquish my title as editor, you will know he has read this and has begged me to work with him, but I have a strange feeling I will be here for the duration.

Karl, my lifesaver of a sports writer, we welcome you aboard. Naturally, I wish you all the best of luck.

I hope you bring some insight and humor to our sports page and may you never miss a deadline! If you do, I won't put your articles up on the wall.

by Karl Hardesty

To begin, I am not Mitch Albom, or George Puskas, (thank God I'm not Howard Cosell), or even Joe Piscopo (of Saturday Night Sports fame).

I'm just a simple, misguided college student who thinks he is a part-time journalist/sports writer. On the sports page you won't find a story about I.M. jocks on steroids, or a Pulitzer winning piece on how Coach Charlie Rosebush's leg injury is actually a plot to keep him from being hired as U-M coach, Steve Fisher's replacement this summer.

No, here my good readers, I can only hope to give you a look at sports around campus, an occasional idea on a good way to spend some time outdoors, and perhaps something to make you think. In addition, I'll try to create a little entertainment, after all isn't that what sports is all about?