

Growing Pains Obvious to Readers While *Lumberjack* Strives to Expand, Improve

LEEANN WHITE
Contributing Writer

Whoever said change isn't easy was right. However, changes can be good and the 2001-2002 staff of the *Lumberjack* is hoping the changes they have made are moving the paper in the right direction. Some of these improvements are superficial and some are fundamental but they have come with a price. Growing pains.

"Yes, there are some growing pains obvious to our readers," stated *Lumberjack* Advisor Shawn Sexton," but some of this is to be expected when a program is in the beginning stages of rebuilding." Sexton went on to say that the

newspaper has a lot of fine-tuning ahead, but the fundamental changes that needed to take place have already occurred.

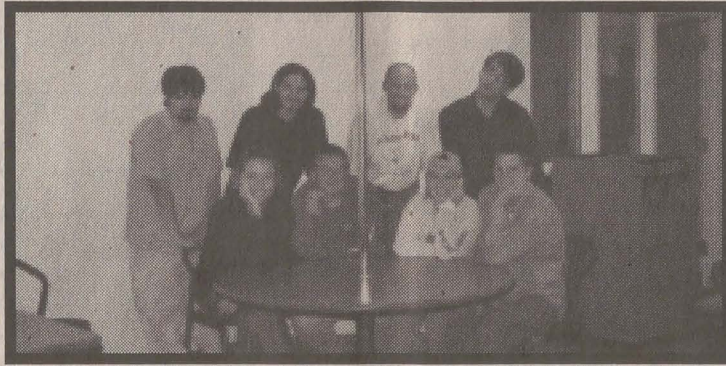
So what fundamental changes have taken place? The most obvious change would be the expansion of the paper from eight to sixteen pages. The new, sixteen page format makes the ACC *Lumberjack* the second largest community college newspaper in the state.

"Considering our population compared to other community colleges, we are proud to serve our students with sixteen pages," said Sexton. More pages means the ability to publish a bigger variety of information. The staff

hopes that there is something in the paper for everyone.

Other fundamental changes that may not be ob-

interest in the program has increased. This is a tribute to the student-led changes," stated Sexton.



Top: E. Benac, R. Spaulding, S. Sexton, C. Oposnow. Bottom: S. Nehring, T. Coffin, J. Webb, J. Brege

vious to the reader are changes to the staff. One year ago there were two editors; today there are seven editors. Changes in staff also included an increase in staff writers from eight one year ago to twenty-two today. "Despite all the criticism, the overall

"I don't think people realize that the students really do run this paper . . .," Sexton added.

As a reward for the long hours and hard work that it takes to produce the paper, two recruiting scholarships and

additional tuition waiver hours have been added to the program. "This year ACC doubled the number of tuition waivers allotted. In addition, the ACC Foundation generously awarded a substantial scholarship fund for incoming journalism students," said Sexton.

The new editors had a lot of responsibility in the changes that were made; their feelings about the changes were similar. According to Tris Coffin, Senior Editor, "We have taken the necessary steps to becoming the paper that we (the staff) have envisioned it to be."

Both Joshua M. Brege, Photo Editor, and Eric Benac, Features Editor, agreed that the changes so far make the paper more

professional and that they show a lot of ambition. Chris Oposnow, Art Editor, added that "*We have raised the bar and now is our chance to reach it and raise it again.*"

In order to "reach it (the bar) and raise it again" the *Lumberjack* staff invites you to tell us what you think by sending letters to the editor. According to Jennifer Webb, Managing Editor, "One thing that has been disappointing is that the criticism of the paper has been misdirected. If readers want to voice their opinions in a manner that can inspire positive changes, then they should write a letter to the editor. . . instead of pulling individual students aside."

The following is the
Alpena Community College
Inclement Weather Procedure:

The President will make the decision on College closure prior to 5:45 a.m.

The announcement, to be relayed through the fan-out and broadcast on local stations, will be one of the following:

- a. ACC will be closed, no staff or students to report.
- b. ACC opening will be delayed until 10:00 a.m.
- c. ACC classes are cancelled, offices will be open at 10:00 a.m.

In the event that daytime weather conditions lead to a shutdown decision after the College is already open,

(Weather conditions will be evacuated at 11:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.) One of the following announcements will be relayed to staff by the office of Public

Information via voice mail and also broadcast to local stations:

All ACC classes starting at or after _____ will be cancelled. Offices remain open.

All ACC classes starting at or after _____ will be cancelled and the College is closed as of _____.

Dawn McIntyre will make the decision to close Huron Shores and will contact the Deans and the Director of Public Information.

In the President's absence the decision to close will be made by the Vice President for Administration and Finance.

For more information on College closings, you can listen to the following stations:

- WATZ AM 1450
- WATZ FM 99.3
- WCML FM 91.7, TV 6
- WCMB FM 95.7
- WHAK FM 99.9
- WHSB FM 107.7
- WCLS FM 100.7
- WKJZ FM 94.9
- WQLB FM 103.3
- WVXZ FM 96.7
- WGFM FM 105.1
- WGRY FM 100.3
- WGRY AM 1230
- WQON FM 101.1
- WBKB-TV 11

Diversity . . .
Continued from page 2

"It wouldn't be such a new thing to have an African American in class." Allen said.

Broderick shared how overall, most people look at African Americans as being different. But like everyone else, they too, want to have a sense of belonging. Everyone wants to fit in. One thing Broderick noticed was when people see you, they automatically assume that you're here to play ball, but the fact is, there are two African Americans here who aren't.

When asked if they could change one thing, what would it be, Matt had the idea of having class discussions about people's feelings and thoughts of the different cultures in ACC. He also suggested a college program where a student from one ethnicity could match up with a student of another, and spend a whole

day together. "This way kids from different cultures get to know each other." Broderick added, "I'd make it all equal so nobody would look at skin color- everybody could just hang with everybody."

Miss Bazzett summed it all up when she said, "We are in the woods, but what are we doing to bring culture and diversity here?" Our effort is the most important thing. She added that it's never going to be perfect, but our efforts and attempts to make it better are what really matter.

We as a college and a community need to support what programs we already have and then expand and take action in bringing diversity here to Alpena. For example, this year the college is working with the Global Awareness Consortium. It's a program that helps increase cultural awareness. They will be putting on shows, films, and dinners all centered on India. They also have a dancer

from Uganda coming to perform. The spotlight series is also getting involved. They are bringing a variety of music to Alpena including a renowned Latin singer.

There is so much everyone can do. One option for the faculty is to put more emphasis on recruiting staff that represents our student body. Also, getting to know the students is huge. As the faculty gets to know the students, they begin to learn more about them and that leads to respect. As ACC faculty does their jobs, the students also need to reach out.

There are all different types of support programs that can be put together to recognize diversity. There could be student-led activity groups geared on integrating the colleges' different ethnicities. What can we as students do to make our college more aware of various cultures? How can we attract other diverse students and teachers to come here?

Effort is the key. We all need to work together, staff and student's alike- to make the ACC faculty, student body, and

Lumberjack campus a more culturally diverse place. Winston Churchill once said, "With effort comes understanding, and with understanding comes respect- and the end result is harmony." Lets all get involved.

Correction:
October 2001
The Lumberjack staff would like to apologize to Josh and those involved with this story for not publishing it in its entirety last issue.
We are Sorry.

POLITICAL CORNER

MARC GAUZE
Contributing Writer

My name is Marc Gauze and I want to write an article each month on politics for the *Lumberjack*. Which relate to you, the college students.

Each month I will gather information from local, state, and federal governments that will touch you as a college student, or how it can effect the job that you are working to get a degree for.

Over the summer I made contacts in different branches of the government to get the information that I need to inform you of. I thought there would have been quite a bit of information. Until September 11th, when the government focus switched.

One piece of information that I have been looking at is the amount of money the state

is going to be spending on education. This is going to get smaller and needs to be watched. Just remember, if the amount of money spent on education gets smaller, that means that there will be little jobs for teachers.

Next month I hope to have more information on that subject and more to keep you informed. If you have questions or something that you would like me to look into about what the government is doing, just leave a note in the *Lumberjack* office, the Political Corner, or me Marc Gauze

Until next month I leave you with this. Keep your eyes and ears open to what is happening around you, for it could affect you more ways than one.

*Friday November 2nd bombing continued in North of Kabul

*USA trying to help anti-Taliban groups to work together

*About 20 US advisors are by the front-line outside Mazar-e-Sharif

*Easiest Taliban targets have already been taken out

*More terrorist to attack Western bridges could be next, such as Golden Gate bridge and other California bridges

*After September 11th, 1,000 people have been detained and three arrests of Arab men right here in Michigan

*Unemployment skyrockets to 5.4 percent in October

*Anthrax that killed a NY hospital worker matched other infested letters

*National guard and the reserves called up to protect across America