

ACC Athletes Make the Grade

SARALYON
Managing Editor

ACC students may not know about the college's strict rules and guidelines that ACC athletes must follow in order to stay on their team. Coaches work very closely with students to maintain good grades, relationships, and discipline.

Cohort completion rates are organized every year to present how many student athletes have completed the program. The most recent statistics were from 1998-1999. It showed that 38 out of 50 (76%) scholarship athletes completed their programs. The chart also revealed that 20 out of 30 (67%) new student athletes were completers. This information is used by coaches to evaluate their focus on education.

ACC athletes must follow several guidelines to stay eligible. The ultimate guideline to stay on a team is to obtain at least a C average. Athletes are also required to agree to the drug-free campus policy. If the athletes cannot comply with this statute, they are off the team. Also, according to national guidelines, athletes must have a minimum of 12 credit hours for the semester,

and they must have at least a grade point average of 2.0 or better the year before to remain eligible.

To help athletes stay eligible, coaches keep a close relationship with their players. Women's basketball coach Mike Kollien looks at it as just being another class. Athletes are required to present progress reports to their coaches every couple of weeks. If a player is not meeting grade requirements, they have to make two visits to the learning center and work with a tutor. After improvement, they can play on the team again.

In addition, coaches work with instructors to achieve completion rates. Volleyball coach Dana LaBar believes that the key to success is good communication with instructors. He provides his players with training on the Blackboard and Playdo internet sites. To improve grades even more, Coach LaBar elected to have the majority of matches on weekends so his players would not have to miss school. Coach LaBar and Coach Kollien believe that their system works well, and that players try their best to maintain good

grades.

Basketball players Chris Dorsey and Justin Miller offered their opinions. The sophomores from Ohio agreed that the disciplinary system works. Justin commented that no one screws around and they get good grades.

Both basketball players remarked that their coach is very concerned about their grades, and added that the coaches focus on both good and bad students all in the same respect. If a player is doing great in school, the coaches still keep on them. If a player is doing poorly, they put pressure on them. Both players thought the coaches are harder on them about their grades than their performance in a game. "When it comes to basketball and school, school comes first," Chris added.

Though both players would like to play professionally, they hope to use their education if they do not reach the pros. Justin feels that his basketball career comes first, but he also said, "You need good grades to play." He added that he wants to do his best in school. Chris agreed and added that to go to a good university and play, you need very good grades.

Success is simple. If you do not get good grades, you

do not play basketball. That should be enough incentive to do well in school.

One reward for student athletes is the Academic All-American Award, which is given to any athlete who graduates with a 3.5 grade point average or higher and plays two

full seasons. Other awards are scholarships for exceeding in school and the sport.

These rules and guidelines seem to be working. Not only are coaches there to teach players the game, but they also work to shape an athlete into a better student and person.

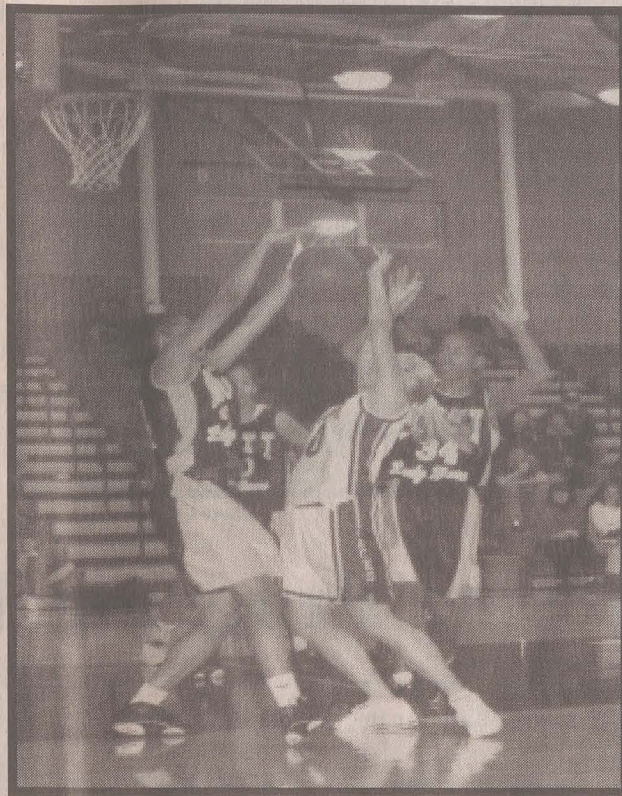


Photo by JoBeth Johnson

ACC Athletes Take a Break from the Books

Levin Takes Time for Northern Michigan

MATT PETROVICH
P.O.V. Editor

On September 5th, 2002 U.S. Senator Carl Levin came home. The Democratic senator took time from his busy schedule in Washington D.C. to meet and greet the people of Northeastern Michigan.

After spending the day in Posen and Alpena Levin arrived at the Alcona EMS Station. Following a brief introduction the senator opened the floor for questions. The talk covered areas of local

and national politics.

Levin gave precise answers to questions that clearly seemed to be bothering the people who were gathered. Speaking in regards to the President's proposed unilateral attack on Iraq, Levin stated, "Is Saddam Hussein a suicide bomber? I don't think so. I think he's a survivalist...He has weapons of mass destruction and has threatened to use them, but he won't. He knows if he does, he is done."

The senator

proposed a system of containment and deterrence rather than a unilateral attack. He went on to explain that he feels we need world support in this issue. To attack without it could be detrimental to the war on terror.

As a member of the Governmental Affairs Committee senator Levin deals with immigration on a regular basis. His policy on immigration is clear, "Immigration is ok. Illegal immigration is not ok. It's that simple."

Prior to the senator's

arrival in Michigan a hearing was held to determine how the border control could do a better job at curbing illegal immigration into the U.S.A. Levin is outraged at the current policy of handling illegal immigrants caught sneaking over the border. When a person is caught trying to jump the border they are detained and then released with the understanding that they will show up for a hearing to deport them. "That's not a policy, it's an absurdity," Levin proclaimed, summing

up the common view on the subject.

With chairs on both the Armed Services Committee and the Permanent Sub-Committee on Investigations the senator is a very busy man. Factor in the Intelligence and Governmental Affairs Committees and one begins to wonder when he finds time to sleep. It's plain to see that the senator cares about his people in Michigan. Even within the walls of the U.S. Senate, Levin still thinks of Home.

Michigan's Gubernatorial Race Preview

KARA EUBANK
Features Editor

Attorney General Jennifer Granholm overpowered two far more experienced Democratic rivals to win her party's nomination for governor. The Democratic candidates were former Governor James Blanchard and U.S. Representative David Bonior of Mount Clemens. With 94 precincts statewide counted 491,624 votes (48 percent) for Granholm. Bonior tallied 284,122 or 28 percent and Blanchard had 243,571 or 24 percent of the votes. Bonior broke down after congratulating Granholm and pledged to help her win in the fall.

Among Democrats, Granholm was not only the overwhelming choice of female voters, she also drew more support from male voters than Bonior or



www.michigan.gov/ag/

Blanchard did.

Granholm, 43, is the first woman to win a major party nomination for governor in Michigan. Granholm's key issues are: education, crime, environmental protection, and families.

Already she is an early favorite over Lt. Governor Dick Posthumus, 52, who claimed victory over State Senator John Schwarz for the Republican nomination. Posthumus took 81 percent of the votes with 472,330. Schwarz only had 18 percent with warning that



www.dickposthumus.com

Governor candidates Jennifer Granholm and Dick Posthumus

his party was aligned too much with right-wing interests. Posthumus' key issues are: education, environment, jobs and taxes.

The Democrats strongly believe they have an excellent chance of regaining the office after twelve years of Republicans. The Republicans believe that once the voters get to know Posthumus more, they will see how much good he can do for Michigan.

Polls show that Granholm already has a wide lead over Posthumus. But the Republicans are not afraid. They feel it is still early to tell who will prevail.

Political View

MARC GAUZE
Contributing Writer

The political scene is very busy right now with the elections coming up on November 5th. The voters of Michigan will be electing a completely new government into office. It is important that you, the young people of this state get to know who the people running for office are, and then vote on November 5th.

I know, as young people you probably think, why should I care who is in office? I can tell you this: who ever holds the purse strings in Lansing and Washington D.C. will be the one determining the money and training you receive towards your career goals.

Let me illustrate some of the choices that you will have on November 5th. The most important election in Michigan is for a new Governor. One of those running for that post is Jennifer Granholm. I had a chance to meet her this summer and I found her to be a very interesting person with strong views on education.

Another position to be filled is in the Michigan State Senate. One of the candidates running for that spot is someone the people of Alpena know very well. That is State Representative Andy Neumann. He has proven over and over again that he is for the middle-class man on education and the rights of northern Michigan since he was once a fireman in Alpena himself.

A young man from Alpena by the name of Matt Gillard is running for the 106th House Seat. When I talked to Matt I found, that at the age of twenty-nine, he is rather busy. He is a lawyer in his father's firm. He is very strong on education and he wants the state to do more to promote and help people to get into careers such as nursing and teaching for the future of our state and country.

This summer I met Judge Maggie Drake, as well; she is a Circuit Court Judge running for a seat on the Michigan State Supreme Court. She has been one busy woman. She has been a Police Sergeant, a Registered Nurse, a trial lawyer and for the last ten years a Judge. Now she wants to take on the Supreme Court Judgeship.

Well those are but a few of the people running in this election that need you to get out and vote on November 5th. So, please do find out who is running and vote, it could mean your future!

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