

Student Senate Aims for Germany

LUKE VANDUSEN
Staff Writer

Most students dream of the day that they can go on a vacation from everyday life, away from the books and boredom of our quaint little northern town in Michigan. In many cases though it doesn't involve traveling overseas for a cultural experience of a lifetime. ACC Student Senate is putting all effort into making this dream a reality, and creating a memorable trip for the group to share.

The trip is planned for the end of the spring semester; the date is set tentatively for May 15th, but may change. They are planning to make the most of this trip by visiting not only Germany, but are spanning Europe by making stops in France, Switzerland, Austria, and Italy. Their mode of transportation will be on

train to Paris, and from there they plan on using a bus to get around the beautiful landscape of Europe.

The Europe trip has been in the works for a few years now, but has never gotten the push it needed to make it a reality until now. Initially the Senate was going to contact a sister college that resides in Germany, but that plan fell through, and the group needed to find different means of housing.

The Senate is working to raise the funds for their trip, but it looks like it might involve some out-of-pocket expenses. The total amount that will be expected for the entire trip is around \$2,100, which is well worth the amount of travel that they will endure. However, due to the cost of the trip, some members of the Student Senate won't be able to go, but still look forward to see-

ing their friends have a good time in a foreign land.

Senate member Jessica Angel expressed her excitement for the trip she will be going on by saying "It's something new that I've never been able to do until now, and it's a chance to experience different cultures and see so many landmarks from the past."

The group has put on a number of events to help raise some needed money for the trip. Bakes sales and bottle drives have been the primary events, along with a spaghetti dinner at the Lumberjack Shack in February. They are also hoping to make a profit from the upcoming "Casino Night" at the college. Students are welcome to attend free of charge, but donations are greatly appreciated from the Senate. The group would like to have a few

Photo By Chris Gillmore



Student Senate serves up rootbeer floats.

more fundraisers this spring; a car wash is one idea that has been talked about by members of the group.

The Cultural experience to Europe would be a great opportunity for the Senate to witness how the world works over there, and

to observe a totally different environment. Hopefully they are able to fund the trip as well as possible, and fulfill the adventure that they've set forth for themselves. The Senate will be making a presentation on their experience

in Europe upon arrival getting home, to share the times they had.

Student Senate would appreciate any donations that you are willing to give; you can do this by going to the upcoming Casino Night on March 19th.

EVENTS CALENDER:

ACC Writing Program: MARCH 18
"An Evening of Science Fiction and Fantasy"
7:00 p.m. - Contact Tom Ray

Career Pathway Night: MARCH 18
How to Pay for it all - A Financial Workshop
6:30 p.m. RSVP 358-7348

Thunder Bay Theatre Presents: "Godspell"
MARCH 18-APRIL 10
Thur. -Sat., 7:30p.m.; Sun. 2:00 p.m.

Conversations with Educational Leaders:
MARCH 19- Our Common Culture, Our Ambivalence
APRIL 2- Democratize, Don't Professionalize
APRIL 16- Teacher Unions, History, and Professionalization
APRIL 23- Privatization and the Common Good
APRIL 30- An Illustration of Reform

Power of Parenting Workshop: MARCH 20
8:30a.m. - 3:30 p.m. ACC Center Building
Registration is Required

Test Taking Strategies Workshop: MARCH 23
11:15 a.m.; VLH 102
Contact Kim at 358-7329

Last Day to Drop A Class: MARCH 26

Navigators Paintball Trip: MARCH 28
Contact: accnavigators@yahoo.com

Back Roads House Concert Series Presents:
APRIL 3 - Mike Mangione at 7:00p.m.
MAY 1- Tamaras at 7:00p.m.
Call 356-1605 for Reservations

Early Registration Begins: MARCH 29

Spring Break : APRIL 8

ACC Scholarship Application Deadline: APRIL 12

An Evening with the Arts: APRIL 30

Commencement: MAY 6

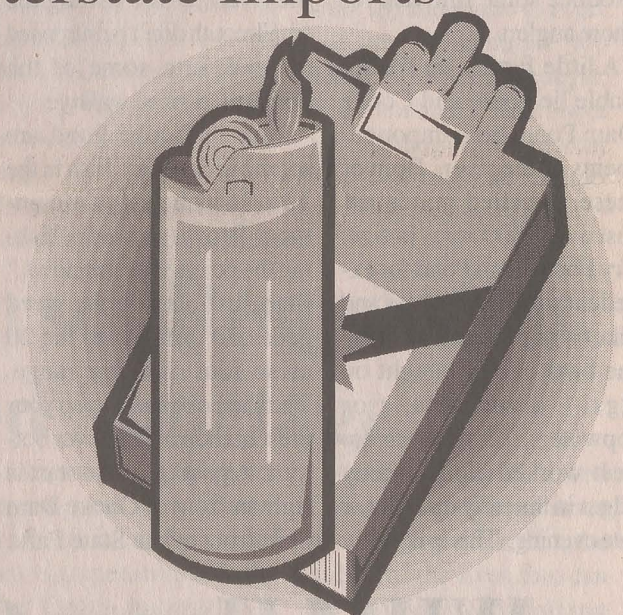
Michigan Imposes \$1,000 Fine on Interstate Imports

CHRIS GILLMORE
Photo Editor

Smokers and drinkers beware. If you smoke just one pack of cigarettes a day, you could be paying up to \$273 more on cigarettes in a year due to the sin tax proposal by the current Michigan Governor.

Governor Jennifer Granholm is proposing to increase the tax on cigarettes by 75 cents per pack. This would be an increase from \$1.25 to \$2.00 and is estimated to generate \$295 million to help fill the holes in the State Budget to save programs like Medicare and state school funding. It is estimated that this tax will deter over 150,000 people from smoking in the future.

Smuggling can become trouble with the new tax increase as more people go to Ohio, Indiana, and even Canada. This could cause problems for



the revenue that is to be generated and to the people doing the smuggling. Michigan cigarettes have a state stamp on the pack to acknowledge that the appropriate tax was paid for the cigarettes. If someone is found carrying packs from someplace other than Michigan it could lead to a \$1000 fine and up to one year in jail for just one carton. Importing large amounts could be fines up to \$50,000 and up to 5 years in jail. Smuggling from Canada is less of a worry because people traveling

are supposed to declare any purchases and they could pay the taxes at the border since 9/11, inspections and security is at its tightest.

Along with the cigarette tax, Governor Granholm is also proposing a tax on beer and wine. Michiganians drink two billion 12-ounce beers annually. That's 286 bottles of beer a year for every resident over the age of 21. With each beer being charged a 2 cents sin tax that should generate over \$40 million.

Along with beer, wine could also feel the sting of the sin tax. Michiganians drink 475 million 4-ounces glasses of wine a year and paying 3 cents for every two glasses, this will generate \$7.5 million annually. Liquor is not included in the initial proposal, but something could be at a later date to generate more state funds.

