

editorials

Make Spring Fling a Family Thing

A fling is a short period of unrestrained indulgence of one's impulses, according to the dictionary. ACC students planning and observing the annual Spring Fling try to keep this in mind. Not only is it a rite to celebrate the warm weather and escape the confines of the classroom to indulge in outdoor games and foolishness with friends, it also marks the start of the pre-exam period. A pleasant way to make the transition.

Unfortunately, having a Spring Fling takes more than giving in to impulses. It takes money, planning, workers and plentiful and appreciative guests. A lack in any of these creates problems—all very real problems but not without solutions. The way and to what extent the problems are solved depend on the students and reflect the priorities they have set for themselves.

It's much the same every year, with the exception of the new semester calendar which puts the date of the party a few weeks earlier, and the new drinking law which bans alcoholic beverages for persons under 21 years. But a beerless party may turn out to be a blessing, considering the senate is short of cash and beer licenses cost \$130.

In the past, all students, faculty and staff were invited to the Spring Fling but, because beer was sold, minors were not welcomed. This meant that people with children would come without spouses or hire a baby sitter. Or, they could bring their children.

Last year, two ACC students, aware that minors were not allowed into the picnic area, chose to bring their children. They were promptly stopped by students from the law enforcement club at the entrance to Island Park where the Spring Fling picnic was being held. After some disputation and a walkie-talkie exchange, the group was cleared and allowed to proceed.

The children had a marvellous time exploring the island and observing adult party customs of the college variety. The little ones tore up and down the sandy hills, waded in the river, gorged on picnic food and had a fine collection of beer cans by sundown. The older children played a few games but mostly stared gazed in awestruck admiration at cool college students shaving inflated balloons with popsicle sticks.

Since beer is no longer a part of ACC parties, the question of whether or not children of students should

be allowed to attend Spring Fling is no longer valid. However, we feel that a change in policy and what it means should not go unmentioned, especially if the senate and council decide to hold another picnic.

If this is the case, we urge the senate and council to extend a warm welcome to children of students, staff and faculty at ACC. It would be particularly appropriate to do so this year since it is the International Year of the Child.

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In an interview with Stew Olmstead, Alpena Public Schools' director of personnel, CU learned that there are 456 teachers in the Alpena school district; 333 in the K-12 system and at ACC there are 58 full time and 65 part time. These figures include librarians and counselors. Salaries range from \$11,277 for a teacher with a bachelors degree at the public school level to a top salary of \$19,717 for teachers with a masters degree at ACC. The teachers' salaries are only part of the salary budget which is \$10,061,067 for the Alpena Public Schools alone.

People with low or fixed incomes get a property tax break from the government, if the property tax is greater than 3½% of the complete household income. When state income taxes are filed, 60% of the difference between property taxes and 3½% of the income will be reimbursed. "This is particularly beneficial to senior citizens," said a secretary at the Alpena Office of the Department of Treasury Revenue.

Property owners in Alpena and Preque Isle are paying 27.98 mills for the running of the schools plus .48 mills debt. The 7.98 is the limit set by statute. The rest, 20 mills, expires this year and voters must decide whether to vote in 23 or 25 mills for operational costs. This would be an additional 3 or 5 mills.

"If the voters turn down the 23 and the 25 mills, the schools are left with 7.98 mills," says Stan James, director of the County Equalization Department.

If the property assessments are based on half the market value of the home, and the average home is worth \$40,000, the amount paid for increased millage would be an additional \$60 or \$100 annually.

wafb report

Iranian oil shortage stuns American

By Jerrienne R. Hayslett

Cars, three abreast, stretched for miles waiting for gas. But there was none. The stations were closed.

People with containers of every description lined up for heating fuel. Their wait, too, was futile. Trucks had stopped delivering food to market, garbage piled up at curbside, construction sites fell silent and deserted, city streets were empty.

A scene from a futuristic movie? No. A slice of reality from the immediate past.

These were the streets of Tehran, Iran on January 2, 1979. Little more than a week earlier the traffic hustled, the people bustled and construction sites boomed.

But an order issued by a rather obscure Islamic clergyman in far off Paris, France sent Iran's work force out on strike. The country's economy fell and with it fell the oil levels of its limited oil reserves. Extensive power outages punctuated every night, public transportation came to a halt and by the end of the old year, Tehran was a city out of gas.

Repercussions from Iran's oil strike and the ensuing policies of the new revolutionary government to limit its oil output have been felt around the world.

What does the future hold for a country like the United States which

Scholarship for females over 25

It was announced today that female students over the age of 25 may apply for financial aid from the BPW Foundation. The awards range from \$100 to \$1,000 for one year, and may be used for full or part time programs of study.

According to the foundation, the scholarships are designed to assist older women seeking job-related skills and who are within two years of graduation.

Applications are available from The Scholarship Bank, 10100 Santa Monica # 750, Los Angeles, CA. 90067. Enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

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There's no educational prerequisite for any of the 39 weeklong non-credit courses which range from world politics, "hands-on" television production to popular culture.

Participants in last years program remarked that the experience was positive and did much for their self-esteem.

is addicted to the rich black goo? Unless it can break the habit, endure the withdrawal pains and become more self-reliant by developing alternate energy sources, keeping thermostats at 65 and speedometers at 55 mph will seem like utopia.

The experience of living in a foreign country offers many lessons. But for many Americans in Iran the one that really hit home was the need to replace a good slogan "Double Up America" with a more appropriate one "Wake Up America"—and take action!

Women health course offered

The Wurtsmith Center of Alpena Community College is offering a one semester hour course on women's health care issues during the spring semester.

The women and health course will be offered on Tuesday and Thursday evenings, from 5:30-7 p.m., and is scheduled for May 1 through 31.

The physician-patient relationship, various aspects of gynecology (reproduction, menopause, surgical procedures, and cancer) will be addressed as well as sexual assault and the problem of the male abuser.

The instructor of the course is Jane Roberts, an Air Force nurse, who was the Community's Women's Advocate at her former assignment in Wiesbaden, Germany. Her responsibilities in that position included organizing "a comprehensive women's advocacy program to address the multi-faceted problems women encounter within sexist social institutions—particularly the Health Care system."

Jane Roberts indicated that "I feel a lack of knowledge exists regarding health and 'body' issues. This has far-reaching implications in terms of promoting negative body image...and the notion that women's bodies are for others to do with as they choose."

She adds that "academic courses of this nature can be extremely informative and very strategic to women's freedom to control their lives."

Registration for the class is scheduled from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday, until April, 13, and on April 30 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The course is open to interested women as well as men. For additional information please call 739-1445.



CAMPUS UPDATE

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