

WHEELING AND DEALING WITH SAFETY

By Elizabeth Littler

The roads are clear and the weather's warmed up. You promised yourself to make a contribution to energy conservation by riding your bike as much as possible; besides, it's good for your health. Or is it?

Thirty thousand bicyclists are killed or injured annually. And the number increases every year as the roads become more crowded. So, before you leap into the saddle, why not review a few safety measures and rules for bicyclists.

Assuming you purchased a bike that fits you and is not going to break down at the first corner, check to make sure it is equipped for maximum safety with a headlight, taillight or reflector, warning bell, chain guard and functional brakes (coaster brakes for children until their hands get stronger).

Remember: a bicycle is not a toy; it's a vehicle in traffic, governed by laws. Here are a few rules of the road: ride with traffic, keep to the right, use all hand signals, obey

stop and go signals, use caution around parked cars (sailing into an open car door can be devastating), never take on a passenger, obey all local bicycle regulations.

One local regulation in operation is that all bikes in the city be licensed. The cost of the license is 50 cents and is good for the life of the bike. Sargeant Richard Ryther at the Alpena Police Dept. says that a bike owner is rarely ticketed for not having a license unless he attracts attention for other reasons, such as reckless or improper driving.

The real advantage, Ryther says, is that the owner will have his bike registered, and in case of loss or theft is able to identify his recovered bike. The license law applies only to city residents but anyone wanting to register their bike may purchase a license.

Since biking begins at an early age, it is important that children learn rules and skills with their first bike. Children, grades three through six, in the county schools are taught

bicycle safety by Deputy James Marquardt of the Alpena County Sheriff Dept. in an after-school program organized by the 4-H club.

In the two sessions with Marquardt and a mechanic, the children learn the names of the bike parts and how to adjust them. Also basic maintenance, storage, registration and safety checks are covered. Then, it's out to the parking lot to test their riding skills and maneuvers, knowledge of traffic laws and hand signals.

Marquardt is concerned that the program be both interesting and challenging so that the children will continue improving their riding skills.

Bike safety education in the city schools came to an end last year when City Safety Officer Russ Mainville retired and his position was not filled.

An Alpena police officer stated that in accidents involving bicycles and automobiles, the bike drivers

are usually at fault. Because bikers are so vulnerable, (the obvious losers in any bike-car contest) law officers recommend that bikers give way to cars and in some cases get off the bike and become a pedestrian. Of course, it would also help if the motorist realized that the biker has as much right to the road as he has.

So, this spring, before you take off down the road, give these words a little thought. Let's not see any bikers zipping down the sidewalk, sneaking through red lights, weaving in and out of traffic or coming up the wrong side of the road. And motorists, share the road and keep your eyes open.

movies

By Kyle Harris

That Obscure Object of Desire which won The Best Film of the Year for 1977, will be shown April 19 at 7:30 p.m. at NRC 150.

The film is very strange. The plot involves a man in his fifties, who falls madly in love with a woman half his age. The film's weird message is to not have sex with the object of your desire.

The woman is played by two different actresses; one is a sexy lady, the other an innocent lady.

This film stars Fernando Rey, Carole Bouquet, and Angela Molina.

Cinderella Liberty will be shown April 23 in NRC 150 at 7:30 p.m.

The film stars James Caan and Marsha Mason (of the **Goodbye Girl** fame).

Mason plays a pool hustler and, among other things, a lady of the evening. Caan plays a sailor on liberty whose navy records get lost. He spends the rest of the film trying to straighten this situation out.

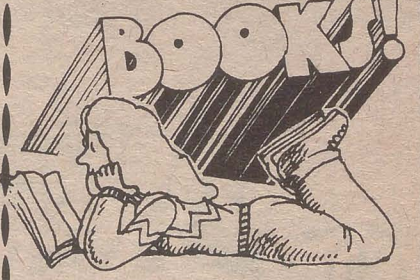
To spice things up, Mason has a very street-wise kid that Caan tries to win over.

It will also be shown in the dorm at 7:00, the night before.

classifieds

MOTORCYCLE: 1972, 380 Suzuki 3 cylinder engine, 6 speed transmission, 8,500 miles in excellent condition. \$500 firm. Ph. 379-4483

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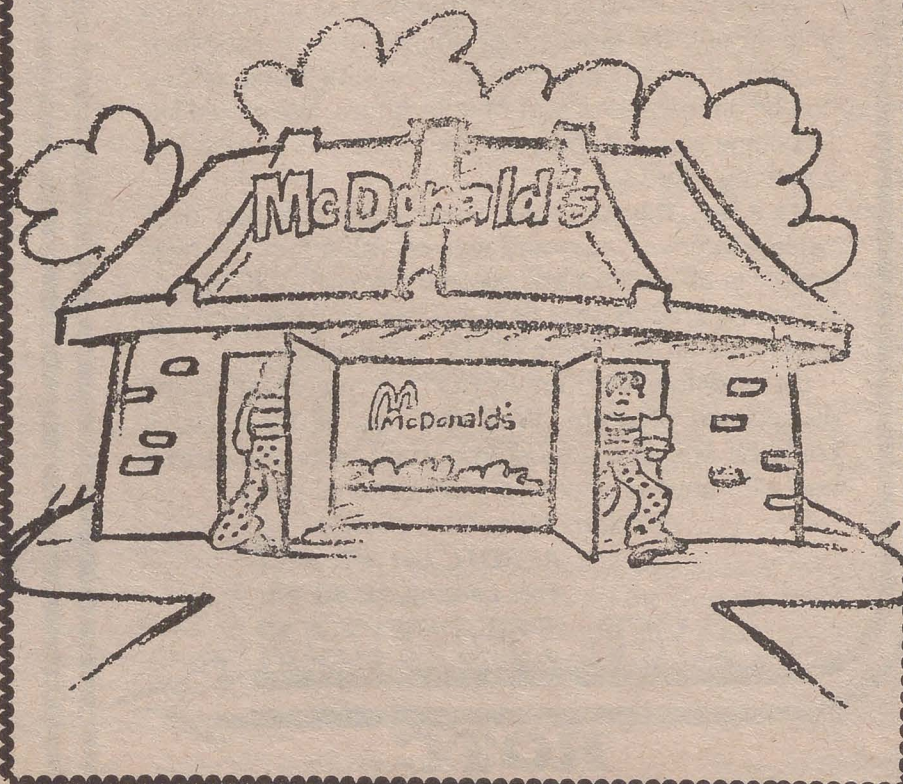
ACC
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Located in Besser Tech

NO WAITRESS. NO WAIT.

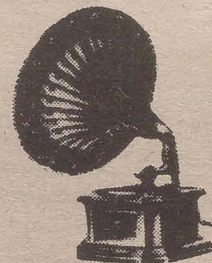


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According to the ACC handbook, students are to park their bikes in designated areas. But, because of the lingering snow on campus lawns, spring work on the grounds has not started. Once the grounds are taken care of, says Dale Hsley, director of buildings and grounds, bike racks will be placed near the entrances of all major school buildings except East Campus. As yet, there is no rack available for this building. He anticipates that the racks will be in place by the time school reopens after the Easter vacation

record review



Bighorn releases first album

By Art Ross

Born in the true spirit of the great Northwest, one of the newest groups to hit the circuit, Bighorn, has released their first album entitled, **Bighorn**.

The group shows much promise in the way their music is put together. They are the melting pot of several famous rock bands, all seemingly rolled into one. One cut on the album particularly drew my attention, "A Penny for Your Dreams". The cut to me represented many fine traits of some famous rock bands. For a new and different experience, something sure to surprise you, give **Bighorn** a listen. It could be worth your while.

Next issue we'll look at the new LP from Dire Straits and start our listings on concerts in the near future.