Sports

Four men made firm commitments at the recently held recruiting day on campus. From left are X-Country runners Tom Cieciorka. Mark Samp, Keith Timm, and B'ball player Dave Dillon.



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Resignation announced at press conference

by Jen Goodburne

Coaching changes highlighted a press conference held by Athletic Director Frank McCourt on April 25. He announced Terry Harbson has officially resigned his position as women's basketball coach. Harbson, who coached the Lady Lumberjacks to a final four tournament appearance in March, names frustration with a limited program as his reason for leaving.

Assistant coach Tammy Biesenthal has been appointed as Interim Head Coach.

Harbson will remain at ACC as the Talent Search director. He continues to lend support to the basketball program, and will assist Biesenthal in the transition period.

Traveling, along with a lack of formalized housing for students and student-athletes, are issues that were problems for Harbson, according to McCourt.

Unofficially, men's assistant coach Rob Roose will remain the assistant coach.

McCourt also stated that Tom Bennett, a retired Alpena High School instructor, will become a full-time cross country coach. Bennett, who has 38 years of experience, assisted McCourt last

Bennett will be actively recruiting runners rather than using the cross country season as a training session for other sports. Four athletes have committed to

the cross country team: Tom Cieciorka, Mark Samp, Keith Timm, and Greg Furtaw, all of Alpena.

Bennett indicates that the four Wildcat runners represent probably the largest group of quality student

athletes ever to commit to ACC from one school. They will join sophomore Tom Kirschner to form a nucleus of next year's squad. Bennett is still looking for three or four more freshman runners to complete the squad.

Coaches score recruiting success

by Jen Goodburne Recruiting efforts for both Lumberjack B'ball teams have vielded success with Coach Frank McCourt reporting commitments from Prentise Phillips, 6'7", Bridgeport; Dave Dillon, 6'5", Mesick; and Andrew McGarry, 5'8", Clio. Also committed are ACC students 6'5" Glen Ferris and 6' Alfonso Williams. Frank Roberson, 6'9", is transferring from Olney Center Community College, Illinois.

McCourt predicts Phillips and Roberson will be rebounding strengths, but he still needs two more rebounders, as well as, some guard quickness. As for the season's outlook, McCourt says "they have to be hungry."

Joining returning sophomores Jackie Kennard and Carmen Ham for the women will be Stephanie Fairview; Morang, Jenny Hillman; Lisa Wekwert, Posen; Kerri Barra and Stacey Jago, Newberry; Jamillah Crawford, Houghton Lake; Sheila Fulton, Oscoda; and Nichole Morrill,

Gravling.

"I'm very excited," stated Interim Head Coach Tammy "We have nine Biesenthal. freshmen, all from Northern Michigan. We'll have more depth to do some things we couldn't do before. We'll run and press more."

Shiffer is an established force

by Jen Goodburne

ACC's rookie softball team has proven that it can be a contender in its first year of competition. Though the players are all new to this level of softball, several have shown the skill and determination needed to stand out as high quality athletes.

One of the team's bright spots through the season has been freshman Lisa Shiffer, who has established herself as a force on the mound for the Lady Lumberiacks.

Shiffer, who is from Hillman, liked her year at Alpena. "It's nice to play with other players and people you know, too." she says, referring to the other Lady 'Jacks from Hillman.

She has been playing softball since the third grade, and first



started pitching in the fifth. Credit for her pitching skill goes to her father, who taught fundamentals and then attended instructional camps with her.

While in high school, Shiffer injured her ankle playing basketball. She was again sidelined after reinjuring it in softball. Thanks to reconstructive surgery, and three months of therapy, she is able to play -without it, she'd only be a fan.

Is there a difference between high school and junior college level softball? "The pitching's It's a lot more competitive." You heard it straight from the mound.

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