

Editors consider suicide  
page 2

Meet your prehistoric  
predecessors  
page 10

American - Russian  
experience gets personal  
Pages 6-7

# THE POLEMIC

Issue 3

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## ACC in brief

### Board of Trustees meet

ACC's Board of Trustees met in regular session on Thursday, October 17, 1991 to dispense with a light agenda.

Purchases approved include: a universal lift rack for the automotive technology program -- to be 50% funded by federal vocational education monies, a 1992 Dodge 3/4 ton pickup (from Louis Motors) for snow removal, and a 1992 GMC Sonoma (from McCoy's) for maintenance activities.

### Share the Spirit!

Your help is needed to fill the Christmas wishes of those in need. If you would be willing to be a Christmas Wish List donor, call the Volunteer Center at ext. 271, and the staff will match you with a person on the list. Gifts must be received by the Volunteer Center no later than 4:30pm Monday, December 9.

### LBJ awarded

English instructor Jim Miesen has captured November's Lumberjack of the Month honors.

A man of local renown for his talent on the stage and his ability to expound upon the more abstract aspects of 18th century American Deistic thought, Miesen is commended by ACC President Donald Newport "for his dedication to our students."

### Instructor takes 2nd

Joe Donna was awarded second place in the Jesse Besser Museum's Juried Competition with a work of mixed media entitled, "Mechanical Bird."

Of the 243 works submitted, 40 were selected for the competition.

## Russian teacher gives her impressions of U.S. education

by Joe McKenna  
Staff Writer

Northern Michigan schools have some very unusual visitors. Among them is Ms. Tatyana Gorskya-Belova, a Russian teacher from Moscow, who is teaching introduction to psychology classes at Alpena High School.

Gorskya-Belova is part of a seven teacher, fourteen student Russian contingency that is spending five months in Northern Michigan schools. The Russians are scattered throughout a number of area schools including Alpena, Alcona, Onaway, and Rogers City. The exchange is led by Russian Principal Sergei Pomeramcev.

Gorskya-Belova teaches at the Moscow Classical Lyceum, where she holds classes in geography and psychology. Although the West often refers to the Lyceums as Russia's talented and gifted program, Gorskya-Belova insists that the Lyceums are geared for the "average Muscovite high school student."

When asked for a comparison, Gorskya-Belova has nothing but praise for both our educational programs and their Russian counterparts. However, she is quick to point out the differences between the two.

"Russian schools are much more oriented to theory, while American schools are very lucky and fortunate to have 'hands on' classes," she explained. Gorskya-Belova stated that she was impressed by our many Vo-Tech programs, like Nursing, and Auto Mechanics, and the extent of Chemistry and Biology labs. She feels that Russian schools have a lot to learn in this area, since there is a dearth of similar programs at

the Russian high school level.

The strengths of the Soviet schools lie in discipline and theory. She quickly reminded me that the 11th grade mathematic curriculum here at Alpena High School was completed five years earlier by the Russian students. "Maybe Americans could learn from us, too," she stated.

Overall Gorskya-Belova has a very favorable impression of America and its schools. She claims that the only difference between the students is discipline.

"There is much more kissing in the halls here," she cited as an example. She went on to explain that, "this is probably

[See Russians on page 6](#)

## College group travels downstate to economic meeting

by Rich Spicer  
News Editor

A group of students representing ACC and the Huron Shores campus took part in an economic conference sponsored by the Economic Club of Detroit (ECD) at Cobo Hall last week.

The November 12th presentation featured a private question and answer session between the ACC contingent and Thomas E. Kiernan, Chief of Staff for William C. Rosenberg, Assistant Administrator for Air and Radiation of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Topics discussed included the market for pollution rights and corporate auto fuel efficiency standards.

Following that, the group attended a luncheon where former General Motors chairman and current ECD head Max Fisher spoke. After lunch, newly appointed director of the Michigan

Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Roland Harmes discussed the recent restructuring of that organization.

According to ACC economics instructor David Eger, who travelled with the group, Harmes described the "new" DNR as "more structured and more powerful . . . streamlined with an emphasis on Michigan environmental policy."

After Harmes, Kiernan spoke to the 800 attendees on the subject of "The New Clean Air Act: All Aboard the Clean Air Bus." Eger said Kiernan, who worked with Rosenberg on the Clean Air amendments, spoke of "allowances created for sulfur dioxide emissions" so that "higher polluting firms must reduce the level of pollution or must buy rights to pollute" from lower polluting firms.

Eger explained that the Clean Air amendments detailed by Kiernan "at least theoretically" result in "the maximum pollution reduction at a minimum cost . . . a

competitive market . . . a major, major, breakthrough."

Following the forum, the group was invited to the Air, Water and Waste Technologies '91 Exposition where they were shown the latest in environmental technology, with representatives from over 55 companies on hand.

Eger said that he found the experience very rewarding. "At the start of the day we had nine people who didn't know each other and by the end of the day there were people involved in one-on-one conversations with a lot of enthusiasm."

The trip was made possible by General Telephone and Electric (GTE), who purchased the tickets to the presentation. David Alger, GTE Public Affairs Manager, joined Eger for the trip, along with ACC students Patti Clark, Patrick Green, Janie Mouser, Alphonso Williams and Traci Zielaskowski. Huron Shores students who attended were Danielle Ballard, Rob Bejesky, and Denise Wilson.



Photo by Elaine Kosoloski

The difference in the written language is demonstrated by Tatyana Belova, Russian teacher a participant in the cross cultural exchange program based locally.