

Financial Aid Possibilities

Last year the federal government awarded approximately \$2.9 billion nationally in Pell Grants.

If a student is not eligible for a Pell Grant but still demonstrates financial need, work-study may be an alternative. One earns this money by working on campus a certain number of hours each week. According to Lindsay, ACC gave back \$20,000 to the federal government last year in the unawarded work-study monies of which students did not take advantage.

A student may also borrow money for school under the guaranteed student loan program if his/her parents' adjusted gross income is less than \$30,000. The amount that can be borrowed is calculated by taking the school's cost of attendance minus the amount the family contributes. This loan does not require repayments to begin until six months after graduation.

As the cost of attending

college continues to rise every year, many students are looking for ways to cut the expense. The state of Michigan and the federal government provide several solutions to this problem.

According to Max Lindsay, Assistant Dean of Students at ACC, one of the best sources of financial aid is a Pell Grant. This award is based on financial need, and the student does not pay back the money.

To apply for this grant, one must fill out a Financial Aid Form (FAF) which is sent to a processing center. The award amount is calculated, based on the information given on the FAF.

Several opportunities for obtaining money for school, in addition to those mentioned here, are available if the student takes advantage of them. To find out more about educational assistance programs, the ACC student should contact the financial aid office at the college they plan to attend.

STUDENTS GET A TOUR OF CAMPUS

On Tuesday, November 24, the ACC Student Senate gave a campus tour to area high school students from Posen, Alpena, and Inland Lakes.

To begin with, the students were given a welcoming speech from Dr. Davis. Next, they heard from Max Lindsay and Richard

Counsellor. Finally, the students were split-up into groups for their tour.

According to Jackie Timm, coordinator of the campus tour, the program was sponsored by Talent Search and its main purpose was to "encourage people to finish high school and enroll in post-secondary education."

A Briefing on Wurtsmith

Most students attending community college on the Alpena campus know that ACC courses are also offered at Wurtsmith Air Force Base in Oscoda. But what many do not realize is how important the Oscoda campus is to so many college students.

Chuck Wiesen, director of Community Services at Wurtsmith stated that the ACC-Wurtsmith program was started in 1969 by ACC's Dean of Students John McCormack. A year and a half later Mike Hood became the first director at Wurtsmith and remained there until 1974. In October of 1982, Chuck Wiesen became Director of Community Services at Wurtsmith.

Wurtsmith Air Force Base is not a guard base, as many people suppose, but an active-duty base consisting of 9000 people of which 4000 are active-duty personnel. The other 5000 are spouses and children.

According to Wiesen, a total of 725 persons attend classes at Wurtsmith-350 military and 385 civilians. These students account for almost one-third of the total

college head count and 20% of the total college credits.

At WAFB, several educational opportunities are offered. Through the Oscoda Public Schools, General Education Development, Adult Basic Education, and Adult High School Completion courses are all offered, with about 100 people involved.

There are three colleges active at WAFB. The three involved include: ACC, Saginaw Valley State College, and Central Michigan University.

ACC offers "the regular spread in liberal arts," as stated by Chuck Wiesen, with very few technically oriented classes, such as welding.

SVSC offers four year degrees in programs such as in four different business management fields, sociology, general business, and computer information systems.

Wiesen says that WAFB is currently operating above capacity. Because of the over-load, 9 classes are currently being held outside of

the Wurtsmith classrooms.

The buildings which hold these 9 classes are the base fire station security police headquarters, a classroom building controlled by welfare and recreation building. Says Wiesen, "Without these it would be a tent or we could only offer services to 600 students."

Because enrollment has been rapidly increasing each year at Wurtsmith- enrollment is up 16% from last year- an initial Congressional appropriation had been made in 1986 for \$2.2 million for the year 1990.

These funds will be used for expansion purposes and will provide for a building containing 15 classrooms, complete offices, conference facilities and 4 labs. Wurtsmith plans to be into this building and operating by the fall of 1992.

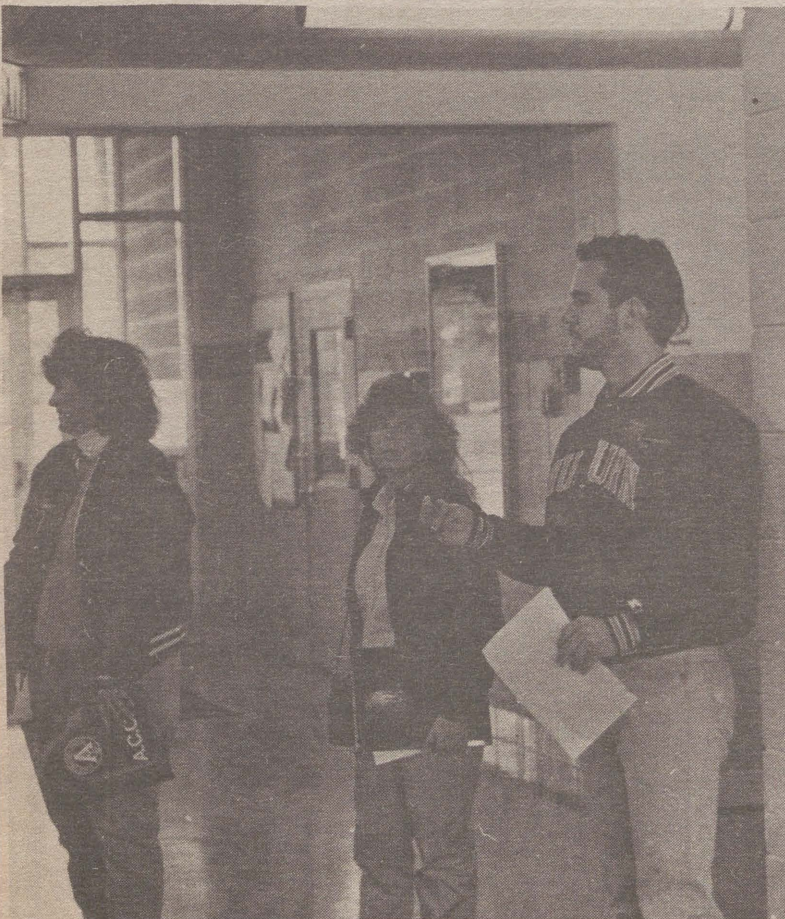
Wurtsmith Air Force Base is a tremendous asset to both military personnel and the community of Oscoda and also ACC campus. It integrates the civilian and military communities and provides a valuable learning resource for the area.



Mr Counsellor speaks to students before tour begins.



Peter Alexander briefs students about the different concrete equipment.



Melville leads his group into VLH lobby.