## EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES AT WURTSMITH

Ann Marie Meldrum

The college educational department on the base has approximately 725 students enrolled. The students have the benefit of a Learning Skills Center and also a Social Center available for their personal use. If

students need help in other departments, such as financial aid, all the paper work they fill out is sent back to the Alpena Campus branch.

The WAFB branch offers a well-rounded selection of courses for the 725 students that are enrolled, but what the particular branch lacks is student advisement. For approximatly 700 students (not all are full-time and do not need advising) there is only one advisor.

Students on this campus know the difficulties of trying to make an appointment with their advisor who has approximately 50 students to advise. Reflect upon the idea of perhaps 700 students trying to arrange meeting times with one advisor. This is a taxing job for the <u>one</u> advisor and a frustrating experience for the 700 students.

When asking some personnel at WAFB about the lack of student advisors, they responded that the Alpena campus administration fails to recognize their needs. Their requests for more advisors

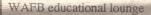
has been submitted to the administration at the Alpena Campus but there has been little, if any, action for their concern.

When I confronted President Donnelly with WAFB's statement he commented, "The solution to this problem lies in funding for more advisors." It seems that WAFB's problem should be a high priority on ACC's budget, after all WAFB hosts one-third of the total student body.



Mr. Wiesen





The recent development of their science lab has been delayed and the completion date is still undecided. The reasons for the delay is air force priority.

The air force's priority, as stated by ACC connection Chuck Wiesen, is mission priority. This is understandable that services such as launching an aircraft would be their utmost concern.

When asked if he was disappointed in the progress of the lab, Wiesen commented, "Sure, of course...this lab is one of the major student needs..."
Other major areas of study on the WAFB campus is math and computers.

WAFB has a quality computer room hosting the IBM PC computer and some Burroughs that are connected to the mainframe at VLH. This room is one of the main educational facilities on campus.

The instructional facilities at Wurtsmith are adequate but they do have some restrictions. The rooms are small and limit the number of students that can attend

the class. Some of the faculty that instruct the courses at WAFB are commuting from ACC's campus. Wurtsmith has only one full-time instructor.

At the present time of the tour most students on the WAFB campus were attending classes so personal student interviews were not obtained.

The Senate is planning to schedule another tour on the base for next spring to do a follow up on topics that were discussed. If any student is interested in attending this tour let the ACC Student Senate know.



