

LUMBERJACK

MARCH 29, 1988

ACC BOARD DISCUSSES MILLAGE

The ACC Board of Trustees recently had a meeting to discuss the harsh reality of a recent poll where Alpena voters denied Alpena Community College a one-mill charter increase. The increase was on the 1.5 mill levy that was so graciously awarded by voters way back in 1979.

President Newport gave the audience and the board a bit of a pep talk and patted them on the shoulders saying, "Look at how we can work together smarter and exercise our savings." It all sounded convincing but the fact of an oncoming storm loomed in the conference room like thunder.

Newport addressed the problems and displayed to the crowd of onlookers a massive list of figures, projections and options, all which pointed in the same direction. A definite and absolute shortage of funds.

Basically, the Administrators have somewhat of a skeletal plan. A foundation for the changes that

will have to be made; a sort of guideline. This skeletal plan consists of a two-sided coin. On one side we have the need to raise revenues, or monies coming into the college, and on the other side we have options that will lead to the saving and "containment" of expenditures.



Dr. Newport receives the U.S. Flag from the VFW Post L to R --Bob Fournier, Jay Wagner, and Dr. Newport.

In raising revenues the board proposed several options such as raising costs for credits (tuition)

and placing fees on such things as placement testing, applications, registration, parking and a few others. This would definitely help ACC make up for some lost funds but needless to say, "it is only a drop in the bucket."

As far as savings and "containment" are concerned we are

we will soon realize we are taken for granted.

Such reductions include: reducing temperatures in class rooms, the reduction of the use of certain campus buildings, reducing the levels of lighting, the possible introduction of a four day work week, the limitation of Splinter publications, reducing course offerings, the cutting of library "open hours" and tutoring services as well as student services and finally, the limiting of the number of nonpaying students.

Newport showed the already demortgaged crowd yet another theory. He showed that by the time 1989 rolls around, ACC will be \$307,000 in debt, or deficit whichever you prefer, and that by 1991 that figure will have doubled to \$669,000.

To make it all worse Newport bravely stated that these deficit figures were "based on very conservative figures." Newport also emphasized that he and the board were "simply talking about options" and that "nothing is close

to being finalized yet."

It is a sad, sad world in which we live in today. It is a sad world when a community refuses to muster any objective to partially support an institution of higher education which, in turn, is located within that same community.

As sad as this news is to the student, he should not feel alone; it has also thrown the ACC Administration into a tizzy and the institution itself into feeling a sense of helplessness.

From the start ACC has proclaimed that more outside funds are essential for "program maintenance"; ACC has a need to receive them as any other institution does. Their whims went unheard and now, since no increase in outside revenues are available, regular programs will have to be drastically cut back and severely altered.

If the institution of ACC decays so does the community itself. What goes around comes around is what they so wisely say.

ACC GETS A CHECK UP

ACC will undergo a checkup April 11-13 to determine the renewal of the institution's accreditation. A four-member consultant team is scheduled to arrive for the three-day evaluation.

The team's objective is to evaluate ACC on how well we know ourselves. ACC's previous president, Dr. Donnelly, appointed a self-study steering committee which planned, conducted, and prepared the self-study evaluation report. The report was then presented to the North Central Association reaccreditation consultant team.

The evaluation report is a comprehensive self-study designed to assist the NCA consultant team in determining the renewal of institution's accreditation. Copies of the report have been distributed

to all faculty and administrators, with additional copies of the report available in the college library for student reading.

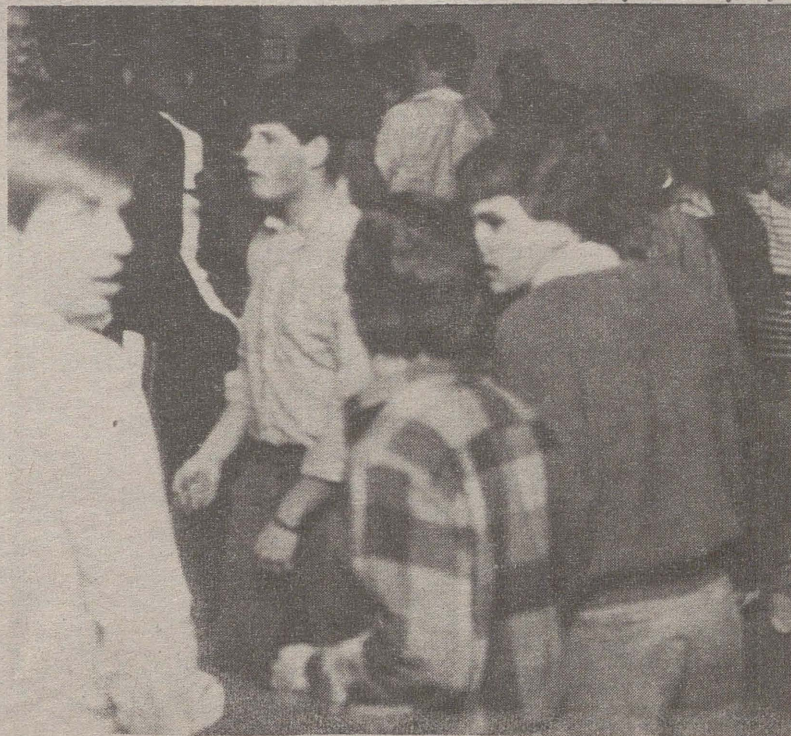
Also, copies of the last section of the report were printed separately and distributed to the college community as, "College Challenges and Recommendations", focusing on the four main college challenges; community services, evaluation methods, resource development and institutional governance.

This evaluation was done to generate campus-wide constructive ideas for strengthening the weaknesses of the college. The steering committee hopes that college actions will demonstrate concern, and focus on the progress of the college since the last NCA evaluation visit.

The self-study steering committee is very hopeful for the renewal of the NCA accreditation based on the achievements and evaluations of programs and services, which were studied and stated in the self-study report.

The NCA consultant team members are: Dr. W.L. McDivitt, chairperson of the consultant team and president of Otero Junior College, Colorado; Dr. J. Harris Helm, Bradley University, Illinois; Mr. J.T. Blong, Eastern Iowa Community College District; and Dr. H.R. Woerpel, Hutchinson Community College, Kansas.

All of the arrangements for the arrival of the consultant team are being overseen by Dean McCormack, along with a general outline of activities that will commence while the evaluation is in progress.



Campaign '88 Dance