

Alpena Entertainment

Resignation Leaves Planetarium Without Coordinator

The Jesse Besser Museum finds itself in a difficult position this year. It has within its walls a beautiful state of the art planetarium and since August of last year has had no one to run it on a regular basis. This is due to the fact that Matt Linke, the former Planetarium Coordinator, resigned in August to pursue graduate studies and other opportunities in the Ann Arbor area.

Since that time there has been an ongoing review process of applicants from nine states for this position. Yet, now there exists a need for committed funds for a coordinator's salary.

The Rotary Club of Alpena has stepped up to this need in the form of assistance in their upcoming Radio Auction.

Donations to the Museum and proceeds from the Rotary Club may combine to hire a full-time planetarium coordinator at the Museum's Sky Theater. The Rotary Club's target this year is \$3,000. If this target is met, the Rotary Club will match that amount with its own \$3,000 donation.

The Sky Theater saw its beginnings among 29 committed individuals in 1963. James Spence, Clem Mason and Russ Wilson were among the airplane passengers Jesse Besser had invited to tour museums in surrounding states. Wilson, at that time a member of a committee that had been trying to figure out a way to honor Jesse Besser, noticed that

Besser was utterly fascinated with the planetariums he found in other museums.

At that time there were no plans for a planetarium in what would become the Jesse Besser Museum in Alpena. A meeting of the other committee members was called and thus began the organized attempt to honor Jesse Besser with a communal birthday gift.

Since its formal inception in 1966 and until August of last year, the Jesse Besser Sky Theater has continued to provide the public with educational entertainment throughout the year.

What is a planetarium? To begin with a planetarium is an instrument which projects the sun, moon, planets and stars along with their respective motions, as you would see them in the sky for any place on earth at any time in past centuries or for 1000s of years in the future. Today the facilities at the Museum include a Spitz model A3P which projects approximately 1,500 stars.

The room that contains this instrument seats 64 people and provides 30 foot dome seating. Additionally, many instruments have been obtained over the years to continually provide state of the art planetarium viewing.

Since the planetarium has been in operation, it has offered school programs to students, kindergarten through college. These programs have varied from the sky's seasonal changes to ones designed to meet the basic curriculums established for the various grade levels. In the

past, during the busiest part of the school year, there may be as many as five different goups in the planetarium per day.

As the only full-scale planetarium in Michigan north of Flint, on a college level, it proves to be an invaluable tool for students considering a career in astronomy.



Bits And Pieces by Staci Radke

* The ice tree on State St. sure is pretty.

As an afterthought; Alpena is famous for something.

* Once you've seen the Swiss Alps, Mt. Maria is rather, um, "small".

* Did you have as much fun as I did at Homecoming? Did you even know we had a Homecoming.

* Winter break can't be over already, can it?

* Using the tanner at the health club won't convince people you went to Florida.

* I never knew skipping class would be so easy; I will be in class tomorrow, Mrs. Frantz.

* Is the cinema ever going to get Rain Man? Another Tom Cruise movie could brighten up a dull day.

* Why do we have to listen to Super Gold Oldies the whole weekend long? I wish my car cassette stereo was fixed.

* Everyone in Alpena should take driver's ed. over again.

* Any more entries for the "What do we do on an Alpena weekend contest?"

* Does anyone else listen to Huey Lewis?

What's Next

If you've been asking yourself "What's Next" with college activities, this is for you. "What's Next" is to better inform you students as to the plans and goals of the Student Activities Board.

The activities board plans and oversees all activities on campus. All activities are free and open to all ACC students.

In the past few months, the Student Activities Board sponsored several dances and most recently Homecoming.

Many activities have been planned for the remainder of the spring semester. Casino Night, an annual event at ACC, to be held on March 17, is where one can gamble the night away at the colleges expense. At the end of the evening, if one is lucky, they can bid for prizes with the chips they have won.

Our annual theme dance is to be held on April 15. This years theme will be "Back To The Beach" Wear your shorts, bring a beach ball and plan to have a fun time.

The ACC Awards Night/Board of Trustees Dinner is to be held on April 27. This is the night when we recognize our outstanding students for the achievements they have made over the past year. This is also our way thanking the board for thier work this past year.

Spring Fling, our year-end blowout bash, is scheduled for May 5. This event is currently in the planning stages and will bring you up to date next issue.

Activities for Fall 89 are currently being planned. If you have suggestions for activities, or would like to help out, attend the Student Senate & student Activities Board Meetings on Mondays at 11:00 a.m. in the BTC conf rm. or contact Chuck Witt in the Student Senate Office off the lobby of BTC.

Watch next month for the Fall 89 Activities Schedule as well as the election of the New Activities Chairman.

By Chuck Witt

The Bottom Line

By John Pines

Debbie Gibson "Electric Youth"

Debbie Gibson, the darling of the teenage pop/rock scene, returns with her second effort "Electric Youth".

Don't let the title fool you. Gone are many of the synthesized laden puppy love songs, In their place are lyrically introspective numbers with a much greater balance of conventional instruments.

From beginning to end Gibson has a consistency that was clearly missing from her first album, "Out of the Blue". The songs are just better written, more mature and better produced.

"Electric Youth" begins with the danceable "Who Loves Ya Baby", carries on into the first

single "Lost In Your Eyes" which is a wonderful ballad, and then the song I feel to be the best "We Could Be Together" (Campfire Mix), available on CD only, prove beyond a doubt that she has grown tremendously in the writing of her songs.

The most noteworthy thing about "Electric Youth" is that Gibson writes all her own songs and produces the record herself, unlike her contemporary, Tiffany, who thinks that slaughtering The Beades music is more fun.

Anyway you slice it Debbie Gibson is not the same 17 year old saying "Shake Your Love" she is an adult making some memorable music.

Books Worth Reading

* "A Country of Strangers", by Susan Richards Shreve.

The story is a romantic tale of the pre- Civil Rights South during 1942.

* "Agent of Influence", by David Aaron.

International espionage explodes in this breathtaking novel. As CIA and KGB takeovers unfold.

* "Waverly Place", a novel by Susan Brownmiller.

A story of child abuse and inspired by the death of Lisa Steinberg.

* "Black Sand", by William J. Caunitz.

An action packed suspense thriller that concentrates on the Athens Security Division.



THUNDER BAY THEATER

PRESENTS

Murder at the Howard Johnson's

A Comedy

by Ron Clark & Sam Bobrick
with

Jane Goebel, Kevin Burnham and Max Hardy
March 3-5, 10-12 and 17-19

For Reservations call the box office at

354-2267

ACC Student Ticket Price Is \$ 3.00

Coming Soon.....

Strange Snow

by Steve Metcalfe

What It's Like To Come Home From Vietnam
March 31 to April 2 and April 7-9



With Support From
Michigan Council For The Arts