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CONTACT: Jess Haselhuhn
haselhuj@alpenacc.edu
(989) 358-7276

For immediate release:

BOBBY ALLEN AND CINDY DEROCHE ANNOUNCED AS NEW ACC BASKETBALL HEAD COACHES

ALPENA, MICH. — Alpena Community College has announced that Bobby Allen and Cindy DeRocher will take over as the Head Coaches for the ACC Basketball program. Allen will be moving into the lead role for the Men's Basketball Team while DeRocher will be taking over as the head of the Women's Basketball Team. These changes come after the resignation of former Men's Basketball Head Coach Mark Jacobs.

Allen is no stranger to the ACC Basketball programs, with 16 years of experience as the Head Coach for the Women's Team and 28 years of experience as Assistant Coach for the Men's Team. He played under former Coach Frank McCourt from 1988-1990 and is currently ranked as the Lumberjacks 13th all-time leading scorer with 795 points. Allen's jersey was retired in 2013 in recognition of his contributions to the program and his success at ACC.

Coach Allen acknowledges the impact that the Alpena community has had on him, and tries to carry that forward to future players. "Alpena gave me a chance to pursue my education and play basketball, and I would like to give it back by helping other men that would like to get a good education and play basketball," said Allen. "I hope that I can be half the coach that Frank McCourt and Mark Jacobs were." He says that his favorite thing about coaching is working with student-athletes, and helping the players further their lives. "All coaches want to win, but I want to win in the classroom as well as on the court."

DeRocher currently holds a number of positions at ACC, including Director of Student Life Activities & Campus Housing, Athletic Director, and Assistant Coach for the Women's Basketball Team in two separate seasons. She played for the ACC Lady Lumberjacks from 1980-82 for Coach McCourt. DeRocher served as the Head Coach for the Women's Team at Tri-State University for 12 years, where she led the team to 4 National Association of Intercollegiate Athletes finals appearances in 9 years. She was named NAIA National Coach of the Year in 1997 and was elected to the University's Hall of Fame in 2003. DeRocher ended her coaching career at Tri-State in 2000, with a record of 238-130.

Her goal as a coach is to guide students who want to grow and help them develop their maximum potential on the court, in the classroom, and around the community by providing the knowledge and leadership for that to happen. "As an ACC graduate, my time here as a student-athlete exposed me to new opportunities. I came here as an athlete, but I left with so much more." DeRocher enjoys coaching because it allows her to work with students and help them to reach their potential.

“Having the opportunity to work with each athlete and the positive energy they bring is so rewarding. The community college level is passion meets fear and the challenge to build a team is motivating. There is never a dull moment, and by the end of each practice and game we all know more about ourselves and each other.”

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