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Ames Forestry Club

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Midwestern Conclave 1981

The 30th Annual Midwestern Foresters' Conclave was hosted by the University of Michigan on October 31, 1981 at the Fresh Air Camp near Hell, Michigan. The colorful fall leaves surrounding Patterson Lake were a welcome sight.

On Friday night foresters from eleven midwestern schools gathered together after registering to meet each other and talk about the next day's competition. Rising early for breakfast, nearly everyone was up with the sun to start Saturday's fun, excitement and hard work. Twelve events including dendrology, traverse, tobacco spit, one-man and one-lady buck, match split, bolt throw, log roll, pulp toss, speed chop, chain throw, two man and two lady buck and the special events (pole climbing, accuracy tree felling, and fire-building) allowed many eager participants a chance to compete.

At each of these events only the competitors who place first, second and third earn points for their respective schools. At every conclave one or two schools somehow manage not to earn any points and end up taking home the old bearskin.

The good news for us was Randy Reutzel, who tied for third in the one-man buck, earned 1.5 points for ISU and prevented the bearskin from coming to Ames. Michigan Tech has the dubious distinction of keeping the skin until next year.

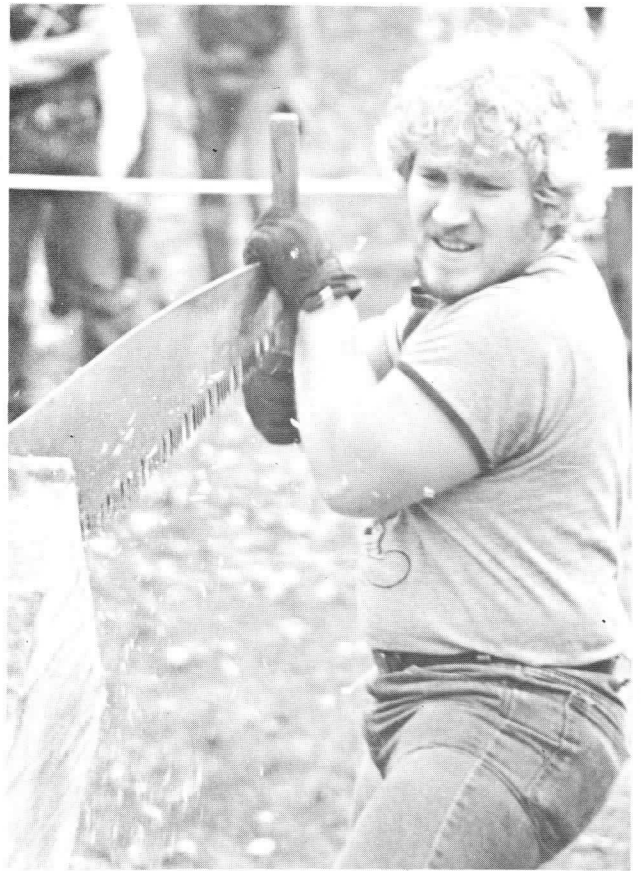
Although the ISU participants scored no other points during the events, everyone had fun. Quotes of "more practice" and "next year" were heard throughout the day.

After all of the events were over prizes were awarded to the host Michigan which captured first place, to various individuals who won prized for their events and to an all-around individual winner. After the prizes were handed out, foresters gathered together for some brew and dancing, while others visited near a roaring fire. Everyone felt a slight sadness as they realized their new-found friends would be gone for perhaps another year.

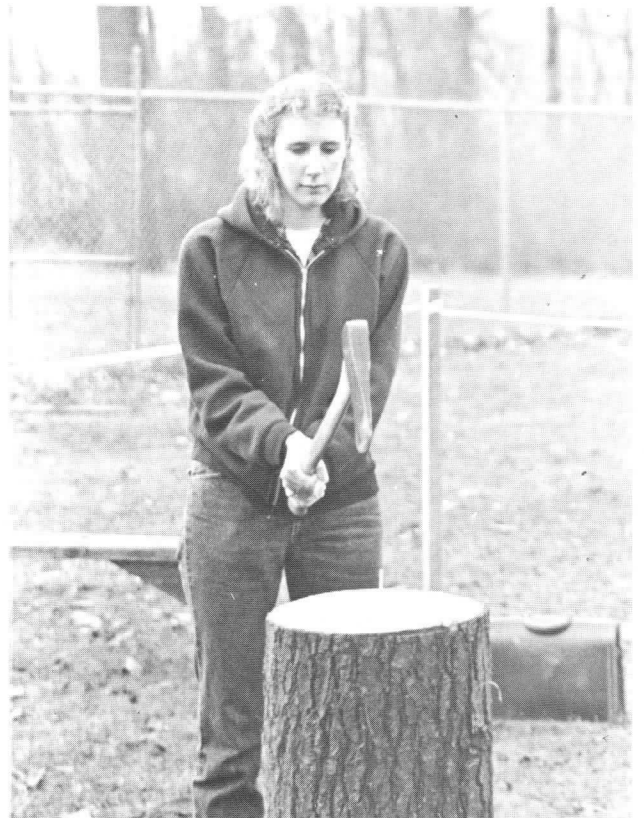
During the fall of 1982, the 31st Annual Midwestern foresters' Conclave will be hosted by ISU at the 4-H Camp. Everyone is encouraged to attend and all ISU Forestry students should plan to compete. All former conclave members will testify it's a good time to meet other students in their profession.



ISU foresters takin' a break.



Randy Reutzel on his way to placing third in the one man buck.



Concentration was the name of the game for Michele Shaw.