What's Up In the Cafeteria?

The cafeteria renovation is underway. New ceiling tiles and zone lighting have been installed and that is only the beginning. Draperies and carpeting with a grey and mauve color scheme will be installed which will reduce the noise level in the cafeteria and soften the institutional atmosphere. New oak top tables and fabric lined chairs will replace original furniture, now showing much wear and tear.

The cafeteria has not been remodeled for 15 years and the goal of this renovation is to make it a warm and comfortable place for students, staff and faculty to enjoy meals and free time.

Third Annual Wellness Week —
April 7-9, 1987

John Cassis, returning by popular demand from last year’s Wellness Week appearance, will be the featured speaker at the kickoff breakfast, Tuesday, April 7 at 7:30 a.m. His seminar, "When the Going Gets Tough..." will look at mental toughness as a means of dealing with life’s problems — personally and professionally — and will offer suggestions for building inner strength.

A variety of topics will be covered during Wellness Week relating to exercise, stress management, nutrition and aging. For a complete program, pick up a Wellness Week brochure in Health Services.
After 20 years of service, please share a memory:

Joanne Heinly: "What is refreshing and energizing about Harper is that early on there was an apparent commitment from the community and leadership of the College and faculty to the concept of community college education, that it is as valid as four-year institutions. That commitment has been maintained and it is fulfilling to see it work so well."

Bob Thiede: "The golden thread through the years has been answering those quirky and unusual questions from the students, staff and faculty who totter up to the reference desk."

Dee Johnson was home recuperating while this issue was written.

Congratulations to our three 20-year veterans.

Insider's View of
Claudia Carlsen

"Don't rush me — I'm making mistakes as fast as I can," is the sign that greets customers at Claudia Carlsen's cashier station in the cafeteria. Carlsen's sense of humor, smile and light banter can surely brighten up a slow morning or help break up a long day. Carlsen has been a part of the Harper community for eight years and is happy with her job. "I'm a people person, I like the people I work with and the people I see everyday."

Born: Chicago, currently lives in Hoffman Estates.

Education: Palatine High School

Marital status: Married, four "wonderful" children; two boys (17 and 21) and two girls (14 and 22)

Hobbies: Ceramics — which is really turning into a vocation. Christmas was very busy for Claudia who makes ceramic pieces on consignment for sale in the "Country Charm Shop" in Mt. Prospect.

Sports: A regular at the health club, Claudia also runs with her two dogs, a German shorthair and a beagle.

Favorite food: Pizza.

Favorite T.V. show: "Moonlighting."

I would like to stop: Overeating

Best advice parents gave me: Do your best at everything you do!

I can't stand: Crabby people.

If I've learned one thing in life: People treat you the way you treat them.

President James McGrath imparts some traveling tips to Matthew Schmeitz while his parents look on. Schmeitz along with 6 other Harper students, left for a spring semester in London.

Traveling Harper Family

"Absence does make the heart grow fonder," according to Mike Brown of the Art department and Barbara Schmeitz of Special Programs and Services, whose children are spending spring semester in London through Harper's International Studies Program.

Mike Brown's daughter Tanya has been able to look up some of Mike's relatives and has attended a family christening. Tanya plans to take advantage of her traveling opportunities through a side trip to Russia in March and also a trip to meet a friend who is in Israel on an exchange program.

Matthew Schmeitz is impressed by the "tube," London's underground public transportation system, and has found London an easy city in which to travel. Schmeitz has been to Speakers' Square where people take their turns on the soapbox and on another occasion Matthew has "dressed up" to take high tea.

Both students have been to several museums as a part of their coursework and are enjoying the opportunity to meet people from all over the world. The students are getting good experience shopping and cooking for themselves. Barb Schmeitz and her husband will meet Matt at the end of the term in London and Tanya's grandparents will travel to London to greet and tour with their granddaughter.
Department Focus on

The Dental Hygiene Program

During the past year and a half, there have been many changes in the Dental Hygiene program. Marianne Holt assumed the role of Dental Hygiene Program coordinator in the fall of 1985 and with the help of the dental hygiene faculty initiated numerous changes.

Thanks to Pat Bourke's planning, the space within the department has been redistributed to include a conference room, an x-ray and sterilization area, and expanded laboratory storage room. These changes have improved considerably the efficiency and utilization of space for both the students and the faculty.

There have been numerous changes in the clinic as well. Lynn Bryan was recently employed as a full-time faculty member and functions as clinic supervisor. Lynn has brought with her excellent experience from both Marquette and Loyola Universities. To help with the numerous clinical administrative responsibilities from inventory control to patient scheduling, a new IBM computer has been purchased. The faculty is working closely with Larry Haffner, director of academic computing, to develop a computerized system to the clinic evaluation system. The clinic still specializes in the conservative treatment of periodontal disease, but also treats children and young adults.

The Curriculum Committee has recently approved the streamlining of the dental hygiene curriculum. In response to the changing role of the dental hygienist, accreditation standards and licensing expectations, several changes will be implemented. Of special note, periodontology will be expanded to include two laboratory hours. Recent estimates are that four of five adults over the age of 40 have periodontal disease. Community Dentistry II will begin to emphasize the current needs of the community with more clinical experience at geriatric centers and teaching hospitals. Students will also train to function as health promoters and consumer advocates. During the month of February, Children's Dental Health Month, students went out to nursery schools and day care centers to talk to the children about dental care.

Last year several students received awards and recognition. A 1986 graduate won the Illinois Dental Hygienists Association (IDHA) award given to only one student from the eight participating dental hygiene programs in the state.

The Dental Hygiene program is committed to a continuing education program for its graduates. An areawide survey was developed to ascertain the continuing education interests of practitioners. As a result of the survey, Harper’s first continuing education seminar was held October 4, 1986 in conjunction with the first alumni dinner and meeting. Other continuing education courses are planned. Sheri Doniger, D.D.S., who along with Mary Kramer, D.D.S. and Kathleen Minaghan, D.D.S. are the clinic's supervising dentists, will present a hands-on course on dental sealants on March 21, 1987, as part of the continuing education series.

We Knew Them When...

The following students have attended Harper and participated in student productions at the College under the direction of Mary Jo Willis.

John Loprieno, who has an MFA in acting from the University of Minnesota, plays Cord Roberts on “One Life to Live.”

Joe Marich completed his MFA in directing at Cal State, Long Beach, and is working in a number of theatres in Southern California.

Rob Dorn completed his BFA in acting at Webster College and just finished a production of “Sweeney Todd,” playing the role of Toby, at the Theatre Building in Chicago.

Frank DeGudrie, who appeared in “Godspell,” the first musical ever produced at Harper, has his MFA and is teaching part time in the Speech/Theatre department here at Harper while auditioning for shows in town.

Chuck Lubec got his first break professionally in the road company of “Evita” and has since worked extensively in musical theatre in Chicagoland at Marriott's Lincolnshire as well as the Candlelight Dinner Theatre.

Watch for Marlee Mattlin at the academy awards show. Both she and costar William Hurt have been nominated for their performances in “Children of a Lesser God.” Marlee was a Harper student in 1983 and 1984.
Department Developments

We welcome the following new employees: Mary Jane Austensen, LS/HS; Kathleen Stewart and Jeffrey Havranek, Bookstore; Elaine Kolasa and Joyce Fields, Registrar's Office; Tom Metz, Library Services; Linda Goers, Planning and Research and Karen Morstad, TM/PS. We're happy that you're here. Congratulations to Elizabeth Rockstad of Disabled Student Services on her promotion and also to Julie Hennig, who has been reclassified to ESL Supervisor of Assessment, Registration and Individualized Instruction. Jane Harris, AED Student Advisor, has recently received her certification as a social worker from the Academy of Certified Social Workers which is a unit of the National Association of Social Workers. Bridgel Calendo, Student Development D, is back in the spotlight again. She has been selected by the Political Science Department to represent Harper College at a symposium in Washington, D.C., March 20-22, entitled "Secure the Blessings of Liberty." She will be traveling with Sharon Alter, chairperson of the Political Science Department. A pat on the back to Kay Read of the Philosophy Department who has been named University Fellow and member of the Institute for the Advanced Study of Religion at the University of Chicago. Mike Brown of the Art Department gave a presentation to the local chapter of Siggraph, a computer graphics organization, about Harper's use of Amiga, a computer designed for graphics. Harper has three Amigas in the Art Department, which are currently used for independent study. Gene Kimmel, B5/SS, has left some autographed copies of his poetry book, In Fee Simple, with Dennis Brennan, B5/SS. The price is $7.95. Our green eyes and best wishes go to the following faculty members who will be retiring: Robert Tyls, Marilyn Swanson and Irene Lavelle of the Liberal Arts Division and Pauline Jenness of TM/PS. You will be missed!

Did You Know...

The tax reform act recently approved by Congress includes a number of provisions which affect Harper employees. They include:

1. The State University Retirement System (SURS) is considered a retirement plan and might possibly limit the full deductibility of contributions to Individual Retirement Accounts (IRA) for those employees participating in SURS.
2. The new tax code generally imposes a limit of $9,500 on the amount of elective deferrals under a Tax Sheltered Annuity (TSA) (403(b)) that an employee may contribute each year. There may be some special circumstances in which an employee will still be able to contribute more than $9,500; however, this will require detailed calculations and certain documentation which should be obtained from your TSA agent. The amount of each employee's salary reduction contribution will be reported on each employee's W-2 Wage Statement. This is designed to assist the Internal Revenue Service in monitoring and enforcing the $9,500 limit.

A new version of the recently revised W-4 withholding form will be mailed to the public by mid-April, according to an article in the March 3 issue of The Daily Herald. The W-4A was born as a result of a negative reaction to the four-page mind boggler introduced by the IRS in November. Either form can be used. IRS commissioner, Lawrence Gibbs, says that the shorter form will not be quite as accurate in figuring withholdings as the four-page W-4 but can be filled out in about 15 minutes.

Mt. Prospect State Bank, proprietors of the Cash Station outside of the Bookstore in Building A, offers "Carefree Checking," a no minimum balance checking account. Clients with this account can save money because ALL transactions made with the Cash Station Card (deposits, withdrawals and transfer of funds) are exempt from service charges. For more information, call 398-4060.

For Your Information

SURS Fiscal Year End Change From August 31 to June 30

FY 87 will be a 10-month fiscal year ending June 30, 1987, for the State Universities Retirement System. This change will facilitate inclusion of the Retirement System financial reports in the Annual Report of the State of Illinois. In addition, the Retirement System fiscal year will now coincide with most of the employers covered by the Retirement System. Effective immediately, all employees who are paid on an hourly basis or who receive an annual salary in installments during 12 months of each academic year in the final average salary period, may compute their four-year average on the basis of their earnings during the 48 consecutive calendar months ending with the last day of employment. A lump sum payment for up to 56 days of accrued vacation may be included in this average. Academic employees who are paid on other than a 12-month basis, will continue to have their average salary computed on the high four consecutive academic years. The academic year is the 12-month period beginning on the first day of the fall term, as determined by each employer or September 1, for those employers who do not have academic programs.

Personnel

There has been some confusion as to how medical bills are to be submitted for dependent children when they are covered by both the father's and the mother's insurance. Our plan is being administered on the basis that the father's insurance is primary and bills should be submitted to his insurance company first. A copy of the bills, plus a copy of what the father's insurance company has paid should then be submitted to Harper College for consideration.

If the parents are divorced, the primary insurer is the insurance company of the parent with whom the dependent child lives. Next would be the insurance company of the stepparent with whom the dependent child lives if the child is covered under the stepparent's plan and finally, the insurance company of the parent with whom the child does not live. This order of benefit determination is superseded by any specific reference to health insurance in the divorce decree.

If you have any questions regarding where you should submit your insurance bills, or questions about your benefits in general, please call Peg Gorman in the Personnel Office, extension 2217.

Note of Thanks

(This note was received following the death of Keith Jackson of the Physical Plant staff.)

"Your kind words and thoughtfulness were deeply appreciated during this sad and difficult time. From the many cards we have received, the calls and everyone who came, we know we are not the only ones who will feel the loss. He will be missed by many. Thank you, all again for your help and support."

The Jackson Family

The Harper Insider, a monthly publication of the Institutional Communications Office, has been developed as part of the College Relations Departmental program of information for the College community and produced with assistance from LRC Media Services.

Employee groups and individual administrators, faculty and staff members are cordially invited to contribute stories and information before the first of the month for the issue published at midmonth. Please contact Patty Roberts, Institutional Communications, A302, extension 2628.