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*Harper's Starlab to Kick Off  
PEAK Program***inside**

2

The President's  
Message

3

Focus On:  
English Department

4

Insider's View  
Robert LawsHack Attends  
Reunion/Seminar

5

McCulley  
Appointment

6

Departmental  
Developments

Are you searching for the ultimate trip for your children? Have you considered a mission to Mars or travel in a skymaze? Harper's Starlab will be visiting these sites beginning March 16.

During a 75-minute program, children ages 6-14 will participate in the Skylab Observatory and then visit Harper's planetarium. Sponsored by Harper's division of Continuing Education and Program Services, the program has been arranged by Weekend Specialist Jim Finke with assistance from Astronomy Professor Paul Sipiera and Diane Cederlund, science coordinator for the Northbrook District 27 Schools.

"The event is a kick-off for our summer PEAK program," says Finke. PEAK (Programs for Energetic and Ambitious Kids) is designed for junior high school-aged children who will be offered summer enrichment courses at both the main campus and the Northeast Center.

The idea for the program came from Harper's marketing strategies committees and has been used successfully at other community colleges such as Oakton and Prairie State. "Harper is committed to community outreach and promoting education," Finke says. "The PEAK program has the added benefit of helping students who may eventually consider Harper." The courses are designed to be self supporting and will be taught by area junior and senior high school and college level instructors.

PEAK courses are open to all junior high school students in the Harper district. The cost of the program is \$75, and transportation will be offered for an additional charge. Participants will attend classes two mornings per week from July 8- August 1. There are more than 20 courses being considered including junior architect, stargazing, authors to be, Japanese and Spanish language courses, magic, drama, and fashion design. The courses to be offered will be determined by the degree of interest.

## The President's Message



In each century, there is a year in which the digits of the year identify that year whether you read them backward or forward. These are called palindromes, and this is a palindromic year. It is at least curious, if not extreme coincidence, that the next palindromic year will be 2002—the year we have projected for our preferred future. 2002 will be the College's 35th year—a good year in which to take stock of accomplishments, yet far enough into the future to allow us to stretch for new direction and change. By what standards will we be measured?

The answers lie within the framework of Harper College's Preferred Future Statements, which originated soon after I arrived at Harper two-and-one-half years ago. I began my tenure by exploring the theme "Building Community" based on an examination of the future of community colleges made by several leaders of this nation's community college sector. I met with employee groups throughout that first year—listening to concerns and attempting to learn as much as possible about this campus community. It became clear that we needed a "collective vision"—some "common picture" of a vital, energy-filled, exciting learning environment.

You helped me recognize the importance of our ties to the citizens of our district as you related your efforts to pass a referendum increasing the maximum levy capability for the College. Clearly, those who supported

us with their taxes had a vested interest in the future of Harper then—and they still do.

Thus, the need for a preferred future required broad input into whatever process developed. As you know, that process led to involvement of over 1,000 persons on and off campus. Focus groups provided baseline data on their views of needs and trends while study groups led by faculty, staff and community representatives sorted through the data presenting preliminary summary statements to a consensus team. It is, in my judgment, a tremendous accomplishment. I thank Bill Howard, who chaired this process; Pat Bourke, Liz McKay and Russ Mills, who took on special leadership roles during the process; the Coordinating Team and the Institutional Planning Committee representatives who served on it; the study group chairs; the IPC members; and all the staff who assisted in bringing the project to this stage. Thank you for your dedicated efforts!!

We now have a product. It is a written piece AND a conceptual framework to be interpreted and lived out as a set of principles by which our actions are directed. Now what happens?? Since the 12 statements identifying our preferred future have already been developed, our team has established a "first wins" concept. But, we need your help in identifying "first wins." Take as an example the statement, "William Rainey Harper College will create an environment for international/multicultural educational experiences that promote

thought, appreciation and respect for individual rights and awareness of the global interdependence of all human groups." A first win might be a value placed on employment diversity of minority faculty members and administrators.

For the statement, "William Rainey Harper College will respond to the need for a prepared workforce through coordinated, innovative and collaborative relationships with business, industry and education," a first win would be the establishment of a business/industry site where credit courses and programs had never been held previously.

These are examples of "first wins." The challenge is for us to determine "first wins" where we work to provide the best environment for our students. Division deans, directors and supervisors will gather suggestions to pass on to the Executive Council. Key "first wins" will become part of our Institutional Planning Committee's deliberations as they work to develop biennial goals for the College.

Each of the actions we take to make this "Preferred Future" come alive must reinforce the first statement—"William Rainey Harper College will insist that quality teaching and active learning be a hallmark of the College."

## INSIDER'S VIEW of *Robert Laws*



**Robert Laws reviews the financial aid application with a Harper student.**

"I think I've made significant accomplishments since I've been at Harper," says Financial Aid Associate Robert Laws. Laws joined the Harper staff in February, 1990, after serving as a financial aid counselor and assistant director at the University of Illinois, Chicago, and later as the director of financial aid at two business schools. He says that he likes his job here and adds, "It's a challenge!"

In his spare time, Laws pursues an interest in music by playing the piano (favoring gospel music and love ballads), singing tenor in two choirs at the church he attends and soloing at weddings. Other interests include summer softball, a weekly bowling league (his best score is 283!) and participating in several professional organizations. He also does private consulting for business and serves as the college placement chairman for financial aid at his church.

"I was fortunate to get an education, and I'd like to see others get the opportunity, too," he says, and to accomplish this goal, Laws and the Financial Aid staff serve 400 students each semester.

**Born:** Chicago, Illinois

**Education:** B.A.-Political Science, Chicago State University  
(Presently working on a master's degree in public administration at Chicago State)

**Family:** Single, youngest of six children. Has a shepherd/labrador/great dane mix dog named Sargent

**Interests:** Bowling, music (singing), baseball

**Best advice my parents gave me:** Strive for the best.

**If time and money were not a problem:** I would go to law school.

**One thing I've learned in life:** Take life one day at a time.

**Favorite foods:** Italian and seafood

**Favorite movies:** *Godfather I, II and III.*

**Favorite book:** *Just Above My Head*, by James Baldwin

## Hack Attends Reunion and Seminar

Associate Professor Bill Hack, Mechanical Engineering Technology, attended a reunion and seminar "Space: Research Then and Now" celebrating the 30th anniversary of the sub-orbital flight of the space chimpanzee, Ham. The seminar was sponsored by the Space Center and International Space Hall of Fame, Alomogordo, New Mexico, on January 31.

The reunion included members of the 6571st Aeromedical Research Laboratory and other units of AFSC, Holloman Air Force Base, Alomogordo, New Mexico, a group whose temporary duty in Cape Canaveral led directly to Ham's trip into space.

Hack also participated on teams involved in studying stratospheric cosmic radiation, satellite orbital flights of small mammals, seat and lap belt safety restraint systems using high energy test tracks, and tests on emergency survival techniques for returning injured astronauts from space, in addition to evaluation of vendor-supplied equipment.

"Thinking back, I recall the attitude around our laboratories about our activities as being 'just another day at the office.'" says Hack. "That changed for me the day I stood in the blockhouse at the Cape and watched Ham blast off."

## FOCUS ON *English* Department

Describing the writing abilities of incoming Harper freshmen, English Department Co-chair Jack Dodds observes, "The spectrum is astonishing." But he adds that the broad knowledge base of the department's 20 full-time and 44 adjunct faculty members has prepared them to work with these students.

"We are very much a teaching department," Dodds says, to which Co-chair Pauline Buss adds, "Even our research is tied to teaching and becoming better teachers." She adds that faculty development programs include such offerings as teaching research writing, teaching with computers, grading techniques, and how and what to teach in the introductory composition courses.

The mainstays of the department are the introductory courses, English 101 and 102 (between 50-60 sections of these courses are offered each semester). In addition, Dodds says the department offers a great variety of literature and writing courses. Among the writing courses are creative writing, advanced composition, business writing, technical and report writing and remedial English. Literature courses include Shakespeare, fiction, poetry, period and world literature, and mystery writing. Together these courses comprise a broader curriculum than is available at other community colleges.

A new feature of the department's instruction is its computer classroom. The classroom contains 24 IBM computers, six printers and a variety of word processing software. Both Dodds and

Buss agree that the classroom has spurred student interest by making writing and rewriting painless, yet both are quick to point out that the computers are used to compose and teach writing and not to teach word processing.

In addition to course offerings, the department sponsors two anthologies,

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fun!"*

*Jack Dodds*

The department also sponsors the Harper College Writing Competition for high school students in the district who submit essays, short stories, drama and poetry. "The quality of the submissions is always very high," Dodds says. Because the awards for this competition are presented at a luncheon attended by the winners, their parents and their



**English adjunct faculty member Louis Lazarus works with students in the department's computer classroom.**

*The Harper Anthology* and *Point of View*. The *Anthology* publishes student classwork submitted by Harper faculty, with a committee making final selections. *Point of View*, a literary and art publication, accepts submissions of photography, two- and three-dimensional art, as well as fiction, poetry and drama from Harper faculty, staff and students. The publication is edited by students under the direction of English Professor Frank Smith.

teachers, the contest has the added advantage of allowing the Harper faculty to exchange ideas with high school English teachers.

Both Buss and Dodds stress that the aim of Harper's English department is to make English enjoyable. "We try to keep our classes informative, imaginative and fun!" says Dodds.

## McCulley Appointed Trustee

The Board of Trustees has appointed Stephen McCulley as its new Trustee to fill the position vacated by Susanna Orzech. He will serve until the nonpartisan election in November 1991, in accordance with state law.

McCulley practices law in Schaumburg, where he specializes in business law and also handles real estate and wills. A former Harper student, he was active in the College's Student Senate in 1978-1979 and later graduated from Governors State

University and Illinois State University. He received his J.D. from the John Marshall Law School in 1985. He and his wife, Carrie, live in Roselle with their two children.

"My decision to serve as a Trustee dates back a number of years," says McCulley. "As a student I was active in the Student Senate, and in 1989 I started teaching business law part time at the College." He adds that as he became reacquainted with Harper, he realized that he wanted to become more involved and when the Trustee position became available, he decided to try for it.

"Some of my goals are already laid out in the Preferred Future plan," he says. "In fact, the

goals the study groups brought forth were excellent and provide a roadmap for Trustees in the future." He says that Harper specifically needs to provide alternatives to higher education for high school students and to continue developing retraining for women and for members of Harper's business community.

In announcing McCulley's appointment, Board of Trustees Chairman Barbara Barton stated, "All the candidates for the position were highly qualified, possessing diverse talents and backgrounds. However, the Board felt that Mr. McCulley, with his excellent credentials, will bring a new perspective and fresh ideas to the Board, and that these attributes will be most valuable as the College moves aggressively toward implementing plans for its Preferred Future."



**Members of Harper's Advisory Committees were honored during a dinner on campus in November.**



**President Thompson, seated here with a copy of "Into the 21st Century," presented Harper's Preferred Future to the College community on January 11. The audience viewed a video presentation produced by the campus television studio and received a copy of the report of the results of the Preferred Future process. The report outlines the College's vision in educating students to assume active, productive and meaningful roles in our society; providing students with the knowledge and experiences required to develop a system of values and the ability to contend with difficult moral choices; encouraging student success; providing leadership in establishing individual and community development; and recognizing the interrelationships among life, education and work.**

# Departmental Developments

Congratulations to members of Harper's nursing staff who have been recognized for their contributions. **Barbara Keating** received an award for nursing excellence from Children's Memorial Hospital, Chicago, where she was cited as an Exemplar Nurse Researcher...**Susan Buse's** article, "Impact of Cardiac Transplantation on the Spouse's Life," appeared in the November issue of *Heart and Lung* magazine. The article, co-authored with Barbara Peiper, examines the research on family stress in heart transplantation...**Darlene Stewart** was cited as the Community Resource Person-of-the-Month at Governor's Park Longterm Care Facility in Barrington...**Pat O'Leary** presented a program on "Nursing and Stress in Managing Different Roles" to the Barrington Area Registered Nurses Organization... and **Gretchen Vancura** has passed the General Pediatric Nursing Certification Examination and has been certified by the National Certification Board of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners and Nurses.

Faculty and staff members in the Academic Enrichment and Language Studies Division have also been active during the past few months. **Kate Gianaris**, IAC, presented "Study/Learning Skills" during Institute Day at John Hersey High School...**Kathi Holper**, ESL and International Student Advisor, spoke on "International Students and Open Admissions: Appropriate Intake Procedures at Community Colleges" to the Region V National Association for Foreign Student Affairs Conference in Chicago... During the fall conference of the Adult Learning Resource Center, **Pat Mulcrone**, **Linda Nelson** and **Jan Phillips** presented a talk on "Collaborative Learning: A Successful Strategy in the Adult Education Classroom," and **Judy Oswald** and **Barbara Dreymann** presented "Survival Skills for the '90s." Mulcrone also presented "Workplace Literacy: How Does it Compare to 'Generic' Literacy?" and chaired the Region I Administrator's Round Table.

Congratulations to **Linda Soto**, CE/PS, who has been appointed chairperson for the NSACI Small Business Committee for 1991...to **Joan Kindle** and **Chris Staub**, Student Development, who were invited to share information on Harper's New Student Orientation Program at the Freshman Year Experience Conference in Tampa, Florida, last December...to **Joan Young**, PUB, who served as moderator for a workshop on "Photos With Feeling" at the CASE Regional Conference in December...to **Juli Peterson**, secretary to the dean of Curriculum Development, who made the dean's list at Roosevelt for the fall, 1990, semester...to **Sherilyn Sorem** and **Nancy McCorvie**, Cardiac Rehab, who won an American Heart Association of Northern Cook County Service Award for their new program, Smart Talk. Smart Talk is a support group for cardiac patients...and to **Mike Lackman**, TM/PS, who has been appointed a principal member of the Subcommittee on Pre-planning Warehouse Occupancy by the National Fire Protection Association.

The North Central Community College Conference of Illinois has renamed its coach of the year award to honor long-time Harper tennis coach **Roy Kearns**, who died this fall. It will be called the *Roy Kearns Coach of the Year Award*. The conference's annual tournament will also be renamed *The Roy Kearns NAC Conference Tournament* in his honor.

Campus reclassifications this month include **Nancy Dickey**, **Carrie Gorr**, **Karen Johnstone**, **Fran Larue** and **Claire Wrobel**, information specialists in Student Development, who have had position reclassifications; **Jim Blasky**, PEAR, whose new title is coordinator of CE/PEAR; **Diane Kinn**, IRC, program assistant; **Lorel Kelson**, PUB, print shop assistant; **Sharon Martin**, AE/LS, AED materials assistant; **Janice Jacobson**, FA/VA, veteran's assistant; and **Janette Kwitchoff**, FA/VA, financial aid assistant.

New faces on campus include **Thomas Shanahan**, **Steven Morris** and **Frank Olsofka**, Physical Plant; **Christine Burkhart**, Payroll; **Robert Paul** and **Kathryn Powell**, AE/LS; and **Audrey Schulien**, Bookstore.

We send our condolences to the family of **Santiago Gutierrez**, who was the custodial supervisor on the third shift and to the family of retired Harper staff member **Vivienne Manson**. Our condolences also go to **Virginia Bischoffer** on the death of her mother and to **Kay Quam** on the death of her father.

*The Harper Insider* is the monthly Harper College newsletter produced by Publications and Communication Services. We cordially invite all employees to contribute stories and information before the twenty-fifth of the month for the issue published the following month. Please contact Ann Goldberg, A302, extension 2512.

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