

The

## insider

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Planes, trains, automobiles...and boats were used to transport 27 participants of the Harper Continuing Education *Great Total Eclipse of the Sun Tour* to Baja July 5-12. The group flew from Chicago to El Paso and on to Chihuahua, Mexico, where they visited cathedrals and the Federal and Government Palaces. From there they traveled by train along the rim and through the 89 tunnels and bridges of Copper Canyon, the second deepest canyon in the world. Upon arriving in La Paz, the group boarded a boat to tour one of the largest and deepest harbors in the world.

"The views in the canyon were spectacular," said Harper Astronomy and Geology Professor Paul Sipiera, who planned the trip. This sentiment was echoed by David Lauerman, PHY PLT, one of the tour participants. "The canyon is considered the eighth wonder of the world," he said. "Its waterfalls would rival some of those in Hawaii!"

Lauerman, who also serves as the operations manager for the Planetary Studies Foundation (which co-sponsored the tour), said that he really enjoyed the cultural aspects of the trip. "The Indian tribes we saw living in the canyon were descendants of the Aztecs. They were living as they did 100 years ago. Yet in other areas, you'd come across home after home with satellite dishes!"

Sipiera began planning the trip in 1989. From his disappointment with the Halley's Comet trip in 1986 (where participants were unable to view the comet due to bad weather), Sipiera knew that he needed to include activities other than the solar eclipse viewing. So, the eight-day trip included sightseeing opportunities in addition to lessons in geology and astronomy.

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*"The Harper community will continue to change and grow."*

## The President's Message

The 1991-92 school year is under way. Along with the new year, there are new challenges to face and new faces in the Harper community. I thought this would be a good opportunity to address ways in which we continue to improve our operation and achieve systematic quality improvement across the College.

Last month, *The Insider* carried information about the new Office of Information Systems. The representatives from Technology Specialists, Inc., are acting as a transition team and their tenure will end after the vice president and appropriate counterparts are hired. TSI employees **Dan Mooney, Joe Boswell, Norm Wismer** and **Barry Poulson** are being assisted by Harper employees from academic computing and computer services.

**Elena Pokot** assumes her new position as director of Programming Services, the first permanent administrative appointment in the area. All computer-related and communication functions will come together under the umbrella of Information Systems. This reorganization will result in a learner-centered computer organization assisting students, faculty and staff through education and enhancement of technology. This directly implements the Preferred Future goal to "provide comprehensive access to information and instruction through the use of state-of-the-art global computer networks and other technologies." A search advisory committee will work with a search firm

to assist in the selection of the new vice president of Information Systems.

A second search advisory committee will also help in finding a replacement for Director of Development **Ray Devery**, who has accepted the presidency of the United Methodist Foundation for Higher Education. In the meantime, I will manage the affairs of the Development Office and the Foundation with the assistance of staff members **Glenda Mill, Margaret Precilio** and **Pat Carney**.

**Bill Howard** has taken on the additional responsibility for strategic quality planning. He will develop strategies for implementing components of the Preferred Future. The Office of Planning and Research, headed by **Jack Lucas**, will report to Bill Howard. While Bill officially continues as dean of Continuing Education, **Jim Finke**, weekend college specialist, has been designated to manage the operation of the division.

The organizational structure of both the Continuing Education and the Physical Education, Athletics and Recreation divisions are undergoing evaluation and assessment. We anticipate that a decision concerning any changes will be made by the end of fall semester. **Tom Choice** has been appointed interim dean of the PEAR division during the assessment process.

As many of you know, **Chuck Harrington** has retired, and his position as dean of Instruction will not be replaced. However, Chuck will serve

as a consultant this year for several projects including the structuring of Corporate Services.

**George Voegel**, dean of Curriculum Development, is currently working on several projects that should be completed or well underway by the time he retires in August of 1992. His position will not be filled. A staff assistant to the vice president of Academic Affairs will be hired in the near future.

The new organizational chart will be presented to the Board of Trustees in September and will be distributed to you shortly thereafter. In addition to these organizational changes, we continue to see new faces filling faculty, professional/technical and staff positions. The Harper community will continue to change and grow. I hope this and other changes will strengthen our working relationships, enhance our performance and maintain the standard of excellence that is a trademark of Harper College.

Good luck this year!



## FOCUS ON

# Office Re-entry Program

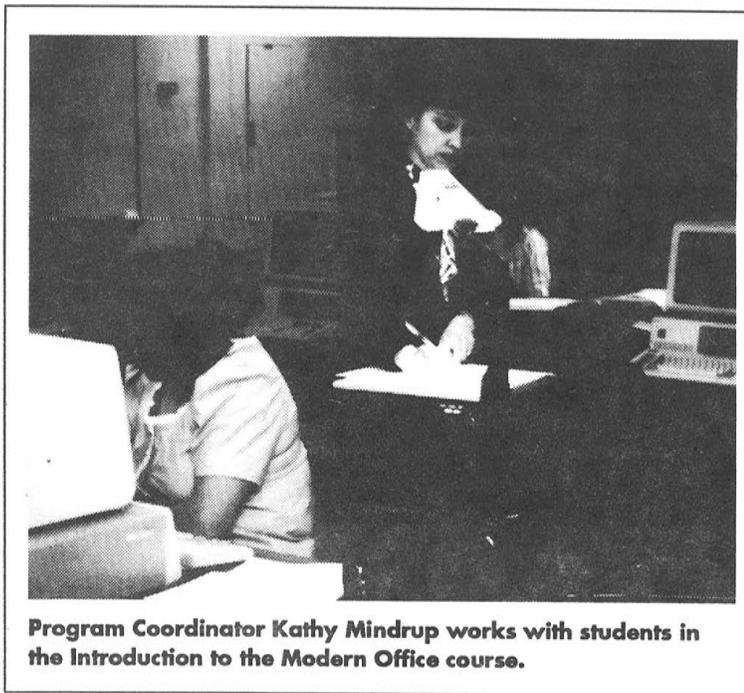
The thought of re-entering the workforce after a 15 or 20 year absence can be terrifying to most women. Technology has changed, self-confidence may be at an all time low and office skills need updating. Harper's Office Re-entry Program can ease some of these concerns.

The only Harper program to combine continuing education offerings with credit offerings, Office Re-entry draws its course requirements from courses offered through Office and Administrative Services, the Women's Program and Continuing Education. Courses range from Introduction to the Modern Office and WordPerfect 5.1 to Office Politics and Assertiveness.

"The program started with the idea of setting up a program for those who had been away from the office for many years," Coordinator Kathy Mindrup says. "In addition, some of our participants are changing careers and need to be prepared for the office of the '90s." She adds that most students complete the 16 hours of required course work in one to three semesters, depending upon their time availability.

Between 25 and 30 students begin the

program each semester. "We try to work very closely with them," Mindrup stresses. "Building self-esteem and self-confidence is very important and, as they continue through the program, we are able to see real changes." She adds that counselors from the Women's Program are available for the students in



**Program Coordinator Kathy Mindrup works with students in the Introduction to the Modern Office course.**

the Displaced Homemaker Program and that these counselors are informed of any problems that arise, or if, for example, a student stops attending class.

This caring relationship goes beyond the student/counselor relationship. "One of the strong points of the program is the friendships and bonding that develop," Mindrup says. "The students really support one another."

Barb Bednarz, secretary to the dean of Harper's Business and Social Science division, is a graduate of the program. "I was in the first class—the fall of 1986," she says. "Before that I'd been taking secretarial classes at random and needed more structure." She adds that the certificate program met this need, yet provided individual choices for career direction. "I was interested in general secretarial work, but some participants chose to take medical secretary courses, for example." Bednarz now serves on the advisory committee, and has continued to work toward an associate degree in the executive secretarial program.

The first course offered in the Office Re-entry sequence is Introduction to the Modern Office, a Continuing Education course. In this overview, some of the topics covered include office automation, interpersonal skills, wardrobe planning and job seeking/interviewing techniques.

The course culminates with a mock interview day, as human resource representatives from area corporations interview course participants—who may later review videotapes of the session for self-evaluation.

In its fifth year, the program has helped more than 350 women. For more information, contact Kathy Mindrup at extension 2418.

## INSIDER'S VIEW of Jim Finke

Jim Finke likes juggling several projects at one time. As Harper's Weekend Services specialist and PEAK program coordinator, he also recently consented to serve as interim assistant to Continuing Education/Program Services Dean Bill Howard, who is now working on strategic quality planning for Harper's Preferred Future. During Howard's absence, Finke will assist with the daily operations and management of the CE/PS division.

Finke is interested the future also, yet his interest extends beyond the Harper campus. As a member of the World Future Society, he meets with the group to project trends in areas such as politics, the environment, human potential and demographics. With future programs for Harper in mind, he is interested in a men's issues center on campus and would also like to offer a Harper-based teacher renewal center that would offer Continuing Education offerings for Harper-area public school teachers.

As coordinator of the Weekend College, Finke is excited about Harper's weekend offerings, which have grown in just one year from nine classes with 185 students to 55 classes with 800-1,000 students. The PEAK program, a summer enrichment program for junior high school students that Finke and his staff initiated this summer, offered a diversity of classes from astronomy and architecture to cartooning and acting.

Finke loves working at Harper and insists, "Joining the Harper staff is one of the best decisions I ever made!"

**Born:** Chicago

**Education:** B.A. Zoology and Art, Rockford College; M.S. Educational Administration, Northern Illinois University

**Family:** Parents (living in Arizona) and two sisters

**Interests:** Collecting primitive art and ceremonial masks; visiting Chicago's ethnic neighborhoods; painting (acrylics); experiencing at least one new adventure each month; future studies

**If time and money were not a problem:** I'd travel more and be more actively involved in environmental and children's causes around the world. I would also like to establish a free school or center for inner-city kids that would encourage creative arts and thinking, and start a travel group (Travelmates) to link single travelers, taking advantage of the better rates offered for double occupancy.

**Favorite food:** Caesar salad and steak au poivre, although old-fashioned turkey and dressing takes a close second!



**Jim Finke**

**I would like to learn:** More about filmmaking and interactive computer curriculum design.

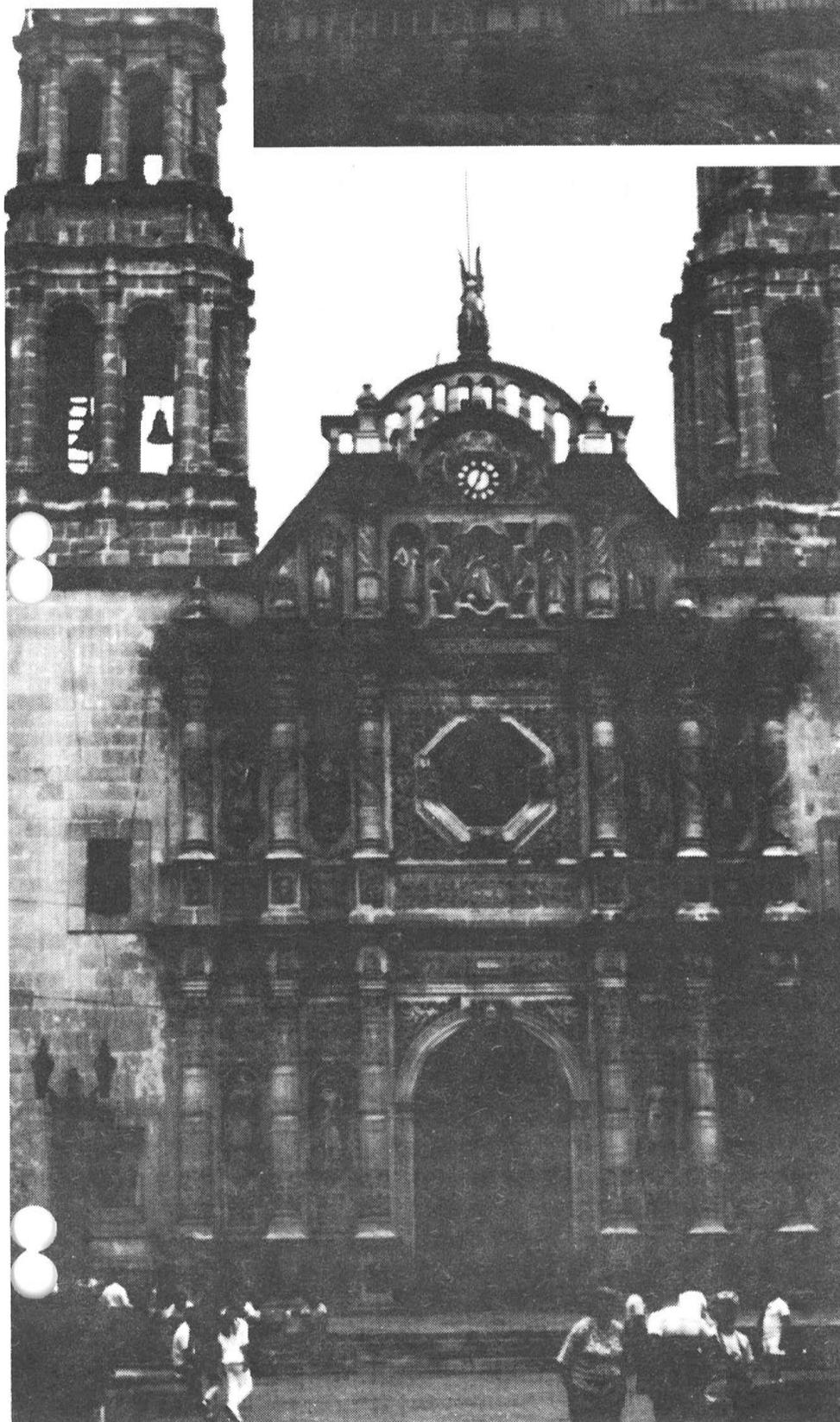
**One thing I've learned in life:** We create what we experience and that a good sense of humor is one of the gifts given to me.

**Best advice my parents gave me:** You can choose to solve any problem or challenge that presents itself and secondly, that not making a choice is a choice.

**Favorite movie:** *Who Framed Roger Rabbit*, *Dead Poets Society* and *Dangerous Liaisons*

**Books I'm currently reading:** *Power Shift* by Alvin Toffler and *Fire in the Belly: On Being a Man* by Sam Keen

# Great Eclipse Tour



**Participants of the Great Total Eclipse Tour combined cultural offerings with studies in geology and astronomy.**

*continued from page 1*

The group spent three days in the Baja peninsula, the highlight being the eclipse on July 11. To observe this, the viewers were advised not to look directly into the sun until the eclipse was total. Until and after that point, however, they used three sheets of aluminized mylar held between pieces of cardboard to screen the sun's harmful rays and protect their eyes. This material was also used to cover their camera lenses.

"Our location had the best viewing of anyplace on the North American continent," Lauerman said, adding that the skies were clear and the temperature was about 90 degrees. "The temperature dropped 20 degrees in just a few minutes. And when the eclipse was over, it shot right back up again!" He added that during the past few months he had thought seeing Mars, Venus and Jupiter line up was interesting. "Down there we could see Mars, Venus, Jupiter, Mercury and many stars with the naked eye during the eclipse!"

Sipiera plans to present a program for the general public sometime in September, and plans are in the works for similar trips in the future. For more information, contact Sipiera at extension 2726.

**Photos: Paul Sipiera**

# Inside Harper



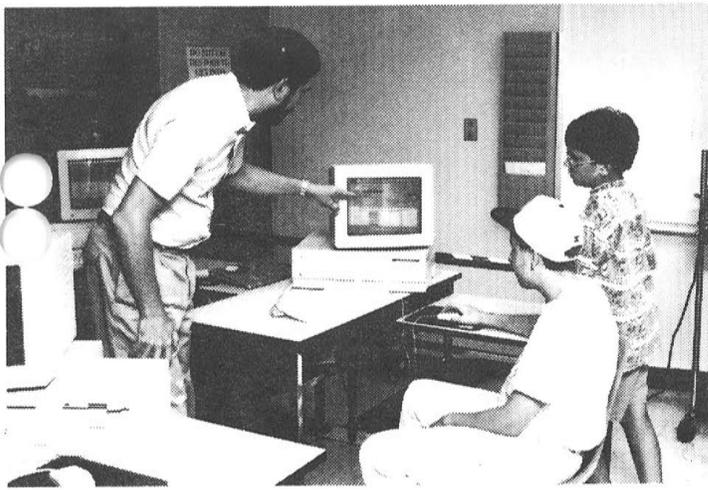
Area elementary and junior high school students were on campus this summer to participate in classes and sports camps offered through the Continuing Education/Program Services division. Approximately 422 students participated in the six sports camps, while 540 attended PEAK (Programs for Energetic and Ambitious Kids) classes.



Small group instruction and coaching were available during the College's summer baseball day camps...



...while the gym was available for shooting hoops and practicing other drills during basketball camp.



Classes in Computer Tactics for Design and The Mystery of Magic and Memory were just two of this summer's PEAK offerings.



During its full load performance test this summer, the LRC computer system was timed for response speed. With all computers running simultaneously, Linda Glover, standing center, gives a nod of approval to Adriana Skamay-Meeks while students access information from their work stations. The system passed with flying colors.



Representatives of the Hoffman Estates Sister City of Angouleme, France, were on campus this summer to tour Harper and learn more about the community college structure. They are pictured here with Bonnie Henry, vice president of Student Affairs, left, and George Voegel, dean of Curriculum Development, second from right.



## Departmental Developments

Congratulations to members of Harper's faculty and staff who have been honored during the past few months. **President Thompson** has been selected for induction into the Gustavus Adolphus College Hall of Fame and Board members

**Barbara Barton** and **Kris Howard** were honored by the Illinois Prairie Girl Scout Council. Howard received an award for outstanding community service, and Barton was honored as one of five Women of Distinction. **Clete Hinton**, Student Development, has been named to the Athletic Hall of Fame at Millikin University, Decatur. As a pitcher, Hinton was a four-year letterman at the school and served as the school's baseball coach for 10 years before joining the Harper faculty.

**Russ Mills**, Placement, received a scholarship to attend the College Placement Council's Management Leadership Institute for Career Planning and Placement held July 7-12 at the University of Minnesota. **Julie Hunter**, PEAR, will participate in the Northwest Leadership Academy sponsored jointly by NSACI and Harper. The academy assembles current and emerging community leaders to participate in a year-long series of educational programs.

**Sally Koziar** and **Bob Paul**, AE/LS, served as presenters during the Harper-sponsored training seminar on sign language for state high school districts. **Nancy McCorvie**, PEAR, organized participants in the Northwest Cardiac Rehabilitation and GetFit programs to join the "Do It for Your Heart" fundraiser sponsored by the American Heart Association. The Harper group collected \$3,686 to help fund the association's research and education programs.

Congratulations to **Paula Deeken**, AE/LS, who has been promoted to the position of instructor in AED; to **Steven Lollino**, LRC, on his promotion to AV Tech II; and to **Cynthia Schoenfeld**, Placement, on her promotion to Secretary II. Faculty members receiving promotions this summer include **Susan Cusack**, **Kathleen Gianaris**, **Peggy Kazkaz**, **Marcia Litrenta**, **Neil Schanker**, **Randy Schietzelt**, **Chris Staub** and **Marjorie Sterrett** to assistant professor; **Jane Allendorph**, **Cecilia Cooper**, **Caroline Dobbs**, **Susan Farmer**, **Barbara Hickey**, **Ernst Rilki**, **John Shola** to associate professor; and **Jack Gallagher**, **Charlotte Herzog**, **Edward Liska**, **Carole Lissy**, **Martha Simonsen**, **Jerome Stone** and **Janet Friend-Westney** to professor.

Welcome to all the new members of Harper's faculty. Newly hired are **Mary C. Burns**, assistant professor of philosophy, **Ana Lucia Hernandez**, Spanish instructor, and **Jacquelyn Mott**, interior design instructor, LIB ARTS; **Karen Froelich**, math instructor, **Deepa Godambe**, chemistry instructor, and **Claire Jayne Wilcox**, chemistry assistant professor, TM/PS; **Linda Gould** and **Kathi Holper**, ESL instructors, and **Lydia Omori**, AED instructor, AE/LS; and **Sandra Kreiling**, biology instructor, LS/HS.

New staff members include **Damaris Reed**, who has been hired as the Women's Program coordinator; **Corinne Anderson**, assessment and registration specialist, Nonnative Literacy; **Susan Schanowski**, LS/HS coordinator, and **Marlene Bernstein**, program assistant, CE; **Michael Held**, clerk, Testing Center; **Elizabeth Swanson**, admissions outreach clerk, ADM; **Richard Will**, AV tech, and **Karen Steltman**, library assistant, LRC; **Judith Harrison**, insurance clerk, Personnel; **Dianne Decker**, child care assistant, LS/HS; **Juanita Bassler**, bilingual secretary, MCA; and **Kari Anderson**, cashier, Business Services. We also welcome back **Gayle Hatlak**, who returns to TM/PS as a clerk/typist.

In other news, we send hearty congratulations to **Allison Passaglia**, Personnel, and her husband, Mike, on the birth of their son, Ryan, and to **Peggy Krueger**, DIS STU, and husband, Mark, on the birth of their daughter, Kathryn Rose.

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