

The

Insider

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Point of view

On a beautiful fall day in November, the campus looks great from any angle.

Harper Happenings



LEFT: If you missed this year's *Celebration of Cultures Day*, then you missed art, music, food, color and energy!

BELOW LEFT: Proving practice makes perfect, the music faculty performed an impromptu piano concert on Thursday, October 3. The pianos were here on campus for a special piano sale.

BELOW RIGHT: In September, Dietetic Technicians and Health Services provided low-fat snacks and nutrition counseling to highlight *Cholesterol Education Month*.



President Thompson's Message: Harper students...our top priority



Harper College is poised to take on the challenge of access to information and learning opportunities provided by the global network. How we move

forward with this challenge and how well we succeed depends upon how focused we can be in serving the potential student/client. The mission statement of Harper College directs

our energies with students as our major concern. In recent months, however, we have found reasons to divert our focus from this mission.

My discussions with the Board of Trustees and with leaders of employee groups have a common concern - can we agree on priorities for the College? Can we address key issues and concerns openly, objectively and resolve them, so as to maintain and increase our ability to serve our students?

Harper students are our top priority. My interest and intent is to work with all of you to make Harper an even better place for students - a place where we can all be proud of what our students accomplish because the environment is one that totally enriches their capacity to learn.

Insider's View of Mark Mrozinski

Visit Mark Mrozinski at The Music Academy and his love for both teaching and music is apparent. Mrozinski grew up listening to his father play the accordion, so when Mrozinski was 10 years old it seemed only natural that he should learn to play it, too. "I became quite good at it, but I really had a burning desire to play the piano. My parents recognized this, and finally, when I was 16 years old, they purchased a used piano for me."

Mrozinski began piano lessons while in high school and continued to practice through college, eventually earning his master's in piano at the University of North Carolina. "My parents would have been much more comfortable if I had considered something more traditional like medicine, law or business for a major. But they recognized that music was very important to me, and they always supported my efforts."

"I don't know anyone who starts out as a performance major who has it in their heart to teach. My own experience while in school was that I was so focused on developing my performance ability that I never considered teaching as a career. But as I started teaching and experienced that, I really came to love it."

As the Director of the Academy, Mrozinski oversees a unique music school. The academy offers non-credit music lessons to students from 18 months old to adult.

In addition to being excellent teachers, all instructors are required to have a minimum of a master's degree. Toddlers and their parents work together in Kindermusic®. Individual instrumental instruction is introduced when students are six years old. Guitar, piano, violin, voice and music theory classes are also offered. "We have a very developed piano program; the student takes one group and one private lesson each week. Many of our adult students studied an instrument as a child, lost interest, but now are back, anxious to learn."

Mrozinski is the newsletter editor for the Illinois State Music Teachers Association (ISMTA). This month Harper hosted the ISMTA convention, which was attended by 200 music educators from across the state. "This event is one way to make Harper's music program very visible. The educators attending looked at our facilities, heard our faculty play, and got a good overview of what we have. Independent music teachers are frequently asked to recommend schools to their students who seek a music major. If those teachers are aware of Harper's two year music degree and if they've met our talented faculty, they're more likely to send students here."

Mrozinski's favorite style of music remains classical, but "my favorite composer changes by the month. For a while it was Rachmaninoff, then Brahms, although lately I've been listening to the Beatles."

And more than Mrozinski's fingers move fast — this year he ran the 26.2 mile Chicago Marathon in 4:19.

Born: Wilkes-Barre, PA

Family: My wife, Levonne, teaches piano for the Music Academy and we're expecting our first child in April.

Education: BM Piano Performance, Wilkes University and MM Piano Performance, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Interests: running, wine-making, reading.

Best advice my parents

gave me: Always try to understand their point of view, see the situation from their perspective.

If time and money were not a problem I would: practice more (something I enjoy) and attend more concerts.

I don't care for: people without integrity.

I would like to learn: to swim well.

One thing I've learned in life: don't look for rewards, enjoy the work.

Favorite food: Beef Roulade

Favorite Book: *The Brothers Karamazov* by Dostoyevsky



Departmental Developments

Rhea Dawson, LIB ARTS, was elected 1996-97 president of Independent Writers of Chicago (IWOC). In addition to teaching in the Harper journalism program, Dawson is an advertising and public relations writer and consultant. The IWOC is a non-profit group of more than 250 self-employed writers in the Chicago area.

Bob Brown, IS/TS, has been elected to serve on the Board of Directors of the DuPage Library System.

Peg Gallagher, Carole Bomba and Barbara Anderson, NURS, were presenters at the Sigma Theta Tau International, Zeta Beta Chapter, Annual Fall Research Program in October. Their presentation was titled *The Continuity of Clinical Instructors: The Effect on Freshman Nursing Students*.

An etching by **Dianne Batzkall**, LIB ARTS, won an honorable mention at the 22nd Annual Danada Nature Art and Photo Show in Wheaton.

Be sure to listen to **Pam Toomey**, LIB ARTS, on 670 AM, where she is the "Resident Poet of the WMAQ Sports Huddle." Her many memorable poems include *An Ode to a Horse Named Cigar* and *It's Good-bye to Butler, Beloved Butthead*.

Juli Peterson, ACA AFF, who is pursuing her M.A. in history, was awarded a part-time graduate assistantship from Roosevelt University for the 1996-97 academic year. Peterson is receiving a tuition grant and a stipend for her work.

Best wishes to **Susanne Havlic**, retired Journalism faculty, who was recently ordained pastor of the Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, Oak Forest, IL.



On behalf of the Academic Enrichment and Language Studies Division, **Liz McKay** was proud to present its 1996 Rutz Award to **Karen Johnstone**, Information Specialist for New Students and Orientation. Nominated by her colleagues, Johnstone was described as consistently going the extra mile to assist new students, and providing special attention to those who are educationally disadvantaged as they make their transition to the College.

Welcome to the following new Harper employees: **Carrie Gorr**, AELS/AED, **Stephanie Seay**, MCA, **Maria De Los Santos**, FD SER, **Barbara Erving**, ADM, **Lori Eshoo**, CSD, **Timothy Ferguson**, BOX OFF, **Robert Szafranec**, MAIL CTR, **Rabia Zakaria**, AE/LS.