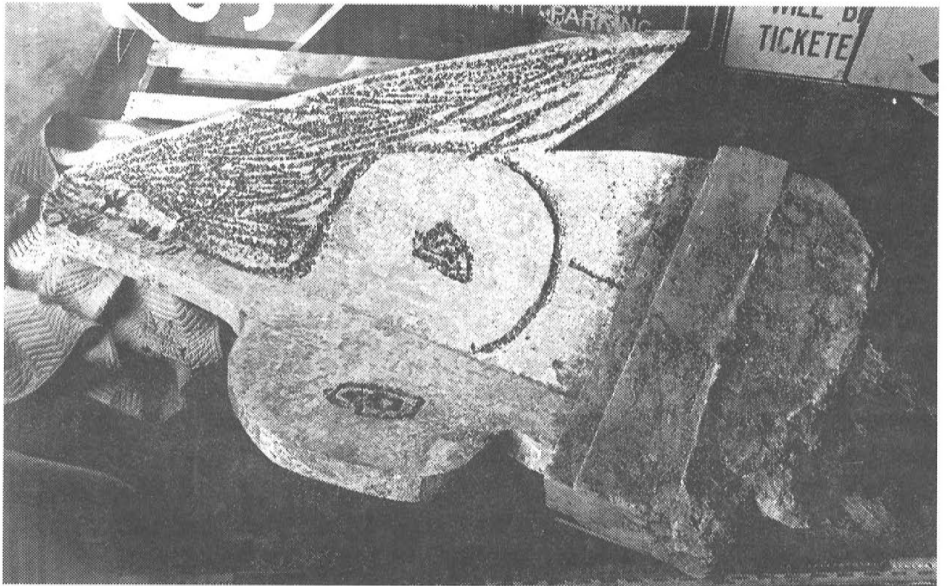


The

## insider

A Publication for Employees of William Rainey Harper College  
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*Picasso's "The Bather"*  
*Donated to College*



**Picasso's "The Bather," donated to the College by William T. Ylvisaker of Barrington Hills, will be erected on campus this fall.**

In 1957, artist Carl Nesjar met with Pablo Picasso to discuss a process of pouring reinforced concrete to be used as sculptural imagery. The two artists agreed to use the technique, called Betograde or concrete engraving, on Picasso's images, and over the next 16 years, until Picasso's death, the two worked together on various projects—including a 28-foot sculpture of "The Bather," which stood on the grounds of the Gould Complex in Rolling Meadows until 1989.

A smaller version of the sculpture, purchased by William T. Ylvisaker, CEO of Pentron, Inc., stood on his estate in Barrington Hills. The six-foot sculpture, also executed by Nesjar, was donated to the College this summer. It has been moved to the campus and will be erected adjacent to Building L later this fall.

The gift is especially timely. Last fall, Harper's Educational Foundation celebrated its commitment to the arts by hosting the "Arts for Our Sake" ball. Since that event, a \$12,000 endowment for the arts has been established. Plans are underway for more acquisitions—making the Ylvisaker donation especially meaningful.

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## President's Message

The feasibility study to test the likelihood of success for a major gifts campaign is complete. Representatives of the Harper community have spoken, and the results are reassuring. What we have learned from the study is also a challenge to reach new heights in our Preferred Future.

The feasibility study, conducted by Clements & Associates, involved interviewing 75 community leaders. It is gratifying to find in the results that Harper College enjoys an unusually positive image in the community. It is equally exciting to know that there is support for raising private dollars for some critical needs. The study determined, for example, that three of the five projects that were tested—new technologies, excellence in teaching and learning and scholarship endowment—have the best chance for success.

The consultant has recommended an 18-month campaign to begin this fall with a goal of \$6 to \$7 million.

Clements & Associates stated that "Courage, determination, hard work and a commitment to excellence are required to carry out the process..." and I respond with confidence that the Harper College Foundation directors, trustees, administrators, faculty, staff and friends are equal to the challenge.

This collaborative effort will require that each of us give what we can. We refer not so much to dollars but also to a commitment to our cause by contributing in whatever area of personal strength we possess. Each of us has unique talents, and a contribution may be as simple as suggesting a prospective donor or delivering a speech to a local group to tell our story. Whatever each of us can offer to this undertaking will immeasurably strengthen our planned campaign.



If you have any questions about any aspect of the planned major gifts campaign, please do not hesitate to call either me or Felice Avila in the Development Office.

As James L. Fisher said, "Leadership is the special quality which enables people...to stand up and pull the rest of us over the horizon." Let us all lead in pulling Harper College over to a new level of excellence.

*"Courage, determination,  
hard work and a commitment to  
excellence are required  
to carry out the process..."*

*Clements & Associates*

# Focus On Plant Science Technology and Park and Grounds Operation Management

"The green industry is becoming more and more professional," says Randy Illg, coordinator of Harper's Park and Grounds Operation Management and Plant Science Technology programs. "It goes way beyond pushing a lawnmower!" Technology, he says, is playing an important role in this change.

In fact, Illg notes that the most successful people in both fields have a strong technological background coupled with a go-getter personality.

To address the need for more technological training, each of Harper's programs offers an associate degree and numerous certificate programs. Courses in the Park and Grounds program, for example, vary from grounds equipment and arboriculture to courses on contracts, plumbing, carpentry and golf course management. Courses in Plant Science Technology, on the other hand, include ornamental plants, floral design, nursery and garden center management and landscape design.

Harper's program began in 1975 when the Park and Grounds Operations Management program held its first classes. The associate degree program in horticulture (now Plant Science Technology) followed in 1978. Illg notes that jobs in both fields are plentiful and that this spring area employers contacted the department with 110 job openings—hoping to attract qualified students as employees.



**Harper's intern supervisor Tim Lembke, left, works with students Marla Daly and David Kraft to alleviate drainage problems outside of Building L.**

The department also works closely with Harper's Roads and Grounds staff, setting up internships for students. Four students, in fact, are working on campus this summer earning money as they develop skills. Several students have also been placed in internships off campus working as landscape designers and in retail garden centers.

"We teach our students that there are many ways to manage landscapes," Illg stresses. "Their task is to learn as many of these techniques as possible so that they have a ready arsenal of tools to choose from." For example, Illg notes that chemicals should only be used as a last resort to eradicate pest problems (e.g., rodents, weeds, fungi and insects). "We are not big

advocates of chemical controls," he says. "That's the last defense against pests. We'd rather use biological agents and cultural practices to rid ourselves of these problems." Weed infestations, for instance, may be controlled by more frequent mowing.

The department now enrolls approximately 175 students who are served by two full-time faculty members, Illg and Ed Metcalf; several adjunct faculty members; and greenhouse manager/intern supervisor/lab assistant Tim Lembke.

For details about courses—both continuing education and credit offerings—call the department at extension 6857.



## Insider's View of Mary Ann Jirak

Mary Ann Jirak admittedly enjoys digging in the dirt and getting down and dirty! "I enjoy planting flowers—seeing things grow and come to life." Not surprisingly, this attitude colors both her personal and professional life.

Jirak is enjoying her twenty-fourth year at Harper and in her evolving career has held positions as coordinator of the Executive Secretarial, Office Re-Entry and Certified Professional Secretarial programs. Now as coordinator of the Career Transition Center, Jirak says, "Harper has provided a tremendous amount of opportunity for growth by giving me the chance to implement and develop these programs."

The Career Transition Center has been developed to meet people's needs and to serve as a resource for growth and personal development. The Center provides guidance and resources for individuals in the community who have lost their jobs, who are looking for a career change or who want to manage their careers successfully. It provides directories, books, workshops, seminars, opportunity listings and, in addition, provides cooperation with the corporate community to offer outplacement services. Provisions are made to keep individuals on the right career path by setting career goals and developing plans of action.

Jirak's satisfaction comes from seeing people reach their potential personally and professionally. She takes special pride in knowing she has assisted them to become the best they can be.

**Born:** Chicago

**Education:** B.A. and Master of Business Education from Northern Illinois University

**Family:** husband, Donald

**Interests:** traveling, gardening, reading, spending time with family and friends

**Best advice my parents gave me:** Get a good education and enjoy life.

**If time and money were not a problem:** I'd travel the world.

**I would like to learn:** to play the piano like Yanni.

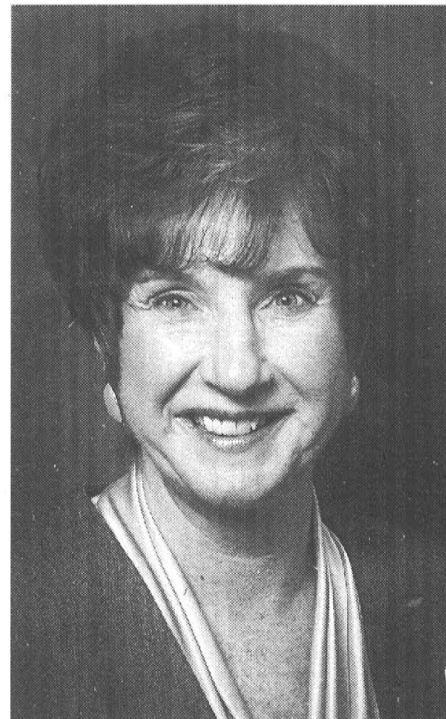
**One thing I've learned in life:** Keep a positive attitude.

**I don't care for:** negative people.

**Favorite food:** chocolate chip cookies (especially my mother's secret recipe)

**Favorite movie:** *Gone with the Wind*

**Book I've been recommending lately:** *The Celestine Prophecy* by James Redfield



**Mary Ann Jirak**

## Inside Harper



Harper's sports camps and the PEAK program marked another successful summer. Here students in the basketball camp work on fundamental ball handling skills.

## General Assembly Awards Planning Grant

Plans for Harper's new multipurpose building will soon be underway now that the Illinois General Assembly has approved its fiscal 1995 capital budget. The \$25 million budget for the community college system—\$8.8 million more than was allotted during the past fiscal year—includes a \$350,000 planning grant for Harper to apply toward a new multipurpose building. With the awarding of this grant, it is likely that monies to build the structure will be provided in the assembly's 1996 fiscal budget.



Mark Mrozinski, left, of Harper's Music Academy, demonstrates class piano teaching techniques in Harper's state-of-the-art class piano lab. Thirty-seven music educators attended the five-day Computer Music Conference this summer.



Harper's new kiosk information booth is now online in the south lobby of Building L! This interactive computer provides access to a wide range of College information including a faculty/staff directory, departmental information, computerized maps and frequently asked questions. Here Dom Demonica of Legat Architects tests the system's capabilities.

## Departmental Developments

With the approach of the new academic year, there's been plenty of activity on campus. **Julie Guiney**, PERSNL, earned her Master's of Business Administration degree from Northern Illinois University, and **Sandie Conley**, BUS/SS, passed the exams required for certification as a certified professional secretary. Congratulations!

We also congratulate **Bev Hoffman**, ADM OUT, who was elected to the board of directors of REACH (Resources for the Education of Adults in the Chicago Area), and to **Mike Oester** and **Paul Szipiera**, TM/PS, and student **Dorothy Kuechl**, whose paper, "Search for Fullerenes in Stony Meteorites," has been accepted for publication by the 57th Annual Meteoritical Society.

English Professor **Betty Hull** co-chaired the annual meeting of the Science Fiction Research Association held last month. In addition, she moderated the panel discussion, "How I'd Like to be Taught."

**Karla Hill**, PLG RES, and her husband, **Warren Hill**, who retired this spring from Harper's custodial staff, won third place at the Buick Club of America National Meet in Atlanta, Georgia, last month. Their 1970 red Buick Electra 225 convertible was among more than 360 cars judged during the event.

We welcome new members of the Harper staff. **Geralyn Butts** joins the staff of the LRC as library assistant I; **Mike Fronczak** will serve as a part-time exercise leader for WHP; **Pat Turner** has been hired as a program assistant in CORP SRV; **Barbara Hooper** will serve as a part-time workforce specialist in the Center for Workforce and Professional Development; **Karen Cutlan** has been rehired as a part-time secretary in STU DEV; **Darlene Niebuhr** will serve as a secretary in BUS/SS; **Barbara Schofield** has been hired as a financial aid assistant, FA/VA; **Mukhtar Chaudry** will coordinate science tutoring and **F. Peter Haake** will coordinate accounting/CIS courses for the LAC; **Robert Baker** will serve as a part-time adult education specialist in AED; **Carol Cross**, PHY PLT, has been rehired as a part-time custodian; and **Carolyn Klees** will coordinate the continuing education courses for LS/HS.

We congratulate **Louise Bez**, who has been promoted to administrative secretary, LAC; **Alice Johnson**, who has been promoted to workforce assistant in the Center for Workforce and Vocational Development; **Manouchehr Azad**, who has been promoted to area tutor coordinator, LAC; and **Richard Will**, who has been promoted to AV/TV supervisor, LRC. New faculty appointments include **Richard Custin**, assistant professor, BUS/SS; **Kenneth Hyde** and **Mary Lindauer**, assistant professors, LS/HS; **Minhua Liu**, assistant professor, and **Steven Siegel**, instructor, TM/PS; **Laura J. Thomas Roebal**, temporary instructor, AE/LS; and **Kristen Oblinger**, instructor, and **L. Andrew Howe**, instructor/counselor, STU DEV.

Reclassifications this summer include **Tom Choice**, assistant to the vice president of Academic Affairs for Transfer Programs; **Sheila Quirk**, assistant to the vice president of Academic Affairs for Workforce and Vocational Development; **Chris Kungie**, electronic technician, LRC; **Pat Coleman**, coordinator of

## The Harper **insider**

**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 send contributions to PUB or call extension 6125.**

**Editor: Ann Goldberg  
Designer: Mike Knudsen  
Photographer: John Callahan  
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Manufacturing Services, **Mel Hampton**, coordinator of UNIX/Operating Systems Technologies, and **Pat Ramsey**, coordinator of Workforce, ESL and Basic Skills, Center for Workforce and Professional Development; **Steven Hill**, data communications technician, IS/TS; **Tom Knoff**, coordinator of media production, **Larry Olsen**, electronic services specialist, and **John Sturz**, manager, Media Services, LRC; **Jon DeJonker**, custodial/food service manager, PHY PLT; **Frank Olsofka**, Shipping/Receiving/Warehouse Supervisor, BUS OFF; and **Karen Villano**, food service supervisor, DIN SER.

We send our condolences to **Ellen Nowickas**, OC/PS, NEC, on the death of her father; to **John Papandrea**, STU DEV, and his wife, Sue, on the death of their son, John; and to **George Voegel**, former dean of curriculum development, on the death of his wife, Donna.