

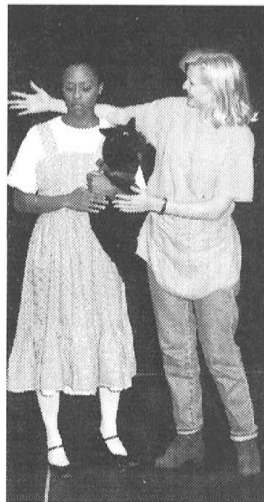
The

insider

inside

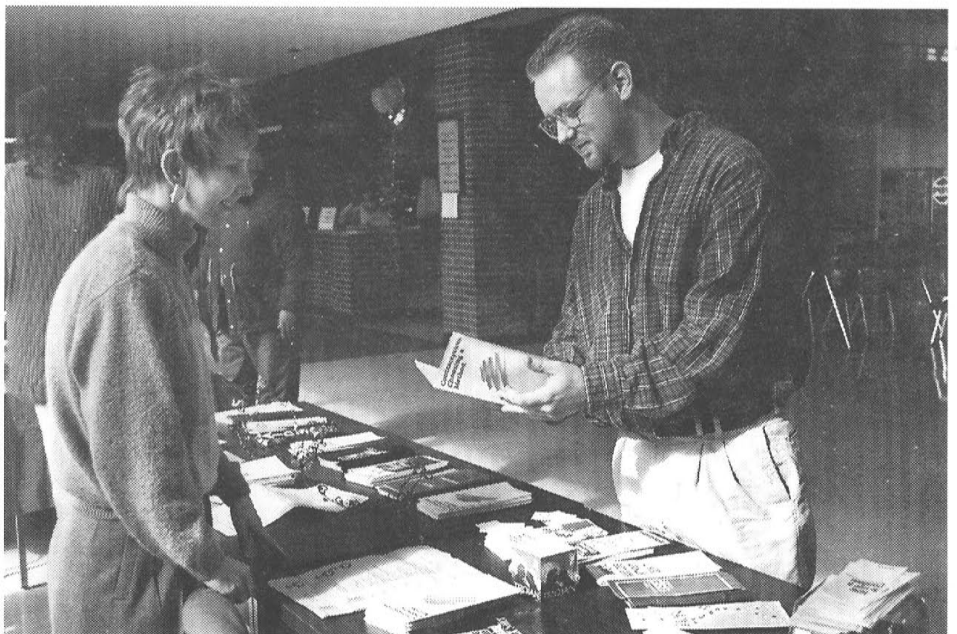
insider

A Publication for Employees of William Rainey Harper College
Volume 10, Number 2
March 1995

*Hot Topics!*

The Health Works Theatre troupe presented the lively musical comedy, *The Wizard of AIDS*, during Sexual Awareness Week. The play featured Dorothy and her friends trying to foil the Wicked Witch of Unsafe Sex. Last month the College also offered lectures on growing up bilingual and bicultural, videos on African American history and a discussion of how our society perpetuates gender bias.

Last month Harper offered numerous lectures, videos and workshops on timely topics. Christopher Childs of Greenpeace presented a vivid, in-depth look at today's environmental issues, including such topics as ozone depletion, global warming, Arctic oil drilling and acid rain...



...while Char Padovani, Harper's Wellness coordinator, staffed the Safe Sex Display during Sexual Awareness Week. The display offered literature on birth control, sexually transmitted diseases, abstinence and sexual assault awareness.

2

The President's
Message

3

Focus On:
Purchasing

4

Insider's View of
Roger Bechtold

5

Inside Harper

6

Departmental
Developments

President's Message

As the government is faced with pressures to eliminate the federal deficit, more and more college programs are threatened. I am particularly concerned with the effects that these cuts might have on Harper students—particularly on student loans and campus-based student aid programs, Pell Grants and the National Endowment for Humanities—and I would like to share some information with you.

Although the Clinton Administration has looked favorably upon funding for higher education, the House Republican "Contract with America" is less generous. Several budgeted items in the Fiscal Year '95 budget, in fact, are likely to be rescinded. Those of most concern to our students at Harper include:

•**Elimination of the "in-school interest forgiveness" feature**—By eliminating this feature, interest would begin to accumulate as soon as the loan is made—rather than beginning six months after the student graduates. With this feature eliminated, the total cost of a loan would increase by 20 percent.

•**Elimination of Campus-Based Programs**—Federal funds allocated for Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (SEOG), Federal Work Study (FWS), State Student Incentive Grants (SSIG) and Perkins Loans will directly affect Harper students. In fact, 1993-94 figures indicate that 212 of our students now participate in the SEOG, 48 in the Federal Work Study program, 611 in the State Student Incentive Grants and 45 in Perkins Loans. Elimination of the work study funds will undoubtedly lengthen the time it takes students to complete their degrees, as they will

be forced to accept jobs off campus—and unrelated to their chosen major—in order to fund their education.

•**The Pell Grant**—In theory, the money saved by eliminating the campus-based programs will be redirected to fund the Pell Grant, to reduce the federal deficit and to fund a job-training program. It is unlikely, however, that funds would be redirected to this grant. In fact, some representatives have suggested that this program be rescinded as well.

•**Diminished funding for the National Endowment for the Humanities**—While critics claim that NEH makes grants only to "elite" institutions, this is inaccurate. In fact, the agency has supported community colleges by funding numerous community college programs, including faculty development institutes, conferences for Phi Theta Kappa members and grants that are used to develop and enrich the humanities curriculum.

In response to concerns regarding these cuts, 40 national organizations have banded together to form the Alliance to Save Student Aid. In January, the Alliance commissioned a study to determine how the American public felt about student financial aid and found that respondents overwhelmingly support spending on programs that help students go to college. In fact, respondents—regardless of their political affiliation, income level, gender, age or geographical region—agreed to the following:

- 89 percent favored maintaining the current level of funding for students.
- 92 percent viewed federal student aid as a necessary investment in keeping the nation's economy strong and



competitive.

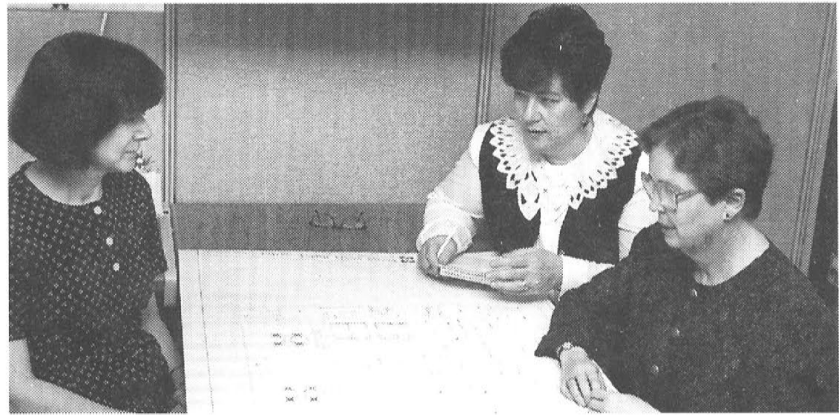
- 87 percent noted that "without a college-educated workforce, America will not be able to compete in the global marketplace."

- 74 percent of the respondents indicated that they would cut welfare before cutting student aid, and 68 percent would maintain funding for student aid even if the defense budget had to be cut to do so. They did not, however, want Social Security benefits to be cut under any circumstances.

It's clear that we need to work together—and that we need to take action soon. Therefore, members of the Board and I met in Washington, D.C., with senators and congressional representatives from Illinois on February 27 and 28 to point out to them our very serious concerns about matters they are considering. I will keep you informed of the status of these issues.

Focus on Purchasing Department

What do the ravioli in Harper's cafeteria, powdered cleansers, Steelcase office furniture, lab frogs and the carpeting in Building L have in common? Color, you may guess...Shape? Texture? All wrong—yet there is a common element they share. All are purchased by Harper's Purchasing Department, which consists of Thea Keshavarzi, manager; Vicki Rowe, buyer; and Linda Nisi, assistant.



Over the past few years—with the construction on campus—the responsibilities of the purchasing team have grown. Not only do the staff members keep us stocked with day-to-day supplies, but Keshavarzi has also accepted the role of project manager for the new and renovated buildings. This task begins with the planning stage, where the team contacts the prospective occupants to discuss floor plans, office design and equipment and other specifications.

"I really rely on the expertise of the users during this time," Keshavarzi says. "They know their fields and their needs." Armed with this information, she then studies the requests—a process, she says, that requires multiple trips to the Merchandise Mart and includes countless interviews with suppliers. Once these requirements are determined, however, the specification and/or bid process begins. (Any purchase at or above \$10,000 must be publicized, with bids submitted by interested suppliers. The award is then offered to the lowest qualified bidder, pending Board approval.)

But the department's responsibility does not end there! It also coordinates the delivery and installation of

these materials. This requires careful planning, Keshavarzi explains. Because it is important to complete projects with the least disruption to students and staff, there is often a narrow window allotted for delivery and installation.

"Let me give you an idea how tight this scheduling can be," Keshavarzi says. "Steelcase trucks began pulling up to Building F at 6:00 am on December 6. By December 9, eight trucks had been unloaded and the components were set in place for installation. This was completed on December 15." Meanwhile, she notes, other trucks delivered computer lab furniture, classroom seating and tables, chalkboards, white boards and coat racks. And while that was going on, another vendor was repainting and relaminating existing furniture to be used side-by-side with the new!

While Keshavarzi has been called away to work on these major projects, Vicki Rowe has taken on additional responsibilities in addition to her regular duties contracting for commercial printing needs, service contracts (such as maintenance on copiers) and ordering Physical Plant supplies, etc. During the construction

period she has also made sure that the College's day-to-day purchasing has been completed timely and efficiently. The third team member, Linda Nisi, oversees the clerical functions of the office, including data entry. She is also the department's troubleshooter, answering questions and investigating alternatives.

Keshavarzi stresses that while she carefully assesses the materials and supplies that the office purchases, she also is part of the National Association of Educational Buyers, a group that represents purchasing agents from colleges, universities and hospitals.

"I can often pick up the phone and call one of the organization's members to get answers to the questions that I have," she says. "Often they've been through similar projects, so there's no need to reinvent the wheel!"

The \$7.5 million cost of Building L combined with the costs of constructing Building S and renovating Building F offers an idea of the responsibility that this three-person team has been charged with—not to mention keeping us stocked with ravioli, powdered cleansers and frogs!

Insider's View of Roger Bechtold

Athletic director, department chair and teacher are the hats Roger Bechtold wears daily. A faculty member since 1972, Bechtold says, "In education you can never do enough. There's always something new. There's always a challenge. It's what keeps me involved." In fact, in order to describe who Bechtold is, he says he'd like to add two more questions to the list that follows. The first, he says, is *What is your biggest strength?* to which he responds: "I'm a people person." The second question he'd like to add is *What has been your greatest challenge?* "The answer to this," he says, "lies in trying to meet the needs of people I work with—supporting them, facilitating their issues and keeping a positive attitude."

The importance of team effort is a thread that is woven throughout Bechtold's conversation. "I like working with people on projects," he says. "I like that collaborative effort." And this attitude shows in his accomplishments—the establishment of the fitness center, the Roy Kearns scholarship and the growth of the division as it redefines its role. Athletics, he says, is no longer 'just sports' but is an integral part of human fitness.

"I view athletics as an extension of education," Bechtold adds. "Athletics today is an integral part of the overall learning of the individual. It's applying what's learned in order to achieve a healthier mind and body and to establish a strong work ethic."

And Bechtold can attest to this through his own experience. While an undergrad at SIU, he played guard for the college's NIT championship basketball team, playing alongside future

New York Knicks guard and hall of famer Walt Frazier.

After graduating from SIU, Bechtold accepted a position as head of the health education department and coach at Evanston Township High School before joining the Harper faculty. While at Harper he has coached basketball and golf.

Because he's convinced that wellness is a key to personal development, he urges all Harper faculty and staff to stop by the Wellness and Human Performance division facilities.

"Come see what we can do for you!" he says.

Place of birth: Belleville, IL

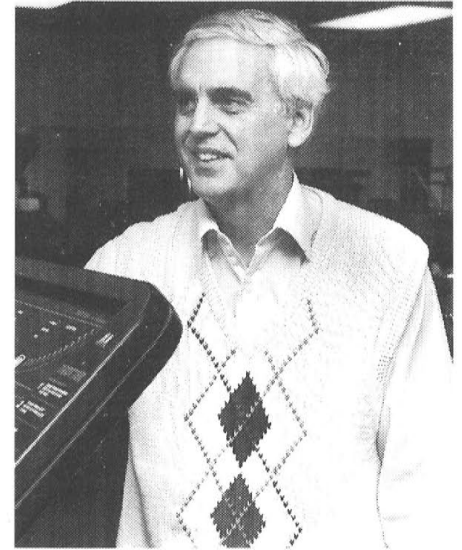
Family: Wife, JoAnn; son, Brian, 17; daughter, Diana, 21; Magnum, the family's Cairn terrier

Education: Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees in health education from Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL

Interests: Golf (I'm addicted to it!), tennis, college basketball, movies (I'm an avid C-Span viewer).

Best advice my parents gave me: There wasn't a specific bit of advice, but my parents were terrific role models. They had a strong work ethic, and they were supportive and caring.

If time and money were not a problem: I would travel with my wife and kids. I would like to go to Hawaii, and I would like to see Wimbledon.



Roger Bechtold

I would like to learn: How to downhill ski.

Favorite food: Anything Italian or Chinese, and, unlike George Bush, I love broccoli.

Last movie I saw: *Disclosure* starring Demi Moore and Michael Douglas

Favorite movie: *Schindler's List*

Book I'm currently recommending: *Days of Grace* by Arthur Ashe with Arnold Rampersad

I don't care for: individuals who pre-judge others before they get to know them.

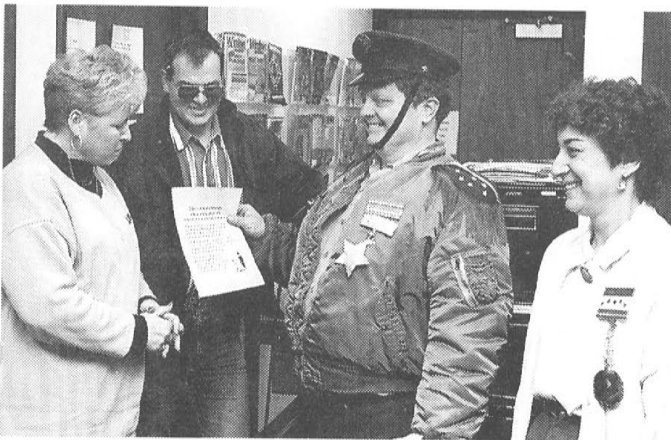
One thing I've learned in life: Things should be well thought out and considered before you act. Be an active listener (hear what people say—know where they're coming from).

—Joellen Freeding

Inside Harper



Harper's Employee Campaign officially opened on March 2 as Major Gifts and General Funds marched their troops through campus to enlist the support of civilian personnel. Here, General Funds (Joanne Parke, OC/PS) readies for the maneuver...



...while Major Gifts (Rich Geary, PHY PLT), second from right, presents the Declaration of Campaign to (from left) Jaci Carroll, Joe Baiardo and Adele Krueger, IS.



Arlen Fowler (left), equipment mechanic, joins Marianne Gasparaitis and Chuck Gura in inspecting the two new vans that were purchased this winter. The vans are used by the Wellness and Human Performance division and Student Activities to transport teams, clubs and continuing education participants to College-sponsored games and activities.



Drummer boy Steve Morris, PHY PLT, left, accompanied Major Gifts as he continued his rounds of the theater of operations. Here he presents additional documents to Jan Adams and Kevin King, PUB SAF.

Departmental Developments

An article analyzing the work of philosophy professor **Jerome Stone**, LIB ARTS, appears in the current issue of the *American Journal of Philosophy and Theology*. It was written by Professor Van Huyssteen of Princeton University...**John Muchmore**, professor of speech and theatre, presented *From Good to Verse* earlier this month in the Drama Lab of Building L. His performance featured stories and poems from his 37 years as an educator...**Roger Mussell**, professor of electronics technology/automation skills, TM/PS, will be honored by the American Technical Education Association this month. He is among 15 past winners of the organization's teacher-of-the-year award and is being recognized for continued service to postsecondary technical education.

In addition to her role as coordinator of the executive secretarial development program, **Peg Smith**, BUS/SS, has taken on the duties of word processing coordinator...**Paul Thompson**, PR/BD, has been appointed to the Association of Community College Trustees Awards Committee. The committee selects one community college president, one trustee and one faculty to honor each year...Astronomy and geology professor **Paul Sipiera**, TM/PS, has written *Meteorites*, his eighth children's book. The book is aimed at the elementary school audience and has been published by the Children's Press, Chicago.

Tom Johnson, dean of BUS/SS, has accepted a position on the board of executive advisors for the College of Business at Northern Illinois University, and **Jim Finke**, OC/PS, has been selected to serve on the board of directors for the Northern Illinois University Education Alumni Association.

The work of Chicago fashion designers and former Harper students **Rachel Ann McAlpin** and **Kate Weester** is part of the exhibit, *Designs to Wear*, on display through May 7 at the Chicago Athenaeum at The Museum of Architecture and Design in Chicago.

We welcome the newest members of the Harper faculty and staff. They include **Maria Moten**, who has been appointed director of Student Financial Assistance; **Fran Heun**, LS/HS, child care attendant; **Sandee Kunz**, DIN SER, food service worker; **Mark Gottschalk**, IS/US, technology support technician; **Russell Young**, PUB SAF, clerk dispatcher; **Stacy Fassino**, WHP, clerk/typist; **Christine Collignon** and **Cheryl Taylor**, STU ACT, box office clerks; **Karen Cutlan**, WK/DEV, program assistant; **Alice Blomquist**, WHP, clerk typist; **James McCafferty**, IS/US, technical support specialist; **Michael Swier**, IS/US, technical support specialist; **Nico Genet**, TM/PS, chemistry lab technician; **Martha Rizman**, WK/DEV, coordinator-Workforce ESL and Basic Skills; **Craig Lancaster**, IS/US, advanced technology specialist; **Lisa Farney**, PERSONL, employment specialist. Reclassifications include **Marty McCafferty**, IS/US, advanced technology analyst.

Larry Olson, PHY PLT, received a note from Jill Terreberry, daughter of retiree **Bob Terreberry**. In 1984, the maintenance department held a fundraiser to help pay for Jill's liver transplant. Now, 10 years later, she is well and grateful for the "miracle of life" that the transplant has provided.

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 708/925-6125.

**Editor: Ann Goldberg
Designer: Mike Knudsen
Photographer: John Callahan
Printed by the
Harper Print Shop under the
direction of Peter Gart**

**1200 West Algonquin Road
Palatine, Illinois 60067-7398**

We send our congratulations to **Susan Wolf**, Weekend College program assistant, on the birth of her daughter, Anna Sarai.

We send our condolences to **David** (IS) and **Cindy McShane** (DEV OFF) on the loss of his mother; to **Jan Phillips**, AED, and her family on the death of her brother; and to **Christa Kraft**, INFO CTR, on the death of her mother.