

NOVEMBER 1 • 1993

# INTERCAMP

G M C C S A N E W S L E T T E R

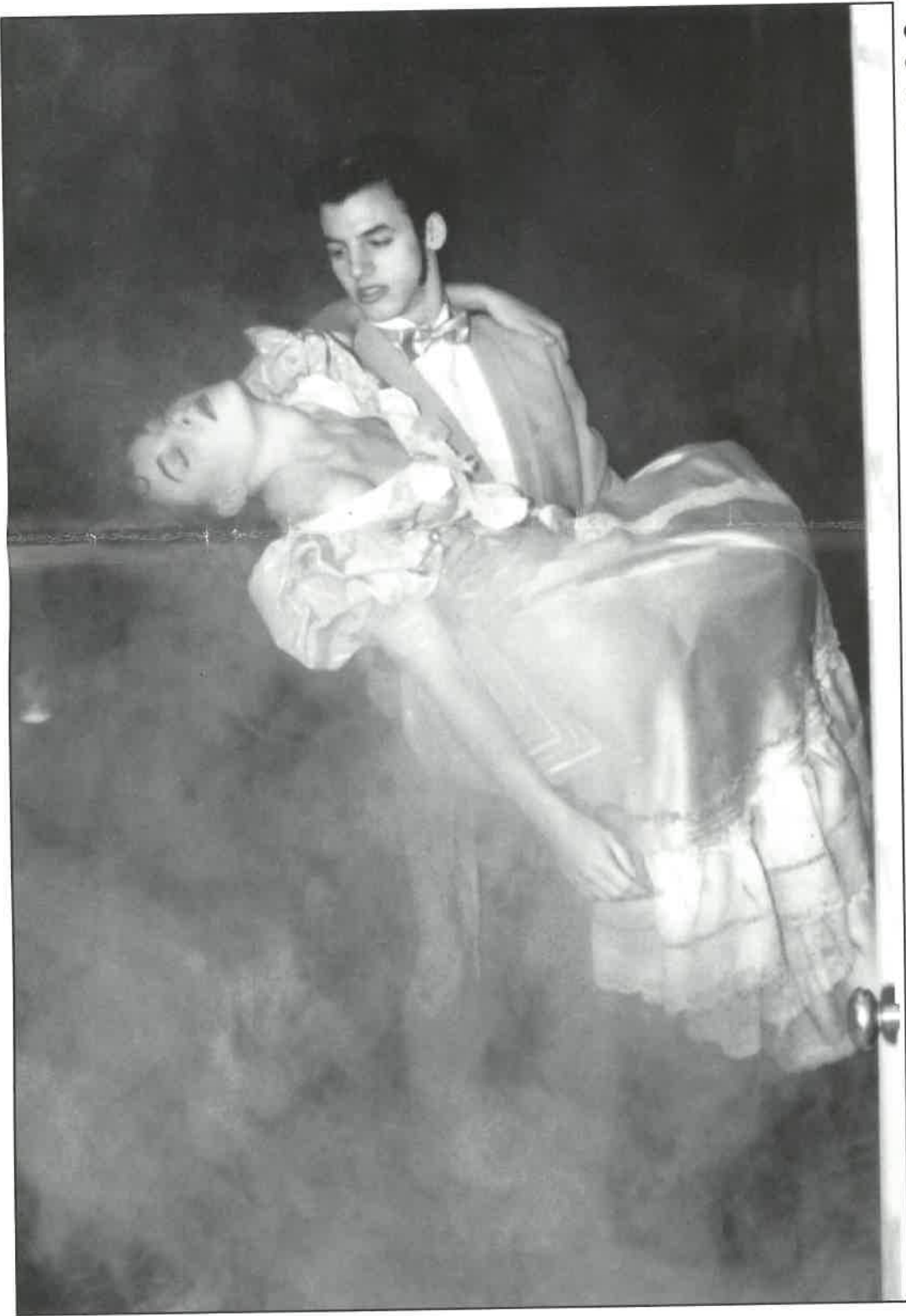
**8** All that glitters may not be ACAC gold for some rebuilding Griffin teams, but they will be competitive, say coaches



**2** After over a decade in the broadcast industry, Debbie Mainwaring tunes in to a different program



**7** Despite its state of the art appearance, City Centre still holds some obstacles for disabled student



## *The Enchanted*

With the ominous swirl of fog shrouding them, Theatre Arts students Rob Moore, playing the character of The Ghost, and Natalie Czar, who played Isabel, perform a scene

from their program's presentation of *The Enchanted*. The comic fantasy, directed by John Paul Fischbach, takes place in the tiny town of Limoges, France, which

for the past 33 days has been under the spell of enchantment. The play ran October 20-24 at the Jasper Place Campus Theatre Lab.

**F**

ace facts. Looking for work is a fulltime job. Thankfully, Student Employment Services (S.E.S.) is there to help. Located in A112J, S.E.S. is the place to go when you're starting that all important search for the perfect job.

S.E.S. offers professional advice and assistance for Grant MacEwan students and alumni looking for work. Their main goal is to help the student job-seeker and help them conquer the challenges they face as they enter the job market.

Workshops are available on resume writing, interview skills and specific job search techniques during common hour on campus. The workshops can help students to write better resumes, handle the stress of job interviews, and develop a plan to get the job they've always wanted. And SES employment advisor Lise Bourret says these types of skills are even more important in today's tough job market. "If you're not focused, it can take longer to find a job. Competition for jobs is very high. You can have good credentials but still not get any work."

S.E.S. also operates a resource centre and has put together a Job Search Guide specifically for

Grant MacEwan students. The Job Search Guide is available in the bookstore for \$7 (including GST), and contains valuable information on successful job hunting strategies, common interview questions, and employment surveys of recent Grant MacEwan graduates.

### STUDENT

### EMPLOYMENT

### SERVICES HELPS

### STUDENTS GET

### THE JOB DONE

One of the best reasons to visit S.E.S. however, is to find out more about the types of jobs available. For instance, most new jobs are not created by government and big business. Contrary to popular opinion, says Bourret, the majority of jobs are with small businesses.

And because many employers never advertise, says Bourret, "networking and personal contacts have become the way to go." S.E.S. can provide the information you need to get started.

Grant MacEwan graduates can also register with the S.E.S. Employment Registry and phone in to the new Student Employment Hotline. Both the Registry and the Hotline can help to link graduates with employers.

But the best strategy is to begin looking for work early. "The jobs are still out there, it's just a matter of searching a bit harder," says Bourret.

R I C K M A H E R



R I C K

The

M A H E R

## DOCTOR

WILL SEE YOU NOW!

MacEWAN MEDICAL & SPORT INSTITUTE NOT  
JUST FOR ELITE ATHLETES SAYS EX OILER  
RANDY GREGG



**W**hen Dr. Randy Gregg left the Edmonton Oilers after a successful career in professional hockey, he brought important lessons learned on the ice to his medical practice. A licensed family physician, Gregg explains the philosophy behind the new MacEwan Medical & Sport Institute. "First of all, we were quite interested in opening up a sport medicine facility that would allow not just the elite athletes to be well served, but also the recreational athlete, or the high school athlete, or the college athlete."

Gregg says they wanted to provide almost "instantaneous access to physiotherapists, sports scientists, athletic therapists, nutritionists, massage therapists and orthotics people. We believe that an integrated type of clinic is an appropriate way to give the athlete the best level of service." But he also wants people to understand that the clinic is not only for athletes. "An injury to a mother who is just starting to run is just as important as a professional athlete going down with a knee injury."

Gregg feels medicine is going through a period of transition, where "prevention has to be a much more important component. The ability to help people focus into an area of interest that will allow them to continue [the healthy activity] on an ongoing basis is really the best thing we can do for the general public."

It was the college's interest in

providing similar educational services to the community that led to the development of the MacEwan Medical & Sport Institute. "We arranged to have a subsidiary clinic in the Sport & Wellness facility that would allow staff, students and the general public to come in and have good access to both family physicians who can treat regular medical concerns, and also physicians who have an interest in sport medicine for the athletes. But we've also set it up so there are massage therapists and nutritionists for people who might have some concerns in these areas."

As a result, the MacEwan Medical & Sport Institute can do everything from medical diagnosis and treatment to actually creating health and fitness programs tailored to the individual. A key element of the facility, says Gregg, is the convenience offered to Grant MacEwan staff and students, who can "take advantage of the fact there is not only a physician who can treat knee injuries, but also a sore throat, or deal with concerns in their home life." Gregg also points out that although all the services available at the clinic can be found elsewhere, "the individual services are never as good since the communication in regards to the patient's well being is somewhat lost. It's not as effec-

tive as when we're all in the same clinic and on the same computer system such that we know, very well, the roles and interests the different [medical] disciplines play."

**"We want to make sure the physicians that are working at the Grant MacEwan clinic have a lot of experience and expertise in all areas of family practice."**

different areas of service, and is on campus on a regular basis to oversee the operation of the new clinic. Although he looks forward to eventually seeing his own patients at the MacEwan clinic, at this time he feels his role is best served as an administrator. "We want to make sure the physicians that are working at the Grant MacEwan clinic have a lot of experience and expertise in all areas of family practice."

Gregg says the goal of the clinic is to provide a very well organized, quality level of service for the staff and students of Grant MacEwan. "I don't prioritize a professional athlete one bit more than a mother trying to get back in shape after giving birth, or the student looking to integrate some level of fitness into their regular routine at school."

The Grant MacEwan Medical & Sport Institute is located in the Sport and Wellness centre in the new City Centre Campustions.

From an administrative standpoint, Gregg has been actively involved in putting together the



## SWITCHING DIALS

**T**wo years ago, Debbie Mainwaring was producing Ron Collister's talk show "Talk Back". Today, she is a first-year student in the Advertising and Public Relations program at

Grant MacEwan Community College.

After 13 years in radio, and 10 years of experience in the broadcast industry, the time had come to make a change. Mainwaring considers the decision to make the transition to college life the right one. "Radio is in a state of turmoil right now," she says. "It was a good time to leave."

Nevertheless, Mainwaring knows she will likely return to the media field when she graduates. "I've met lots of interesting people, and I like to be directly dealing with the media," she says.

Mainwaring calls her career as a talk-show producer "the perfect job," and has planned visits with some of the more influential people in Canada and the world, such as Brian Mulroney, Pierre Burton, Joe Clark, and Dr. Henry Morgentaler. "What I have learned is that people are people are people. I was always appreciative of meeting [them], but never overwhelmed. People just want to be welcomed and treated with respect."

When she first thought of returning to college, she considered Journalism, but chose Advertising and Public Relations instead. "With my experience in promotions I felt it was right for me." Mainwaring says it is a challenge juggling the demands of her schoolwork with the necessities of marriage and children, but is excited about her new career direction. "I just like the whole concept of me, at 36, being able to go back to school."

B Y R I C K M A H E R



## SA UPDATE

**G**rant MacEwan Students' Association president Jason Tetzlaff recently offered an update on S.A. activities.

Student housing and a proposed student health plan continue to be the main issues on the agenda for the S.A. executive. Although there has been no official word yet from the Minister of Advanced Education, Tetzlaff has been in contact recently with the minister's executive assistant Bob Dawson, who has promised to take action on the proposal. "We're kind of in a holding pattern right now," says Tetzlaff. The proposed student housing project would see a 250 bed development in place next September.

The Student Health Network has now forwarded to the Students' Association a complete proposal for a student health plan which could be implemented across all three Grant MacEwan campuses. The Student Health Network currently provides for the student health plan in place at Calgary's Mount Royal College.

As it currently stands, the proposal would provide basic medical coverage to students at an estimated cost of only \$7 per month. If implemented, students could choose to "opt out" at their discretion. Whatever the result, states Tetzlaff, there will be some form of student referendum before a final decision is made.

Since September, Tetzlaff has seen a lot of changes take place at City Centre. "Time has cured a lot of the opening day ills." So far, he is satisfied with the progress of things on the campus, and feels there have been very few problems considering the size of the campus.

Tetzlaff has also been pleased with the level of student involvement at all three campuses this year. "I would like to commend the students for getting involved right off the bat," he says. "I'm happy as a clam." The S.A. president would also like to encourage people to keep coming by and providing input to student government. "Ask questions and get involved."

**RICK MAHER**

## Students' Association shows off its new digs at first general ACTISEC meeting

**ACTISEC forwards two position papers to Advanced Education**

**T**he most recent ACTISEC meeting at Grant MacEwan's City Centre campus Oct. 2 saw student leaders from across the province deal with a number of important issues affecting Alberta's colleges and universities.

In addition to completely updating their Constitution and creating a detailed code of ethics, ACTISEC recently prepared two important position papers which were sent to Alberta Advanced Education. Preparing for Tomorrow covers the issues of accessibility to quality education in Alberta and the effect of financial constraints on tomorrow's stu-

dents. "ACTISEC is trying to take a pro-active viewpoint to try and make these cutbacks as livable as possible," explains ACTISEC member Paul Buchwald. "We're well aware [the cutbacks] are coming, but we're trying to minimize the cuts to students."

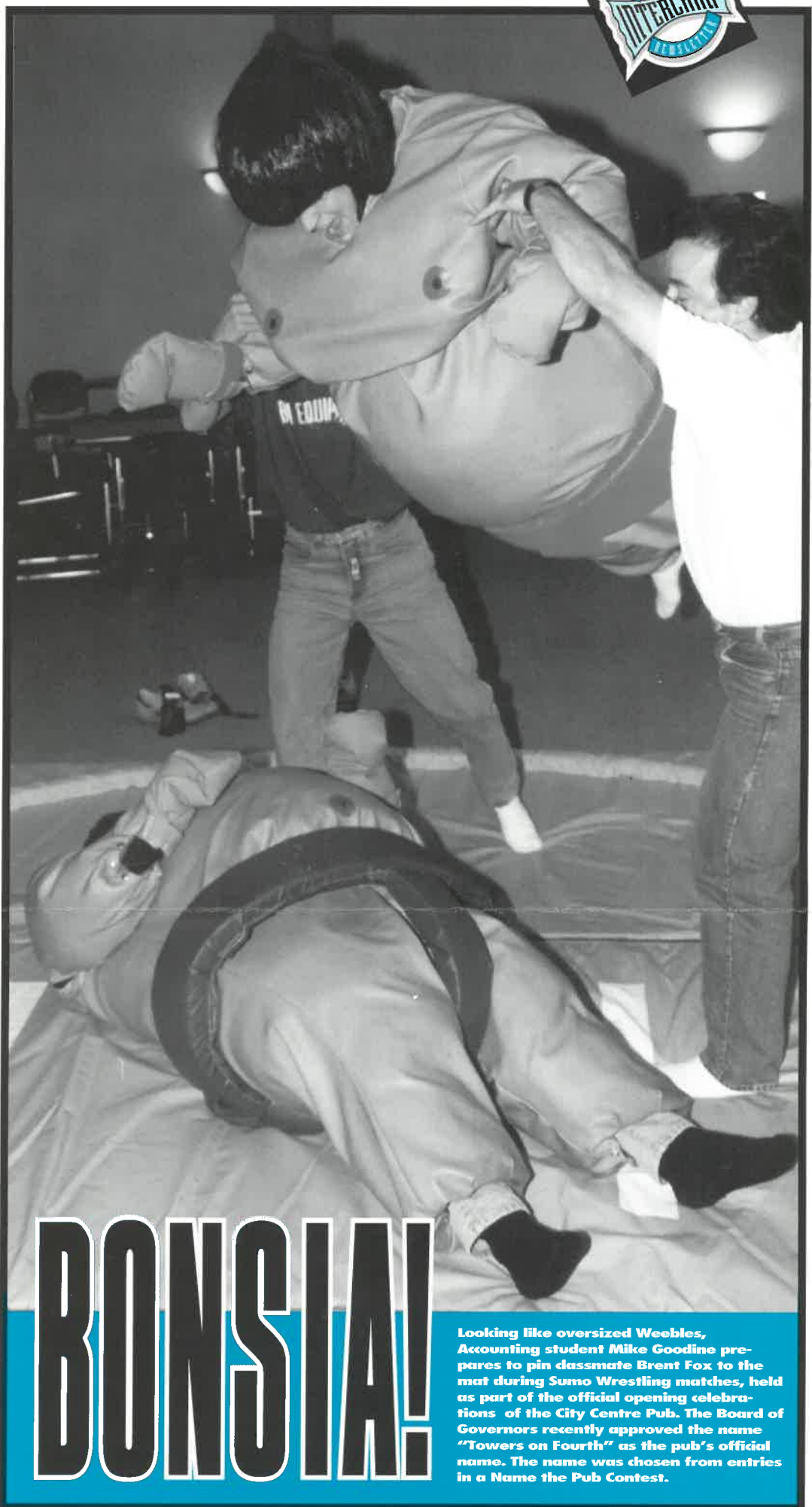
The second paper, entitled Equity and Responsibility - Who Pays and When? is about revamping of the student finance board. "We're looking at income-contingent repayment plans or different structures for repayment to reduce the amount of defaults students are experiencing."

For the first time in their history, ACTISEC will be setting up a

permanent office at City Centre and hiring an executive director. "ACTISEC has always been well attended by student leaders, however every year we have a completely new group of members," says Buchwald. "The executive director will be a resource person for ongoing members, and we need someone who is able to commit more

**RICK MAHER**  
time on a full-time basis. The objective is to have someone who will provide continuity from year-to-year and is knowledgeable about what ACTISEC does."  
ACTISEC is currently run entirely by volunteers under the direction of Chairman Rocky Maddex, who is also the Grant MacEwan

Students' Association Board of Governors student representative. On a lighter note, says Buchwald, ACTISEC is also planning a province-wide Spring Fling extravaganza. The event will feature several big-name bands and students from across the province will be bussed in to the event.



Looking like oversized Weebles, Accounting student Mike Goodline prepares to pin classmate Brent Fox to the mat during Sumo Wrestling matches, held as part of the official opening celebrations of the City Centre Pub. The Board of Governors recently approved the name "Towers on Fourth" as the pub's official name. The name was chosen from entries in a Name the Pub Contest.





# S TUDENT

Employment Services has just introduced a new 24 hour Student Employment Hotline. Now when you're looking for work, help will be only a phone call away.

The Student Employment Hotline is easy to use. Students simply dial the hotline number, 497-5026, and listen to the information on jobs that are listed. "It's a way of automating our job postings and making jobs available to students while they're off campus," explains Lise Bourret, employment advisor with S.E.S. She feels the new system will "be especially helpful for alumni who would otherwise have to come down to the campus" to check out jobs.

Bourret says the job hotline operates non-stop, seven days a week. Job postings are updated twice a week, and students will be able to find up-to-date information on career related jobs, part-time jobs, and summer jobs plus other services offered by S.E.S. All at the touch of a button.

When you dial the hotline, you first choose the topic you are interested in. If you are looking for a career-related job, you would choose this topic by simply pushing a button on your touch-tone phone. The system next describes the specific career areas where jobs are available. You push another button, and the hotline lists the specific jobs available along with a job posting number and the date the job was listed with S.E.S.

Once a student hears about a job they are interested in, the next step is to actually visit S.E.S to find out more about the particular employer and the details of the position. Staff can tell you all you need to know about the job, or at least show you where to find it.

A useful tool in any job search, Bourret encourages students and alumni to take advantage of the job hotline. "Try it out," she says. "Listen what we have to offer."

R I C K M A H E R



## STRETCHED TO THE LIMIT

A Jasper Place Campus student takes the horizontal plunge during the Burgy Relay held in conjunction with AIDS Awareness, October 3-8 on all campuses.

## International Education Centre brings the world to Grant MacEwan Community College

For students that are only here for a short period of time, it can be a challenge to get the information necessary to be competitive in the global village of tomorrow.

"How do you become globally prepared?" is one of the biggest questions facing many students, says International Education Centre coordinator Kathy Higgins. The centre has a number of functions, all of which help to expose students to the realities of the global village.

The centre has seen a number of projects involving Grant MacEwan staff since they were established in 1986. These include the development of a college curriculum on natural resources in Malawi (1992), vocational college curriculum development in Uganda (1990-1993) and a three year project of skills development for personnel at Lae Technical College in Papua New Guinea.

The majority of project activity at the centre is accessed by faculty and staff, who add their expertise to international projects. Students also benefit from the overseas experience of staff. A lot of the concerns overseas are the same as in Canada, says Higgins. "It helps students to hear [actual experiences] from other countries from

people with first-hand knowledge."

The centre would also like to encourage is the further development of international courses for students. And Higgins feels they can play an important role - international courses help get students involved.

One example is the International Business Course which will be sending students to Singapore in May. "It's an excellent way to get international experience." The course can be credited towards the completion of your diploma at Grant MacEwan.

One item that may see development in the future is a College Student and International Development Program. Designed to give Grant MacEwan students a better opportunity to get involved in international programs and projects abroad. "At this time I would like to participate in the program. How we participate, I'm still not sure," says Higgins. The International Development Program would also provide a measure of financial assistance to students involved in internationally based programs / projects.

If you are a student looking to work or study abroad, Higgins says the centre is an excellent source of information. "We have some excel-

lent resources available to students." Books like What in the World is going on? offer extensive information about opportunities abroad that people might otherwise miss.

In addition, there is also the Student Work Abroad Program (SWAP). The centre will be hosting a guest speaker from SWAP at City Centre on Nov. 4 for students looking for a unique experience working in another country.

"The most important thing is to get a global view," says Higgins. "You can't be content with your education reflecting only the Edmonton and Alberta view of reality."

Students are encouraged to visit the International Education Centre in room A121C at City Centre campus, or call 441-4832 for more information. **Rick Maher**



WEST EDMONTON MALL  
WORLD WATERPARK

Students bring five or more of your friends and receive jumps & waterpark admission for **\$39.95** plus GST

PH. 444-WILD



# A LONG WAY FROM... ZIMBABWE



Arts Administration student Henry Maposa

Arts Administration student Henry Maposa has come a long way to attend Grant MacEwan. Maposa works in Harare, Zimbabwe with the Ministry of Education and Culture, and is here on a scholarship program.

"There is a need in Zimbabwe for people who can help arts organizations," says Maposa. As a cultural officer with the government, Maposa promotes traditional Zimbabwe culture in local schools and communities. He also holds workshops and seminars with local artists and arts groups to show them how to become better organized.

Still trying to settle into Canadian culture, Maposa says his classmates and instructors have been both friendly and helpful in helping him to adjust. "What I have enjoyed most is meeting people," he notes, "and, of course, doing my studies."

Maposa's stay in Canada is a short one - only a year - so he has taken on an ambitious program of learning. In addition to taking as much of the Arts Administration program at Jasper Place campus as possible in 10 months, he is also studying storytelling, speech arts and learning to play the acoustic guitar.

Maposa's early education was at a Catholic Mission school in Zimbabwe. He says he has always been interested in working with groups - particularly youth.

A British colony up until 1980, many of the original Zimbabwean traditions had been displaced in the larger cities. Outside, however, in the villages and the countryside, the dances, songs and stories were still handed down through each generation. The country was at the beginning of an ongoing cultural revival.

"It was something I was very interested in," says Maposa. "I started to think about my identity, and I wanted to do the things that went along with my culture. After

independence, I realized that I could use my experience to promote my way of life."

In Zimbabwe, Maposa is actively involved in folk dancing. "Culture is dynamic," explains Maposa, "the folk dances were left by the forefathers, and those still alive continue to perform them in the village style. But of course, because of the changes in culture, those folk dances are also starting to change."

Once he completes his program at Grant MacEwan, Maposa will continue to work with the Ministry of Education and Culture in Zimbabwe for at least another two years. Afterwards he will look at his options. "I may go into the private sector, or even start my own dance group."

R I C K M A H E R

## Board faces challenge of impending education cutbacks

As a student member of the Grant MacEwan Board of Governors, Rocky Maddex deals with some tough issues on a daily basis.

Currently, the Board is facing three main issues: tackling the reorganization of the college now that City Centre is coming on line, planning long-term objectives for Grant MacEwan college, and starting the process of defining a budget for the upcoming year. Maddex notes the Board is still dealing with some of the things that naturally arise in a project the size of the new campus, "whether it's approving change-orders, scheduling of classes, or even where the classes are located."

"The biggest thing that we're facing right now, and for the next while, is the budget." The college is currently facing a 15 per cent cut in funding over the next three years. Maddex says the Board of Governors is trying to find ways to meet the challenge this presents in terms of dollars available while still providing a high level of service to students.

As the only student member of the Board of Governors, Maddex finds he has a unique role. "You have a definite responsibility to the province to run the place properly, and to be effective and responsible. And of course, students are an integral part of the college - If they weren't here, nobody would be here. I have to look at the global picture....It's an interesting balance to have to maintain."

Maddex finds he is able to provide the student's perspective on many issues. And it's a voice that is not overlooked by college management. "I've found that [the Board of Governors] respect the opinion and the voice of students," Maddex adds, because "we can provide an internal view" of the college.

As a full voting member of the board, Maddex tries to represent the views and concerns of students at the college on all three campuses. He stays in daily contact with the Grant MacEwan Students' Association, Central Council, Student Representative Council, and Student Program Advisory Committees to keep on top of student issues. "We have to think of our customers first," says Maddex, "and here the customers are the students."

• Rick Maher

## Food For Thought

Three years ago, Grant MacEwan Community College presented Versa Services director Gary Perry with a blank sheet of paper, a pen and the task of assisting the design of the new food service area at City Centre. One of the goals, says Perry, was to attain a high level of service for students. "There has been a fairly big change in the style of service that is being provided to students. We're going to be able to provide a high

quality of service, but with the potential for growth - we didn't want to be short-sighted and build just for today, and I think we've achieved that."

Today, you only have to walk through the cafeteria to see the results. There is seating for 600 people plus a wide variety of food to choose from. Perry adds that although they are only operating at 70 percent, service is still very good. "You'll spend less time standing in line here for food than you would standing in line at a bank teller trying to get your money out."

All the food is prepared fresh daily in the kitchen area located directly below the food kiosks. Staff start at 6 a.m. and then prepare food throughout the day. As a result, says Perry, all the items are as fresh as possible, and students can get freshly prepared food at any time during the day.

Versa employs 70 people in the preparation and service of food, which includes a complete banquet service staff. The pub staff consists solely of students, says Perry, and several other students work on a part-time basis at Versa food kiosks.

Menu planning is also an important element in providing a healthy selection of food to students, and Versa employs registered dietitians to assist in selecting appropriate food items. There are two dietary technicians on staff at City Centre campus.

One of the new features is the availability of low fat, low salt items at the Wise Bite Deli located in the Sport and Wellness centre. Wise Bite was intended as an alternative to regular cafeteria fare, and features many "Treat Yourself Right" items that are lower in fat and salt. Perry says these same items could also be made available in the cafeteria as well.

"We pay attention to what our customers are telling us," says Perry. At the moment, he states, the demand in the cafeteria is for more traditional foods that are available at the Piccolo's Pasta and Grillwork's counters. "We're more flexible than a restaurant that works off a menu," he adds. "We can make changes on fairly short notice if an item is not popular."

Rick Maher





## Counseling department offers support group for single parents

*Everyone knows that raising children is not the easiest task in the world and it's even harder when you're doing it alone. This is why the GMCC Counseling Department developed the Single Parents Survival Group (SPSG).*

*The SPSG was designed four years ago by college counselor Brenda Barrett. She found herself dealing with more single parents and believed they could benefit from a supportive group environment involving people with common concerns. The group began when single-parent*

*students expressed interest in forming a support group at Discoveries, the orientation week held at the beginning of the fall trimester.*

The group informs single parents about a variety of topics through information sessions on time, stress and financial management. It also affords them the opportunity to voice their opinions and suggestions on how to improve their lives.

The issues that are addressed at the support group meetings are generated from the group. The group forms a support network to deal with different personal situations that are presented. Guest speakers are often brought in to provide information on pertinent issues.

The format of the support group is educationally oriented. The group concentrates around gathering information for its members. Family oriented activities are coordinated by the Students' Association.

The SPSG accommodates single parents in a supportive setting which allows them to discuss problems with others who can relate to them. Confidentiality is of great importance to all members. The group offers emotional support and allows members to share resources such as a babysitting co-op or a coupon exchange.

Currently there are 12 members in the group. An open membership policy, however, means new members are welcome at any time.

Meetings are held during Common Hour on Mondays, with

the next meeting slated for Nov. 15 in room A112 of the Counseling Department, located in the northeast corner of Building A.

For more information please contact Brenda Barrett at 497-5820.

**By: Cassandra Torres**



**Hey isn't that...? Students and staff were doing double takes on Sept. 29 when they witnessed an elderly gentleman sporting a white Stetson riding shotgun on an electric cart. The VIP treatment was afforded to college namesake Dr. Grant MacEwan, who made an impromptu tour of the \$100 million-plus facility. And what did the 91 year-old author, politician, historian, and former lieutenant governor — who was once asked if he was 'named after that college' — think of the new digs "I can't believe it all. It's unbelievable. I watched it develop, but you get an inside view today, it's fantastic!" Dr. MacEwan was on campus to accept a \$125,000 donation from the pharmaceutical company Merck Frost to establish a chair in senior studies.**

## CONFLUENCE LOOKING FOR THE WRITE STUFF

**By: Lois Sampson**

**E**xercise your artistic and literary talents! GMCC students are needed to play two critical roles in the production of Confluence, the college's journal of student writing and art.

"Applications for the positions of Arts Editor and Writing Editor are being accepted until November 15," said Jack Robinson, coordinating editor of Confluence.

Published annually, Confluence was started three years ago to give wide recognition to student talents and to show the variety of programming in community colleges.

The publication has received broad interest. "Its high production quality," said Robinson, "probably contributed to winning an award from the Community Colleges Humanity Association." As well, Red Deer College is using Confluence as a model for their Writing and Publishing Program.

Producing a publication of this quality can be demanding. "The most important things I look for in an editor," he said, "are the willingness and ability to take initiative and to see the project through."

The Arts Editor will be selecting visual art works, integrating visual art with writing, and monitoring the reproduction of visual works. Robinson said the ability to perceive and give advice on how art works will look in print, is the primary desired skill.

Arts Editor duties commence in January, 1994 and continue through the Winter 1994 trimester. The successful candidate will receive an \$800 honorarium for completion of their term.

The Writing Editor will be responsible for selecting manuscripts, editing, proofreading and supervising printing. The position requires an excellent knowledge of English, both technical (grammar) and artistic (style) elements of the language arts.

"Faultless grammar is critical," said Robinson.

Writing Editor duties commence in late December, 1993 and continue through the Winter 1994 trimester. The position offers an honorarium of \$1200.

Covering letters and resumes can be directed to Jack Robinson, Coordinating Editor Confluence, B292, City Centre Campus. For additional information you can contact him at 497-5364.

## Academic Council reviews university transfer policy

**RECRUITING STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES NOT SO ACADEMIC, THOUGH**

**G**rant MacEwan's Academic Council is looking for a few good students. Rob Peeling, Student Caucus Leader and a member of the council, says there is still some room for students who want to become involved in student government.

Academic Council is one of the main decision-making bodies in the college. Composed of students and teaching faculty, the council tackles current issues that affect the academic lives of students. It's an important job, and Academic Council is currently working on several current issues. One of them is a review of the policy which governs student transfers between different universities, colleges, and programs.

Peeling explains that it will be the job of Academic Council to try and make positive changes that will benefit students. The result should be a more effective system that will make allowances for returning students who have significant experience outside of schoolwork, and take into consideration diplomas or degrees

already earned.

Academic Council actually has four specific objectives for the year. Firstly, to continue to implement collaborative governance and quality learning. Secondly, to review and improve the awareness of Academic Council amongst the college staff and students. Thirdly, to receive the report of the Curriculum Task Force. And fourthly, to ensure Academic Council receives adequate information concerning academic matters.

Peeling notes there is no current representation on council from the Jasper Place campus, and encourages students from J.P. to get in touch with the Students' Association there. "We're trying to get the perspectives of both the students and faculty," he adds.

For those students who have an interest in what is going on in the Ivory Tower of knowledge, Academic Council meetings are alternately held at Jasper Place campus in room 433 and City Centre campus in the President's Boardroom. All students are welcome. **RICK MAHER**



RICK MAHER

## City Centre parlay's years of research into improved facilities for students with disabilities

during its design phase, Grant MacEwan Community College did a lot of work up front to ensure the new City Centre campus would be accessible to all students.

With over 200 students with disabilities ranging from light to severe, Services to Students with Disabilities counsellor Abigail Parrish-Craig considers the effort a successful one.

"There are a lot of things that are good about this campus - like power doors at each entrance." She notes this is a big improvement over campuses like Jasper Place, which is "a door nightmare" for people with limited mobility.

An accessibility committee was formed to oversee the basic construction and make recommendations.

One of the results is an adaptive technology computer system in building C. When finished the new system will incorporate voice output hardware and software, a braille printer, enlarged screen print capabilities and "real-time" spell checking. The area is specifically designed to give greater access to students with disabilities. As a counsellor who hears the concerns of students everyday,

Parrish-Craig recognizes the new campus is not completely perfect. Signs are still a concern for the visually impaired, as well as some of the hanging staircases. An ongoing issue is the width of doorways, which have been built to the 1985 building code standard of 30 inches. The 1990 code requires a 35 inch doorway, and is much easier to fit a wheelchair through, she notes.

For its part, says Parrish-Craig, the college has been very responsive to student's concerns. For instance, although the

permanent signs for the campus are not completed, braille signs may be a possibility. Areas with hanging

staircases have been changed to ensure students' safety, as well as bright yellow tape at the entrance to the cafeteria to indicate the location of stairs.

Three-quarters of the washrooms at City Centre are wheelchair accessible, and lowered service counters have been installed in the LRC, Information Centre and Registrars' Office. There are assistive listening headsets in all class-

room facilities that seat more than 80 students.

Parrish-Craig also explains the sports facilities are very comprehensive in their level of accessibility. The Sport and Wellness complex specifically included exercise equipment designed to accommodate handicapped athletes.

After working for seven years with the Canadian Paraplegic Association, and now three years with Grant MacEwan Community College, Parrish-Craig knows there is always more that can be done.

"Our vision is to provide opportunities to people with disabilities that will ensure they attain their educational and career goals," she explains. "Eventually we want to expand to have the technology to serve anyone."



Management Studies student, Jim Edwards

## A trip to the cafeteria can be a precarious journey for wheelchair bound student

Getting around can be a hard task for Jim Edwards. Particularly since the microcomputer management student at Grant MacEwan's new City Centre campus faces some unique challenges. Edwards has lost most of the use of his hands, and has limited strength in his arms. As the result, going for lunch can become a frustrating experience. The cafeteria is a particular problem, says Edwards, since the wheelchair ramp is fairly long and steep. Edwards has found he can't climb out of it, and has a hard time controlling his wheelchair going down it. On days he does venture into the cafeteria, Edwards can find himself negotiating an obstacle course of chairs, tables and people.

Edwards also notices other details that would generally go unnoticed by most students. He does not particularly like the layout of the classrooms. Although there are spaces specifically for wheelchair bound students, Edwards says this makes him feel segregated from the other students. "I don't see why I shouldn't be able to sit

anywhere I want."

The carpeting throughout the campus also slows down his progress to and from his classes, as the material provides a fair deal of resistance. And some of the washrooms have doors that are particularly hard to open. "It's hard to move a wheelchair and open the door at the same time," he states. "They should all swing open easily."

Edwards also has considerable difficulty using a mouse, although there are no trackballs hooked up to the computers that would give better access. "As far as I'm concerned, all that stuff should have been in place already."

R I C K M A H E R

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Students were making waves in the Sport & Wellness centre swimming pool during Innertube Waterpolo, October 18.



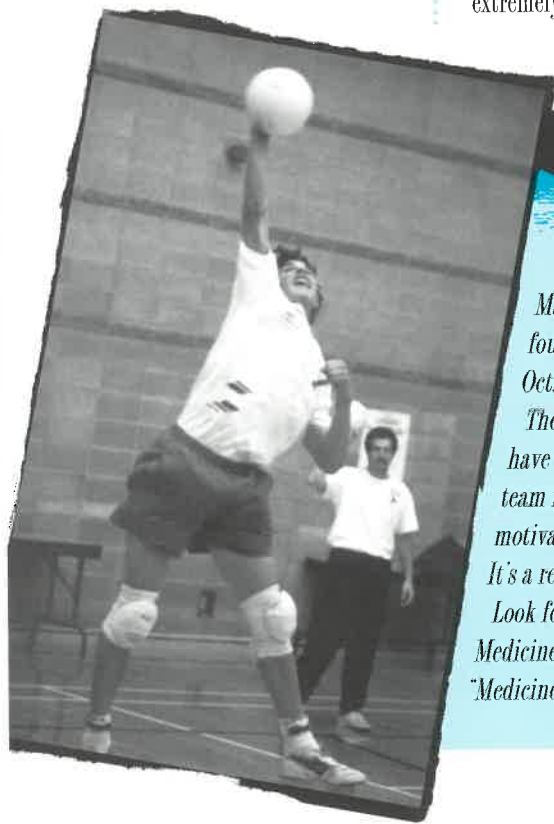
## Badminton team continues winning tradition at preseason tournament

After hosting the first pre-season badminton tournament Oct. 15 at Grant MacEwan, coach Alan Thom has nothing but praise for all his players.

Essentially an open tournament, pre-season games give coaches an opportunity to establish the general level of ability of their players. And Thom says the results are very good. "We're quite strong in all areas, and exactly where I had expected to be at this time of year."

When the dust had settled, Lionel Chong placed third in men's singles, while Kim Nelson and Adele Friess took first place in ladies' doubles followed closely by Stephanie Chan and Melissa Payne in second. Mark Lee and Chong took first place in men's doubles, while, in mixed doubles, Lee and Jennifer Stickney placed second, followed by Colin Taylor and Friess in third.

After playing against the other 10 colleges in the ACAC that field badminton teams, Thom feels the regular season is "essentially going to be a three-way between Grant MacEwan, SAIT, and Mount Royal." Early standouts from Grant MacEwan include Friess, Nelson, Stickney, Lee, Chong, Tomo Meikari and Taylor.



## Rookie laden women's volleyball team loaded with experience

Women's Volleyball Team coach Daryl Young says the absolute minimum goal for the team this year would be to finish in the top four in the ACAC.

Although the team only has three returning players from last year, this year's 'rookies' are not exactly inexperienced. Six of them recently competed in the National Championships with the Edmonton Volleyball Club, where they came in fourth overall. Other members of the team have experience playing with the Albertan team that placed second at the Canada Summer Games.

Young has coached at national level with the Canada Games, and sees a strong team emerging with a good balance of players. **R. Maher**

Friess, Nelson and Stickney are three of the strongest players in the women's division, states Thom. And Lee, Chong, Meikari and Taylor have all had strong showings in doubles play at the junior

and national level. Thom is quick to note, however, that all the players are showing impressive talent at this early point in the season.

**RICK MAHER**

## Women's soccer teams gets a kick out of first year in ACAC

In their first year of competition in the ACAC, the Grant MacEwan women's soccer team have been front runners all the way.

Coaches Janine Wood and Kelly Vandergrift have taken their 14 person team to within striking distance of the ACAC Provincial Championships and the Canadian National Championships. "We've had the right players at the right place at the right time," says Wood.

Wood says the league has been extremely competitive this year.



And the women's team has benefited from a good balance of players, including the league's lead scorer

this year, Patty Datallas.

Right now, all sights are set on the final series leading up to the provincial and national championships. Regardless of the outcome, Wood is already looking ahead to next year. "We would like to

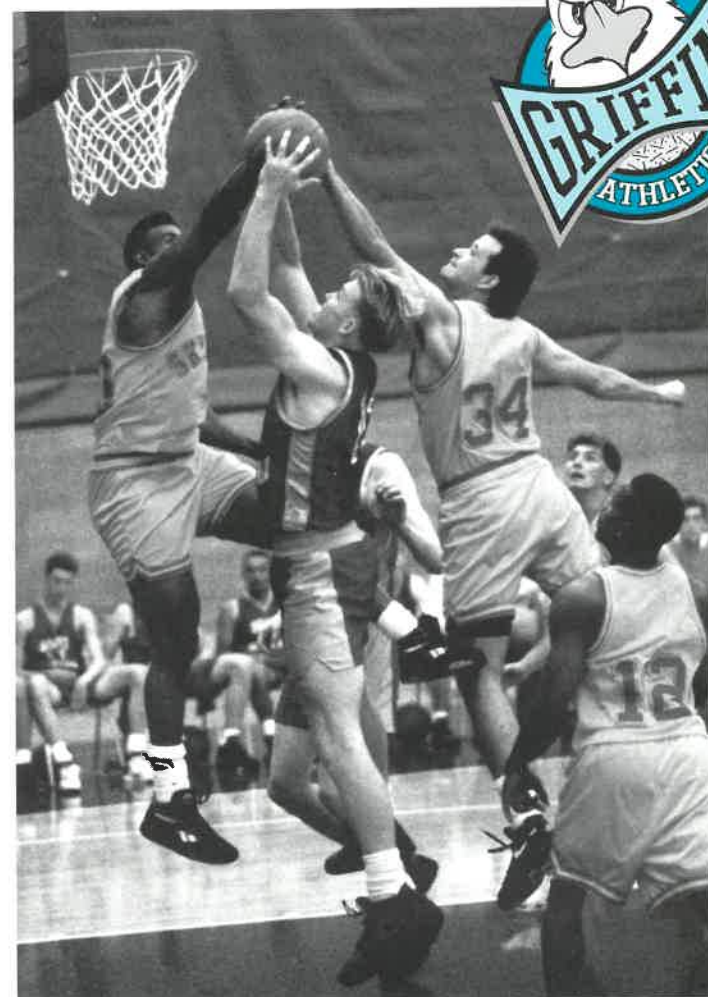
see more girls come out for the team for next year." And with the success of their first year, the future certainly looks bright. **Rick Maher**

## MEN'S VOLLEYBALL

"We're looking to be in the top three at least," says Grant MacEwan men's volleyball coach Arch Beck. The team placed fourth overall in the pre-season tournament held in Red Deer Oct. 15.

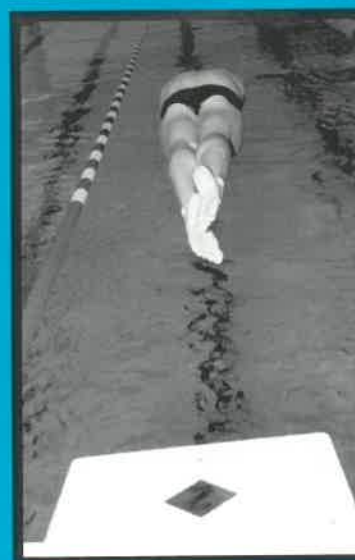
The team has six returning players this year, and Beck expects to have at least a few team members that will be able to stick with the team for a number of years. "The guys just out of high school are very motivated - they are creating a lot of momentum with their work ethic. It's a real team effort."

Look for a good game this Nov. 4 and 5 as Grant MacEwan hosts Medicine Hat. The two teams should play a strong, fast paced game. "Medicine Hat has a good team," says Beck. "It will be a bit of a challenge."



Griffin forward Ryan Popplestone is denied by an Edmonton Skyhawk B Team player during an exhibition game, Oct. 8 at the City Centre Campus.

## Swim Team coach hopes to make a splash in inaugural season



Dean Schultz can barely wait for the ACAC Championships in March. Schultz, who is coach of Grant MacEwan's newly formed swim team, says they're ready to make

their mark. "We certainly have athletes that are competitive."

Despite being a brand new effort for the college, the swim team has come out ahead by attracting swimmers from other teams in Edmonton. Several team members have, in the past, been part of the Olympian, Keyano and Racers swim clubs.

Currently there are six swimmers on the men's team, although Schultz would prefer to have two more. An early standout has been Colin Sood. "Colin is a national level swimmer," says Schultz. Also part of the Keyano swim team, Colin "will be trying out for the Commonwealth and Olympic swim teams."

The women's team has 13 members, eight of which will eventually go on to create the senior women's team.

**B Y R I C K M A H E R**