

the connection



Mount Saint Vincent University, Halifax, Nova Scotia

January 18, 1988

Work crews undaunted by snow

Construction crews worked through the Christmas holidays on the E. Margaret Fulton Communications Centre, taking advantage of a deserted campus to speed excavation.

Despite two major snowstorms in December and one early in January, good progress has been made on the task of installing concrete footings. Each area must be covered and heated before the concrete is poured. The temperature must be maintained as the concrete sets to prevent cracking. It is hoped the footings will be complete by the end of January.

The parking shortage has eased somewhat with a new, third parking lot down the hill from Rosaria. As well, a walkway leading to Seton from that lot has been constructed. Cars may use the new walkway if drivers proceed with extreme caution, as the surface is quite crude.

It is hoped that a fourth parking lot, also down the hill from Rosaria, will be available soon, but heavy snowfall has slowed construction.



Physician brings variety of experience to Mount job

Ellen McKeough's graduation from Dalhousie Medical School in 1985 kept alive a family tradition. Her father, who is a general surgeon in her native North Sydney, met her mother while he was a student at Dal and she a nursing student at the Halifax Infirmary. And her grandfather was a general practitioner in Sydney Mines.

However, 30-year-old McKeough, who is replacing Dr. Janet Veinot-Nash for the year in the university health office, didn't plan on being a doctor. After completing her bachelor of arts in history at McGill University in 1979, she worked as a reporter for *The Montreal Gazette*. After more than two years there, her mind was made up.

"I just had a gut feeling I wasn't going to make it in the (journalism) field," she says. "There are few jobs in the print field, and I couldn't see myself at age 50 doing the same stories I was doing at age 22."

So it was off to Dalhousie Medical School. In order to make the most of her fourth-year work term, she chose the Laisamis

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Hospital in northern Kenya. For two months at the 40-bed hospital, for only her room and board, she treated patients with infectious diseases like tuberculosis, malaria and syphilis.

"It was like another universe," she says. "Here, we wear out — they die early from these diseases. I was angry to see people dying from things we take for granted."

After graduating from medical school, she completed a residency in family practice at Dalhousie University last July. She spent the rest of the summer doing locums (filling in for vacationing doctors) in New Glasgow and Stellarton, when she heard about the one-year position at the Mount.

Since her first day on Sept. 15, about 125 patients have visited the Rosaria Centre office each week, a number that surprises, but pleases, her. The most common visits are for check-ups and athletic strains and sprains. Another common problem is anxiety, which can



cause chest or stomach pain, inability to sleep and loss of appetite.

"Many first-year students are overwhelmed by being away from home or by the workload," she says. "When I was at McGill, I was not aware of any mechanism to help me, and I think it's necessary. There is a very good set-up here, especially for people away from home for the first time; not many doctors have two nurses and several psychologists in the same office."

Although she's not sure just where her career will take her, she hopes to vary her experience by doing more locums.

"I feel I want to work in Nova Scotia," she says. "By doing more short-term jobs around the province, I'll have an easier time deciding where in the province I want to work."

"Though I'm under a little more pressure to find a job than doctors were 20 years ago — then they could have worked in Timbuctoo if they wanted — I'd still recommend it as a career. All things considered, it's a great field."

Deadline set for awards

The Mount's research office would like to remind students that the deadline for NSERC (Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council) Undergraduate Research Awards is Jan. 29.

Students may apply if they are registered as full-time students in an eligible undergraduate honors program in the natural sciences (or engineering). The awards are valued at \$750 monthly.

In addition to a completed application, students are required to include one unofficial and one official transcript. Application forms and guidelines are available from the research office, E215.

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At the Atlantic Schools of Business conference at Memorial University, Rod Tilley of the Mount's business administration department chaired a panel on government accounting. He also presented a paper on Deferred Income Taxes: Can We Ignore Possible Future Changes in Government Policy?

Wendy Doyle, business administration department chair, attending a meeting of the Deans of Atlantic Schools of Business in St. John's, Nfld., and was re-elected to the board of directors of the Canadian Federation of Deans of Management and Administrative Studies.

On a six-month sabbatical leave, Dr. Jacques Goulet, of the religious studies department, attended the annual congress of the Société Canadienne de Théologie held in Montreal. Dr.

Goulet is now in France to study, with Jean Vanier, the spirituality of l'Arche as lived in Trosley where the movement originated. L'Arche is the name given by Jean Vanier to communities he established to serve mentally handicapped people.

Dr. Goulet's book *Construire une science de la religion* (Creating the Science of Religion) will be published next month. He has also had two studies published:

"Le sacerdoce des laïcs selon le Nouveau Testament" (The Priesthood of the Laity According to the New Testament) in *Le Laïcat: les limites d'un système* and "L'interruption de la vie: choix personnel ou destin aveugle?" (The Taking of Human Life: A Personal Decision or Blind Fate?) in *Droit et morale: valeurs éducatives et culturelles*. Both are published by Fides (Montreal) 1987.

Mount grad takes top prize

Mount grad Kathy E. Wolfe (BSA '82) has received the Harry G. Hoben Prize for scoring highest in Atlantic Canada on the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants (CICA) 1987 Uniform Final Exams.

Wolfe, who trained in the Dartmouth Office of Thorne Earnst & Whinney, graduated from the Mount's secretarial arts

program with distinction and received the award for highest aggregate.

Wolfe is the third Mount grad to win the award since 1973. She also won the Berkshire Memorial Award for the highest mark in Nova Scotia and was placed on the CICA's honor list for being among the top 20 candidates in Canada.

Young women have taken the lead in smoking statistics

In the Health and Welfare Canada publication, *Smoking Behaviour of Canadians, 1981*, it was reported that 41 per cent of females in the 20-24 age group were regular cigarette smokers and 33 per cent of females in the 25-44 age group smoked regularly.

More young girls are smoking today than in the past while young boys are smoking less. In 1966, for example, in the 15-19 age group only 20 per cent of the boys smoked regularly. Nowadays the rate for this age group is equal for both boys and girls at 23 per cent.

But trends for women can change! Every day in Canada, young girls and women join the majority of non-smokers and make a conscious decision to quit.

Program officers at Health and Welfare Canada have positive suggestions to help develop life-style patterns without cigarettes:

- When you're drinking coffee, change the place you usually have your cup.
- If you're a mother at home most of the day, get right into activity after the children have left for school — preferably activity that keeps the hands busy.
- At work outside the home, keep active, and try to be with non-smokers.
- When you're on the telephone,

**THIS YEAR
PUT AN END
TO YOUR
DEADLY HABIT.**



doodle, sip ice water, stand up, or do toe and foot exercises.

- When you're driving breathe deeply. Whistle, sing or hum. Listen to the car radio.

Workshop can help beat nicotine blues

Got the nicotine blues? The Mount's athletics/recreation department is putting on a series of smoking cessation workshops that may help you beat your addiction.

Beginning Jan. 20, athletics director Pat DeMont will conduct a four-week program, held each Wednesday noon, that follows Nova Scotia Lung Association guidelines.

DeMont says that the first

session is spent discovering what triggers the smoking urge and ways to block that urge. During the next session, participants are encouraged to decide whether to quit cold turkey or by cutting back.

"The program is very effective," says DeMont, "and we have a number of success stories on campus to prove it." If you wish to register for the course, please call local 369.

- When you're eating out, sit in the non-smoking area of the restaurant if one has been set aside.
- Ask for a seat in the non-smoking section of the airplane or bus.
- Right after a meal, brush your teeth. Save coffee until later.
- If you feel depressed, tense, angry or worried — go for a walk or run. Get involved with exercise that suits you.
- At times when everything seems to go wrong, children are yelling or problems all seem to come at once, take long deep breaths. Try to relax. Realize that even "bad moments" will pass.
- There are other alternatives, too, and some may work for you: start a new activity — anything from bird watching to becoming a community activist or politician; explore the delights of your local public library; refinish furniture; become an indoor or outdoor gardener; walk the dog; join a special interest group or society; do something for someone else.
- When you think of yourself as a non-smoker you've come a long way in overcoming the problem. And you'll be part of the majority. Two thirds of Canadians are non-smokers.

"Reprinted courtesy *The Teacher*"

It's time to think 'travel'

With snowdrifts all around, now's the time to life the spirits by thinking about summer travel plans.

A new service offered by university conference offices will help stretch that travel dollar a good long way.

For many years, colleges and universities have offered comfortable summer lodging at extremely economical prices. Now, the new Travel Canada Card provides a 20-per-cent discount on accommodation rates at participating campuses.

A directory of university residences across the country is available from the Mount conference office on the bottom floor of Rosaria. The directory outlines the accommodation season (generally from May to August) and describes facilities available to travellers — recreation, food, linen — as well as location and price.



Residence accommodation costs for students in 1987 were: University of Moncton — \$14 for a single, \$20 for a twin; Acadia University — \$11 single, \$20 twin; Concordia University (Montreal) — \$12 single, \$24 twin; Glendon College (Toronto) — \$9.80 single, \$20.70 twin; University of Alberta; \$16 single, \$20 twin.

With the new Travel Canada Card, you will receive a 20-per-cent discount on those prices. The cards are available at \$15 (student), \$20 (adult) and \$30 (family) from the conference office.

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Campus ministry will sponsor a day of spiritual reflection on social needs on Caritas Day, Jan. 27. This will take place at Adsum House between 9:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. and costs \$5 per person. Register by dropping in at the campus ministry office (R118) or by calling local 349 or 446.

The Du Maurier "Mostly Mozart" concert series continues in January. On Monday, Jan. 25, in the Motherhouse Chapel, Symphony Nova Scotia's Georg Tintner conducts Mozart's symphonies No. 39, No. 40 and No. 41 (Jupiter).

All performances begin at 8 p.m. Tickets are available at the door beginning at 7:30 at \$13.50, or at \$10 for students and seniors.

Ethel Tweedie may well be following in her daughter's footsteps. Tweedie is one of the

students in the Mount's Clothing and Textiles 301 class "and loving it" — which is nothing unusual. But the lecturer at the front of the class is Tweedie's own daughter, Sue McGregor.

As McGregor says, "She's enjoying it, the other students love her, it's been great!"

Tweedie, who lives in Florenceville, N.B., has been on four months' leave of absence from her job to take the contemporary fabrics course along with one in apparel design.

She decided to audit the two half-units since, as her daughter says, "it has been almost 40 years since she was a student," but her enthusiasm may just bring her back for further courses, for credit toward a degree.

As McGregor says, "I told her she might want to wait till she's over 60 and take advantage of our free tuition for seniors. That started her thinking!"

Balanced curriculum in peace studies is 'essential'

Rosemary Brown, former NDP MLA in British Columbia, professor at Simon Fraser University and honorary degree recipient of Mount Saint Vincent University, was well-received as a keynote speaker at the National Forum on Post-Secondary Education in Saskatoon recently.

As she said in her introductory remarks, "I will be dealing with post-secondary education primarily in the context of *equality, peace and the quality of life*, since I see these to be the great issues of the day and the yardstick by which the success or failure of an education system is measured." (Emphasis in the original.) Her emphasis, as well as her eloquence, had widespread appeal to the delegates at the forum.

All of us in post-secondary education, whatever the level of our involvement, need to



recognize, as Brown pointed out, that while technology and the change from an industrial base to a knowledge-based society will have profound effects on our society and way of life, "they will not have the impact on our lives as that of the loss of peace, the continued destruction of the environment and the failure to achieve equality."

Brown urged that educational institutions recognize the real issues with which our world is struggling and come to terms with them in the development and dissemination of knowledge, which is the mission of the university in our society.

The National Forum was to look at directions for universities in Canada as they move into the next century. The content of the curriculum was not on the agenda directly, but the forum did reaffirm the value of the traditional liberal arts education, and the flexibility and adaptability with which graduates of such programs can cope with changing needs in society as well as the workplace.

Peace and conflict studies need to become a part of university education, as distinct courses and as issues dealt with across the curriculum. We at the university must grapple with the lack of peace and conflict studies in the curriculum. As repositories of the

knowledge of our past, universities have a special mission to insure that this knowledge can be transmitted to the future. As the clock in the *Bulletin of Atomic Scientists* moves closer to midnight, indicating nuclear destruction, protecting our heritage is not easy. Peace is a prerequisite to insuring that our intellectual heritage survives. Nuclear war will not leave survivors to inherit our accumulated knowledge.

The university also has a moral responsibility to use its skills for improving the human condition. Peace studies have emerged as universities recognize that they possess analytic skill and knowledge to contribute to the political debate on war, peace and conflict resolution. We need to mobilize this ability to seek solutions to the fundamental problems facing our planet. If we can create complex technology, apply analytic skills to a myriad of academic disciplines and reflect on the nature of the human experience, surely we have something to say about how to insure the continuity of that human culture whose traditions we protect.

The loss of peace, as Rosemary Brown suggested, will have a devastating effect on all of our lives. It is, therefore, essential that we use the capacity of the university to develop mechanisms to insure that the loss of peace does not occur. As President Eisenhower observed, "Peace is too important to be left to the politicians."

Jane Gordon,
Sociology Department



LEND A HELPING HAND AT TAX TIME

Each year, Revenue Canada, Taxation cooperates with community volunteers to assist disadvantaged people in completing their tax returns. Revenue Canada offers a short training course to volunteers where they learn to complete straightforward tax returns.

If you can spare some time between January and April, contact your district taxation office. They'll welcome you to the team.

Conference calls for contributions

The Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education has put forth a call for contributions and session proposals for their eighth annual conference at McMaster University, June 18-21, 1988.

The conference hopes to give faculty members, teaching assistants, researchers, counsellors and administrators a forum in which to examine ways to improve teaching and learning in post-secondary education.

Some suggested topics for proposals are: creative problem-solving, study skills, simulations and games, contract learning, peer consultation and computers.

Possible formats include workshops, demonstrations, poster sessions, roundtable discussions, panel discussions, and interactive presentations.

Proposals for sessions, in either English or French, will be welcomed until Feb. 29, 1988. Not more than two pages in length, they should be sent (in triplicate) to: STLHE, c/o Instructional Development Centre, McMaster University, Hamilton, Ont. L8S 4K1.

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