

# UNIVERSITY NEWSBEAT

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## McLaughlinspiel

# Free Chamber Music Series

Assistant professor of music Jim McKay, original man behind the bassoon in the York Winds, is also the orchestrator of a new McLaughlin College chamber music series.

Eight concerts are planned, the first occurring Monday, October 31. All are free, and (except for the inaugural performance) will take place Tuesday nights at eight o'clock, preceded by a Monday luncheon session at 12:30 in the McLaughlin Senior Common Room

which allows the public to meet the artists and discuss the music with them.

Prof. McKay has just returned from a two years' leave of absence during which he concentrated on performing with the York Winds, a chamber quintet of wind players. He explained that the combination of his duties as a Fellow of McLaughlin College and co-ordinator of the Music Department's Chamber Music Performance course suggested the idea of the "McLaughlin

Chamber Recitals" series.

"The performance course involves 14 full-time and part-time teachers, and many of them were coming to me to ask where they could perform," Prof. McKay said. Aware that McLaughlin College wanted to "raise — or establish — its profile" on campus, Prof. McKay suggested the idea of a chamber music series to the other college Fellows at a retreat in early September.

He noted "the College has always had an interest in Chamber music" due in large part to college Master George Tatham's interest in the art, and "it was always very good to chamber music groups in sponsoring performances" in the past.

The recital idea met with acclaim from other Fellows including Associate Professor of music Jon Higgins, and Prof. McKay set about scheduling performances with Faculty and local musicians at the same time that he began looking for funding.

So far, he said "the Cocurricular Committee has been most generous in funding." (The Committee receives funds from the administration which are then granted to specific colleges to support performances, exhibits, and special events involving the fine arts.)

A grant from the Ontario Arts

Council is expected to yield the necessary money to run the eight performances. The full-time faculty who will be performing are doing so for free, and the part-time teachers are receiving small honoraria.

The opening concert takes place Monday, October 31 and like all succeeding recitals will be held at 8 p.m. in the McLaughlin Music Room, 016. Featured are the Cecilia Quartet, currently in residence with the North York Symphony, performing works by Haydn, Schubert, and the contemporary Canadian Srul Irving Glick.

Second is a recital of music performed on harpsichord and virginal (a forerunner of the spinet piano) by York harpsichord teacher Elizabeth Keenan. Baroque music from 17th century England by Byrd and Farnaby will be played Tuesday, November 15.

A special Christmas concert on December 6 will be "the fun concert, when we let our hair down a bit" said Prof. McKay. The evening will include songs with Jon Higgins, poetry read by McLaughlin Senior Tutor Roger Kuin, and German lieder performed by Henrietta Asch.

Three music department faculty members will revive 18th century baroque music January 7, each on the instruments which they teach: Sue Prior, recorder and flute;

Christa Thielman, viola da gamba; and Elizabeth Keenan, harpsichord.

A recital of bassoon and tenor on February 7 will mark the first time that Profs. Higgins and McKay have performed together during the five years in which they have both been at York. Accompanied at times by piano and a string trio, the two McLaughlin Fellows will perform some Bach arias and also 20th century pieces.

The remaining concerts include an evening of violin and string chamber music with York violin teacher Lorna Glover February 28; "Victorian Love Songs" (including some bawdy-house ballads by which the good Queen would not have been amused) sung March 21 by Garry Crighton and the Scarborough Singers; and on March 28, a Beethoven Septet and the world premier of a chamber piece by Samuel Domin for baritone, piano percussion and instrumentalists.

The concerts should be a good introduction to those unfamiliar with chamber music, as the pre-performance luncheons will allow artists to explain and comment on the scores, and "the concerts themselves will feature a maximum of verbal communication between the artists and the audience" said Prof. McKay.



Positioning the shade of the future, President H. Ian Macdonald (left) and Vice-President William Small [University Services] right, plant trees during ceremonies marking Arboretum Week. The Tree Planting Day held Thursday, October 20, attracted more than 200 York community members. Approximately one hundred new trees stand around the pond south of Stong College as testimony to the group effort. Arboretum Committee secretary and campus planner Robert Howard said the committee was "very gratified" by the response.

## Footnotes

### Moon Music

A group of York Fine Arts graduates, formerly the York Synthesizer Orchestra, is presenting a concert of avant-garde music with guest artist Miguel Frasconi Friday, October 28, at 8:30 p.m. in the Calumet Common Room. The concert, titled "Waveband", is free of charge — and dedicated to the full moon. Electronic, glass and acoustic instruments will join taped music in the pre-Halloween hoot.

### Canada Savings Bonds

The 1977-78 series of Canada Savings Bonds will shortly go on sale. The coupon and fully registered bonds of previous campaigns are being replaced with new bonds giving bond holders the choice of receiving interest each year, or of permitting interest to be reinvested and compounded annually.

Acquisition of these bonds may be arranged for cash or by installment at chartered banks in-

cluding those on the York campuses, and trust companies, and for cash through investment dealers.

### Biggest Drawing

The "world's biggest drawing", designed by artist Bill Vazan, was completed last Saturday with the help of some ten graduate students and fifty undergraduates in Visual Arts working with the Visual Arts program coordinator Bruce Parsons.

The drawing is now on display in the large field south of the woodlot beside the Keele St. entrance to York. On Sunday it was photographed and filmed from an airplane.

Bill Vazan, who perhaps has the distinction of creating the heaviest sculpture to be dismantled by the City of Montreal — a stone maze — created the drawing from the lines on his hands and those of students. The lines were laid on a grid with rollers and fifty gallons of white paint.

The drawing should remain on view until winter snows turn it into a "white on white" canvas. The lines painted total 21,000 feet, and were painted onto an area equal to three football fields.

Things are getting tougher for foreign students studying in Ontario and Europe.

Only two Ontario universities - Trent and McMaster - have not followed this year's Ontario government policy of doubling tuition fees for foreign visa students. Neither university has announced its policy on differential fees for the next academic year, 1978-79.

McMaster had set a quota of 103 visa students for the present academic year, but only 70 had registered by October 21 despite its relatively lower tuition fees. Figures are not yet available on the York enrolment picture for foreign students.

A survey undertaken during the

1976-77 academic year by the York Survey Research Centre for the Canadian Bureau for International Education indicates that, at that time, more than half of the foreign students believed that a rise of \$750 in costs would prevent them from continuing their studies in Canada.

This was prior to the general Ontario increase in foreign student tuition fees. Students questioned said that the bare minimum required for a month's expenses (outside of tuition) in Canada is \$355.

Great Britain has charged differential fees to foreign students over recent years. In August a circular from the Education department reminded British universities that by next year the number of foreign students should

be reduced from the 1976-77 level of 80,000 to the previous year's total of 74,000. A commission has been proposed to study and make more rational the U.K. approach to foreign students.

The United Kingdom is also tightening immigration controls affecting overseas students. Students who enter on a visitor's visa and then apply for an extension of stay will be particularly affected by the new policies.

In Italy, the government announced that it would ban foreign students from the country's crowded universities in 1977-78. The June decision was reversed in August after protest from abroad, but the overcrowding continues and the initial decision may again be confirmed.

### Caravan Coming

Caravan, a sale of handmade crafts and clothing from around the world in aid of international development, will take place at York from November 7 to 11.

The sale, sponsored by the non-profit World University Service of Canada, will be held in the Winters Art Gallery (Room 123) from 10 am to 9 pm. On sale will be carvings, batiks, toys, carpets, clothing knit from alpaca, dolls and utensils from artisans native to many different countries — Thailand, Kenya, Sri Lanka, Ecuador, Lesotho, Bolivia — and Canada's native peoples.

Caravan is a good opportunity to acquire unusual gifts for oneself or that impending Christmas list. Community members who can volunteer time to help with the sale or anyone wishing more information may call the York International Student Centre at 6262.

