

High Enrollment, Expansion Of Outreach

Mater Dei Anticipates A Strong Year Ahead

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The year 1985 saw a great deal of growth and development at Mater Dei College in Ogdensburg. Not only did the College open its doors for the twenty-sixth year this past fall to the largest enrollment in its history, but it also expanded its outreach program by the purchase of a new building in Gouverneur and by the establishment of a Learning Skills Center at its Massena extension site.

In addition, the Court Reporting program at the College was greatly enhanced by the acquisition of the latest state-of-the-art equipment and by the construction of a complex consisting of a model courtroom, computer room, and law library.

Another milestone was reached in May when the Associate Degree was conferred on 110 graduates — the largest graduating class since the college's beginnings in 1960.

ENROLLMENT UP
The academic year began with a record enrollment of 620 first and second-year students, 458 full-time and 162 part-time. The previous year's enrollment at the beginning of the fall semester was 550. Of the student population of 680 this past fall, 263 were enrolled on campus, 132 at the St. Regis Mohawk Branch Campus in Hogansburgh, 95 at the Massena Extension, 94 at the Gouverneur Extension, and 36 at the Ogdensburg Correctional Facility.

College officials attribute the increased enrollment to several factors, not the least of which is the fact that the College is becoming better known each year through stepped-up recruiting efforts and increased promotional efforts, particularly in the area of radio and television advertising. Another factor is the continual expansion and development of the various programs and services which the College provides, as well as the growth of its extension sites. Furthermore, the College has been able to provide competitive tuition and room and board costs which are attractive to students and which have enabled Mater Dei to remain "A College of Values at an Affordable Price." The steadily increasing enrollment is also due to the fact that Mater Dei encourages older adults (non-traditional students) to enroll in college courses and offers these courses in the evening to accommodate those who are unable to attend during the day.

In August, in an effort to expand its extension services in Gouverneur, Mater Dei purchased the former Supreme Court building in that village. The new location, providing increased space, allows the College to apply to the State Education Department to upgrade the extension site to an extension center. By upgrading to a center, the College will be able to offer more courses to meet the needs of its constituents in the Gouverneur area. Rev. Lawrence W. Andrews is Coordinator of the Gouverneur Extension, as well as instructor of history, economics, and political science.

New Site In Massena
The College was forced to find a new site for its Massena operation when it was informed last spring that the Harrowgate building, which it had been occupying, would no longer be available. Mater Dei was fortunate to be able to lease space at the St. Lawrence Seaway Development building in Massena and at St. Mary's School of Religion for its extension services.

These services were expanded with the establishment of a new Learning Skills Center this year at the Massena site which will meet the needs of those who have the ability but not the current skills necessary for success in college work in the areas of reading, English, and math. The program provides placement testing, extensive tutoring, and developmental courses in the student's vocational area. Computers are used to assist in developing students' skills. The Learning Skills Center is funded in part through a \$20,208 grant under the Carl D. Perkins Vocational Education Act of 1984. The Massena Extension site is coordinated by Mrs. Joyce Hult.

The Court Reporting Program at Mater Dei was greatly enriched this year by the purchase of a Cimarron II, the latest state-of-the-art computer for producing court transcripts. The Cimarron II System can translate, scope and print 100 pages of transcript in one to two hours, with the reporter using an electronic stenograph shorthand machine.

In addition to the new equipment, a new complex consisting of a model courtroom, computer room and law library was constructed at the Washington School of Mater Dei College for use in the Court Reporting Program, as well as in the Criminal Justice Program. The complex became a reality through a generous gift from William P. Dake, president of Stewart's Ice Cream Company, Inc., Saratoga Springs, and through donations of law libraries from the firms of Acker and Evans, Ogdensburg; Albert Jakobson, Canton; and the estates of John H. and Alfred C. Wells. William P. Dake is the brother of Mrs. Jane Hare who is the machine shorthand instructor, along with her husband George who is also coordinator of the Court Reporting Program at Mater Dei.

The new complex, along with the Cimarron II System, allows Mater Dei to offer complete court reporting program, combining legal and courtroom skills with the speed of the shorthand machine and the technology of computer transcription. New courses planned for the program are video depositions, a paralegal course, and a "test-entry system" which will expand the employment potential of stenotypists with industries having word-processing and inputting needs.

110 Graduates
The year 1985 also saw Mater Dei graduating the largest class in its history — a total of 110 graduates received associate degrees on May 12. Since the commencement ceremony marked the College's 25th anniversary and the 16th year it has granted diplomas, special citations for outstanding service to the College were presented to Rev. Lawrence E. Cotter and to Gerald F. Erwin, who have been members of the faculty since the College opened in 1960, and to Charles W. Kelly, who has been a strong supporter of the College in the Ogdensburg community through the years. Mr. Kelly also delivered the main address at the graduation ceremony on the topic "Mater Dei College — 25 Strong Years in the North Country."

Although Mater Dei has experienced some serious financial problems recently, the Board of Trustees and the College Administration are convinced that it is only a temporary crisis. Financial measures have been taken to turn

the situation around and to insure that the quality of the college's academic programs is maintained. An outside panel of consultants from several colleges recently completed an evaluation of the College in which they lauded its teaching staff, the caliber of its academic courses, and the extent of its outreach programs.

Goals Set
Looking forward to the new year 1986, the College expects to enroll over 100 new students when the spring semester opens on January 13 and to also increase its enrollment in the fall by at least that number. These goals will be accomplished by continuing the services of a full-time recruiter and by increasing promotional efforts to make the College better known throughout the state.

A second goal set by the College for the coming year is the step up its fund-raising efforts, particularly the Annual Fund, and to operate at a surplus of at least \$100,000 in an effort to take care of current deficit

and cash flow problems and to develop a plan for long-term updating of the buildings and for implementing energy conservation measures.

Furthermore, it is expected that 1986 will see the Massena and Gouverneur extension sites strengthened and upgraded to extension centers. The College will continue its commitment to the Mohawk Indians at the St. Regis Branch Campus in Hogansburgh and to the inmates of the Ogdensburg Correctional Facility. In the fall of 1985, Mater Dei will extend itself to Fort Drum to provide its Rehabilitative Criminal Justice and Alcohol and Chemical Dependence Studies Programs at the U.S. Military Base there. Mater Dei was selected last summer after negotiations with the Education Office at Fort Drum to be the provider of these programs which will be open to those in the military as well as to individuals from the surrounding communities.

New President

The College begins the new year also with new leadership. John T. Burns, President of Mater Dei since 1980, was granted a leave of absence by the Board of Trustees on November 26 to allow him to pursue other interests. Sister Mary Patrick Murphy, Vice President, served as Acting President from that time until January 6 when Rev. Robert H. Aucoin, principal of Immaculate Heart Central High School in Watertown, took the helm as Acting President.

Much was accomplished at the College under the leadership of John Burns — the enrollment has more than doubled, a variety of programs have been added or expanded, extension sites at Massena, Gouverneur, and the Ogdensburg Correctional Facility have been opened, and additional services provided for the students with the purchase of the Washington School building in Ogdensburg and the Supreme Court building in Gouverneur. The

acquisition of the Roethel Business Institute in Ogdensburg marked the beginning of a rapidly expanding business and secretarial program at Mater Dei College.

Under new leadership, the College looks forward to continuing its important role in higher education here in the North Country by remaining loyal to its Catholic values and tradition and by advocating high standards, long-term planning, and quality education and service for which it has been known over the past 26 years.

We begin the new year with confidence. And much of that confidence is generated from the knowledge that support and encouragement are always at hand — from the administration, faculty, staff and students, from our alumni and friends, from our diocesan officials, from our Advisory Council and from the Trustees of Mater Dei College. To them belongs the credit for the success of the past year and the promise of the future.

Growing, Diversifying, Expanding

Tri-County Communications In 8th Year

Tri-County Communications is now entering its eighth successful year of business serving North Country residents. As an authorized General Electric Dealer, Tri-County Communications offers several quality product lines of two-way Radios and Pagers.

President and owner Roger L. Morgan stated that the company has now grown, expanded and diversified over the years to now include Repeater Services while specializing in designing radiopaging systems for many of the North Country Corporations.

Tri-County Communications has always been concerned with meeting communication needs and believes that they have solved many of the problems in this area. They have accomplished this by first offering a One-Way Paging (Bleepers) Service. This service is

available to any person or company within St. Lawrence county that is on call or needs to be available during or after hours. This unique service operates over normal telephone lines.

Future plans include a new Paging tower which will expand service between Jefferson and St. Lawrence counties. They expect to be up and operating by early spring.

The second is an FM Two-Way business Radio service. They currently carry a complete line of General Electric Mobile Walkie Talkies. All of the equipment operates in conjunction with their five UHF Repeater services. Radio coverage includes Franklin, Jefferson, St. Lawrence and Lewis Counties. Future plans includes the erection of a sixth tower which will combine coverage between St. Lawrence and Jefferson Counties.

Obviously if you need to contact someone in a hurry or your message cannot wait, Tri-County Communications can put you in touch.

General Manager, Melinda Richards invites companies and individuals interested in improving field communications, increasing efficiency and saving some good old fashioned time and money, to call for further information and a free evaluation today.

Shades And More, Utica Cutlery Join

A lot has happened to Shades and More in the past year. In May of 1985, Shades and More merged with Utica Cutlery. This has been a benefit to both parties. When Shades and More went into this joint venture, it was necessary for the store to move from our location, now occupied by Murray's Liquor Store, to the previous location of the Jesse Ann Shop. This has increased the flow of traffic tremendously.

This is not the only progress Shades and More has made in the past year. We now offer customer returns on Solar-Re's and Wood Blinds, and other Joanna products at extremely low prices. The operation still offers discontinued Custom Vertical Blinds and have increased our selection from

five to 16 colors and fabrics. Our Shutter line has also increased to many assorted sizes so we can fit almost any window dimension. And, of course, we'll always have shades in multitudes of colors, styles, and sizes. Utica Cutlery not only offers cutlery but 15 patterns of flatware, pocket and outdoor knives, and a new line of pewter figurines and table accessories, all at very reasonable prices.

Shades and More is still here and will always live up to its slogan, "We carry more than shades at Shades and More and Utica Cutlery." Together, we serve you!! Being an outlet store, it is able to help you redecorate your home at prices you can afford.

PROGRESS



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