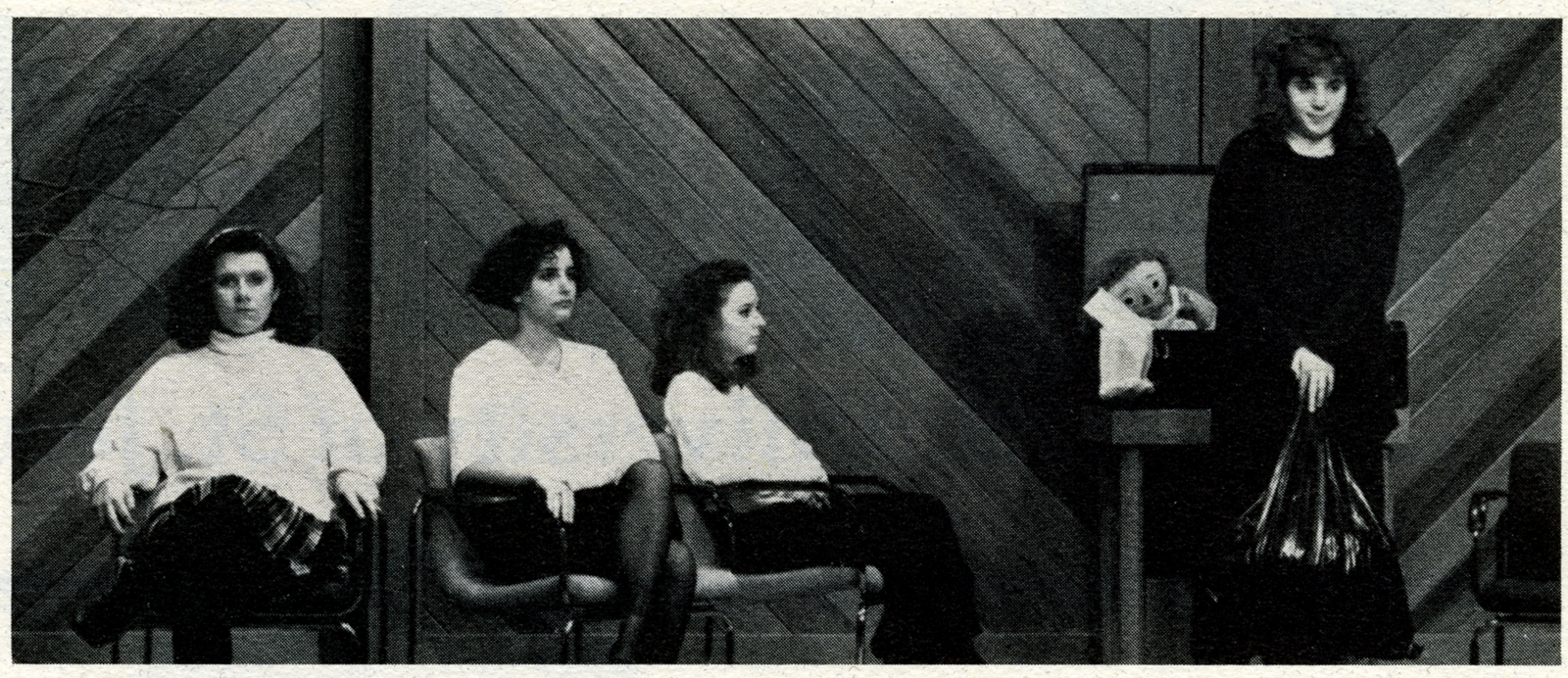
Scenes from the student production of "Daughters" – Jodi Kearns (photo by S. Bjorkquist)



(L. to R.) Melodie Downs, Jara Bibby, Amber Thompson and Sarah Vandenenden (not in photo – Angela Mulholland) (photo by S. Bjorkquist)

come to terms with the sexual abuse of her childhood. She is finally able to reclaim some sense of self-esteem by legally changing her name and beginning a new life which hopefully can overcome her tragic past.

Through each character, one is struck by the lost potential of these young lives. One is struck by the limitations and restrictions society's stereotypes have imposed on them. Yet the faint shimmerings of inner strength in each character shine as a beacon of hope, revealing the power of the human spirit.

"The play is meant to be a comment on society's treatment of women," remarks student organizer and Notre Dame resident Audra Minchin. "We are socialized to believe that women will do certain things. 'Daughters' forces you to think about women's roles, and its production demonstrates that university students are interested in these issues."

Adds student musician Michelle Cameron, "This play can educate others that many of these problems are widespread. It can also be therapeutic, inasmuch as it can give voice to those who may have personally experienced abuse of any kind. It is challenging to look at some issues that are unpleasant, but we must recognize that these problems are present in society."

The student performers were Sarah Vandenenden, Jara Bibby, Jodi Kearns, Melodie Downs, Angela Mulholland and Amber Thompson. Music was provided by students Michelle Cameron, Vanessa Slack and Scott Marratto.

The play was part of a day for parents of Notre Dame Residence students held on Sunday, March 3. It began with 9:30 a.m. Mass followed by a champagne brunch and the presentation of "Daughters" in Siegfried Hall. A second performance for the wider College community was held on March 8, International Women's Day.

Big Brothers for a day

Over 40 students from the College's Men's Residence were "Big Brothers for a day" to 25 boys from father-absent homes in the Kitchener-Waterloo area on Sunday, February 24. It was a day the boys won't soon forget.

Students initiated and organized the day, which combined lunch at the College with a trip to a Kitchener Rangers' hockey game.

The 25 boys participating in the day are currently on the waiting list for a Big Brother at the local K-W Big Brothers Association. Ken Sliter, Executive Director of K-W Big Brothers, was clearly pleased with the event.

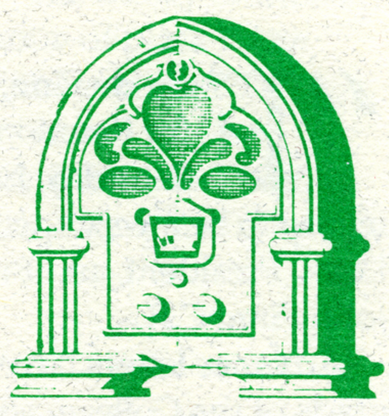
"We simply do not have enough volunteers to offer a programme of this nature to these boys on our waiting list," he says. "We are very grateful to the students for displaying such generosity and initiative."

Men's Residence Director Steve Sabourin notes that "although it was a busy time for our students, I was pleased that so many volunteered to share their Sunday with the Little Brothers," he says.

Students paid for the rental of a bus to travel to the game with the boys, and the Big Brothers Association provided the tickets. Beaver Foods Ltd. provided lunch.

Sabourin reports that students also hosted another event for 24 Little Brothers in early March. The day included clowns, skits, entertainment, games, tours, and lunch. Both events continued a tradition of our students assisting the Big Brothers organization over the past several years.

Radio series on the Vatican



"Inside the Vatican" is a new three-part CBC Radio *Ideas* series, written by College Associate Dean and Professor of English Dr. Michael Higgins. It is scheduled to be broadcast across Canada on the CBC Radio network on Wednesday June 5, 12, and 19, 1991 from 9:05 - 10:00 p.m. Notes Higgins, "The Vatican is home to more than ruins and relics. It is the centre of an elaborate … administrative structure that is both a paragon of efficiency and of holy inertia." The series promises to explore the Vatican "warts and all – its purpose, its rogues, its saints, its daily rhythm, its past and its present."

In memoriam

We report with sadness the passing of St. Jerome's graduate Marjorie Komer (BA '77) on March 16, 1991, after a long struggle with cancer. Marjorie had served as a teacher at Conestoga College in Kitchener for the past 14 years. She leaves her husband, William, nine children, and 13 grandchildren. Four of Marjorie's children are St. Jerome's graduates: Judith Tenzer (BA '68), Brian (BA '72), Deborah Whitby (BA '73), and Bill (BMath '85).

Death is not extinguishing the light; it is turning out the lamp because the dawn has come.