

Peace Corps needs special skill volunteers

Peace Corps urgently needs individuals to serve as volunteers with skills in math and science education, agriculture, forestry and fisheries, home economics and nutrition, or civil engineering.

Math and science teachers are ranked highest on the most-needed list. In some developing countries, a student's ability to score high on entrance exams determines whether he or she

will attend high school. According to one Peace Corps volunteer serving in Togo, the education system is such that it is harder for a Togolese student to get into high school than into college. It is important that increasing numbers of people in developing nations gain post secondary education to fill the leadership positions in their countries that have opened since independence.

Other skills badly needed

by the Peace Corps include industrial arts and vocational education, mechanics, medical lab technology, and occupational and physical therapy.

In Zaire, for instance, children suffer from malnutrition because there is no skilled labor to maintain vehicles to transport food. "There is an incredible need in Zaire for mechanics who can repair and maintain vehicles," says Baudouin de Marcken, former Peace Corps country director for Zaire. It is critical that Zaire begin to develop vocational and training courses in everything, from auto repair to carpentry, according to de Marcken.

The work of a single skilled volunteer can trigger benefits in many areas of community life. A recent agriculture volunteer in Honduras pointed out that improving the diet of local children resulted in better health, which increased school attendance and opened the way to a better education.

As Peace Corps moves into the decade of the 80s, the agency will begin to consider means of making a greater impact on the people whom they strive to help. At the agency's 20th anniversary conference, held in June at Howard University in Washington, D.C., Prime Minister Edward Seaga of Jamaica called for more agronomists, agriculturists, and others to help train his people. He wants to see Peace Corps work in those areas that have more of a multiplier effect.

Peace Corps director Loret Miller Ruppe stated in her speech before the 1981 summer commencement of Northern Michigan University of Marquette that Peace Corps can take well-motivated Americans and train them for service in the Third World.

"We train them to be able to encourage village farmers to dig a pond, fill it, stock a fast-growing fish, and within three months they can harvest a crop of protein-rich food and refill the pond and start the

cycle anew," maintained Mrs. Ruppe. To provide a place that might have a 50 percent infant mortality rate, 50 to 70 percent malnutrition and an annual per capita average income of \$180, with a system of productive fish ponds gives the whole area a source of

income and a source of protein. This gives them a future, she said.

Persons interested in information about service in the Peace Corps may call 800-424-8580, Ext. 93, toll free, or write Peace Corps, Washington, D.C., 20525.



Bill Greiman, a 1977 agriculture engineering graduate of Montana State University, serves in a water and soil conservation project in Antigua.



Christine Elias, a 1975 elementary education graduate of Illinois State University, plans and organizes women cooperative farming projects in the Gambia.



Kimberly Campbell, a 1977 natural resources graduate of the University of Michigan, serves in a forestry program in Upper Volta.



Charlene Sanders, a 1973 chemistry graduate of Simmons College, teaches science at a college in Western Samoa.

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WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

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High School, Fountain, NC) had 14.

SHORT SHOTS:

Sophomore Rita Johnson, is fifth in the nation in scoring and seventh in field goal accuracy. She is scoring 22.2 points per game and is 48-85 for 56.5 percent field goal accuracy.

Rose Edmonds leads her team in field goal accuracy (20-35, 57 percent) and is second in rebounding. (Edmonds has not taken enough shots to meet the minimums required for national ranking among field goal percentages.)

Priscilla Rickenbacker is

averaging 13.6 points per game to hold down the second position in scoring on the team.

The free throw accuracy leader is Jetanna McClain (Central High School, High Point, NC), at 77.8 percent, 7-9.

Schedule Change: Wesleyan's DIAC game with St. Andrews, originally scheduled for last Thursday, will be played Monday, January 25, at Wesleyan. St. Andrews is the number five team in the country in scoring, averaging 73.5 points per game. Wesleyan is holding its opponents to an average of 58 points per game.