

Profile

Carole Hanna:

"I've learned to lose more graciously."

MARS HILL — "I got into tennis because I kept falling off my horse," Carole Hanna said as she poured two cups of coffee in the kitchen of her small but stylish apartment on Main Street.

That change in her life occurred 10 years ago, and the switch from saddle leather to cat gut propelled her into becoming a highly ranked female player in Florida's professional/amateur circuit, and led to her being a successful starter on the Mars Hill College team this past season. Now at 45, her goals are to continue to play tennis and to get her college degree before her daughter does.

Hanna moved to Mars Hill from Coral Gables in August and enrolled at the college as a junior English major — the same time that her 18-year-old daughter, Sally, began attending Syracuse University in New York.

Her interest and ability in tennis enabled her to become one of the six starters on the women's team, and she finished the season with some respectable credits. She was a finalist in singles competition at the Eastern Collegiate Women's Invitational Tournament at Fayetteville in September, and she and her partner won the doubles championship during the eight-team Mars Hill Invitational in October.

But her first rounds with racquet ball at 35 were anything but notable

or glamorous, she said. "We use to own horses in Florida, and my husband kept telling me I was going to break something or kill myself if I kept falling off the jumpers, so I decided to take up tennis. We did it as a family unit," she said.

"I started as a substitute on the lowest team at a local country club and I came out on the court with my sweatbands shoved up to my armpits. I didn't know anything about playing tennis. Now, it has become a major part of my life."

In a few short years, she was ranked sixth in her age division in the state, and she and Sally were ranked fourth in the mother-daughter doubles division.

With a note of pride, Hanna said her daughter began playing at the age of eight and was ranked second in Florida in her age division that same year.

Living in fashionable Coral Gables probably contributed much to Hanna's becoming adept at the game for it was a haven for some of the world's accomplished tennis players such as Gardner Mulloy, an outstanding doubles player; Eddie Rubinoff, a former captain of the Davis Cup team; and Karol Fageros, the "Golden Girl" of Wimbledon.

"I'm not in their league, but to get to play with them is quite a lesson in itself," Hanna said.

Her interest in the sport spread from playing and competing to working with youngsters on the courts. For several years she served as an advisor to the Florida Youth Tennis Foundation.

"My most rewarding work was with the tennis program at Gulliver Academy in Dade County," she said. There she coached two winning junior high teams and supervised a fairly large intramural program.

"The clinics were the most satisfying. I worked with children with learning disabilities of all kinds. The program was not funded by the school but operated on proceeds from the tennis clinics and annual tournaments," she said.

In three years, the tennis program at Gulliver had accrued enough money to build a small building for classes and storage of their equipment, she added.

While tennis is a "major part" of her life now, it is by no means her only avocation. Her paintings in oils and water colors decorate the apartment in seascapes and still-lives. She once studied with Robert Brackman, a renowned portrait painter, and has sold several of her works over the last 20 years. She is also a member of the Outdoor Club on campus and recently went on a rock climbing outing at Mt. Mitchell.

What's it like to be a college student again at 45 and compete both academically and athletically with



Photo by N. Hancock

Carole Hanna With One Of Her Oil Paintings

much younger students? Not too difficult, she said.

"The students are super. They've been warm and receptive. I've made a lot of friends among them. But I've found that I have more difficulty with some of the faculty. I think some of them have a little trouble

figuring out how to accept me — as an older adult or a young adult.

"It's taught me a lot about myself, especially from the athletic standpoint. I'm finding that I have to take a great deal of patience with myself. I've learned to lose more graciously," she said.

Solar Home Tour This Weekend At Mars Hill

How would you like to save energy and money? The Governor's Showcase of Solar Homes will give all North Carolina citizens the opportunity to see that solar design can be simple, can significantly reduce energy bills, and can be incorporated into a house that is attractive, comfortable, and affordable.

Why don't you come see for yourself this weekend Dec. 5-6 or next weekend Dec. 12-13. The home chosen in Madison County is that of Daryl and Jean Boone. Their house is 1144 sq. ft. with 3 bedrooms. The home faces south and has large windows across the front. This allows the sun to

shine inside and to heat up the space. Heat is collected and stored in the floor which has 6-8" of thermal mass and the walls which are made of fluted block.

The Boone home is earth bermed on the north side and has an overhang to keep the sun from shining in during the summer. This FHA financed home is 70-80% solar heated. The electric baseboard heat backup system for cloudy days.

The home was designed by Jean Boone's father, Art Wood. He is a professor at Mars Hill College. Wayne Roberts from Mars Hill was the architect.

The public is invited to tour the Boone home and to get free guidebooks for building solar greenhouses, wall collectors, and water heaters. The home will be open to the public 10-4:30 on Saturday, Dec. 5 & 12 or 1-4:30 on Sunday, Dec. 6 & 13.

To get to the Boone home; from Marshall turn right on Gabriels Creek Road off of Hwy. 213 just before Mars Hill. Follow Gabriels Creek Road for 2 miles. The house will be on the right. Look for the signs.

If you would like to arrange a group tour during the week, call Kathy Toler, Madison County Coordinator, at 649-3896.

Mazer Team Of Educators To Visit Red Oak School

"The Amazing Mazers," a husband-wife team of educators and authors, will be in the Asheville area Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 7 and 8, and will visit Red Oaks School on Tuesday.

The Mazers will participate

in the Young Authors Project of the Great Smokies Reading Council. Purpose of the project is to stimulate interest in writing among students in Asheville area schools.

The Mazers have won the New York Times Outstanding

Book Award, the American Library Association Best Book Award, the Lewis Carrol Shelf book award for fantasy and many other awards.

Harry Mazer will speak on "The Joy of Authorship" at a meeting of members of The Great Smokies Reading Council to be held at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 7 in the Owens Management Center on the campus of the University of North Carolina at Asheville. The meeting will be open to the public.

On Tuesday, Dec. 8, the Mazers will visit school classrooms.

Harry Mazer will visit the class of Charlotte Kustcher in the Media Center at Asheville High School; the class of Dolores Arnold at Reynolds High School and with Dr. Arthen Reed at UNC-A.

Norma Mazer will visit the class of Marilyn Shellenberger at Red Oak School; the class of Marie Franklin at Old Fort School; the class of Sara Smith and Kathleen Deegan-Brown at Valley Springs Middle School and with Dr. Reed at UNC-A.

Harry Mazer also will visit from the American Association of State and Local History.

Jolley Named To Committee

Dr. Harley E. Jolley, professor of history at Mars Hill College, has been named by Governor Jim Hunt to the State Historical Records Advisory Committee.

The committee serves in an advisory capacity to the state for historical records planning. An immediate task for the committee, according to Hunt is to assist in developing a comprehensive plan for the preservation, restoration, arrangement, and description of historical source materials in the state. The committee will review the status of state and local archives and record programs as well as those for other public and private institutions.

member of Mars Hill's faculty since 1946. He has a bachelor's degree from Appalachian State University, a master's from the University of Tennessee, and a Ph.D. from Florida State University. A native of Hudson, Dr. Jolley has long been involved in the environment and history of the western North Carolina region, including over 20 years as a ranger and historian with the Blue Ridge Parkway.

His articles have appeared in numerous magazines and journals, and his book, "The Blue Ridge Parkway," won the Thomas Wolfe Memorial Trophy, an award of merit from the American Association of State and Local History.

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