

Contributions of 'marvellous role model' honored

By RON WOLF
Staff Writer

Niagara College President John Saso accepted a \$3,000 cheque for a memorial lecture hall at the new Niagara-on-the-Lake campus.

The June 23 donation honors Lynda-Ann Cookley, a 1980 graduate of the Dental Hygiene program, who died Dec. 29, 1990.

Marie Lochbend, president, and Joanne Baranek-Fior, treasurer, from the Niagara Dental Hygienists' Component Society (NDHCS), made the presentation to Saso.

The non-profit NDHCS has raised more than \$14,000, but its goal is to raise \$30,000 for the new lecture hall by 1996.

The \$14,900 raised will go towards the Lynda-Ann Cookley lecture hall when the Glendale College opens in 1996.

There will be no on going projects after this said Doreen Sullivan, the public relations spokesperson for NDHCS.

"Lynda is a marvellous role model for anyone," said Saso. "She represents something you should strive for."

Students and faculty of the Dental Hygienist program, who raised the money through fundraisers and seminars, held a luncheon in the Tecumseh Lounge to honor Cookley's contributions to the pro-

fession and communities in which she lived before she died from ovarian cancer at the age of 31.

In 1985, Cookley graduated from dental hygiene studies at Georgian College in Barrie, then worked with the developmentally handicapped in Orillia.

She was active as a St. Catharines Curling Club member, coached Little League girls soccer for several years, and was a cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) instructor trainer at Niagara College.

On Dec. 11, 1990, Cookley received her diploma in gerontology-multidiscipline during a special graduation ceremony at her St. Catharines home, 18 days before her death.

She had encouraged other dental hygienists to take the gerontology-multidiscipline course. These courses are now part of the curriculum because of her influence.

The June 23 annual luncheon was attended by 34 students, which followed the completion of their Ontario licencing written examinations.

Program student Kim Huston, 22, of Markham, said she felt "relieved" after the written test. The second licencing test, involving patients, was held June 26 and 27 at the college.

Program student Maria Pellegrino, 25, of Hamilton, said she came to Niagara College because it was the closest college for her course.

Pellegrino said it was a "fair test" and she was "fully prepared."

She said a job is waiting for her

for six months when she graduates to replace a woman on maternity leave in Hamilton.

Saso said he's "very impressed" with the students. Considering the test they just had, "they're in high spirits and that's terrific."

Sullivan said it was nice to see the support of the administration.

Catherine Dain, a graduate, received the Golden Sealer award for the highest grade average from Dr. Edward Henderson, a dental consultant at Niagara College.