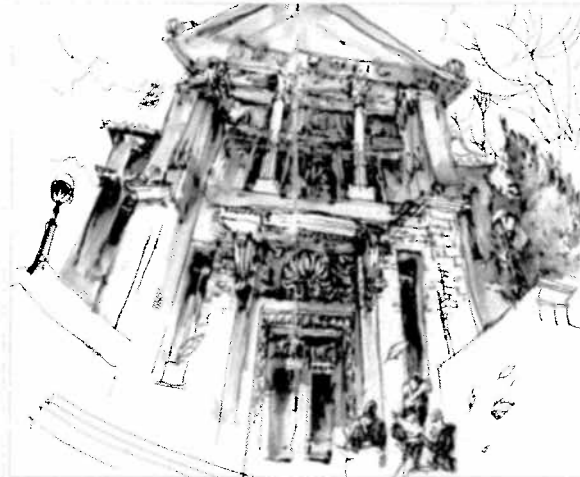


REDPATH *News*

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK By David M. Green

Looking back on the past year, I realize that I've been away a lot. Nothing unusual; it's merely the pace of an active scientist and professor. In January and February, I was in Kenya to teach the Museum's course, REDM 405 (Natural History), in McGill's Field Studies in Africa program. It's a fabulous program with excellent students, and I feel privileged to be able to participate every two years. In May, I was with my graduate students and student volunteers at Long Point on Lake Erie where I have my ongoing project on the population biology and conservation of Fowler's Toads. This project has run for 25 consecutive years, generating a long-term database and a series of recent papers. I was in Albuquerque, New Mexico, in July for the annual Joint Meeting of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists. All that week in New Mexico, where you would expect it to have been hot as blazes, it rained, and I returned to Montreal to find I'd missed our annual summer heat wave. In September, I was in Mont-Orford, Quebec, to launch a new Canadian Herpetological Society as its founding co-president. In addition, I found the time to analyze data, write papers, complete a new book, teach and advise students, mow the lawn at home occasionally, and oh yes! be Director of the Museum and try not to get completely swamped. Nothing unusual, really. But I am just one of the six professors in the Museum with an active research and teaching program. The tremendous range of research and teaching activities



ongoing at the Museum, both here and away, is astounding when you add it all together and think about it. Through the work of its professors and their graduate students, our small but mighty Redpath Museum really has a global presence. **Tony Ricciardi's** work on invasive invertebrates extends throughout the lower St. Lawrence River. **Virginie Millien** and her students travel all across Québec to study populations of small mammals. **Rowan Barrett**, who arrived just this fall to be our newest

faculty member, already has plans for research projects in Nebraska and the west coast of Canada. **Andrew Hendry's** research regularly takes him to Trinidad to study guppies, to the Galapagos Islands to study Darwin's finches, and to British Columbia to study stickleback fishes. He is also director of McGill's Panama field study semester. But **Hans Larsson** trumps all of us as a world traveler with his paleontological explorations in Saskatchewan, South America, West Africa, and the Canadian High Arctic where he searches for the remains of dinosaurs and other Mesozoic animals. The fabulous breadth of endeavor is taking the Museum to ever greater levels of scientific productivity and new knowledge. Every Friday morning, Museum professors and their students get together for coffee and to hear about each other's research. It's an exciting time!

ILLUSTRATION (above): From Urban Sketchers Montreal. This sketch by was done by Mark Taro Holmes and shows three other sketchers on the front steps of the Museum late last November.

