

The University of Western Ontario

Western

fall 06

ALUMNI GAZETTE

War
&
Peace



• **CHANGES TO CAMPUS**

• **ONE DEAD INDIAN**

• **HOMECOMING AWARDS**

WAR ON TERRORISM COMING TO END?

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On the cover: A Canadian soldier with the 3rd Battalion, Royal 22nd Regiment Battalion Group returns from patrol in Kabul, Afghanistan. Photo by Sgt Frank Hudec, Canadian Forces Combat Camera, courtesy of the Department of National Defence.



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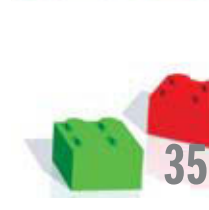
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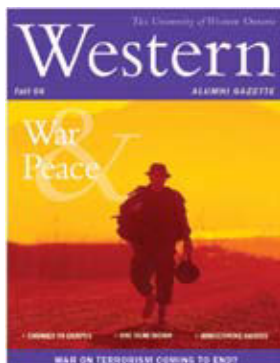
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Hoping for more peace than war

Welcome to the 'War and Peace' issue of the Western Alumni Gazette. Although not quite as long as Leo Tolstoy's literary masterpiece, within our 48 pages from cover to cover, we present stories that touch on Canada's role on the world stage of conflict and Western's various connections past and present to the military that seem timely given the many fronts on which conflict is present.

Canadians by nature are not war-mongers. We don't launch invasions of neighbouring countries (other than sending comedians, actors and musicians to infiltrate the U.S. entertainment industry). We tend to gravitate to diplomatic, humanitarian and peace-keeping missions on

the international stage. However, our role is being re-examined given our current commitments and casualties in Afghanistan. Toronto writer and alumnus Ron Johnson talks about Canada's role with political science professor Peter Langille, assistant law professor Valerie Oosterveld and associate law professor Michael Lynk, all Western experts on aspects of international conflict. Information and Media Studies associate professor Tim Blackmore and author of *War X: Human Extensions in Battlespace* provides us his look at where we're at and where we're heading in his Back Page column.

While it seems that more weight is on the war side of things than peace, the efforts of those mentioned in the pages of this magazine help contribute to the stability. While alumni like Ted Hessel kept peace during the Cold War, Martin Anderson and Carson Choy are reservists for Canadian Forces and have different roles as peace-keepers. There are also the innocent people caught in the middle. The story of two Western students on either side of the conflict this past summer in Lebanon is featured as well.

London and Western itself have strong and direct military ties to their origins. Images of the city's military past are presented within. Photos and highlights of the University's military ties are featured by Western Archives and alumnus Jim Etherington, who was enrolled in the Royal Canadian Air Force's University Reserve Training Plan during his four years at Western.

Beyond the theatre of world events we look ahead at Western with the latest strategic plan in motion that will change the landscape of structures and students in the coming years. It's happening right now with the constant hum of construction. Alumna Karen Otto writes on how things might look on campus in the near distant future.

Although not directly related to the theme of war and peace we present a reflective feature article from the author of *One Dead Indian*, alumnus Peter Edwards. The story of the shooting of Dudley George has one obvious military connection and that is location – the former Ipperwash Army Base. This is a timely piece with the Ipperwash Inquiry set to release its final report before the end of this year. The story also has an extraordinary number of connections to the University of Western Ontario.

Entries keep pouring in for the annual Arlie Laxton alumni photo contest. Deadline is December 15. See the ad within for more details. No matter if you're a budding photographer or not we'd like to hear from you. Help us share your news with fellow alumni: job promotion, personal announcement or just a greeting to old classmates, send a message to: gazetteer@uwo.ca

All the best in the upcoming holiday season!

David Scott
dscott24@uwo.ca

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Favourite media person missed

(Re: Summer 2006 issue)

I really enjoyed the new issue of the Gazette. The Western Alumni in the Media was a great special feature and I enjoyed reading about how many Western alumni have succeeded in the media. But, you missed my personal favourite. Simon Avery (graduated in 1989) has been a prominent member of the media for years. He is currently a reporter with the Globe and Mail and has had an illustrious career that includes having been the California bureau chief with National Post, a producer with the CBC, he was on the desk with the Associated Press in Los Angeles and was a staff reporter with the Wall Street Journal.

James Sbrolla, BA'90



Editor's note: Readers of the summer issue were quick to point out some prominent media grads we missed – or didn't offer a complete story on. Certainly alumni like journalist George Clark of London (above),

Rogers Television News Director and Anchor, First Local news; Carol Off, new host of CBC Radio's As It Happens; Dan Shulman, ESPN, baseball announcer and former play-by-play broadcaster of Toronto Blue Jays games; Sylvia Stead, Deputy Editor of the Globe and Mail; Rob Faulds, announcer with Rogers Sportsnet; Thalia Assuras, CBS Evening News; Steve Simmons, Toronto Sun sports columnist are also worthy of coverage. Please visit www.alumnigazette.ca for media related stories that didn't appear in the print edition of the summer 2006 Alumni Gazette.

First time reading magazine cover-to-cover

(Re: Fall 2006 issue)

What a superb issue. I graduated in '75 and have never in 30 years read the magazine cover to cover. Len Lizmore's antics as Gazette editor in '71 got me hooked on the paper and the zaniness and satirical skewering soon had me up nights composing goofy letters to the editor (as well as some maudlin poetry, I confess). It was great to see the wonderful things all these folk have done with their lives.

Congratulations to all of them and to you for a fine effort.

Bruce Edwards, BA'75, BEd'78, MA'82

...another first cover-to-cover read

(Re: Fall 2006 issue)

Well done! The Summer '06 issue is the first one that I have read from cover to cover. It reminded me of my brief time as a minor cog in the student newspaper published at London Teachers College in 1968-69. I remember sitting in the Principal's office that year as he chastened the "team" for printing an article that was considered disrespectful to associate teachers.

I did not go on to be a journalist, however, writing report cards and parent newsletters for 32 years may qualify me as some kind of writer! I now edit a genealogy newsletter and write articles about genealogical research. Retirement has given me a lot of time to devote to those tasks.

I noted that two key concepts ran through most of the articles, never quitting

and having a strong work ethic. I can relate to them in my own career. Thank you also for giving us a more complete picture of people like Jennifer Hedger, Adrienne Arsenault and Heather Hiscox.

Alan Campbell, BA'74

Western media grads covering globe is impressive

(Re: Fall 2006 issue)

I enthusiastically thumbed through the latest issue of the Alumni Gazette, and subsequently read each article thoroughly. It's so impressive to read about the media grads from Western who literally "cover the globe."

I particularly enjoyed your featuring a professional group, and hope you'll consider that thematic approach for other Western schools, in future. The memory lane cruise of the Gazette was entertaining; it's amazing to see the foundation it provided for the careers of the staff members you featured.

Congratulations to you and your staff on your own brand of journalism in the Alumni Gazette!

Don Blay, BA'68, BEd'69

Alumnus questions Arsenault's reporting bias

(Re: A rock and hard places, Fall 2006)

The report on the Alumni in the Media featured Adrienne Arsenault on the cover, reporting from the Middle East. She was quoted as stating that she will not miss "the anger, and the hatred and the rage and the venom and the cruelty," as she prepares to leave Jerusalem. It would be telling to know who those words were written about.

As the CBC's Jerusalem bureau chief, one could infer she is referring to Jerusalem or Israelis in general. Critics of Arsenault have suggested that she is less than impartial when it comes to her reporting, much like her predecessor, Neil Macdonald.

One story she did, suggested that the Israelis were poisoning the sheep in Gaza. There was no balance to this and the allegations were never proven. Yet it was presented in a way that left the viewer with little doubt it was factual.

The accompanying picture in the article, with Adrienne posing in a Jewish

settler's greenhouse in Gaza is perhaps the most telling and deserving of her final report. Following the Israeli withdrawal from Gaza, these were handed to the Palestinians, in hopes that they might have a fresh start in a new industry. Instead they were destroyed and used as Kassam launch sites.

Arthur Zaltz, BSc'78

Alumnus praises Riverwalk

As an alumnus and avid runner, I would like to congratulate and thank Alumni Western for the creation of the Alumni Riverwalk. Throughout the year I have the opportunity to include the Western campus as part of the route on my daily runs since I live close to the campus. It has always been enjoyable running through the majestic grounds, by the stadium and I appreciate the well-lit path and good snow removal procedures in winter. The Riverwalk has been another great addition to the campus to make my runs more enjoyable and interesting as the trail follows the river. Over the past two years the heat and humidity has been almost unbearable during July and August and to have the option of running along the river in total shade for a portion of my run has been greatly appreciated.

I often pass walkers and other runners on the trails taking in the scenic atmosphere along the river. The Riverwalk is certainly a nice addition to the campus and a tribute to the Alumni Association. I encourage everyone to take a stroll down the Riverwalk and take in the scenic view and wildlife along the river.

Gary Simpson, BA'75 BEd'76 Med'86

Disappointed in absence of In Memoriam section

(Re: Fall 2006 issue)

The only part of the Gazette I have regularly read over the years has been the In Memoriam section. I used to scan the year-by-year alumni reports, too, but as my graduation year (1962) faded into obscurity, no familiar names appeared.

I am disappointed to discover that neither of those features appeared in the summer '06 issue. Pity.

Richard Jones, BA'62

Summer magazine 'world class'

(Re: Fall 2006 issue)

I thought your Summer '06 Western Alumni Gazette was fantastic.

You and your team must be congratulated for a world class production. Well done!

Carolyn Cross, HBA'84

Summer issue a 'keeper'

(Re: Fall 2006 issue)

Your summer issue of the Alumni Gazette is a keeper! A wonderfully creative way to mark the 100th birthday of the student Gazette. You are to be commended for putting together such an extensive catalogue on many of the talented media people who are Western grads.

As a retired newspaper/magazine guy with 46 years in the business, I know something of the time, talent and effort that such a project demands.

At the risk of being nitpicking, however, I would question an observation in the Gazette Memories section (page 24) by Chris Lackner, BA'03. Former Gazette staffer Lackner writes, in part, in his "Best memory of the Gazette" section: "...featuring a tasteless barrage of coloured streamers, flowers and little white plastic doves glued to the roof with duck tape."

My question, tongue firmly in cheek: Is "duck" tape similar to "duct" tape? Or does the former go "quack-quack-quack" when used to glue little white plastic doves to a roof?

J. Dawson Winchester, BA'01

Editor's Note: I was about to agree with you that we should have caught that typo, until I did a little further research on the web, and can offer you this clarification courtesy of the article "Duct tape vs. Duck tape – an explanation" from: www.octanecreative.com/ducttape/duckvsduct.html that coincidentally fits with our 'war and peace' theme this issue. "The first name for Duct Tape was DUCK. During World War II the U.S. Military needed a waterproof tape to keep the moisture out of ammunition cases. So, they enlisted the Johnson and Johnson Permacel Division to manufacture the tape. Because it was waterproof, everyone

referred to it as "duck" tape (like water off a duck's back). Military personnel discovered that the tape was good for lots more than keeping out water. They used it for Jeep repair, fixing stuff on their guns, strapping equipment to their clothing... the list is endless."

Summer Gazette a 'disaster'

(Re: Fall 2006 issue)

I have supported preceding editors for producing a useful and interesting Gazette, but the current one (Summer '06) was a disaster, in my opinion.

The Gazette is supposed to be a publication for as many alumni as possible, and not aimed at a relatively small group of past students, and in particular should not leave out news of other students or classmates, especially the obituaries which I look to with fear every issue, hoping not to see a familiar name.

Apparently, you received some poor advice, but in addition, your 'news' was repetitive, and the saved space could have been used to report on other matters. For example, pages 23-31, plus 33-34 is repetitive of its employment news, which could have been summarized into a few columns.

You also omitted Faculty news, which tells one what is going on at the departmental level. With due respect to the good work of Journalism's past students, they are a small part of the present university, and in fact, were not part of the old university that we know.

I wondered if you received other negative comments like mine, and this will not happen again. Western 'news' is always interesting, and I realize that selection is always a problem. Remember, the purpose of the Gazette is to inform alumni, and be careful who you omit.

Best wishes for future issues.

J. Lewis Robinson, BA'40, LLD'84

Editorial Policy Publication is at the discretion of the Editor. Letters may be edited for length, style and clarity. Maximum: 300 words. Opinions published do not necessarily reflect those of the Western Alumni Gazette or the University of Western Ontario.



Sir Martin Gilbert, adjunct research professor in Western's History department, launched his new position at the university with his first public lecture at Conron Hall.

Truth-telling essential during national crisis

Winston Churchill always felt Parliament was the vehicle for forward thinking. And his official biographer, Sir Martin Gilbert, plans to be a forward thinker as he formally begins his five-year term as an adjunct research professor in Western's History department.

Gilbert spoke to a standing-room only crowd in Conron Hall Oct. 11 as his discussed Churchill's enduring political career. For Gilbert, an honorary degree recipient from Western in 2003, it was a momentous day.

"This is a double celebration for me," says Gilbert. "It is my first lecture here at the university and it is also the book launch in Canada for my latest work."

'The Will of the People: Churchill and Parliamentary Democracy' is an in-depth look at Churchill's lifelong commitment to parliamentary democracy. Throughout his 64-year political career that included leadership during the Second World War, Churchill did his utmost to ensure Parliament was effective and that it was not undermined by adversarial party politics or by elected members who sought to manipulate it.

"Even in war, he felt the democratic process of telling the truth had to be maintained," says Gilbert. "It was more important that the public has some sense of the truth than a fear the enemy would obtain secret information."

Part of the proceeds of the sale of Gilbert's latest book will support educational programs of the Churchill Society for the Advancement of

Parliamentary Democracy, a non-partisan charitable organization that honours the life of Churchill by advancing the cause of Parliamentary democracy in Canada.

For more about Gilbert and his work, visit www.martingilbert.com

Submissions wanted for McIntosh exhibition

The McIntosh Gallery invites submissions for the juried exhibition "MASS Culture and Society. Exhibit 2A." The exhibition will use photo-based art to explore the cross influence and blurred boundaries between photography and the constructs of society & culture—a thematic exploration of the society and culture that creates and is created by photography.

The McIntosh Gallery is working with artist/curator Michael L. Mullan to create this exhibition scheduled for January 11 – February 25, 2007.

Themes for submissions are as follows (these categories are ideas or anchors for the exhibition – starting or entrance points for the collective art works):

- Built Environment (constructed reality – the populated Canadian landscape) Focusing on issues related to our built environment including urban sprawl, land planning, structures (mental and physical), and individual or group existence in our dense Canadian landscape.
- Cultural Images (diversity of existence found in the built environment) Focusing on culture such as consumerism, pop culture, mass art, cultural issues—existence and life in Canada.
- Appropriated Images (photographs creating context)

Photo-based art related to themes such as advertising and the media.

Criteria for selection will include: quality of image—technical quality and aesthetic quality, and relevance to exhibition theme(s).

Everyone is welcome to submit up to a maximum of four pieces for consideration. A \$25 entry fee

per artist must be included with submissions. Submissions can be mailed or dropped off at McIntosh Gallery during open hours from November 14 – November 28, 2006 only.

For more information, contact: Catherine Elliot Shaw, Curator, McIntosh Gallery, 519-661-3181, www.mcintoshgallery.ca.



The top individual fundraiser for the London & Middlesex United Way campaign last year with over \$430,000, Western has set sights even higher this year with a goal of \$450,000, announced during Homecoming Weekend.

Unprecedented United Way goal set

This year's United Way campaign on campus has set an unprecedented fundraising goal of \$450,000.

Unveiled in front of thousands during Homecoming festivities, the ambitious target surpasses last year's fundraising total of just over \$430,000, but Rosemary Lawrence-Pitt, Western's co-campaign chair along with Health Sciences Dean Jim Weese, says the university is not one to shy away from a challenge.

"Each year is always a challenge, but each year we step up. It's what the Western community does," says Lawrence-Pitt. "We live in a strong community and we want it to remain that way, and by helping those in need through the United Way, it can only get stronger."

Western is one 750 workplaces across London and Middlesex in the midst of annual campaigns towards achieving the London & Middlesex United Way's 2006 campaign goal of \$6.85 million, a 4.2-per-cent increase over the \$6.57 million raised in 2005.



Two decades of work on HIV/AIDS is nearing fruition for virologist Yong Kang of the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry. A patented vaccine is being readied for trials and a Korean firm is locating in the Research Park to help speed commercialization.

HIV/AIDS vaccine readied for clinical trial

A pioneering HIV/AIDS vaccine developed by a virology professor at The University of Western Ontario is being readied for clinical trial.

The vaccine developed by Dr. Yong Kang, of the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, could be available for therapeutic use within three years and potentially for use as a preventive vaccine within the next six years.

"This is a great day for research at Western," said Ted Hewitt, Vice-President, Research and International Relations. "Dr. Kang has been issued one of only a few HIV vaccine patents in the world and has developed one of a handful of technologies to make it this far in a process where dozens of other potential vaccines from much larger institutions have failed."

In related news, Korean-based Curocom Co. Ltd. announced the opening of Curocom Canada at Western's Research Park in London in October. The close proximity of the Curocom facility to Kang's laboratory at Western will significantly accelerate commercialization of the HIV vaccine program.

"Without Curocom's commitment I would not be able to say that we could be as little as three years away from an AIDS vaccine," said Hewitt.

Curocom is outsourcing the manufacturing of the HIV vaccine to Advanced BioScience Laboratories, a U.S. facility to prepare the vaccine for human clinical trials. This clears the way for Kang to seek U.S. Food and Drug Agency approval for clinical trials.

The vaccine has already been proven to stimulate protective immune responses in animals. It is based on the production of virus-like particles known as pseudovirions to produce protective immune responses.

Kang explained that his vaccine works in two ways, as a vaccine and also as a therapeutic treatment. He noted that although other vaccine development strategies have focused on one specific antigen or another, his work used the whole virus. "We created a genetically modified HIV virus. It converts white blood cells

and then those cells find the infected cells and kill the virus in them," Kang explained.

Carol Herbert, Dean of the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry described the announcement of Kang's vaccine trials as an "exciting milestone" for the school.

Western and Kang currently hold issued patents for the vaccine, in both the U.S. and for ARIPO - the African Regional Intellectual Property Organization. World-wide patent protection is pending.

Kang noted that it would cost approximately \$45-50 million to complete the upcoming clinical trials for the vaccine. "This is too much for government funding," he said. "That is why we must have industrial partners."

Kang has been at Western since 1992, seven of those years spent as Dean of Science. He has been working on an HIV/AIDS vaccine since 1987.

Who knew farm waste could taste good?

New portable technology unveiled at Western in late July facilitates the production of bio-oils, which have many uses in the development of pharmaceuticals, alternative fuels and even cooking.

Developed by Franco Berruti and Cedric Briens, Chemical and Biochemical Engineering professors at Western, the first pilot of the Fast Pyrolysis Machine produces bioproducts and renewable energy from such agricultural materials as raw sugar cane, tobacco, rice straw and coffee husks. The machine converts materials into bio-oil through pyrolysis, which is the chemical process of decomposition through heating. Liquids produced can be further processed into fuels, pharmaceuticals and food additives - including flavour for BBQ sauces and browning agents for meat. Solid residues can be used as fertilizer.

The project was a joint venture between Western and Dorchester-based Agri-Therm Limited, one of the University's spin-off companies. Agri-Therm develops, manufactures and markets portable and stationary equipment for producing bio-oils and products from biomass, specifically agriculture residue, wastes and transition crops. Currently, Agri-Therm and the University are pursuing a partnership with tobacco farmers to extract nicotine for pharmaceutical purposes, including nicotine patches, as well as for insecticides. Additionally, Egypt and Mexico have expressed interest in the technology as a means of reducing pollution and helping farmers.

\$10.4 million for health research

A physical therapy professor at Western has been awarded a \$925,000 operating grant from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research

(CIHR) to study cerebral palsy. The three-year funding will allow Doreen Bartlett to conduct research to better understand the basic motor abilities, self-care and play of young children with cerebral palsy.

This is one of 50 CIHR-funded projects announced in October, covering a wide range of health issues including lung disease, cancer, pregnancy and youth obesity. In total, scientists at Western, Robarts Research Institute and Lawson Health Research Institute will share over \$10.4 million dollars.



Colleges and Universities Minister Chris Bentley unveils a \$10.9-million boost to the Western-based SHARCNET supercomputing network.

\$10.9-million boost for SHARCNET

One of Canada's premier computing networks is pumping up the potential thanks to a major increase in financial support from the provincial government.

The Shared Hierarchical Academic Research Computing Network (SHARCNET) will receive \$10.9 million from the Ministry of Research and Innovation. The funding was announced in September by London MPP Chris Bentley, Minister of Colleges and Universities, during a ceremony at the SHARCNET facility at Western.

The money is targeted to support the 1,200 researchers across the province who make use of the facility. The centre will lead to quicker research breakthroughs in Ontario, Bentley said. The high-performance computing facilities are hundreds or thousands of times faster than a desktop computer. Canadian researchers using SHARCNET are able to produce results in a day that would normally require a year or more on a regular computer.

Led by the University of Western Ontario, SHARCNET is made up of 16 research institutions.

Changes coming to campus

Newer buildings, older students
By Karen Otto, BA'04, MA'06

Western will be Engaging the Future over the next decade and evolving in ways that will separate the memories of future and current alumni.

Memories, for example, of standing in seemingly endless lines in the Stevenson-Lawson Building waiting for someone, anyone, to sign forms; or, memories of secretly thinking how much younger the frosh seem to be getting with each passing year. Over the next 10 years Western will change, but it's all a part of staying competitive in the academic environment, says Western's president Paul Davenport.

In various surveys, Western has continually placed high for leadership position and student satisfaction, Davenport says, and to ensure that satisfaction continues calls for "leadership and flexibility on campus."

Engaging the Future is the roadmap for the changes and is the latest draft strategic plan prepared by the University this past spring. It follows 1995's Leadership in Learning and 2001's Making Choices and it

follows Western's mission statement, "Western provides the best student experience among Canada's leading research intensive universities." To do this, the student population will age, buildings will move, and alumni will remain key.

Students on campus won't be looking as young as they once were as the plan calls for a significant increase in graduate students: the number of PhD students will double while the number of Masters' students increases as well. "The growth of undergraduate programs across Canada over the last decade has led to a strong growth in the number of students seeking a graduate degree. At the same time, private and public employers looking for highly qualified personnel in our knowledge-based society have created a strong demand for those with advanced degrees. Western will play a significant role in meeting student and market demand," Davenport says.


New graduate programs will be created as well as many different interdisciplinary options for students. More international students are wanted and the plan highlights France and India as just a few of the countries where graduate recruitment will happen. More students means more teachers and Western wants to attract top-notch faculty from around the world.

Even more noticeable than the changes in students' ages will be the physical changes around campus. "We see the best student experience as

occurring both in and out of the classroom," Davenport says, and the Board has approved in principle \$230 million towards renovations and new buildings. Core buildings such as the UCC and Stevenson-Lawson will be renovated into student classrooms and laboratories with the administration buildings and gymnasiums located on the school's periphery.

Throughout all of these changes, Western's commitment to alumni remains the same. Due to the increase in graduate students, Western's alumni population is expected to jump from 210,000 to 275,000 in the next decade. Engaging the Future states, "Western is committed to maintaining a degree of alumni attachment to the University second to none in Canada." To achieve this, the school is giving more money to Alumni Relations and wanting to improve ongoing communication with graduates which may include a permanent Alumni Western lifelong e-mail address. The school also wants to provide assistance to young alumni to help them better make the transition from students to young professionals.

Engaging the Future will change Western for the better, Davenport says. "Western's future prospects are very bright," he says. "Our faculty, staff, students, and alumni are talented and committed. That will continue to be a winning combination."

To view the draft strategic plan in its entirety please visit: www.uwo.ca/pvp/strategic_plan/report/01.htm 





105 University Squadron member Ted Hessel poses in front of a fighter jet as an RCAF fighter pilot. (Photo courtesy of Ted Hessel)

Flight Path to Western

Cold War fighter pilot returns to roots

By Pat Currie

When American novelist Thomas Wolfe penned the words “You can’t go home again,” he obviously didn’t have a guy like Ted Hessel (BA’58, BA’67) in mind.

Hessel’s life has been full of remarkable loops, all returning to his roots in London and its schools, specifically South Secondary and the University of Western Ontario.

Hessel has the compact, wiry frame

and direct manner of a jet jockey and/or career jock, which is exactly what he was and, to a considerable degree, still is. Former RCAF fighter pilot flying the CF-86 Sabre and CF-104 Starfighter back in the 1950s and ’60s. Football player at Western and career physical education teacher in the London high school system. Wears Western purple and probably bleeds air force blue.

“Ah, the Sabre. Last of the sports cars,” he says. “Then the 104 came along. It could fly at twice the speed of sound. It had such tiny wings, they called it the widow-maker.”

Hessel’s mind may be travelling back 50 years, but on this day his body is wearing the purple tee-shirt of the W Club, the ever-growing (now about 5,000) association of former male athletes – “those who played on any team in any sport at Western” – that has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars to establish and support sports-related programs on campus.

Hessel belongs to the generally forgotten generation of kids born 1930-45 that falls between the veterans of the Second World War and the baby boomers. Born during the Great Depression, his outlook and attitudes have been shaped by vivid recollections of childhood during the world war and coming of age during the Cold War.

“When I was a kid during the war, I collected all the aircraft-recognition cards that came in the Sweet Caps (Sweet Caporal cigarettes) and I remember the Ansons (twin-engine training aircraft) droning over the city and dropping tin cans or whatever to simulate air raids.” By the time Hessel was finishing high school, “some of the Grade 12 guys I played football with were signing up in the RCAF reserve. One was Pete Giles who was later an elementary school teacher, flying instructor at Centralia and retired as a colonel.”

Hessel was in his second-last year at Western when Giles finally talked him into signing up.

“My high school sweetheart, Libby Riley, said ‘You can join up as long as we get married.’ I did and we did.”

Meanwhile, Hessel was playing football (centre and middle linebacker) with the Colts, the B team for the varsity Mustangs, working his way to a BA in physical education. When he graduated in 1958, his first leap was into the arms of the air force.

He remembers a psychological test that reflected the stark reality of the Cold War.

“One question was: ‘If you were flying a CF-100 and used up all your ammunition to shoot down two of three Russian bombers, would you ram the third?’ The answer was ‘of course’ – a bomber carried weapons that could kill tens of thousands.”

After training, Hessel arrived at the Canadian base in Sweibrucken,



Members of 105 University Squadron from 1966 at Centralia air base. Back row, left: Ted Hessel (Photo courtesy of Ted Hessel)

Germany, in spring, 1960, and spent the next two and a half years with 427 Squadron RCAF flying the Canadian-built Sabre “which was then the supreme fighter in Europe.”

“Nobody today realizes how big our air force was then. We had two flying bases in France and two in Germany each with three squadrons of aircraft for a total of 300 fighters, probably more than are in the entire air force today,” he says.

Hessel returned to Canada to train on the CF-104, flew it with 422 Squadron in Germany 1963-65, and found himself posted back to Western as resident staff officer assigning trainees with 104 University Squadron.

One of life’s loops had closed and others soon followed.

“I left the air force (with the rank of squadron leader) in 1967-68 and went teaching physical education.” He also coached football at Central Elgin

and four of the six secondary schools (including South) where he taught in London, before retiring as Saunders vice-principal in 1993.


“My grandson, Riley, is playing quarterback for South this year,” he says with a big grin.

Meanwhile, Hessel had joined the W Club in 1984 as a director. While this was closing a second loop with Western, his air force connections enabled him to get Canada’s latest aerial hot-rod, the CF-18, to make ceremonial passes over campus to mark the University’s 75th anniversary and the opening of its new stadium.

Ted served six years as W Club executive director and now serves, actively, as honorary director.

Hessel’s intertwining careers as a teacher/coach in school athletics and as a trained combat pilot/instructor has knitted together a firm belief in the importance of bonding.

In sports it’s desirable, but in aerial combat situations, it’s crucial. “When you depend on each other for your very lives, that’s strong bonding,” he says.

Maybe almost as strong as the bonds that have tied Ted Hessel to London and the University of Western Ontario. 

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War on terrorism coming to end?

Canadian soldiers in a LAV III (Light Armoured Vehicle) drive past the ruins of the King's Palace in Kabul, Afghanistan. Photo by Sgt. Frank Hudec, Canadian Forces Combat Camera, courtesy of the Department of National Defence.

Canada's role evolves on world stage

By Ron Johnson. BA '96

The age of global conflict being governed by the American "war on terrorism" is coming to a close, says Peter Langille, a University of Western Ontario professor in the Department of Political Science. With it, there comes an opportunity for Canada, which could do much to restore its fading reputation in international circles as a country on the forefront of multilateral operations.

"Canada's role, while initially laudatory as a country at the forefront of UN peace operations, has been quietly abandoned," says Langille. "Since 1997, we've seen an increasing reluctance to contribute to UN operations."

The nature of clashes internationally, and Canada's role have evolved significantly since the nineties when failures in Somalia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Sierra Leone sullied the reputation of the United Nations, and altered the nature of how peacekeeping operations are conducted, says Langille.

The most significant of these

changes has been that the majority of operations are now authorized under Chapter VII of the UN Charter. "Going robust," "rapid reaction" and "strong deterrent" are the new catchphrases used to describe a more hands-on approach to peacekeeping.

"This allows the use of force not only to defend oneself, but also the mission, as well as civilians at high risk," says Langille. "The emphasis is now on robust operations, ensuring a sufficient force composition to deter belligerents and, if necessary, move to the offensive at the tactical level. UN operations have improved markedly as a result."

In addition, Canada's military capacity has improved to such an extent that, according to Langille, most acknowledge the Canadian Forces are well-prepared and well-equipped.

"Canadian Forces are well-prepared for operations abroad and the Defence transformation has worked relatively well," says Langille. "Abroad, we are almost the envy of other nations."

But, according to Langille, and other experts in international relations, more has to change. Specifically, the global agenda being dictated by the United States.

"I'm not a fan of the 'war on terrorism,'" says Langille. "It has been done rather stupidly, in a counter-productive fashion."

Michael Lynk, an associate professor in Western's Faculty of Law who worked for the UN in Jerusalem prior to joining the university, says that the "war on terrorism" has had the counter-productive result of contributing to additional types of international conflict coming to the fore.

"There is a battle of ideas at one level between those who, I think, speak of these wars in terms of spreading western values, against those who resist the worst aspects of western power using fundamentalist Islamic ideas," says Lynk.

"With the collapse of ideologies like secularism, Arab nationalism and communism, the idea that attracts most young people to join in the resistance has been Islamic fundamentalism."

But, according to Lynk, there is another type of conflict that is not making the headlines, and that is the war over resources in the Third World, in places like the Congo, in West Africa, and in Southeast Asia.

Valerie Oosterveld, an assistant professor in the Faculty of Law, and

formerly one of Canada's top Foreign Affairs lawyers, says that battles over resources are problematic.

"Resource-based conflicts are particularly hard to end," says Oosterveld, "because the combatants are not fighting for political power. In these cases, the traditional tools of peace negotiations, power sharing in government for example, are ineffective."

"What has suffered, I think, through the war on terrorism is human rights in the world particularly in those areas where the conflicts are most acute," says Lynk. "Also our ability to listen and distinguish between legitimate grievances coming from the Third World, and illegitimate grievances, by deeming everything we do to be the 'war on terrorism.'"

Langille agrees, saying the U.S. has dominated the international arena to the detriment of conflicts in other areas.

One such struggle that is making headlines in the West is in Darfur, a region of Western Sudan that is rich in oil, and currently in the throes of a brutal genocide where over one million people have been driven from their homes.

Reluctance on the part of the Western nations to engage in any meaningful action in Darfur, says Langille, illustrates the political priorities of Canada, and where we need to change.

"There needs to be a shift in terms of global priorities, instead of Washington bullying and imposing the agenda," says Langille. "But that is a difficult situation in Canada. It would, for example, have been very difficult to say no to Afghanistan."

According to Oosterveld, the "terrorist agenda" is not the only reason for the lack of action on Darfur.

"The main problem with respect to Darfur is the government of Sudan," says Oosterveld. "The government continually makes promises to the international community with respect to resolving the crisis in Darfur that it does not keep."

In fact, says Oosterveld, Canada has been quite vocal within the United Nations about Darfur.

"Canada was one of the first countries to accuse Sudan of committing crimes against humanity in Darfur," says Oosterveld. "Canada has contributed substantial funds to aid agencies

working in Darfur, and personnel

"Yes, there certainly is an



Pte. Marie-Claire Dunn-Proulx, a medical technician with the Canadian Forces Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) Mobile Medical Team (MMT), treats a Kashmiri boy in the Pakistan mountain village of Khatar Nar near the Kashmir Line of Control dividing India and Pakistan. Photo by Sgt Frank Hudec, Canadian Forces Combat Camera, courtesy of the Department of National Defence.

and supplies to the African Union. However, Canada can do more."

Despite political rhetoric to the contrary, Langille says that even with one of Canada's largest military operations underway in Afghanistan, there is still capacity within the country's newly bolstered military to play a significant role in a mission such as Darfur.

The reasons that the federal government under Stephen Harper has given for staying out of Darfur — namely, Canada being overstretched militarily, and that the UN wasn't asking — are "absolute BS," says Langille.

"These are routine excuses, and we've heard them from governments for decades," he continues. "It is pretty sad considering the scope of the genocide underway."

So, is there still an opportunity for Canada to play a lead role in international conflicts in the future?

opportunity for Canada to play a lead role in changing the global priorities through the UN and other multilateral organizations," says Oosterveld. "And Canadians must continue to let the government know what they think about issues such as Darfur."

Trouble is, says Lynk, there is a disconnect between what Canadians think of our place in the international order of things, and the reality.

"We have a slightly self-satisfied view of ourselves with respect to the work we do in the international world. Some of that image has been justified by a lot of good peacekeeping, foreign aid projects and with respect to some of our middle power diplomacy," says Lynk.

"But I think our reputation, which is generally hard to earn and easy to lose, is becoming stained by our low levels of foreign aid and by our increasing embrace of American foreign policy."®

International crisis? Call UN 911

By Ron Johnson

When someone in Canada has an emergency, we call 911. Easy, and effective, the idea of applying such a concept on an international level has been bandied about for years. But, according to Peter Langille, a professor in the University of Western Ontario's department of political science, its time may have finally come.

The globe, according to Langille, has quite a few problems, thank you very much. Can it continue to grapple with 192 independent defense forces around the world?

"I don't think we can afford it," says Langille. "That might sound wild-eyed and radical, but with global warming, global pandemics, the global gap in wealth and poverty, I really can't see the alternatives."

Enter the United Nations Emergency Peace Service: A permanent force of 12,000 to 15,000 military, police and civilian staff that would be recruited world wide and operate out of a strategic headquarters at a UN base. Not a war-fighting machine, the force would be deployable within 48 hours, and would respond to diverse emergencies from health to humanitarian crises. As an independent entity, UNEPS would be immune to the whims of national governments, and would not suffer from the lack of any specific components.

Langille has been working on the idea since 1994, but his ideas didn't gain major attention until 2002 when he published the book

Bridging the Commitment-Capacity Gap. In 2003, an international working group, executive and secretariat were established, and this past summer Langille was part of a group launching the initiative at the United Nations in New York.

With the UN representing a vast number of nations ranging from the smallest Third World countries to the largest global economic powerhouses, the bureaucratic roadblocks alone might be overwhelming. But Langille says the major impediment is simple: a lack of hope.

"The major impediment is the lack of idealism and hope for a better future, which has permeated numerous governments and foreign policies," says Langille. "As a father, I want to try to see to it that the world is in better shape when I depart than it was when I arrived."

Corporal Eugene Ivens, a reservist from the 48th Highlanders in Toronto conducts perimeter security while Canadian Forces soldiers from the Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) stop and talk to locals while in a neighbourhood in Kandahar, Afghanistan. Photo by MCpl Robert Bottrill, Canadian Forces Combat Camera, courtesy of the Department of National Defence.



From the Archives

En Route to Halifax,
New " Somewhere in New Brunswick",
Sunday, 2 P.M.

Dr E.E. Braithwaite,
Western University,
London, Ontario.

Dear Doctor,

Just a line to let you know how we are progressing. So far we have had a very good trip, though at times rather slow. Everybody is in good spirits and anxious to arrive in Halifax. Just got this off a tree while stopping to fix some slight trouble with the engine. The scenery in New Brunswick is superb and we do not find the trip at all monotonous. Yesterday afternoon we had a short march for exercise at Chaudiere Falls. We had an excellent view of the falls, which though not so large as Niagara are certainly well worth seeing. This morning we had a splendid view of Richelieu Bay and at the present time are travelling parallel with a wide, swift river, in which this province abounds. The boys all join in sending their regards and also ~~that~~ thanks for the splendid send-off you gave us in London.

Yours sincerely,

Blyth Thomas.

This letter from 1916 was typed on birch bark parchment by Western student Blyth Thomas en route to Halifax to join the Canadian army overseas. Dr. E.E. Braithwaite was Western's second president from 1914-1919 and also had a son who served in World War I. In 1914 Western had less than 200 arts and medical students. (Image provided by Western Archives)

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On Easter Sunday, Martin Anderson half way up Gorzaghah Mountain in central Kabul. The mountain makes a choke point for traffic from southern Kabul into northern Kabul, according to Anderson. (Photo courtesy of Martin Anderson)

From finances to the front lines

Investment advisor's tour of Afghanistan

By David Estok, BA'79

Martin Anderson (BA'87) had no idea he one day might use some of his skills from a Western English degree to launch one of the first blogs by a Canadian soldier in Afghanistan.

Taking the unusual route, however, is nothing new for this 41-year-old Western grad who is also an investment advisor with the London, Ontario offices of RBC Dominion Securities and a reservist with the 4th Battalion of The Royal Canadian Regiment of the Canadian Forces.

"I started out sending email but it quickly became apparent that a blog was the way to go," he says. Captain

Anderson posted his thoughts on the people of Afghanistan, the work his unit was doing and how he was feeling during a tour of duty in the sand driven heat of Kabul, the capital city of Afghanistan where he was stationed from February to August 2005. The results were unbelievable.

The site was featured by Web provider MSN Spaces and in one week he had more than 150,000 hits.

Anderson thinks it is important that Canadians read and see about what troops on the ground in Kabul were doing, rebuilding schools, fixing roads, helping families and children, the kind of thing that often does not make the six o'clock news. His blog <http://spaces.msn.com/martininafghanistan> shares pictures and his stories of life in Kabul from the front line and is a new notion of reporting on what is happening in the day to day world of war.

Why Afghanistan?

"I was spending all my time doing something related to my work," Anderson says. "You go to a party and everyone asks you about the markets... no matter where you go it is about work and I wanted to do something completely different. I was looking for a way to give back to the community and do something separate and different from the financial services industry."

The 'something different' started with a chance meeting at a local mall when Anderson and a buddy were looking for a gift for his friend's girlfriend. Tired of shopping, Anderson took a break as his friend went in one last store and noticed a booth set up in the mall for the Canadian military. Anderson's grandfather had been a captain in the British Army serving a tour of duty in Burma and as a kid he was fascinated with his grandfathers' stories and medals. Ten minutes of talking with the officer on the other side of the trade booth and he was hooked.

For the next three years, 1995 to 1997, Anderson spent his annual three week vacation in training. He was still serving clients as an investment advisor but finally the pull to a different kind of life, a life in the military was growing stronger with each of the summer training sessions. And then there was 9/11.

"Here was an attack by terrorists in the heart of the financial sector of New York City," Anderson recalls. "These were people doing the kind of work I do and I was trained and ready and wanted to make a difference. I thought maybe I should go and do something like that."

Anderson decided to sell his business to another advisor and become a member of the fulltime reserves and then finally received a posting to

Afghanistan. "I had a perfect opportunity to put into practice the things they have been training me to do for a long time. So I did it."

Married, with no children, Anderson set off for Kabul as the second in command of a CIMIC detachment of the Task Force Kabul. Their mission was to meet with local leadership and help them rebuild a community that had been devastated by civil war.

"In the case of Afghanistan, you are looking at a country that has been engaged in conflict of one kind or another for almost 30 years," Anderson says. "The deeper the wounds, the longer it takes to rebuild civil society. Frequently, the most serious damage is of a mental or psychological nature and overcoming the hatred and emotions generated during the conflict can take years and perhaps even generations."

Anderson and his fellow Canadians focused on what the army calls its "3-D" strategy – diplomacy, defence and development.


Anderson and the CIMIC team provided humanitarian aid and supplies to the people of Afghanistan; they gave toys and dolls to local children, clothes and also worked on infrastructure programs. "We had decided to give much of our clothing that had been collected in Canada away," letting it be distributed by local leaders. "I think in

total we dropped off around 30 or 40 bags and allowed them to distribute it. It is important for the population to see that this aid arrives from their own government."

The Canadian Forces team also built new schools, gave support to local orphanages, repaired roads, rebuilt bridges and constructed new wells. In total, 38 infrastructure programs were completed during the seven month tour of duty. Anderson says that with the completion of each project, the team would leave a Canadian flag and a sign that read: "Friendship grows into Brotherhood."

"It was great to be a part of something bigger," says Anderson, who says he never feared for his life even though he was operating in a war-torn country. "We made a difference to the lives of the people and that's the best thing I have ever done in my life"

Anderson hopes to go back for another tour of duty, though recognizes that Afghanistan is a much different country today. He also hopes that more Canadians learn about the work the military is doing in danger zones all around the world.

"An experience like this changes you," he says. "You realize what is really important. Friends, family and the little things that life has to offer." 



Martin Anderson, WO Kolar and Omar. "This is a picture at the Allahuddin Orphanage in south Kabul. There are approximately 400 children resident there. We were dropping off some supplies. This one little guy came and stood in my shadow. Omar was our interpreter." (Photo courtesy of Martin Anderson)

Daysail from Esquimalt

Alumni report from the Straits of Juan de Fuca
By Gary Blazak, MA'79, Director of Alumni Relations



Top Photo: Carson Choy and Gary Blazak on deck of HMCS Brandon in the Straits of Juan de Fuca. (Photos by Gary Blazak)

Who are these men and women who sign up for three- to 24-month commitments with Canada's Armed Forces?

They are teachers, bakers, mechanics, lawyers and Western grads. All have an overt commitment to national security. Most have hidden, and sometimes sophisticated technical skills acquired through months, if not years of volunteer training in the Canadian Military Reserve.

One of these reservists is Carson Choy, BACS'04, Commercial Aviation Management. Articulate, respectful and dedicated, Choy holds the rank of Sub-

Lieutenant, Deck Officer. He typifies today's Canadian Forces Reservists. Like many reservists, Choy completed most of his initial training during the summers while he was pursuing a post-secondary education.

"After graduation from Western I weighed my immediate employment prospects against an opportunity to sign on for a two-year stint with the naval reserve. The opportunity to apply my training, see the world, and make an immediate contribution to my country proved an easy choice."

When the Canadian Forces Liaison

Council (CFLC) called looking for a representative from Western for an Executrek Daysail last April, I checked my calendar, and committed. And then, I learned a bit more about commitment.

Simply put, the CFLC invites large employers to participate in an operational exercise designed to showcase the contributions that reservists make to our national interests of peace and security.

After a welcoming reception and briefing on our day of arrival, 30 daysailors from all walks of life in Ontario and the western provinces retired to our rooms in the officers' quarters in Her Majesty's

Canadian Dockyard in Esquimalt, B.C. We quickly realized we were sharing facilities, fitting our own bed linens, and preparing to deploy.

0600 dawned with mixed cloud and sun that thankfully produced calm seas. We set sail in two groups aboard sister ships HMCS Saskatoon and HMCS Brandon. These modern minesweeper (1998) class vessels proved adroit in all manoeuvres including search and rescue, due in no small part to the professionalism of the crew. All but two of the 30+ crew members sailing this day on the HMCS Brandon including the captain were reservists.

Maritime Forces Pacific (MARPAAC) is responsible for maintaining combat-capable maritime forces to conduct operations in Canadian waters and in support of national objectives anywhere in the world. Although threats to national security are largely non-military in nature, MARPAAC is focused on preventing illegal use of our waters, environmental abuse, international terrorism, illicit arms and drug trade, mass migration and crisis management. In many instances MARPAAC works closely with agencies such as the RCMP.

Operating a modern military vessel requires a sophisticated amalgam of skill

and professionalism. Accommodating the curiosities of 30 visitors in the course of naval operations takes patience and good judgement. All told, the attitude, intellect and character exhibited by the reservists in command of our Executrek Daysail experience speak to a common refrain about Western's students and alumni, "the best and the brightest." I can tell you I have seen it in practice, on guard for thee. ☺

Overview of Reserve Force

(from Canadian Forces website)

The Reserve Force offers exciting part-time careers in the Naval, Army, Air and Communication Reserves. As a Reservist, you would support Canada's Regular Force while earning extra income and obtaining new skills.

The following are just a few of the reasons to consider joining the Reserves:

- Trade and technical training
- Development of valuable leadership skills
- Meaningful employment
- Excellent pay and benefits
- Subsidized education programs
- Opportunity to travel

- Satisfaction of serving your country
- Over 60 different jobs and careers from which to choose

Employers' Support of Reservists

Many employers grant military leave and job protection to Reservists. For more information, visit: www.cflc.forces.gc.ca

Alumni: Enter our online contest and you could win one of five \$100 gift cards.

Simply go to www.alumni.uwo.ca and fill out our online form and you'll automatically be entered into a draw for one of the following prizes:



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- * \$100 gift card at HBC
- * \$100 gift card at Future Shop
- * \$100 gift card at Famous Player's cinemas
- * \$100 gift card at Chapters.indigo.ca

Entries must be received by December 15, 2006.

Caught in the crossfire

Two students experience war zone from opposite sides

By Ravi Amarnath

This past summer, millions of people worldwide were affected by the war between Lebanon's Hezbollah forces and Israel.

During the five-week armed conflict, two Western students, Wajdi Ghossoub and Didi Nishlis, were caught on opposing sides.

Ghossoub, a third-year honours business administration student, was vacationing near Beirut, Lebanon's capital, when the war began.

Nishlis, a second-year bachelor of management and organizational studies student, remained in the northern Israeli city of Haifa throughout the war.

Both students expected to have a typical summer holiday.

"My family and I go [back to Lebanon] for vacations and the plan was to enjoy the company of friends, spend time on the beautiful beaches and benefit from the touristic summer season and the famous night life," Ghossoub said.

A day after Ghossoub landed in Lebanon the Beirut airport was bombed.

"I spent the first couple of days in our apartment in a neighbourhood adjacent to downtown Beirut, which was itself very close to the southern suburbs, [which are] now totally wiped out," Ghossoub said. Nishlis originally planned on travelling both within Israel and abroad after completing his April exams.

"All my friends came back from travelling across the world...we planned to hike all over the country [as] there are some beautiful places up north and down south.

"I also had planned a trip to Thailand during that time. I came back from Thailand after a great time and a week after, that's when the war started," he said.

While many individuals fled to neighbouring countries during the conflict, both Nishlis and Ghossoub chose to remain in their respective homelands.

"I stayed home because my mother was home and I had to take care of my dog and my little brother," Nishlis said. "My father had to work



Destruction after the Israeli bombing in the district of Dahia in the south Beirut, Lebanon, September 17, 2006. People getting on with their daily lives amid the destruction. CP/Rex Features (Photo by Cristiano Laruffa)

▶ Aftermath of a missile attack on Dahieh, a southern suburb of Beirut. Israeli warplanes and warships struck the area with up to 20 missiles in a 2 minute barrage, causing massive destruction and fatalities. CP/Rex Features (Photo by Lena Kara)



for the radio station, so it's hard to leave because he's obligated by his job."

Fleeing Lebanon became impossible for Ghossoub once the war escalated. "I intend[ed] to observe [in person] the human heart failing, and once you see it happening and brave and innocent people [becoming] victims, you just can't easily leave," he said.

The war left over 150 Israeli and 1,100 Lebanese soldiers and civilians dead. For Ghossoub and Nishlis, these statistics are more than just numbers; they're a reminder of the destruction they witnessed.

"Haifa, the third largest city [in Israel], was a ghost city," Nishlis said. "You had to [stay] in the house. Tens of thousands of businesses collapsed. We had no air conditioning, no television and only radio to hear what was going on.

"Living like that for five weeks is very difficult," Nishlis added. "Even though Israel is considered to be strong and on top of things and have the support of the world, all the people I know suffered a lot in this war. Even though there were not as many casualties, it doesn't mean life didn't stop for a million and a half people."

Ghossoub witnessed similar devastation in Lebanon. "I was in a region where there was no presence of Hezbollah whatsoever, but trucks and infrastructure were famous targets still," he said. "Despite that, we felt relatively safer than areas in the south and southern suburbs where massacres were taking place and whole villages were being wiped out."

Ghossoub felt the war demoralized the entire country. "Many families fled or had to move within the borders, many lost members, many suffered from business losses," he said. "Basically everyone was affected at least through low morale, hard conditions, the fear of death anytime, scarcity [of resources] or high prices. The whole war was just horrible and can be perceived as a failure of the human spirit."

Ghossoub is now convinced the situation in the Middle East will never be resolved unless peaceful alternatives are actively pursued.

"Politics is a very messy business, especially when it concerns foreign policies of world powers and the situation in the Middle East," he said.

Ghossoub emphasized the necessity for Western students to know and understand the war's "real causes" and how conflict situations are addressed. "It's very important to drop the option of wars. It's a cycle of terrorism."

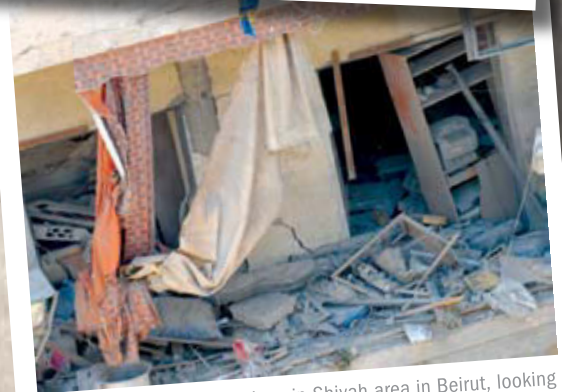
Nishlis' time spent in his household's bunker also left him questioning war and looking at life from a different perspective. "You start to think 'What is this? Why do we need to live like this? Why can't we be neighbours in peace? Why do we need to go through this, on both sides?'" he said. "The minute the war was over I started thinking about enjoying my summer as much as I could.

"War is never good to any side. The best way to live...is by having good neighbours and living in peace." ^W

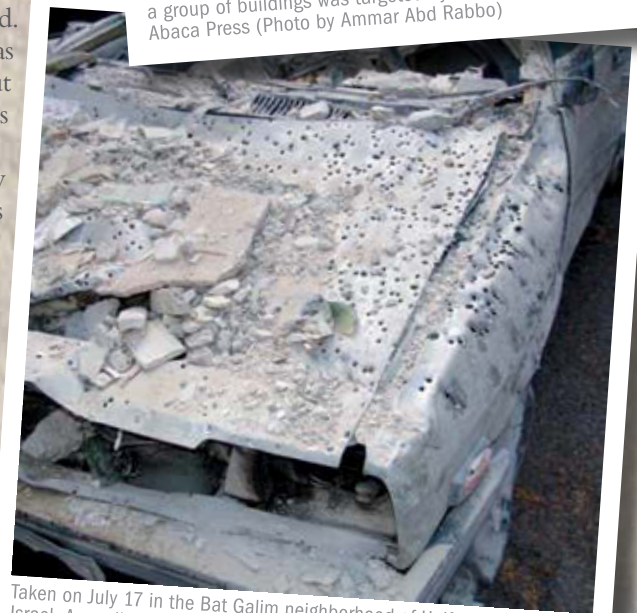
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Photo taken on July 20 of downtown Haifa's post office - very close to the Nishlis home. "I certainly heard that boom when it hit." (Photo by Didi Nishlis)



Search and rescue operations in Shiyah area in Beirut, looking for bodies and for survivors on August 8, 2006, a day after a group of buildings was targeted by an Israeli air strike. CP/ Abaca Press (Photo by Ammar Abd Rabbo)



Taken on July 17 in the Bat Galim neighborhood of Haifa, northern Israel. According to Nishlis, in almost each rocket that hit Haifa there were 30,000-40,000 metal balls that were intended to increase civilian casualty. (Photo by Lenny M.)



This photo of bombed out cars was taken on August 12 - approximately 100 metres from the Bney Zion hospital in Haifa, northern Israel. (Photo by Didi Nishlis)



Photo of No. 10 Canadian General Hospital unit officers in World War I. (Photo courtesy of Alan Noon, Western Archives).

A century of answering the call

By Jim Etherington, BA'61

Wars both “hot” and “cold” played a significant role for more than 60 years in the affairs of Western, specifically in the life plans of its faculty, staff, students and alumni, but also through the impact on growth and capabilities of the university. Western’s people went to war over the century in one of three ways: they volunteered in the military unit of choice or participated in training contingents established on campus, while others, mostly faculty, contributed to vitally needed research and development for the war effort.

The outbreak of war in 1914 -- when Western had fewer than 200 arts and medical students -- threatened the very continuance of the university as enlistments and decreased numbers of new students caused serious disruptions on the campus. Returning veterans in 1919 swelled enrolment to more than 500 increasing the need for construction of the new campus at the present site. A similar enrolment surge, this time subsidized by government, occurred in 1946 when Western’s then 2,200 students more than doubled over the succeeding decade.

The first Western students to don uniforms were in 1900 when four went to South Africa as soldiers in the Boer

War. There was no significant organized military presence at Western until, as also took place at other universities, a Canadian Officers Training Corps was established in 1915. The COTC trained officers for the army and 62 undergraduates promptly signed up.

During WWI, unlike larger universities such as Queens which contributed two infantry battalions made up of its students and alumni, Western raised no fighting units of its own. Through the course of the war 450 Western students served in various regiments and many were killed in action.

But Western, despite its modest size, did raise a 400-bed medical unit which served with great distinction in England and France. The No. 10 Stationary Hospital, known as the Western University Unit, was formed of medical faculty and students along with

London doctors and 26 nurses from Victoria and St. Joseph’s hospitals. A support team of 118 non-commissioned officers and other ranks was made up of medical and arts students from Western. The hospital cared for more than 30,000 military patients before being demobilized in 1919, and was Western’s biggest single contribution overseas.

The COTC, re-established with two companies in 1920, was a regular feature of campus life through the 1920s and 30s, as young men trained for the army reserves. The Corps contributed colorfully, beginning in 1929, when its military band, in addition to cadet parades, played for the first Mustang football games as Western entered the senior intercollegiate league. By 1930-31 the COTC band had become one of the best in Canada and was led by then 2nd Lt. Don Wright. Mr. Wright, after whom the Faculty of Music was named in 2002, was instrumental following graduation in 1933 in founding the Mustang Marching Band. During WW II he served as an officer in the Western COTC and subsequently in the Royal Canadian Air Force where he wrote and conducted three different units in troop shows. Many faculty members, some veterans of WWI, served as ROTC officers on campus.

With the world back at war Western’s officers’ training corps took on vast new responsibilities. When



Western research on radar during World War II was top secret. (Photo courtesy of Alan Noon, Western Archives)

students returned to campus in 1940 it was decreed by President Sherwood Fox that all fit males over the age of 18 were required to take military training. This swelled the corps to 785 members. Detachments were also manned at the Assumption and Waterloo affiliated colleges. The Western campus was designated a military area between 1943 and 1945 complete with a firing range beside the former J. W. Little Stadium. One hundred and ten hours of military training were required followed by a two-week summer camp. Fifty-three former Western COTC members were killed in WWII.

In 1942 the No. 10 Canadian General Hospital unit was mobilized and brought up to strength in London. While it attracted many Western medical faculty members and students as well, as medical alumni, it was not a university unit as in WW1. This 1,200-bed hospital went first to England, transferred to Normandy shortly after the invasion and ended the war operating in Belgium.

In addition to the army university corps, separate units were established for the air force in 1942 and the navy in early 1943. All three service units were reorganized in 1947 to select students for training as officer candidates in the army, navy and air force. Western


volunteers took 68 hours of paid training during the academic year, and during summer holidays served full-time as officer cadets with the regular forces in Canada and abroad.

A number of other war initiatives involved a wide spectrum of Western and London people, including the future president of the university. In 1940 the London Association of War Research was established led by V. P. Cronyn and publisher Walter Blackburn with the mandate to focus the attention of Western's scientific faculty on the war effort. One of the key projects was construction of a pressure chamber at the medical school to explore the implications of high altitude effects on air force flying crews. This brought to London Dr. G. Edward Hall who was immersed in medical studies with the RCAF. Through his visits to Western he was identified as the future Dean of Medicine, which he became in 1944, and he was named Western's fourth president in 1947, serving for 20 years.

Much of the work by Western scientists was top secret and no more so than the research of Dr. R. C. Dearle of the physics department who led work with newly developed radar in conjunction with the National Research Council. Western honors physics

students had an accelerated fourth year graduation in 1940 and went directly into the Royal Navy. One of them was said to be operating a radar set on the new battleship Prince of Wales as it stalked the German battle cruiser Bismarck in the historic north Atlantic sea battle.

Post WWII the three campus contingents graduated many officers for the army, navy and air force who served through the Korean conflict and the Cold War. In 1968, at the time of the somewhat ill-fated unification of Canadian military services, the units were de-established ending 54 years of close associations with the Canadian forces on the campus. Today, Western graduates continue in the ranks of the military reserve and active forces in Canada and many parts of the world.

A university by its nature abhors war and seeks peace, but the record of Western faculty and staff members, students and graduates is a proud part of our country's history. 

Jim Etherington was a member of the Royal Canadian Air Force's University Reserve Training Plan during his four years at Western. He served summers in Canada and France and on graduation was promoted to the rank of Flying Officer (Reserve).



Dr. G. Edward Hall's pressure chamber at the medical school at Western during World War II that studied implications of high altitude effects on air force crews. (Photo courtesy of Alan Noon, Western Archives)

From the Archives



A burlap Red Cross flag flew over the No. 10 Canadian Stationary Hospital in Calais, France where Western graduates and students served together as doctors, nurses and support staff in the First World War. They treated more than 16,000 patients. (Photo courtesy of Western Archives).

The No. 10 hospital was demobilized in 1919. At that point, the Red Cross flag was presented to the University of Western Ontario. The tattered flag was signed by those who served in the hospital and is preserved at Western's Archives and Research Collections Centre. (Photo courtesy of Western Archives).



Interior of recreation hut for No. 10 Canadian Stationary Hospital in World War I in France. (Photo courtesy of Western Archives, Seaborne Scrapbook).

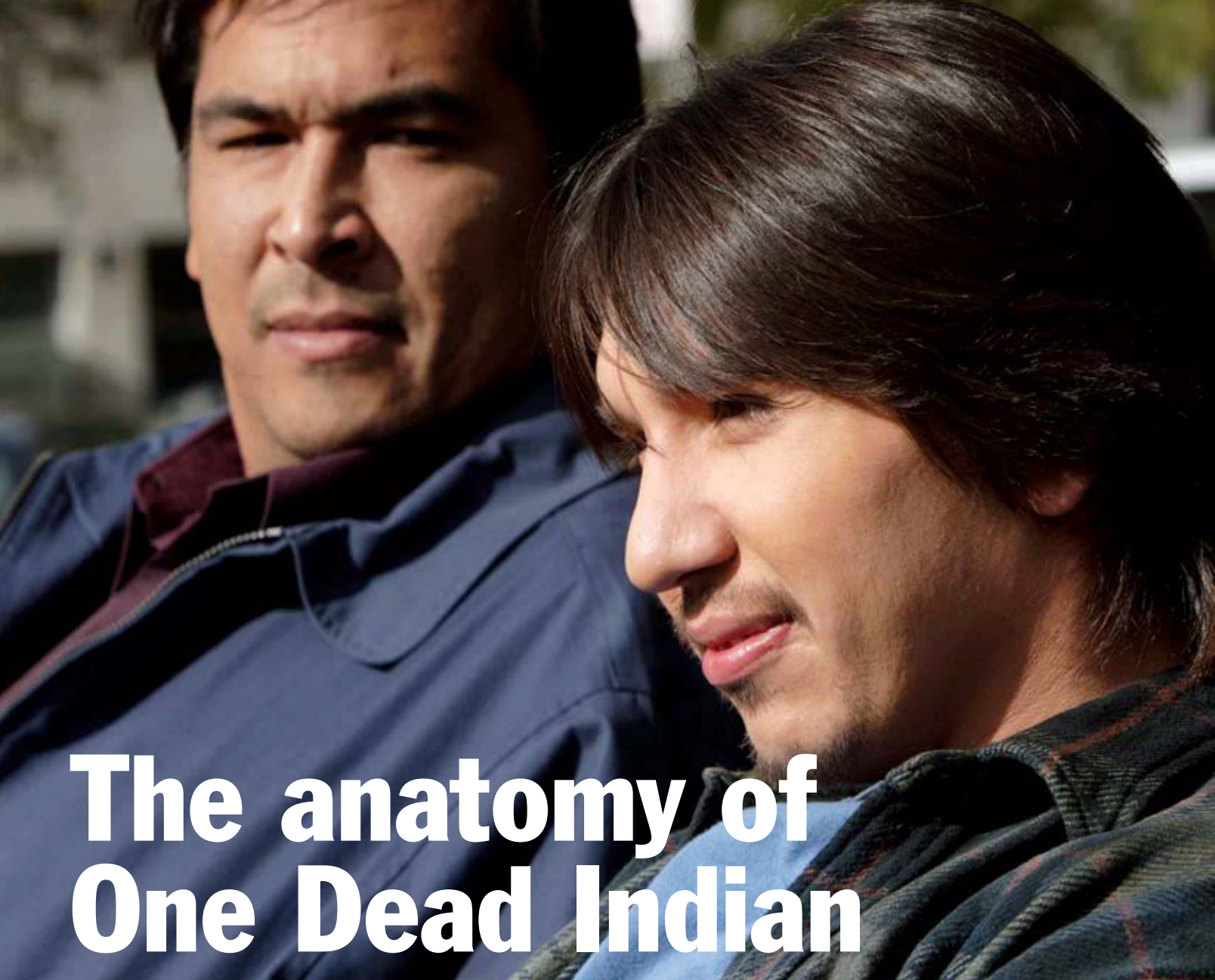
Military district No. 1 London. Ipperwash Advanced Infantry Training Centre. Crowding onto every vantage point, Western Ontario cadets watch the range firing of a Thompson sub-machine gun at Camp Ipperwash during cadets' visit to the Training Centre at the end of their summer camp period. (7 July 1943, London Free Press Collection/Western Archives).



Dynamite charges explode near advancing soldiers as trainees get the feel of actual warfare at Camp Ipperwash battle modulation course. (17 September 1943, London Free Press Collection/Western Archives)

The British Army established a military garrison in London, Ontario in 1838. London was the centre of the Western Ontario Military District (District No. 1). Pictured here is military artillery training at Salter's Grove, circa 1875. (Alan Noon, London, Courtesy Regional Collection, Western Archives).





The anatomy of One Dead Indian

At right, Dudley George (played by Dakota House) and George's brother Sam (portrayed by Eric Schweig) share a moment together in the TV movie *One Dead Indian* based on the book of the same name by Western alumnus Peter Edwards, Toronto Star reporter and photographer. The CTV movie originally aired in February and is nominated for seven Gemini awards. (Photo courtesy of CTV)

Politicians, historians, writers and lawyers – Western's many ties to Ipperwash

By Peter Edwards BA'81, MA'82

I don't know how I first met Dan Smoke-Asayenes, as he's not someone who loudly announces his presence. I do know I'm extremely happy we did meet, whenever and wherever that was. Dan and his wife, Mary Lou Smoke-Asayenes Kwe, teach at Western in First Nations, Special Topics and are guest lecturers in anthropology, and also host Smoke Signals First Nations Radio, CHRW, 94.9 FM.

It was after a conversation with Dan that I decided to name my 2001 book on the shooting death of native activist Anthony (Dudley) George at Ipperwash Provincial Park, *One Dead Indian*. Later my editors at Stoddart Publishing and I added the subtitle, the Premier, the Police and the Ipperwash Crisis.

I knew *One Dead Indian* was a rude title and I wanted it that way. I figured if nobody read the book, at least it might jolt them into thinking about Dudley George's death. By the time I decided to write the book, several years had passed since he was shot to death by an Ontario Provincial Police officer during a late-night march on the park. Frustrating

questions about the night he died still lingered. Why hadn't burial grounds in the park been protected, as promised back in the 1930s? Why was the OPP's riot squad marched down the road towards the park late at night on Sept. 6, 1995, flanked by snipers, when the park had already been closed for the winter? Did government meetings on Ipperwash hours before the police operation contribute to that night's bloodshed?

I arrived at Ipperwash Provincial Park a couple of hours after the shooting in my role as a reporter-photographer for The Toronto Star. Police initially said they were returning gunfire that night, but neither police officers nor police equipment was

hit with gunfire in the close-quarters confrontation. A judge ruled in 1997 that George was unarmed when he was shot, and that police lied in court about the operation. Finally, at the Ipperwash inquiry that heard its final witness last June, former OPP commissioner Thomas O'Grady testified before Mr. Justice Sidney Linden that he now believes, in his heart, that none of the Stoney Point natives were armed that night, when seven police officers opened fire.

By the time I decided to write a book on Ipperwash, Harold Levy and I felt there were too many unanswered questions about Ipperwash, and not enough public curiosity to find the answers. It was around this time that someone asked me a question to the effect of, "Why are you so worked up about one dead Indian?"

I thought this was a crude but honest question. It bluntly explained why the story didn't seem to be catching on, even after a judge ruled in 1997 that George was unarmed when he was shot and that police had lied to cover up their exact role. When I heard the question, in all its ugliness, it dawned on me that the reason the story had floundered was because only one person was killed that night and he was First Nations.

If seven Stoney Pointers had died that night, there would have to be a public inquiry. But only Dudley George died that night, and not that many people outside Kettle and Stoney Point knew him when he was alive. So I asked Dan what he thought about the book title, *One Dead Indian*.

Dan's one of the more philosophical

people I've ever met. I doubt he could give the time or date without some philosophical musing. When I told him my title idea, Dan immediately began talking about American General William Henry Sheridan, and how he was quoted in 1869 as saying, "The only good Indians I ever saw were dead."

Then Dan asked if western civilization had progressed since 1869 and if progress in a moral sense was any more than a comforting myth. Soon, he was asking if Canadians are really morally superior to Americans, as we like to think. Dan actually knew Dudley George and experienced personal loss with his death. He talked about how the story needed to be told for public education, to extract something good from a horrible situation. I didn't know at the time, but the Ojibway word for truth, "Debwewin," doesn't just mean getting the facts right. It also includes a healing component. Truth is supposed to heal us all.

I talked the title over with Dudley George's brother Sam as well. He thought it was powerful, but said I should explain the reasons for it whenever I spoke publicly and I agreed.

Dan was one of many people at Western who are also intimately connected to the Ipperwash story. None played a stronger role in the push for a public inquiry than Liberal MPP **Gerry Phillips**, who received his BA in Honors Business Administration from Western in 1962. Phillips wouldn't let go of the story in the provincial Legislature, even though there aren't many First Nations voters in his riding of Scarborough-

Agincourt. Sam George, one of Dudley George's brothers, has repeatedly told me how much he respects the effort and passion Gerry Phillips put into winning a public inquiry.

Phillips kept pressing on with his questions, even though many of them were answered with ridicule and denials. I have often wondered if a public inquiry, with its heavy emotional and financial cost (upwards of \$20-million), would be necessary, if Phillips and others had received honest answers to his questions years ago. Former Attorney-General, Charles Harnick, admitted at the inquiry last winter that he repeatedly misled the Legislature when questioned about Ipperwash. The George family has praised Harnick for his courage in admitting this at the inquiry. In their final report to the inquiry, the legal team for the George family stated, "It is reassuring that at least some politicians honour their obligation to tell the truth when they are under oath."

One of the recommendations made by the George family to Linden is that the province and other jurisdictions should adopt legislation requiring elected members to tell the truth in the Legislature. It seems odd that you have to do this, but the way things stand now, you can now be quickly expelled from the Legislature for calling someone a liar, but not for being a liar.

Several others with legal, medical, political and scientific affiliations through Western played key roles in the Ipperwash story.

Others from Western closely tied to the Ipperwash story include;

- **Dr. Alison Jane Marr**, who graduated from medicine at Western in 1979 and was a Western resident in internal medicine in 1980-81. She was on duty at Strathroy Middlesex General Hospital the night of the violence. Within minutes, she treated 16 year old Nicholas Cottrelle for a gunshot inflicted wound; Kettle and Stony Point band counsellor, Cecil Bernard (Slippery) George, for 28 blunt force trauma wounds, and Dudley George, who arrived at the hospital that night, with no pulse, his pupils fixed and dilated and a hole from an expanding "mushroom" bullet in his chest. It was Marr who pronounced George dead at 00.20 Sept. 7, 1995.

- **Norman Peale**, who received his BA from Western in 1965 and law degree in



Peter Edwards and actors Gordon Tootoosis, Gary Farmer and Glenn Gould during the filming of *One Dead Indian* for CTV. (photo courtesy of Barbara Hanson)

1968. Peale represented Acting-Sergeant Kenneth Deane, who was convicted of criminal negligence causing death for shooting George.

–**Ian Scott**, who graduated in 1981 from law at Western, where his lecturers included Norman Peale. Scott successfully prosecuted Deane in 1997 for criminal negligence causing death for the shooting of Dudley George. During one particularly heated exchange with his former professor, Peale, during Deane’s trial, Scott made a legal point by quoting from a law text which Peale had written.

–**Dr. Michael Shkrum** (BSc’78, MD’78) testified at Deane’s trial that there was no gunshot residue on George’s hands, suggesting that he didn’t fire a gun the night he was shot.

–**Debbie Hutton**, (BA’88, Honors Political Science) was a senior aide to former Premier Mike Harris at the time of the Ipperwash crisis, and attended government meetings on the native occupation of the closed provincial park the day before and the day of the massive Ontario Provincial Police operation. She and Harris each sharply disputed Harnick’s recollection of the Sept. 6, 1995 afternoon meeting, which they both attended. Linden’s final Ipperwash report, expected early in the new year, may include his assessment of which version he accepts.

–Forensic anthropologist **Michael Spence** (Professor Emeritus) said in an interview with Harold Levy back in July 2000 that there was at least one

burial ground in the park, as Stoney Pointers had claimed. Spence noted that the remains of an adolescent Indian child were found in the park in 1950, and that these remains were sent to Western. That girl, whose remains were found by park workers, may have been buried as far back as 1800. “All of the evidence is clear,” Spence said. “There is at least one and possibly more burial grounds in the area.”

That was a newsworthy comment, since former Natural Resources Minister John Snobelen had previously told the provincial legislature, under questioning from Phillips, that there was no evidence to suggest there was a native burial ground in the park.

– Archaeologist **William Wilfred Jury** (honorary Doctor of Laws 1970) and historian **Elsie Jury** (honorary Doctor of Laws 1973). The husband and wife team, now deceased, published a large body of work on the native burial ground in the park, whose existence was later denied by the government.

– **Michael Coyle**, graduated from law at Western in 1982 and is presently Assistant Professor in the Faculty of Law. He has mediated a number of important land claim settlements, including the Camp Ipperwash negotiations and in 1992, mediated the first significant tripartite treaty claim settlement in Ontario since the 1920s. A paper he has written on land claims is posted on the Ipperwash inquiry website. (<http://www.ippershawinquiry.ca>)

I’ve sometimes wondered if Dudley George would still be alive today, if

someone in police or government simply called Western’s archaeology department before the massive police operation and asked if there were burial grounds in the park. They would have been steered to the Jurys’ work, and perhaps the Stoney Pointers like Dudley George would have been treated with more respect. When I was researching my book, I was able to Google-up a lengthy article by the Jurys on the burial grounds within minutes.

Since *One Dead Indian* was published, I’ve been making yearly visits back to Western, to speak with students in Prof. Romayne Smith Fullerton’s Masters of Journalism class, and I have also spoken at some Canadian history classes, including one by my former professor, Donald Avery. I always tell Dudley George’s brother Sam about the interest at Western in the events around his brother’s death, and he always tells me how much his family appreciates this.

Aside from Sam George, Dan’s the only person in this article who actually knew Dudley George, and yet Dudley George’s death in the dark has affected everyone mentioned here in some way. Hopefully, we can learn something from it. ☹

Peter Edwards (BA’81, Canadian History, Honours, MA’81, Journalism) was awarded an eagle feather from the Union of Ontario Indians for his coverage of the Ipperwash story. The movie “*One Dead Indian*,” which is based on his book, aired before more than a million viewers on CTV, and has been nominated for seven Gemini Awards this fall, including best picture.

Dakota House as Dudley George yells triumphantly as an OPP cruiser leaves the protestors’ camp at Ipperwash – before returning with the Tactical Response Unit in full riot gear. (Photo courtesy of CTV)





Victoria Meredith, left, believes in limber bodies for limber voices as she works with the the choralconnections' adult women's choir during rehearsal. (Photo by Henry Meredith)

Sunday singers find healthy hobby

By Janis Wallace, BMus'75, BEd'76

We've only just begun.

As more people have an opportunity to retire early and pursue special interests, many are discovering the joy of singing. Some sang in their youth, others have always wanted to learn to sing. Last winter, the Don Wright Faculty of Music began offering an adult choir program, as part of the newly-established community-focused activities of Western's choralconnections – and the response has been overwhelming. More than 200 singers from the community have already participated. All three sessions offered so far have waiting lists. The first group ranged in age from 36 to 80; the current all-women's group includes singers from 17 to 74.

Victoria Meredith directs the dual-focused program: vocal conditioning specifically designed for adults combined with choral rehearsal. "The actual age of participants is not the important element here," she said, "but the average is about 50. This generation is not like my parents or grandparents at that age. It's not a matter of chronological age, it's physiological and mental states that make the difference. This generation is different – they're more youthful, healthier and claiming more time for themselves."

Meredith's research currently focuses on the effects of age on the voice. "It evolved naturally out of the work I'd

been doing over the years. I looked at the New Horizons adult band program and wondered if that approach would work with voices." No one else was attempting anything similar, so she decided to start. "I am particularly interested in physical fitness as people age and applying similar principles to singing."

To appreciate these principles first hand, Dr. Meredith joined the fitness program at the Canadian Centre for Activity and Aging. She quickly learned that the only way to effectively combine physical conditioning with vocal conditioning within a single program would require a minimum of two hours three to four times weekly. "This wasn't practical, so instead I extracted the principles of physical fitness and applied them to conditioning or reconditioning adult voices."

The program she developed as a result addresses the effects of age on bodies and voices, and how to minimize the negative changes and keep voices as healthy as possible for as long as possible. Working with the choralconnections Adult Choir Program also enhances her research. "Things surface that you don't expect," she said. "A woman mentioned that she needed to sit at one end of the choir so that her 'good ear' was to the rest of the group. Other people are concerned that they may not be able to stand for an entire concert. There is a real tie-in with physical condition. You need to be strong with good balance to stand on risers for a concert, as well as to sing with a good tone."

Existing research documents the positive effects of choral singing: enhanced immunity, reduced depression, improved cognitive function and overall increased feelings of well-being. Meredith's work

looks at the topic from a different perspective – how can adult choral singers continue to sing well and maintain a lifetime of fulfilling choral involvement? To answer that question, she explores the inter-relationship between physical and vocal aging and conditioning.

Her book *Singing Better As You Age: A Comprehensive Guide for Adult Choral Singers* (2006) is based on the application of principles of physical conditioning to vocal fitness. She is working on a follow-up for conductors of adult choirs. "Many community and church choirs are directed by people with minimal training in how to work with the voice. Very few are aware of differences that often occur as voices age." For example, ranges usually change and some technical demands such as dynamic control or singing fast scale passages can become more challenging because of physiological changes taking place.

The success of the program is an added bonus. "People come for many reasons," said Meredith. "Most of them come for the sheer joy of singing. Some simply want to sing in a group with like-minded individuals, while others appreciate the potential health benefits and the non-threatening environment in which they can learn. They all do it because they love it. They're doing this for themselves."

So is director Meredith. On sabbatical this year, she donates her time to the program because, like one choir member enthused, "I can't imagine a better way to spend a Sunday afternoon."

Don Wright Faculty of Music
Visit: www.music.uwo.ca



Marilynn Anne Prefontaine (left) and Betty Anne Stoney-Shankar stand in front of the University College tower, a landmark Western is known for. The two graduated in June, Prefontaine with a double major in First Nations Studies and Sociology and Stoney-Shankar with Honors degree in First Nations Studies and a double major in Women's Studies and Psychology.

First FNS students graduate

By David Scott

Program Director Karl Hele is happy that First Nations Studies (FNS) graduated its first two students in June but knows that more faculty members could potentially be hired and new courses added to attract students as the program evolves at Western. Hele would like to see more cross-discipline First Nations course offerings after the success and return of First Nations in the News Media in conjunction with the Faculty of Information and Media Studies with instructors Dan and Mary Lou Smoke. "There's interest within the Faculty of Medicine, the Faculty of Law," says Hele. There is a community desire for more First Nations people in health care. It is not just traditional methods of healing that need to be taught and gain public awareness, but a basic perception of Aboriginal health and wellness issues.

The Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry is interested in getting more Aboriginal doctors trained, according to Hele. "Studies have shown that the easiest way to get a doctor in northern Ontario is to get a kid from northern Ontario (to study medicine). The easiest way to get a doctor on the reserve is to get a kid from the reserve. Because more than likely, they'll go home (to practice)," says Hele.

Western currently has about 150 Aboriginal students, two-thirds of whom are women. Most are mature students. "The majority of First Nations students are adults who have made various decisions and decided to come back to school. That was my experience teaching university in Winnipeg, too. It's odd to get a Native kid fresh out of high school. The average high school dropout rate for Native students ranges from 30 to 60 per cent depending on the community," Hele says not only is high school retention a concern but also recruiting Native men. The FNS director said a permanent centre to recruit and retain Native students should be set up, similar to what Western has in place for international students.

The success of the FNS program so far has not just been First Nations

students learning more about their history and culture in a university setting, it's also the enlightenment of non-Native students enrolling in FNS courses and studying topics not traditionally included in Canadian history classes at the elementary or secondary school level.

"When I teach the 218 class (Contemporary First Nations Issues in Canada), I'm always amazed at the comments I get on the evaluations like 'The course was so real it opened my eyes' or 'I never knew this about Canada before.' I even get that from Native students, too," says Hele.

The FNS program director suggests that if some non-Native residents of Caledonia had taken a few courses in First Nations culture and law it might have avoided "some of the stupidity" that has and is occurring. "The idea in the town is that because of Native land claims they'll have all their private property stolen. Under the Canadian law they can't do that," says Hele. If people are already settled on contested land the most that can be asked for by First Nations is monetary compensation from the government. It is only unoccupied land owned by the Crown that First Nations can ever negotiate for in land claims. In either case, it often takes decades to reach a settlement.

Hele consults with First Nations communities from Walpole to Six Nations to further develop the FNS program. There are plans to go beyond the classroom at Western and offer courses through distance education and in communities to meet the needs of First Nations students.

What he found discouraging in the last school year was a 'racist' opinion piece published in the Gazette student newspaper that made its way to Native communities and did not help First Nations' perceptions of Western as a welcoming environment.

Two new courses being added to the FNS program list this school year include Métis Ethnohistory and Ethics and Epistemology in First Nations Studies.

Social Science
Visit: <http://anthropology.uwo.ca>



Western alumna Jennifer MacDonald's Omega 3 salad dressing tossed its way to the top of the debut of CBC-TV's Dragon's Den.

Grad snatches victory from Dragons' jaws

By Bob Klanac

A Western Engineering alumna's Omega 3 salad dressing tickled the palate of investors on the debut of CBC-TV's Dragon's Den – and went down smoothly for the creator, too.

Jennifer MacDonald's business pitch won out over five others on the show to get the \$200,000 investment money. "It's great," says MacDonald. "It's a huge turning point for me. I'm so excited to envision where I'm going to be next year."

MacDonald (BESc'94 (Chem/Biochem), MESC'95 & BED'96), a Strathroy resident, founded CenaBal, a company that makes salad dressings and oils. Dragon's Den allows entrepreneurs

to pitch their ideas to five Canadian business moguls for investment funds. MacDonald was among 90 entrepreneurs who made the cut at an audition held in London, one of 17 cities that hosted auditions across Canada.

Making her pitch was only part of the stress for MacDonald. She was in a tent with seven other anxious Dragon's Den candidates on August 4 and all of them were feeding on each other's anxiety. "It was so hot in there that I barely remembered my company name," MacDonald says.

But the judges made up for MacDonald by remembering hers in making their deliberations.

The \$200,000 MacDonald got from investors has been earmarked to develop the CenaBal business. The money will see the business put \$50,000 into equipment, research & development, marketing and additional personnel.

Although CenaBal will undoubtedly grow, MacDonald has no intention of leaving the basement of her Strathroy home. "That way I can still be with my kids," she says.

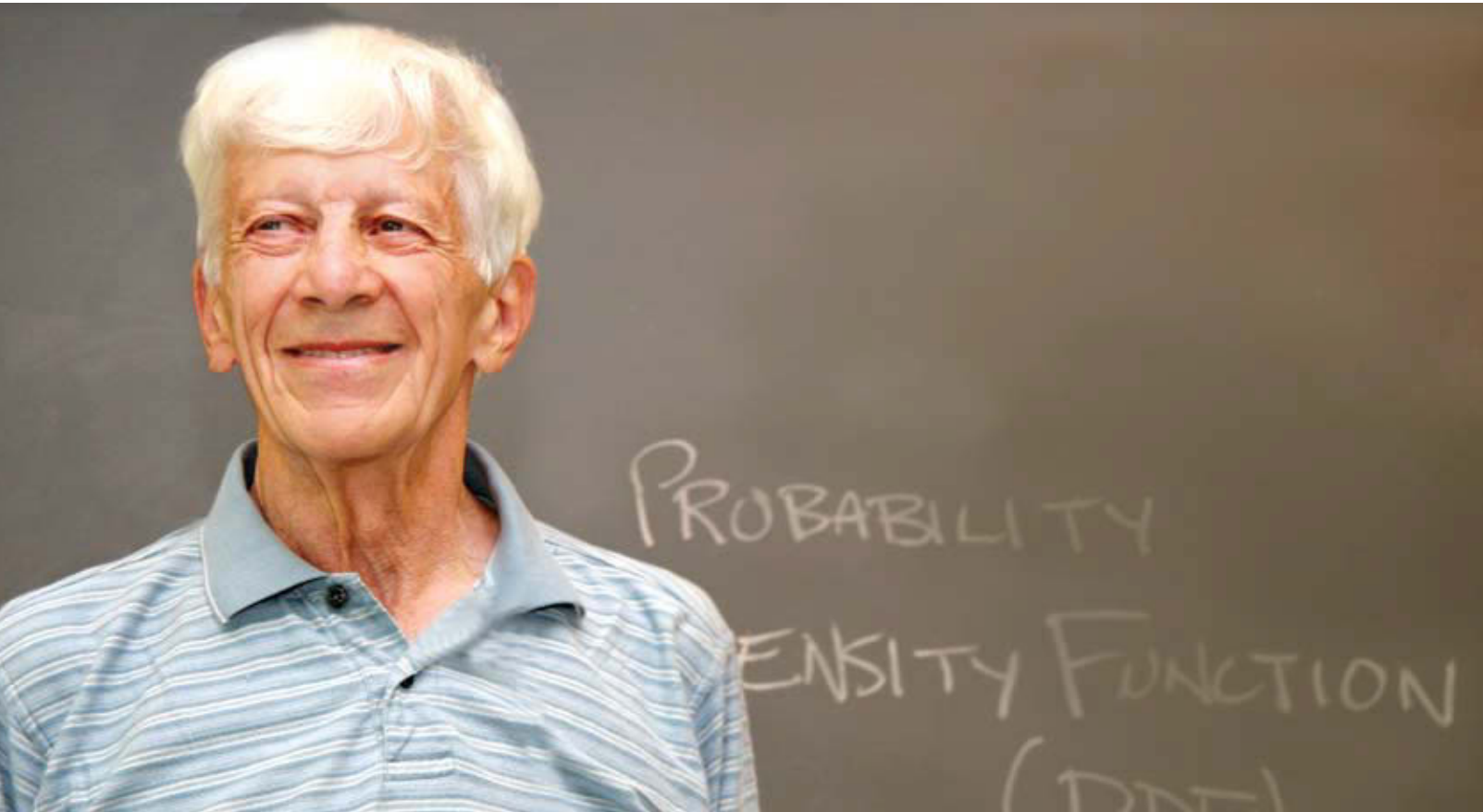
"The difference for my company will be in having (investors) Jim Treiving and Jennifer Wood on my board of directors," she says. "Being able to tap into their network of resources is an amazing plus."

There is also the power of television and, with her charming upbeat breeziness, MacDonald has already made an impression with her Dragon's Den appearance. "The local stores in Strathroy told me that they sold out of my products the morning after the show aired," she says. "A year ago I only had six stores retailing my product."

MacDonald is proud she accomplished the win while waving her London, Ontario flag. "Oh, the London community is phenomenal. They really get behind its successes."

Dragon's Den airs Wednesday evenings on CBC. More information can be found at cbc.ca/dragonsden. More information about CenaBal is at cenabal.com.

Engineering
Visit: www.eng.uwo.ca



There's nothing random about the lecturing talent of John Mereu, who has spent the last 50 years lecturing in Western's statistical and actuarial department.

Teaching a year at a time... for 50 years

By Paul Mayne

John Mereu tends to take things as they come. Work, relaxation, cake...yes, cake.

As family, friends, staff and faculty burst into his second-floor classroom at Western's Science Centre in early September with a cake to mark his 50th year of lecturing, Mereu was trying his best not to burst into tears.

The soft-spoken 78-year-old was taken aback by the overwhelming praise thrust upon him. He quickly recovered and wittily announced to startled students in his actuarial science class, "Um, I think that will end the lesson for today."

As cameras flashed and a chorus of 'For He's a Jolly Good Fellow' reverberated around the room, Mereu simply smiled and took it all in.

"This has been very rewarding for me," says Mereu. "I've been taking this one year at a time."

On that point, Mereu is not kidding.

Since beginning in 1957 with just three students in his class ("I still remember their names, too"), Mereu has been coming back each year to teach what has gradually added up to thousands of students in statistical and actuarial sciences.

"Having him at Western is a great way for all of us to learn from him."

Even upon retiring from London Life in 1989, Mereu continued to return to campus each year. The opportunity to share knowledge with new students is

what keeps the Londoner coming back.

"The subject may be the same, with minor changes here and there, but the faces are new every year," says Mereu. "And I want to get to know each one by name. I feel better dealing with someone whose name I know and hopefully the student learns more that way as well."

For Department Chair Bruce Jones, having Mereu as a constant for 50 years is "nothing but rewarding" for the school.

"He's just amazing," says Jones. "Having him at Western is a great way for all of us to learn from him."

So will Mereu be around another dozen years to celebrate his 90th birthday in the classroom? Here, his lecturing on contingencies kicks in.

"Well, there are a lot of random numbers around us. And 90 is something that doesn't occur too often," he says.

But knowing Mereu, he'll take it one year at a time.

Science

Visit: www.stats.uwo.ca/



A Schulich Geriatric Medicine Residency student of Dr. Laura Diachun plays Scrabble with a patient at Parkwood Hospital recently. (Photo by Tim Bourgard, Multi-Media Solutions, St. Joseph's Health Care, London)

Looming shortage of docs for boomers

A Canadian study indicates doctors who practice geriatric medicine (GM) are going to be in short supply when baby boomers are going to need them most, if something isn't done soon to address the shortfall.

Dr. Laura Diachun, Geriatric Medicine Residency Program Director for the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry at The University of Western Ontario and Dr. Susan Torrible, lead

author and Staff Geriatrician with the Windsor Regional Hospital conducted the Geriatric Recruitment Issues Study (GRIST).

They surveyed Canadian geriatricians, internal medicine residents and senior medical students to rate factors that go into choosing a medical sub-specialty. Their findings, and recommendations for improving GM recruitment, were published in the September issue of the *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society*.

"Given Canada's current shortage of geriatricians and extremely low numbers of students entering geriatrics, it's essential to understand how we can better teach medical students the principles of elder care," explains Diachun.

"Results from the GRIST study will play an essential part in developing effective recruitment strategies needed to ensure

that in the next 15 to 20 years, there is an adequate number of Canadian physicians trained in the care of the elderly."

There are currently fewer than 200 geriatricians in Canada, while estimates put the need at three times that number. Recruitment strategies being recommended include streamlining the training required for geriatric medicine, mentoring programs, financial incentives and provincial and national promotional campaigns.

It currently takes three years of internal medicine residency, followed by two years of geriatric medicine to become a certified geriatrician. GRIST recommends direct entry into geriatrics following undergraduate medical training.

Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry
Visit: www.schulich.uwo.ca

Take your best shot

ANNUAL PHOTO CONTEST

Win Great Prizes in the annual Arlie Laxton Western Alumni Gazette Photography Contest!

Format:

8" x 10" (or larger) print

Three Categories:

People • portraits, candid and activity photos of family, friends, other alumni, etc.

Other • landscape, still life, nature, etc.

Digitally Enhanced • Photos enhanced by Photoshop or any other computer photography software that does NOT include simple sizing and cropping of photos. Digitally enhanced photos can be people, portraits, landscape, nature, etc.

A digitally enhanced photo could feature: isolating single colours while printing the remainder of the photo in black and white; removing features of the original photo – including people, background, etc.; adding people, animals or objects that were not part of the original; changing the colour of the sky. Digital enhancement should involve creativity – not just simple size adjustments or cropping that can be done in a darkroom. Printing on different kinds of photo paper or adding a sepia tone, for example, is NOT considered digital enhancement.

Prizes:

First prize in each category • \$300

One Runner-up prize in each category • \$100 each

Limit one entry per person per category.

Entries must include photographer's full name, degree and year, address, telephone number and a brief explanation of the photograph, how it was taken and in which category it is being entered. Photos of people must be accompanied by a statement signed by the photographer that those depicted have given permission for the photograph to be published. People in the photos must be identified.

Entries not meeting these requirements or formatted improperly will not be judged. Entries will not be returned. Contest open only to alumni of The University of Western Ontario who are not employees and/or officers of the University.

**Deadline for entries:
Dec. 15, 2006**

Winners will be announced in the Spring 2007 issue of the Western Alumni Gazette



Send entries to: Western Alumni Gazette – Photo Contest, University of Western Ontario, Stevenson-Lawson Building, London, ON N6A 5B8

WESTERN ALUMNI

Gala CONCERT

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James McKay, Conductor

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from the Don Wright Faculty of Music

Visit www.music.uwo.ca or
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with special guests



Louise Pitre
Alumna & Broadway Star



Theodore Baerg
Professor & Operatic Baritone



Jackalyn Short
Professor & Alumna



MUSIC

SOLA

Amanda Martinez's (BSc'94) debut album, *SOLA*, captures the heart and draws you into the moment with her sensuous, soulful voice accompanied by soothing guitar under a gentle pulse of percussion. The collection of her original and traditional songs has beautiful lyrics sung in Spanish, English and Portuguese. Having been immersed in the melodies of Latin jazz giants, Amanda's own stylized mixes of bossa-infused Afro Cuban rhythms, Mexican folk, and jazz leave Latin music lovers enthralled, amused and blissfully mesmerized. Supporting Toronto's music scene has been very important to Amanda. She is a vital force for the Latin music community, promoting both local and international artists through her weekly radio show Café Latino on JAZZFM91 that she hosts and produces. (www.jazz.fm) In return, Amanda has gained a great reputation as a valuable part of the growing community. For more information: www.amandamartinez.ca



professionals and scientists seeking to apply their skills to biotechnology, Building Biotechnology has also been adopted as a course text in more than 15 advanced biotechnology programs including MBA programs at UC Irvine, Tepper, and Schulich; the Johns Hopkins biotechnology MS/MBA program; and extension programs at Berkeley and UC San Francisco. For more information: www.BuildingBiotechnology.com

AN M.D. EXAMINES

As a physician Dr. Brad Burke (BSc'91) is in the position to witness physical healing that defies natural explanation. He is a medical doctor specializing in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation - a fast growing medical specialty that focuses on rehabilitating patients who have had strokes, head trauma, amputation, chronic pain, sports and spinal cord injuries. He held the heart of the wounded in his own hands when he was a surgery resident in a trauma center. There he observed the difference between the sufferings of the godless and the sufferings of the Christian believer. It was out of these experiences that Dr. Burke wrote the four titles in the *An M.D. Examines* series - *Does God Still Do Miracles?*, *Is God Obsolete?*, *Why Does God Allow Suffering?*, and *Why Doesn't God Stop Evil?* Each book walks readers through a thinking process that enables them to better understand God and includes lively personal accounts of God's presence in the midst of heartache, pain, illness, and suffering. For more information: www.bradburke.com



PRESS

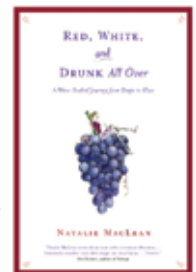
NEW GENERATION WHOLE-LIFE COSTING

Created for students, designers and managers involved with decisions relating to buildings and land, *New Generation Whole-Life Costing: Property and Construction Decision-Making Under Uncertainty* is based on research funded by the UK government and several companies with major property portfolios. Using a series of cases, authors Ian Ellingham (MBA'79) and William Fawcett explore the complexities of the issues, using emerging techniques of dealing with risk, yet avoiding the intricate mathematics which often characterize this field. The concepts and methods demonstrated will assist the designer or manager in avoiding over- or under-investment. For more information: www.carltd.com or www.taylorandfrancis.co.uk



RED, WHITE, AND DRUNK ALL OVER

Award-winning writer Natalie MacLean (MBA'92) sweeps readers behind the scenes of the international wine world, exploring its history and visiting its most evocative places and meeting its most charismatic personalities. *Red, White, and Drunk All Over: A Wine-Soaked Journey from Grape to Glass* showcases the engaging wit, investigative curiosity, and sharp eye for obsessive passion that has made her free e-newsletter *Nat Decants* one of the most popular in North America. Along the way she teaches us—painlessly and often hilariously—how to face a telephone directory-sized wine list without fear, what questions to ask to get exactly the wine you are looking for, what those scores out of 100 really mean, and how properly to expectorate (it's best to start out in the shower!) This wine-soaked blend of *Kitchen Confidential* and *Sideways* is a fascinating tour from the grape to the glass that will drive readers to drink. And think. And laugh. For more information: www.nataliemaclean.com/book/



BUILDING BIOTECHNOLOGY

As biotechnology changes paradigms in medicine, agriculture, and industrial processes, there is a pressing need for cross-trained individuals capable of developing new innovations and bringing them to market. *Building Biotechnology* by Yali Friedman (BSc'97) helps readers start and manage biotechnology companies and understand the business of biotechnology. This acclaimed book describes the convergence of scientific, political, regulatory, and commercial factors that drive the biotechnology industry and define its scope. In addition to its popularity among business



THE CONTROL FREAK'S GUIDE

Are you a control freak? Do you suspect you're a control freak, but you're not sure? Are you afraid to admit it? Are you afraid to ask? Have no fear, *The Control Freak's Guide* series is here. In this groundbreaking and provocative first guide of the series, **Gail Barker (BA'92)** and Gail Nielsen (former Brescia student) walk readers through a process of self-liberation. The book takes a somewhat humorous look at the issues related to the human "need" for control, and what the possibilities are for individuals who free themselves from the hold of control and embrace trust instead as their modus operandi. The authors have drawn on their experiences as life coaches to provide a book that is simultaneously insightful and entertaining. Written with light-hearted humour, combined with a reverence for the sacredness of life, the very tone of the book is illustrative of the principles found within it. For more information: www.controlfreakseries.com



BLUEPRINT TO A BILLION

Microsoft, Google, eBay, Staples, Genentech, Starbucks, Nike and Harley Davidson... these are just a few examples of an elite group of companies that have managed to turn billion-dollar ideas into billion-dollar businesses. What did these and other high-growth companies do to achieve such a goal? What blueprint do they follow to produce such results? Based on three years of in-depth research, **David Thomson's (MBA'79)** *Blueprint to a Billion* provides the first quantitative assessment of the success pattern common across a distinct group of 387 "Blueprint Companies"—the 5 per cent that have grown to \$1 billion in revenue. They represent America's highest growth companies; they uniquely achieved exponential revenue growth and returns. This book is not about one unique company, its innovation, and the financial returns it achieved; it's about the quantifiable, success-based pattern-independent of economic cycles or industries—shared across this group of elite companies. For more information: www.blueprinttoabillion.com



SHAPED BY THE WEST WIND

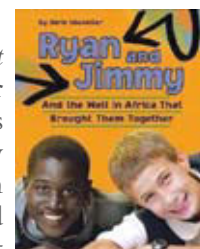
Along the east shore of Ontario's Georgian Bay lie the Thirty Thousand Islands, a granite archipelago scarred by glaciers, where the white pines cling to the ancient rock, twisted and bent by the west wind—a symbol of a region where human history has been shaped by the natural environment. Over the last four centuries, the Bay has been visited by some of the most famous figures in Canadian history, from Samuel de Champlain to the Group of Seven. *Shaped by the West Wind* traces the history of Canadians' reactions to and interactions with this distinctive and often intractable landscape. **Claire Campbell (MA'97, PhD'01)** draws from recent work in



cultural history, landscape studies in geography and art history, and environmental history to explore what happens when external agendas confront local realities -- a story central to the Canadian experience. Explorers, fishermen, artists, and park planners all were forced to respond to the unique contours of this inland sea; their encounters defined a regional identity even as they constructed a popular image for the Bay in the national imagination. For more information: www.ubcpres.ubc.ca/search/title_book.asp?BookID=4143

RYAN AND JIMMY

Ryan and Jimmy and the Well in Africa that Brought Them Together by **Herb Shoveller (BA'78, MA'80)** is a book for young readers (9-12) that traces a remarkable true story that began in 1997 when six-year-old Ryan Hreljac decided he would raise \$70 to build a well in Africa. He had heard in school that children were always sick and even dying in Africa because of poor water. He saved the money, found out the sum would only buy a hand pump, so he determined he would raise the \$2000 needed for a well. Remarkably, he did. His dream of a well became an international news story. When Ryan's well was built in Agweo, Uganda, life in the village changed for the better. A young orphan named Akana Jimmy longed for a chance to thank Ryan in person for this gift of life — clean water. When they finally meet, an unbreakable bond unites these boys from very different backgrounds, and a long and sometimes life-threatening journey begins. For more information: www.kidscanpress.com



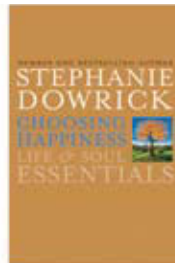
PEARSON'S PRIZE

Pearson's Prize - Canada and the Suez Crisis is the latest book by author **John Melady (BA'62)**. In the fall of 1956, the world was on the brink of war. Egyptian President Gamel Nasser nationalized the Suez Canal, and Britain, France, and Israel attacked him. Russia supported Nasser, and Soviet Premier Khrushchev threatened nuclear holocaust if the United States became militarily involved. Soon, the matter became a major problem for the United Nations. Fortunately, because of the efforts of Lester Pearson, then Canada's Minister of External Affairs, the crisis was defused. Pearson proposed a U.N. peacekeeping force be sent to Egypt to separate the warring factions there and keep the peace. Because his idea was adopted, Pearson helped save the world from war. For his outstanding statesmanship, Pearson won the Nobel Prize for Peace, the only Canadian ever to do so. This book, written to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the event, is about the Suez and about Pearson's work during a tension-filled time in the twentieth century. For more information: www.dundurn.com/bookid/0480



CHOOSING HAPPINESS

What are the essential psychological skills and insights we need that will make most difference in how we experience our own lives – and affect the lives of other people? Australian author Stephanie Dowrick collaborated on *Choosing Happiness: Life & Soul Essentials* when she met Canadian Catherine Greer (MA'93). Dowrick's books were a significant catalyst for change in Greer's life. And the Western alumna was a significant catalyst in the writing of this book. According to Dowrick's website, she was inspired and sustained in her writing by that. Dowrick was ordained in 2005 as an Interfaith Minister and gives talks and conducts retreats and workshops on a variety of spiritual, psychological and ethical issues. Greer's contribution to *Choosing Happiness* includes her questions, some invaluable research, much discussion, and the 'Smart Index' that makes this book as easy to use as her original vision. But what she also contributed was an utterly consistent belief in the value of the work. For more information: www.choosinghappiness.net



SOFIA'S PINK BALLOON

By Zanita DiSalle (HBA'92, MBA'96). Illustrations by Nadine Dennis. Sofia's greatest wish is to have a pink balloon. Her excitement builds as she discovers that the town's Summer Fair is about to open. At the Summer Fair, she meets a mysterious balloon man but to her disappointment, the balloon man has every color of balloon except pink. The balloon man offers her a blue balloon assuring her that the balloon will magically turn pink. Sofia tries and tries but is unable to discover the magic that will make the balloon change colors. Disappointed and ready to give up on her wish for a pink balloon, she meets a little boy who may hold the answer to the magical balloon. Together, they work to find a way to make the balloon turn pink. *Sofia's Pink Balloon* is a lovely story that combines magic, mystery and entertainment with the core values of friendship and creative problem solving. For more information visit: www.amethysthouse.com/pg3.html



MEDICI WOMEN, PORTRAITS OF POWER, LOVE, AND BETRAYAL

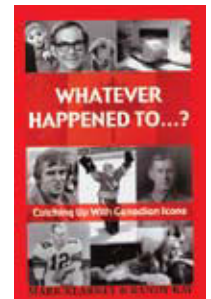
In *Medici Women. Portraits of Power, Love, and Betrayal*, Gabrielle Langdon, (MA'84, PhD'92), examines portraits of Medici women by Jacopo Pontormo, Agnolo Bronzino and other masters as integral to a mighty Medicean struggle to establish hegemony over other Italian princes. Absolutist rule and rigid protocol characterized the rule of the parvenue duke and his Spanish consort, Eleonora di Toledo, and Florence flourished as a centre for the arts harnessed to a Herculean program of Medici propaganda.



A chapter is devoted to each Medici woman or to girls, whose exquisite portraits prove to be dynastic declarations and encoded documents of court culture and propaganda. They illuminate a conscious fashioning of Medici portraiture in imitation of the great courts of Europe, but the women's remarkable lives are a sharp foil to conventions and canons their portraits imitate. Accounts from archives, letters, diaries, chronicles, and secret ambassadorial briefs open up a world of fascinating personalities, personal triumphs, human frailty, rumour, intrigue, and appalling tragedies. The study engages deeply with Italian renaissance history and early modern court culture, the status of portraiture, and its reception. For more information visit www.utppublishing.com

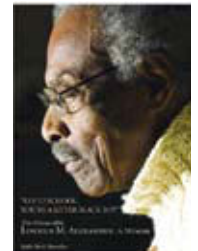
WHATEVER HAPPENED TO...? CATCHING UP WITH CANADIAN ICONS

The latest book by Canada's Trivia Guys, Mark Kearney (BA'77) and Randy Ray, is an entertaining where-are-they-now look at the fate of some 100 celebrities, newsmakers, and significant artifacts from this country's past. Lake Ontario swimmer Marilyn Bell, CFL legend Russ Jackson, Canada's first automobile, and Roger Woodward, a boy who survived the waters of Niagara Falls more than 40 years ago, are among those tracked down. Long after making headlines or burrowing their way into our collective consciousness, these Canadian icons have travelled different roads or in some cases kept more quietly to the path that gained them attention in the first place. Kearney and Ray spice up their stories with dozens of fascinating facts. With website links to further information, this book is a great resource to learn more about Canada's heritage. For more information: www.dundurn.com



'GO TO SCHOOL, YOU'RE A LITTLE BLACK BOY'

The Honourable Lincoln M. Alexander: A Memoir, with Herb Shoveller (BA'78, MA'80) Born in Toronto in 1922, the son of a maid and a railway porter, Lincoln MacCauley Alexander embarked on a mostly exemplary life path that has been characterized by service to his country, ranging from the military, politics and the profession of law to being a vocal advocate for minority rights and education, the latter most visibly played out in his widely admired role as chancellor of the University of Guelph. The title of the book is a comment his mother drummed into him constantly in his youth: "Go to School, You're a Little Black Boy." He repeats it with joy to this day. From his early education, teen years in Harlem, serving in the Canadian air force during the Second World War, attending McMaster University and Osgoode law school to being elected Canada's first black Member of Parliament and being appointed the country's first black cabinet minister, Alexander's is a life filled with firsts. Alexander's is the ultimate uplifting Canadian success story, in many ways the embodiment of what defines Canada. For more information: www.dundurn.com



Alumni Western honours some of its finest at Homecoming 2006

Four Western alumni, three of them from London, received the Alumni Award of Merit for their achievements at the 32nd annual Alumni Awards Dinner at Homecoming 2006.

Those honoured include: M.J. DeSousa (MCISc'96), Edwin Holder (BA'76), Dr. Jim Silcox (MD'67, MED'94, BA'06), and Dr. Peter Rechnitzer (BA'47, MD'48). Director of Alumni Relations, Gary Blazak (MA'79), hosted the event.



M.J. DeSousa received the Young Alumni Award, which recognizes significant contributions by an outstanding individual aged 40 or under and set an inspiration example for future young alumni.

It is hard not to “listen up” and take notice of DeSousa. The 1996 Audiology graduate has made her mark in the field with the creation of ListenUP! Canada (LUC). With already a dozen locations in Ontario, it's surprising the business started only two years ago. DeSousa spent seven years working in the field of audiology at St. Michael's Hospital, until 2004 when she, along with Gordon Lownds and Kurt Lynn, founded ListenUP! Canada.

A full-service hearing healthcare clinic, LUC provides individuals who have a hearing loss with comprehensive and convenient hearing health care services.

As Vice-President and Chief

Audiologist, DeSousa says her interactions with various professors, staff and clients with hearing loss at Western gave her an appreciation and sympathy for the communication challenges people with hearing loss face everyday.

“This has been a primary source of motivation in my professional life and has led me to question the status quo and work to make positive changes in the hearing healthcare industry,” she says.

Life is busy for the working mother of two, who lives in Toronto. DeSousa says her family is her motivation.

“They are a daily reminder about what my goal in life should be – that I should leave the world a better place as a result of my actions and work to have a positive impact every day.



Ed Holder is recipient of the Community Service Award, which pays tribute to alumni who have made outstanding contributions to the community. A business and community leader living in London for the last 25 years, Holder values the lessons he has learned throughout his life. It was his mother who stressed the value of community service.

“I was taught that community service is the price you pay to live somewhere. And I've always tried to live it.”

A partner at Stevenson & Hunt Insurance Brokers Ltd., Holder helps manage 150 employees in London

(head office), Cambridge, Waterloo and Toronto. It is one of Canada's largest independent insurance brokers.

Today he is involved in community groups including Western's Board of Governors, St. John Ambulance London, Directors Club of London, Business Cares Food Drive, London Chamber of Commerce, Bereaved Families of Ontario, Canadian Club of London, London Garrison Community Council, Old South Community Organization, Portuguese Club of London, and Better Business Bureau of London.

And Holder is not done yet. He recently announced his candidacy for the Conservative Party in London West riding in the next federal election. He says if he gets elected he'll carry on his commitment to the community at a national level.

The family man says he is fortunate to have a supportive wife, Judite, and a wonderful daughter, Claudia. Holder still finds time for personal interests: playing squash three times a week, playing the guitar and singing, and collecting Canadian confederation memorabilia.



Dr. Jim Silcox is recipient of the Professional Achievement Award. The recipient is a role model for newcomers and sets standard to which others can aspire.

Although Silcox retired from his academic post at Western in 2005, he

remains active on campus. In addition to continuing to teach for the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, he is working on his Masters degree in English.

After graduating with an MD in 1967, Silcox went on to specialize in Obstetrics and Gynecology with a subspecialty of human sexuality. He joined the faculty at Western in 1973, while also running his own practice.

Appointed as Assistant Dean Undergraduate Education in 1982, he held a variety of decanal roles including Associate Dean Admissions and Student Affairs until 2005.

Silcox has had many memorable moments at Western; meeting his wife of 38 years on campus; being involved in development of the South Western Ontario Medical Education Network (SWOMEN) which resulted in a change to undergraduate curriculum, with the intention to start a process to ease doctor shortages in specific areas; and fostering and supporting the school's outreach program in London.

He says his most recent involvement with Western has been as a member of a five-person team reviewing the Medical School at the National University of Rwanda.

While he keeps busy in his work and studies at Western, Silcox's main goal



right now is being a good grandfather to his four grandchildren, all under the age of two years.

Dr. Peter Rechnitzer is receiving the Dr. Ivan Smith Award, Alumni Western's highest tribute. It is awarded in recognition of sustained and significant contributions to the Alumni Association and The University of Western Ontario.

Rechnitzer didn't grow up dreaming of becoming a doctor one day. Nor did he consider the possibility he would be the first physician to explore the use of exercise in the management of patients with coronary heart disease and change the way people thought about older adults exercising.

In fact, he came to Western for medical school only because a friend suggested they try to get in together. He completed a Bachelor of Arts during summer school, while completing his four years of medical school at Western. His post-graduate training included Western, University of Edinburgh and Duke University. He joined Western's department of medicine in 1955 and remained there until his retirement in 1992.

In 1964, he took a number of men who recently had heart attacks and started them on an exercise routine. The men became stronger, their endurance improved, and so did their psychological state. From this he became the principal investigator of the Ontario Exercise Heart Collaborative Study, which included seven Ontario universities.

In 1979, Rechnitzer's research interest shifted to the effects of physical activity and the aging process. Rechnitzer studied the effects of exercise on older males, which ultimately led to development of the Canadian Centre for Activity and Aging (CCAA).

Today, the 80-year-old spends his time with his wife of 25 years, Lili. Together they have five children and four grandchildren. ☺

Former Mustang Athletes recognized

Eight former Mustang athletes received top honours from Western for their contributions to sport at Homecoming 2006.

Elfrida Berzins Award Recipients (Women's Athletic Alumnae) include: Judy Alaszkievicz (BA'75, MA'80), Volleyball and Archery; Sandra Anschuetz (BA'86, MA'89), Cross Country, Track & Field; Sabine Nolke (BA'78, MA'81, LLB'85) Fencing; and Michele Vesprini (BA'95, BED'96), Basketball.

'W' Club Hall of Fame Inductees are: Mike Barry (BA'80), Wrestling; Jeff Lay (BA'93), Rowing; Sean Reade (HBA'96), Football; and Ronald Zanin

(BA'69), Basketball and Track.

The Elfrida Berzins Award is presented to a woman who has participated in Western Athletics as an athlete, coach or administrator, made further contributions in athletics, academics or public service, contributed to the development of women in sports-related areas and acted as a role model. This award is named for Elfrida Berzins, coach and Director of Women's Athletics from 1956 through 1970.



Judy Alaszkievicz's six years at Western changed her from a timid high schooler to a confident and accomplished student athlete.

As a member of the Mustang

women's volleyball team from 1971 to 1977, Alaszkievicz played a part in the team winning six consecutive Ontario championships, three Canadian golds and three Canadian silvers. Alaszkievicz was captain for five of those years and a member of the national team for three years. She also participated as a member of the FISU (World Student Games) team, competing in Moscow.

After leaving Western, Alaszkievicz worked as an instructor and coach at McMaster University for seven years. In 1984 she chose to pursue a Masters in Business Administration, specializing in Human Resources, at York University.

After graduating with her MBA, she came back to London to work for London Life. Now Alaszkievicz is Director of Market Conduct Compliance.

"Western gave some exceptional

people six years to influence me. My coaches and teachers were the reason I moved into national level sport and into a career job I believe I would not have otherwise secured.”

Today Alaszkiwicz enjoys many other activities including digital photography, stained glass and golf.



Sandra Anschuetz's track record in Western athletics is impressive.

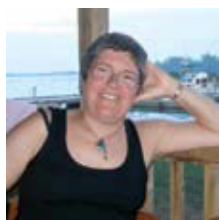
In her four-year cross-country career, she set 17 school records, won two gold and one silver in Ontario University Athletics (OUA) championships and took home two silvers and one bronze at Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) nationals. Additionally, in her three-year track career, she won OUA gold twice and the CIS 3000-metre title in 1987. Her 9:17.79 time still stands as a Western record.

Anschuetz was also the first athlete in Western history to achieve six All-Canadian awards: four in cross-country and two in track.

After graduating with a Masters in Physical Education in 1989, Anschuetz worked as an exercise specialist in a Toronto hospital, while she pursued a side-career in running.

With injuries limiting her international running career, Anschuetz chose to hang up her competitive running shoes in 1992. That same year, she joined the Grand Erie District School Board. This year, she has started her 15th year of inspiring young minds about science and biology and coaching cross-country and track and field.

Anschuetz continues to run today. Other activities she enjoys are cross-country biking, yoga, weight training, hiking and golf. In the winter she adds Nordic and downhill skiing and snow shoeing to her list of hobbies.



Fencing led **Sabine Nolke** to where she is today. Sabine played a major role in the fencing program as both a competitor and a coach for

almost a decade. Under her guidance, women fencers won the Ontario Women's Interuniversity Athletic Association (OWIAA) championship five times during the 1980s.

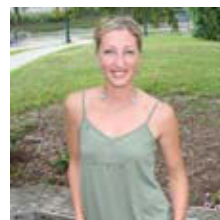
As an athlete, the German-born Nolke was a member of the 1979 and 1980 OWIAA foil championship teams.

“Pretty much all of my discretionary time revolved around the team, especially once I started coaching and competing, but also our social lives revolved around our friends in the fencing world.”

In 1987, Nolke became the Eastern Canada champion and came in third at the Canadian Nationals. She competed in numerous World Cups between 1987 and 1992, until an injury forced her to retire. She continued her involvement as an internationally licensed referee until 1996 when she says her career got the better of her.

Western will forever have an impact on Nolke's life. She met her husband, Chris, who was also on the Western fencing team. She chose to remain in Canada with him and to go onto law school after completing her Masters.

Today she is Deputy Director, United Nations, Human Rights and Humanitarian Law Section. Nolke and Chris have an eight-year-old daughter, Eilidh.



Michele Vesprini has not forgotten the sport she loved so much at Western.

The physical education teacher at Cathedral High School in Hamilton continues to play, coach and even provide television colour commentary for basketball in her community. She is also involved in a pilot program run by Canada Basketball and National Elite Development Canada where 12 top female basketball players attend Hamilton schools and live and train together for a year.

Her Western experience made a huge impact.

“I believe my years performing at such a high level in the classroom and on the court have developed within me a genuine understanding that hard work will lead you to the path of success.”

While playing basketball for Western (1991 to 1996), her team was conference

champions, taking home Ontario Women's Interuniversity Athletic Association (OWIAA) bronzes from 1992-1995 and winning silver in 1996.

They also made two Canadian Interuniversity Athletic Union (today called CIS) appearances. Michele was Ontario University Athletics (OUA) Career Scoring Leader and Western all-time scoring and rebounding leader. She was the first two-time Western athlete of the year, taking home the F.W.P. Jones Trophy in 1995 and 1996.

She tried her hand as a professional player and coach at the Regensdorf Femina Basketball Club in Switzerland in 1999.

* * *

The 'W' Club honours people who have made outstanding contributions to Western's athletic program as players, coaches or administrators.



Mike Barry still enjoys the thrill of a wrestling match.

The one-time Western wrestler turned criminal lawyer says now he uses his body from the neck up, instead of the neck down to beat his opponents.

“It's an exciting career. Criminal law is like freestyle wrestling – every match is different and I'm getting a kick out of it.”

Barry came to Western from New Brunswick. He participated in judo back home, but because it wasn't an organized sport in university, he took up wrestling. Competing in the 57-62 kilogram weight class, Barry took home many medals between 1975 and 1980; gold medals from Ontario University Athletics Association (OUAA, now OUA) and Canadian Interuniversity Athletic Union in 1975 and 1977; silver from Canadian National Opens in 1975 and 1976; and gold in 1977, 1978 and 1979. He participated as a team member at the Montreal Olympic Games in 1976, won silver in the Commonwealth Games in 1978 and bronze in the World Cup in 1980.

After Western, Barry won gold at the Canada Cup in 1981 and bronze at the World Cup in 1984.

Today, the father of four is back into judo and runs his own club for kids. He says his three girls and one boy are all

natural athletes and he loves to see them excel in their chosen sport.



Jeff Lay got a late start in the sport that put him on the Olympic map.

The first time he picked up an oar, Jeff was in Grade 12 and rowing was a way to stay in shape and have fun with friends. He got that and more at Western where he started training and soon took home a number of awards. As part of the Western team he won the Dad Vail Regatta two years in a row, as well as several OUA medals while at Western.

In 1993 he made the National Rowing Team. Over the next few years Jeff picked up many medals including gold for the men's lightweight eight at the World Championships in 1993, silvers at the 1995 Pan Am Games and 1996 Olympics, and bronze at the World Championships in 1997.

Between 1993 and 2002, Jeff coached the Western varsity rowing team. He retired from the National Rowing Team in 1999. In 2004, he obtained his Chartered Accounting designation and last year moved to Belleville, Ont. where he is a senior manager of a local accounting firm.

While he still enjoys rowing, Jeff has been busy with his young family. He married his wife, Larissa, in 1999, after meeting at The Ceeps in 1995. They have two daughters Emily, born in 2004, and Hailey, born in February.



Sean Reade says Western helped him to become successful in the real world. Reade is married to Kelly and they have a four-month-old

son Beausoleil Delker Reade.

The Mustang football star graduated with Honors Business Administration from the Richard Ivey School of Business in 1996.

"Western has shaped me with the time management and discipline needed to participate in the football program and the business school simultaneously."

Reade received the Norm Marshall Trophy as the 1992 OUA rookie of the year and the Rechnitzer Gorman Trophy as most outstanding rookie in Canada. He was an OUA all-star running back all four years, named Canadian Interuniversity Sport All-Canadian in 1994 and 1995. A member of the 1994 Vanier Cup Championship team, he was Dalt White Trophy recipient as the MVP of the Yates Cup game in 1994 and 1995. During his senior year in 1995 he rushed for 1,062 yards, second-highest single season total in Mustang history.

Reade tallied 14 touchdowns that season while also hauling in 19 receptions for 317 yards. Awards included the Dr. Claude Brown Memorial Trophy as Western's most outstanding athlete.

Reade competed in the CFL for more than a year, ending his professional career with the Ottawa Rough Riders. He started working with Koch Industries in 1998 and continues there

today, now as a commodities trader with a concentration on gasoline.



During Ron Zanin's five years at Western, he forged great friendships that remain today, and learned how to be a great teacher.

While Zanin had success in track and field at Western, taking home Ontario-Quebec Athletic Association (OQAA) gold in high hurdles and bronze in the 440-yard hurdles in 1965, and O-QAA silver in the 440-yard hurdles in 1966, he chose to focus on basketball in his last two years.

At six-foot-one, Zanin was a small forward, but quick. In 1967-68, the Mustang basketball team became O-QAA champions. In 1968-69, Zanin won the John P. Metras Trophy and second team O-QAA all-star. He also received the Purple Blanket Award and won the Dr. Claude Brown Memorial Trophy.

After graduation from the Faculty of Education in 1970, Zanin returned home to Windsor where he taught high school Physical and Health Education and Science for 30 years. During this time, he coached basketball and track and field. Zanin retired in 2000, but continues to officiate at track and field and swim meets.

Zanin is handling retirement well – in fact, he loves it. He says he has more time to enjoy relaxing with his wife of 34 years, Susan, and their two children, Catherine and Tom.

The Toronto Branch of Alumni Western Welcomes You!



Come join Western Alumni at one of these great upcoming events:

- Rick McGhie at The Duke – Friday, November 17, 2006
- Toronto Raptors vs. Dallas Mavericks – Sunday, January 14, 2007
Alumni Western Section Discount Ticket Offer
- Cocktail Reception with Speaker Heather Hiscox (MA'87 Journalism) Host, CBC News: Morning at Kit Kat 2 – February 15, 2007
- Queen's Park Alumni Reception – Spring 2007
- Alumni Western Golf Tournament at Lionhead Golf & Country Club – May 2007
- Toronto Blue Jays vs. Chicago White Sox Luxury Suite – June 2, 2007
- Beer Tasting at Esplanade Bier Markt – Summer 2007

Want to be added to our e-mail list? Got an event idea?
Please e-mail The Toronto Branch c/o Natalie Devereux,
Alumni Outreach Officer at ndevereu@uwo.ca



All Alumni Welcome! www.alumni.uwo.ca/branches/toronto

Alumni News and Announcements

1950s

Mary McGrath, BA'51 is chair of Western's Alumni Lecture series in Toronto for 2006-2007. Mary also published "Delectable Collectibles" – 75 favourite recipes from The Toronto Star to benefit the Fresh Air and Santa Claus Funds. 416-921-9811

Lorne Buck, BA'55 PHE'59 has been keeping quite active in musical career – Classic Country/Bluegrass. The Christmas song (which he wrote in 1981) has been included on the CD New Modern Christmas Classics out of Studio City, California. Lorne and his singing partner Jim Ellis are The Backwoodsmen. They had a busy summer with various Bluegrass and Country Music Festivals in Ontario and New York State. Their latest CD Once More - With Feeling has been doing well and getting good airplay and positive reviews in the Bluegrass trade magazines.

Lorne Buck, BA'55 PHE'59 is pleased to announce that on August 20, 2005 he and his wife, Mary, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

Jane Forster, BA'56 celebrated her 50th wedding anniversary. She also retired after 13 years and 21 Operas in the Chorus of Pacific Opera Victoria

1960s

Lois Knepfar, BA'64 was married to David Cramton, a retired engineer and U of T graduate, on December 21, 2005 in Toronto. They now reside in Mississauga. She continues to practice law as a senior counsel, Civil Litigation Ontario Office, Canada Dept. of Justice, Toronto.

Aant Elzinga, BA'60 is now retired, after 35 years as professor in history and philosophy of science at the University of Goteborg in Sweden. He has just published a semi-popular book about the twists and turns of Einstein's road to a Nobel Prize. Further info via the web is available: www.shpusa.com/books/einsteinsnobel.html

Douglas Auld, BA'64, Hon. Economics, (PhD) recently published "Selling Post Secondary Education: The Role of Private and Career Colleges," CD Howe Institute, Toronto.

1970s

Woody Zvanitajs, PED'70 would like to organize a reunion for Rugby team members from 1966 and 1967. If you are interested, please contact Woody at woodzvan@oxford.net

J. David Spence, BA'65, MD'70 is pleased to announce that he has published a book called "How to Prevent Your Stroke". This book is written in hope of preventing strokes, based on advice Dr. Spence has given to the more than 16,000 at-risk patients he has seen. It has been published through Vanderbilt University press. (000025843)

Don McLeish, BA'70, senior lightweight varsity rowing captain 1967-68, age 67, celebrated 52 years of competing in rowing with 5 gold, 2 silver, 1 bronze medal this year, culminating in the gold medal in the Canadian Sculling Marathon 42 K in the 2X in Ottawa, followed by setting a course record in the Wilson Island 21K Marathon in the 4X. Don also rowed in a fast Western alumni 8+ at the Head Of The Thames in London.

Peter Beresford, BA'72 (Economics), has joined the McDonald's Corporation Global Marketing Department's senior management team in a newly created role to lead Global Brand Development. He began his career with McDonald's Canada in 1976 in the marketing arena before advancing to numerous senior leadership roles within McDonald's Canada. In his executive capacity, he oversees operations, supply chain, development, strategic planning and the marketing and communication functions. For many years, he has been heavily involved with Ronald McDonald House Charities in Canada and served as President of the charity in Canada from 1993 to 2002. He was instrumental in opening the first Canadian Ronald McDonald's House in 1981.

Dr. Louis Weatherhead, BSc'72 was elected president of the Canadian Dermatology Association for a term of office July 1, 2006 to July 1, 2007.

Ruth Rounding, BA'73 and **Alex Sikorski, BA'74** were married March 18 in Cincinnati, Ohio. Ruth is an attorney in Cincinnati, specializing in estate planning. Her two children attend the University of Virginia. Alex will relocate his home remodeling business from Toronto to Cincinnati as soon as his immigration papers are final. He retired from the Toronto District School Board after 29 years teaching "shop" in Toronto and the surrounding area. His two children attend colleges in Toronto.

John David Livingston, BSc'73 (Computer Sc), has been announced by the Government of Ontario as Chief Executive Officer of Infrastructure Ontario. Livingston has extensive experience building businesses and structuring financial agreements. He is a director of the National Ovarian Cancer Association and the Children's Aid Foundation.

John B. Lee, BA'74 (Honors English), BEd'75 (English and Dramatic Arts), MA'85 (Teaching English) has won the Souwest Writing Award, sponsored by University of Windsor. The competition was judged by novelist Nino Ricci, past winner of the Governor General's Award. The prize winning manuscript, *How Beautiful We Are*, is being published by Black Moss Press in the early spring. He will be reading his work in Cuba, Paris, and California. Mr. Lee was short-listed for the 2005 People's Poetry Award for his book, *Thirty-Three Thousand Shades of Green*, (Leaf Press, 2004), and he was short-listed for the 2006 Canadian Literary Awards (CBC Radio) for poems taken from his manuscript, *Godspeed* also being published by Black Moss press in 2006.

Giovanna Anna Maria De Laurentiis, BA'75 (Honors Political Sc), MA'77 (Political Science), has been announced as President & Chief Executive Officer of The Investment Funds Institute of Canada (IFIC). Ms. De Laurentiis replaces the Hon. Tom Hockin, who previously announced his intention to retire in early 2006.

Former Mustang **Harvey Barkauskas, BA'75 (Hon. Phys-Ed), BEd'76**, who was previously recognized in 2003 for his athletic achievements and dedication to sports by Western, has been awarded the title of World Masters Highland Games Champion. The Masters is the official world championships for heavy athletes aged 40 and over and it is hoped it will now become a regular feature of the Scottish Highland games circuit every five years.

Thomas John Bitove, BA'76 (Business and Economics), has been appointed as a Director of Intrinsic Software International, Inc. (TSX:ICS). Intrinsic is a mobility software and service company which allows businesses to identify and create innovative solutions that make mobile devices connect and work. Bitove also currently owns the distribution rights for the Red Bull Energy Drink throughout Ontario, Canada, one of the top ten distributors in North America.

Grant Robert Michael Haynen, LLB'76, has recently become a partner at law firm Bennett Jones. Grant Haynen rejoined Toronto's Corporate and Commercial Department. Grant practices in the areas of corporate and securities law with an emphasis on mergers and acquisitions, particularly take-over bids, take-over defence and proxy contests; corporate finance, for issuers or investment dealers; corporate governance, including advising special committees of corporate directors; and mining. His clients include public and private companies and investment banks, and he is repeatedly recognized by international legal directories.

Rosemary Anne McCarney, LLB'77, has been appointed as President and CEO of Foster Parents Plan. Ms. McCarney brings to the organization extensive experience gained through her international career in the areas of law, business and international development. She is passionate about children's rights and child-centred development issues. Ms. McCarney has lived and worked in 60 countries throughout Asia, Africa, Eastern and Central Europe. She is frequently asked to speak about and advise on public policy matters regarding Canada's international assistance, the international development sector and issues facing children in the developing world. Ms. McCarney is dedicating her initial few months to visiting Plan projects and meeting children, families, volunteers, sponsors and partners who assist Plan in its work with children in developing countries where Plan works.

Glenna Ruth Raymond, BScN'77, has been appointed as President and Chief Executive Officer of the new Whitby Mental Health Centre Corporation. Ms. Raymond is a highly regarded, senior healthcare executive with superior strengths in hospital administration and the development of service networks. Her participation in numerous healthcare organizations demonstrates her solid contribution to the development of professional healthcare.

Carolyn (Smalko) Kurek, BSc'76 and **Edward Kurek MSc'78** are delighted to announce the marriage of their eldest son Daniel Edward to Melissa Nicole Pellow. Dan and Melissa are graduates of Ryerson University and were wed in August in London.

Leonard Michael Jillard, BA'78 (Honors Physical Ed), has been promoted to the position of Senior Vice-President, People Resources and Chief People Officer for McDonald's Restaurants of Canada Limited. In his new role, Jillard will carry out the McDonald's People Promise to value each and every employee, through his leadership of the Human Resources, Training, Learning & Development and Communications departments, as well as overseeing Ronald McDonald House Charities of Canada. Jillard began his career 33 years ago behind the counter as a crew person at McDonald's in London, Ontario. He has worked his way up the ranks with McDonald's Canada, always prioritizing McDonald's charitable efforts.

Timothy David Moore, BA'79 (Economics), MBA'83, has been hired to the position of Chief Operating Officer (COO) for Jutan Limited Partnership. Established in 1952, Jutan Limited Partnership is a provider of household and consumer electronic products under the brand names Citizen, Electrohome, Memorex, and Disney. Moore brings with him 23 years of experience in the consumer packaged goods industry. He has served on many environment-conscious committees.

1980s

Richard Paul Musial, BSc'82 (Honors Geology), has been named Vice-President Exploration for GEOCAN Energy Inc. Musial brings over 23 years of geological expertise and experience that includes working in geographically diverse regions. Musial will provide strategic direction, geologic expertise and management of all aspects of GEOCAN's geological and geophysical department and will spearhead the exploration and development program on the company's 95,800 net undeveloped acres. He is a member of the Canadian Society of Petroleum Geologists.

Jeff Russell, BA'83 is pleased to announce the birth of Brook Elisabeth Russell on November 1, 2005 in Thousand Oaks, California. At 8 Pounds, 13 Ounces, she is a very happy girl. Jeff, Robin, Derek (2) and Brook reside in Thousand Oaks, California.

Chris Boynton, BA'83 has joined Radian Communication Services Corp. as the Vice President, Human Resources and Communications

Maridon Duncanson, BA'83, MA'97, published "Heaps of Love, Mum," stories of the Second World War years in Dutton, Ontario from the letters of Elona Bambridge, her grandmother. These letters chronicled the everyday life of small town Canada in the 1940s. But underlying the tales of card parties and engagements was the serious subject of the war – who had enlisted, who was missing and who, sadly, had been killed. For more information, visit: www.maridonduncanson.com

Scott Paterson, BA'85 and wife Tamara are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter Odessa Alexandra Paterson. On March 13, 2006, Odessa Alexandra Paterson opened her bright beautiful eyes. Her two-year-old brother Jack is looking forward to getting to know his younger sister even though he was hoping for the birth of a truck. Mother Tamara Bahry-Paterson and father Gordon Scott Paterson are thrilled!

Trevor Juniper, BA'85, has been appointed as general manager, Schering-Plough China, for its pharmaceutical business, based in Shanghai. Juniper most recently served as senior director, Regional Marketing, Primary Care, Asia-Pacific Region. In that role, he led the regional implementation of the global marketing strategies for the cardiovascular, allergy and dermatology brands in conjunction with country operations. Juniper earned an MBA from York University and holds a BA in administrative and commercial studies from Western.

Craig Stephen Sands, BSc'86 (Biology) has joined Accenture in Canada as Executive Partner for Accenture's Technology Consulting business in Canada. In this role, Mr. Sands will lead its technology consulting and solutions business, with a focus on enhancing the company's position as a leading global systems integrator. He will also lead the development of go-to-market strategies for its technology alliance offerings. Mr. Sands has over 19 years of experience working with technology and consulting companies in the sales and delivery of comprehensive IT-based solutions to North American and European clients.

Chris Overholt, BA'87 has been appointed Vice President, Marketing Partnerships and New Media for Dolphins Enterprises. He will be responsible for enhancing the efforts of corporate sponsor sales, service and strategic partnership planning for both the Dolphins Stadium and the Miami Dolphins. Chris will also be the leader of all new media sales initiatives. After graduating from Western, he completed the Harvard Business School Executive General Managers Program in 2001. He, his wife Nikki, and their two sons Kyle and Dylan, currently live in Parkland Florida.

Stephen Douglas Bodley, BA'89 (Honors Economics), placed in the Top 40 In-house Lawyers 40 and Under.

1990s

Ian Boyd, BA'90 would like to announce the birth of Joshua Robert Eduard on March 12, 2006. Weighing 9 pounds, 8 ounces, Joshua was born just a week before his elder sister Amy Rachael Boyd's 2nd birthday.

Paul Anthony Gibula, BESC'92 and Maria Feher (HBA and MBA University of San Francisco) of San Francisco, wish to announce their marriage. Paul and Maria met on the Nile in Egypt in December 2004 and were instantly attracted to each other, leading up to their marriage on November 10, 2005 in Maui, Hawaii. Paul and Maria reside in San Francisco, California, USA. Paul works at Barry Callebaut (a world leading industrial chocolate manufacturer) and Maria works at Citimortgage (a division of Citibank). Paul can be reached at pgibula@hotmail.com

Michael Christopher John Padfield, BA'92 (History/ Poli. Sc), placed in the Top 40 In-house Lawyers 40 and Under.

Heather Fitzmorris, BA'94 would like to announce the Leona Lawson Memorial Golf Tournament in aid of Alzheimer Research in honour of her mother Leona Lawson. This is a one time only charity fundraiser. For full details please contact Heather at 519-686-5432 or via e-mail at fitzlawson@rogers.com

Stephen L Morrison, BA'91 (Economics), MBA'94, has taken up the position of Chief Financial Officer and Senior Vice President Corporate Services for 724 Solutions (NASDAQ:SVNX)(TSX:SVN), a leading provider of next-generation, IP-based network and data services. Mr. Morrison, a Certified Management Accountant with 11 years' experience in global finance and corporate control, has been the company's corporate controller for the past three years. In March 2001, Mr. Morrison joined 724 Solutions in Hong Kong as Director of Finance for the Asia Pacific and EMEA regions.

David L. Inns, BESC'91, has been appointed as company President and Chief Operating Officer of GreatCall, Inc., Del Mar, California, a unique provider of cellular handsets and services targeted towards baby boomers and their parents. As president and COO, Mr. Inns will be responsible for launching and managing the growth of service into this underserved market. Mr. Inns' 20 years of experience in the telecom industry and his ability to nurture young companies will help complete the GreatCall executive team. Most recently, he served as Vice President of Consumer Markets at Bell Mobility in Toronto.

Terry L. Nikkel, MLIS'92, has accepted a new position as Director of Libraries for the University of New Brunswick, Saint John, NB campus. Mr. Nikkel was previous Head Systems Librarian at Dalhousie University in Halifax, NS.

Steve Adams, DDS'92 and **Don Young, DDS'85** were part of a local theatre production of You Can't Take It With You put on by the Thunder Bay Dental Association which raised \$50,000 for local community theatre - 7 months of practice for 8 sold out performances in May 2006.

Dina Grinshpun, BSc'94 (Honors Chemistry), has joined Immtech International, Inc., (IMM) in the newly created position as VP, general and IP counsel. Grinshpun previously worked at Fish & Richardson PC. She accumulated valuable experience litigating patent infringement suits in a variety of subject matters and drafting patent applications, opinion letters, and various agreements. Grinshpun received her juris doctorate from the University of Michigan Law School. She is a member of the Bar of the State of California.

Andrea Elizabeth Daly, LLB'94, placed in the Top 40 In-house Lawyers 40 and Under.

Jonathan Mark Linden, BA'95, LLB'99, placed in the Top 40 In-house Lawyers 40 and Under.

Neil Hetherington, BA'95, CEO of Habitat for Humanity Toronto spoke at Huron University College's First-Year Convocation Ceremony on September 5. Earlier this year, Neil was selected as one of Canada's Top 40 Under 40 by the Globe and Mail. After graduation from Huron with a BA in political science, followed by Seneca College, Neil volunteered with Habitat for Humanity, building homes in Hungary, Poland and Uganda. Upon his return he worked for Canada's largest condominium developer while continuing to volunteer for Habitat for Humanity locally. In September 2000, Neil was offered the job of heading the Toronto chapter and is now the youngest CEO of a Habitat affiliate in the world.

Kishna Kalicharran, PhD'96 (Microbio/Immun), has been appointed as Vice President, Business Development for Cipher Pharmaceuticals Inc. (TSX: DND). In this role, Dr. Kalicharran will be responsible primarily for pursuing strategic alliances and partnerships for the Company's drugs in targeted markets, evaluating new pipeline products and technologies, and managing the Company's intellectual property. Dr. Kalicharran completed his Postdoctoral Fellowship at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and obtained his Masters of Business Administration from Johns Hopkins. As a part-time faculty member at Johns Hopkins, he developed and taught a course on Technology Transfer & Commercialization to biotechnology graduate students. Dr. Kalicharran is a registered patent agent with the US Patent Office.

This spring **Ron Christianson, BA'96, (Huron, Honors French)** joined five Canadians among only 100 McDonald's employees from around the globe to receive McDonald's Corporation's highest honour – the Presidents' Award – at a special banquet in Chicago. The recipients of the annual award, representing the top one per cent of McDonald's employees worldwide, were chosen for their exceptional contribution to McDonald's business operations and its values. Christianson was recognized for the contribution he's made in his role as National Corporate Communications Manager, specifically for his role in communicating McDonald's charitable and socially-conscious initiatives to Canadians. Christianson joined McDonald's Restaurants of Canada Limited in May 2002 as the Corporate Communications Manager. In 2006, Ron took on added responsibilities when he was promoted to National Corporate Communications Manager, acting as the chief company spokesperson and overseeing the development of McDonald's Canadian Corporate Social Responsibility report.

David McCall, BSc'96, and Megan Davies are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter Herlève. She was born September 30.

Western Alumna **Shanah Trevenna, BESC'98**, was recently appointed Project Director for the University of Hawaii's important Futures Project. She began her

career at IBM where her success as an international project manager quickly established her as a top-ranking engineer. Shannon has always kept her deep passion for equitable sustainable growth active through volunteer work, such as chairing the Women for The World Urban Forum II committee, and through continued studies in energy physics and sustainable

community development. She will pursue her PhD in Political Science specializing in Alternative Futures. For more information, visit: www.futuresproject.com

IN MEMORIAM

The Alumni Association extends its condolences to the families and friends of the following alumni:

Constance Brown (nee Stothers), BA'26, MA'28 (Biology)
on July 22, 2006, Ottawa, ON.

Jack Walters, BA'46, MD'51
on Sunday, February 26, 2006.

William Cunningham, BA'47
on March 7, 2006, Corona Del Mar, CA

Mary Kerr, BA'48
on January 14, 2006, Comox, BC.

Dr. Philip Fitz-James, MD'49
on Oct 11, 2006, London, ON

Walter Harry Prince, QC, LLD, BA'50
on November 27, 2005 in Windsor, ON

Marjorie Ella McKinney (Hickson), BA'50
on October 11, 2005 in Windsor, ON.

B. Marks Lee, BA'51
on April 17, 2006 in London, ON.

Rhea J. Seath (Simpson), BA'52
on February 26, 2006 in Kingston, ON.

Joan Stevenson (Gillies), BA'52
on December 20, 2005, in Toronto, ON.

Brian M. Bradley, MD'54
on August 13, 2006 in Sarnia, ON.

H. Paul Galway, MD'59
on July 27, 2005 in Stittsville, ON.

Eleanor Ruth Johnston (Moul), BA'64
on May 19, 2006.

Linda Diane McPhee (Graham), BA'68
on December 30, 2004 in Petrolia, ON.

Sylvia Novack, BMus'71
on October 14, 2005 in Germany.

Lynn Buxton (Batten) BSW'72
on September 21, 2005 in Stratford, ON.

Barbara Mary Soave (Hodgins), HBA'87
on June 2, 2006 at Hamilton, ON.

Shanna Larsen, BA'04, HVA'04
on May 14, 2005 in Woodstock, ON.

OBITUARIES

Charles Edward Harpur, BSc'49 died of cancer in Sun City West Arizona on July 15, 2006 age 83. Charlie entered Western on a football scholarship and played with the Western Mustangs earning his place in the 'W' Club. He interrupted his education in June 1942 for service in the Royal Canadian Naval Reserve engaged in convoy escort duty on the North Atlantic during WWII. In 1944 he received an award from the Royal Humane Society for valiantly diving off his ship to save a sailor from drowning in the River Foyle at Londonderry, Northern Ireland. He married Lorraine Belfry in 1945 and retired from the Navy in 1946, returning to complete his education in Honors Geography at Western. Upon graduation he accepted employment with Republic Steel Corporation as a mining geologist and moved his family to Mineville, New York in the Adirondack region on Lake Champlain.

Rob Gildert, MA'99, PhD'03, died suddenly at the age of 39 in Cape Breton. Originally from Sydney,

Rob overcame difficult circumstances to become a successful professor, recognized locally and nationally for his curriculum innovation in the burgeoning years of his career at Cape Breton University. He showed incredible stamina for producing research on the topic of restorative justice, completing in record time his graduate studies with the Department of Philosophy at Western. His enthusiasm and stamina for whatever he was involved in, combined with his off the cuff humour, meant that it was hard not to be affected by the presence of Rob Gildert, even if you had just met him. He demonstrated love and caring for his family in a similar spirit, actively raising his two young children, Robert and Emily, the loves of his life, with his beloved wife Sharon (Bagnell) Gildert, whom he adored. He will be sadly missed by all those whose lives he touched.

Philip Chester Fitz-James, MD'49. He was already well versed in bacteriology from his BAsc at UBC trained by Dr. Blyth Eagles and had been employed in the Penicillin Project in the Connaught Labs, U of T before joining medical studies. He joined the Department as

a PhD student in 1950. He started this pioneering structural, biochemical and physiological study of bacterial cell differentiation in 1950 and completed his degree in 1953 on an NRC Scholarship which was continued in post-doctoral work in the department. Aside from science he brought enthusiasm for rowing as well as his own sculling single. He worked hard over years to get a rowing club started in the UWO program of sports with considerable success and intercollegiate competitions were a regular event. Somehow he persuaded a lot of students to get up excessively early for practice sessions and produced some good oarsmen and women. An outcome was also the London Rowing Club. At least one of those who took part became an Olympic medalist. So it was that Phil Fitz-James trained a number of graduate students on his scientific side and a number of oarsmen and women on the sporting side. He was a research man through and through; the MRC appointment was for that purpose and he was well supported in terms of grants and equipment. He was a truly independent soul.

WHAT'S NEW WITH YOU?

Share your news with fellow grads and help us keep our records up to date.

USE THE FORM OR WRITE A LETTER TO:

Gazetteer—Tricia Thain
Room 101, Alumni Hall,
The University of Western Ontario,
London, Ontario, N6A 5B9.

IF YOU'D PREFER:

Call: (519)661-2111 ext. 86863,
(800)258-6896 (press 4)
Fax: (519)661-3948 or
E-mail: gazetteer@uwo.ca

DEADLINE FOR INCLUSION IN THE
SPRING 2007 ISSUE IS MARCH 1

Have you taken a new job, received a promotion, award, degree, retired or celebrated another special event in the last six months? If so, please supply details on separate paper.

Name:.....Degrees:

Spouse:.....Degrees:

Retain Maiden Name? Yes No Ms Mrs

Home

Address:.....City:.....Province/State:.....PC/Zip:

Country:.....Telephone:.....E-mail:

Work

Address:.....City:.....Province/State:.....PC/Zip:

Country:.....Telephone:.....E-mail:

To have your submission considered for publication in the Western Alumni Gazette, please include your full name, degree and graduation year, along with your home phone, mailing address and e-mail address. Due to space limitations, the Gazetteer cannot always publish birth and marriage announcements. Information provided will also be used to update our records

However, you will be able to share that news and more with classmates online at www.alumni.uwo.ca/services/online-buffer.htm.

GAZETTEER SUBMISSIONS ONLINE: <http://www.uwo.ca/alumni/gazform.html>

ALUMNI EVENTS

CANADA

Burlington, ON

California Dreaming
Wine Tasting Event May 2007

Calgary, AB

Calgary Flames vs.
Atlanta Thrashers February 13, 2007
Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra
A Night at the Oscars February 23, 2007

Durham Region, ON

Alumni Event March 22, 2007

Edmonton, AB

Alumni event February 22, 2007

Guelph, ON

Beer Tasting Event February 23, 2007

Hamilton, ON

Go Cooking Event November 30, 2006
Golden Horseshoe Branch
Speaker Reception January 11, 2007

London, ON

Beer Tasting Event at
The Alex P. Keaton November 11, 2006
President's Reception at The Grand
Theatre and Group Tickets-For The
Pleasure of Seeing Her Again February 10, 2007
Live After 5: Grape Jam IV March 2, 2007
SilverStang Co-ed Hockey
Tournament April 13 - April 15, 2007

Niagara, ON

Shaw Festival Outing Spring/Summer 2007

Ottawa, Ontario

"Footsteps of the Impressionists" with
President Paul Davenport January 29, 2007
Western's Talk Tuesdays
in Ottawa February 27
and March 27
January 2007
March 2007
Wine Tasting Event
Skating Party

Sarnia, Ontario

Samia Speakers Series - 2 of 3 November 30, 2006
Samia Pub Night at Paddy's December 1, 2006
Hockey Night in Sarnia February 23, 2007
Samia Speakers Series - 3 of 3 April 12, 2007

Sault Ste. Marie, ON

Soo Greyhounds vs. London Knights January 20, 2007

Toronto, ON

Rick McGhie at The Duke November 17, 2006
Toronto Raptors vs.
Dallas Mavericks January 14, 2007
Cocktail Reception with
Heather Hiscox MA87 Host,
CBC News: Morning February 15, 2007
Alumni Western Golf
Tournament at Lionhead May 2007

Vancouver, BC

Vancouver Branch
Holiday Reception December 7, 2006
Olympic Theme Reception February 2007

Victoria, BC

Reception at The Greater
Victoria Art Gallery December 8, 2006

Waterloo, ON

Rick McGhie Night March 15, 2007

Winnipeg, MB

Wine Tasting Event April 26, 2007

INTERNATIONAL

Bridgetown, Barbados

President's Reception March 21, 2007

London, UK

Guest Speaker Event January 15, 2007
Pub Quiz Night January 26, 2007
Cooking Night February 1, 2007
Western Bowling Night March 15, 2007
Spring Wine Tasting Event May 3, 2007

Nassau, Bahamas

Alumni Cocktail Reception May 10, 2007 -

Port of Spain, Trinidad

President's Reception March 22, 2007

New York, NY

Hockey Night in New York January 31, 2007

CHAPTERS

Dentistry

Alumni Reception at the ODA
Spring Meeting April 27, 2007

Law

Alumni Denning Night in Toronto March 7, 2007

Library Information Studies

Alumni Reception at Armadillo
in Toronto February 1, 2007

Local Government Alumni Society

Annual Conference
"Does Size Matter" November 24, 2006

Nursing

Trip to Niagara-on-the-Lake Spring/Summer 2007
Golf Clinic Spring/Summer 2007

Mustang Hockey Receptions at the John Labatt Centre

"W" Club

Medicine & Dentistry November 30, 2006
Education December 2, 2006
FIMS December 3, 2006
Social Science January 6, 2007
Ivey January 13, 2007
Law January 21, 2007
Engineering January 21, 2007
Arts & Humanities January 27, 2007
February 3, 2007

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Do we live the sheltered life today?

Technology won't take humans off battlefield

By Tim Blackmore, (York BA'89, MA'90, PhD'94), Associate Professor, Faculty of Information and Media Studies

I'm hearing the pounding, louder than ever now. I've been hearing them scream out there for what seems like years.

Actually—it has been years.

My generation grew up in the shadow of World War II, under the ice of the cold war and beside America's undeclared hot war in Viet Nam. As school children we were asked to discuss the ethical problem of what one should do when the neighbors, silly grasshoppers without an air-raid shelter, foolishly came knocking at our backyard bunker door for aid. Let them in? My classmates were divided about that—eight-year-olds yelling that there was only so much room in the boat. It is and was a militarist culture that believes force is justifiable most of the time.

Contemporary so-called “warfighting,” now underway in Iraq and Afghanistan, involves Western forces laying a thick blanket of technology on the “enemy” (unfortunately including a lot of collateral damage, but after all, it is war) so as to seize “battlespace dominance.” These ungainly phrases, like “precision bombing” and “surgical strikes,” come from an Orwellian Newspeak world of lying about civilian murders, long-term environmental poisoning, and fantasies of bloodless wars. Contemporary and future wars are fourth generation wars, asymmetric battles where David (the enemy) struggles against Goliath (us, the people with apparently limitless technology and power on our side). The irony of

who assumes the role of Goliath seems to be lost on the military.

Our ideas of progress are threaded around the brainstem of high technology: we upgrade to ever faster multi-processors, lighter machines, slicker operating systems and search engines, networks of intelligent agents (mechanical and digital) that are never disconnected. For most of us, advancement in science and engineering is the definition of human forward motion.

That motion carries first into battlespace. While it seems as though we'll need smaller armies because



technology is our shield, the lessons of Korea, Viet Nam, Afghanistan and Iraq prove otherwise: technology won't take human beings off the battlefield, nor does it ever do more than delay victory by a determined, if technologically unsophisticated, opponent. Hundreds, thousands, will die immediately, and more will continue the dying later on after we've declared victory and left. On the ground, underwater and in the air, swarms, fleets, vast arrays of autonomous robots talk to each other and carry out battlespace tasks independently of human direction. Tanks and assault aircraft will continue to fire poisonous depleted uranium shells that make farmland radioactive, give civilians cancer, and teratogenic

mutations (children born without arms, eyes, stomachs, brains). Our children of 17 or 18 will meet and kill their children of 10 or 12 (some 300,000 children are in armies worldwide now—no child left behind). For the first time in 20 years, new nuclear bombs are being designed and White House officials talk openly about exploding them.

Robots, advanced prosthetics and brain implants, new drugs that allow for long periods of strenuous sleeplessness, are developed first for war. When we look 10 years or less down the barrel of our oil-rich, resource heavy way of life, we know that we will take what we can't buy.

As I continue to trace the outline of the war machine, like the shores of an ancient lakebed on which we've camped, I am forced to consider more tightly than before whether we have chosen this way of life? I have come to think that we don't run the war machine—it runs us. If we dreamed vividly enough of current war-making tools (fighter-bombers that cost \$35 million USD each, guns designed to fire at a rate of 4,000 or 6,000 rounds per minute, used not for “precision firing,” but to hose down entire areas), I suspect we would wake up to ask what our children would inherit. The size of the paradoxically-named “defense” budget (it really is attack spending, and were we being honest with ourselves we would talk about the Department of National Attack) comes directly out of the health of the planet. Three years in a row the United States has set a fiscal plan that fixes 49–51 per cent of all spending as attack spending. When I look at the numbers, the way we choose to vote, the way we deal with a world that frightens us, I think that we, not machines, are the ones operating on reflexes. Then I slide back into my usual nightmare, where there's a pounding at the door.

It keeps getting louder.



Blackmore's book *War X: Human Extensions in Battlespace* was published in 2005 by the U of T Press. ☺

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