

The University of Western Ontario

Western

summer 06

ALUMNI GAZETTE

Special Issue:
Western Alumni
in the Media

Reporting
from the
Middle East:
Adrienne
Arsenault



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On the cover: CBC's Adrienne Arsenault reports from an army post in Gaza. See related feature story on page 18.



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By Karmen Dowling, BA'96

By Terry Rice, BFA'98, MA'00

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Reporting for a century on campus and worldwide

Telling all the success stories of Western grads in the media is like describing every detail of a flowing river (including the fish). In the end, the simplest description you can offer is that it is constantly flowing. Recently several Faculty of Information and Media Studies (FIMS) students and new graduates were recipients of national broadcasting awards. Western students took home four of five scholarships awarded by the Radio and Television News Directors Foundation (RTNDF) and picked up many others, including the Barbara Frum CBC Scholarship for

Interviewing. In 2006, the success of journalism students is on par with those of 1966, 1976, 1986 or 1996. Today's FIMS grads join an extraordinary number of alumni who took different programs and approaches to earn prominence in journalism and the media.

This special issue celebrates that fact. The catalyst for this tribute is the 100th anniversary of the student Gazette newspaper. Not all writers for the Gazette were journalism students. Their academic backgrounds span the breadth of faculties on campus. There are many different paths into the world of journalism and media. Memories of the Gazette and paths to success are explored by a number of talented alumni guest writers in this magazine: Paul Berton, editor-in-chief of the London Free Press; Scott Feschuk and Paul Wells, columnists for Maclean's magazine; Gillian Livingston, reporter for Canadian Press; freelance writer/broadcaster Gloria Chang of Vancouver and several other talented scribes.

We are able to focus and highlight only a handful of media success stories that started at Western in this issue. Regretfully there are more stories to tell than pages in the magazine. Western's presence in the media really does span the globe with dozens and dozens of reporters, anchors, photographers, videographers, columnists, editors, bloggers and writers covering a full range of beats in numerous locations on most continents – who all got their start at Western.

We solicited memories and comments from Gazette alumni and included as many as we could in the printed pages. Full text and the complete submissions for all those who sent in memories can be found online at: www.alumnigazette.ca

Not all former Gazette staffers had current contact information or were able to provide feedback at the time of asking. For all those who would still like to be included, please send along your write-ups to dscott24@uwo.ca in the format you see in the magazine (or online), along with a recent head shot and we will post your recollections on our Web site. (There is more space in cyberspace to tell your stories). We also welcome all other memories of those who now enjoy careers in the media who attended Western).

Also in our online issue you will find the temporarily displaced Gazetteer section and an important story about "In Good Company," a celebration of talented women artists of London, past and present, that is being organized by father and daughter alumni Gerald (BA'61) and Louise Fagan (BA'89) and being held in October. Other online only stories are listed in our table of contents.

Thankfully 1993's threatened closure of the J-School here was stopped by the narrowest of margins. There will always be a need for journalists to tell the stories of society via the medium of the era.

Enjoy your summer!

David Scott
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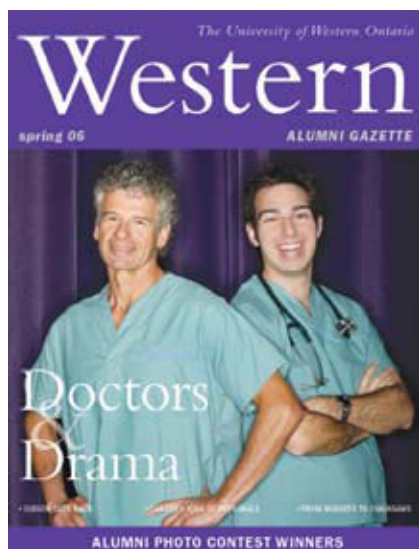
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Confusion over W Club

(Re: W Club looks to the future while preserving past, Spring 2006)

The Spring '06 edition of the Alumni Gazette (page 40) has a fine article by David Scott on how the “W Club looks to the future while preserving past.” We are delighted to congratulate the W Club on their impending golden anniversary in 2007.

As a younger organization (founded in 1987) dedicated to the support and enrichment of women’s intercollegiate sport at Western, the Women’s Athletic Alumnae (WAA) shares many of the goals of the W-Club, but with a focus on the women’s program.

While we do from time to time host events with the W Club, to avoid any confusion we must point out a basic error in the article. The statement “anyone (male or female) who has played on a varsity team is a member of the W Club when they graduate” is wrong. The W Club is the gathering point for male athletic alumni – the WAA is a separate organization which welcomes all former women athletes

Our independent organization has its own constitution, executive and board and offers a separate program for the support, enrichment and acknowledgement of the women’s program. We provide a newsletter to our alumnae once or twice a year, have mounted a pictorial display of Western’s

outstanding female athletes (FWP Jones award winners) and annually select outstanding former athletes and builders from the program for recognition at Homecoming each year.

The WAA welcomes all who are interested in supporting the continuing development of the women’s program and in recognizing the great successes they continue to attain. Check out our latest newsletter, on the web www.alumni.uwo.ca/branches/waa.htm and make a date to join us for our Homecoming lunch from 11:45 a.m. – 1 p.m. on Saturday, September 30 in the Reception Lounge of the Fowler Kennedy Clinic, 3M Centre. For more information contact the WAA at waa@alumni.uwo.ca

Helen Luckman, MEd’82 (WAA President)

Editor’s Note: Apologies for the confusion in the W Club story. It was misinterpretation by the editor of the statement “So now anyone who has played on a varsity team is a member of the W Club when they graduate,” by Ted Hessel. He did make it clear earlier in our interview that separate men’s and women’s athletic organizations existed.

Fairs has secret of eternal youth

(Re: Causing a racquet for half a century, Spring 2006) Paul Mayne’s article on Jack Fairs in the spring edition of the Alumni Gazette doubtlessly rekindled all kinds of warm memories in the minds of those who had the privilege of being coached by this truly astounding man.

For many of us, however, the picture of Jack was the true story. No listing of his many accomplishments quite captures his genius. That is to be found in his expression. Look at those eyes. They haven’t changed. They remain filled with the wit, wisdom and joy he brought to work each and every day of his lengthy career. No one I have encountered since my days at Western smiles with his unique blend of tolerance and intensity. Jack loved sport and those who played, and it’s clear from his expression that he continues to do so. That, more than

anything, is his legacy. Understand that expression and you understand great coaching. My only regret is that he is not pictured holding a wooden squash racquet in addition to the newfangled graphite model; that would have reinforced the idea that Jack, in addition to being a Western legend, has always known the secret of eternal youth. What’s that? Again, look at those eyes. **Lorne Forstner, BA’59, MA’66**

P.S. I played football at Western for a few years and was a member of the ’59 championship team. While my career as an athlete was hardly distinguished, it brought me into contact with Jack when he assisted John Metras.

Jack Fairs deserves recognition

(Re: Causing a racquet for half a century, Spring 2006)

It’s good to see Jack Fairs is still active – but not as I remember. And probably he won’t either. Jack was captain of the Tillsonburg High School basketball team in the 1940s. I was captain of the Paris High School team. We met in a WOSSA “B” Championship game in Woodstock, and his team won -- four points to two! Total score in basketball!

Then, at Western we met at both basketball and football events – he as a ‘Colt’ coach; me as a reporter. We never did recall the “Woodstock Battle.”

I’m delighted you featured him. He, like his mentor, deserves the accolades. **Austin Winch, Arts BA’49 (Journalism)**

Took similar path as letter writer

(Re: Western wins supporter, Fall 2005)

In the fall Gazette, a letter entitled “Western wins supporter,” took me only the second sentence to ascertain who the author would be -- a friend from Chatham, who boarded down the street in my home neighbourhood in Windsor, while we were both in our early years of teaching. I, too, was a product of the prevailing zeitgeist -- finish Grade 13, complete one year of teacher-training (at London Normal School), become certified, and apply for a position.

I am in full agreement with John's view of Angela Armit and his stated motivation for belatedly becoming a Western supporter. With access to courses at the University of Windsor (then Assumption College), plus summer courses at Western, it took four years to earn a Western BA. I thoroughly enjoyed the summer courses at Western and student activities and social life left many pleasant and lasting memories. Courses with Drs. Wright (Psychology), Pleva (Geography) and Packard (Geology) all became motivation for me in future personal planning.

While John Fraser referred to himself as "an uneducated elementary school principal in Chatham" at the time, I hasten to add that at retirement, he did so as Director of Education of one of the largest school systems in Canada.

Ted Kinnin, BA'54, (PhD'74, Wayne State University)

The uniqueness of unique

(Re: *Doctors & Drama, Spring 2006*)

I was perusing your article about Dr. Jeff Nisker in my daughter's Western Alumni Gazette. I was surprised that it contained a commonly seen misuse of the word 'unique' (which many people do not seem to realize means 'one of a kind'). As a magazine editor, you should be aware that something cannot be "very unique."

Ken Carter

Modest alumna leaves \$4.3M to university

By Bob Klanac

Some people make a splash in life and trumpet their financial successes. Mercedes Heal (BA'35) was not one of those people. A graduate of Western in 1935, she lived modestly, went to the Senior Alumni program on campus every week and by most accounts lived a quiet life in Old South London.

However the passing of Heal late

Political Science alumnus teaching journalism in Africa

I graduated with an MA in Political Science some 30 years ago from Western. I kept contacts with few friends until multiple postings, to head regional stations, at my radio broadcasting job. I also missed receiving the Alumni Gazette which kept me abreast with events at Western.

I have since missed the many friends I met while enrolled at the School of Journalism and in the Department of Political Science.

I am now retired from broadcasting with state radio and TV and presently teaching journalism at a privately owned higher institution, the National Polytechnic in Bamenda, North West of Cameroon. I have been head of the Department of Journalism for the past three years.

I have felt a deep desire to read from friends in Canada, the West Indies, Britain and African countries.

Gideon Taka, BA'72, MA'75

PO Box 194,

BAMENDA, North West Province,
Republic of Cameroon

Clarification:

New information regarding a story about alumnus Aubrey Dan's \$5-million gift to the Bachelor of Administrative and Commercial Studies program that

last year revealed a secret previously known only to herself and Western when her estate presented a stunning \$4.3 million bequest to her alma mater.

To Ted Garrard, Western's Vice-President (External), Heal's gift was unexpected. "When she approached us it was a surprise in that a woman who lived rather modestly and hadn't a track record with Western in giving, gave such a substantial contribution to the university."

Heal's bequest was focused on two specific areas, Garrard explains. "She

appeared in the Spring 2006 issue became available after the Alumni Gazette had gone to print. The correct information for the names of chairs, awards and fellowships associated with the gift appears below.

The \$5-million gift for endowment has been dedicated to the following:

- * \$3 million to establish a Chair in Accounting within the program to be known as the Dancap Private Equity Chair in Accounting. The endowed Chair will oversee curriculum development, and provide leadership in research and publishing, among other roles.

- * \$925,000 in support of the Dancap Private Equity Student Awards. The endowment will support up to 19 annual awards of \$2,000 each for students in their third or fourth year of the program.

- * \$500,000 toward the Dancap Private Equity Faculty Fellowships within the program. The endowment will provide resources to recruit exceptionally talented scholars.

- * \$575,000 endowed in support of the Dancap Private Equity Faculty Research Fund.

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wanted it to go to medical bursaries at the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry and opportunities for aboriginal students."

Gifts like Heal's are part of a larger trend, Garrard notes. "We are in the midst of the largest transfer of wealth from one generation to the next and more and more people are contemplating leaving part of their estate to charity.

"As such we are dealing with more and more people who are looking to make a commitment to the university in their estate."

What makes Western the mecca of Media?

By Paul Berton, BA'87



In one corner of the university campus sits a dusty, ramshackle newsroom.

In another loom the hallowed halls of what some say is the country's best journalism school. In between lies the campus that spawned an astonishing number of the nation's outstanding journalists.

But what really floats in between? What is it about the University of Western Ontario that helped create that impressive critical mass? After all, Western isn't in the nation's capital, and it isn't in the heart of Canada's biggest city. It's not in the mountains or by the sea. It's in a faded insurance town surrounded by the best agricultural land in the country.

Clearly, it is a unique kind of magic. On campus, something special has been happening for longer than any of us can remember. Amid the dignified limestone and the spectacular arboretum and the fog of the bars and alleys, journalists have been awakened, nurtured and driven to antics and excellence far and wide.

That peculiar magic helped create names such as Morley Safer of 60 Minutes, Thalia Assuras of CBS Evening News, Kevin Newman of Global News, Adrienne Arseneault and Heather Hiscox of CBC News, Andrea Canning of ABC NewsOne, Scott Feschuk, John Geddes and Paul Wells of Maclean's, Jennifer Hedger of TSN, Scott Russell of CBC Sports, Stephen Brunt, John Ibbitson and Eric Reguly of the Globe and Mail, Susan Delacourt of the Toronto Star...

The list of reporters, writers, editors and photographers is as impressive as it is endless: Joan Barfoot, Geoff Stevens, Doug Firby, Carol Off, Kevin Cox, John Miner, Steve Simmons, Joel Rubinoff, Kevin Donovan, Justin Smallbridge, David Kilgour, Heather McLennan, Manjusha Pawagi, Jim Rankin, Andrea Chiu, Dean Tweed, Rachel Sklar, Nina Chiarelli...

And while other journalism schools can also boast long lists of graduates who've gone on to dazzling careers, the list from Western comes not exclusively from the innovative MA program at the J-school, but from across campus. From the faculty of science and the department of history; from politics and pre-med. They worked at CHRW, the campus radio station, and they drank at the Wave, the Spoke, the Elbow Room and the Grad Pub. And yes, many came from the dusty Gazette newsroom where they spent far more of their university days (and nights) than they ever expected.

Perhaps that's fitting. For journalism is not about one place or one thing; it's about everywhere and everything. It's about radio and TV and websites and newspapers and magazines and books and movies. It's about personalities, issues, events, trends and trivia. Sometimes it's about nothing at all but presented in a well-crafted piece. Western provided a place for it all, plus, it seems, a certain atmosphere that got people involved.


For example, Western has some 175 active clubs on campus: an Amnesty International chapter to the Aviation Club, the Purple Spur Society to the Purple Veggies club. Are Western students really more involved? Is the campus better tuned in than others? Are the students more energetic or plugged

in to the spirit of the times? Are they better equipped, for whatever reasons, to get something started, change the world, voice their opinions, challenge authority? Over the last century, the Gazette has certainly proven it had no problems with the latter.

Perhaps Western, with its staid and historic campus, the stuffy hallways or the conservative leanings of the city itself, was a perfect breeding ground for naïve outrage and youthful attitude. Perhaps it was simply the right mix of academics, environment, social interaction and serendipity? Or perhaps we were just following the great tradition of student journalism everywhere? But one thing is for sure: attitude left — and continues to leave — its mark on journalists and journalism from Western.

Long before I went to journalism school, I was thrilled to meet Ralph Nader and cover Pierre Trudeau's raucous visit in 1979 for the Gazette. But the real fun of the newspaper then (as now, I'm quite sure) was its newsroom and the attitude of the product. The newsroom wasn't a place where people worked; it was a place where they lived (some of them literally). Meanwhile, the paper, like CHRW, is and always has been innovative and in-your-face. It's irreverent in a way that 'grown-up' newspapers can't be or won't be. It was often silly and ridiculous and cutting-edge and brilliant all at the same time.

With those kinds of attributes and that kind of an introduction, painted on a background of Western myriad attributes, how could any of us resist the craft?

Paul Berton is editor-in-chief of the London Free Press. 

Western Alumni Gazette, keep the issues coming...



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Unintentional role model

The face of First Nations at Newsworld

By Gloria Chang (MA'96)



Ten years after graduating together from Western's Graduate School of Journalism, Carla Robinson (MA'96) and I giggle over the phone about my interviewing her. "Is it weird that I'm interviewing you, a former classmate?" "Yeah," she giggles again. "It's cool," she adds.

After completing a BA in Mass Communications at Carleton University, Carla came to Western with plans to start a magazine – "kind of like Ebony for native people" – but the program's instruction in both print and broadcast media triggered a pivotal switch to television.

"[I thought] why am I doing television when I'm not going into television? I just couldn't imagine anyone hiring me," says Carla. "But once I did a story in TV, I kind of got hooked. I just enjoyed how emotional it is... the emotional magic of TV. I'm glad we had to do TV, radio and print."

Carla is a rare face on national television: she is quite possibly the only English-speaking native anchor outside of the Aboriginal Peoples Television Network and CBC North. A member of the Haisla and Heiltsuk First Nations, Carla has been an anchor at CBC Newsworld in Toronto since 1998. Being that uncommon Aboriginal face on mainstream television has made her an instant role model and representative of all native peoples – which didn't come without its challenges.

"It's a lot of pressure. Do I represent all native people? No, but in a way I do. It's kind of funny that way," says Carla, who grew up in the B.C. coastal villages of Bella Bella and Kitimaat. "It was a difficult adjustment for a period because for a while, I didn't want to be a role model."


Over talks with her older sister Eden (also thrust into the limelight as a young

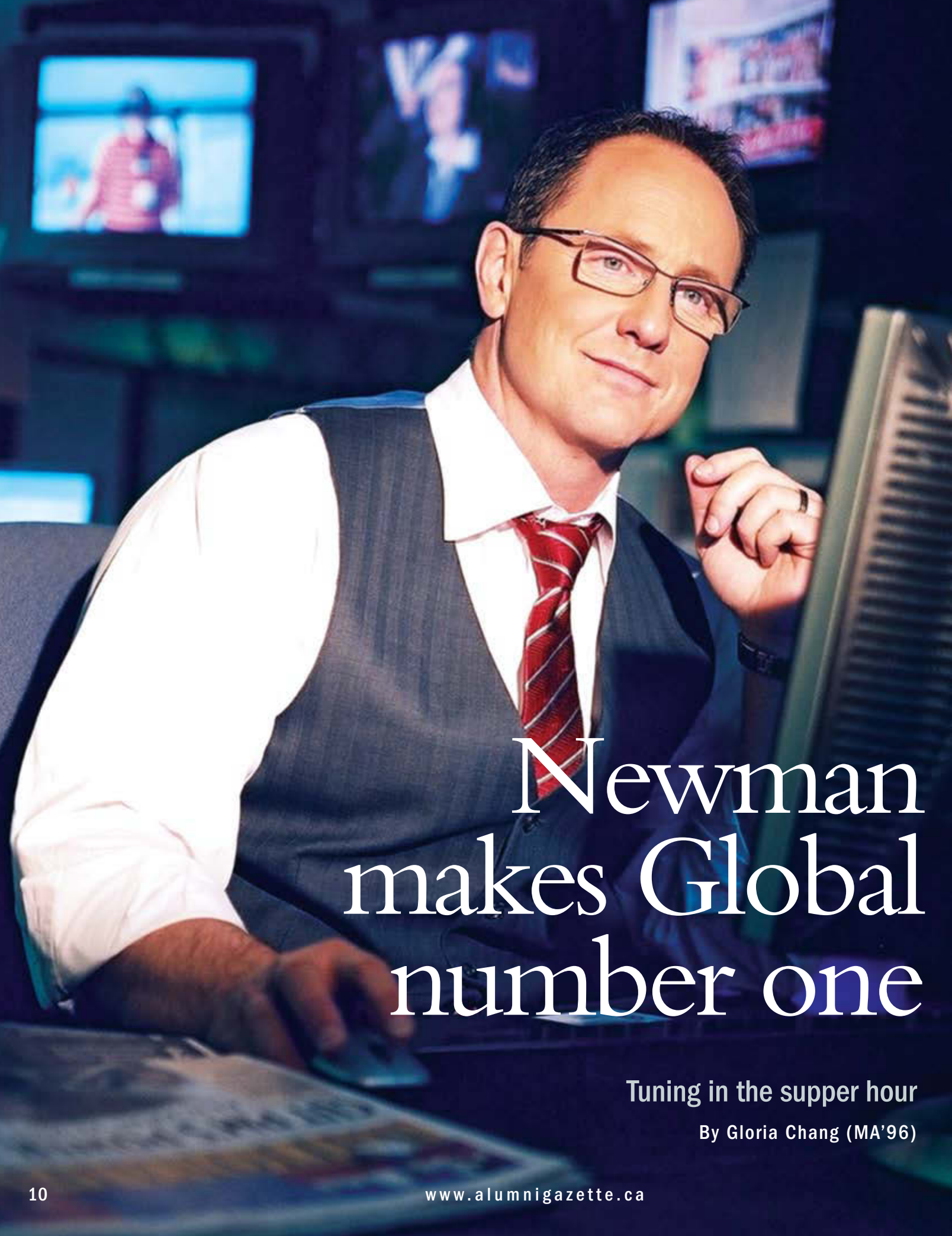
author with Governor General and Giller Award nominations), she matured into her leadership role, taking on monthly speaking engagements on topics ranging from native people in the media to the importance of traditional knowledge in today's modern society. She now revels in the community strengthening and educational impact of her presence, particularly with the 2003 launch of the First People's edition of *Absolutely Canadian*, a weekly roundup of local aboriginal stories from across the country.

"When we first started out, we would have to re-run entire shows sometimes because there were not enough new aboriginal stories to put together another show," laughs Carla. "[But] the local reporters soon caught on that if they did a native story, they were guaranteed a national slot on Newsworld, so that kind of appealed to their egos."

The increased number of stories has allowed reporters more access to native communities, but more importantly for Carla, helps balance the coverage of them. "We really try to make an effort to find those positive stories and put them in the show because it gets frustrating for native people, for me, to watch the news and only see the negative part of our community reflected back at us," says Carla. "It tends to skew people's views. For me, that's why it's important. I know the power of the media in terms of shaping people's perspectives of the world."

With her smooth, gentle voice, not unlike jazz it strikes me, Carla says she's glad to see a more open attitude in media. "I think newsrooms in general are slowly waking up to the realization that Canada is a diverse society," she says. Softer: "I'm not smashing down windows, but I'm here."

Carla Robinson anchors CBC Newsworld's evening newscasts and the First People's edition of *Absolutely Canadian*. She also hosts CBC's monthly educational program, *News in Review*. 



Newman makes Global number one

Tuning in the supper hour

By Gloria Chang (MA'96)

The summer after his first year at Western, Kevin Newman (BA'81) ran a painting business for College Pro Painters "because I thought maybe I wanted to be a businessman," he recalls in a small boardroom at Global National in Vancouver, B.C. on a Monday morning, his fingers tapping softly on the table. "But that was enough to cure me of that," he laughs.

The second summer he tried on the hats of two other careers gnawing at him: public relations and journalism. His timing was impeccable; Western was just launching its own radio station, and station manager Pat Nagle agreed to let Newman start a news department. Fall came, and juggling full-time studies with a part-time job at McDonald's, Newman launched a daily newscast and weekly public affairs show as its first news director.

Journalism won.

"What I discovered with CHRW was that I loved the incredible freedom of being able to ask anybody about anything," says Newman. "I got to meet people that I would never have been able to any other way. So, I thought that was a pretty cool way to spend a life."

Cool is an apt, if not understated, word to describe his career.

Twenty-five years after his first taste of news at CHRW, he has interviewed many of the world's most memorable leaders: Margaret Thatcher, Nelson Mandela, Jimmy Carter and Bishop Tutu. He has reported or anchored from Russia, Cuba, Iraq, Israel, Poland, Macedonia, and Iceland. Rising through the ranks from coffee boy at Global Toronto to national correspondent and host for CBC and CTV News, followed by a seven-year stint States-side as co-host and correspondent at Good Morning America, Nightline with Ted Koppel and World News Tonight with Peter Jennings, Newman wears the quiet confidence and informed straightforwardness that can only be described as quintessentially Canadian. He's so far from boasting, it's almost difficult to get details of a new student award he's established as a part of Foundation Western. "Well, they go to the station manager at CHRW and say they'd like to be considered for the... Kevin Newman bursary fund," he laughs, amused even, at the thought of an award being named after him. (In fact, it's called

the Kevin Newman 125th Anniversary Alumni Award. Undergraduate students who are actively involved with CHRW and demonstrate academic achievement and financial need can apply).

But when asked if he's seen changes in the Canadian journalism landscape, he finally offers with a show of genuine pride that the major change is, well, him. And the Global National newscast.

Since September 2001, Canada has had three network newscasts. Newman returned to Canada to launch Global National out of Vancouver as anchor and executive editor. The newscast has won Best Network Newscast 2005 from the Radio-Television News Directors Association of Canada. Newman, himself, won the 2005 Gemini for Best News Anchor (which should be a nice addition to his multiple Emmy, Leo, and Peabody awards).

"That's why I took the job," says Newman. "I wanted to be in on the ground on something that was new and just starting so we could have more creative input." The result is Canada's only supper-hour network newscast – common for American audiences since late night network news doesn't exist in the U.S., but uncharted territory for Canadian viewers. Its style is "showier, a little more aggressive, a little more energetic," says Newman. "A lot of that has to do with its time slot. It's not on at 10 or 11 at night when people are a little more reflective. It's on at 5:30 when people are on the go."

Newman was happy to apply his knowledge of supper-hour network news – and have a hand in shaping the relatively conservative news medium that is television. "The newspapers had evolved. The Globe [and Mail] was substantially refreshed. The National Post had come on the scene. But the network newscasts hadn't changed much," says Newman. "It had been a remarkably staid form of news in Canada... so it was a good opportunity to see if we could create an audience in Canada for something that hadn't existed before at that point."

They have. Since a standard broadcast time of 5:30 pm across Canada (6:30 in the Maritimes) in February, the show averages close to a million viewers – ahead of both CBC's National with Peter Mansbridge and CTV's National

News with Lloyd Robertson, according to Nielsen Media Research. (Ratings, however, is a tricky game. In the 25-54 age group – the group most coveted by advertisers – CTV pulls ahead. As well, there are more people watching TV during the supper hour than in late evening). Safe to say that Global National has carved out its niche in network news – with its "small, little guerilla team," says Newman when he accepts his Gemini, or rather, the "Peter Mansbridge" award, he jokes. Without going into numbers, Newman says that Global National is produced with a quarter of the staff at CTV National News, and one-sixth of CBC: The National, a prototype, in many ways, he thinks, of network news in the future.

Television advertising is on a downward spiral. Having jumped the hurdle of establishing itself as a credible, third alternative to network news, Global National's next challenge is to stake out its home among the thieves of TV advertising dollars: the Internet. That has led to a conscious business decision to provide newscasts to cell phones, a website, reporter and anchor blogs, and the country's first national news podcast.

"We're trying to migrate to the internet. Yes, it's only a 1.5 minute newscast on your cell phone for now. But in two years when they solve the bandwidth problem, at least we'll have the real estate there," says Newman. "We will have bought the plot of land in order to build the house."

"He's been very supportive of making Global National a leader not only in network news coverage of events, but also the interactive," says Brian Liu, interactive producer for Global National. "He takes us beyond the traditional news method of the anchor reading the news."

Last thoughts on where Canadian television news is headed?

"It's going to get better," says Newman. "Better because we're going to be able to show you everything that happens...constraints are disappearing. We can bring cameras anywhere and transmit pictures anywhere. There will be no events that will not be recorded for viewers to see."

And with that he politely mentions that we'll need to wrap up; he has a news promo to record. ☺

Celebrating 25 years of independent radio

The history of CHRW, 94.9 FM

By Steve Kopp, BA'82, MSc'84



CHRW origins date from 1959 when student politicians suggested that a student-run radio station would be a good idea. However, it was not until 1971 that radio at Western started to get going when a group of students began broadcasting for six hours every Sunday night on CFPL-AM 980. This encouraged the University Students' Council (USC) to give financial support for a closed-circuit station to be set up first in Somerville House and later at the new (at that time) University Community Centre. Interest in the station waned between 1974 and January 1978, at which time the old carrier current and cable frequencies were established. The station ceased to exist as 1978 began. At one point Radio Western was also broadcast as a weekly show on 95.9FM in London.

In March 1979 the USC held a

referendum asking students if they would support a radio station. The referendum passed by a 4-to-1 margin. The new Radio Western (with call letters CHRW) spent the summer of 1979 getting ready. Two people were hired full time. Pat Nagle came on board as the first station manager and Roy Blake was put in charge of building the station from the ground up as the technical director. A call for volunteers went out in September as classes began. The volunteers spent hours hooking up equipment and getting the left-over stacks of records (from the previous radio station) sorted out. Finally, on Monday, January 14, 1980 at 8:00 am, the new Radio Western made its first broadcast with little or no fanfare. The station continued to broadcast until midnight each day until April 30, 1980 after which the station shut down for the months of May, June, July and August. Finally, on September 2, 1980, CHRW went back on the air, where it has been ever since.

In those early days, CHRW was only available on closed-circuit at

various points on campus. It was also available on London Cable and McLean Hunter Cable (at two different frequencies). Behind the scenes, Pat Nagle was putting together a proposal to the Canadian Radio-Television and



Jennifer Palisoc

Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) to grant CHRW a full-fledged FM license. CHRW was granted a low power (50 watts) community-based campus radio station license in June 1981 for broadcasts on public airwaves. The frequency was set at 94.7 FM.

CHRW began test broadcasting

to where it was at that point, began things that day at noon with a small speech about what CHRW had to offer the community. Ten minutes later, CHRW's chief announcer, John Quain, took over the controls and played CHRW 94.7 FM's first song – "(You Turn Me On) I'm a Radio" by Joni Mitchell (Canadian right off the bat!). A few minutes later came CHRW's first request – "Urgent" by Foreigner. When John Quain politely told the caller that was not the type of music CHRW played, the caller then suggested "Sister Europe" by the Psychedelic Furs. Quain was more than happy to play that, and 94.7 FM was on its way. Later that afternoon, the schedule continued with a Mustang tradition - live Saturday afternoon football.

The power increase to 3000 watts was granted and implemented in October 1990, allowing coverage of the surrounding area from Chatham to Woodstock. The official date of the power increase was October 31, 1990, exactly nine years after the move to 94.7 FM. In November 2003, then Station Manager Mario Circelli's plan to implement a further power increase to the present 6000 watts, a change of frequency to 94.9 FM and transmitter location change to 1 London Place came to fruition. The



Elliotte Friedman

stations having won the Canadian Music Industry Campus Radio Station Award in 1995 and 2001 and the 2000 Fred Sgambati Award for University Sports Coverage. CHRW is the founder of the London Music Archives and co-founder of the Jack Richardson Music Awards. CHRW alumni include Kevin Newman (Anchor - Global National), Avis Favro (Medical Reporter - CTV), Adrienne Arsenault (CBC Middle East Bureau Chief), Dan Shulman (ESPN), Elliotte Friedman (CFL on CBC & Hockey Night In Canada), John McKenna (Executive Producer - CH News Hamilton), Jennifer Palisoc (Weekend Anchor - A-Channel London). Currently more than 250 volunteers participate in CHRW - through on-air and/or involvement in the local music scene.

This fall, 94.9 CHRW celebrates its 25th anniversary, broadcasting on FM. Check out www.chrwradio.com/25years.html for the "Homecoming Schedule." If you have any material you'd like to see on CHRW's website archive (memories, magazines, posters, recordings, please contact the Station Manager, Grant Stein at chrwgm@uwo.ca or 519-661-3601.



From left to right: Art Becker, John McKenna and Kevin Newman broadcast Mustangs football.

at 94.7 FM on Friday, October 16. However, the official date of the power increase to 50 watts took place at noon, on Saturday, October 31. Pat Nagle, the man who got CHRW

station is now heard northeast to the edge of Waterloo and down Highway 24 to Lake Erie.

CHRW is one of Canada's highest rated community-based-campus radio

This history of CHRW was written by Steve Kopp – host of The Beat Goes On/History of Us for the last 23 years. ☺

A portrait of Heather Hiscox, a woman with short, layered blonde hair and bangs, smiling warmly. She is wearing a bright red blazer with orange buttons and has her arms crossed. She is wearing a watch on her left wrist and rings on both hands. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

Waking up the world

Heather Hiscox makes morning news 'new'

By David Scott

The morning should start the day.

While that might not seem like a profound concept, it was the basis news executives used to reformat CBC News: Morning, the show Heather Hiscox (MA'87, Journalism) hosts each weekday at 6 a.m.

"We used to be a following of what The National had from the night before. The morning show should launch the day, rather than follow the day. We try as best we can to set the agenda for the day, to let people know as they wake up, number one, what's happened overnight," says Hiscox.

The CBC morning show has been around for a number of years with a variety of hosts but the recent change was a "fundamental re-think of the program" – meant to re-examine the approach to morning television. She began as host in August 2005 but because of the lockout at CBC, the program didn't air until November.

Part of the re-examination was determining what the show didn't want to be. Long-running Canada A.M. on CTV, has been criticized for being 'too soft' and parodied recently on This Hour Has 22 Minutes. Hiscox maintains that Canada A.M. will always have its share of the morning audience. The morning show tradition is more of a variety show than a news program, she says. "If you look to the American models, the much more established shows, Today has cooks and bands as guests. I think someone who wants that whole entertainment package will look to Canada A.M. That's not the kind of show I want to do at this point in my career. I don't think the audiences are one and the same."

Hiscox, who reports her show has seen a significant growth in audience

since being re-launched in November, says News Morning probably competes more directly with CNN than Canada A.M. (although she's quick to point out that the show is "not trying to emulate CNN" and "still has a Canadian and public broadcasting flavour"). People who tune in want news in a rapid manner when they wake up, says the host. And the international resources of CBC can deliver news from overseas with Harry Forestell based in London, England as the international editor and reporter.

The former Miss Teen Canada (1981) has been a natural at the microphone since her teenage years. Her first broadcasting job was on CFOS-FM in her hometown of Owen Sound. "I was 17 at the time. I did everything from 'Dial-a-Deal' which was a call-in trade and sell show, to funeral announcements, writing newscasts, anchoring newscasts, doing the music programming, writing commercials. That kind of apprenticeship showed me this is a business I'm really interested in. I just didn't know which path then."

Hiscox credits that early exposure to the world of communications as fostering her love for broadcasting. At a summer job in London during her undergrad years, she worked as a disc jockey at FM 96. The improvisational skills learned from working as a DJ serve Hiscox well in her daily role as host of a TV morning show.

"I do four-and-a-half hours of live TV a day. And things go wrong. Cameras break down. Guests don't materialize. Satellites shut down half way through an interview. You have to be able to just talk." Live radio and hosting a television program are similar in that you're chatting with people, transitioning from one guest to

the next, and when things are coming down around you, you just have to keep calm, says Hiscox.

She broke into television news by doing double duty one summer. Global, in one of its expansion phases, made a commitment to the CRTC to open more bureaus. When the network decided to open a southwestern Ontario bureau, it came looking for someone who had a feel for the community and news experience.

"I was still doing morning radio and would get up at 4 a.m., go on-air at 5, finish at 10 a.m. Then Global would send a car with a cameraman from Toronto. We'd then shoot a regional story, drive back to Toronto, while I'd be writing my script in the car, edit it there. Catch the 8 p.m. or 9 p.m. bus or train and get back to London at 11 p.m." After that fatiguing schedule for half a year, Hiscox made a choice and decided to leave radio and remain in television. She often relays that story when talking to students about her entrance into television broadcasting. "It's very illustrative of the things we have to do to start out. It was a valuable experience."

The Western grad worked as a reporter for The National in 2002. There were stresses and challenges along the way but Hiscox finds her work rewarding. "The worst stories to do (in evening news) are the ones you get assigned at 6 or 7 p.m. Finding the people, the pictures. Doing the story for 9 p.m. – the early deadline. Those are ones I remember as particularly intense – running through the newsroom in my bare feet, tape of my stand-up in my hand, trying to get it up to the fourth floor."

In her current position as anchor-

BROADCASTING HISTORY

CFOS-FM •

Owen Sound, Disc Jockey (DJ)

CFPL FM-96 •

London, DJ

CFPL-TV •

London, Co-host, London Scene

CJBK-AM •

London, DJ

Global TV •

Southwestern Ontario Correspondent

CBC-TV •

Reporter, The National

CBC-TV •

Host, CBC News: Morning

host, it is the variety and being at the centre of the action that keeps her work interesting. "Everyday is constantly changing and that is extremely appealing to me. It's the constant learning and the brush with people who are fascinating, powerful and brilliant – who have interesting things to say and are passionate about what they do – that is amazing."

The Western alumna saw action as a CBC reporter covering the U.S. election in 2004 from Florida, a few months later back in the Sunshine State reporting on the Terri Schiavo right-to-die story, and has worked extensively out of CBC's Washington bureau. However it's important for Hiscox as a journalist to remain in Canada and work for a Canadian network. "I like how we do news better (in Canada). I like the fact that we have some pith to our stories and not just sizzle. We're not so ruled by ratings – that decisions aren't made on

that basis alone." Hiscox is bilingual and lived in Montreal for a number of years as a television reporter.


Every day she covered the homecoming of the modern Olympic Games to Athens (2004), she was moved by the stories of the athletes. "I love the country. I'm proud. I cry every day when I'm covering the Olympics because the Canadian stories thrill me and touch me in a way." Hiscox said in a phone interview in May that she also cries every Canada Day when she hosts a CBC news special. "So, I'm really kind of nervous about this because I'm working with Peter Mansbridge this year – and I think I better get this in check."

No matter if tears flowed on Canada Day, viewers know that Heather Hiscox's passion for telling the news is genuine.

Daily work schedule:

4 a.m.	First meeting
6 a.m.	On the air
3 p.m.	Out of office (11-12 hour work day)
Afternoon	Go for a jog
Dinner	
7 p.m.	Research on computer
9 p.m.	Time for bed

What do you do to relax?

"Try to get out with friends one night a week so I have some semblance of normalcy, and schedule an early dinner so I have some human contact. I'm a tennis player. I'm a sports fan. Reader, relaxer, cottage-goer. Love going to plays, arts events. Dining out. Traveller, music lover." London is home for Hiscox on weekends with her husband, surgeon Martin Goldbach (MD'69), University Hospital. She works during the week in Toronto at CBC. 

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



Hooked by power of the story



Ravi Baichwal's climb to prime time

By David McPherson, BA'96, MA'98

Sitting on his daddy's knee, while his father sipped tea, Ravi Baichwal (BA'89, Honors Political Science) got his early education from Walter Cronkite; father and son shared the stories that the famed newsman brought into their home each evening and from that moment on the current anchor of CTV's Newsnet Morning was hooked by the power of the story.

"My mother tells the story about how by 1975, when I was 10 years old, I was talking to people in my class about the coup in Argentina," recalls the affable Baichwal, who also serves as a correspondent for CTV National News, fills in for Lloyd Robertson, and occasionally sits in as host for Canada AM.

Flash back to 1974 and Baichwal is perched in front of the TV when his after-school cartoons are interrupted by "some hearings." His father explains to him that these news briefs are the Watergate hearings and the nine-year-old ends up becoming even more intrigued with the power of the press.

I meet Baichwal, who is dressed casually in a Roy Halladay Blue Jays' replica jersey, at Starbucks in Don Mills — not far from where the newsman grew up. It's the end of a hot news day

in Hogtown as the city woke up to a surprise wildcat strike by the TTC, which left 700,000 commuters scrambling to find a way to get to work. We talk about his journalism journey and the buzz that the news business brings to him each day when he wakes up at 4 a.m.

Following high school, Baichwal says that he was "too chicken" to go to journalism school; he didn't want to do something so vocational at the age of 18, so he took politics and French language studies, and also got involved in the University Student Council at Western. "I had designs to become a lawyer," he says. "But, I knew deep down that my gut instinct of what I was probably best at was broadcast journalism." Yet, it took him a dozen years before he landed on his true career path.

Baichwal began his career in corporate communications with Ontario Hydro. After five years, he moved to Queen's Park to work for cabinet minister Greg Sorbara. When Mike Harris won the 1995 provincial election, Baichwal found himself as a 30-year-old, who was out of a job, and at a career crossroads. Finally, that gut instinct kicked in. Memories of that childhood ritual of sitting on his daddy's knee watching Cronkite returned, and

he realized a broadcast journalism career was where his true passion lay.

Dogged determinism and pestering the CBC for months led to a research job at Newsworld in Calgary in 1996. Following stops in Halifax for the CBC and an anchor job in Vancouver for CTV, Baichwal was offered a national job with CTV in Toronto in the summer of 2002.

Baichwal's forte is anchoring live, breaking news and he has been fortunate in the last five years to be sitting in the anchor's chair for some defining news stories such as the Space Shuttle Challenger disaster and the day Saddam Hussein was found alive. "I feel like the luckiest guy in the world," he says. He refers to CTV as his "family" and sees being with the network for many years to come.

As our interview ends, and Baichwal prepares to return to his Unionville home to read the wires to get ready for the next day's newscast, I inquire what he thinks the future holds for broadcast journalism.

"There is always going to be a demand for a defining newscast," he says. "Maybe it will shift to six o'clock as opposed to 11 o'clock, but society is still going to demand being able to tune in at a certain time and a certain place to get what they perceive as a valuable newscast." ■



A rock and hard places

Adrienne Arsenault (BA'90, MA'91, Journalism) reports from one of the most volatile places on Earth, yet her outlook is optimistic

By Terry Rice, BFA'98, MA'00

There's a "jagged, fist-sized" rock that sits on Adrienne Arsenault's desk.

It's a keepsake from when she and cameraman Azur Mizrachi were stoned by protesters while covering the conflict between ultra-orthodox and secular Israelis in Jerusalem, in July 2003. After a foot race, being dragged and finally making it back to her vehicle,

"my rock" as she calls it, came crashing through the back window. She's kept it ever since – a kind of "mascot" but also memento of that moment.

It's the kind of reporting Arsenault prides herself on.

"I don't ever want to feel detached from anything I do...that's the time I'll need to step out, when I no longer feel a

connection. But for now my connection is nice and sharp," she says.

Since 2003 Arsenault has been working as the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation's bureau chief based in Jerusalem – a job she says was never part of any master plan.

"I'm not the bravest person on the planet, that's for sure. I was always

very intimidated by the region, but an opportunity came up and some people I know and trust and respect said just try it, just give it a shot, and I'm glad I did."

Intimidation can't last long when you're reporting from one of the most volatile parts of the globe.

"I am not a war-zone craving, maniacal, reporter. If people are shooting I'd like to get away. Having said that, I can think of three separate times in Gaza when I've been a lot closer than I'd like to air strikes, to shooting, to shelling," she says.

"It's hard to sleep when it's just before dawn and a sonic boom shakes the walls and the windows sort of warp in. And my colleague down the hall, the bathroom tiles crashed to the floor. Physically there are moments when you can't sleep, but we are lucky. We have access to food and water and some power and shelter and we can leave... We're never as hard off as some of the people we spend time with," she adds.

The streets of Jerusalem are a long way from her days growing up in Toronto and studying politics and journalism at The University of Western Ontario. But those early years at Western have proven influential.

"I was attracted to the idea of being able to do a one-year program and get out. What I didn't expect was to love it as much as I did. The best thing for me was writing something and then it would come back with Mack Laing's red crayon all over it – he had absolutely decimated the copy and effectively beat the art of writing into us."

And what she took away from the program was not the mechanics or the theory.

"It was just the idea that no matter what era you're in a good story, well told, will always be important... Whether we were doing radio or TV or print it was always this focus on story telling and they never let us forget it. And I'm grateful to them for that."

Fresh from Western, Arsenault landed an interview with *As It Happens*, one of CBC's flagship radio programs.

Excited and a bit green she got lost in the big building on Jarvis Street in Toronto and ended up on the fifth floor (television). Call it fate, she asked for directions from the late David Bazay, at that time Executive Producer for The

National. A few questions later and Bazay told Arsenault, "You know what? You're not going to your interview. You're going to work for me as an Editorial Assistant... you'll start on Monday."

Delivering newspapers around the newsroom at 5:45 a.m. and running up and down stairs handing out scripts didn't fit with her "big hopes and expectations". A discouraged Arsenault was told by Bazay to, "be patient, just watch everyone and everything and if it's going to happen it's going to happen."

And it has.

Arsenault recently won Journalist of the Year for 2005 from the Commonwealth Broadcasting Association for her work covering the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the death of Pope John Paul II and the aftermath of the Asian tsunami. She has been nominated for two Gemini awards and has won awards from the American Society of Professional Journalists, the radio and television news directors association, and the New York and Columbus film festivals.

She is humble about her success and credits her peers at the CBC, Anna Maria Tremonti in particular, for motivating her. She also credits Ann Medina for inspiring her to believe she could be a good journalist, helping her connect with places that seemed so far away.

Today, Arsenault is the one providing inspiration to a new generation of

journalists. At 39 she has been a correspondent in Washington, bureau chief in Jerusalem and in October she will be the new correspondent in London, England.

She will leave Jerusalem with many memories.

"As horrible sometimes as these stories are, there is a richness to the experience here that is endlessly fascinating. My list of stories I haven't told is huge. And I look at the little stories I have told and it seems paltry. The list of stories you want to tell goes on and on and on," she says.

But there are things she won't miss.

"There's a lot of hatred here – it's exhausting. I think that's the thing I will miss the least. The anger, and the hatred, and the rage, and the venom, and the cruelty – I won't miss that."

She is excited about the many opportunities that London will bring. Beyond that, what will the future be like for Adrienne Arsenault?

"I guess I should figure that one out," she jokes.

"It's a long, endlessly fascinating road and job to have. You have no idea one day to the next where you're going to be, whom you're going to meet, what you're going to see. If you're a curious person I can't think of a better job on the planet." ❧



A Jewish settler's "hothouse" prior to the pullout from Gaza.

DISCOVER THE WORLD



EXPEDITION TO ANTARCTICA **January 12 – 25, 2007**

This journey starts with visits to Buenos Aires and Tierra del Fuego National Park before boarding the M.S. Diamant to explore Antarctica. Discover this pristine wilderness, where penguins, seals, whales and seabirds flourish and towering mountains of ice and lava rise abruptly out of the ocean.
Gohagan – from \$5895 plus air



WINGS OVER THE NILE **January 26 – February 9, 2007**

This trip aboard Intrav's exclusively chartered plane is the most secure and comfortable way to explore this part of the world. Walk in the footsteps of Napoleon, Pharaoh Ramses II and the ancient Egyptians. A three-day Nile River cruise is followed by four nights in Jordan, with visits to Petra and the Dead Sea.
Intrav – from \$5810 includes internal air. Return flights from Canada additional.



CRUISE THE PANAMA CANAL **January 31 – February 11, 2007**

Join alumni from Western, the University of Toronto, Queens and McGill to cruise aboard the six-star Crystal Symphony from Costa Rica, through the Panama Canal, to the beautiful Caribbean. Ports of call include Aruba, St. Kitts, St. Barths and St. Thomas. (sold out in 2006)
AHI – from \$2665 plus air



TREASURES OF NEW ZEALAND **February 1 – 14, 2007**

New Zealand has a unique blend of colourful Maori culture and British influence. Climb Mount Eden, tour a vineyard, marvel at shimmering lakes and snow-capped Mount Cook, cruise through lush rain forest and enjoy the cities of New Zealand.
AHI - \$4545 plus air



WONDERS OF THE GALAPAGOS ISLANDS

February 23 – March 3, 2007

The expedition vessel M.V. Santa Cruz is your base for exploration. Led by a team of certified naturalists, you will discover the natural beauty and unique wildlife of the Galapagos. Optional post-trip to Machu Picchu, Lima and Cuzco.
Gohagan – from \$3335 plus air

WATERWAYS OF HOLLAND & BELGIUM **April 16 – 24, 2007**

Cruise the scenic canals of Holland & Belgium. Explore the history, art, culture, horticulture and engineering of the region. Visit Keukenhof Gardens, Deventer, Arnhem, The Hague, Delft, Willemstad, Bruges, Antwerp and the Delta Works Storm Surge Barriers. Guest Lecturer, Dr. Robert B. van Huystee, Professor Emeritus (sold out in 2006)
AHI – from \$2045 plus air



TREASURES OF JAPAN **May 15 – 26, 2007**

Explore the fascinating culture of Japan, an island nation where the eternal quest for tranquility is juxtaposed with a modern lifestyle. You will partially ascend, by bus, majestic Mt. Fuji, travel by bullet train to Kyoto and cruise Lake Ashi to view hidden forest shrines. The hot springs, gardens, temples and mountain panoramas of Japan are all offered in this trip.
AHI - \$4195 plus air



SHANGRI-LA **May 25 – June 12, 2007**

Experience the majesty and serenity of the Himalayas, first in China's most picturesque province, Yunnan, then in Tibet, the "Roof of the World." Learn about the people, arts and culture of the region. Complete your tour in vibrant Shanghai.
Baraka Tours



SARDINIA & CORSICA WITH ROME **May 25 – June 5, 2007**

The beautiful Mediterranean will be at your doorstep as you spend four nights in each of Sardinia, Italy and Corsica, France. Island explorations include visits to archaeological ruins, 5000-year-old stone carvings, historic towns and a cruise along Corsica's craggy coast. Your trip concludes with two nights in Rome.
AHI - \$3345 plus air



ITALY'S MAGNIFICENT LAKE DISTRICT **May 29 – June 6, 2007**

Your base for the week is a lakeside villa in the town of Baveno, on Lake Maggiore. Day trips will take you to Milan, to visit La Scala, the 14th century Doumo and Santa Maria delle Grazie, home to Leonardo da Vinci's "Last Supper" fresco. Experience the lakes with cruises on Lake Como and Lake Maggiore.
AHI - \$2645 plus air



Alumni Western's "Discover the World" offers educational travel for Western alumni and friends.

Our programs include excursions, most meals, on-site lectures, qualified local tour guides and a full time tour director. The focus is a full cultural experience.

Contact us for a copy of any of the brochures, or to be added to our mailing list.

Alumni Western 2007 Programs



DANUBE RIVER AND THE HABSBURG EMPIRE

June 6 – 16, 2007

Explore the Baroque treasures of Vienna, the storybook villages of the Wachau Valley and the imposing monuments of Budapest, aboard the M.S. Amadeus Royal. Travel between Krakow and Prague on the elegant Majestic Imperator Train de Luxe.

Gohagan – from \$3495 plus air



IRELAND – ENNIS & KILKENNY

June 30 – July 11, 2007

Discover the wonders of two distinct regions of Ireland with five nights in ancient Ennis and five nights in Ireland's prettiest inland city, Kilkenny. Explore the mystery of Burren and the majesty of the Cliffs of Moher. Cruise to the Aran island of Inishmore and see the historic fortress of Dun Aengus.

AHI - \$2895 plus air



UKRAINE ON THE DNEIPER RIVER

July 26 – August 8, 2007

Visit Kiev, Odessa, Zaporizhia and Bucharest while on your 11 day cruise aboard the M.S. Dneiper Princess. Attend an opera or ballet at the Odessa Theater of Opera and Ballet and enjoy a Cossack Horse Show. Your last two nights will be spent in Bucharest.

AHI – from \$1895 plus air



CRUISE THE PASSAGE OF PETER THE GREAT

July 30 – August 11, 2007

Cruise beyond tourism's reach, through the legendary waterways of Russia to reach towns such as Uglich, Yaroslav, Goritsy and Kizhi Island. Highlights include the Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg, the Kremlin and Red Square in Moscow and an exclusive tour of the Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Centre in Star City, Russia.

AHI – from \$2645 plus air



CHINA - SILK ROAD BY TRAIN

September 10 – October 1, 2007

Begin in Beijing to journey aboard the "China Orient Express". Visit sites including Xian, home of the Terra-Cotta Warriors, the Mogao Caves, the ancient city of Gaochaing and the bazaars of Kasgar.

Baraka Tours

FRENCH RIVIERA – PROVENCE & COTE D'AZUR

September 15-26, 2007

Spend five nights in Avignon, in the heart of Provence and five nights in Nice, on the shimmering Cote d'Azur. Tour Avignon's Palace of the Popes and the UNESCO site of Arles and Orange. View the works of the Impressionists at the Foundation Maeght and those of Chagall at the Museum Marc Chagall.

AHI - \$3345 plus air

EL CAMINO DE SANTIAGO

October 2 – 17, 2007

Your adventure begins in Bilbao, Spain with a tour of the Guggenheim Museum. For the next 14 days, the group will cover 124 km of el camino by foot and road, following the 100-year-old route of pilgrimage from Pamplona to Santiago de Compostela. Days are spent hiking and visiting sites of interest and nightly accommodation will be in quaint country inns and hotels.

Adventures Abroad - \$3472 plus air

ISLAND LIFE IN ANCIENT GREECE

October 13-21, 2007

This voyage will take you across the Aegean Sea through the Greek Isles to Turkey's historic coast. Explore Delos and Santorini, stroll the streets of Ephesus, sail to legendary Troy aboard the M.S. Diamant.

Gohagan - from \$3495 plus air

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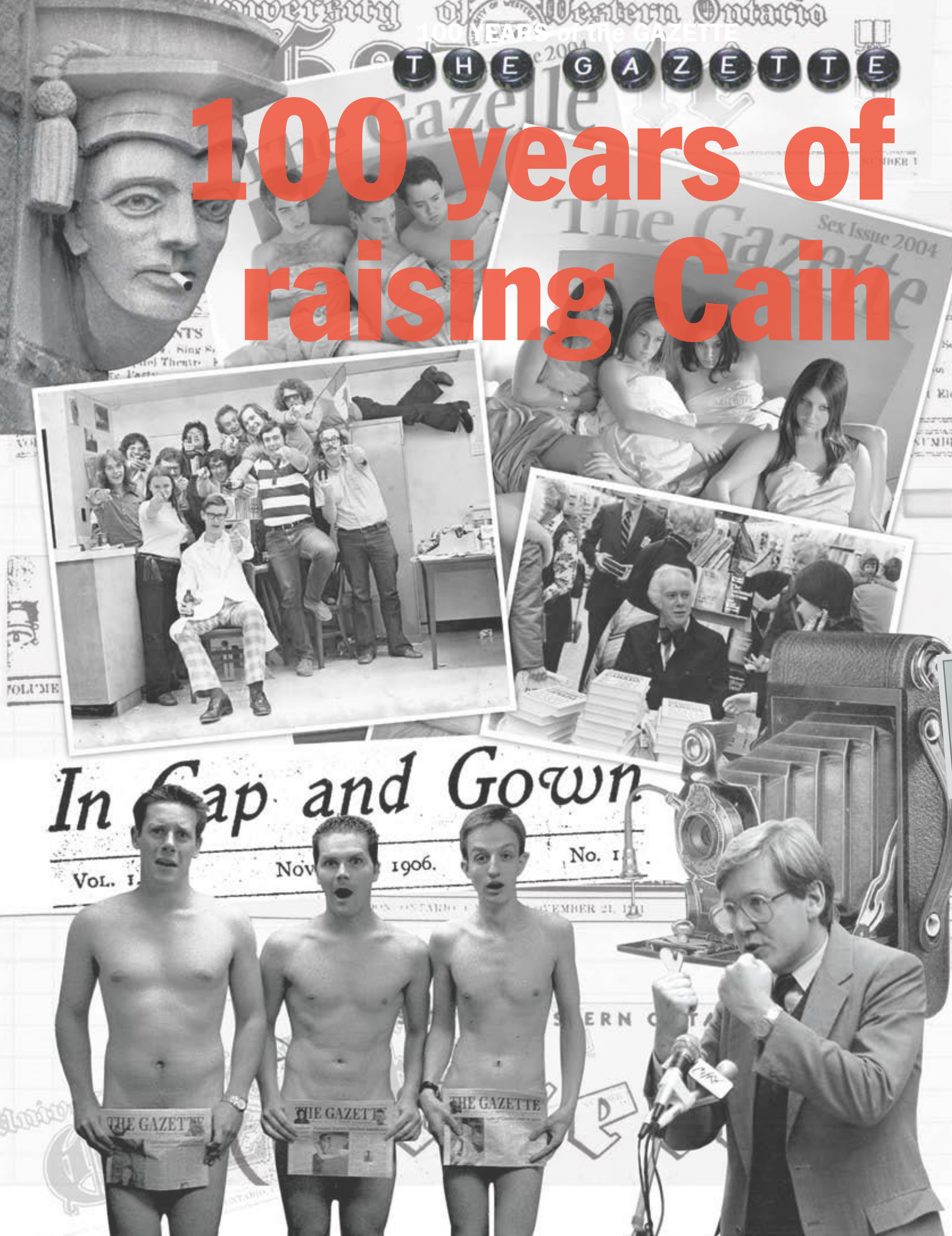
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100 YEARS of the GAZETTE
THE GAZETTE

100 years of raising Cain



In Cap and Gown

Vol. I. Nov 1906. No. 1



Legendary staff and colourful careers

Gazette alumni will gather to celebrate a century of student press

By Gillian Livingston, BA'96 (Political Science)

It was a century ago that a group of Western students put pen to paper and scrawled down the latest on-campus news that was fit to print and sent it out to the university's masses.

And in the 100 years since that day, students at Western have relied on The Gazette to inform them about what's going on at Western - whether the administration or the students' council wanted it known or not.

Students turned to the paper to also tell them what was happening in the province, the country and the world and how it affected them as Western students. The paper has been there through the years to educate them

with top-notch news, photographs and graphics, to entertain them and tell them about the latest bands, movies and books, excite them about the successes of the university's sports teams and give them an avenue to express their opinions.

So, at Homecoming 2006, Gazette alumni from across Canada and the globe will be gathering on campus to celebrate 100 years of the best student newspaper in the country, a paper known for its unique smart-alecky, risqué style.

Gazette grads will reunite with close friends, talk about the fun times during their years at the paper, the parties, and the crazy things people did

when they spent hours and hours in close stress-filled quarters scrambling to put out a paper that was devoured by students the next day.

Every Gazette staffer can remember the first day they either wandered or strode into the chaos that has been the Gazette office since its incarnation.

I'll never forget the first time I gingerly walked into the Gazette office at its current location in the University Community Centre. I pushed open the big swinging door, and was overcome by a tidal wave of noise and energy. The cluttered, chaotic office was filled with more than 20 people, all of them bustling around, yelling, talking on

gazette memories



Bill Glisky, BA'91 (Political Science)

Gazette posts: staff writer 1984-85, Sports Co-Editor, 1985-86, 1986-87

First media job: staff writer, Anglican Journal

Current position: City

Editor, Peterborough Examiner

Best memory of the Gazette: In my first year as sports co-editor of The Gazette I found myself covering Western's cross-country running teams. One of the perks was the opportunity to travel with the team on its annual trip to the University of Kentucky for a meet. Nearly 30 people crammed into two vans. The trip involved an overnight stay in Dayton, Ohio, where I ended up in a room with one team member and the trainer. We got ready to go in plenty of time for departure, then decided to wait in the room until people began gathering at the vans. We finally saw a group around the vans, gathered up our things and headed out. Imagine our surprise when the vehicles were gone. We ran around just in time to see the vans turn onto the highway to Kentucky.

At first we weren't concerned...how far could they get before they noticed that three people, all of whom had been in the same van, were not aboard? The answer - about three hours, at which time the vans had already crossed into Kentucky. We received the news when someone from the team, it may have been coach Bob Vigars, called the motel to see if we were still there. The motel staff was just as surprised as we were when we were told the vans would not be coming back for us... we would have to find our own way to Lexington.

Fortunately, two members of a construction crew doing renovations on the hotel were born-again Christians who felt it was their duty to help strangers in need. We piled into their car and they took us the full six hours to meet up with the team. While the experience may not have led to an award-



winning story, it did prepare me for dealing with the surprises that can be thrown at a working journalist.

Ian Kinross, BA'86 (English), MA'87 (Journalism)

Gazette posts: reporter, mid-1980s, Features Editor, 1986/87

First media job: energy business reporter, Southam Communications

Current position: Manager of Client Services, OMERS Pension Plan

Best memory of the Gazette: Twice a week I "crossed the floor" from the journalism school to the Gazette offices at Centrespot to crank out the Features section. The office was usually buzzing with the staccato of IBM 'golfball' Selectric typewriters, and various guffaws and loud conversations involving David Kilgour, Paul Wells, Jeff Goode and other editors, well into the wee hours.

My first memory of the Gazette relates to my first assignment. After much hounding by my Western roommate Murray Oxby, a Gazette editor, I volunteered to cover a performance by Ontario rock/blues artist David Wilcox at The Spoke. After the show, Wilcox invited me and photographer Steve Smith backstage for 'a drink.' In fact, Wilcox's band of four musicians were starting to plow through an entire table of rum, vodka, scotch and beer with the same intensity they had just banged out a rockin' version of "My Eyes Keep Me in Trouble." Wilcox poured me a straight scotch and pretty soon I had set my notebook aside.

the phone and pounding on computer keyboards. I stopped, looked around, felt completely overwhelmed and promptly turned on my heel and ran out the door.

How was I to know that that first encounter would lead me to be editor of the paper a scant four years later in 1995-96? And that I would meet my future husband, Jeremy Barker, in that same office - the editor-in-chief before me in 1994-95? Oh yes, romance occasionally bloomed or crashed in the crowded, messy offices of the paper. You see more than you want of someone when you spend 60-plus hours a week at close quarters.

What's clear is that the paper helped produce some of the best journalists in Canada. Often, a stint as a top editor of The Gazette would lead to a full-time media job in Canada. It offers its own kind of journalism training - the trial-by-fire kind. Staff often passed up journalism school because they already had a job in the field they wanted.

Scrolling through staff lists of years gone by highlights how many top journalists passed through the doors of The Gazette. Gazette grads are at

media organizations across the country, from the Toronto Star, CBC, Globe and Mail, Canadian Press, Ottawa Citizen, National Post, London Free Press and big dailies in major Canadian cities. Staffers have also infiltrated news organizations across the globe such as the Kyoto wire service in Japan and an ex-pat paper in London, England.

Here's just a few of the bylines that

have graced the pages of The Gazette.

Scott Feschuk, the former speech-writer for former Liberal prime minister Paul Martin, helped take the paper to the four-times-a-week format in 1991. He was one of the few editors-in-chief who held the post for two consecutive years. He's turning his speech-writing capabilities into a new career and writes a column for Macleans. His brother, David Feschuk, was



Scott Feschuk and former Prime Minister Paul Martin (Photo courtesy of PMO).

gazette memories

As a warm glow worked its way through my body, I decided I was starting to enjoy life as a Gazette reporter. The next day I wrote what I thought was a very clever column about the show, full of alliteration, never mentioning the boozing, and handed it to the entertainment editor. She told me I had 'nice copy.' I was in heaven.

Jim (Lee) Rankin, BSc'88
(Biology)

Gazette posts: (Gazette 1987-88, Photo Co-editor)

First media job: Summer photography internship, London Free Press, which began immediately after completing my biology degree from Western, leaving my very

supportive parents to nonetheless wonder, "What did we just pay for?"

Current position: Staff writer-photographer, Toronto Star



Best memory of the Gazette:

Aside from all the debauchery and hours spent in the dark souping film - both activities that cloud my memories of the Gazette to this day - I recall going on a shopping spree. First purchase was a giant telephoto lens for football coverage. Think it was worth a couple thousand Gazette dollars. The very first game, I was tackled on the sidelines. The impact sheared the lens and camera off the monopod, and they became airborne, as did I. The gear landed with a sickening crack on the asphalt track - me, with a thud. Aside from a demolished lens hood, our newest purchase was unscathed. I was also unbroken. Oh, how I laughed, and then sought a place where I could change my underwear.

Chris Lackner, BA'03 (Media, Information and Technoculture - MIT)

Gazette posts:, News Editor, 2000-01, Features Editor, 2001-02, Editor-in-Chief, 2002-03

First media job: reporter, National Post, summer 2003



Current position: reporter, Ottawa Citizen (summer 2005 to present)

Best memory of the Gazette: Operation Blind Date - During my stint as features editor, we attempted to play Cupid and, in the process, quite possibly created the ugliest "date car" in human history. After canvassing our readers for volunteers, we set up two Western students for a night of romance and sent an army of reporters and photographers to follow their every move through a restaurant, pool hall and winter skate in Victoria Park. To escort our potential lovers-to-be, we decorated our editor-in-chief's beat-up, white station wagon as a "Blind Date mobile" - featuring a tasteless barrage of coloured streamers, flowers and little white, plastic doves glued to the roof with duck tape. Clearly it

was a night of journalism in its highest form. Throughout the evening our reporters - including myself - would periodically interview our story subjects. I've since been accused of flirting shamelessly with the "Blind Date girl" during said interviews, keeping her away from her date for prolonged

one of the best sports writers and editors the paper has seen. He's now a basketball reporter at the Toronto Star.

Renowned Globe and Mail sports columnist Stephen Brunt wound his way through the paper in the late '70s. Susan Delacourt, a top political writer with the Toronto Star, was the paper's editor in 1982-83. Star reporters Kevin Donovan and Jim Rankin, also a photographer, saw their names first grace the pages of The Gazette.

Rod McQueen was the paper's editor in 1965 and went on to report for The Financial Post before it was bought up and merged with the National Post. He's the author of several important books, on the Eatons, the downfall of Confederation Life and the romantic troubles behind the owners of retail icon Canadian Tire.

Renowned London, Ont.-based author Joan Barfoot was at the paper in the mid-'60s and most recently published a novel entitled *Luck*, her 10th volume of work. Her works have garnered nominations for the Man Booker and Giller prize.



Joan Barfoot

And that's just a handful.

Students who spent time at The Gazette have also made their way into top public relations jobs for political figures such as Ontario Conservative Leader John Tory or for big financial companies.

Jim Etherington was editor-in-chief in 1960-61 and is the former head of Western's Alumni Association. He was a corporate communications executive at a number of large Canadian companies,

including London Life, and has his own communications consulting firm.

Other Gazette staff are the stuff of legends. Two names in particular come to mind. First is a graphic artist who went by the name of Milan. By all accounts he was at the paper from the '70s through the '80s. At one point he lived in the photo room of the paper and survived by showering and eating on campus. Some think they know his real name, others aren't sure. And many say that in recent years they've either seen him biking in Toronto or on campus again at Western.

A '70s photographer by the name of Peanuts is also fondly remembered by staff as the guy who taught them everything they know about photography. His name is Alan Fowler, some say, but no one knows exactly where he is. The search is on for both of these guys whose reputations have made a lasting impression on staff and become a permanent part of Gazette lore.

Although some Gazette staff have translated their time at the paper into genuine success in the real world, ask

gazette memories

periods and essentially ruining their hopes for a love connection. Frankly, I'm still not willing to respond to these allegations without first consulting a lawyer.



David Kilgour BA'87,
(History/Political Science)

Gazette posts:, News
Co-Editor, 1985-86 &
1986-87, Editor-in-Chief,
1987-88

First media job:
summer student
program, London Free
Press

Current position:

Publisher, Sudbury Star

Best memory of the Gazette:

My best memory of the Gazette was throwing a typewriter off the UCC roof to officially proclaim the "Computer Age" at the Gazette in 1987. While it was challenging going from typewriter and copy paper to computers, it was great to be a part of one of the greatest transitions in the history of the Gazette.

Most memorable story: There were so

many incredible stories but to pick one, was covering the Henry Kissinger visit in 1988. I remember being in the news conference with all the national media (protests against Kissinger's visit drew their attention) and I remember being singled out to attend an exclusive interview with Kissinger...no national media invited! Very cool to be a Gazette reporter that day!

Doug Firby, BA'76
(Journalism)
Gazette posts:, Co-editor,
1976-77

First media job: cub
reporter at Winnipeg
Tribune, 1977

Current position:

Editorial Pages Editor, The Calgary
Herald

Best memory of the Gazette: Kevin Cox was elected to be editor for our year, but he made the tough (but smart) choice to accept a full-time job offer at the Hamilton Spectator. He recommended me for Editor, and my classmate Rick Laiken joined me as Co-Editor. As usual, there was a long-running battle with the Student Council because they feared we were acting irresponsibly (which, of course, we



were). This was about three or four years after the notorious penile Washington monument cover, so they were still a bit antsy. Fought all year with them, of course. Whenever we got colour availability on front page, roving artist Milan would take over, and turn them into something resembling a tie-died, acid-induced hallucination.

Although we were pretty liberal with our language and content, one Entertainment editor we had was extremely cautious. Someone who had written a very clever review of the mid-'70s version of the movie King Kong came to see me, extremely agitated. He had written something like, "Jessica Lange has a body so beautiful, it's hard to believe it would fart." Our overzealous Entertainment editor took that out. Let's just say her judgment wasn't in line with most of the rest of what went on at the paper. (But, on the other hand, she was a willing volunteer).

We did have one of the best London Freak Presses ever. Main story: "Newfoundland separates; Quebec to stay in." OK, it was goofy, but that's what beer, pot (in the dark room) and too many late nights can do to you. All in all, the most fun I've had in journalism. And the poorest paid. Hmmm

any of them about their best times in the media, and the years at The Gazette often comes out on top. Just a mention of the paper can bring that nostalgic look to the face of any Gazette grad, even those who haven't been at the paper for decades.

Once editors get into a real newsroom, they realize they'll never have the control and power that they did at The Gazette. There the editor had the freedom to do whatever they wanted with the paper, what stories to pursue, what issues they want to touch on. Often that meant racy Valentine's Day sex issues, hard-hitting news stories, critical sports and entertainment reports or graphics or cartoons meant to incite opinion.

But that power also meant the buck stopped at the editor, and many who sat in that chair will never forget getting reamed out by yet another disgruntled reader. With power comes responsibility, a fact often overlooked as the pages were proofed through



The Valentine's Day Sex Issue generated a lot of letters.

sleepy eyes the night before.

Those tales and memories along with the legends and the lore will be

the recounted over and over when staff gather on Sat. Sept. 30 at The Wave on campus to celebrate 100 years of The Gazette.

Gillian Livingston was Gazette Editor-in-chief, 1995-96, is Gazette Alumni Association president and Organizer, Gazette 100th anniversary bash, and also works for a living as a Canadian Press Reporter.

Tickets are \$40 per person for Gazette alumni, \$35 for current Gazette staff. Alumni Relations is handling tickets. R.S.V.P. by Sept. 10, 2006. Get your tickets by e-mailing alumnirsvp@uwo.ca or by calling 1-866-447-1044. There will be appetizers, a buffet dinner and a cash bar. It will be a chance to celebrate 100 years of the Gazette and to gather to hear all the stories about the paper from years past and present. ☺

gazette memories

Joel Rubinoff, BA'85 (English)

Gazette posts: Features Editor, 1982-83, Entertainment Editor, 1983-84

First media job: film reviewer (freelance), Toronto Star, Entertainment writer (full-time), London Free Press

Current position: TV Critic, The Record, Kitchener-Waterloo (I stay home all day

and watch TV. When I show up at the office once a week to pick up DVD screeners, people are really excited to see me. Sweet).

Best memory of the Gazette: Skulking around the UCC on publication days to see who, if anyone, was reading my stories. Spirited debates, and occasional fistfights, over take-out options on production nights. Hanging out at the Gazette office til 3 a.m., playing hide and seek, then filing tons of honourarium. The anti-authoritarian stance that brought the '83-'84 editorial board into conflict with just about everybody. Also: Justin Smallbridge's hilarious tantrums.



Randy Cantera's vest-with-no-shirt fashion statement. Blaring hilariously uncool Neil Sedaka songs on my 8-track player.

Most memorable story: Bus trip to Memphis to cover the 25th anniversary of Elvis Presley's death. Trapped in that smelly Voyageur with 54 geriatric Elvis nuts for eight days was the closest thing to Hell on Earth I've experienced. Standing in the rain for the all-night Elvis vigil was no picnic either. And, yes, he's still dead.

Sean Stanleigh, BA'92 (Economics)

Gazette posts: Features Editor, 1992-93

First media job: Following BAA Journalism in 1995 from Ryerson, an internship at the Globe and Mail as a copy editor in Report on Business.

Current position: Senior Editor National/Foreign, Toronto Star



Best memory of the Gazette:

The most memorable story I recall from my year at the Gazette stemmed from a contest

we ran to find the worst student housing at Western. We solicited entries from students, asking them to write about why they felt they lived in the most substandard accommodations. We did a story on (if memory serves) the top three entries, and it was picked up by national media via CP.

John Miner, BA'77 (Political Science)

Gazette posts: Editor-in-Chief, 1977-78, News Editor, 1976-77

First media job: St. Marys Journal-Argus

Current job: Medical reporter, London Free Press

Hank Daniszewski, BA'78 (History, Huron College), MA'81 (Journalism)

Gazette posts: News Editor, '77-'78, Editor in Chief, '78-'79

First media job: News Editor, Delhi News-Record, 1979

Current position: Business reporter, London Free Press

Best Gazette memory: Snow-blind and hell-bent to make it to press

. . . then there was the time two Gazette staffers almost froze to death trying to get the paper printed.

It was January 9, 1978 and the city

Chair races and the problem of success

Reflections from a former Gazette editor-in-chief
By Scott Feschuk, BA'91 (Political Science)

When I started at The Gazette, the paper was published twice a week, Tuesdays and Fridays. Mondays and Thursdays were known as “production nights.” The editors of the sections would stay late to edit their stories, lay out their pages and, thanks to the custom of complimentary fast-food dinners for staffers, inflict atrocities upon their defenceless arteries.

It was during these long production nights that the 17 or so editors who had a hand in The Gazette would bond with each other into the wee hours, forging friendships that would stand the test of decades – unless they instead grew to totally despise one another, which also happened and frankly was more entertaining to watch.



Scott Feschuk in a Gazette staff photo.

gazette memories

was blasted with the second of three major storms that would shut down the campus that winter.

The Gazette was printed twice a week then and the plates for the Tuesday's edition were ready to go. But the taxi that normally took the page negatives to the printing plant in Hyde Park refused to show.

John Miner was the editor-in-chief and I was a news editor. There was nothing to do but make the run to Hyde Park ourselves in John's old Datsun wagon. We tried Gainsborough Road but were turned back by a police barricade. In desperation, we headed north and turned west on Fanshawe Park Road, which in those days was lined with farm fields.

The whiteouts turned the windshield into a solid sheet of newsprint and the huge drifts forced us to crawl at a snail's pace. A couple of times we were stuck and forced to dig out the car. After almost an hour, we finally reached the intersection of Hyde Park Road where we could turn south with the wind.

Victory seemed near but then we saw it - a huge drift like a snoozing polar

bear straddling the road. John hit the gas and warned we were “going for it.” The car slammed into the drift and since this was not Hollywood, became hopelessly stuck. Being a good Huron County farm boy, John tied our wrists together with binder twine so we would not be separated in the storm. With the precious negatives tucked under John's arm, we trudged the remaining half-mile to the printing plant, startling the staff as we burst through the doors covered in snow.

As we slept inside, the paper was printed. But no trucks would come to deliver the paper in snow-clogged streets next morning. The edition hit the streets a day late anyway.

There was a third blizzard later that winter. Miner took one look at the swirling snow and announced the paper was cancelled.



Andrea Chiu, BA'03 (MIT)

Gazette posts: staff from 2000-03, Arts and Entertainment co-editor, '01-'02 and Campus and Culture co-editor, '02-'03

First media job: Reporter, The Standard in

Hong Kong

Current job: Freelancing from Hong Kong and Director of Communications MOCA (Museum of Contemporary Art) China.

Best memory of the Gazette: The one that sticks out in my mind is Operation Pick Up. This piece of “investigative journalism” threw a bunch of Gazette staff and our friends into London nightlife to test pick-up techniques. Alcohol eased our nerves and helped us come up with a ridiculous but entertaining piece for C&C. Yes, there were enough stupid drunken moments to last us an entire year, but I remember that weekend because it is representative of Gazette camaraderie. Everyone was reluctant to participate for fear of looking like a fool – which they did – but they all did their part and ultimately, it was a lot of fun. That for me, represents the spirit of the Gazette.

Graeme Hamilton, BA'86 (History/English), MSc'88 (Journalism) Columbia University

Gazette posts: Features editor, 1985-86, Editor-in-chief, 1986-87

First media job: Reporter, The Gazette in Montreal, hired in 1988

Current position: Quebec correspondent, National Post

(To my knowledge, I remain the only Gazette editor to have been the subject of an attempted coup by his section editors. I put down the uprising by using the age-old military strategy of giving out cookies).

Production night was a study in creative procrastination. There were so many things to do instead of doing our jobs. The deserted, darkened and well-waxed halls of the University Community Centre gave birth to a novel form of competitive racing that sometimes didn't even cause bodily harm or property damage. One editor would seat himself in an office chair. (For purposes of safety and also comedy, this person would sometimes be secured to the chair using masking tape.) A second editor would be tasked to "drive," which involved a lot of pushing and, inevitably, some half-hearted apologizing for failing to effectively brake. Almost always the competition ended with someone uttering the words, "It's probably not a serious concussion."

I learned a lot during my years at The Gazette. On production nights, I mostly learned new ways to have fun.

By the early 1990s, when I took

over as editor-in-chief, The Gazette had a problem – success. Ad sales were strong. The paper was getting too big to put out on a single night, especially when some of our weak-willed staffers



Future boss, Paul Martin taken at Western by Feschuk in 1990.

insisted on also attending the occasional class. (We had a contemptuous term for these people: "Graduates"). A plan was developed to transform The Gazette into an "almost daily," published four times a week. We ultimately brought the idea to the students' council with a series of financial projections perhaps

best described as "not entirely fictional." We won the vote. The Gazette was given the OK and the money to expand.

Curious to see the project through and terrified of the real world, I stayed for a second year as editor-in-chief. It took a few months but we found a rhythm. The paper always got out on time – four nights a week. We felt proud. But those of us who remembered the old days also felt something else. We felt a bit of regret.

Putting out The Gazette had become more of a business. Deadline was 11:30 p.m.; the office was usually closed up by midnight. We had to do it all again the next day, so nobody felt much like lingering.

There were no chair races that year. My hope is that the Gazetters who came after us found a way to restore the best part of the paper: the nonsense.

Gazette posts: Entertainment editor, 1989-90, Editor-in-Chief, 1990-91, Editor-in-Chief, 1991-92.

Current position: Columnist, Maclean's magazine 

gazette memories

Best Gazette memory: I guess watching my news editor perform the drunken stump jump (off-campus, of course) doesn't count? Twenty years on, what sticks in my mind are the talented writers, photographers, artists and editors who together made that newsroom one of the finest journalism schools around.

Most memorable story: Reporting from New York City for the National Post in the days after the Sept. 11 attacks.

Maria Koropecy, BA'92 (English)

Gazette posts: Campus Editor, 1990-91

First media job: Freelance reporter for the Ukrainian Weekly newspaper

Current position: business owner, Homespunspa Enterprises. Maria Koropecy is the author of How to throw a home spa pajama party the homespunspa way currently available online at www.homespunspa.com. Maria is also a creative photographer.

Best Gazette memory: "The Elbow Room is charging for water," though not the happiest headline for poor students, actually ended up in a nice twist for me. For those not be familiar with the long gone Elbow Room, it was a bar

located three floors below the Gazette office with big swiveling lounge chairs and a big screen TV which was always miraculously tuned in to the Young & the Restless or the Gulf War. Students would go there at lunch time between classes with their own sandwiches and would just order water - a thrifty thing to do but the grilled cheese/Caesar salad combo was a great alternative any day of the week for just \$1.10. The bar manager announced this morsel just before leaving for vacation to Florida and I had to call him long distance to get the facts. Wouldn't you like to be called by a student reporter on your vacation, especially about the price of water?

After the story was published, I went out for drinks downtown with some friends and we were joined by their friends who hadn't met me before. Conversation was flowing and then someone said, "Did you know, the Elbow Room is charging for water?" My friend Mike pointed to me and said, "Yes, Maria was the one who told you that in today's Gazette." I was thrilled.



Dave Feschuk, BA'98 (English)

Gazette posts: Sports Editor, 1992-94

First media job: reporter at The Standard, St. Catharines

Catharines

Current position: Sports Columnist, Toronto Star and author of the book "Every Highway," a trucking travelogue published in 2006 by McClelland and Stewart

Best Gazette memory: Learning how to string together a sentence and a section from the amazing talents who preceded me, especially Scott Feschuk, Susan Allan, James McCarten, Gary Davies, Paul Vieira and Elliotte Friedman.

Less deferential Gazette memory: Convincing financially challenged editor-in-chief Friedman to pay for a five-night stay at Victoria's luxurious Empress hotel, along with my sports-editor cohort Mike Drolet (now of Global National news). Never have women's basketball reporters been treated so royally. Mind you, in the pre-laptop days, we had to write our stories long-hand and fax them to London.

The Gazette

100 years of wit and being wonky

By Jim Etherington, BA'61 (Journalism)

If, as it is said, the job of the media is to comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable, the role of the student newspaper is probably to tweak and titillate. As alumni will fondly remember, The Gazette, this year celebrating its 100th birthday, could be depended upon to tell it like it was, keep everyone more or less informed and from time to time push the envelope to reflect the emerging mood and styles of the times.

Its origins can be traced to a handwritten sheet first produced in 1902 called In Cap and Gown. In the fall of 1906 the scribbles were succeeded by a printed missive recognized as the beginning of today's student newspaper. Its name was changed in 1908 to the

Western University Gazette reflecting our then name, "The Western University of London, Ontario." The paper's name changed again in 1920 to Western U Gazette and 10 years following the decision in 1923 to rename the institution "The University of Western Ontario," the newspaper became The Gazette.

The content and appearance of the student newspaper varied regularly over the years depending on the skills and devious minds of the editors and staff. Events also shaped the paper and The Gazette ceased publication between 1916 and 1919 primarily because the majority of male students had enlisted for The Great War. This is not to indicate that only men worked on the newspaper. The

first woman editor in chief was Agnes Vrooman in 1911 – she was called the



Jim Etherington was editor-in-chief of the Gazette in 1960-61.

gazette memories

Melana Vickers, BA'90 (Political Science), MA'93, (International Relations) Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies



Gazette posts: News Editor, 1989-90

First media job: The Globe and Mail

Current position: columnist on (US) national security affairs TCSDaily.com, novelist, temporarily a stay at home mom, (Formerly editorial board member of The Globe and Mail and USA TODAY as well as the Asian Wall Street Journal and the Far Eastern Economic Review)

Best Gazette memory: The Gazette was the best part of my university experience, the classroom where I spent the most hours per week, learned the reporting trade from my peers, and where I had great friendships with some of the most talented people I've ever known. Most memorable story was probably

chasing around a professor whose views on eugenics were hugely unpopular and became the subject of a national-media controversy, but whom I probably spooked out of his wits with my incessant stalking. Most memorable experience was that phenomenal group of people - (alphabetically) Jeff Brooke, Scott Feschuk, Drew Hasselback, Casey Mahood, Paul Wells and so many others Sue Allan, Janice Biehn, Laura Frick, Maria Koropecy. I'm just sorry not to be in touch with everyone anymore.

Susan Delacourt, BA'82 (Political Science)

Gazette posts: news editor in '81-'82, editor in chief, '82-'83

First media job: Copy editor for The Globe and Mail. I was very lucky. The Globe hired me and the managing editor, Brian Reid, that year, and we were pretty chuffed that we landed full-time work with the Globe within the year, while none of the Western journalism graduates did! But that was the state of the competition between the Gazette and the J-school back then.

Current position: Ottawa bureau chief,



Toronto Star

Best memory of the Gazette: I have two best memories. One is general, and one is particular.

Every morning, I came into the office long before most folks, so the big room was empty. I would sit in this big battered leather armchair, smoke cigarettes and think: "I will never have a job this good again in my life." I was right. I still have a picture of that chair here in my office. I gaze wistfully at it quite often.

The best story, or the one I have thought about most often, is our coverage of the Conservative leadership campaign in the spring of 1983. There was a big Tory youth event in London that attracted all the would-be candidates and after furiously rushing to put out the Gazette on the Thursday night, I rushed down to catch a glimpse of

the leadership hopefuls at hospitality suites. I arrived in one suite about five minutes after a business executive named Brian Mulroney had left the room. I would go on to see more than enough of him in later years. At that same room, I met Lawrence Martin, then a Globe and Mail national affairs writer, and we've gone on to become

“editoress” – and women have regularly held the lead job over the decades.

Up until the late 1940s, The Gazette was a somewhat whimsical and amateurish effort, heavy on poetry and literary pieces, providing broad coverage to athletics and focusing on social events such as the annual rugby dance and the UC Ball. As well as describing the dress worn by the president’s wife, the articles noted the evening culminated at 11:30 p.m. with the singing of the anthem.

But over the years the mischievous Gazette folks could always be depended upon to rattle a few social cages. In early 1939, reflecting the general peace aspirations of the times, a columnist called for recognition of the “Veterans of Future Wars” much to the outrage of local Canadian Legion members. Soapbox oratory in front of University College led to the Gazette leaders being threatened with expulsion by President W. Sherwood Fox. Within six months most of the perpetrators were enlisting for the Second World War with many not returning.

This was nothing compared to

the mayhem and disruption caused by The Gazette beginning in the turbulent 60s and 70s. The annual medical and business student editions led to escalating skullduggery as each group sought to confiscate the other’s publication. At one point the medical students borrowed an army tank to deliver its paper to campus but the business types had them stopped at the university bridge by warning authorities the heavy vehicle would collapse the structure.

In 1964 the newspaper encouraged a student march down Richmond Street to protest the threatened purchase of Labatts by the Schlitz brewing company carrying placards saying “Keep 50 above the 49th”. The Labatt executives welcomed them to their lounge and plied them with product. A year later staffers created a “photo op” by burning coach John Metras in effigy after a disastrous football loss. The student journalists hit full stride in 1966 when editor Jim Schaefer began publishing photos of nude or barely clothed women – and men -- resulting in a visit by the city police morality squad.

One of the greatly anticipated annual publications over the years was a spoof edition, usually called “The Freak Press”, when the editors, who always considered The Gazette the only true competition in a one newspaper town, poked fun at every available target. Editor Len Lizmore came up with a doozy that listed London’s “bottom 10 citizens” and featured fake advertising that ruffled corporate feathers. The student council president ordered the printer to take the edition to the city dump where Gazette warriors retrieved 5,000 slightly soiled copies for distribution.

Lizmore achieved fame as the only Gazette editor fired by the student council which then published its own newspaper to try and explain events. The Gazette staff countered by personally bankrolling “The Gazoo” to tell their version of the situation. All three editions are prized collector items.

While a goodly number of student editors and reporters went on to respectable journalism careers, most merely reveled in the all too brief chance to see their byline in print, shake up the

gazette memories

good friends and fellow travellers in Liberal political coverage. I remember being totally intimidated by the prospect of meeting a real, live political journalist. Just writing at the fringes of the Conservative leadership story in that spring before I left the Gazette turned me into a political junkie for life.



Darryl Gibson, BA'73 (English)
Gazette posts: Staff 1967-68, Sports Editor, Staff, News Editor, Sports Editor, 1969-70, Staff, Sports, News

Editor 1972-73

First media job: The Spectator, Hamilton
Current position: Asia Editor, Kyodo News, Tokyo

Best memory of the Gazette:

In the early Fall of 1967, I walked into The Gazette office in Somerville House to see an old high school friend, Elwin Moore, then the editor. My life changed. Moore convinced me to write a story for the paper and within days I was transformed from an

eagerly academic premed student into a Gazetter! It quickly became apparent I was far more interested in finding out what made the four women in Eight of a Kind – a topless band then playing at the Brass Rail – tick than in discovering if the unknown in Chem 253 really was amyl acetate. My academic career shattered, but journalism seeped into the cracks and I eventually filled various editorial slots on The Gazette masthead.

After taking two Western-mandated “academic rests” – one as a chem. technician and one as a TV cameraman/reporter – I graduated with a degree in Zoology and English – and a summer job at The Hamilton Spectator. The summer job turned into a full-time gig as the Spec’s Niagara Bureau chief. After various positions at the Spec, I toured Europe for a year with the woman who is now my wife, returned to the Spec and then headed west – so far west it was the Far East.

After two decades as a freelance foreign correspondent for organizations such as CP, NPR, The Daily Express, The Johannesburg Star and scores of others, I took a full-time job with Kyodo News in Tokyo, where I am now Asia Editor.

That 1967 afternoon foray to see Elwin resulted in a career in a business I didn’t know even was a business. It has spanned nearly four decades and allowed me to work on every continent except Antarctica and South America and cover, or direct coverage of, everything from topless bands, royal tours and Olympics to wars, regicide and tsunamis. As fellow staffer Kim Lockhart often says: “We went to Western to get an education and learned a trade.”

Rachel Sklar, BA'95 (Scholar's Elective Phil/West. Lit)

Gazette posts: Sept. 1991 - April 1993; Sept. 1994 - April 1995, VP Communications, USC; May 1993 - April 1994; responsible for overseeing campus media... including the Gazette. Yep, they loved having me as their boss.

First media job: writer/editor of FishbowlINY, a daily New York media blog at MediaBistro

Current position: Media & Special Projects Editor for the Huffington Post, New York City. Couldn’t be happier - great writing, smart people, the free-flowing exchange



university administration, pontificate on world events and do what students do best: startle the comfortable. Life at The

Gazette continues today as a treasured opportunity to miss classes, gorge on pizza, think up weird topics, sip the odd

beer and give its readers an appropriately skewed agenda. ^W



Len Lizmore and Gazette staff rescue Freak Press from city dump.

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of ideas. Reminds me of another place I used to work. (Also author, "A Stroke of Luck: Life, Crisis and Rebirth of a Stroke Survivor"; personal blog "Tomatoes Are Delicious" www.tomatoesaredelicious.com)

Best memory of the Gazette: The 1994-1995 year was an incredible ride - I was steeped in the Gazette and all its dramas and triumphs and moments of hilarity - I dated the managing editor (whom I suffered to edit me! Mike, I forgive you all the red pen in the margins) and lived with a photographer (the beautiful and talented Laura Wackman, now Hogan) and our other housemate became sort of a Gazette mascot, the delightful Swiss Miss Ariuscha Davatz, who parachuted in from Zurich to add to the merriment. I learned a ton from Christine Samuelian, stalwart supervising editor, as well as EIC Jeremy Barker, newshound Gill Livingston, the irrepressible Jason Menard, the hilarious Craig Courtice, the spunky Laura Koot and smiley Anjali Kapoor, the above-mentioned Mike Attenborough, brilliant writer and encyclopedia of indie rock, and random wonderful others in a room upstairs in the

UCC where anyone could flop down on a couch and be part of the gang if they were willing to roll up their sleeves and push through 'til deadline (speaking of that deadline...Ian Greaves, well, I recall how patient you were with all that).

It doesn't take much to be back in that windowless room (a palace compared to the Graphics building!) and see photog Richard with his crazy red hair come back with another roll of amazing pics, or utility player Meghan Simms rolling along the hall on her desk chair as every so often CHRW/Gazette alum James Rocchi would pop in from down the hall to say something very eloquently. It was a great time, and great training; anything I write now is grounded in what I learned at the Gazette, and any newsroom has to meet a high bar indeed to even come close to matching that kind of warmth, excitement and collegiality. Besides, windows are overrated.

I wrote a book while I was in law school, took a break to practice law for two years and got my foot in the door with a hockey story freelanced from St. Petersburg, Russia, and the 2000 World Hockey

Championships. It was for the National Post, thanks to the recommendation of Dave Feschuk, a sportswriter - and Gazette alum. (Feschuk, as you probably know, comes from an illustrious line of Feschuks at the Gazette - Dave's older brother Scott was the EIC when I first walked timidly into the office, and scared the bejeezus out of me from behind the glassed-in front office wall for the whole first year. He gave me an opportunity I'll always remember: Mordecai Richler came to speak, and Scott brought me along to a sit-down with him and a Western News reporter, and I was in awe. Richler was nursing some sort of amber liquid on the rocks, and had his speech scribbled out on hotel stationery. I squeaked out a question, totally superfluous, and totally inspired. What a great thing to do for a green, goofy kid.)



Mike Drolet, BA'94, English and French Gazette posts: **Sports Editor 1992-94** **First media job:** Writer and jack of all trades for CFPL-TV in London.

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First reporting gig - CKNX-TV in Wingham Ontario.

Current position: Photojournalist, Global National News in Toronto

Best memory of the Gazette: There are so many things that I look back on fondly. The stories, the friends, the hours!!! But the one that really stands out - that I believe shows the dedication we all had to work on the paper - was when a classmate told me one of my professors was wondering aloud in class why I wasn't there (or hadn't been for three weeks). He said "I see his name in the Gazette everyday so he must only be sick during class hours!"



Aaron Wherry

Gazette posts: 1998-1999 Arts & Entertainment writer, 1999-2000 Opinions editor, 2000-2001 News editor, 2001-2002 Editor-in-chief

First media job: Copy editor, The Globe and Mail.

Current position: I started at the National Post as an arts writer, worked for awhile as music critic and am currently a sports writer.

Best memory of the Gazette: Editing The Gazette probably goes down as one of my 15 greatest accomplishments. Though hopefully that says more about The Gazette than my life's work. At the time we probably took it far too seriously. But, by the same standard, we readily and enthusiastically did some things we will probably never be allowed to do again (nor should we be allowed to do again). Without it, I would likely now be a teacher, instead of an interviewer of sweaty athletes. Suffice it to say, today's youth are probably better off this way and, hopefully, the world is a better place.

Karena Walter, BA'96 (History), MA'99 (Journalism)

Gazette posts: Gazette Editor-in-Chief, 1997-98, News Editor, 1996-97



First media job: Freelancing for London Free Press Sunday edition while in school

Current position: Justice reporter, St. Catharines Standard

Best memory of the Gazette: It was the feeling of anticipation and pride every time I walked through the doors. I always knew it would be a day of stimulating debates and equally wacky discussions with the most creative, talented, sarcastic, and sometimes outrageous people I'd ever met. There were undoubtedly blank pages to be filled, unexpected complaints and fires to be snuffed. But by the end of the day, the fanatically dedicated staff always filled the paper with the interesting and unexpected, while still making time for chair races, goldfish kidnappings, pranks, flirtations and table hockey. Oh, and sometimes classes.

Most memorable story: One of my first stories at the Gazette involved covering budget day at Queen's Park with News Editor Laura Koot and photographer Richard Gilmore. Unfortunately, we missed the education minister in the scrums after tracking down other interviews. Determined to cover the 'student angle' with someone from the ministry, we snuck into the education building after hours, avoided the security guards (literally pressing up against the walls) and took the stairs. With Ricky lugging camera equipment and Laura trying to stave off an asthma attack we climbed and climbed, discovering to our exasperation a dozen flights up that you can't access some floors from the stairwell. We got our interview though, and rode the elevator back down.

Janice Young, BA'94 (English/Film Theory)

Gazette posts: photo editor, 1993-1994

First media job: I worked as a copywriter in Toronto

Current position: Moved to Japan where I wrote two books: "Sweet Daruma, a Japan satire," (short listed for the Gorsky Press Fiction award and the Norumbega Fiction Award), and "The Editor of Love and Other Stories." Both are available on Amazon.

Best memory of the Gazette: Aimlessly wandering around campus during one of the coldest winter's on record looking for

an exciting 'enterprise' shot, but nothing but snow so I had to bribe my friends to do something 'newsworthy'—rarely worked! And taking pics of PM Campbell and walking right beside Jean Chretien as he went to the CHRW for an interview—there was zero security which was a big contrast to the time I went to Hamilton to cover George Bush Sr and Paul Martin. There was so much security/FBI around Bush I couldn't get within 100 metres.

Kevin Donovan, BA'84 (Political Science)

Gazette posts: editor in chief, '84-'85

First media job: Hired by Toronto Star in 1985. Covered police, a variety of sensational deaths, two wars (Gulf in '01 and Afghanistan in 2001)

Current position: the Star's senior investigative reporter for 15 or so years. I am currently investigative editor/ along with continuing to be an investigative reporter.

Best memory of the Gazette: *The short list:* Painting the old Gazette walls and noticing how many times past scribes had written 'Fuck' in crayon; Fist fights or near fist fights with a rabid fundamental Christian, an Irishman who thought he was an Arab, the bullish former head of Unigraphics; Scoops, scandals and libel notices; Drinking late night coffee out of that old beer stained stein. Trips to Detroit with Alex, Ian, Ted and the Dawgman. Tormenting our local politicians; Passing out drunk in Tim Horton's parking lot beside my red '73 Camaro after the final party.

Peter Jedicke, BSc'76 (Physics), MA'97 (Philosophy)

Gazette posts: Columnist, 1977-78

First media job: In 1977, when CKO was Canada's first all-news radio network, the news director for the local office in London hired me as a freelancer to report on news about science.

Current position: I teach Astronomy, Physics and Math at Fanshawe College in



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London. My most recent freelance work was an article about asteroid research in the June, 2006, issue of Astronomy magazine (for a list of books that I've written or edited <http://gs.fanshawec.ca/pjedicke>)

Best memory of the Gazette:

I went to the Gazette offices on the second floor of the pre-renovation UCC building for the first time in the fall of 1973. I remember a few staff members, such as Lee Allison, but mainly a long chat I had with Bob Herold, who I think was news editor.

They gave me a long list of story ideas to choose from, and one was the celebration of the University's centennial, which was still more than four years away in the future. Since I figured I might actually be around the campus long enough to see some of the plans for the centennial be implemented, this was one of the story assignments I picked. What was really great about working on this story was that I got to interview both Grant Reuber, who was one of the Vice-Presidents, and President D.C. Williams. I confess I didn't come away with a good impression of Reuber, but D.C. Williams gave me a wonderful interview in the President's office in Stevenson-Lawson Hall. He was warm and friendly, witty and helpful, and made me feel like being interviewed by this gawky first-year student was the most important thing he had to do that day.

Writing that article also gave me a chance to plant an idea. I figured it would be appropriate to have some kind of monument, like a giant obelisk or a huge slab of purple marble, to commemorate the founding of the University. When I asked Reuber, he said there were no plans for anything like that. He laughed, as if it was a pretty dumb idea. But I put it the article anyway. I tried to write it so that Reuber's quote looked like a "non-denial denial." I hoped somebody on some committee would read the quote and think Reuber was actually planning a monument. Then, if a monument had indeed been proposed and built, I'd be able to point to my article in future years (like now) and take credit for having had the idea in the first place. I still think an arch big enough to have a parade under would look good on University Hill.



Stan Sutter, BA'85 (Political Science), MA'86 (Journalism)

Gazette posts: Features Editor, 1984-85

First media job: Junior staff writer

Marketing magazine, primarily covering business-to-business advertising, in June 1986. Figured I'd stay a year at most.

Current position: Associate publisher, editorial director Marketing magazine

Best memory of the Gazette: Strangely, my warmest, fuzzy memories of the Gazette are those production nights. Sundays and Wednesdays. Upstairs at UCC. Staying way later than we should fussing over every article and layout. Grotty, messy desks. Empty coffee cups. Centre Spot food trays everywhere. My God we were working with manual typewriters, clip art, scissors and rubber cement. I can still smell it.

The people in that shambles of a room that year, most of whom I haven't talked to in 15 or more years, stay with me like it was yesterday. My features co-editor was the always stylish and droll Michael Smith, usually dressed like a young Sinatra and jagged on coffee. Together we conspired to drive Unigraphics manager Ted Haggis around the bend with ever more complex layouts. Our desks were in the very back corner facing those of the sports co-editors: Guy Spurrier and John Douglas. Guy, my housemate in 1985-'86, was a Windsor native and the biggest Detroit Tigers' fan ever—and '84 was a good year to be a Tigers fan. You could tell even then he was a sports lifer. Guy spent a long time in the London Free Press sports department, and these days is a sports editor at the National Post. John was always working. I think he had a job too that year and a full course load – and he had to be the hardest working guy on the paper. (I remember four or five of us from that year took a road trip to John's wedding in Sudbury while he was still the Winnipeg Free Press's Ottawa reporter. He and Darlene went back to the Peg, and he ended up in senior management at the Free Press there and was last sighted, by me anyway, in a mid-90s article - in the Free Press no less- on workaholism.)

The entertainment desk, on the other side of the sports guys along the wall, was held down by Heather McLennan and Peter Kurelek. They bickered like an old

married couple at times. Did I really read in Alumni Gazette that they eventually got married? That's so cool. Clearly Paul Wells wasn't the only one with a crush on Heather – okay, we all had one. Across the way on the news desk was Murray Oxby, circumspect on the outside but truly subversive and sharply funny if you paid attention. He was inevitable as editor in '85-'86, and another future housemate of mine (we rented together, with my wife, for three years on Toronto's Danforth, during which time Murray worked the night desk at Canadian Press and earned his MBA at York).

There was a cast of hundreds, I swear, rolling in and out most evenings like charters from a Barney Miller episode. Cartoonist P.C. Campbell, a bizarre cross of Jim Carry and Jim Unger. Photo editors Cindy Cooper, Steve McKinley and Mark McQueen in the dark room behind our desks for hours and hours. Writers like Francis Baker, Dave Kilgour, Graeme Hamilton and Josette deBrouwer. Gayle MacDonald and Dugie Maudsley were the Focus co-editors, but I recall they seldom stayed too late on those production nights: they actually went to most of their classes and studied at night. And in the front office there was editor-in-chief Kevin Donovan and managing editor Catherine Zuill, who being the only paid staff were always there and through it all behaved – for the most part - with far more maturity than the rest of us. So, some of us naturally responded like bratty teens in the rebellion phase. Sorry guys.

Tom Nunn, BA'79 (History)

Gazette posts: news editor, 1978

First media job: Summer reporter/photographer for the Exeter Times-Advocate, the first of five newspaper jobs that took me out West and back again. Spent seven years on the Ontario Press Council and did a lot of freelancing for CBC and others.

Current position: Assistant Vice President, Media Relations, Manulife Financial (since 1998)

Best memory of the Gazette:

Worked as former news editor in 1978 with John Miner as editor, Hank Daniszewski as co news-editor. Among the best memories were watching folks like Kevin Cox, Rick Laiken, Doug Firby, Mark Smyka, and many other volunteers in action: all consummate pros and dedicated to putting out a great

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paper. We also had Milan and Peanuts and folks who were hilarious characters to keep us laughing when things really were going nuts. We had some zany times, but the best experience was feeling like part of that time, dedicated to write for a newspaper. It really helped when characters like Colin Thatcher, Albert Walker and similar folks came along.

John Intini, BA'00
(Political Science)

Gazette posts: I worked all four years of my undergrad at the Gazette. 1996-'97, Sports Writer. 1997-'98, Associate Sports Editor. 1998-'99, Sports Editor. 1999-'00, News Editor.

First media job: My first journalism job (not counting delivering the Mississauga News as a kid) was working at the Toronto Sun as a copy boy — I was great at taking coffee orders — and a weekend reporter when I was in Grade 12.

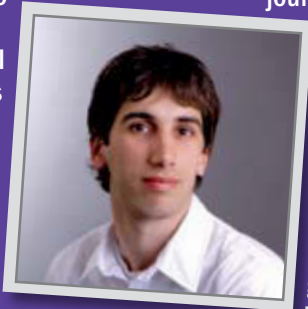
Current position: Associate Editor, Maclean's. I was born in Mississauga and now live in Toronto. I joined the Maclean's staff in 2000 right after graduating from Western. Completed an MA in political science, part-time (at night) at the University of Toronto. For a couple of years at Maclean's I wrote a weekly column "John Intini's Sentences" - in which I would start a sentence and celebrities (i.e. Conan O'Brien, Samuel Jackson) would finish them. I'm now a writer/editor who works mainly on news, sports and entertainment features.

Len Lizmore, BA'72 (History), (LLB'76, University of Windsor, LLM'83, The London School of Economics and Political Science)

Gazette posts: Editor-in-Chief, 1971-72

First media job: summer jobs at Globe & Mail, Kitchener-Waterloo Record, London Free Press & Toronto Star -- I never went into the media full-time.

Current position: Director, Daiwa Securities SMBC Europe Limited (a Japanese investment bank)



Best Gazette memory: I confess. I chased after strippers, pilfered supplies from Western storerooms and set up my office in the back of a pub while being paid to edit The Gazette in 1971-72.

From our cramped office on the ground floor of Somerville House, the Gazette newsroom was moved in early 1972 to a glass-walled office inside the Spoke 'n' Rim pub in Somerville's basement. There was no privacy in what we called 'the fishbowl,' but would journalists ever complain about writing stories from inside a pub? Never! Besides, the atmosphere helped the creative process.

The creative juices were certainly flowing one night when we discovered where Western stored graduation garments. We picked the storeroom's lock and borrowed gowns and mortarboards for an impromptu staff photo. Clutching rolled-up copies of The Gazette as degrees in one hand and bottles of beer in the other, the photographic result was The Gazette graduating class of 1972. For some staff that year, it was the closest that they would come to attending Convocation in Alumni Hall.

Back then, The Gazette was published twice a week, with the larger issue coming out on Fridays. Although staff did some writing early in the week, the big push always came on Wednesday nights because the articles, photos and page-layouts had to be sent to the printer early Thursday morning. Wednesday nights were usually a marathon session, so we kicked off the evening by decamping to The Ridout Tavern in downtown London for its 'all you can eat' smorgasbord. But by the early morning hours of the next day, the troops back in the newsroom were usually getting hungry. With no fast food restaurants open after midnight, we were left to our own devices. Fortunately, we discovered that the narrow opening to the tray-return conveyor-belt in the Somerville dining hall was usually left unlocked.

Resourceful journalists come in all shapes and sizes and one staff member was small enough to squeeze through the opening into the kitchen and retrieve some bananas and ice cream bars.

Production of The Gazette was done by the weekly Times-Advocate newspaper in Exeter, some thirty miles north of London. So every Thursday evening, a carload of Gazette staff thundered up Highway 4 to finish the Friday edition on the T-A's paste-up tables. Invariably, late-breaking news stories and editorials were banged out on a manual typewriter there. Some of the most eye-catching Gazette headlines were conceived as the deadline loomed for putting the paper to bed.

Working on The Gazette of the early 1970s was great fun, but we were also very serious about the quality and breadth of coverage of the paper. Many of us were in the Honours Journalism program; some had summer jobs on daily newspapers and quite a few Gazette staff went on to successful media careers.

Oh, yes, about those strippers . . . The highway to Exeter went past the Shillelagh night-club in Lucan and on every trip we were determined to finish the Friday edition before the club's closing time. The flamboyant Little Miss Glow was the headliner at the Shillelagh, but despite my valiant efforts I never finished the paper in time to catch her act. An opportunity missed!



Len Lizmore, far left

The experience was ‘real’ despite claims the paper wasn’t

By Paul Wells, BA’89 (Political Science)

The senior editor at the London Free Press who gave me my first summer journalism job — grudgingly, rolling his eyes, protesting that I was only getting hired because a section editor had taken an inexplicable shine to me — gave me two pieces of advice at the job interview. One was useful, one bone stupid. The useful counsel was to photocopy the clippings of my articles that I sent in with my c.v., not to mount them on cardboard. Great, thanks. The dumb advice was to leave out any clips from *The Gazette*, because it wasn’t “a real newspaper.”

Even today I get a little cranky when I think about it, because although I had a productive summer at the Free Press and I met a lot of good people, I had already learned far more about how to do journalism at *The Gazette* than I was ever going to learn from the particular doddering hack who made such an elaborate show of sharing his wisdom with me. If you lived in London and you didn’t think *The Gazette* was a real paper — or at least that on a good day it could be one — then boy, you didn’t know much about much.

Is there an important element of the print journalist’s job that I hadn’t learned by the time I graduated from Western, and therefore from *The Gazette*, in 1989? I can’t think of any. Not just the big, simple stuff, the stuff most people begin to figure out before they’ve written 20 articles — what goes into a lede paragraph, what doesn’t, how to deploy a direct quote. The lessons that came from simply doing the work, the lessons we taught one another sometimes before we realized we’d learned them, were both more elaborate and more subtle.

Writing style? Jeff Brooke used to pull my reviews out of the typewriter page by page — in the last year typewriters were used at *The Gazette* — and start his edit while I still writing. For weeks he lopped the last paragraph off my reviews, the

paragraph where I tried to say something portentous and summing-up. Finally he figured out what point he was trying to make. “If you’re trying to figure out how to end a piece,” he said, “you probably already have.”

Community relations? A campus club caught wind of a story we were preparing about a new, rival club. They sent a delegation to stop the story. We couldn’t begin to comprehend the damage our story would cause, they said gravely. We told them they had a choice: we could run the original story, or produce a new one about their attempt to stop it. The meeting wrapped up pretty quickly.

Beat reporting? Newsroom management? Phillip Rushton’s race theories sparked a national debate after a junior reporter, Melana Zyla, had been on the story for a couple of weeks. Casey Mahood and I were her editors. This was the biggest story of our student careers. Whoever followed it would get read in every big-league newsroom in Toronto. Should we take the story away from Melana and give it to, well, ourselves? I didn’t learn the term of art for this practice — “bigfooting” — until a decade later, when I watched, from a distance, as a newsroom manager in Ottawa demoralized one of the capital’s largest news bureaus by systematically bigfooting his underlings. At *The Gazette*, Casey let Melana keep the story. It made her a better reporter and him the better manager. If anyone ever lets me manage journalists, a bit of a long shot, I’ll remember his lesson.

Opinion journalism? We had Reagan Republicans and New Democrats on our editorial board and we argued every editorial position we took. You couldn’t try to persuade the students of Western unless you could persuade a majority of

your fellow editors first. Layout? At times we were putting out close to 100 tabloid pages a week; pretty soon you learn what works. Libel law? Earlier generations had paid dearly for failing to school themselves; we paid good money for regular briefings from real lawyers.

Don’t get me wrong. This wasn’t some grim humourless journalism seminar. According to rumour there was a journalism school, somewhere on the Western campus, for that. In addition to the heavy stuff we also learned about blowing deadlines, stump-jumping (don’t ask), setting off fire alarms, formatting essays to fill the maximum number of pages, selling review albums at Dr. Disc for walking-around money, and how to appreciate the peculiar shade of the London sky at 5 a.m. on the way home from production night. But somewhere in there we had to get a paper out, and getting it out turned out to be all the training some of us would ever need. ☺



Investigative reporter evolves into New Zealand media guru

By Gregor Campbell, BA'75 (Journalism)

Be it television, radio or print – Genevieve Westcott (MA'78) has won more awards



for investigative reporting around the world than you can shake a steno pad at since graduating with a master's degree in journalism from Western in 1978. So, it's no wonder that business executives, politicians, civil

servants and other movers and shakers pay attention to her now that the shoe is on her other foot.

These days the international award-winning television anchor, correspondent, producer and personality is a popular media guru in New Zealand – in demand as a communications mentor, media coach, inspirational speaker and consultant; as managing director of Westcott Communications Ltd.

Westcott is a household name in New Zealand, where, according to her website, “she followed her heart and the man she later married... in the mid-1980s.” She was fast becoming a media star here in Canada, too, before she left. Genevieve was an anchor and correspondent at CTV's W5, before then west coast bureau chief and correspondent for CTV National News, after stints reporting for the CBC and CanWest television networks. Born in Toronto in 1955, she began to work in newspapers immediately after graduating from Western, as a financial reporter for the Vancouver Sun, soon to be, at 23-years-old, the youngest editorial page writer ever hired at the Vancouver Province.

Westcott has won 13 national and international awards for journalistic excellence. Included amongst these are eight of New Zealand's highest media awards for best television current affairs and best television investigative reporting. She has also won a pair of Canadian national awards for outstanding legal reporting.

Several time zones apart via electronic exchange, Westcott shared her journalistic journey from Western.

Q. What got you into journalism? Why Western?

A. Serendipity – and some fatherly advice. I'd just completed a political science degree at York University and didn't know what to do with my life. My father, Clare Westcott, suggested I speak with an old friend of his, Dean Andy McFarlane, at Western. It culminated in taking my Masters in Journalism at Western.

Q. Best Western memories?

A. Digging out my VW Beetle from under 12 feet of snow – drinking beer in the pub with my buddies – and actually passing my courses!

Q. What do you wish you knew then ('78) that you know now ('06)?

A. Life is not a struggle – it's a wiggle.

Q. Did broadcasting always have more appeal for you than print, or did circumstances drive you into the latter?

A. Yes, I always preferred broadcasting. When I graduated, I sent out more than 200 resumes across Canada, finally landing a position as financial reporter with the Vancouver Sun. However, a nine-month newspaper strike sent me from the picket line to CKVU-TV (now Global) and I never went back to print. TV was just a whole lot more fun.

Q. In a recent newspaper poll, 88 per cent of respondents opined that media were not objective. This is a far cry from the 1970s when reporters in general were perceived far more as romantic heroes – eg. Bernstein/Woodward & All The President's Men. To what would you credit the dramatic turnaround in the past three decades?

A. The reality is there's an information overload for all of us to contend with every day. The chase is on to be the first. And like every other profession, there are good operators – and unethical operators.

Q. Good investigative journalism is a hard sell in today's corporate media

climate, where fluff and celebrity seem to be prevailing and Pulitzer prize winners are losing their jobs because of “budget squeezes.” Is good investigative journalism going the way of the Dodo?

A. I think it is. Even the classic current affairs TV shows like 60 Minutes and W5 – not to mention the local supertime news shows – have a lot of “celebrity” and personality-driven material. Great investigative work takes a lot of time, money, commitment and chutzpah.

Q. Who are the most memorable characters/personalities you have covered in your career as a journalist?

A. I've interviewed everyone from presidents of countries to prostitutes, movie stars to refugees. The real shining stars have always been the “ordinary” people battling to better their world.

Q. Newsrooms are notorious for their internal politics and stress. How have you handled it and thrived?

A. I always chased the story – not the glory. If you love what you do, who's got time to worry about anything else? I've probably spent more years on the road, on assignment, than I have at home. Laugh your brains out. And if you fall over, get up and keep going.

Q. How did you get into what you're doing now, and what happens next?

A. After more than 20 years on the road, it was time for new challenges. I now get a big buzz out of helping people master the media with all my insider tips. I'm happy to work with Canadian clients. I'm just a plane ride away.

Q. What shape do you see traditional print/broadcast media taking in upcoming years, given that a goodly number of young people seem to be ignoring them these days?

A. This is the million dollar question. Watch this space!

BRANCH EVENTS

CANADA

Burlington, ON

Off to Western Event August 24, 2006
Alumni Wine Tasting Event September 21, 2006

Calgary, AB

Off to Western Event August 17, 2006
Alumni Reception September 11, 2006

Edmonton, Alberta

Alumni Reception August 16, 2006

Guelph, Ontario

Speaker Reception September 27, 2006

Halifax, Nova Scotia

Alumni Reception November 9, 2006

London, ON

Western Hosts August 15, 2006
The London Chamber of Commerce Biz After 5
Homecoming Weekend
September 29 – October 1, 2006

Montreal, PQ

September 20 or 21, 2006
Alumni Reception

Niagara, ON

Alumni Reception Fall 2006

Ottawa, ON

Off to Western August 17, 2006
Western Mustangs Football September 3, 2006
Tailgate Party and game
vs Gee-Gees
Ottawa Speaker Series Fall 2006

Sarnia, ON

Sarnia Branch Reception Fall 2006
Alumni Event at
Gallery Lambton January 2007

Toronto, ON

Off to Western
Markham & Richmond Hill August 17, 2006
Mississauga & Brampton August 21, 2006
Toronto August 22, 2006
Western Mustangs Football October 7, 2006
Tailgate Party & game vs. U of T
Alumni Reception
at the ROM November 2006

Vancouver, BC

Off to Western August 16, 2006
Vancouver Branch
Charity Casino Night September 7, 2006
Holiday Reception December 7, 2006

Victoria, BC

Wine Tasting Event September 8, 2006

Waterloo, ON

Off to Western August 23, 2006
Western Mustangs Football September 23, 2006
Tailgate Party & game vs. Laurier

Windsor, ON

Alumni Brunch September 24, 2006
Jays @ Tigers Baseball September 26 & 27, 2006

Winnipeg, MB

Alumni Reception November 2, 2006

UNITED STATES

New York, NY

Alumni Reception September 28, 2006

Akron, OH

Alumni Reception September, 2006

Seattle, WA

7th Annual Canada Gala October 6, 2006

Washington, DC

Alumni Reception September 13, 2006
at the Canadian Embassy

INTERNATIONAL

Barbados

Alumni Reception October 2006

Hong Kong

Off to Western August 5, 2006
Wine Tasting August 20, 2006
Joint University Bowling September 2006
Alumni Dinner November 4, 2006
Convocation November 5, 2006

Mexico

Alumni Reception October 12, 2006

Trinidad

Alumni Reception October 2006

CHAPTER EVENTS

Dentistry Alumni

Alumni of Distinction September 29, 2006
Award Reception

Engineering Alumni Society

Alumni Dinner & September 30, 2006
L.S. Lauchland Alumni Award Presentation

Gazette Alumni

100th Anniversary
Alumni Dinner Celebration September 30, 2006

Law Alumni Association

Alumni Barbecue September 30, 2006

Nursing Alumni

Homecoming Breakfast September 30, 2006

USC Alumni

Wine & Cheese Reception September 29, 2006
AGM & Homecoming
Tailgate Party September 30, 2006

WAA

Homecoming Event September 30, 2006

W-Club

Golf Tournament August 24, 2006
Homecoming Post-game September 30, 2006

For a complete list of events, call us at 1-800-258-6896 and press 4 or visit: www.alumni.uwo.ca/upcoming

Alumni Western congratulates our recent contest winners! Thanks for updating your information online and for staying in touch with Western! Enjoy your prizes.

Shelley Poulton BA'92 from Oakville – winner of a video iPod!

John Charlton BSc'92 from London – winner of an Alumni Western jacket

Helen Oldham BSc'92, BSc'95 from Mississauga – winner of an Alumni Western polar fleece

Cindy Bell BSc'89 from North Vancouver – winner of an Alumni Western polar fleece

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Music dream turns to sports success at Globe

By Jeff Renaud



Award-winning *Globe and Mail* columnist Stephen Brunt (BA'81, MA'82) arrived at Western in the late 70s to fulfill a dream.

But when he woke up and realized he was no Tommy Dorsey, he knocked on the door of his student newspaper and ended up finding his dream job instead.

"I came to Western hoping to study music – I played trombone. When it dawned on me during first year that I wasn't good enough, I had no idea what I was going to do. I can't remember why I walked into the Gazette the first time, but I know the idea was to have some fun, to write about jazz, which was my passion then, and maybe to see a few concerts," says Brunt.

The Hamilton native said writing for the Gazette in 1976-77 allowed him the opportunity to improvise, to nourish his inner jazz man, "Of course they never turn anyone away. The paper gave me a place to try things, to make mistakes, to understand what it was like to write something other than an essay. I wound up going straight from there to a freelance music job at the London Free Press, so it was an incredibly important experience. And in my professional life, I haven't met many people in journalism who were worth a damn who didn't have some kind of university newspaper stint. It draws those who have a genuine passion for the craft."

Brunt says life on the beat appealed to him right away. "The first time I was sent to review a concert, I sat in complimentary seats, and it dawned on me that people in the real world got paid

for this. I was purely a music guy at the Gazette – jazz mostly and a bit of rock. I think it was a Chick Corea show, though it might have been Southside Johnny and the Asbury Jukes at Alumni Hall."

"I thoroughly enjoyed my five years at Western, including the year in Journalism grad school," says Brunt. "I liked the campus, I liked the atmosphere. I was fortunate to be taught by some inspirational people in the English faculty like Ross Woodman. And of course I saw some great football teams."

"I haven't met many people in Journalism who were worth a damn who didn't have some kind of university newspaper stint"

Brunt made the jump to The Globe as an arts intern in 1982 and then worked in news, covering the 1984 federal election won by Brian Mulroney. He began to write for the sports section in 1985.

His 1988 series on negligence and corruption in boxing won him the Michener Award for public service journalism. In 1989, he became a sports columnist.

Over the course of 20 years, Brunt has covered every major sporting event, both nationally and internationally, but nothing, to date anyways, tops the six weeks he spent in Paris in 1998 covering

the Tennis French Open and the World Cup of Soccer.

"Paris in the springtime was a big part of it. But also it was my first chance to enjoy soccer in a place where there were really passionate fans," says Brunt, recalling France's win on home soil in 1998. "I covered the '94 World Cup in the United States, but that was completely different. In France, all of the European supporters turned up, whether they had tickets or not. It was like one big travelling party. And of course, in the end, the home team won, setting off huge street celebrations in Paris. It couldn't have been more perfect."

Writing in Canada, in the hockey-centric society that it is, Brunt admits that while the coolest game on earth is the number one priority, he has found a home at the Globe and Mail that is open to exploring what the world is watching.

"Hockey is always going to be number one. I've almost given up on boxing, unless there's a really big fight that crosses over to a general audience. It's been almost a year now since I've covered one," explains Brunt. "The Globe has always been interested in giving big coverage to the big events – the Olympics, the World Cup, the Super Bowl, the Grey Cup, the World Series and the Stanley Cup playoffs. That allows me to vary what I cover over the course of a year. I really like and need the variety. I can't imagine being locked in on one sport for a full season, at least at this stage of my life."

Always the jazz man. 🎷

From newsstand to book shelf

Brunt takes on Orr

By Jeff Renaud

While boxing delivers fewer knockouts than Peter McNeeley these days, when it comes to the sweet science, Stephen Brunt still calls that sport's greatest, his all-time favourite.

"Muhammad Ali is absolutely my favourite," says Brunt. So after penning his first three books: *Mean Business: The Rise and Fall of Shawn O'Sullivan*, *Second to None: The Roberto Alomar Story* and *Diamond Dreams: 20 Years of Blue Jays Baseball*, Brunt turned to *The Greatest* as inspiration for *Facing Ali: 15 Fighters/15 Stories* – a series of profiles featuring the who's who of Ali former fight cards.

For his follow up, Brunt has turned to one of Canada's greatest – Robert Gordon Orr. "I've always had an interest in Bobby Orr. The first hockey game that I ever saw was a Junior A match up between the Hamilton Red Wings and Oshawa Generals, with Orr playing for Oshawa. He's iconic, at least

be one with his cooperation. This isn't a standard hockey biography. It's a kind of hybrid – more literary, I think, than the Ali book. It will be interesting to see how the hardcore hockey crowd receives it."

He continues, "I think it finds what I think is a classic, mythic arc in the Orr bio – the golden child, the prodigy, who emerges fully formed from the rocks and trees and ice of northern Ontario. There's a strong relationship at the centre of the book – Orr and Al Eagleson. And of course, there's a break up, a betrayal. It also places Orr in the context of the times, not just in terms of hockey and expansion in the 1960s, but in terms of the whole business of sports, and of Canadian culture."

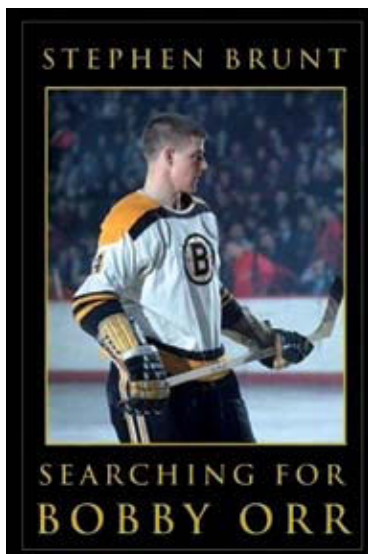
Brunt says he is not a hockey authority, but did give Orr a skate blade's edge on the sports' other Great One. "Really, I don't pretend to be a hockey expert, so I'd be giving you the same answers as anyone else. I have always thought Orr was the best, because he was an original. He played the game in an entirely different way, and no one who came after him could really duplicate it. But you could say the same thing about Gretzky. I didn't see prime time Gordie Howe or Rocket Richard, so I have trouble making those comparisons. Let's just say that Orr and Gretzky are 1 and 1a," says Brunt.

The release date for *Searching for Bobby Orr* by Stephen Brunt is October 6.

Ali, Orr, who's next for Brunt – the Babe or maybe Michael?

"I think for the next book, I'm going to take a complete left turn – maybe write about fly fishing or something. This was a long, challenging project. You have to forget how hard it is before you're willing to jump in to another biographical project."

Whatever the subject, rods and reels or Ronaldinho, Brunt's swinging delivery will have his readers toe tapping along. 📖



for Canadians. And unlike so many old athletes, he's managed to keep his image pristine, mostly by avoiding exposure. That's why it was a real challenge writing the book. There hasn't been a real Orr book, and I don't think there ever will

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How Hedger landed dream gig at TSN

By Tom McDowell, MA'06



In 2001 Western grad Jennifer Hedger was sitting in a dark Toronto bar when something happened that changed her life. Unemployed, and with little money left to live on, Hedger was considering giving up on her dream of becoming a sports broadcaster.

All of a sudden three men walked into the bar carrying the Stanley Cup. Hedger knew it was a sign.

"I won't forgive myself if I don't keep this up," she said at the time.

Today, Hedger is the co-host of the coveted 10 p.m. slot on TSN's (The Sports Network) SportsCentre.

But getting there wasn't easy.

When Hedger graduated from Western in 1998 she had no experience in broadcasting or television and worked as a waitress at a London restaurant. Her dream of becoming a sportscaster seemed remote.

"I had this lost feeling," she said. "It hit me that it was going to take a bit of effort."

Hedger shared the story of her journey to the top of her profession with about 200 graduating students at The Great Hall in early April as a part of Western's inaugural Last Lecture Series. Hedger told students it is important to work hard and to believe in themselves - especially when times get tough. "Never give up," Hedger said. "I was determined. I was driven. I was focused."

Recognizing that she needed experience in broadcasting after she finished her BA in Theatre Arts and English at Western Hedger took a volunteer job

with Rogers Cable in London in 1999. "It's a great place to learn because you can make mistakes and the stakes aren't too high," she said.

Hedger admitted she made a few mistakes, but soon after joining Rogers she was named host of an afternoon entertainment show called Daytime. "I was learning how to do the job that I wanted to do," she told the students in attendance. "You go out and you do it, and you do reps."

A few months later Hedger got a paid job in London with the New PL, now the A-Channel, doing on-camera summer promotions in the community. She didn't always enjoy the work, but she knew it was part of a bigger plan to be a national sportscaster.

At the end of that summer, Hedger's job came to an end. She applied for another job with The New PL, but was turned down. "I was devastated. My career was over," she said. "This was gut-check time for me. If I really wanted this I was going to have to start to work a lot harder."

Hedger was at another crossroads. She realized that in order to pursue her dream she would have to leave the city she had lived in all her life. "London was the only thing in my world," she said.

With her goal in mind, Hedger tried out for a reality TV show in Toronto called The Lofters. It was a great opportunity because it gave her the chance to get noticed, but the catch was that she would have to be on TV 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

She accepted the job as a means to her end.

On the show, Hedger lived with seven other roommates in a Toronto apartment. Every minute of her life for an entire year was scripted and documented by the show's producers. "The hardest part was the reality aspect," she said. Hedger admitted that sometimes she was tempted to stray from the role the producers asked her to play, but she knew this was her big chance and that she had to make the most of it.

Her big break came when she was asked to appear on TSN's Off The Record. The host, Michael Landsberg, was impressed by Hedger's knowledge of sports and asked her to come back again. Landsberg asked Hedger what she wanted to do, and without hesitation she told him that she wanted to be a sportscaster on TSN. He told her that if she was serious he would set her up with an interview with one of the producers.

Finally, Hedger had her chance to make it big. A TSN producer called and told her to come for an audition. But Hedger didn't get the job - at least not right away. The audition didn't go as well as she had hoped, and Hedger was once again left unemployed and discouraged.


It was during that difficult period that the Stanley Cup appeared, as if almost by fate, in that dark Toronto bar. Hedger realized she had to take one more shot at fulfilling her dream. She called the TSN producers back and told them that she wanted another audition.

This time they saw something in her. The producers gave her a job as host of Fight to the Finish, a show on the now defunct TSN women's syndicate WTSN. She didn't last long in that role. The producers took notice of her and offered her a job on the main network.

On July 1, 2002, Hedger debuted as the new co-host of the 2 a.m. broadcast of SportsCentre. "It's my dream job," she said. "I wouldn't trade it for anything in the world."

Hedger had achieved her dream when only a year earlier it seemed so distant.

Before she left the microphone to an ovation, Hedger left her audience with a message.

"I would hazard to guess that the first job you get isn't going to be the job you want - but I bet it's the job you need," she said. "Hard work does pay off." 

Canadians are talking online: Journalists need to join the conversation

By Paul Benedetti



Illustration by Terry Rice

What's the future of Canadian journalism? What will Canada's media landscape look like 10 years from now? Beats me. Only a fool would try to guess. Frankly, it's become difficult to predict what journalism will look like one year from now.

In fact, I would argue that most people working in the media are not even in the present, never mind the future. Marshall McLuhan, Canada's media guru once said, "If you are really curious about the future, just study the present...What we ordinarily see in any present is what appears in the rearview mirror. What we ordinarily think of as the present is really the past."

Although it's always dangerous to decide exactly what McLuhan meant, I think he was suggesting that most

of us are working behind the cutting edge, at the rear of societal, cultural and technical change.

Why? Well, for one, that's where the vast majority of the population lives, and whether you are putting out a newspaper or producing radio or television news, you are serving the public. Two, it's just safer there. It's more comfortable. And, three, it's usually more profitable.

In journalism, both in its practice and its teaching, this inclination to remain slightly, or wholly, back from the edge, is no where more apparent than in matters of technology. We have, as a profession and a business, really been dragged kicking and screaming into the 21st century. And, despite the fuss, we aren't really there yet.

Most reporters and editors greeted technological change the way medieval

peasants greeted the Black Death. We were scared, we hoped it would pass quickly, and we prayed that, when it was over, a third of our ranks wouldn't be gone. Not all our prayers were answered.

When it became clear by the late 90s, that whatever journalists thought about it, the Web was becoming a part of everyday life in North America, media organizations finally responded.

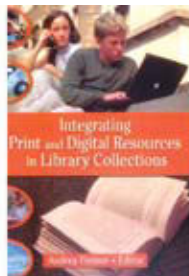
Working journalists, quite naturally, have focussed on the least important aspect of the digital revolution - the tools and the technology. But the real change, the change that presents the biggest challenge to the media and the greatest opportunity for democracy has almost nothing to do with code and everything to do with community and communication.

continued on page 45

PRESS

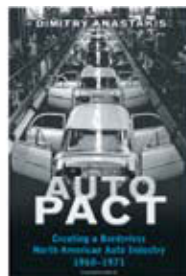
INTEGRATING PRINT AND DIGITAL RESOURCES

Integrating Print and Digital Resources in Library Collections, edited by **Audrey Fenner (MLS'84)**, teaches you how to update—and upgrade—your reference collection by integrating your online and hardcopy resources. This resource guide offers a thought-provoking mix of case studies and research reports from working librarians in a variety of settings. By examining an assortment of collection management issues, combining practical theory, research findings, “how-to” articles, and opinion pieces, this book encourages efforts in establishing fully integrated and accessible collections. As an invaluable resource for librarians, as well as library and information science students, chapters cover licensing, usage statistics, staff training and integrating access to all formats both in the library’s catalog and the stacks. Additionally, it examines how to decide what can and can’t be digitized and how to keep your collection up-to-date, including the “Big Deal” and consortial purchasing. For more information, visit www.haworthpress.com



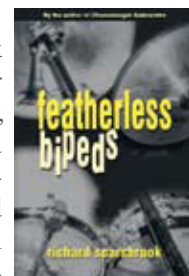
AUTO PACT

Auto Pact: Creating a Borderless North American Auto Industry 1960–1971, written by **Dimitry Anastakis (BA'93)**, addresses “a fascinating exploration of the forces that led to what was arguably Canada’s smartest government policy,” in the words of Buzz Hargrove, President of Canadian Auto Workers. *Auto Pact* focuses on the 1965 Canada–United States Automotive Trade agreement that fundamentally reshaped relations between the automotive business and the state in both countries and represented a significant step toward the creation of an integrated North American economy. Anastakis demonstrates that, for Canada’s automotive policy makers, continentalism was a form of economic nationalism. Additionally, this book draws from newly released archival sources and offers a fresh and alternative view of the auto pact that places it within contemporary debates about the nature of free trade as well as North American and global integration. Anastakis is also an assistant professor in the Department of History at Trent University. For more information, visit: www.utppublishing.com/pubstore/merchant.ihtml?pid=8593&step=4



FEATHERLESS BIPEDS & DESTINY'S TELESCOPE

Featherless Bipeds By **Richard Scarsbrook (BA'91)**, features lead character Dak Sifter playing drums in a great rock and roll band, impressing the girls, and generally having a blast. The second novel in the Dak Sifter Series (following the multi-award nominated *Cheeseburger Subversive*, now in its fourth printing), *Featherless Bipeds* finds Dak firmly centred in the minefield of youth with the temptations, seductions, and subterfuge that rock and roll, young love, and university life are sure to provide. *Destiny's Telescope* and other stories is a collection of short stories by Scarsbrook that asks: “What is Destiny?” Do our choices and actions determine our ultimate destinations in life, or are individuals fated to certain ends by the by the forces that surround them? Or is it a varying blend of both? Each story in *Destiny's Telescope* examines these questions from a different angle, and each suggests a different answer. From the girl with a deadly allergy to the sun who ventures out of doors, to the businessman who abandons his sports car in the middle of a traffic jam, to the Lolita-chasing man run down in the street by a mysterious black taxi, each situation in which the realistic, colourful characters find themselves begs the question: How much control do we really have over our own lives? For more information on both books, visit: www.richardscarsbrook.com



CHILD'S PLAY

Child's Play by **Silken Laumann (BA'88)**, is a call for action, an inspirational guide to reconnecting with our kids, and an introduction to inspiring examples for building safe, supportive communities and healthy schools. Above all, it’s a book of simple ideas for parents looking for change. From one of Canada’s most inspiring and gifted sports heroes, an urgently needed book for parents, educators and caregivers wishing to raise active, healthy kids. Like many of us, Silken Laumann’s fondest childhood memories are of play: staying outside until that final call for dinner, neighbourhood-wide games of Capture-the-Flag and road hockey that went on for hours. But as a parent, Silken knows that our perception of the world has changed. Our streets and parks don’t feel as safe as we’d like and we don’t know our neighbours as we used to. We have forgotten just how important unstructured play is for our children’s development and well-being: It keeps kids healthy, creative and active; it teaches them valuable life skills and, most importantly, it lets our kids be kids, worry-free and joyful. It’s up to us to create a better world for our kids. For more information, visit: www.silkenlaumann.com/



ITALIAN EXPRESS

Emily Richards (BSc'96, Brescia), seen on Canadian Living Cooks, grew up watching her grandmother rise at 4:00 a.m. to prepare the pasta, breads and sauces that are the mainstays of Italian home cooking. She also saw her mother, who worked outside the home, create her own speedier but equally tasty Italian dishes. With a loving nod to them both, Emily created a hybrid cuisine that she calls "Italian Express." *Italian Express*, the cookbook, is a collection of 150 family friendly recipes that captures all of the authentic flavour of Italy without the long preparation and complicated methods. All recipes can be prepared in less than half an hour and rely on fresh, simple ingredients, easy directions and a few pantry staples. From Spinach Ricotta Gnocchi to a homemade Italian herb seasoning mix to Panini di Pollo con Pesto e Asiago (Pesto Chicken and Asiago Baguette), *Italian Express* is a must-have, must-use new cookbook. For more information, visit: www.emilyrichards.ca



ONE DEAD INDIAN

On September 4, 1995, several Stoney Point Natives entered Ipperwash Provincial Park, near Sarnia, Ontario, and began a peaceful protest aimed at reclaiming a traditional burial ground. Within seventy-two hours, one of those protestors, Anthony (Dudley) George, was dead, shot by an OPP officer. In *One Dead Indian*, after covering the tragedy from the beginning, journalist Peter Edwards (BA'81, MA'82) examines the circumstances surrounding George's death and asks a number of tough questions, including: How much pressure did the Ontario government put on the OPP to get tough? As the official public inquiry attempts to shed light on what really happened, Peter Edwards's investigation of this question brings the story right up to the present. For more information, visit: www.mcclelland.com/catalog/display.pperl?isbn=9780771030475



THE EDITOR OF LOVE & SWEET DARUMA

The Editor of Love and Other Stories is the second book by Janice Valerie Young (BA'94), following on the success of her first novel *Sweet Daruma*, a Japan satire which was short-listed for two international writing awards, the Gorsky Press Literary Sashimi Award and the Norumbega Fiction Award. That novel takes readers deep inside Japanese pop-culture, where Western logic is not only unnecessary, it's absolutely useless. *Sweet Daruma* was described by the Daily Yomiuri Newspaper as "Several gigs worth of material that would go down well on the Tokyo com-



edy club circuit." *The Editor of Love and Other Stories* features an eclectic mix of short stories, including "Bankrupt" which the Daily Yomiuri called "a screamed, jazzy, nerve-jangling riff on a broken marriage, triggered when the husband complains that a hair of his wife, who feels herself to be the wronged party, has fallen into his spaghetti." Both books are available from Amazon, and for more information visit www.sweetdaruma.com.

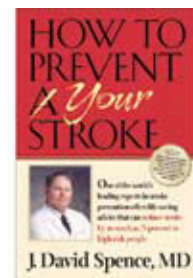
THE AUTOMOTIVE MASCOT, VOLUME 1

A beautiful book on car mascots by James R. Colwill, (MD'61). Packed with colour photographs of the highest quality this first volume explores the roots of mascot design. Some of the earliest figural and non-figural mascots are presented from historic as well as design perspective. Three volumes in all are planned and when complete will become the standard reference work for mascot collectors. Of the finest quality and strongly recommended. Softbound, oversized, 304 pages & 350+ illustrations. Exquisite colour photographs and historical figures illustrate this fascinating new automotive history about the origins and development of decorative radiator caps and hood ornaments before the Great Depression. For more information, visit: www.amazon.com



HOW TO PREVENT YOUR STROKE

How To Prevent Your Stroke by J. David Spence, (BA'65, MD'70) is written in the hope of preventing strokes, based on advice Dr. Spence has given to the more than 16,000 at-risk patients he has seen. It is divided into two sections -- "What Your Doctor Can Do" and "What You Can Do." Quitting smoking, following a Mediterranean diet, taking appropriate drugs to reduce blood pressure, cholesterol, and blood clotting, and appropriate surgery for severely narrowed arteries in the neck can reduce stroke by as much as 75 percent in high-risk people. * A Mediterranean diet will reduce stroke by nearly half in high-risk people. Dr. Spence provides a collection of gourmet "anti-stroke" recipes that he prepares for himself. * Vitamin treatment with folic acid, B6, and B12 may prevent stroke by lowering levels of a new risk factor called homocysteine. * Advanced imaging methods are improving management of arteries by providing feedback on the effectiveness of therapy. This approach is the powerful medicine for stroke prevention that patients and their physicians need and will learn from this book. For more information, visit: www.vanderbiltuniversity-press.com/bookdetail.asp?book_id=4042



Wright leaves legacy of giving

Long-time Western supporter, visionary and philanthropist Don Wright passed away at his Toronto home on June 27 at the age of 97. In 2002, he generously donated \$3 million to Western, which renamed the Faculty of Music in his honour and continues to make a difference in the lives of students, staff and faculty.

Wright is predeceased by his wife Lillian and son Patrick, and survived by his sister Mary Jean Wright, son Timothy, daughter Priscilla and 13 grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

The Strathroy native had been a teacher, director of music for schools, radio station manager, choral conductor, arranger, composer, performer, producer and, of course, philanthropist. His beneficiaries have included several hospitals, countless choral groups and



Don Wright

13 universities, including Western. More than 34 endowed scholarships are available to students across Canada thanks to Wright's generosity.

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ALUMNI WESTERN IS PARTNERING WITH HARRIS CONNECT ON A PRINT AND CD ROM ALUMNI DIRECTORY

The University of Western Ontario Alumni Association is proud to announce that we are partnering with Harris Connect of Norfolk, VA to provide alumni with a print and CD-ROM alumni directory. Harris Connect is the premier alumni directory publisher in North America and presently has relationships with several other Ontario universities. Alumni Western currently partners with Harris Connect for our online alumni community at: www.uwo.ca/alumni.



Those individuals who requested to be excluded from our Harris Alumni Directory in 1999 will not have to make a request again.

Harris Connect has signed an agreement with Western that prevents it from using the data for any purposes other than the alumni directory program. Your alumni association chose Harris Connect because of its outstanding reputation in protecting your data. Harris Connect will abide by all applicable privacy legislation and will only list alumni in the directory who have given permission via mail, e-mail or over the telephone.

Harris Connect will be in contact with Western alumni later this fall to update their information and will make the directory available to alumni in the summer of 2007.

In accordance with recent Ontario Privacy legislation, alumni can request that their data not be sent to the publisher before the program begins. If you wish that your data not be sent to Harris Connect, please email adserv@uwo.ca or send a letter to Advancement Services, Stevenson Lawson Building 270, 1151 Richmond St, London, ON N6A 5B8 or phone 519-661-4176 or 1-800-420-7519 (Canada & U.S.) or fax 519-661-4182 before August 31st, 2006.

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During this sea change, some, like Ted Turner, predicted the death of print. He was wrong. And today, pundits who predict that newspapers will “die within the next 20 years” are probably wrong as well. But all the debate about what media will survive or not really misses the point. While we ponder whether young people are reading newspapers (they aren’t, or at least, fewer and fewer are), an enormous shift has taken place in society, a shift that will, I think, affect every aspect of what journalists do.

The real challenge is whether journalists can learn whole new ways of finding, researching, telling and *sharing* stories in an increasingly wired world. People are sharing their stories without us. The Internet has allowed conversations among human beings that were simply not possible 10 years ago.

People are emailing, instant messaging, blogging, pod-casting and text-messaging each other all day. What was once a communication of one or few to many – the broadcast model – has

become many to many. There are a lot of conversations going on and we have to be part of them.

Today, millions and millions of people have their own weblogs or blogs (usually simple, one-person online journal sites that update daily). Technorati.com, a site about blogging, tracks more than 32 million sites.

Throw in tens or even hundreds of thousands of small websites, message boards and you have a virtual revolution in communication on the planet that has, for the most part, bypassed the mainstream media.

This usurping of the traditional role of the journalist and the media outlet is challenging long-held beliefs and accepted norms. But, whether we like it or not, millions of people are posting our stories, linking from them, and providing commentary and criticism about them. And today, people can go directly to the sources of news. Newsrooms that are not transparent and that do not encourage interactivity, run the risk of becoming

irrelevant to many people.

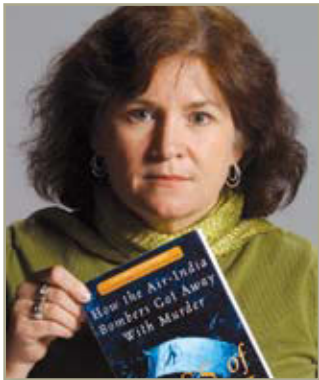
I believe that these changes do not, as some would suggest, make professional journalism obsolete. Rather, I think the role of the trained journalist who can think, research and write well is more crucial than it has ever been. Journalists must think more deeply, research more widely, communicate more extensively, be more open and accessible, more creative, and perhaps, more humble.

Journalists and those who teach future journalists must immerse themselves today in what feels like tomorrow’s world, exploring new ways to listen to great stories and to tell great stories.

The challenge is clear: People across this country are engaging in a large and ever-growing conversation. We can use our traditional skills and develop some new ones to help us understand and join the conversation – or we can be left behind.

Paul Benedetti is a FIMS professor in the graduate journalism program. 

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Western as a media matchmaker

Print, radio, TV, Internet...How I found my media marriage partner

By Gloria Chang, MA'96

When Discovery Channel asked me to be part of the team that would launch Canada's first journalism and broadcaster website in 1996, I was relieved. Unlike my fellow Western alumni that I had the unique pleasure of interviewing for this magazine, my stay at Western didn't end neatly with a media marriage upon graduation. I hadn't found my media partner.

Instead, I was in a bit of a jumble, wondering how I could possibly choose one medium over another. Print gave me the freedom of words to weave brightly coloured threads into a story. I loved how Radio's intimacy and theatre of sound could tease the imagination. And Television, he who I sought so wholeheartedly when I arrived, still held the allure of adrenaline-pumping live on-air reports, moving pictures, and a much more social personality.

Unexpectedly, Western's Graduate School of Journalism opened wide the range of potential partners, nurturing in me a fond appreciation for all three

traditional media. Then, in another twist, my matchmaker introduces me to a new, unknown arrival: online journalism. My new job, then, as an internet producer at The Exploration Network exn.ca – as the website was called – was a delaying tactic. I could leave the choosing for a few years while I continued seeing them all.

We gathered, four television journalists, minted with snazzy new laptops and digital video cameras in shiny silver cases. Over the next four years, we would brainstorm new ways of storytelling – incorporating still images, hyperlinks, streaming video, and audio clips. The Internet however, was dragging his feet. I remember our frustrations at waiting, waiting, and waiting while Paul Kaliciak, our technical crew of one, wrote the code to make our stories composed of words and images available to our audience. It was only after launching a second national editorial website years later that I fully appreciated his genius – literally writing code alongside us as we experimented with writing styles and the mixing of media.

We were put through multi-media boot camp, ramping up our knowledge of computers and all things technical: lighting and shooting with a digital video camera, audio and video editing, digitizing software. It was overwhelming at times, but still the spur at our sides was the medium itself. When we attempted to bring sound into our stories, Internet moaned incomprehensibly, warping our voices. If audio was getting warbled, how could we possibly add video? What was the point of all this new equipment and training if our publisher-broadcaster wasn't ready?

Still we pushed forward, drawn by the knowledge that we were pioneers of sorts, taming a wild and uncharted land. We had our first real-time chat. We began "mini-sites" where we delved into subjects in greater, multi-media detail. Our site won newly created Web awards. We produced daily video newscasts. One of the most validating things for me was how the audience could communicate directly with us through email after reading, hearing


and watching our stories.

But it's a year later, in July 1997, as the only online journalist at the NASA's Jet Propulsion Lab in Pasadena, California that I fully realize Internet's power. I was there to cover the second attempt to land on Mars since the Viking missions of 1976. As the colour images stream down from the Red Planet 46 million miles away, I am in awe. I am witnessing the first successful Mars landing in over 20 years, and minutes later, I will email my report of the spontaneous cheers erupting from the scientists, the sense of wonder and jubilation of a mission accomplished. And unlike the other media, I will continue filing stories, once every hour for our audience to read and watch just minutes after I type them.

Online journalism has evolved since those early days. Instead of a mixture of media, the traditionalists keep to their own kind as television broadcasters lean toward truncated (or extra) video of their shows, radio broadcasters their podcasts, and print publications their featured stories or online "extras."

We've also seen the birth of online newspapers and magazines, which exist financially without their paper counterpart. But it's the Internet's viral and democratic nature that makes it a stand-alone medium, rather than a mere shell to house the three that precede it. Nowhere before has the audience been able to create a medium through feature-rich websites. Nowhere before have we had two-way communication with so many others so freely – the Internet's distinction is its social networking.

Ten years after delaying that dreaded decision to choose one medium over another, it seems I've only added a fourth. As a storyteller, I realize my marriage partner is the story, not the medium. Better to match the medium to the story, than the other way around.

Gloria Chang (MA '96) was part of the team that launched Discovery Channel's website, Canada's first editorial website. She has reported for CBC Radio English News and CBC French Television. She is currently a freelance writer based in Vancouver, BC. She can be reached through her website: www.gloriachang.com 

Margaret's legacy lives on for student athletes



Margaret Macklin Frewin (BA'48)

Margaret died in 2004. The Gazette alumna was one of six women in Western's first journalism class and a member of the University's swim team. She credited many of her life's successes to the work ethic she learned at Western. To help other student athletes achieve success, Margaret funded the Margaret and Robert Frewin Award with a gift of life insurance. Now, each fall a top student athlete pursuing a BA will benefit from her legacy.

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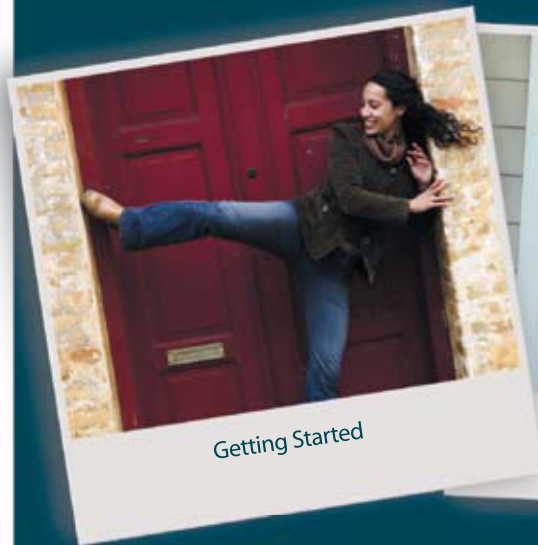
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