Legacies for Tomorrow

Commitment
Mary’s endowed bequest to Foundation Western is an expression of her hope that future generations of students will forever benefit from receiving the kind of education she had at Western.

Hope
Although he may never know Mary, Andrew will receive the best education possible at Western because of a donor’s belief that every generation deserves the opportunity to excel.

What will your legacy be?

Making a planned gift to The University of Western Ontario enables our alumni and friends to empower leaders of tomorrow.

By endowing a legacy gift, you transform your commitment into the next generation’s hopes, and through Western, anything continues to be possible.

- Give a gift of life insurance
- Donate securities
- Reallocate retirement benefits
- Bestow a bequest

Contact Hallie McClelland at hmcclell@uwo.ca or call 519-661-2111 ext. 85585 for more information.
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BEIJING 2008:
Excitement rising for Canadian athletes
By Scott Russell, BA’80, BEd’81, MA’85, CBC Sports Weekend

THE LORE OF ATHLETIC LEGEND JOHN LOARING
Photo essay of one of Western’s early great athletes

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Imagine planning the Olympic Games

CENTRE FOR OLYMPIC STUDIES CREATES NICHES OF EXPERTS
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LIFE AFTER OLYMPICS FOR ROWING ALUMNAE
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DO AS I TEACH:
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LETTERS
There is difference between creativity, innovation

CAMPUS JOURNAL
Thompson named as new Chancellor of Western

WHO'S ON
Writer-in-Residence, Drew Hayden Taylor

ALMANAC
Wanted: Alumni to share Western’s success stories

ONLINE ONLY FEATURES

THE LORE OF ATHLETIC LEGEND JOHN LOARING, BA’40
The story of John Loaring’s athletic success, pre- and post-Olympics

IVEY DEAN CAROL STEPHENSON ASKS YOU TO:
Imagine planning the Olympic Games – Full interview

LAYING DOWN SPORTS LAW IN BEIJING
Complete Q & A with Richard McLaren, nine-time Olympic arbitrator

www.alumnigazette.ca

On the cover: This collage of Olympic images of Western alumni was designed by Art Director Terry Rice and Graphic Designer Cara McCarthy and includes photos of Silken Laumann (courtesy National Speakers Bureau), John Loaring (courtesy John Loaring Jr.) and Marnie McBean, right, with her rowing partner Kathleen Heddle (CP photo/COC)
Let the Games begin

It stirs passion. It moves people who aren’t normally sports fans to stand in their living rooms and shout encouragement at their television sets. It brings nations together. And in August, when the 2008 Summer Olympic Games begin in Beijing, China, people will be watching. Not all will be happy. The political games could prove to be just as dramatic as the athletic ones. In Beijing to cover the Games is alumnus Scott Russell with CBC doing their last Olympics tour of duty for the foreseeable future. Russell has been on the ground and back forth to China in lead up to the Games and eager to tell the stories of Canadian athletes. (Page 10)

Some of those athletes have Western connections and the university has an impressive list of past participants. Richard Ivey School of Business Dean Carol Stephenson is a member of the Vancouver 2010 organizing committee and asks us to imagine planning an Olympic Games. (Page 15) The complete interview is on our website.

Western Law Professor Richard McLaren, fresh off the Major League Baseball steroids inquiry; answers questions as a member of the Court of Arbitration for Sport in preparation for the Beijing Games. (Page 15) A longer Q & A is available online.

The International Centre for Olympic Studies (ICOS) at Western has been drawing interest and gaining stature for almost 20 years. Founding director Bob Barney is leading the 9th International Symposium for Olympic Research in Beijing prior to the opening of the Games. Co-director Kevin Wamsley continues to field hundreds of requests annually for information and interviews ranging from the White House to Jeopardy. (Page 16)

If you’re wondering what Western alumnae and Canadian rowing greats Marnie McBean and Silken Laumann have been up to since their Olympic successes, read alumnus Lisa Lynam’s account of “Life After Olympics for Rowing Alumnae.” (Page 18) A true craftsman working with creativity and precision for hours on end, alumnus Skip Izon of Grand Bend has created winning designs in collaboration with Hudson Boat Works of London for both McBean and Laumann. (Page 20)

Alumnus Donnie Pei came to Western as a graduate student from Beijing and was so inspired by learning about the Olympics at ICOS, he returned to China and managed to convince education officials to put Olympic education on the curriculum of more than 500 schools. It’s a truly inspiring story of how one person can change the way people think in the world’s largest populated country – and it all started at Western. (Page 24)

Western alumnus and Olympic medalist Roger Jackson is working hard to help Canadian athletes Own the Podium in 2010 at the Vancouver Games. (Page 26).

In some summery stories we have golf trainer Craig Davies working with Canadian juniors and pros (Page 27) and London’s Black Fly Beverage Company with Rob Kelly and Cathy Siskind-Kelly expanding facilities and its market (Page 34).

In our Homecoming Section we bring the story of a couple who met on campus more than 50 years ago: Donna (nee Micheal), BA’59 (Music) and Doug Hammar, BA’58 (Economics). (Page 29)

And if you have a son, daughter, niece or nephew heading off to university (preferably Western) in September, Paul Wells has some advice on how to spent that last summer at home – and how to survive the first year of school.

Have a safe and happy summer. (Go Western Olympians!)

David Scott
dscott24@uwo.ca
Mr. Wells is right: “It’s important to get that balance right.” However, this balancing indeed an understanding of the differences between creativity and innovation. In fact, most people confuse the terms, and therefore the concepts; many companies have metrics systems that confuse creativity (e.g., number of patents) with innovation (e.g., percent of sales from new products). People regularly use these dichotomous terms as if they were synonyms:

- Creativity & Innovation
- Research & Development
- Science & Technology
- Art & Design
- Pure & Applied: [fill in the blank]

The creativity nouns on the left side are the chaotic, messy, unpredictable serendipitous precursors. The innovation terms on the right are the business goals. Like love & marriage, or horse & carriage, you can’t have one without the other.

Gray Hammond, BA’77, MBA’80

Memories of Canadian literature in the 1960s

(Re: Teaching of Canadian Lit at Western in 1950s-’60s, Letters – Spring 2008)

Although I rejoice in the growing presence of First Nations writing, I am writing to add my voice to those already heard in the Spring 2008 Alumni Gazette to refute Tomson Highway’s claim that the first credit course for Canadian literature was offered at the University of Manitoba. In fact, Canadian literature had a strong presence at Western in the 1950s and 1960s, not only in English, but also in French.

I knew and admired the teaching and research in the English Department done by Elizabeth Waterston, Carl F. Klinck and James Reaney. I was a student in the French Department and touched for my entire career by the warm support and the passion for Canadian writing he radiated at every encounter. I would not have finished my degrees at Western. I remain forever grateful.

Louise H. Forsyth, MA’63 (French), PhD’66 (French)

Letter sparks more memories of Dr. Melendez

(Re: Remembering Dr. Melendez, Spring 2008)

It brought back many memories of my years at Western and working at Victoria Hospital in London to read the letter: “Remembering Dr. Melendez” by Bob Reddoch, MD’88.

I worked with Dr. Melendez in the 70s and he was one of the most compassionate cardiologists, excellent teachers and wonderful men I ever had the privilege of working with. After I left London, to teach in Toronto, he would travel to London to present Cardiology lectures at Symposia that I was involved in planning. He was extremely patient while teaching my students the mysteries of electrocardiography!

I am wondering if he is still in London?

As Lee taught; there is life outside of Nursing & Medicine!

Leslie Allen, BScN’79

Takin’ care of summer camp business

(Re: Takin’ Care of Business, Spring 2008)

As always, I enjoyed flipping through the pages of the most recent edition of The Western Alumni Gazette, and in particular, the many wonderful stories of “Takin’ Care of Business.”

I graduated in ’87 with the Gold Medal in Psychology and the Chancellor’s Prize for the Social Science Faculty. I was Head Soph at Saugeen Maitland in Fall ’84 and president elect of Saugeen’s Residence Council for the ’85-’86 school year - a
position from which I had to sadly resign when I discovered I had been accepted to do my third year at St. Andrew's University in Scotland. From that experience I was nominated for a Rhodes Scholarship... but, didn’t quite make it... Back at Western for my final year, I was part of the Varsity Cheerleading Team with Trace.

In ’89, I graduated from Althouse having won the J.W. Bowden Memorial Teaching Award for academic and teaching excellence in the Social Sciences. While I taught at Oakridge Secondary School for 10 years, in 1999 I moved to Huntsville with my family (which includes my wife, Tia, who graduated in English from Western in ’90), to assume a position in my family’s business – Camp Tawingo. Tia and I have since become owners and directors of the same.

Camp Tawingo has been in operation since 1961. Today it houses over 1,200 residential campers and over 400 Day Camp campers each summer, as well as 160 staff. Tawingo also operates a year-round Outdoor Centre for school groups, conference groups, and families. In 1996, we opened the final part of our business - Tawingo College, an independent elementary day school set on the grounds of Camp Tawingo. Please visit our website at www.tawingo.net for more info.

Many thanks for continuing to put out such high quality issues of the Gazette three times each year.

Mike Pearse, BA’87, BEd’89

Psychology survey seeking participants

As you may know, effective management is very important for employees’ well-being and organizational productivity.

I am a PhD student in Organizational Psychology at the University of Western Ontario conducting a study of work attitudes and employees’ perceptions of managers. If you are an employee with more than one year of work experience, you are cordially invited to participate in the study.

The participation in the study involves completing an online survey (that will take about 25 minutes) and forwarding a link to a similar survey to a co-worker who knows your work fairly well. In appreciation of your effort, the researcher will enter your name and the name of your co-worker in the lottery to win one of several cash prizes (One in 20 chance of winning).

If you are interested in participating in this research project, please go to www.surveymonkey.com/uwostudyselself or contact the researcher to obtain a paper-and-pencil copy of the survey at nparyono@uwo.ca; 519-661-7691. The survey closes on August 10.

If you have questions about your rights as a research subject, you should contact the Director of the Office of Research Ethics at ethics@uwo.ca or 519-661-3036.

Natasha Parfyonova

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Professor, poet, playwright James Reaney dies

Professor Emeritus James Crerar Reaney, DLitt’92, a nationally acclaimed poet and playwright, died June 11 at the age of 81. With a career that spanned more than 50 years, Reaney was an English professor, poet and playwright with artistic breadth that included turns as director, opera librettist, editor, publisher, critic, children’s writer, teacher and painter.

This past spring a collection of Reaney’s sketches and watercolours was on exhibit at the McMichael Gallery near Toronto. The gallery described his landscapes as “charming vignettes that reveal his deep-rooted preoccupation with small-town and farm life and have both personal meaning and collective appeal.”

Reaney won three Governor-General’s Awards for poetry and drama, The Red Heart in 1949; A Suit of Nettles in 1958; and two works, Twelve Letters to a Small Town and The Killdeer and Other Plays, garnered the award in 1962. St. Nicholas Hotel won a 1974 Chalmers Award for best Canadian play. In addition, he received the Order of Canada.

Born on a Stratford-area farm in 1926, his art often celebrated the history and culture of Southwestern Ontario where he chose to live and create throughout most of his life.

Among his best-known dramatic works was a trilogy of plays about the 1880 massacre of the Donnelly family in Lucan, north of London. The work is among a handful of Canadian works listed among the 1,000 most significant plays of all time by the Oxford Dictionary of Plays.

Reaney completed his doctorate at the University of Toronto where his supervisor was distinguished literary critic and theorist Northrop Frye.

He taught at the University of Manitoba prior to teaching at Western from 1960 to 1992, where he shared his passion for Canadian literature with a generation of students and inspired future great playwrights such as alumnus Tomson Highway, BMus’75, BA’76, LL.D’93.

English professor David Bentley described Reaney as “a shaping force in our department from 1960 until his retirement and, indeed, well beyond that.”

“He was a pioneer of the regionalist movement in Southwestern Ontario whose work on what he called ‘the iconography of the imagination’ was hugely inspiring to his fellow academics and creative writers, not least because he was a brilliantly original and effective teacher.”

Several years ago, speaking to the Western Alumni Gazette, Reaney said his favourite work was probably his first children’s novel — The Boy With the R In His Hand, first published by Macmillan in 1965. “I had a lot of fun with it. I entered it in a contest and although it didn’t win, it was published.”

Reaney, married in 1951 to poet Colleen Thibaudeau, is also survived by two children, including son James of London, a journalist at The London Free Press, daughter Susan living in Vancouver, two grand-daughters and two siblings.

Son James has shared his farewell in a blog published online by The Free Press. “Memories? I have 55 years of them … & they all seem to be rushing through my heart & mind at once.”
John M. Thompson, BESc’66, LLD’94, Chairman of the Board of TD Bank Financial Group, has been named as 20th Chancellor of The University of Western Ontario.

Western’s President and Vice-Chancellor Paul Davenport, who chaired the Electoral Board for the Chancellor, said “We are absolutely delighted that Mr. Thompson has agreed to serve in this very important role.”

“His leadership will be a great asset to Western. His experience and service record reflect a deep appreciation for the importance of post-secondary education to Canada.”

Thompson will be officially installed as chancellor at Fall Convocation on October 24 and will serve a four-year term through 2012. He succeeds Arthur Labatt, who has served the university since 2004 and whose term ended June 30.

“Western provided me with a tremendous education when I was a student,” says Thompson, “but my more recent connections as an alumnus and volunteer have convinced me that the university has a hugely important role to play in shaping the future of Canada and the world. I am honoured to be asked to be a part of that important work.”

Thompson has served as chairman of the board of directors at TD Bank Financial Group since April 2003 and is the recently retired vice chairman of the IBM board of directors.

Thompson’s strong affiliation with Western began when he attended Western and graduated with a degree in Engineering Science. He has also completed executive management programs at the Richard Ivey School of Business and he received an honorary LLD from Western in 1994. Thompson chaired the advisory board at Western’s Faculty of Engineering as well as co-chaired the University’s Renaissance Capital Campaign from 1989-1994. He belonged to the Corporate Higher Education Forum and served on three Premier of Ontario’s Councils for education reform, human resources reform and industrial policy.

Arthur Labatt family gift honoured with naming of nursing school

The University of Western Ontario is renaming its School of Nursing to honour a generous gift from Arthur Labatt.

The $10 million gift from Labatt was announced in May before the respected Canadian business leader led his final convocation ceremonies as Chancellor of Western during the week of June 9.

“Arthur Labatt has been generous to Western in so many ways,” says Western President Paul Davenport. “This gift will create new opportunities for undergraduate and graduate nursing students, it will increase the research capacity of our nursing school, and perhaps most importantly, it will allow us to continue to provide excellence in training for nurses who have tremendous impact on the health care of Canadians.”

“By entering into the nursing profession, Western’s School of Nursing graduates provide invaluable services to our community,” says Arthur Labatt. “My family and I are pleased to strengthen our commitment to The University of Western Ontario and the Faculty of Health Sciences, which continue to produce exceptional health-care professionals when they are needed most.”

New Dean of Arts and Humanities

Earlier this spring Western announced the appointment of Donna Pennee as Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities. Pennee will serve for a five-year term, beginning on September 1, 2008 and ending June 30, 2013.

Pennee was the choice of a Senate Selection Committee. She is currently Associate Dean of Arts and Social Sciences and a Professor in English and Theatre Studies at the University of Guelph.

Professor Pennee holds degrees from the University of Guelph and McGill University and has studied at the School of Criticism and Theory at Dartmouth College in New Hampshire. Her academic focus in teaching and research is in the study of Canadian Literature, Literary Theory, Literature and Social Change, and Cultural Nationalism. She has also been active in Women’s Studies and in arts and humanities programs reaching across the established disciplines. Professor Pennee is well known for her work in Canadian arts policy and funding as a member of the Executive of the Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences, where she serves as Vice-President for Equity issues. She represents the University of Guelph as its Academic Colleague at the Council of Ontario Universities.
Discover the World

Alumni Western’s 2009 Discover the World program offers 26 educational travel opportunities for Western alumni and friends.

Join like-minded travellers on one of our journeys, enhanced by knowledgeable lecturers and tour directors, offering an exceptional cultural and educational experience.

Small Group Experience
Argentina & Chile | Wonders of Southeast Asia | Thailand & Malaysia

Adventuresome
Nepal Trekking | Amazon Expedition | Southern Africa

New for 2009
Iceland | Dubai | Alaska

Favourites
Holland & Belgium | Danube River | Italy

To view all of our 2009 trips, visit www.alumni.uwo.ca/travel

Contact us to receive a copy of our catalogue or to be added to our mailing list.

CALL SUSAN HENDERSON
at 519-661-2111 ext 85871 | or 1-800-258-6896 | or e-mail discovertheworld@uwo.ca
Not to be confused with ‘desserts’

‘Food deserts’ – areas where people have little to no access to food shops – exist in Canada, according to a new study by geography professor Jason Gilliland and Masters student Kristian Larsen. Previous studies claimed they did not.

Working with geographical information systems, Gilliland and Larsen demonstrated that the migration of supermarkets to the suburbs has left some Canadian cities with food deserts in their most vulnerable neighbourhoods. As part of their study, they mapped and compared supermarket locations in London in 1961 and 2005 to assess the changing levels of residents’ access by foot or public transport.

Residents living in several areas of the city had limited access to one of the city’s 28 supermarkets. Those living in food deserts paid nearly twice as much for supplies from convenience stores.

“More and more supermarkets are building in newer suburbs and smaller food shops are disappearing from older neighbourhoods, leaving food deserts in their wake,” says Gilliland. “Poor people with no car can be severely adversely affected by living in food deserts and are more likely to suffer from bad health and low quality of life with diseases such as heart disease, diabetes and cancer. Poor inner city residents have the poorest access to supermarkets and Central and East London were the worst affected.”

In 1961, more than 75 per cent of the population of London’s urban core had easy access to a supermarket. Though the city’s population has doubled over the past 50 years, fewer than 20 per cent of core residents have access today.

‘Old growth’ crystals provides new record of planetary evolution

Three-billion-year-old zircon microcrystals found in northern Ontario are providing a new record of the processes that form continents and their natural resources, including gold and diamonds.

An international research team led by Earth Sciences professor Desmond Moser recently made the discovery. Measuring no more than the width of a human hair, the 200-million-year growth span of these ancient microcrystals is longer than any previously discovered.

The findings provide a new record of planetary evolution and contradict previous experimental predictions that the crystals would change when exposed to heat and pressure upon burial in the deep Earth. Instead, they have an incredible ‘memory’ of their time below volcanoes, of transport to the shores of ancient oceans and of their burial beneath now-extinct mountain ranges billions of years before the time of dinosaurs.

Containing trace amounts of uranium, the crystals continued to grow over hundreds of millions of years, even as the planet evolved and underwent a series of dramatic shifts.

“The oldest pieces of our planet are crystals of zircon,” says Moser. “These crystals are the memory cells of the Earth and with our study we can now say they are an accurate recorder of planetary evolution over eons.”

Over the course of millions of years, the crystals have been pushed back to the surface from depths of 30 kilometres by a series of pushes on the edges of the original continent, which give us globally-rare exposures in northern Ontario. “It’s not every day you find a piece of the deep Earth that you can walk around on and explore,” Moser says.

Geriatrician finds seniors’ gait a sign of what’s to come

Dr. Manuel Montero-Odasso, a professor in the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, can predict future mobility problems just by measuring how fast an elderly person walks. It’s a simple test that can reveal the future risk for falls, fractures and balance issues, even in seemingly healthy seniors.

Knowing how debilitating falls and fractures can be, Montero-Odasso measured the gait velocity of more than 100 high-functioning people over the age of 75. Two years later he did a follow-up and found those with a slow gait had higher incidents of hospitalization, required a caregiver or nursing home and had more falls, fractures and death.

Recently named the first recipient of the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry’s Clinician-Scientist Award, he hopes this research will help physicians detect and prevent mobility problems in their older patients.
Beijing 2008:

Excitement rising for Canadian athletes

By Scott Russell, BA’80, BEd’81, MA’85, CBC Sports Weekend
The countdown is on. July is here and we are just a month away from Beijing. It is, for the time being, our last Olympic games at CBC Sports. Nonetheless, it is greeted with much anticipation and pride by the people who tell the story of the Games and define what they can mean to all Canadians.

Beijing promises to deliver a landmark in Olympic history - a spectacular event - the likes of which has rarely, if ever, been seen. The People’s Republic of China is still a mystery to many of us but this glimmer of a chance to see what lies inside one of the most populace and powerful places on the face of the earth may be the opportunity of a lifetime.

Having spent a mere six days in the Olympic City at the tail end of 2007, I can report that what lies ahead is mind boggling. The venues are spectacular and, for the most part, ready to go. The streets are teaming with automobiles - more than three million of them with a thousand more sold every day - but the traffic moves freely because the roads are as wide as runways at most major international airports. There is grit and grime in Beijing and yes, there is air pollution but nothing we haven’t seen on a smoggy, summer day in Toronto. As far as I could tell, there was a freedom to observe anything and everything and nowhere that I went with cameraman Ross Luckow and producer Qi Ma seemed to be strictly off limits. Never, in Beijing, did I feel unsafe.

More importantly, there is a tremendous optimism, which seems to pervade the city. The signs of the Olympics are everywhere and the celebration is already in full swing. At the downtown pedestrian mall, which is an awesome sight of swarming and pulsing humanity, the images of great Chinese athletes peer down at those who routinely pause to admire their heroes. The volleyball players, the gymnasts and the divers appear on huge billboards and proclaim the impending arrival of the Olympic festival in their country at long last.

Pride of place is everywhere and the Chinese, in my estimation, really want to be liked. People will speak to you in the midst of the constant hustle and bustle and many have some ability to converse in English - if they can’t they’ll gladly engage in the international ritual of sign language.

Strangely, I never saw anyone spit in the street and I wasn’t afraid to eat the food. Mind you, I did unwittingly consume the webbed foot of a duck and a little portion of grilled bullfrog but thankfully there were no lasting after effects! Mostly, the Chinese seem to be industrious and busy and “nose to the grindstone” kind of folks who instil a belief in the visitor that they can do anything they put their minds to. It is obvious that they have worked long and hard to get ready for what will be one of the most important times in their history.

It is also worthwhile to note that this will be a watershed season in the broadcasting of the Olympic Games and in the storytelling of sport in general. The effort will, of course, be immense in light of the fact that the competition occurs in a vastly different time zone and for the first time in a country so politically different than our own. Still, it is a privilege for CBC Sports to undertake the challenge and one that we have earned through our collective past performance. Our mission will be to reflect the endless potential of our country’s youth as it competes in a strange and fascinating environment against the very best in the world. It is something that we are well equipped to do. It is huge part of our history of success.

There was a moment in Beijing when I was struck by all of the possibilities that this Olympic year has to offer. A rhythmic gymnast by the name of Alexandra Orlando and I were negotiating our way through a downtown Beijing farmer’s market. In a space the size of a small hockey rink there must have been 4,000 people bartering for the bounty of fresh fruit and vegetables. Alexandra is 20 years old and having qualified for her first Olympics, she found herself in Beijing competing at a test event, the lone North American accompanied only by her coach.

“I am so thankful for this experience,” she told me while dodging the patrons of the market. “Every year since I was very small I would hang a decoration on my Christmas tree and make a wish that I could be an Olympian. Finally it’s all coming true and in this spectacular place.”

She was positively brimming with...
Western’s Olympians

The university has a long, strong presence at Olympic Games dating back 100 years with faculty, staff, students and alumni representing Canada as athletes, coaches and mission staff, in events ranging from basketball to yachting in Summer Games and bobsleigh to skiing in Winter Games.

**OLYMPIC SUMMER GAMES**

**Basketball**
- Chuck Dalton 1952
- Bill Pataky 1952
- Glen Pettinger 1952
- Bob Phibbs 1952
- Harry Wade 1952
- George Wearing 1952
- Coulter Osbourne 1956
- Barry Ager 1960

**Canoeing:**
- Barb Olmsted 1984, ’88
- Eric Smith 1984, ’88

**Diving:**
- Skip Phoenix 1976
- Skip Phoenix (coach) 1984

**Fencing:**
- Bob Foxcroft 1964, ’72

**Gymnastics:**
- Mike Inglis 1992

**rowing:**

- Don McCrae 1960
- Ray Monnot 1960
- Barry Howson 1964
- Paul Thomas (coach) 1952
- Don McCrae (coach) 1984

**Basketball**
- Chuck Dalton 1952
- Bill Pataky 1952
- Glen Pettinger 1952
- Bob Phibbs 1952
- Harry Wade 1952
- George Wearing 1952
- Coulter Osbourne 1956
- Barry Ager 1960

**Canoeing:**
- Barb Olmsted 1984, ’88
- Eric Smith 1984, ’88

**Diving:**
- Skip Phoenix 1976
- Skip Phoenix (coach) 1984

**Fencing:**
- Bob Foxcroft 1964, ’72

**Gymnastics:**
- Mike Inglis 1992
Rowing:
Roger Jackson 1964, ‘68, ’72
Jim Walker 1972
Mike Neary 1972, ’76
Monica Draeger 1976
Nancy Higgins 1976
Al Morrow 1976
Becky Stevenson 1976
Andy Van Ruyven 1976
Phil Monckton 1976, ’84
Heather Clarke 1980, ’84, ’88
Barb Armbrust 1984
Cathy Lund 1984
Angela Schneider 1984
John Houlding 1984, ’88
Harold Backer 1984, ’88, ’92
Silken Laumann 1984, ’88, ’92, ’96
Jennifer (Walinga) Doey 1988, ’92
John Wallace 1988, 1992
Brian Saunders 1992
Mike Forgeron 1992, 1996
Jeff Lay 1996
Maria Mauder 1996
Renata Tocz 1996
Wendy Wiebe 1996
Michele Mellow 1996
Iain Brambell 2000, ’04, ’08
Jon Beare 2000, ’04, ’08
Liam Parsons 2008
Matt Jensen 2008
Adam Kreek 2008
Cam Sylvester 2008
Jane Rumball 2008
Romina Stefancic 2008
Heather Mandoli 2008
Rachelle de Jong 2008
Kris Korzeniowski (coach) 1976
Al Morrow (coach) 1976, ’80, ’84, ’92, ’96, 2000, ’08
Jimmy Joy (coach) 1984, ’88
Rudy Wieler (coach) 1984
Bob Marlow (coach) 1984
Ted Daigneault (coach) 1984
Volker Nolte (coach) 1996, 2000
Carolyn Caesar (therapist) 2008

Swimming:
Louise Kennedy 1964
Marian Lay 1964, ’68
Bill Kennedy 1972
Jane (Meyers) Wright 1972
Melanie McKay 1976
Bruce Rogers 1976
Paul Hauch (manager) 1956
John Fuulkner (coach) 1960
Peter Bell (manager) 1964
Cliff Barry (coach) 1984, ’88
Paul Midgley (coach) 2008

Joe Bartoch (Western Coach in 2008)
Jon Caldarone
Representing St. Lucia 2008

Track & Field:
Mel Brock 1912
Alex Munroe 1928
Johnny Loaring 1936
Bill Larochelle 1948
Bob McFarlane 1948
Don McFarlane 1948
Jack Pary 1948
Rich Ferguson 1952
George Shepherd 1960
Grant McLaren 1972, ’76
Wayne Yetman 1976
Susan (Bradley) Kamel 1976, ’80, ’84
Sharon Lane 1980
Jeff Glass 1984
Brigitte (Bittner) Reid 1984
Sue (French) Lee 1984, ’88
Lizanne Bussieres 1988, ’92
May (Alizadeh) Allison 1996
Bruce Deacon 1996, 2000
Murray McNei (coach/trainer) 1996, ’48
Andy McInnis (coach) 1996
John Allan (coach) 1996
Vickie Crole (coach) 1996

Volleyball:
Kerry Klosterman 1976
Erminia Russo 1996

Water Polo:
Cliff Barry 1972, ’76

Wrestling:
Peter Michienzi 1968
Ole Sorensen 1972
Egon Beiler 1972, ’76, ’80
Mike Barry 1976
Clive Llewellyn 1976, ’80
Brian Renken 1976, ’80
Ray Takahashi 1976, ’80, ’84
Bob Robinson 1984
Sean Barry 1980
Glynn Leysdon (coach) 1980
Bob Thayer (coach) 1976, ’80
Bill Mitchell (manager) 1988
Harry Geris (asst coach UWO from 2002-2008)

Yachting:
Paul Thomson 1988, ’92
Stuart Bruce 1992

Men’s Field Hockey:
Andrew Griffiths 2000

Mission Staff:
J. Howard Crocker 1908
J.C. Kennedy 1972
Steve Radin 1972
Brian Gastaldi 1976, ’92
Petes Fowler 1980
Jim Sproule 1996
Connie LeBrun 1996, 2000
Jack Cowin (Attache) 2000
Graham Barton 2000
Martha Deacon 2000
Dave Rudell 2000

WINTER OLYMPICS

Bobsleigh:
Vic Emery 1964
Mike Young 1968
David Leuty 1980, ’88
Lamont Gordon 1964
Bob Storey 1968, ’72
Bob Storey (coach) 1976
Allan Maclachlan 1980, ’84

Figure Skating:
Lynn Nightingale 1976

Hockey:
Brian Conacher 1964

Skiing:
Ken Read 1976, ’80

Speed Skating:
Tomi Overend 1976

Mission Staff:
Pete Fowler 1984
Brian Gastaldi 1984, ’88
Rich Hawkins 1988
Bob Brock 1988

If you know of any missing names of Western’s Olympians, please help keep our records comprehensive and let us know by e-mailing Andy Watson, Media Relations Officer (Sports & Recreation Services) at: awatso47@uwo.ca
The lore of athletic legend John Loaring

1936 Olympic Games
Berlin, Germany

John Loaring, BA’40, the only Western athlete to win medals in both the Olympic Games and British Empire Games, was honored posthumously on the evening of June 24, 1978 as one of six original inductees of the University’s ‘W’ Club Athletic Hall of Fame, part of Western’s tribute to its first century of athletes.

Clockwise from top left: Loaring, 20, at the start of his long trek to the 1936 Berlin Olympic Games, boarding a train in Ontario. The young navy Lieutenant J.W. Loaring speaking with editors from the Canadian Press (CP) during an interview at the Royal Navy Signals School, H.M. Barracks, Portsmouth, England. The reverse (top) and obverse of the silver medal Loaring won at the 1936 Games in the 400-metre hurdles. The back and front of a trading card printed in German of athletes who competed at the Berlin Games. Loaring, right, is pictured with American athlete Glen Hardin. Loaring practices hurdles in Melbourne, Australia after he won two gold medals in the 1934 Intra-Empire Schoolboy Games. Letter of permission regarding CP interview with Loaring at H.M. Signal School.

Special thanks to John Loaring, Jr. of Windsor for sharing photographs, heirlooms and articles of his father’s athletic success with the Western Alumni Gazette and International Centre for Olympic Studies. The Loaring family tradition of athletic excellence has carried on to successive generations. For more information, please visit: www.loaring.com

For a longer story of John Loaring’s athletic success, visit: www.alumnigazette.ca
Imagine planning the Olympic Games

- Imagine staging three Superbowls a day for 15 days
- Imagine a start-up company with an operating budget of 1.6 billion
- Imagine hiring 1,522 employees for your start-up company
- Imagine recruiting and training 25,000 volunteers for your company
- Imagine keeping your employees motivated when they know they will be without jobs in several years
- Imagine operating in a fishbowl where every special interest group is trying to use your company as a platform for its cause
- Imagine 3 billion people watching worldwide to make sure you execute flawlessly

These are some of the challenges and excitement that permeates the floors at Vancouver Organizing Committee (VANOC).

As an insider who sits on the VANOC Board of Directors, I can say this is the most massive project management challenge I have ever seen in my career. And I can say confidently it is one of the best run and well-managed projects I have ever seen and one of the most highly motivated groups as evidenced in the employee engagement survey.

First, VANOC is a not-for-profit corporation whose role is to plan, organize, finance and stage the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Games. Our mission is to support and promote the development of sport. It is not to decide what sports events will be staged or introduced. That is the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

The Vancouver Organizing Committee consists of 20 directors. (Canadian Olympic Committee–7, including athletes Beckie Scott and Charmaine Crooks; Government of Canada–3; Government of B.C. – 3; City of Vancouver–2; Whistler–2; Canadian Paralympic Com–1; Local First Nations–1. And one selected by Board Chair Jack Poole).

Our job is not to represent our constituency that appointed us, but to be looking at the Games holistically.

For a full interview with Carol Stephenson on her role on VANOC, please visit: www.alumnigazette.ca

Laying down sports law in Beijing

Q & A with Richard McLaren, nine-time Olympic arbitrator, Western Law Professor

Q. What kind of preparations is the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) making for Beijing that they haven’t for previous games?

A. I have to look into the fundamentals of how we do these decisions. And that the courts will actually stay away from interfering with them. And what is the basis of our jurisdiction. And do we have the authority to overrule a government decision, particularly with the political protests that are going on there at the moment.

Q. What would be the biggest concerns you see arising from the Summer Games in China from a CAS perspective?

A. A sovereign nation is a sovereign nation.

They have their own rules and nobody else can override them. And that’s pretty much a universal concept. But in the context of the Olympic Games, that’s not accepted. In the past, countries and international courts have deferred to the International Court of Arbitration for Sport. I am not so convinced that will be the case this time.

Q. From a personal/legal perspective, will the issue of human rights overshadow sports at the Beijing Games?

A. I can foresee some of those decisions coming to us and then it’s going to come down to, well if we make a ruling, is China going to comply. And it could come to that.

Q. Would you like to return to the Olympics after Beijing?

A. Yes, I’d love to but I recognize at some point, you have to step aside and let someone else have their turn. It’s a big high to go to the Olympics for sure. It doesn’t overwhelm me to be at the Olympics but on the other hand when I go there I have an opportunity to work with people from all over the world, people who are at the very top of their field. That, in itself, is a very rewarding and exciting experience.

That doesn’t diminish my day-to-day work here at Western. It actually enhances it because I come back with a much broader world perspective. And I come from those experiences and the enthusiasm that can generate and I bring that enthusiasm to things I do with the students here at Western.

I am the only person who has been chosen as an arbitrator for the Olympic games nine times. That’s quite an honour. And sometimes I think, “Why me? Little Ricky McLaren from London, Ontario.”

Read Richard McLaren’s complete Olympics Q & A online at: www.alumnigazette.ca
By Kevin Wamsley, BA’85, MA’87

Since 1989, more than 35,000 undergraduate and graduate students, faculty and international researchers, elementary and high school students and teachers have visited The International Centre for Olympic Studies (ICOS) at The University of Western Ontario.

The centre was established in 1989 by University Senate. It remains the only such research centre in North America and, arguably, the only independent Olympic research centre in the world. “Independent” in this sense means without outside influence from such organizations as the International Olympic Committee and Canadian Olympic Committee. This status has been vital to the mission of the centre to promote and disseminate Olympic research and information within the socio-cultural sub-disciplines of history, philosophy, sociology, and anthropology. The centre, itself, holds no posture on the Olympic Games; rather, its mission is to provide resources to researchers who are granted academic freedom by the university to pursue their scholarship and to publish in peer-reviewed venues. The governance of the centre is carried out within the Faculty of Health Sciences by an executive council comprised of university professors at Western, from other universities, by members of the community, and a graduate student member. IOC member Richard Pound has served as an ICOS executive council member.

The centre was the brainchild of professor and founding director Robert Knight Barney who conceived the idea over coffee one day in 1985 after having returned from a course trip to the Los Angeles Olympics in the summer of 1984. According to Barney, there had been little serious scholarship on the Games and, given its increasing cultural, political, and economic significance, it was long overdue. The ICOS contains some 4,000 to 5,000 volumes of donated books and journals and significant collections from the John Howard Crocker family, from John Powell and, most recently, from Canadian IOC member James Worrell, in addition to the Avery Brundage Collection on microfilm.

In addition to serving as a resource for scholarship on the Olympic Games, the centre organizes a lecture series including the John Howard Crocker, the Earle F. Zeigler, and Ioannides lectures. Some of the world’s top scholars have presented their research at Western. The centre also organizes the publication of the world’s only internationally peer-reviewed scholarly journal, Olympika, at a rate of one volume per year. The current volume of Olympika: The International Journal of Olympic Studies is XVII.

And, finally, every Olympic year, now every two years, the centre hosts a conference on Olympic studies at Western, with the exceptions of hosting in Sydney in 2000 and in Beijing in August 2008. Fifty scholarly papers will be delivered in Beijing at the 9th International Symposium for Olympic Research prior to the opening of the
Games. The keynote address will be delivered by founding Chair of the World Anti-Doping Agency and IOC member Dick Pound.

Located in the Arthur and Sonia Labatt Health Sciences Building, ICOS is now in its fourth location. From its earliest beginnings in Barney’s office to Alumni Hall, to two locations in Somerville House, the centre now enjoys the space and natural light of the building in the valley. Barney was the first director, serving from 1989 to 1999, when his former student, Kevin Wamsley assumed the role from 1999 to 2005. Nigel Crowther became director for a one-year term and since then, Barney, Wamsley, and Angela Schneider have been co-directors.

Since its inception, the centre has been a hub of activity for graduate students, a place to perform research, to share ideas with other students, and visiting professors. Here, the students learn how to perform primary source research, to conduct critical literature reviews, and to openly debate the sometimes contentious issues that surround the Olympic Games. Many have travelled internationally to collect data for their theses and dissertations and many have shared educational experiences in Greece with other international students. Emanating from Barney’s leadership and style of graduate supervision, there are now four generations of graduate students who are learning skills that have been passed down for decades. Barney, 76, still supervises PhD students and now on the eve of its 20th anniversary, his students’ students’ students are making their way through graduate degrees.

The Olympic Games have been positioned as the world’s most significant cultural festival, with socio-cultural issues of politics, commercialism, doping, equity, and governance always at the forefront of global news headlines. ICOS is now the place of first call for most news agencies and media outlets in the world, with respect to Olympic issues.

During the 1990s, the centre’s director fielded a handful of calls asking various questions about hosting the Games and corporate sponsorship. However, following the IOC Salt Lake City scandal in late 1998, the centre and its directors have fielded hundreds of calls and questions from around the world.

Almost 25 years ago, Professor Barney had it right – studying the Olympic Games was important. For more information, visit: www.uwo.ca/olympic/
Life after Olympics for rowing alumnai

By Lisa Lynam, BSc’92, MA’93

Western grads Marnie McBean, BA’97, LLD’03, and Silken Laumann, BA’88, were part of Canada’s ‘golden era’ of rowing in the 1990s that marked them as Canadian sport heroes and household names. McBean is best known for her unprecedented three Olympic gold medals from the 1992 and 1996 Games and her gregarious personality loved by media and sponsors. Laumann became a national hero with her miraculous comeback to win a bronze medal at the 1992 Barcelona Olympics after a boating accident 10 weeks prior to the Games severed muscles in her lower leg.

Now more than a decade after competing in their last Olympic Games, both have found themselves in different boats, as they have navigated new waters in life. While McBean has continued to work with the Olympic movement (she works for the Canadian Olympic Committee – COC – as a manager of Olympic preparation), Laumann has founded her own social movement.

Founding Silken’s ActiveKids Movement (SAM) has been the biggest challenge she’s faced since retiring from rowing in 1999, in addition to raising two children, said Laumann.

“This is an immense challenge. Neighborhood play is a significant piece in combating childhood obesity. When kids collect in a common space, they run, jump, move without even thinking for a moment that they are getting exercise. They are having fun and improving their physical and mental health at the same time,” said Laumann, who wrote a book in 2006 on this topic titled Child’s Play.

Laumann aims for SAM to become a social movement that changes the way we live in families and communities across Canada.

Rower Kathleen Heddle and alumnna Marnie McBean celebrate their gold medal victory in double sculls at the Atlanta Games in 1996.

“There needs to be deep-rooted changes in how we spend time with our kids and organize their day to include unstructured play. SAM sees itself as a catalyst in building awareness and helping to bring ideas, inspiration and connection to those looking to be part of change,” added Laumann, who travels around the country speaking to youth and corporate audiences.

Her motivational speaking encourages people to push through...
their own fears and bring out the best in them, whether it is at work or in a single rowing shell. Laumann can certainly be considered an expert on this topic herself – she was well known for relentlessly pushing through pain barriers on her way to two Olympic medals (bronze 1992, silver 1996) and a World Championship (1991).

CBC fans may be disappointed to learn that McBean will not do her colourful commentary for Olympic races at Beijing now that she has been part of the COC staff since the 2006 Torino Winter Olympics. “That was a really fun job – best seat in the rowing venue and I really love the opportunity to interview people,” said McBean, who no longer rows, but participates at various athletic pursuits such as triathlon, adventure racing and more recently, ultimate Frisbee.

The biggest change from her days as an Olympic rower? “I’m not so good at waking up in the morning anymore,” said McBean, reminiscing over the dreaded 4:30 a.m. wake-ups at Western.

There were many sacrifices for rowing, but Western’s vibrant social scene (i.e. The Ceeps, Ridout, Barneys) was not one of them. “I even worked at the Ceeps, bussing tables which allowed me to be out, see my friends and make some money, but it got me home even later! My favorite memory was coming home at 3:15 a.m. from the bar and going to rowing at 4:15. How did I do that?!”

The secret to her academic success on so much sleep deprivation? “When I got back to Res (Westminster), I always got the muffins when they were warm. My classmates in Kinesiology were all great. They were pretty forgiving for lending me notes as I usually fell asleep for my afternoon classes.”

Following retirement from rowing, McBean put her drive to use in multi-day adventure racing completing well-known events such as Eco Challenge North America and Raid the North Extreme. “For the longest time I realized that I didn’t actually like working out, but loved training for stuff,” McBean said. “While never particularly competitive within the field I found the triathlons and half marathons kind of ‘easy’. I knew I would finish, and that I wouldn’t die. I think that was what I liked about the Adventure Racing. They are really hard – four to six days of non-stop motion on a course that is defined only by your team and a compass. They test you until you ask yourself if you are willing to quit. It’s not the acute pain that comes from rowing, but it’s the same question. I suppose once I retired from rowing I missed being tested by that question.”

Laumann has also continued to stretched herself, but in the humanitarian realm. As a supporter of the non-profit organization Right to Play, which introduces sport and play to disadvantaged children in Africa, Silken visited refugee camps in Sudan and Tanzania in 2002.

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From drawing board to finish line

Skip Izon designs winners
By David Scott
Fifty-six years old and working alone five to seven days a week, a modest Skip Izon, BA'76, gives credit to others for the Olympic successes his boat designs have achieved.

“It starts with a blank piece of paper and involves a whole team of people working together and ends with a rower crossing the finish line,” says Izon.

Not only have Canadian rowers crossed the line, they’ve proudly hoisted medals as the country watched and cheered. The Grand Bend boat builder designed a racing shell that earned Silken Laumann, BA’88, and her sister Danielle a bronze medal at the 1984 Los Angeles Games; and Marnie McBean, BA’97, LLD’03, and Kathleen Heddle a gold medal at the 1996 Atlanta Games.

Back in the 1980s he was working at The Ceeps in London with Marnie McBean who was bussing tables before she started her rowing career. She didn’t learn until years later that Izon designed one of the boats in which she earned a medal.

How did it make him feel, seeing his creation win medals? “It was fabulous.”

Izon has teamed up with Jack Coughlan of Hudson Boat Works in London over the years to create winning concepts. Izon starts with an idea and a piece of paper. “We each did our very best at each step.” From his design, he builds a ‘plug’ (what you make a boat mold from) that Coughlan and Hudson would use to build a prototype boat – wooden or composite. They would tweak and test, make slight adjustments, involve the coaches and athletes, test some more and come up with a complete concept from drawing board to water’s waves. Hudson Boat Works has an impressive record in international competitions and will be present at the Beijing Games. For a complete medal list visit: www.hudsonboatworks.com.

Izon’s bread and butter is designing and building for people “who want pretty boats” – canoes, kayaks, rowboats. He builds about six to eight a year, as well as works with three or four different manufacturers on custom boats. The process is three to four months back and forth with designs and concepts changing hands.

He does save a little time in his busy schedule once in a while to get out on the quiet waters and let his paddle sing.
Do As I Teach: Donnie Pei puts Olympic education on Chinese school curriculum

By Ian Johnson,

*The Wall Street Journal in Berlin*

Shunyi, China — When Donnie Pei, MA'95 (Kinesiology) was applying to foreign graduate schools 20 years ago, he got only one scholarship offer: to study the Olympics. He was disappointed. "I only knew about the Olympic Games but not about the movement," says Pei. "It seemed like a waste of time."

But the Beijing native took the scholarship at the University of Western Ontario and became a believer in the Olympic ideals -- and in the need to put them back into the centre of the Games. Since returning to take a job at Beijing's Capital Institute of Physical Education, he has become a driving force behind "Olympic education," an effort to bring Olympic ideals and history into Chinese classrooms.

Initially viewed skeptically by sporting and educational officials in China, it is now spreading widely. More than 500 elementary, middle and high schools nationwide, including 200 in the Beijing area, are adopting Olympic education in their curriculum, a significant development in a country where most schools still aim to cram students with information to be regurgitated in standardized tests. Key to this success: The central government has endorsed Pei's efforts, approving a change to the official school curriculum, especially in the Beijing area.

The growing embrace of Pei's program belies notions that China is only using the Games for nationalistic purposes. Pei's ultimate goal is not to teach Chinese children about the Games themselves, but to improve their morals by teaching them about the Olympic ideals; that fair play and good sportsmanship, for instance, are more important than winning medals.

"Far and away what Donnie has done in China eclipses what has been done anywhere else in the world" for educating students on the Olympics, says Robert K. Barney, founding director of The International Centre for Olympic Studies where Pei studied. In the West, Barney says, "Mostly it's talk but no walk."

Even before China won its bid to host the 2008 Summer Games, Pei and a colleague were pushing for their ideas, going...
from school to school, asking teachers what they thought about the Olympics. "They thought it was just a sports competition," Pei says. "No one cared."

After China won its bid in 2001, interest slowly grew. People began to wonder what exactly the Olympics were. A couple of top-flight schools in Beijing began to teach students about the Olympics, even staging mock opening ceremonies or torch relays.

But such schools were rare until 2005, when Beijing Television gave Pei's campaign a big boost by putting him on the air in prime time, delivering a lecture about the Olympics. Officials from the Beijing Olympics organizing committee saw the show and were excited. They helped Pei and his colleague organize funding for teacher workshops. Suddenly, the two professors were giving as many as 20 lectures a week to elementary and middle-school teachers. The government backed their plan for textbooks explaining the Olympic movement.

The textbooks are currently in use in Beijing and a handful of other cities. They recount the French Baron Pierre de Coubertin's 19th-century struggle to spread the movement and explain the Games' history in ancient Greece. The books also describe the various Olympiads, highlighting the good and the bad. Three sets of textbooks have been published, one each for elementary, middle and high-school students.

Another reason teaching about the Olympics has been welcomed is a growing dissatisfaction with the standard curriculum at Chinese schools. "They only pay attention to physics, mathematics and chemistry," says Pei. "We want to put it in balance."

His efforts were on display one day in late January in the town of Shunyi on the outskirts of downtown Beijing. During a weekend retreat, Pei and other speakers addressed a group of 50 rural elementary-school teachers.

Wang Yujie, a physical-education teacher at the East Wind Elementary School in the township of Yanshan, says the lectures have helped her understand the Olympics better. She hopes to start teaching her students about the Olympics later this year and already has plans to start a torch relay for her pupils.

"Talking to a foreigner, like I am now doing to a foreign journalist, is rare. I've never talked to a foreigner before in my life. The Olympics lets us see the world a bit."

Wang Yujie, teacher

Olympics in sights for Rumball

Grad student to compete in Beijing in women's eight

By Jeff Renaud

With blades at the ready, world champion rower Jane Rumball is about to make the biggest splash of her life. And while technically, spraying water would make any rowing coach cringe, the Western alumna is heading to the 2008 Beijing Olympics, so please excuse the analogy.

Rumball, BSc’00 (Kinesiology), MSc’02, PhD’07, actually qualified for Canada's pairs boat for the Summer Olympics with long-time partner Darcy Marquardt two years ago by winning the world championship in 2006. But the dynamic duo was snatched up by the women’s heavyweight eight crew earlier this year in an effort to bolster Team Canada’s entry for the sport’s showcase event.

“I have had a pretty amazing journey with the sport of rowing, and in many respects I think I could have been quite satisfied with it a long time ago,” says Rumball. “But I keep learning and embracing the new challenges, and it is a very stimulating environment to be in.

“I feel that the lessons I’ve learned through this sport are so applicable to my everyday living – teamwork, commitment, discipline, resilience, dedication. The Olympic berth is a culmination of years of training and it would mean achieving a goal and realizing a dream I have had since my teens. Representing Canada is something that I have always been very proud of, and to do so at the Olympics is a huge honour.”

Rumball wasn’t prepared to crystal ball her Olympic experience, but says she is at the top of her game and a podium finish is a definite possibility.

“In the sport of rowing, there aren’t many goals set at races in terms of times because there are so many environmental factors to consider – wind speed and direction and water temperature, clarity, and depth. But we do have times we try to attain during practices that can give us an indication of our speed.

“I believe that anything is possible – we have a legitimate chance of a podium performance, but it will take our best effort and attention to detail to get there.”

Rumball cherishes her preparation for Beijing as the Fredericton, New Brunswick native says these first Olympics may be her last. This fall, after deferring for a year to pursue her Olympic dream, she is starting medical school at The University of Toronto and moving to the Big Smoke with her husband, former Mustang football standout Adam Rumball.

“My family and education will take priority and I will have to wait to make those kinds of decisions,” offers Rumball. “Committing to training for rowing involves many more people than just me and I feel as though I have been asking people to make sacrifices on my behalf for a long time.”

A proud holder of a Purple Blanket for her exceptional career as a student-athlete, Rumball led the Mustangs to an OUA championship in 2005-06 after personally not losing a race in two years of action against provincial competition in both singles and pairs – all the while completing undergraduate and graduate degrees in kinesiology and sports medicine.

“All throughout my rowing career I have been able to train full-time, two to three times per day, while balancing a full-time academic load,” says Rumball. “Studying at Western was such a thrill for me, because I was able to pursue both academic and athletic dreams to their fullest. I have been able to complete three degrees at Western while training at the National Training Centre for the women’s rowing team located on Lake Fanshawe – truly the best of both worlds.”
the wonder of Beijing. Orlando is young and capable and I wouldn’t want to bet against her when the Games begin. She competes in a sport dominated by Eastern Europeans – a sport little known to the people of Canada. Still, the enthusiasm and resolve she brings to the table is infectious. I can’t wait to follow her journey as she strives to become an Olympic champion.

This is why this particular Olympic Games should be so vitally important to all Canadians and such a source of satisfaction to us at CBC Sports. It is a long, hard road that all Canadian athletes will travel to get to the People’s Republic of China. Once there, Alexandra Orlando, Alex Despatie, Perdita Felicien, Kyle Shewfelt and legions of others will face a strange, new, world, full of a million possibilities. They will shoulder enormous expectations from the people of a comfortable country back home in Canada. They will act as our ambassadors on a momentous occasion.

Once the Games in Beijing are over the CBC Sports connection to the movement will enter a period of hibernation but remain strong and close to the heart.

For now we have a story to tell. It is a story of an emerging nation and Canadian athletes who are full of youth’s enormous potential. We have never met a champion for the first time in the winner’s circle. We have encountered them throughout their odyssey to the Olympic Games. When they stand on the podium in Beijing and deliver performances to make Canadians proud our witness to their arrival will be very sweet indeed.
Olympic medalist helps athletes Own the Podium in 2010

By Ron Johnson, BA’96

On Oct. 16, 1964, Western alumnus Roger Jackson, BA’63, and his partner George Hungerford did what they had been doing every day for the past six months. They got in their scull, put oar to water and rowed. But that day was different. The weight of the world was off their shoulders. No coaches were yelling in their ears sending them out for just one more 5,000-metre loop. It was just the two of them.

Why was that day so different? Less than 24 hours earlier, the team had shocked the rowing world by winning the gold medal, Canada’s one and only that year, in coxless pairs at the Tokyo Summer Olympics. Their lives had changed.

The boys had stroked a borrowed shell from the Lake Washington club in Seattle, Washington, and they had never tasted international competition prior to the Games, save for the occasional meet with rivals from south of the border in Washington State. But nothing could stop Jackson and Hungerford on Oct. 15. It was to be their day.

“I remember the crowd screaming ‘Deutschland, Deutschland, Deutschland,’” says Jackson, a three-time Olympian, on the phone from his office in Calgary, Alberta. “I said to myself, ‘no bloody way, we’re not quitting.’”

Despite a strong challenge from the defending European champions from Holland, Jackson and Hungerford hung on and claimed a victory for Canada. The Germans ended up eight seconds back in third place. But it is the Germans that Jackson has on his mind, today, 44 years later. As the head of Own the Podium 2010, Jackson’s working life is dedicated to making the Canadian Olympic team as strong and as successful as possible; and, catching the Germans.

“Our sole mandate is to win medals,” he explains.

“In three-and-a-half years, we’ve moved from the number seven nation in the world to number two out of 80 countries,” says Jackson, of the Canadian team’s winter Olympic ranking. Number one? Deutschland.

Own The Podium was established in 2005, when John Furlong and the Olympic medalist helps athletes Own the Podium in 2010 organizers of the 2010 Vancouver games realized that staging an excellent Games, and placing well just wasn’t good enough. We had to win. So they brought in a winner, Roger Jackson, a past president of the Canadian Olympic Committee, member of the Order of Canada and former dean of physical education at the University of Calgary.

With $110 million in seed money from corporations and the federal government, Own the Podium works to ensure Canada’s elite winter sport athletes, those deemed medal hopefuls, have every possible chance to succeed in the upcoming Olympic Games: international experience, coaches, therapists, equipment, training. The goal of Own The Podium is for Canada to be the top medal finisher in 2010 and place in the top three nations at the Paralympic Winter Games, which happens directly after the Olympic games. The program targets those with a high degree of medal probability, and these sports include curling, hockey and long track and short track speedskating, which collected 18 World Championship medals in 2007 alone.

For the first time in its history, Canada has a national body coordinating efforts in the high-performance arena across all winter sports, which, according to Jackson is one of the main reasons why he accepted the lead role when it was offered in 2005.

“I wanted to strengthen the Canadian sport system,” Jackson explains, of his decision to join OTP. “And I wanted to demonstrate that with proper support and leadership, we could get right up to the top of the world. And that is just what we are doing.”

Jackson and Hungerford proved in 1964, hard work and desire go a long way, but is there the chance Canada might not do well? “That’s not a possibility,” says Jackson, confidently. “I always go back to my rowing...If you train twice as hard as anyone else, good things are going to happen.”
Craig Davies, BSc’00, spends most of his days on a golf course. No, the Western graduate isn’t retired. He’s only 31. Davies of Toronto is a personal trainer, therapist and chiropractor who specializes in working with elite golfers. So fairways, greens and driving ranges are his office. His career has taken off lately and some of his 40 clients are the game’s biggest stars, including PGA Tour regulars Stephen Ames and Jon Mills of Canada and Hunter Mahan of the United States.

“I love it,” Davies says. “I’m getting paid to be out on tour.”

Davies knew from the time he was at Western in the late 1990s that he wanted to work with top-flight athletes. Originally, he thought he’d become a therapist who would help hockey or soccer players rehabilitate after injuries. But after he graduated from Western in 2000 with a bachelor of science degree in kinesiology (with biology), he headed to chiropractic college and developed an interest in golf. Some of his early clients were elite juniors. Minor-league professionals, such as Nationwide Tour players Omar Uresti and Chris Baryla, followed soon after.

Now at golf’s highest level, Davies is a one-stop fitness and therapy guru, able to take a golfer from the workout rooms and fitness trailers to the treatment table. His forte is assessing a golfer’s fitness and functional abilities, then creating workout programs to help them improve. But he’s equally adept at treating injuries and dispensing nutritional advice.

Davies has been all over North America this year, making stops in many of golf’s meccas, including Pebble Beach, California, and Orlando, Florida.

“I do way too much traveling, but that’s part of the job, I guess,” Davies says with a chuckle. “I’m not even sure where I live any more.”

Not that he’s complaining. The ever-ambitious Davies says he’s been pushing his career in this direction for the past several years.

“I think anybody’s who motivated wants to work with the top people. And the top golfers are on the PGA Tour.”

His clients give him rave reviews. Mills, the long-hitting Canadian taking his second shot at the PGA Tour this year, signed on last year after deciding to make fitness a priority for the first time in his career.

He says Davies keeps him motivated and has already helped him improve his flexibility and strength. “I struggle with motivation when it comes to working out,” Mill says.

“But he motivates me. Everything he says, he does a really good job of explaining things and why we’re doing them.”

Despite reaching the PGA Tour, Davies hasn’t forgotten his roots. He remains the strength and conditioning coach and performance therapist for both the Canadian Junior Golf Association and the Junior Golf Academy of Canada, a golf school in Orlando run by instructor and long-time colleague Sean Foley.

When Davies is home in the Toronto area, he can often be found at the ClubLink Academy, a teaching facility at the fabled Glen Abbey Golf Club in Oakville. There, he’ll work with everyone from visiting professionals to recreational players.

“What makes him unique is he can do rehab but he can also run them [golfers] through a really good golf-specific workout,” says Sean Casey, the ClubLink Academy’s head instructor. “It’s hard to find someone who has both sides going like that.”

Davies hasn’t forgotten his Western roots either. He says the biomechanical, anatomical and physiological information he learned in the classroom, coupled with the hands-on experience of experimenting with cadavers in the lab, prepared him well for chiropractor college – and for his work now.

“When dealing with a patient now, a lot of the information floods back. It’s amazing. You’d never think it’d come back 10 years later.”

Davies says even a part-time job in a Western clinic for diabetics paid unexpected dividends. He uses some of the knowledge he gained about blood sugars to help his golfing clients with their diets and energy levels, especially during their rounds.

Like many Western graduates, Davies remembers the social life just as...
Connecting with Young Alumni at Homecoming

Six Degrees is a unique event series created by Alumni Relations that has a different vibe and fresh approach for Western’s young professional alumni. Grads enjoy sophisticated, lively company staged in different city centres throughout the year. Past (sold out) events include comedy and cocktails in London, salsa dancing and a golf Schmooze in Toronto, homecoming kick off, what not to wear in Calgary and speed networking in NYC.

“Six Degrees is different from other Canadian university’s young alumni focus,” says Christina Fox, BA’97, Student and Young Alumni Outreach Officer. “It’s aimed at young alumni, it’s hosted in unique locations and there’s an experience piece. Western’s model of student-centred learning and the best student experience is now linked to the best alumni experience. Our students grow and learn through experience and this is an opportunity for our young alumni to create connections for themselves using a similar model. We create the framework. They create the connections,” says Fox.

The name relates to the theory “Six Degrees of Separation” that anyone on the planet is connected to any other person through a chain of six people. It emphasizes connections and the events are a catalyst for those connections.

“Six Degrees allows a younger generation to remain tied to Western. The connections made are life-long, just like those from university and can help in all areas of life, like networking. The events are fun and tend to allow people to explore new activities that they might not otherwise experience,” says alumna Lindsay Cunliffe, BA’05, of Toronto.

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Young alumni enjoy the networking opportunities at Six Degree events hosted by Alumni Relations.

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“Six Degrees enables recent graduates the opportunity to learn valuable skills and, more importantly, network at fun events. Through Six Degrees I was able to connect with other recent graduates and discover new networking opportunities,” said Mark Millar, BSc’04, of London.

Aside from the creation of the unique events series, marketing is also delivered in a new way. “Invitations are mailed electronically through Western, supporting an environmentally conscientious approach. We also use Facebook to advertise. We sell out events for student outreach activities with the use of Facebook, so why not apply the same promotional medium to our young alumni activities? It’s where they communicate, says Fox.

The Six Degrees events aren’t limited to the indoors. The Tofino Surf Camp on August 15 teaches Western young alumni to surf in a private group lesson on the beautiful beaches of Tofino on Vancouver Island’s rugged West Coast.

Another upcoming event is Six Degrees Homecoming: Cocktails for the Classes of 1998-2008. “We had over 150 young alumni at this event last year,” says Fox. She encourages young alumni to get their tickets online early this year.

To register for the Tofino Surf Camp or Homecoming, please visit: www.alumni.uwo.ca/sixdegrees/ or contact Christina Fox at 519 661-2111 x88671 or cfox8@uwo.ca

“Homecoming has been a special time for us over the past 47 years since graduation. It’s like being hugged by a long-time friend.”

Anne Baxter BA’91, Chair, Homecoming Committee

“Homecoming has been a special time for us over the past 47 years since graduation. It’s like being hugged by a long-time friend.”

Jim, BA’61 & Liz Etherington, BA’61, MLS’74
They met at Western 50 years ago

Doug & Donna Hammar’s fond ties to campus

By David Scott

They met at the first event of Frosh Week in 1956.

Donna was a freshman. Doug was a member of Purple Spur, the group that ran Frosh Week. Among the activities was a snake dance (like a conga line) that ran through the streets of London and a pep rally at Victoria Park. It was followed by a dance at the Catholic Culture Centre (CCC).

“That’s where we met,” he said. “She was in a short skirt.”

“You had to wear a short skirt, odd socks and a beanie,” said Donna. “And it poured rain and they made us go through all the streets. We had running shoes on and they went swish, swish by the time we got to the dance. I did not know a soul, not one person. I went all by myself.”

She stood next to “this guy who was running the event and he asked me to dance.”

And as they say, the rest is history. (Actually, they survived their first date: going to see the movie Moby Dick – “The most eagerly awaited motion picture of the year” according to 1956 ads but maybe not the best first date movie. The couple dated for a number of years before they ‘got serious’ – but it was a romantic beginning nonetheless).

Donna (nee Micheal), BA’59 (Music) and Doug BA’58 (Economics) Hammar have many fond memories of their time at Western and regularly return for Homecoming and enjoy life-long friendships formed on campus more than half a century ago.

They laugh when they remember doing the snake dance down the streets of London in the pouring rain.

“The idea of Frosh Week and Purple Spur was to create the beginning of friendships, get to know people as well as school spirit. I think this school, above all others, did a tremendous job over the years of developing that school spirit and support for the university,” says Doug.

“I think that’s where it all started,” says Donna.

“By the time we finished the Frosh Dance on the Saturday night with Johnny Downs and his orchestra in Port Stanley riding the train back and forth, the idea was that people would develop some good friendships,” says Doug.

Doug was voted in as class president 50 years ago – and takes his responsibilities as a lifetime commitment. He organizes Homecoming events for the 1958 class every five years that have been well attended. And this year it’s his 50th reunion.

Fifty years ago on campus there were fewer buildings, smaller classes and professors got to know their students outside the classroom.

“We came from small town Ontario. That’s who Western was in the 1950s,” says Doug. There were five students graduating with him in 1958 in Economics and Political Science.

The two people who were big in the life of students in 1958 were Dr. Neal (Dean of Women students) and Dr. Hoskins (Dean of Men). “They were big in our lives,” recall both Donna and Doug.

“There was nothing (events) we had that they didn’t attend,” says Donna. “They were at every function.” Dr. Neal had lunches for the ‘froshettes’ – at the old Quonset hut on campus, she remembers. “That’s where the first luncheon was when you came on campus.”

“I had to behave myself because I think at one point Dr. Hoskins was a classmate of my Dad’s,” says Doug. His father was Alex Hammar, BA’31. The couple also has a daughter who is an alumna, Laurie Copeland, BA’84.

Whether it was the smaller school body, a different time or a stronger attachment to sports, football was central to the life of Western in the 1950s. “You would stop studying. You’d do anything but you wouldn’t miss a football game. There’s the school spirit.”

In Doug’s graduating year the couple sat through a snowstorm for the last game of the season. Another attraction for watching football games was that a few players were Olympian track stars, like Don and Bob MacFarlane.

Doug belonged to the Beta fraternity continued on page 40
THERE’S ALWAYS SOMUCH TO DO WHEN YOU COME HOME!

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2
HOMECOMING KICK OFF AND ALUMNI WESTERN AGM
7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
TD Waterhouse Stadium
Enjoy live music, appetizers, a performance by the Western Mustang cheerleaders and networking with fellow alumni at the Annual General Meeting of the Alumni Association. Everyone is invited.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3
34TH ANNUAL ALUMNI AWARDS DINNER
5:30 p.m. reception with complimentary cocktail & hors d’oeuvres
6:30 p.m. dinner
The Great Hall, Somerville House
Price: $65
Western honours outstanding alumni during a fabulous three-course meal with musical entertainment and cash bar.
To reserve a table, please call 519.661.2199 ext. 85739 or email: westernhomecoming@uwo.ca

SIX DEGREES HOMECOMING
9:00 p.m.
The London Tap House
545.5 Richmond Street
Price: $10
A young alumni event for the classes of 1998 - 2008. Complimentary Mustang cocktail and hors d’oeuvres will be served.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4
HOMECOMING HOSPITALITY TENT
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
TD Waterhouse Parking Lot
This is Homecoming central! Here you will find:
• Registration
• Manulife South End Zone Lunch tickets
• Entertainment by The Don Wright Faculty of Music students
• Children’s activities
• Faculty displays
• Western Libraries’ exhibit
• Alumni Western staff and faculty volunteers
• BBQ lunch

HOMECOMING PARADE
10:00 a.m.
Along Richmond Street

MANULIFE SOUTH END ZONE LUNCH
12:00 p.m.
TD Waterhouse Stadium
Price: $40 for football ticket, VIP lunch, access to tented reception with private cash bar and a free gift.
Enjoy the game in style with VIP seating at field level and a football ticket in the stadium following kick-off! These are truly the best seats in the house, space is limited.

HOMECOMING FOOTBALL GAME
2:00 p.m.
Western Mustangs vs. Windsor Lancers
For tickets: Contact the Mustang Ticket Office at 519.661.4077 or Ticketmaster at 519.488.1012.
GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY DINNER
6:00 p.m. reception, 7:00 p.m. dinner
The Great Hall, Somerville House
Price: $45
Join your former classmates from 1958 and earlier for an elegant evening, featuring a three-course meal, musical entertainment and a visit from Dr. Paul Davenport, President & Vice-Chancellor. Seating will be arranged by reunion year.

AN EVENING WITH JAZZ VOCALIST SONJA GUSTAFSON
8:00 p.m.
Maggie’s Supper & Jazz Club
478 Richmond Street
Price: $25
Join local jazz vocalist Sonja Gustafson (MMus’08) for an indulgent evening of food and entertainment. Tickets include appetizers and a complimentary cocktail.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5
GOLF EVENT AT FIREROCK
7:30 a.m. breakfast, 9:00 a.m. shotgun start
10345 Oxbow Drive, Komoka
Price: $75
Tickets include 18 holes at one of London’s premier golf clubs, breakfast, an extensive lunch buffet, a GPS golf cart and an exclusive gift bag.

PRESIDENT’S RECEPTION
1:30 - 3:00 p.m.
Gibbons Lodge, 1836 Richmond Street
Graduates celebrating reunion years are invited as special guests to a garden reception at the home of President & Vice-Chancellor Dr. Paul Davenport and Mrs. Josette Davenport.

There are many more events taking place on Homecoming Weekend! For more information, and a listing of faculty, branch and chapter, event registration and affiliated college events, please visit: www.westernhomecoming.uwo.ca
First med students start in Windsor this fall

By Kris Dundas, BA’94, MA’95

When the medical class of 2012 enters Western this September to begin the MD program, for the first time 24 of them will travel down the 401 corridor to study in Windsor, Ontario full-time.

The new Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry – Windsor Program is the first, full distance-education site for the School and a welcome addition to the Windsor-Essex region, which is struggling with one of the most serious doctor shortages in the province.

The program is a partnership between The University of Western Ontario, the University of Windsor, Windsor Regional Hospital and Hotel-Dieu Grace Hospital. The curriculum will be set and delivered by Schulich Medicine & Dentistry and graduates will receive degrees from Western.

“Across Canada medical schools are developing partnerships with other universities and communities to extend the reach of medical education,” says Dr. Carol Herbert, Dean of Schulich Medicine & Dentistry. “This national movement helps address the critical physician shortage by reducing the time required to get new medical programs established and allows more doctors to graduate sooner.”

Building on the success of the clinical training already provided in Windsor to selected third-year medical students and residents from Schulich, the Windsor Program will now provide all four years of medical school on site. Students will live and learn in Windsor but will connect with London students for lectures via videoconferencing.

Two 50-seat lecture rooms in Windsor and one 150-seat lecture hall in London have been equipped with state-of-the-art videoconferencing technology that includes cameras and microphones at the seat level, allowing for easy student-faculty interaction, regardless of which location they are in.

Other medical curriculum requirements such as anatomy, clinical skills and small group learning will be delivered by Windsor-based faculty in a new Medical Education Building set to open on the University of Windsor campus.

“It’s an exciting opportunity to build a community-connected medical program in Windsor,” says Dr. Tom Scott, Associate Dean of the Windsor Program and Director, Medical Education at the University of Windsor.

Research shows that new doctors are more likely to practice in communities where they complete their training. In fact two recent Schulich Medicine graduates who completed clinical training in Windsor have established new practices in the city.

Scott says the community has been very supportive and in turn the program will reflect the Windsor population. For example, its Clinical Skills Learning Program, a mirror of the program in London, will use simulated patients trained to enact symptoms and characteristics of real patients, but these patients will also reflect the multicultural community in Windsor.

“The first Windsor students are really fortunate to come here. The community wants them here, the facilities have been built for them and they will have all the support from faculty and staff they could possibly need,” says Scott.

The biggest challenges have been preparing the physical facilities and adapting the curriculum to deliver medical education in a new way – and doing so in a relatively short timeframe. The Ontario government announced the province-wide expansion – including Windsor – in February 2006.

Both Scott and Herbert say collaboration between the two universities and health care communities has been the key to getting the program up and running so quickly.

“Our experience, knowledge and infrastructure at Western has helped guide the project from start to finish,” says Herbert. “And Windsor’s willingness to share expertise, resources and provide exceptional clinical teachers means we can guarantee a high-quality medical education for students no matter where they complete their training.”

Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry
Visit: www.schulich.uwo.ca
Music as a faculty celebrates 40 years

By Janis Wallace, BMus’75, BEd’76

Although 2008 marks the 40th anniversary of the Faculty of Music at Western, the roots of music on campus date back to the 1930s.

To celebrate this history, the Don Wright Faculty of Music is inviting alumni to participate in a weekend of activities Oct. 31 and Nov. 1. Friday night, the first 10 honorees will be inducted into the Alumni Wall of Fame at a banquet. On Saturday, alumni are encouraged to join the band or choirs in two gala concerts with current students. For details, please visit www.music.uwo.ca. The weekend will offer a chance to reconnect with classmates, friends, faculty members and meet students, while reliving those fun times playing or singing in a Faculty ensemble.

The story of music at Western is long and richly woven with the community. It also has a strong theme of developing music teachers, and its leadership in this field still resonates today.

After several decades evolving from conservatories and arts institutes, the first summer courses were offered in 1934 in voice and attracted a large number of students. Today, the Don Wright Faculty of Music enjoys a reputation for its voice and opera programs that is the envy of other schools.

This fall, more than 30 grad students and 150 undergrads are enrolled in the voice program. Last year our students won several vocal competitions, including the Jacqueline Desmarais Competition for Young Singers, the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions and the National Association of Teachers of Singing. Piano and string students also won in the Canadian Music Competition and Kiwanis Festival and were accepted into the Vienna Philharmonic’s summer program, National Youth Orchestra and Manhattan School of Music.

In the 1930s, students were charged a dollar to fund a concert series that became the popular Nine O’clock concerts. A young Glenn Gould gave one of his earliest performances for the series. Now, our students perform more than 300 concerts each year in large and small ensembles, as soloists, and in the opera and musical theatre programs. Their repertoire spans the globe and dates from before Baroque to works of their own creation performed by classmates. These concerts are augmented by a Friday series featuring faculty and international guest artists, which rivals the old Nine O’clock concerts in popularity and draws a loyal audience from campus and community.

When the McIntosh Gallery opened in 1942, it housed the music students – all 12 of them. They took courses in music history, form and harmony. Today, we offer degrees in performance, music education, theory and composition, music history, music administrative studies, popular music and a certificate in piano technology.

A.E. Silverwood set up a foundation to support music in the city and established the Music Teachers’ College in 1945, affiliated with the university. Its first students came from British Columbia, Alberta, Manitoba and Ontario. Today’s students also come from across Canada and around the world.

After the Second World War, the department of music was established in the Faculty of Arts and staff was hired. One of those was Alfred Rosé, the nephew of composer Gustav Mahler. Before coming to North America, Rosé was assistant conductor of the Vienna State Opera and worked with Puccini and Richard Strauss. The University Choir and Opera Workshop thrived under his direction. Now, international researchers come to the Gustav Mahler–Alfred Rosé Collection in the Music Library to study Mahler manuscript scores and family letters donated by Prof. Rosé’s estate.

The department and Teachers’ College quickly outgrew the space in the McIntosh. Goodholme, a Tudor-style residence on Epworth Avenue that had been used by the business school, became the new home for a merged organization, a constituent college of the university. The building was renamed to recognize Silverwood’s support, but the Teachers’ College retained its name until 1961 when it became the College of Music to reflect its broader scope.

Enrolment continued to grow steadily. When the Faculty of Arts and Science was reorganized, the Faculty of Music was created July 1, 1968 with Clifford von Kuster appointed dean. At the time, there were 203 students in music. Today there are about 825 students.

The Music Building on campus opened in the fall of 1972. Today, most of Talbot College and the Music Building accommodate music students and programs, and again enrolment is stretching these facilities to capacity. Talbot College is being renovated during the year, but a large performance hall is a pressing need.

Don Wright Faculty of Music
Visit: www.music.uwo.ca
By Krista Habermehl, MA '05

If you’re not much of a beer drinker, chances are, you’ve heard the buzz about Black Fly Beverage Company – a unique Canadian micro-distillery that bottles premium vodka-based drinks with real berry juices. Founded in 2005 by Rob Kelly, BA'86, and his wife Cathy Siskind-Kelly, the “proudly Canadian” London cooler company has experienced rapid growth in the few short years since launching its distinctive product.

“I call it a brewery gone right,” said Kelly, who originally planned to establish a micro-brewery, when he learned the beer industry was actually experiencing market erosion due to an upsurge in cooler consumption.

“I met with an Ivey MBA graduate who had beer industry experience and another colleague for advice, and they mentioned that coolers were in a growth stage. I thought to myself ‘why wouldn’t I get into coolers then?’”

Six months later, the couple was in possession of a unique license that allowed them to set up the micro-distillery – the first of its kind in Ontario.

They initially settled into a highly-visible location in downtown London, but have recently moved into a much bigger facility to accommodate increasing demand for their product.

Originally sold in six London LCBO stores, the company now sells Black Fly coolers in more than 500 LCBO stores and experienced 140-per-cent growth last year in the Ontario market alone. Black Fly has since broken into markets in Nova Scotia, B.C. and Alberta and has seen some interest from the Yukon. When the time is right, the couple says they would like to take the company national and beyond.

“We’ve been cautious about not taking on too much too soon,” said Siskind-Kelly. “We wanted to be confident that we could serve each market well.”

According to Siskind-Kelly, in the highly-competitive field of alcoholic beverages, only the top performing brands – the top 80 per cent – stay on the shelves. “It’s a competitive and challenging industry – we have to perform as well as the big guys,” said Siskind-Kelly.

Despite the challenges, the couple says they’ve received a great amount of support from the local community and even large breweries, who view their coolers as a complementary product rather than competition. “We feel very fortunate to have launched our company in London,” said Siskind-Kelly. “Black Fly is a hometown brand and we’ve developed a really nice relationship with the city and the university.”

“We both feel closely tied to London and Western,” added Kelly, who, as a student living in Saugeen-Maitland residence, cultivated his entrepreneurial spirit by launching a fast-food delivery business called Dial-A-Burger. The business was wildly popular and eventually grew too big for Kelly to manage while being a full-time student. Despite having to step back from the business, he said the experience has stayed with him.

continued on page 44
Ojibway story-telling tradition continues

By David Scott

One of the most vivid memories Drew Hayden Taylor has from childhood is listening to stories through his open bedroom window told by his many relatives gathered around the bonfire at his grandparent’s place, with 100-year-old beech trees towering overhead, and smoke and laughter drifting through the night air.

“From late May to mid-October every night I went to sleep to the sounds of people telling stories and laughing. I think that’s one of the reasons I became a writer,” says Western’s writer-in-residence for the 2007-08 school year.

Hayden Taylor highlighted his vast experience to students of Dan and Mary Lou Smoke’s “First Nations in the News Media” class earlier this year.

Playwright, novelist, humourist, documentary maker, author, comedian. It’s hard to know where to begin with the multi-faceted talents of this Ojibway writer from the Curve Lake First Nation. Story-telling impressions were left on a young Hayden Taylor, only child of a mother who was the oldest of 14 children. But the career path he chose was not supported by his family.

“I was openly discouraged from being a writer. When I was 16, a very pivotal year, I went to my mother and told her I wanted to be a writer. She believed that if you weren’t working class you didn’t have any class at all. She said ‘Why do you want to be a writer? That’s not going to get you anywhere.’

That answer from his mother and a similar reaction from an English teacher who said no one made a living being a creative writer, led to a decade of pursuing community college, and doing many odd jobs.

“It wasn’t a career. It was anything to pay the rent.”

Then in the late 1980s, he had just finished being a production assistant on the 13-part TV series “Spirit Bay.” He was asked to write a newspaper article on converting Native stories into film form.

“All the producers, directors and writers were white, which was normal for the late 1980s,” says Hayden Taylor. In his article research he contacted producers across the country to talk about Native stories and how they got produced. When speaking with someone from CBC’s Beachcombers series it was suggested that he submit a story idea to the show.

“At the time of my research, there hadn’t been one Native script writer in all of Canada.” A few weeks after he sent in his idea (and had forgotten about it) he was contacted by producers to say they were interested.

“At the time Beachcombers was one of Canada’s most popular television shows. My show was the season-ender and 1.6 million saw it – which was a phenomenal concept to me.”

He went on write for other television shows including Street Legal and North of Sixty. And his writing career gathered incredible steam. Over the last two decades, he has been an award-winning playwright (with over 70 productions of his work), a journalist/columnist (with a column in five newspapers across the country), short-story writer, novelist, and has worked on more than 17 documentaries exploring the Native experience. Most notably he wrote and directed Redskins, Tricksters and Who’s On

For many years the Department of English has been host to a writer-in-residence. The post of the Canada Council for the Arts and the James A. & Marjorie Spenceley Writer-in-Residence was held in 2007-2008 by Drew Hayden Taylor.

Past holders of the post of Writer-in-Residence include:

- Emma Donoghue
- Margaret Avison
- Margaret Laurence
- Alice Munro
- Harold Horwood
- John Newlove
- Al Purdy
- Leo Simpson
- Joe Rosenblatt
- Sylvia Fraser
- Matt Cohen
- Earle Birney
- Austin Clarke
- David McFadden
- Gwendolyn MacEwen
- bill bissett
- Adele Wiseman
- Roo Borson
- Bronwen Wallace
- Tim Ulbrich
- Margaret Hollingsworth
- Leon Rooke
- Christopher Dewdney
- Susan Musgrave
- Daphne Manlatt
- Daniel David Moses
- Kathleen Jamie
- Molly Peacock
- Terry Griggs
- Bonnie Burnard
- Robert Bringhurst
- Karen MacCormick
- Jan Horner
- David French
- George Bowering
- Lola Lemire Tostevin
- Gerry Shikatani
- Joan Barfoot

The writers-in-residence hold regular office hours, discuss problems and aspects of writing (even their own), and are pleased to comment on any creative writing that a student may submit for criticism. By assuming this post, writers-in-residence have signified their willingness to meet accomplished or novice student writers, and to engage in critical dialogue with them.

Western’s Writer-In-Residence program is generously funded by The Canada Council for the Arts and The James A. & Marjorie M. Spenceley Lectureship in Literature.
THE CREATIVE SPIRIT: STORIES OF 20TH CENTURY ARTISTS

The twentieth-century marks 100 years of strife and political unrest, wars and struggles for individual freedoms. Nowhere is this better illustrated and documented than in the arts. Writing, music and the visual arts have made their mark throughout history. In the twentieth-century, one sees so many styles or expression, that it is almost impossible to categorize and document it all. Artists have sought to challenge all the confines of visual expression. Artists have indeed brought their blatant comments on society and all its woes to the forefront. The Creative Spirit: Stories of 20th Century Artists by Emily-Jane Hills Orford, BA’78, is a collection of short stories based on the life of 20 artists who made their contributions to the visual statement of the twentieth-century. These stories seek to open minds to understand and appreciate what the creative mind expresses. www3.sympatico.ca/mistymo

MYSTERIES OF HAPPINESS: YOUR JOURNEY TO CONSCIOUSNESS

Kasturi Dhawan, PhD’74 (Chemistry), the author of the recently published book Mysteries of Happiness, began by first practicing sensory awareness and then sensory exploration for over 30 years and is a long-time practitioner of the ancient Kriya Yoga system of meditation. A former Chemistry teacher from India, a PhD graduate from Western and former Chemistry teacher from India, a PhD graduate from Western and recently retired from a career as a scientist with Health Canada, shares his insights into the sensory and mystical nature of happiness and shares the methodology (PoomPrem Yoga) he devised to experience ever-increasing happiness. Mysteries of Happiness begins by defining happiness and then examining the common methods through which humans seek happiness, including religion, sexual pleasure, sports, food, travel, entertainment, drugs, and more. Dhawan explains that the underlying principal of joy is found through increasing intensity of sensory exploration. Mysteries of Happiness can be purchased at amazon.com, Apollo Chiropractic Clinic in Ottawa, Ontario or by ordering by email at kasturihappiness@gmail.com

PEARS OF WISDOM

If the thought of going to the dentist makes your heart race and palms sweat, then you are in need of some Pearls of Wisdom. Dental visits do not have to be painful for you or your pocketbook. In her new book, Dr. Sandy Venditti, BSc’90, DDS’95, MBA’06, uncovers the secrets of how to affordably keep your smile for life while positively impacting your overall health and well-being. This informative little handbook provides simple, practical tips that go beyond just brushing and flossing your pearly whites. It reveals what your dentist may not have told you along with other critical insights that will save you time and money in the dental chair. Although oral health is a serious issue, Pearls of Wisdom is written in a fun, easy-to-understand and disarming style. You’ll definitely want to sink your teeth into this. For more information, please visit: www.drsandyv.com
THE SIXTIES

Those who didn’t live through the Sixties wonder what the fuss was all about, while many of those who were there have wrestled with how to describe and define the period. While the ultimate meaning of the Sixties remains elusive, there is no doubt that they had an immense effect on Canadians - culturally, politically, and economically. *The Sixties*, edited by Dimitry Anastakis, BA’93, takes a multidisciplinary approach that includes history, architecture, art, political science, and journalism. Contributors examine a range of eclectic issues - from the intersection of Joyce Wieland’s artwork with Pierre Trudeau’s nationalism, to the debate over the changing skylines of Toronto and Montreal, to de Gaulle’s famous 1967 “Vive le Québec libre!” speech - to provide a distinctly Canadian perspective on one of the liveliest and most debated periods in modern history. Four decades after Canada’s own Expo 67 “summer of love,” this timely book conjures up the images, sounds, and tastes of a decade that remains an indelible part of our twenty-first century experience. http://mqup.mcgill.ca/browse_archives.php?catalogue=26&page=19

SACRED GROUND ON DE LA SAVANE

Sacred Ground on de la Savane - Montreal’s Baron de Hirsch Cemetery by Danny Kucharsky, BA’93, tells the story set at the turn of the 20th century, when more Jewish immigrants were arriving in Montreal than anywhere else on the continent, and the city’s small middle-class Jewish community suddenly had to meet the burial needs of many new, mostly poor, arrivals, who had little affiliation with the local congregations. Out of this crisis, the Baron de Hirsch Cemetery, one of Canada’s largest Jewish cemeteries, was established on an undeveloped expanse of swampland in the heart of the city. The Baron de Hirsch Cemetery is the home for a wide variety of individuals who have shaped the city and its Jewish community. Mini-profiles highlight some of the site’s 75,000 residents including a Titanic victim, acclaimed poet A.M. Klein, a bagel maker, Yiddish Theatre of Montreal founder Dora Wasserman, gangster Harry Ship, a monument maker, and several politicians and artists. www.vehiculepress.com/titles/397.html

THE NEWFOUNDLAND RAILWAY, 1898-1969: A HISTORY

The building of a narrow-gauge trans-island railway in nineteenth century Newfoundland was a reckless and even desperate experiment. The island was poor, the population small, and the local politics rife with bitter sectarian conflict. Against these unpromising odds, the Newfoundland Railway came into existence on June 29, 1898, and operated successfully for well over a half a century. This book offers a comprehensive history of the Newfoundland Railway, focusing especially on the railroad’s early years and the important early contributions of railway engineer R.G. Reid. A chronology and glossary are also included, along with several appendices which offer eye-witness accounts of the railway as recorded in period news articles, personal correspondence, poetry, and songs. Les Harding, MLIS’77, a former academic librarian, is also the author of *Holy Bingo, the Lingo of Eden, Jumpin’ Jehosaphat and the Land of Nod* (2006) and *Elephant Story: Jumbo and P.T. Barnum Under the Big Top* (2000). He lives in St. John’s, Newfoundland, Canada. This is his 12th book.

COLPOSCOPY AND TREATMENT OF CERVICAL INTRAEPITHELIAL NEOPLASIA

A Beginners’ Manual by John W. Sellors, BSc’69, MD (McMaster). This introductory manual is intended to simplify the learning of colposcopy and treatment of cervical intraepithelial neoplasia with cryotherapy and loop electrosurgical excision procedure so as to allow dissemination of the skills in low-resource settings. It is hoped that this manual will find a range of uses, as a resource for short teaching courses for health-care personnel; as a teaching and learning aid for medical and nursing students; as a reference for medical practitioners; as a field manual in screening programmes, or even as a self-learning tool. Availability of simplified learning resources, training mechanisms and trained providers in cervical cancer prevention may help to overcome some of the technical challenges and may prepare the ground for implementing such services in developing countries. This manual will help to equip health care providers with the necessary skills in detecting and treating cervical intraepithelial neoplasia, thereby preventing invasive cervical cancer in many women throughout the world. www.who.int/bookorders/anglais/detart1.jsp? sesslan=1&codecol=1&codecol=76&codech=15

LEADERSHIP FOR EINSTEIN’S P = MC3:

Bringing Out the Genius in People While Becoming Great Yourself By Jim Sellner, PhD, DipC, BA’66 Take the paper clip. Einstein’s equation, E = mc² says the paper clip’s potential energy is the equivalent of 18 kilotons of TNT. Consider the person. There are about 125 million employees in North America, with a payroll of $4.6 trillion. Most employees realize 20 to 60% of their potential performance. Like the paper clip, they represent a massive amount of potential energy. Leadership for Einstein’s P = MC3 increases the five areas that define a sustainable business: (i) Financial Intelligence; (ii) Values/Vision/Mission; (iii) Emotional Intelligence; (iv) Leadership; and (v) Commit-to-Action. It increases the “Invisible Balance Sheet.” This e-book is based on Dr. Jim Sellner’s work with thousands of leaders over 40 years. In a company with a healthy “Invisible Balance Sheet” people say, “This is a great place to work. I also enjoy my days off because I share the rewards of my work with my family and friends.” www.subject2change.ca

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much, including pub crawls to the popular night spots along Richmond Street.

In his fourth year, Davies met his wife, Andrea Chambers, BA’00, BEd’01.

“I was really happy with both the social and educational components of Western,” Davies says. “I had such a great time there.”

In many ways, Davies says, his education continues. His understanding of the golf swing and the human body’s functions have grown. And everyday he’s absorbing knowledge from the other medical, fitness and golf experts who are part of the modern pro golfer’s entourage.

“I’m learning from the best guys in their fields, all their fields — from the golf psychologists to the coaches to the trainers,” Davies says. "It's fantastic. I really do have the best job." @

Jeff Brooke is a Toronto-based journalist who works for The Globe and Mail, writing occasionally about golf. He also contributes to various golf publications, including Scoregolf magazine. He graduated from Western in 1987 with an honours bachelor of arts degree in English literature.

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who’s on
Wanted: Alumni to share Western’s success stories

Telling Western’s story

The most important opportunity in advocating for Western is to help tell Western’s full story. Not just the best undergraduate experience but also

- Graduate Experience (all of the benefits of the undergraduate experience, plus the additional benefits of working with leading researchers)
- Western is the provincial and national leader in various areas of research.
- An economic powerhouse in London and Ontario in working with industry to move discoveries to market (technology transfer)

A new strategic plan for research

There are ways Western is planning to increase its focus on research:

- Increasing the involvement of undergraduates, graduate students and postdoctoral fellows in the research enterprise
- Emphasizing the importance of knowledge transfer and collaborative research with community partners
- Promoting interdisciplinary and international research
- Tracking performance and celebrating our research successes

“In order to better ‘brand’ the university and to enhance its profile in an increasingly competitive educational and research environment, however, we must seriously consider designation of a more limited number of signature areas related to national and international prominence at Western, not only in research, but teaching as well,” says Esselment.

Ten signature areas for Western have been identified where Western is or has the potential to be the national leader:

- Business Education and Research, as indicated by global reputation and ranking success of the Ivey School of Business, and the achievements of our faculty in areas related to the study of Economics.
- Environmental Sustainability and Green Energy, as recognized through the accomplishments of the large number of faculty working collectively through the newly approved Interdisciplinary Initiative (IDI), and in our world-leading research in alternate
energy and biomass conversion to bio-oil.

Health Education, as indicated through high quality of instruction offered across a variety of disciplines at Western, including our wide range of graduate programs in the therapies and unique programming in undergraduate medical sciences, nursing care and public health.

Literature and Cultural Theory, as indicated by our national and international reputation and recognition in the study of English literature, and the critical examination of contemporary popular culture.

Materials and Biomaterials, as shown by our broadly recognized leadership in the characterization of surface materials, and our pioneering work in the field of synchrotron radiation, leading to the establishment of the Canadian Light Source.

Imaging, as recognized by our broadly acknowledged leadership in the use and development of imaging technologies across the disciplinary spectrum, including sophisticated tools used in medical diagnostics, advanced microscopy, materials and historical and anthropological artifacts.

Music, as demonstrated by national recognition of program quality, library resources, and the success of our graduates.

Neuroscience/Brain and Mind, as indicated by internationally recognized research undertaken in a variety of disciplinary areas pivotal to an understanding of brain, its functioning and health, linking cell biology, brain imaging and psychology.

Philosophy of Science, as demonstrated by our position as one of North America’s acknowledged leaders in research and teaching related to a critical understanding of the origins of scientific truth and its application in contemporary society.

Wind Engineering and Natural Disaster Mitigation, as recognized through our global leadership in the wind tunnel testing of some of the world’s most recognizable buildings, bridges and structures, and related work in the sciences and social sciences in simulated structural testing and the development of policies and programs to help mitigate the devastating effects of natural disasters.

A record of success

Compared to other cities, public institutions in London have achieved significant success through technology transfer. In 2005-’06, Western, Robarts Research Institute and Lawson Health Research Institute (LHRI) together reported:

- 84 invention disclosures (4th nationally)
- 8 U.S. patents (4th nationally)
- $4.8M in licensing income (3rd nationally)

New technology transfer organization

This success has led to a city-wide technology transfer organization. The new joint-venture, involving Western/Robarts and LHRI has recently formed. Teams of commercialization experts will be located across London and supported by a central hub offering administrative, patent search, and legal services. The organization will offer services on a “walk-in” basis to local inventors subject to appropriate review of proposed technologies. The new organization will develop a national/international ‘brand’ focusing on key areas of research strength in London where industry links are strong:

- Imaging and Medical Devices
- Alternative Energy
- Materials and biomaterials

London is a national and international leader in imaging/device research. There are over 50 researchers located at Western/Robarts, LHRI and National Research Council. The leading-edge facilities include:

- Centre for Brain and Mind
- C-Star
- NRC-Industrial Manufacturing Institute
- National Centre for Audiology

Alternative Energy is gaining strength in London and Southwestern Ontario. There is an outstanding development of new infrastructure. Western has achieved success in commercialization and industrial partnerships. London is an emerging national leader in biofuels research.

- Western leads $11M national initiative of Agricultural Bioproducts Innovation Program (ABIP) sponsored by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

- Western received $7.5M from the Government of Ontario to work on alternative energy from agricultural waste
- Strong research clusters in Science and Engineering at Western and in Sarnia, now consolidated under ICFAR
- Strong alignment with City objectives through London Sustainable Energy Council and Mayor’s Roundtable on Sustainable Energy Green Building at Western - $22M CFI/MRI/Industry project focusing on bio-oil, hydrogen from waste, biofuel cells
- Sarnia-Lambton Research Park - $10M invested by Province in the Ontario Bioindustrial Innovation Centre for scale-up of new biofuel technologies to industry
- Biotron - $28M CFI/MRI/Industry supported climate-controlled facility will lead research on biomass research and development ICAR–$5M pilot plant facilities north of London
- Surface Science Western dominates the surface materials characterization field nationally and internationally.
- Includes dozens of researchers from Physics, Chemistry, and Engineering fields Provides materials characterization services to over 1000 industrial clients including several multi-nationals: General Motors, Honda, Novelis, CVRD Inco, Ontario Hydro, Babcock & Wilcox, Dupont
- Planned move to the Research Park in summer 2009 to capitalize on industry links Seeking Alignment with Business and Government

How you can help

Western needs spokespersons to know our stories when speaking to government, donors, industry, prospective students and parents.

We need testimonials from graduates and industry about the role that the university plays in innovation and driving the economy.

Western needs feedback from everyone as to how we are perceived in order to track the success of fulfilling our mission statement and branding ourselves as a national leader in both education and research.

For more information on how to be an advocate for Western, please contact Gary Blazak, Director of Alumni Relations at: 519-661-2111 Ext. 82118 or by e-mail at: gblazak@uwol.ca
and Donna was a member of Pheta sorority. Every since the two joined, they have had a Christmas party every other year where they get together and sing. “When we graduated, we decided we would continue with this party. We’ve held it every two years since 1960. We included a few people from different walks of life. Out of 32 people, about 12-14 are the originals,” says Donna. She serves cocktail food and the ‘same punch.’ “At 10 p.m. we go to the piano and sing Christmas carols and have Christmas baking afterwards. Many say it’s the only time they sing Christmas carols.”

An event that stands out for the couple at Western is Doug’s graduation, says Donna. “I thought that was the most magical event. The grad ceremonies were outside in the afternoon, blue sky, ‘Pomp and Circumstance’ playing, everyone in caps and gowns – everything you’d worked for had come together and you were all together and would never be in that same place again. I felt that way on my graduation, too. It was that one moment in time that would never happen again.”

“The crowning glory was when they put that hood over your head. You accomplished what you set out to do,” says Doug.

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Puppy Stew, a documentary on Native humour for the National Film Board of Canada.

Through extensive world travel and many of his books, most notably the Funny, You Don’t Look Like One series, he has tried to “educate and inform the world about issues that reflect and interfere in the lives of Canada’s First Nations.”

Self-described as a contemporary story teller, the summer of 2008 will see the production of the second season of Mixed Blessing, a television comedy series he co-created and was the head writer for. Last summer, In A World Created By A Drunken God, a made-for-TV movie he wrote, based on his Governor General’s nominated play, was produced.

In August 2007, Annick Press published his first novel, The Night Wanderer: A Native Gothic Novel, a teen story about an Ojibway vampire, and in April, his non-fiction book exploring the world of Native sexuality, called Me Sexy, was published by

Douglas & McIntyre. It is a follow up to his highly successful book on Native humour, Me Funny.

The author of 20 books in total, Hayden Taylor plans to spend the remainder of 2008 working on his second novel titled Motorcycles and Sweetgrass, and a new play called Crees in the Caribbean.

“In the past 15 years I have been to India, China, Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, Mexico, Cuba, England, Sweden, Finland, Belgium, Germany, Czech Republic, Austria, France and Italy. And every time I go somewhere I send my mother a postcard and say ‘look where writing got me.’”  

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Keep the issues coming…

To help us off-set the ever-increasing costs of printing and mailing the Alumni Gazette please consider making a donation today. For your support of $25 or more, we will send you a tax receipt and our pledge to continue to make your alumni magazine the best it can possibly be.

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### ALUMNI EVENTS

#### CANADA
- **Burlington, ON**
  - Off to Western August 14, 2008
- **Calgary, AB**
  - Off to Western August 14, 2008
  - President's Reception November 10, 2008
- **Chatham, ON**
  - Casual Social Evening – visit website for details! Fall 2008
- **Elgin County/St. Thomas, ON**
- **London, ON**
  - Homecoming Kick-off and Alumni Association AGM October 2, 2008
  - Six Degrees Homecoming October 3, 2008
  - Alumni Awards of Merit Dinner October 3, 2008
- **Mississauga, ON**
  - Off to Western August 14, 2008
- **Ottawa, ON**
  - Off to Western August 19, 2008
  - Six Degrees Ottawa November 2008
- **Sarnia, ON**
  - Off to Western August 19, 2008
  - Pub Night at Paddy Flaherty's August 19, 2008
  - Samia Speaker Series October 16, 2008
  - Samia Speaker Series November 27, 2008
- **Toronto, ON**
  - Western Night at the Ballpark: New York Yankees @ Toronto Blue Jays August 21, 2008
  - Alumni Networking Reception Fall 2008
  - Western @ U of T Football Game October 9, 2008
  - The Sound of Music and Reception in the Princess Lower Lounge December 11, 2008
- **Vancouver, BC**
  - Off to Western August 13, 2008
  - Six Degrees Tofino August 15, 2008
  - President’s Reception November 11, 2008
- **Victoria, BC**
  - Six Degrees Tofino August 15, 2008
- **Windsor, ON**
  - Off to Western August 21, 2008

#### INTERNATIONAL
- **Hamilton, Bermuda**
  - Alumni Reception September 11, 2008
- **Mexico City, Mexico**
  - Alumni Networking Reception October 16, 2008
- **Hong Kong, China**
  - Off to Western August 9, 2008
  - Back to School Alumni Gathering August 14, 2008
  - Hvey 10th Anniversary Celebration November 5, 2008
  - Grand Hyatt Hotel
- **New York City, NY**
  - All-Canadian Alumni Reception September 25, 2008

#### CHAPTERS
- **Dentistry**
  - Homecoming Reception October 3, 2008
- **Engineering**
  - Homecoming Reception October 4, 2008
- **Law**
- **Local Government Alumni Society**
- **Journalism**
  - 60th Anniversary Celebration Reception (Toronto, ON) October 16, 2008
- **USC**
  - Mingle Bells (Toronto, ON) December 2008
- **WAA**
  - Homecoming Lunch October 4, 2008
- **W Club**
  - Golf Tournament August 21, 2008
  - Western Mustang Band Dinner October 4, 2008

#### ALUMNI GOLF TOURNAMENTS
- **Wrestling (at Greenhills)** July 7, 2008
- **Basketball (at Greenhills)** July 18, 2008
- **Hockey (at Fire Rock)** August 5, 2008
- **Football (at Fire Rock)** August 15, 2008
- **Tennis (at Thames Valley)** August 26, 2008

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**Do your part for the environment!**

Alumni Western is reducing the number of printed event invitations. Please update your email address at [www.advser.uwo.ca/alumni_update.htm](http://www.advser.uwo.ca/alumni_update.htm) to receive electronic invitations to events in your area.

**Check out our event listing on the web site at:** [www.alumni.uwo.ca](http://www.alumni.uwo.ca)
Alumni News and Announcements

PLEASE NOTE: Publicly available personal information may be collected for the purpose of updating alumni records as well as for the purpose of recognizing outstanding achievement or distinguished service by alumni in University publications. Western respects your privacy. At any time you have the right to request that your personal information cease to be used to recognize outstanding achievement or distinguished service in University publications. For more information or to make a request about the kinds of contact you would like to receive, please contact the Manager, Operations, Advancement Services, (519) 661-4176 or 1-800-420-7519 Fax (519) 661-4182 email advser@uwo.ca.

1920s
Jean (Tambull) Buchanan, BA'26, of Seaforth turned 103 on June 18. Greetings to her many friends and relatives.

1940s
1949 Arts and Science 60th Reunion Homecoming 2009. Save the Date. We have reserved space for dinner at The London Hunt and Country Club on Saturday, October 3, 2009. RSVP with George Turnbull at 416-239-2087 or Pat McFarlane at 519-660-6037.

1960s
Jack Petch, BA'60, has been elected chair of the governing council of the University of Toronto. He also continues to hold the position of counsel to the Canadian law firm Osler, Hoskin and Harcourt.

Edith Tveit (Pepper), BA'65, recently retired from the University of Toronto after 31 years of service, the last 13 years as administrative assistant for the Faculty of Arts & Science's innovative First Year Seminars and Second Year Research Opportunities Program. Nils Tveit, BA'65, retired in 1995 after 34 years of teaching (26 years with the York Region Board of Education, Aurora, ON). Nils and Edith celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary in June 2008.

1970s
Mary Thomson (Ford), BA'73, has had her first book published entitled "Cherryine Flower." It is a romance/adventure for teens plus, set in Nebraska in 1850. Available through Publish America www.PublishAmerica.com or through the London Public Library and the Middlesex County Library.

Margaret Ostrowski, QC, MA'73, was recently awarded the 2007 Canadian Bar Association Touchstone Award for her accomplishments in promoting equality in the Canadian legal profession. Margaret practised law for 25 years in British Columbia, served as the President of the CBA BC Branch and as a Bencher of the Law Society of B.C., and was appointed to the Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada in 2005. Her son, Simon, received a MBA from Western in 2007. In addition to her degree from Western, she received a B.Sc. (Hons.) from University of Toronto and a LLB from the University of British Columbia.

John A. Schweitzer, BA'74 (Visual Arts) has an exhibit this summer at the Faculty of Fine Arts Gallery at Concordia University in Montreal from July 7 to August 15 entitled "Collusive Liaisons Agnes (The John A, Schweitzer Collection)." The show itself is a collection of pairs of works - a collage by Schweitzer juxtaposed with a collage by another artist from his own collection.


William A. Howe, BEd'77, was an Honoree at the 11th Annual "Immigrant Day" at the Connecticut State Capitol on April 15, 2008, a day to honor immigrants from throughout Connecticut who have made valuable contributions to their communities and/or professions. Citations were awarded by Governor Jodi Rell, Lt. Governor Fedele, Secretary of the State Susan Bysiewicz, Attorney General Richard Blumenthal, State Comptroller Nancy Wyman, The CT General Assembly and Congressman Joe Courtney.

1980s
Bio-Extraction Inc. is pleased to announce the addition of a new Director to its Board. John Bradford MacDonald, BA'80 (Economics), S0. MacDonald is Managing Partner of John MacDonald and Associates, a firm of established Accounting and Tax Professionals. He founded the firm in 1989 after several years in senior management positions with the Government of Ontario. From the accounting platform, John has extended the firm to include Oakville Investment Corp., which is involved in wealth management, private equity and growth/tumaround opportunities in private and public companies. Currently John serves on the Board of Luxell Technologies Inc and several charitable boards in Canada and the USA.

John Douglas Uffen, BSc'82 (Honors Geophysics), was recently appointed vice-president, geoscience at Canoro Resources Ltd. Uffen is a professional geophysicist and professional geoscientist. Uffen joined the company on Nov. 1, 2007. He has worked for both large and small oil and gas companies in Calgary throughout his 26-year career. Recently, Uffen was the vice-president of geophysics and a senior partner of Petrol Robertson Consulting Ltd., an international geoscience consulting firm based in Calgary. Formerly, he held positions as the exploration manager, Western Canada New Ventures, as well as chief geophysicist at ConocoPhillips in Calgary.

Gerry B. Fitzsimmons, BSc'82, has recently joined VSC Group Inc. leading its Commissioning & Technical Services business that is located in Toronto. VSC Group is an emerging organization providing mechanical and electrical services. Gerry continues to reside in Unionville, ON with Dana (nee Townshend), BA '81 and son, Connor. Daughter Kaitlyn is continuing the family tradition, attending Western currently in her second year studying Kinesiology. Gerry can be reached at gerry.fitzsimmons@vscgroup.ca.

Denise Gervais-Regan, BA'82 - her play, The Thirteenth One, will be produced by the Manitoba Theatre Centre in its 2009/2010 season. Next to the Stratford and Shaw Festivals, the Centre has the highest annual attendance of any theatre in Canada. The Thirteenth One premiered at the Blyth Festival in 2005 and has had productions in Kingston and Peterborough.

Tyrol Tang, BSc'84 (Computer Sci), was recently appointed CEO Chinese Manufacturers Corp. Tang has more than 20 years of project management and development experience in the information technology industry. Since 1990, he owned and operated his own consulting business and contracted with companies and institutions including Citigroup, TheStreet.com, Columbia University, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey and Garden State Multiple Listing System. Tang also earned two Master of Science Degrees from New Jersey Institute of Technology.

Matthew Charles Wunder, BSc'85 (Geology), was appointed to the position of Vice President-Exploration with Rubicon. Wunder is a professional geologist (PGeo.) with over 20 years of experience with both major and junior mining companies managing key projects and developing new opportunities throughout Canada, U.S.A, Mexico and Latin America. Matthew's areas of expertise include resource evaluations and project due diligence, resource modeling, project management, planning and implementations. Most recently, Matthew was a senior consultant within the ore evaluations group of a major consulting firm.

Raynard A.E. Von Hahn, LLB'88, has been appointed as a director of Aerocast Inc. Von Hahn has also been appointed to the audit committee of the board of directors. He has a securities law practice and advises clients on corporate finance and securities regulatory matters. He also holds a Bachelor of Commerce in Finance from the University of British Columbia and is a member of the Law Society of British Columbia.

Heather Maura Lendon, MBA'88, LLB'88, was recently appointed VP, General Counsel, Corporate Secretary to HudBay Minerals Inc. Lendon has been practicing law for almost 20 years and has extensive experience in international business transactions, regulatory compliance, corporate governance and advocacy. Prior to joining HudBay Lendon was Chief Counsel, Canada, Chief Privacy Officer - Canada for global telecommunications company AT&T. She also holds a Master of Laws from Osgoode Hall Law School.

Deborah Meyer, BA'89, is a partner and co-founder of an innovative search firm called Workharmony specializing in non-traditional recruitment. Workharmony provides employment solutions for companies (covering maternity leaves, gaps due to sudden growth and/or departures and contract work) offering flexible employment for mid to high level professionals for industries in the Toronto area. To contact her, email deborah@workharmony.ca. Deb and Ward Meek (BA'87) are enjoying their busy family life with Sydney (7), Cole (6) and Greydon (4).

1990s
Jack Braverman, BA'91 (Economics), was recently appointed Board Member & CFO - Tritoom Group Inc. Braverman has served as a member of the Board of Directors and as Chief Financial Officer since January 2004. He has worked in a number of capacities since 1997, including his service as President of Eontech Group, Inc. since July 1999, President of Royal HTM Group, Inc. from December 1997 to April 2001 and as Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Royal HTM Group, Inc. since April 2001, as well as serving as Vice President of Aluminum-Power Inc., the majority shareholder, since January 2001.

Peter Mac Lean, PhD'91 (Geology), has joined Avion Resources Inc. as Exploration Manager. During his 20-year career, he has focused on Mexico and Venezuela for Monarch Resources, and as a consultant for a group of companies including Newport, Apex Silver and Hecla-Mine. In 2003 MacLean joined Aur Resources Inc. and held a position of Regional Exploration Manager, Mexico until December 2007. With Aur, Peter was instrumental in the acquisition and evaluation of the La Verde copper-porphyry deposit and the discovery of the San Agustin
gold/silver-zinc deposit, both in Mexico.

Justin K. Lacey, BA’92 (Economics), was recently appointed as Vice President, Sales and Marketing for Vtb Power Systems Inc. Lacey also has an MBA from McGill University, and a degree in International Business from the Stockholm School of Economics.

Peter Ralph Aceto, LLB’94, was recently appointed President & CEO – ING Direct Canada. Peter was a founding member of ING Direct Canada in 1996 in his role as General Counsel. In 2001, Peter moved to the USA where he was an integral part of the launch of ING Direct USA. During his 12 years with the company, Peter has managed many aspects of ING Direct’s businesses in Canada and the USA, including legal, lending, credit administration, marketing and sales activities. Peter was called to the Bar in 1995. Prior to joining ING Direct he practiced litigation and corporate commercial law.

Allen Ronald Deserranno, BA’95 (Geography), is a founder and CEO of Mobiform Canada, which was organized in March 2003. Since Mobiform’s October 2005 acquisition of Motifom Canada, he has been Chief Executive Officer, President and a Director of Mobiform. His software development career first began at the Space and Atmospheric Research Group, Physics Department, at Western. In 2002 he served as Vice President of Software Development for Motius Software Ltd. which was acquired by Obex Corp. Other ventures include the establishment of BoardMaster Software. DeSerranno is considered one of the leading authorities on XML based graphics technologies.

Andrew Fedak, BA’95 (Econ/Poli Sci), was recently appointed Member of the Advisory Board at Centrasia Mining. He has 13 years of executive experience with early-stage and fast growing companies. He has successfully initiated and grown operations in manufacturing and software development in North America and Asia. He served in senior executive roles with: SunCommerce Corporation; Onvia, Avolo; and Symtxex Asia Pacific. His focus is organizational structure, capital formation, business development and marketing.

James Frederick Pringle, MBA’96, was appointed recently appointed as VP, Finance & CFO for PhosCan Chemical Corp. James brings an extensive mining finance background, gained both as a financial executive and investment banker, to PhosCan. From February 2004 to December 2005 James was Chief Financial Officer of Frontera Copper Corporation. During that time and subsequently as a consultant to the company, James led Frontera Copper’s successful effort to finance the company’s Piedras Verdes Project in Mexico. James also holds a BSc, Metallurgical Engineering from Queen’s University and is a CPA charterholder.

2000s

Cheryl Lilley, BMOS’06 (Finance & Admin), has been appointed Financial Advisor at Altairna Investments. For Lilley, being an advisor is not a job, but a career. She was seemingly born to the investment business, with several family members in it – her father worked both in the mining industry and as a stockbroker. Her uncle is an advisor with London Life and a brother was an advisor until he sold his book of business. She studied finance at Western, landing the Altairna job in Toronto upon graduation.

In Memoriam

Harvey G. Gillies, BA’35, passed away at Hill House Hospice, Richmond Hill (formerly of Port Dover) recently. Harvey was born on October 28, 1909 and died just short of his 100th year, on May 16, 2008. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Marion (nee Miller), his three daughters, Gwen Williamson (UWO 1960), Megan Lefoli (Margaret Gillies UWO 1971) and Lynne Thompson, and his four grandchildren, Graham (Huron 1996) and Deborah Williamson and Lee and Scott Thompson. He is mourned and his memory honoured by all of them, by his sore-in-law David Williamson (UWO 1973), Ken Lefoli and Jamie Thompson (Huron 1916), and by his many nieces and nephews.

Dorothy Elizabeth Timpany, MD’37, HDD’87 (McMaster), formerly of Windsor and Falmouth, passed away February 3, 2008, in Windsor Elms Senior Citizens Home. Known as “Dot” to her friends and colleagues, she served as a physician/surgeon in India for 44 years. Her capacity to adapt to new ideas, her personal magnetism, and professional skill greatly benefited the young doctors she worked with and the patients under her care. She was predeceased by her sister, Helen and her brother-in-law George Frew. She is survived by many nephews, and nine grandchildren and nieces.

Joseph Herbert Kennedy, BA’39 - Peacefully at Georgetown Hospital on May 5 in his 99th year, he is survived by his loving wife Peggy Sheila Kennedy (nee Reeve) to whom he was married for 72 wonderful years, his son Brian Kennedy and wife Lynn, his daughter Janet, Mary’s husband Leslie, his grandchildren Beth McClay (Rusty), Doug Kennedy (Sonja), Sarah Fraser (James), Christie Ferguson (Steve), and Robert Thomson, as well as his great grandchildren Katie, Joey, Livia, Liam, Ben, Abby, Cayden and Kailey. Joseph and his predeceased sisters Mildred and Gladys were born and raised in Wheatley, Ontario. Following several teaching positions, his graduation from the University of Western Ontario, a period as a school principal and many enjoyable years as a school inspector in the northern Ontario communities of Timmins, Kirkland Lake and Huntsville, he joined the Department of Education at Queen’s Park. This was followed by another promotion to Regional Superintendent centered in North Bay where his responsibilities included all school systems from kindergarten to grade 13 in the North Eastern area of the Province. He was honoured to have a new school in Matheson named after him. He was also pleased to contribute in its formative years to Nipissing University in North Bay where he served on its first Board of Governors. In retirement years (38 of them) Joe and Peggy spent some of their best times at their cottage on Lake Laite in the Sudtridge and South River areas of Parry Sound District. He will be remembered for many things... his integrity, reliability, honesty, sense of humour, love of his family and more than anything else he was a gentleman.

Richard Maurice Dillon, BA’48, LL’79, 87, a decorated war veteran, confidante of an Ontario premier and first dean of the Faculty of Engineering Science at the University of Western Ontario, died April 23 at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre in Toronto. Born in Simcoe, ON in 1920, the Dillon family moved to London where Richard attended school. He joined the military at age 15. A student at Western, he left school to enlist in active service after war was declared in 1939. He later joined the Royal Canadian Regiment, earning the Military Cross for distinguished service. Dillon received his honours degree in Mathematics from Western in 1948 and obtained a Master’s degree in Civil Engineering from MIT. Dillon worked in his father’s design firm and in 1960 was asked to serve as Western’s first engineering dean. A trusted colleague of Premier John Roberts, Dillon was seconded in 1970 to the first of several key provincial government positions including deputy minister. In London he served as United Way chair, church warden, political organizer and contributed more widely through work with CIDA in Thailand, as president of Professional Engineers of Ontario, and as founding director of The Schmeelk Canada Foundation. In 1986, he received the Order of Canada. Richard is survived by Elizabeth, his wife of 63 years, and daughters Kelly Meighen, Ann Dillon and Katherine Dillon. He is survived by sisters Shelagh Watters and Diana Johnston and brother Michael Dillon.

John Reynolds McKishnie, BA’50, MD’54 died suddenly while walking with his son John on his beloved tree farm on March 1, 2008 at the age of 78. He was an avid outdoorsman, dedicated naturalist, and long-time supporter of Ducks Unlimited. He was a dedicated family physician who conscientiously served the West Elgin community. He is survived by his wife Eunice (Oestrelcher) MD’49, two sons John and Jamie MD’80 and three grandsons Bob, David and Dew. He will long be remembered by his surviving medical classmates.

Donald Henry Mathewson, BSc’51, beloved husband of Audrey Mathewson, passed away peacefully on January 28, 2007, at the Foothills Hospital in Calgary, with his loving family by his side. Don was a devoted, principled man who led his life by example and was a true inspiration to his family. He enjoyed the simple things in life and was active in the community. Don was born on January 13, 1926, in Welland, Ontario, and being an adventurous lad he joined the 1st Canadian Parachute Battalion in 1943. He obtained a geology degree from the University of Western Ontario in 1951, and headed west to work in the oil industry where he met his wife Audrey. Don loved the outdoors and he was determined to foster this appreciation of nature in his children through canoe, hiking and skiing trips. The family cabin at Shuswap Lake was their second home and it was always with great anticipation that he would plan the summer projects for all family members to participate in while enjoying all that the lake, forest and Glenwood friends had to offer. Don and Audrey had many fond memories of their worldly travels with friends and family. He will be affectionately remembered by all.
those who knew him because of the special ways in which he touched the lives of those around him.

James Bruce Chick, BA’52 • Peacefully at Victoria Hospital, London on May 3, 2008 in his 79th year, surrounded by his loving family. He is survived by his children Jannaca (Paul), Robert (Diane), Melissa (Glen), and Sarah, and his grandchildren Heather, Genevieve, Amy, Owen and Jeremy, as well as his sister Marion Hogarth, and his ex-wife Susan Chick. He was predeceased by his brothers Courtney and William and sister Mary Agnes. He graduated with a BA from the University of Western Ontario in 1952 and was a member of the Delta Upsilon Fraternity. He worked at the London Life Insurance Company from 1953-1985 as Publicity Executive. He was president of the UWO Alumni Association from 1963-64. He was instrumental in orchestrating the Great Concert Series at Alumni Hall throughout the 1960s, hosting many famous international performers. He was president of the North American Life Advertisers Association from 1975-1976. After retiring from London Life he worked as a freelance writer in the field of advertising and public relations and lived in Stratford, ON for several years. He was known for his love and appreciation of jazz music, forming friendships with several famous musicians. But most of all he was known throughout his life for his excellent sense of humour, as well as his deep love for family and friends. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

Rev. Canon Morris D. Murchison, BA’61, BTh’63 after a brief illness, Rev. Canon Morris D. Murchison, 73 years, passed away on March 24, 2008, in the Palliative Care Unit at Bluewater Health, Sarnia, ON, with his loving family by his side. Morris leaves behind his devoted and loving wife of 45 years, Nancy (Malpass), (Dip.PHN ’61), and his children Joanne and David and their families. Morris graduated from the University of Western Ontario and Huron College, London, ON. As a theological student he served in the Dioceses of Huron and Keewatin, and after graduation was accepted by the Diocese of Ottawa. He faithfully served the Anglican parishes of All Saints Sandy Hill, Ottawa, and as Rector of St. Peter’s, Ingleside, with Christ Church, Newington, and All Saints, Crysler. He was Rural Dean of Stormont Deanery. He held an Interim placement at St. Anne’s and St. Andrew’s, Bermuda. He returned to the Anglican Diocese of Huron as Rector of St. Matthew’s, London, and Holy Trinity, London. He was Chaplain to the Lay Reader’s and Chairman of the Third Age Committee of the Diocese. He retired as Rector of St. James the Apostle, Sarnia, after 22 years. He was made a Canon of St. Paul’s Cathedral, London, in 1994. He was appointed to the Mayor’s Honour List for his voluntary ministry of services implemented at Marshall Gowland Manor, Sarnia. Morris enjoyed travelling with his family and was a yearly guest for 16 years at St. George’s Cathedral, Jerusalem.

Kenneth C.G. Newton, MBA’64 passed away on Feb. 15, 2008 in St. Paul’s Hospital, Vancouver. Ken was born in Trail, BC September 25, 1933 and attended school in Trail and Penticton. He graduated from UBC with a BASc (Metallurgical) in 1956 and the University of Western Ontario with an MBA in 1964. Ken was active in the mining industry for most of his career. Ken, a lifelong bachelor, in retirement served on the executive of the Royal Canadian Legion and was a keen gardener.

Alan James Caldwell, BA’71 (Geography), passed away at Grey Bruce Health Services in Owen Sound, ON, on December 3, 2007 at the age of 59 years. Alan was an inspiring elementary school teacher for 30 years and was especially known for his passion for both vocal and instrumental music that he shared with thousands of young people. A perpetual scholarship has been established by the Owen Sound Kiwanis Festival of Music in memory of Alan and in recognition of his many years of involvement with that organization. Alan was also a devoted member of the Brotherhood of Anglican Churchmen. One of his favourite charities was Sleeping Children Around the World and over 40 bed-kits were donated to that charity in his memory. Left to mourn Alan’s passing are his children, Jeffrey, Matthew (Jocelyn), Amy (David) and their mother, Mary and many friends, colleagues, and former students.

Also, the couple says being close to Siskind-Kelly’s father, local businessman and former chair of Western’s Board of Governors, Bob Siskind, BA’88, LL.D’89, has proved invaluable.

“We learned a lot about starting a small business from Dad and have come to rely on him greatly as a business advisor,” said Siskind-Kelly. The best piece of advice he’s given them, she said, is to be comfortable in relinquishing some of the control as the business grows. “We’ve hired a great group of people that we trust and we have a ton of fun at work,” she said.

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“My experience in Africa has helped form the way I look at the world. What I saw in Africa confirmed the importance of play for all children. We need to remove the barriers and make play happen. A child living in Sudan is just as important as a child living in Toronto. There is sanctity to life and all of us can work to help one child at a time.”

While Laumann is now focused on kids and play, McBean is focused on helping Canada’s Olympians prepare for Beijing. She’s made five trips to China in the past year to help athletes focus on familiarization, simulation and testing with events and logistics. There would have been a lot less air travel for her if the Toronto 2008 bid she was a part of had been successful.

“Very strange to think that if we had won the Games would be in Toronto this summer. I still firmly believe the bid Toronto put together was going to be the better sport experience for the athletes, but Beijing will be a spectacular Games,” McBean commented.

What is the biggest difference with today’s Olympic rowers? “Right now in rowing there are no marquis athletes to drive people’s awareness of the sport. Silken really brought a focus to the sport of rowing. From there people saw (rowing partner) Kathleen (Heddle) and I win and win and win… they liked that, and I was a ‘chatty’ which didn’t hurt.”

Indeed, it is hard for today’s rowers to compete with the inspiring images of McBean and Laumann from the Barcelona and Atlanta Olympic Games. Since then, Canada’s best rowers have lived somewhat in the shadows of the Western alumnae. The 2004 Olympic silver medal men’s four shined in Athens, and there is again promise of gold on the horizon with the current Olympic men’s eight. But for now, these two prestigious alumnae continue to live large motivating a population to be active and inspired to live their dreams.

Lisa Lynam is a Victoria based freelance journalist and graduate of the School of Journalism (’93). She is author of Triathlon for Women – a mind-body-spirit approach for female athletes. She holds two Canadian Henley Rowing titles and credits her plunge onto the Western Rowing crew to both Laumann and McBean. Her favorite memories from Western include reciting the Ode to Western Rowing while kneeling to the ‘God Oar’ (posed by McBean dressed in a cloak, mask and holding an oar) and kissing a fish as part of the initiation ritual.

Marnie McBean enjoys ocean kayaking, and has participated in some adventure racing.
Words of advice for last summer at home

By Paul Wells, BA’89

My nephew Nick has been accepted to a fine university. Well, not Western, but fine all the same. I want to congratulate him and send him advice. Perhaps I should just congratulate him. I remember how much of a mood I was in to take advice from old people when I went to Western, and that was no mood at all. Basically I was leaving home and getting to eat dessert before the main course if I liked. Who needed advice?

Most of the advice you want to send when you're old is precisely the sort you're inclined to ignore when you're young. Study hard. Invest this time wisely now and it will pay off for the rest of your life. Have fun but not too much. Give your roommates a break and do your share of the housework. Yeah, yeah. Whatever. By Thanksgiving you're pulling all-nighters amid heaps of pizza crust and dirty laundry. Somehow things work out. Well, more or less.

When I think back to what was going on in my head during the long summer before my first year at Western, I shake my head that I even made it through Frosh Week. I didn't have a clue. I don't recall ever getting a clue later, although at some point there was a convocation, a gown and a diploma, so if nothing else I apparently learned to fake it.

That kid going off to school for the first time was so lost and hopeful and bewildered and brave I wish I could reach back and give him an encouraging word. Here's what I wish someone had told me. Here's what I want to tell Nick.

First, enjoy the summer. It will be long and humid and heavy with nostalgia, anxiety and anticipation. All of this is good. There is hard work ahead. When it begins you'll miss this time, so do something worth missing.

Second, about a week after school starts you'll be so homesick you can't believe it. This is good too, and it won't last. Before long — like, before Christmas — school will be home and home will be a strange place you sometimes visit on weekends. One day you'll miss the awful loneliness of being at school, you'll even manage to romanticize it, so try to get a head start on that feeling and enjoy university early, while it still sucks.

Never eat a package of hot sauce from Taco Bell for free. You can almost certainly find somebody who'll bet you a couple of bucks that you don't have the guts to eat a whole package of hot sauce from Taco Bell. You can use that money for something to drink, and you'll need it, because dude, you just ate hot sauce.

The people you meet at university will be your friends for life and the habits you form will be the way you do things forever. Well, not necessarily, I don't want to sound like the voice of Doom here, but it's a handy rule of thumb. I wrote this column leaning back in an office chair, feet up on the desk, with earphones playing jazz in my ears. That's how I used to write editorials for the Western Gazette 20 years ago. It shouldn't work but it works for me. There is not much you can do about this habit-forming thing except to notice it happening and maybe try to nudge it in helpful directions. It really will help you to learn to do work before deadline. I didn't, and 20 years later I'm still annoying my editors.

Be a gentleman.

The greatest people who ever lived spent their lives performing feats of discovery and creativity that will take your breath away, if you only take their work seriously. The most beautiful thing at university, with the possible exception of that girl who won't talk to you anyway, is the miracle of discovery. You don't have to admit this to anyone else, but don't deny it to yourself.

Wash whites separately. It's a pain and it costs a little extra, but if your T-shirts turn grey you'll never get them white again.

Everyone has at least one roommate who's a slob. They will talk about that roommate for the rest of their lives. Try not to be that roommate.

If you're working on a new problem, use a clean sheet of paper. All that white space represents order and possibility. These are virtues you'd really rather have on your side if you can arrange it.

All-nighters are counterproductive. You never do your best work after 3 a.m. You will pull lots of all-nighters anyway. So at least have good music ready.

These years will make the man you'll be, in a thousand good ways and bad. You'll miss this time for the rest of your life, in a good way, mostly. In hindsight these years will seem like one long final summer. Do something worth missing.
The future is theirs to create.  
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