ATHLETIC TRAINER JIM RAMSAY MENDS THE MILLION-DOLLAR BODIES OF THE NHL

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Entrepreneurs seeking to make it big get help from the eureka project, a small-business incubator on campus.

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ON THE COVER:
Jim Ramsay [BPE/87], head athletic trainer for the New York Rangers
Photo: Rebecca Taylor/MSG photos
The Alumni Association Inc. of the University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

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OnManitoba
VOLUME 67, #3 DECEMBER 2007

The Alumni Association Inc. of the University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada
“I-am-Canadian”
Living outside of Canada, I look forward to receiving my On Manitoba magazine. It reminds me of my university years...

(This reader wrote the following poem.)

I-am-Canadian
Hear the crush of winter’s blinding white snow under foot,
Feel the crisp cold air on your face,
Watch as the sky explodes into the brilliant Aurora Borealis.

In spring, the air is fresh with the sound of running spring waters,
Taste the clarity and brilliance of icy snow melt streams,
Walk the towering mountains, gaze at the aqua blue of the mineral lakes.

Wonder at the rainbows over yellow gold of endless summer prairie fields,
Patiently watch the deep blue sky turn into blazing oranges and reds,
And then into the twinkling diamonds of the night time summer sky.

Taste the succulent bright flavours of the fruits, vegetables, and wines of harvest,
Watch the greens of mighty oaks, maples, and birch turn to the reds, oranges, and yellows
That mother nature uses to paint her amazing canvases of life.

If you travel the vastness of Canada, and experience its wonders,
From the adventurous Pacific Coast,
Into the cultures of the Canadian French and Native Indians,
And onto the merriments of the Atlantic Maritimes...

You will feel as I do, proud to be Canadian.

Writers, editors and crew, thank you for producing On Manitoba; it is a quality publication and a good read.

Stacy David Thurston [BA/98]
Foster City, CA

See you at Homecoming 2008

Dear sir/madam,
I would like to thank you for sharing the current news with me. I am planning to participate in homecoming next year. Please, keep on sending me the alumni news.
The news is very interesting and I appreciate all your efforts to keep it going.
Thank you very much.

Yours sincerely,

Isaac Olarewaju [Med/86]
Lagos, Nigeria

Thanks Leona!
If you have called or visited Alumni House during the last year, you probably spoke with Leona Bergson. Our office assistant for a one-year term, Bergson covered for Denise Proulx, who was on maternity leave. Bergson was a valuable asset to our group. She has a great work ethic and outstanding organization skills, in addition to a good sense of humour. We wish Bergson and her family all the best in the future. Proulx returns to Alumni House in January 2008.

It’s official
Alumni Association president Brian Bowman [BA(Adv)/96] and University of Manitoba vice-president (external) Elaine Goldie are pleased to announce the appointment of Julie Mikuska [BA/80] as executive director of the Association and director of alumni affairs for the university has been made permanent, effective Oct. 29, 2007.
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How academics and athletics rate a double A grade at the University of Manitoba

This September, I tossed the coin that began the Homecoming football game between the Bison and the Calgary Dinos. It was a beautiful fall afternoon – perfect for football – and our squad didn’t disappoint as they marched to victory in front of more than 4,000 roaring fans.

I have long been a supporter of Bison sports. Our athletes bring excitement to the campus. They build camaraderie among the student fans and bolster our university’s reputation as a centre for excellence, because it takes brains to set strategy, control one’s pace, and focus the will to win. Not surprisingly, many of our student athletes match their on-field success with their performance in the classroom.

Canadian Interuniversity Sport released its list of Academic All-Canadians for 2006-07 earlier this year. I am proud to say that the University of Manitoba had 68 names on that list – tying the record we set in 2006. Fully 22 per cent of our Bison athletes made the cut, and it is worth noting that 29 of those athletes won in previous years as well. (The complete list appears in Bison News, page 14.)

To be deemed an Academic All-Canadian, one must have a minimum course load of 18 credit hours and maintain a GPA of 3.5 or better for the academic year in which one is nominated. I doubt that every collegiate athlete expects to go on to play sports professionally, but even among those who do, many have the wisdom to earn degrees beforehand. Certainly our Bison athletes know that they should not place all their eggs in one basket. They come to university as students first, and here they pursue their dreams as scholars and athletes.

The academic-athletic relationship features prominently in this issue of On Manitoba. Our cover profile, Jim Ramsay, dreamed of playing professional hockey in the National Hockey League. When he questioned his skill set as an athlete, he decided to find another path to stay connected to what he loved. Ramsay studied athletic therapy at the University of Manitoba and was hired by the Winnipeg Jets shortly after graduation. Today, he is in his 13th season as athletic trainer for the NHL’s New York Rangers, and he won a gold medal at the 2002 Salt Lake City Olympics as head athletic trainer for the Team Canada men’s hockey squad. That is outstanding achievement indeed.

Dana and Shannon Hoogsteen, who happen to be identical twins, are in their fifth season of playing for the Bison women’s hockey team, and they share the spotlight in this issue’s Bright Futures profile. They have maintained focus on their studies, for Dana plans on teaching high school math and Shannon plans to be a nurse. At the same time these young women have racked up several academic and athletic scholarships as well as other awards between them. They are also both multiple Academic All-Canadians. They are winners creating their future, and their horizons are unlimited.

Dana and Shannon Hoogsteen and Jim Ramsay are examples of people who have pursued their personal and professional dreams by focusing on their talents. It takes self-discipline to be successful in anything, and self-discipline in combination with a good mind creates success in the classroom as well as in athletics. There is great beauty in a good mind lodged in a sound body, and our student athletes epitomize the best in a holistic approach to life. I take great pleasure in their successes, and thank our athletes for making the light of the University of Manitoba shine ever brighter through their achievements.

EMŐKE J.E. SZATHMÁRY, CM, PhD
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- **Romel Dhalla** (term expires in 2009)
- **Gwen Hatch** (term expires in 2010)

Nominations are accepted annually. To nominate a candidate for a position on the board of governors, please submit to the Alumni Association the signatures of 25 graduates and written consent of the nominee. Each graduate must clearly print their name, sign the form and include their alumni number. Alumni numbers should appear on your On Manitoba magazine label.

Voting ballots will appear in the April issue of On Manitoba. (Make sure the Alumni Association has your most recent address information.) Additional voting information will be provided on the Alumni Association website at [umanitoba.ca/alumni](http://umanitoba.ca/alumni).

For more information, call the Alumni Association toll-free (800) 668-4908 or locally at (204) 474-9946 or by e-mail at alumni@umalumni.mb.ca.

For more information about the board of governors, visit [umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/bog/index.html](http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/bog/index.html).

To download a nomination form, visit [http://umanitoba.ca/alumni/governance/governors.html](http://umanitoba.ca/alumni/governance/governors.html).

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**You** can nominate a graduate from the University of Manitoba for the Alumni Association’s highest honour.

**Nominees must demonstrate:**
- Outstanding professional achievement
- Significant service to the University of Manitoba
- Significant contributions to the community and welfare of others

**Deadline is** **Feb. 25, 2008**

For more information or to download a nomination form, visit [www.umanitoba.ca/alumni/daa](http://www.umanitoba.ca/alumni/daa) or call toll-free (800) 668-4908 or locally (204) 474-9946

The 2008 Distinguished Alumni Award recipient will be honoured at the fall 2008 convocation.

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Distinguished Alumni Award

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Events

A GOLDEN STATE GET TOGETHER

About 100 University of Manitoba graduates joined us for a reception at the residence of Canada’s Consul General to Los Angeles Alain Dudoit. Guest speaker Monty Hall shared many fond memories of his prairie alma mater.

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA NIGHT AT CANWEST GLOBAL PARK

(Left) Bowman threw the ceremonial pitch to open the Aug. 27 game between the Winnipeg Goldeyes and the Calgary Vipers.

(Top) Goldeyes general manager Andrew Collier (BComm/Hons)/92, Billy the Bison, Goldeyes pitcher Dustin Pease, Alumni Association president Brian Bowman (BA(Adv)/96) and Goldeyes’ mascot Goldie.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD RECEPTION

Graduates gathered at the University Club to celebrate the outstanding professional and volunteer achievements of our 2007 Distinguished Alumni Award recipient – Ian Smith.

2007 Distinguished Alumni Award winner Ian Smith (BSc/61, MSc/62) (far right) with Jaimee Devlin, Rod Smith (his son) and Eva Smith (his wife).

Clara Nelson (BA/39) and faculty of arts dean Richard Sigurdson (BA/80, MA/83)

Joanne Kulachok (BSc(CE)/80) and Jeff Levy

Dr. Mary Ozohan-Camacho (BSc(Med)/68, MD/68) and her husband Andy.

Special guest Monty Hall speaks to the crowd.

Director of development and advancement for Bannatyne Campus Barbara Becker, Zarene Au (BSc(Pharm)/01), Tommie Au (BSc(EE)/74) and Ethan Emberley (BSc(Hons)/98, PhD/05)

Reid Linney (BSc(Hons)/73), Collin Brown (BSc/63) and Brian Macpherson (BSc/60, MSc/63)

Consul general Alain Dudoit, vice-president (external) Elaine Goldie, Monty Hall (BSc/46, LLD/87) and Alumni Association president Brian Bowman (BA(Adv)/96)
Events

PAN-CANADIAN GATHERING
PLANNED FOR 2008

Plan to attend the Pan-Canadian Gala in Atlanta, GA, Feb. 28, 2008. Guest speaker Daniel J. Levitin (author, musician and psychology professor at McGill University) will talk about things like earworms – they’re those tunes that get stuck in your head for days on end – and why music makes your brain happy. For more details, visit umanitoba.ca/alumni/events/index.html.

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MARCH 2, 2008:
UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA
DAY WITH THE
MANITOBA MOOSE

Tickets purchased through Ticketmaster will include a pass to skate with the Manitoba Moose players at MTS Centre. Visit umanitoba.ca/alumni/events/index.html for more details.
GOOD TO BE HOME

A Bison win, an engineering centennial, a reunion dinner 600-strong and a luncheon that brought together graduates from seven decades ago. These were just some of the events that made Homecoming 2007 a week to remember.

Bison fans wear their brown and gold pride on their sleeves...shirts...socks...

Bison quarterback John Mackie prepares to launch a pass.

Bison cheerleaders fire up the crowd.

The engineering band provided the soundtrack to Homecoming 2007.

Graduates from the engineering class of 1947 gather for a photo. Left to right: Nicholas Bachynski [BSc(EE)], Les Wardrop [BSc(EE)/39, BSc(CE)/47, DSc/06], Findlay Thomson [BSc(CE)/47], Harold Riddick [BSc(EE)/47], Harry Warren [BSc(CE)/47] and Stanley Eagleton [BSc(CE)/47]

Anne Swystun-Neufeld [BSc/47, CertEd/75, BEd/76, Med/79] and Nadia Negrich [BSc(HEc)/37, BEd/58, MEd/72] greet each other at the President’s Luncheon.

Admit One
Members of the University of Manitoba Engineering Society council strike a pose.

Cheers! Engineer grads Donald K. Johnson [BSc(EE)/57] and Wayne Silver [BSc(EE)/80] raise their glasses.

Comedian Dean Jenkinson [BES/91] emceed the Reunion Dinner.

Left to right: Charles Tinman, Alumni Association executive director Julie Mikuska [BA/80], Lindsey Wiebe [BComm(Hons)/01] and Francis Hanlon [BSc(Maj)/84, MBA/91] sing along to On Manitoba.

Class of 1992 graduates from the School of Medical Rehabilitation were at Bannatyne campus for a reunion. Front row left to right: Sunny DeBuca (nee Prosser) [BMR(OT)/92], Carol Scott [BMR(OT)/92], Deborah Rokosh [BMR(OT)/92], Brenda Souza [BMR(OT)/92], Lisa Forbes-Duchart [BMR(OT)/92].

Back row left to right: Erin Murray [BMR(PT)/92], Jacqueline Ripat [BMR(OT)/92], MSc/95, Candy Mfg Ltd.

Jean Coke [BSc(HEc)/37] and Rebeca Tsonen [BSc(HEc)/] share a smile at the President’s Luncheon.

Brenda Austin-Smith is about to embark on a research trip across Canada so emotional she’ll need to bring along some hankies. That’s because the University of Manitoba film studies professor is interviewing women from across the country ages 60 and up who went to sad movies in the 1930s, 40s and 50s.

“Weepies” were a popular movie genre that began during Hollywood’s golden age. These chick flicks of yesteryear were highly charged melodramas that featured a tragic heroine suffering from terrible hardship such as doomed love, terminal disease, or the loss of a child.

“And yet women went to see them in droves,” says Austin-Smith. “This period was also a time of major upheaval, including things like the Great Depression and the Second World War. Women had to be very strong, and in some cases, the theatre became the only place they could find comfort and release.”

Austin-Smith has already spoken with many local women who watched the tear-jerker films. With funding from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, she is now expanding her research across Canada. Austin-Smith wants to know what women’s lives were like at the time and the degree to which they identified with the sad starlets on the silver screen. It is believed she is the first researcher to study the impact of these handkerchief heavy hitters. Austin-Smith is also interested in the decline in popularity of weepies in the late 1950s. In a recent interview with the Globe and Mail, she revealed her top 10 weepies of all time. The list included: Madame X, Love Story, Terms of Endearment and Beaches.

Anyone interested in participating in this study can contact Austin-Smith via e-mail at basmith@ms.umanitoba.ca. For more information, go to youtube.com and enter Brenda-Austin Smith to find her informational video.

About a dozen University of Manitoba law students developed an innovative project that provides legal information to aboriginals who were in the residential school system.

The group, some belonging to the university’s Aboriginal Law Students’ Association, spent this summer volunteering their time and expertise on reserves throughout Manitoba. They held free workshops about the federal government’s Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement.

“We’re helping those people who don’t normally get access,” says Calla Coughlan, law student and program coordinator for Pro Bono Students of Canada – Manitoba (PBSC). “The Settlement impacts many survivors’ lives; it’s critical they understand it.”

The workshops covered topics such as protecting finances, including information on signing authority, shared bank accounts, and what constitutes fraud and theft. “Since many survivors are elderly, we are also answering general questions regarding the creation of wills,” adds Coughlan.

PBSC is a student volunteer organization that focuses on philanthropy and public interest law. The Law Foundation of Manitoba helped cover travel costs.
A program that’s had students helping students at the University of Manitoba for 20 years is holding a reunion this spring.

Event organizers want to bring former peers together to celebrate friendships made while volunteering for the program Peers: Students Helping Students.

“I’m really excited to be a part of this weekend event,” says Heather Morris, chair of their steering committee and a former volunteer. “I think it will be an excellent opportunity for those who have been a part of the peer program over the past 20 years to reunite and reminisce about their experiences and reflect on the contribution this has made in their present lives.”

The program is a confidential, one-on-one resource for students who need help with anything from health issues to learning English as a second language. Peer volunteers also offer a friendly ear.

Student Affairs and the University of Manitoba Students’ Union provide funding for the program. Every year, organizers recruit a new batch of students willing to commit 100 hours.

The reunion is scheduled for May 8 and 9, 2008.

If you are a current or former peer or peer advisor, the student program would like to hear from you. For more information, contact Heather Morris at heather_morris@umanitoba.ca. A reunion website is in the works. For more details, phone 204.474.6696 or e-mail peer@umsu.ca.

The University of Manitoba launched a new marketing campaign built around more than a dozen student and alumni blogs. These weekly web diaries are designed to give first-hand accounts of how the school is helping them succeed.

The campaign began in October and has 17 students and alumni – athletes, artists, scientists and engineers – sharing their stories at www.itsmyfuture.ca. The selection process involved a university-wide call for nominations and in-depth interviews.

“What stood out in the interviews was how many students changed their focus after (University 1),” says public affairs officer Erin Carter. “They spoke about how U1 gave them the opportunity to explore more options – courses they never would have taken otherwise. Even some of the alumni mentioned they wished U1 was around when they started at the U of M.”
Bison athletes excel in the classroom

Sixty-eight Bison athletes were named Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) Academic All-Canadians in 2006-07.

Many were multiple winners, including Christopher Hrynkow and Janelle Vincent, who have earned the honour during each of their five consecutive years of eligibility.

“These young men and women are such great role models for the youth of our city,” Bison Sports athletic director Coleen Dufresne says. “Excelling both academically and athletically, these student athletes demonstrate the Bison philosophy. I’m very proud of their accomplishments and congratulate all of them.”

Here are the 2006-07 University of Manitoba CIS Academic All-Canadians:

**Women’s basketball**
Laura Churley
Riley Epp
Sarah Holder
Michele Hynes
Melanie Schlichter

**Women’s hockey**
Chelsea Braun
Amy Coates
Erica Holmes
Dana Hoogsteen
Shannon Hoogsteen
Amanda Schnell
Christina Shchchyk
Laura Tully

**Men’s swimming**
Christopher Santos
Braeden Taylor

**Men’s track and field**
Kristian Andres
William Bell
Joel Charriere
Barret Hildebrandt
Jesse Howatt
Christopher Hrynkow
David Kelly
Patrick Kelly
Rory McIntyre
Andrew Schellenberg

**Golf**
Brian Buffie
Scott Markham
Kyle Scott
Lucas Skelton
Chantal Vleifaure

**Men’s hockey**
Wade Davidson
Chris Falloon
Colin Lafreniere
Rob Smith
Aaron Starr
Kip Workman

**Women’s soccer**
Camilla Bereznay
Lianna Bestvater
Kathryn Ateah
Jennifer Campbell
Nancy Feir
Chera Kirkpatrick
Jennifer McLaren
Tristen Perras

**Football**
Steve Gronick

**Women’s swimming**
Stephanie Andruchuk
Whitney Reed
Sarah Stowell
Landice Yeatman

**Women’s track and field**
Jana Cassidy
Amanda Drebert
Sarah Hornan
Elayna Hurtig
Kja Isaacson
Diana King
Clarise Kah Aeng Lim
Laura Morton
Nadine Pohl
Janelle Vincent
Erin Wanner
Meaghan Woo

**Men’s volleyball**
Josh Klassen

**Women’s volleyball**
Katie Davidson
Carly Ewert
Lauren Mackenzie
Amy Matthews
Erin Nieuwenburg

Bison running back Karim Lowen looks for a running lane behind his blocker. The Bison football squad, who finished the 2007-08 regular season undefeated, set a team record with 17 consecutive regular season wins dating back to the last game of the 2005 season.

Bison Sports wants every student athlete at the University of Manitoba to receive scholarship support towards their education.

They’re launching the Bison Capital Campaign with the goal of providing each Bison athlete a minimum scholarship of $3,000.

Their goal is to increase each sport’s endowment fund over the next five years so they can be sustained forever. They hope stronger scholarships will help recruit more top athletes to the university.

Local businessmen Ross Robinson [BA/70], president of B.A. Robinson Co. Ltd., and Johnston Group Inc. president David Johnson will co-chair the campaign. Robinson donated $100,000 to kick start the endowment fund.

**SPORThS SCHOLARSHIPS FOR EVERYONE**

For more information: umanitoba.ca/bisons
HERD HEADS NORTH

Bison women’s basketball players recently got a lesson from an aboriginal elder about the significance of their team logo.

During a September visit to Skownan First Nation – located 320 kilometres north of Winnipeg – the women took part in Buffalo teachings to learn the importance of the animal emblazoned on their jerseys. It was the second time the players made the trek to the northern community since the 2006 launch of the program Running with the Bison. The partnership aims to promote education and sports among aboriginal youth and their community.

“The Running with the Bison program continues to grow and flourish,” says Bison women’s basketball head coach Pam Danis. “This visit is a continuation of the relationship started with Skownan last year.”

The program also aims to “educate the university and its members about aboriginal culture, the challenges it faces and what the culture has to offer mainstream society,” adds Darrell Cole [MSW/96], executive director of project partner Career Trek. During the trip, Career Trek announced a $5,000 grant to create sports programs in Skownan First Nation. The grant was given as part of a True Sport Community Fund.

WELCOME BACK

It’s a homecoming of sorts for Curt Warkentin.

The University of Manitoba graduate was recently named assistant athletic director for Bison Sports. Warkentin, who graduated from the faculty of physical education and recreational studies in 1992, comes to campus from the Canadian Mennonite University (CMU) where he was director of athletics and head coach of the men’s basketball team.

“I am thrilled to be joining the Bison Sports team,” says Warkentin. “I hope my passion for both education and athletics will result in the furthering of the academic and athletic success of all Bison athletes and teams.”

While at CMU, Warkentin was given the 2006-07 basketball coach of the year award by the Association of Christian College Athletics. He has coached the game for nearly two decades at the provincial and club level both here in Manitoba and in Ontario.
Physics and astronomy researcher Samar Safi-Harb has stars in her eyes — or more specifically, exploding stars.

One of Canada’s leading high-energy astrophysicists, Safi-Harb was recently awarded a new Canada Research Chair (CRC) in supernova astrophysics. She’s conducting X-ray studies on supernova remnants, which are the parts that remain after a supernova explodes. She wants to understand how they energize their surroundings and contribute to our galaxy’s dynamics, evolution and chemical enrichment.

Her chair brings the total number of CRCs at the University of Manitoba to 49. Also announced in September was the renewal of Distinguished Prof. Frank C. Hawthorne’s existing CRC in crystallography and mineralogy for another seven years.

The University of Manitoba continues to be at the leading edge of population-based cancer research. In August 2007, two teams led by U of M scientists were among only seven in Canada awarded funding under the Access to Quality Cancer Care New Emerging Teams program of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research.

One project is led by Prof. Brenda Elias and Donna Turner, both of the community health sciences department. Turner is also an epidemiologist with CancerCare Manitoba.

Together they are investigating access to quality cancer care and control for First Nations populations. While Canada has a well-established system of provincial cancer registries, no process exists to disseminate cancer-related information that meets the specific needs of First Nations communities. To rectify this, Elias and Turner have established The Knowledge Translation Net Team, which will work with various groups, policy makers and the province’s First Nations population to identify the role of primary care providers in improving outcomes and quality of care for patients with colorectal cancer. Katz heads up The Primary Care Oncology Research Network, a collaborative team that includes family physicians, nurses, cancer specialists, epidemiologists and cancer survivors.

The network will focus on specific aspects of colorectal cancer relevant to primary care, including: the role of family members in decision making for screening, community-based nursing support for family physicians in promoting screening, and transfer of follow-up care from cancer specialists to family physicians after acute treatment. The team will receive $1.4 million during the next five years.

Settling in at a new school is hard enough at the best of times, but it’s particularly tough for refugee children trying to adapt to a new country and a new way of life.

Identifying the educational needs of African refugee students and what institutions must do to integrate them into their new societies is the focus of an innovative study by Prof. Yatta Kanu, who works in the curriculum, teaching and learning department at the University of Manitoba. She is investigating ways to foster educational success for the large populations of African refugees who come to Manitoba every year.

In June 2007, Kanu’s study was one of 17 new research projects at the U of M awarded a combined $1.47 million in new funding from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

In recent years, western countries have seen unprecedented growth in refugee populations. A lack of effective programs for refugee students has led to a rise in school dropout rates. Kanu’s study aims to curb this trend by finding ways to help refugee children stay in school and succeed.
Street names like Research Road and Innovation Drive offer clues about the cluster of buildings on the southwest corner of the University of Manitoba’s Fort Garry campus.

This is Smartpark: a place where ideas and the market meet. High-tech tenants like BASF, Monsanto and Cangene have set up shop close to scores of innovative minds whose discoveries might yield the next big thing. Smartpark is built around four industries: information and communications technology, engineering and advanced materials, health and biotechnology, and agricultural and nutritional sciences.

On this 100-acre plot of land, U of M research gets commercialized and, ideally, the big minds behind the even bigger ideas stay in Manitoba.

But what happens if a researcher doesn’t want to peddle their product to a large company? Suppose they get the entrepreneurial bug and want to take their idea from the basement to the boardroom themselves. Rather than miss out on these smaller-scale opportunities, Smartpark created the eureka project, an incubator which helps start-up companies go from cellar to stellar.

The program offers participants professional space (their own turnkey office within its facility at Smartpark), business tools (a computer and Internet-access) and advice (from fellow Smartpark tenants and the project’s director) – all at a price that won’t sink the ship before it even gets out of harbour. According to eureka project director Gary Brownstone, there’s good reason for the university to invest in the little guy.

“There’s an entrepreneurial renaissance taking place in Manitoba,” says Brownstone, who ran an entrepreneurship program at Red River College for five years before joining eureka project prior to its launch in January 2007.

“I try to attract the best in the world to Mosaic so it will be a leading journal in what we do,” says McCance, currently on leave from the headship of the University of Manitoba’s department of religion. “Publish the best and the people will want to read it.”

McCance has hosted two international conferences since becoming editor eight years ago, both drawing hundreds of people and the best keynote speakers she could find. “I think this too has been a way of attracting top scholars to Mosaic,” she says.

After forty years of publication, Mosaic lines the shelves in more than 500 major university and college libraries but McCance says the journal is still a work in progress.

“Every time you achieve what you might call a milestone then you have to ask yourself the question again: Where do we go from now on?”
I’ve had some amazing athletes come through my door.
Jim Ramsay's first faceoff in the National Hockey League pitted the 23-year-old rookie against a legend of the game.

Prepared to tape an injured hand, Ramsay approached Winnipeg Jets great Dale Hawerchuk with nerves so frazzled he couldn’t make eye contact. (Here was Ramsay, a former freight elevator operator at Eatons department store, about to treat Dale ‘Ducky’ Hawerchuk – a player who eventually tallied 1,409 points during his 16-year NHL career.) Ramsay didn’t realize it but his whole body was shaking. Hawerchuk intervened: “Hey, relax, it’s just a wrist.”

With that, Ramsay laughed, the mood in the Winnipeg Jets training room lightened and he set to task as the team’s new athletic trainer. “The fact that Hawerchuk noticed that I was fairly nervous in dealing with him and his ability to put me at ease was kinda perfect and perfect timing,” says Ramsay, now in his 13th season as head athletic trainer for the New York Rangers. The Hawerchuk encounter was not the first right-person-at-the-right-time moment in Ramsay’s life; he’s had many. It’s what Ramsay makes of these opportunities that really tell his story – from his first meeting with an athletic trainer as a 17-year-old kid with a knee injury to the day more than a decade ago when he jumped on a plane from Winnipeg bound for the Big Apple.

Ramsay, 42, grew up in Toronto, Ont., the way a lot of Canadian kids do – consumed by the game of hockey and hell-bent on one day playing in the NHL. Wearing his Toronto Maple Leafs pajamas, young Ramsay spent many nights watching his favourite team on Hockey Night in Canada. Ramsay’s family (his parents, two brothers and one sister) moved to Winnipeg, Man., just as he was heading into Grade 9. His skate blades chipping at the ice, Ramsay raced on the rinks of his Southdale neighbourhood, determined to one day play alongside his hockey heroes. (Ramsay was a defenseman for the St. Boniface Saints from 1983 to 1986.)

He was in his late teens and playing at a considerably high level of hockey – tier II junior – but reality soon set in. He was not good enough to go pro. “At the age of probably 17 or 18 I realized that, y’know, that dream wasn’t gonna happen and I had to find another way to get into the NHL,” Ramsay says from the Rangers training facility in Tarrytown, N.Y. “I was one of the few that faced the reality early.”

A knee injury at 17 led him to athletic therapist Pat Clayton and a new road to the NHL.

Clayton, who worked for the Winnipeg Blue Bombers, tended to Ramsay’s strained MCL (medial collateral ligament). Ramsay used the rehab sessions to chat with Clayton about his job. He thought it was pretty cool that there was a way to work in pro sports with pro athletes without being one himself. (Years later, Ramsay and Clayton would meet again at the 2001 World Hockey Championships in Germany. Both were on the medical staff for the Team Canada men’s squad. “I told (Clayton), ‘You’re one of the reasons why I am where I am today.’”)

When Ramsay calls for his interview with On Manitoba, he is late by more than an hour. A quick apology and matter-of-fact explanation follows: He got tied up tending to “Jags.”

Jaromir “Jags” Jagr is captain of the New York Rangers; his salary last season was more like a lottery jackpot than a paycheque. Ramsay’s day-to-day routine involves monitoring and mending million-dollar superstars. “I’ve had some amazing athletes come through my door,” says the trainer better known as Rammer. “I’ve treated Wayne Gretzky, Mark
Messier, Brendan Shanahan. We have a great medical team within our organization and they make my job easy. To have the support of these guys gives anybody the confidence in doing what they have to do every day, dealing with guys like Jaromir Jagr, who have a huge financial impact on the organization.”

There’s a part of Ramsay’s story – somewhere in between Pat Clayton and the New York Rangers – that involves the University of Manitoba. As a student, Ramsay again found himself surrounded by agents of opportunity: the right people, the right time. He enrolled in the university’s faculty of physical education when the curriculum was conveniently shifting to create an accredited athletic therapy program. Although Ramsay describes his university education as “invaluable,” he admits most of his time was spent volunteering off campus at the Pan Am Clinic.

My years in New York were special and Jim made it a pleasure to come to the rink each and every day. – Wayne Gretzky

That’s where he met a number of his early mentor therapists like Phil Rizutto [BPE/81], Bruce Marshall and Stan Szumlak, who worked with hockey players from the American and the Western Hockey Leagues. Some of the Winnipeg Jets were also treated onsite by the clinic’s chief executive officer Dr. Wayne Hildahl [MD/74] and Dr. Brian Lukie [MD/80]. “A lot of the Jets: Jim Nill, Jim Kyte, Doug Smail, Laurie Boschman, Thomas Steen – all those guys were coming through the door,” Ramsay says. “So for someone like me it was like, ‘Are you kidding me?’

“I actually got to lay hands on these guys.”

Ramsay was hired by the Pan Am Clinic after graduating in 1987. (He was the first in his family to earn a degree.) Two years later, the Jets athletic trainer Chuck Badcock suffered a heart attack and the team needed someone to help out while he recovered. Hildahl and Lukie tipped Ramsay off about the position since he had worked with many of the Jets at the clinic. “They knew that’s where I wanted to be...involved with pro hockey,” recalls Ramsay, who told his dad he’d end up in the NHL someday. “I was fairly young and fairly green coming into the door to basically my fantasy job.”

Toronto-born Ramsay considers Winnipeg his hometown. Working for the Jets in the “hockey-oriented” city was a treat for Ramsay, who describes himself and younger brother Jeff as “hockey fanatics.” He may not have been a star like the players but people recognized Ramsay from seeing him on the bench. “It’s a little flattering to be in a grocery store and someone says to you, ‘That was a tough one last night.’ That was always cool, to be able to talk about hockey 24-7.”

But for every up there is a down.

During the summer of 1994, Ramsay got his first lesson in the business of the NHL when the Jets didn’t renew his contract. The team relocated to Phoenix, AZ, two years later. “Before the Jets left they let some people go from the organization and unfortunately I was part of that process.”

For the New York Rangers, the summer of 1994 was a time to bask in the glory of a Stanley Cup win – their first in 54 years. But change was brewing. Mike Keenan, the coach who led the squad to victory, left abruptly. Associate coach Colin Campbell (who is now the league’s executive vice-president and director of hockey operations) took the helm. Campbell needed to fill key roles on the team going into the new season, including head athletic trainer.

When Ramsay learned about the Rangers opening, he knew he wanted the job. He tapped every resource he could think of, calling guys like Tie Domi and Chris King, two Jets who used to play for New York, hoping they might help him secure an interview. Campbell selected Ramsay over two other candidates. He remembers the day he got the call. “I was in a little studio apartment on Grant Avenue when the phone rang and it was Colin Campbell. He said, ‘How soon can you get here?’ and I was like ‘Tomorrow if you send me a ticket,’” Ramsay recalls. “So, my mom and everyone helped me pack up and out the door I went and the rest is history; I’ve been here ever since.”

Ramsay works with a team of trainers, surgeons, medical consultants and equipment managers. He and assistant trainer Bruce Lifrieri stand on the bench for every Rangers game, ready to respond to on-ice incidents involving their guys. They get in the players faces – in the dressing room, on the bus, at the hotel – and keep constant tabs on their physical, mental and emotional well-being. Ramsay’s responsibility often extends beyond the athlete. “We end up dealing with the wives, the kids and y’know, mom, who is in from (the Czech Republic) and has a cold,” he says. “We all travel together so we’re kinda like one big family.”

While Ramsay spends plenty of quality time with the Rangers crew, the intensity of his job, combined with constant travel, keep him away from his own wife and kids during the season. He has two boys and a girl: Mason, 15, lives in Winnipeg with his mom, Ramsay’s ex-wife; Sloane,
Jim Ramsay
[BPE/87]

**His passion (other than hockey):** Classic cars. When he turned 40, his wife bought him a 1964 Porsche 356.

**Favourite musician:** Neil Young

**Pre-game ritual:** “I always make sure my shoes are spotless and I drink a cup of coffee on the bench before each game in honour of Ash.” (Larry Ashley, an athletic trainer for the Vancouver Canucks and mentor to Ramsay, died of cancer in 1995. He was 42.)
Ramsay’s seven-year-old daughter, and four-year-old son Chase live with Ramsay and his wife Anita in Westchester County, N.Y.) “I know for a fact it strained my first marriage to the point of no return,” he admits. “It’s a tough life my family leads.” Ramsay spends what little spare time he has with his wife and kids. Summers are especially important to them.

On the job, Ramsay faces a different set of challenges, dealing with elite athletes playing a full-speed, full-contact sport. As a trainer, you get close to the players and ride the tide of their fortune or misfortune; Ramsay experienced this working with Rangers goalie and pal Mike Richter. “He was just an amazing, acrobatic goalie in incredible physical shape,” Ramsay says. “One of the top goalies in the National Hockey League.”

Richter’s style of play took its toll on his body and he would eventually go through two ACL (anterior cruciate ligament) reconstructions on both knees. Ramsay helped his friend return to the ice and then he witnessed the unthinkable — a slap shot to the head that fractured Richter’s skull and ended his career. “Being part of that was an emotional rollercoaster because you’re watching a very good friend of yours. Everything he’s done, his career, is now over.”

Ramsay credits much of his success to being at the right place at the right time. But none of that matters if you can’t do the job. Gretzky, known as the Great One, believes Ramsay has a greatness of his own. “Jim Ramsay certainly fits into the category of the great people in hockey. In all of my years playing and coaching, I have met few people with the professionalism, dedication, and kindness of Jim.” John Hayward, who taught Ramsay at the University of Manitoba, also gushed about his former student: “I would suggest he’s the best athletic trainer in the NHL.”

Ramsay invites a handful of athletic therapy students from the U of M to the Rangers training facility every year during the Christmas break. “Every kid who goes there comes back with stories,” Hayward says. “They’re getting the benefit of the doubt because of Rammer. You’re with Rammer, you matter.”

Ramsay, who calls himself an old soul in a young body, feels like every day on the job is a dream. His ultimate goal? To win a Stanley Cup with the Rangers. His wife is convinced he’ll never leave the ice. Perhaps she’s right. “When I die, I want to be cremated and have my ashes strewn on the rink and have the Zamboni pick me up,” Ramsay says. “That’s how I wanna go.”

Jim Ramsay and colleagues pose with Mark Messier prior to his final NHL game (March 31, 2004, at Madison Square Garden). Left to right: Jim “Beets” Johnson, Scott Devenney, Joe Van Ness, Jim Ramsay, Mike Van Ness, Mark Messier, Cass Marques, Joe Devenney, Bruce Lifrieri, Billy Southard. (Photo: Rebecca Taylor/MSG photos)
• He’s the most cited geologist in the world of the past decade.
• Both he and his wife, Elena Sokolova, are researchers here at the university and have minerals that bear their names: Frankhawthorneite and Sokolavaite.

Here’s what else we learned...

Years teaching at the University of Manitoba: I came to the university in 1973 to do my post-doctorate work with Bob Ferguson and I’ve remained ever since. I’ve been on staff since 1984.

Area of expertise: Minerals.

Something others may not know about you: I am very interested in poetry, history and biography, particularly when they all come together.

If you weren’t a geologist, you would be: A writer.

Greatest strength: Wanting to think about things, objectively.

Greatest weakness: I have an addictive personality. I used to drink 15 cups of coffee and smoke 60 cigarettes a day.

Favourite musical artist: Pink Floyd.

Favourite place to visit: Rome, Italy. Everyone there is so cheerful. They’ve also got great architecture and good coffee.

Happiness is: Thinking about things. The main part of life goes on inside your head, not outside.

Greatest accomplishment (It’s a work in progress): I’ve spent the past 25 years trying to understand minerals and their behaviour from first principles. I try to think about a mineral and how it should be, rather than simply measure a mineral and then test it against existing axioms (general statements that apply to all objects of a particular type).

Favourite book: Brideshead Revisited by Evelyn Waugh.

Hobbies: Art and music; I love to experience and read about both. I like going for walks as well.

Who you admire most in life: Isaac Newton and John Keats.

The best thing about geology: Being able to understand how the world works. Seeing a rainbow is fascinating to me. But if I understand why it’s there, that incredibly enhances the experience of actually seeing it.

Your motto: Go for it.

Some awards/recognition received:
• 2006 – Named an officer of the Order of Canada
• 2006 – Elected foreign member of the Russian Academy of Sciences
• 1997 – Won the Winnipeg Rh Institute Foundation Award for Excellence in Research
• 1993 – Won the Willet G. Miller Medal, Royal Society of Canada
• 1990 – Elected fellow, Royal Society of Canada
Making a judgement call

For Lynn Smith, it’s all about fairness

Whether on the gymnastics floor at a world championship in Germany or behind her desk at the University of Manitoba, Lynn Smith needs to be pragmatic.

The U of M executive director of student affairs, who also volunteers as an international gymnastics judge, knows her two worlds are intertwined.

At university, Smith, 59, heads up the student advocacy department where she helps her staff deal with issues such as plagiarism, rowdiness in the classroom and student retention.

On the job at a gymnastics competition, she judges elite athletes – grading them with her trained eye. She is deemed a category one gymnastics judge – one of roughly 40 in the world, Smith says. Gymnastics Canada has named her a judge for women’s artistic gymnastics at the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

“You need to be able to withstand stress when you’re on the competition floor. You need to be fairly quick,” explains the Winnipegger, who has judged the sport for nearly four decades. “You need to be scripting routines, getting the deductions down, being able to calculate that, checking for errors and then imputing it electronically all in a matter of... minutes and seconds.”

Both of her jobs require fairness and clear vision.

No sweat for Smith who has a reputation for both of the above, according to her colleagues, some who are former U of M students.

Smith took on her role as head of student affairs last year, an administrative job that puts her in charge of everything from helping first-year students feel at home on campus, to preventing academic dishonesty, to forwarding student survey results to Maclean’s for their annual Canadian university rankings.

For the previous 15 years, Smith worked as director of student advocacy. During that time, she had one-on-one contact with thousands of students who came to her with varying problems – some more contentious than others.

“(Some are) very complicated issues, particularly with students in their upper years – extremely sensitive cases... I’ve worked with students over several years to help them,” says Smith, noting situations in which graduate students had grades so low they planned to withdraw from their studies.

“We don’t want them dropping out and disappearing without at least having a chance to help them first.”

That attitude has captured the admiration of Brandy Usick [BA(Hons)/97, MEd/04], who holds Smith’s former job as director of student advocacy. They’ve known each other since 1995 when Usick was an undergraduate student working in Smith’s department.

“She’s my mentor,” says Usick. “I really admire Lynn’s style of leadership. She’s decisive when she needs to be but she’s very open...I’ve learned from her how to respond to students...being even tempered, having that ability to really listen first.”

Smith, a mother of two grown daughters – both U of M grads who pursued graduate studies elsewhere – is most concerned with making students feel like they belong on campus. Her goal: Helping them make “a meaningful connection” with peers or professors within the first few weeks of school so that they want to stay for the long haul. “I can still recall my first days of going back to school in the fall. It’s kind of a mixture of emotions,” says Smith, who earned her bachelor of physical education degree from the U of M and in the mid 1980s went back to attain her PhD in physiology. “Certainly for a new student and for a student who doesn’t know our campus well... we need to make sure we connect with them...”

“That’s a big task.”

When Smith is not brainstorming about how to make orientation week resonate with students, the Charleswood resident is reading Jane Austen novels or working out with her husband, Bill, a former teacher and school division administrator. The pair can also be seen hanging out with friends at the Falafel Place.

But when the weekends are over, it’s back to the business of getting students to understand her message.

“We’re here to help you,” Smith says. “We’re welcoming you and we’re part of your success story.”
In the poor and isolated villages of West Africa, families do what they can to survive.

Dental hygiene isn’t normal practice and rotten teeth cause excruciating pain. Most villagers have never seen a dentist or even heard of a toothbrush; instead they use broken tree branches to pick the food from their teeth. People endure bone-numbing toothaches for months or even years. Pure agony drives some to do the unimaginable: yank an abscessed tooth from their gums themselves.

Enter Canadian dentist Dr. Angela Willox. To desperate villagers, the former Winnipegger, 31, must appear like a saint in scrubs. Willox and fellow church members set up shop in Benin, Africa, where they spend nine days pulling teeth, handing out toothbrushes, helping as many people as they can.

“They’re so grateful,” says Willox, who has made similar trips to Nicaragua and Peru. “I’ve had people crying, just weeping. They’re so thankful.”

But ultimately the volunteers go home without reaching everyone.

“We had to leave without treating everybody. It was really sad,” she says. “There’s always more of a need than you can provide. You’re always having to leave people behind.”

When Willox’s plane touches down in Chicago, the setting transforms from rural to urban but her crusade for the forgotten ones continues. As director of a free dental clinic in the city’s rough north-east side, Willox shifts her attention to children in low-income families, those turned away by dentists elsewhere since they have only state-paid insurance. (The government’s reimbursement rate for dentists in Illinois is especially low compared to other jurisdictions.)

The stories found at the Crest Smile Shoppe, tucked inside the Robert R. McCormick Boys and Girls Club, are heart wrenching: children as young as three with cavities in every one of their 20 teeth, toddlers with toothaches so painful they go night after night with little sleep, youngsters with mouths so sore they refuse to eat and become malnourished, kids with teeth so infected they’re sent to the hospital for intravenous antibiotics. (Many of the parents are new immigrants, uneducated about good dental practices, says Willox, whose clinic handles up to 400 appointments a month.)

It was during her pediatric dentistry residency at the University of Illinois at Chicago that Willox realized she wanted to focus on treating these vulnerable, young patients. Distraught parents would come in toting children with swollen cheeks from abscessed teeth; they had driven for hours and tried a handful of dentists but were refused service.

“My heart went out to them,” Willox says of the kids. “I just felt like it was such an injustice that they’re treated that way and there is nobody to provide care for them.”

Dr. Charles Lekic, Willox’s former professor at the University of Manitoba, also inspired her to work with young people: “He really instilled in me a love for children.”

(continued on page 35)
DANA

What you like about playing for the Bison women’s hockey team: I love the high level of competition and the friends I have made.

Favourite professional hockey players: The Staal brothers.

How you define success: Success is when I feel happy with what I have accomplished.

Your interests outside of school and hockey: I love playing baseball in the summer back at home, along with running and hanging out with friends.

Program of study: I am in my second year of education. I have known for quite a while that I wanted to be a high school math teacher.

Favourite professional hockey teams: Montreal Canadiens and Carolina Hurricanes.

Your thoughts on whether there will ever be a professional women’s hockey league: There are more than enough players to make some really good teams, so hopefully soon.

Favourite meal: There are many but my mom’s lasagna would have to top it.

Your greatest sources of strength: My will to succeed and never giving up. With hockey, I have worked very hard for where I am now and am proud of it.

Your plans after graduation: Hopefully I will be able to find a job somewhere, possibly back in Thunder Bay. If not, I will see where life takes me.

Favourite musician: I enjoy most country, in particular Martina McBride.

Favourite saying: You can accomplish anything if you put your heart into it.
Meet identical twins Dana and Shannon Hoogsteen from Kakabeka Falls, Ont. The 23 year olds (Shannon is older by six minutes) play together on the Bison women’s hockey team, are multiple Academic All-Canadian honorees, share the nickname Hoogie and have earned several scholarships and awards while studying here at the University of Manitoba. But they’re not the same in every way: Dana hates bananas; Shannon loves them. Dana is right-handed; Shannon is a southpaw.

So who’s the better hockey player? “Well, that’s easy,” the twins say.
“Dana is by far a better goalie.”
“And Shannon is, of course, a better forward.”

SHANNON

Program of study: I am completing my last year of nursing.

Who you look up to: Sports-wise, I have always looked up to my cousins Kevin and David Hoogsteen since I was young. (They played college hockey in North Dakota, professional hockey in the European league and also for the Holland national team.) In life, my parents have always been role models for me.

Favourite movies: Ellen: Here and Now, A Beautiful Mind, French Kiss, and, of course, Elf.

How you define success: Success for me is being proud of what I have accomplished, having no regrets, and being proud of who I am.

Favourite professional hockey players: Joe Sakic and Eric Staal, of course.

Your interests outside of school and hockey: I have always loved the outdoors: camping, jogging and playing pretty much any sport.

Favourite saying: “If you can dream it, you can do it.” – Walt Disney

What you like about playing for the Bison women’s hockey team: I love the rush of stepping on the ice before the game starts. It’s an honour to represent a city across the country and I enjoy a team atmosphere.

Favourite professional hockey team: Carolina Hurricanes.

Your thoughts on whether there will ever be a professional women’s hockey league: Well, I sure hope so, one day.
Stephen A. Jarislowsky, the founder of one of Canada’s largest and most successful investment firms, donated $1 million to help make the University of Manitoba’s history department “the best in the world.”

He gave the money to create the Stephen A. Jarislowsky Chair in the Modern History of the Middle East and North Africa. “I chose the University of Manitoba as an ideal spot for this chair because it is in the middle of the country, it has a diverse population and the University of Manitoba was kind towards me by giving me the International Distinguished Entrepreneur Award,” says Jarislowsky, founder of Montreal-based Jarislowsky, Fraser and Company Ltd. “Also, the University of Manitoba has a good history department and it’s important to reinforce what is positive and work to make it the best in the world.”

He believes the position will fill a gap in the study of history. “I find history is often reported in too nationalistic a manner and you don’t get the side of all the people who were involved,” Jarislowsky says.

Considering the current conflicts in the Middle East and Africa, Jarislowsky says a more comprehensive understanding of the region is needed so mistakes can be avoided in the future. “The chair’s purpose is to investigate history more objectively by studying the entire prism of events,” he says. “Hopefully more light will be shed on this topic and that knowledge will penetrate into the circles of government and of the civil service to the decision makers.”

Jarislowsky is an officer of the Order of Canada and a grand officer of the National Order of Quebec. He has received numerous awards and honorary degrees for his focus on business ethics and his commitment to areas such as post-secondary education, the arts, literacy and children’s health care.

Stomach cramps, bloating, nausea and diarrhea — for most of us, these symptoms are mild and infrequent. But for those suffering from gastrointestinal (GI) disorders which include Crohn’s disease, celiac disease, irritable bowel syndrome, ulcerative colitis and colon cancer, these pains can be chronic and debilitating.

Investment titan and University of Manitoba graduate Martin Weinberg was diagnosed with celiac disease by Dr. Charles Bernstein (MD/85), fellow graduate and world-renowned GI specialist.

According to Weinberg, Winnipeg is known as a centre of excellence when it comes to gastrointestinal disorders. “It’s rare where you have such a strong foundation and team that is world class,” he says. “When I went to the Mayo Clinic after my diagnosis they said, ‘What are you doing here for GI? You have one of the best researchers in the world in Winnipeg.’ That’s great for the community and really puts Manitoba on the map.”

Building on these strengths was important to Weinberg so he chaired a fundraising committee to endow a research chair in gastroenterology at the University of Manitoba. The campaign was aimed at helping Bernstein and his team of researchers find a cure for GI disease, and attracting more top scientists to join them.

Fundraising committee members Tom Frohlinger [LLB/81], Marvin Shenkarow [BComm/67] and Charles Shore all have first-hand knowledge of GI disease. By sharing their real-life experiences, they motivated more than 50 donors to give to the campaign. In November, the committee reached its goal of providing a $3 million endowment for the Research Chair.

“Everyone knows somebody with GI disease,” Weinberg says. “When some form of this disease affects one out of every two people, people can really relate to the issues.”
A renowned research hub that attracts wetland ecology students to the University of Manitoba from across Canada needs upgrading, its director says.

The Delta Marsh Field Station sits on the south shore of Lake Manitoba, 110 kilometres north-west of Winnipeg. Its 1,000 hectares are part of a game-bird refuge and wildlife protected area. The shallow marsh provides ideal conditions for the study of birds, mammals and fish in an aquatic environment.

When the university first leased the property more than 40 years ago, the agreement included three Second World War-era buildings to be used as laboratory and dormitory space. The buildings were intended to be temporary.

The university has launched a fundraising campaign to replace some of the station’s facilities. Upgrades were last made at Delta Marsh four years ago.

“In 2003, one of these buildings was replaced with a new residence, partially funded by the Thomas Sill Foundation, the Winnipeg Rh Institute Foundation, and other donor support,” says station director Gordon Goldsborough. “But the remaining two buildings need to be replaced for more space and energy efficiency.”

Melissa Pink, a graduate student from Newfoundland and Labrador, came to the field station to expand her research into the effects of the environment on predator-prey interactions among birds and fish.

Pink, who earned a Delta Marsh scholarship, says she is grateful towards supporters of research at the station.

“I don’t know if donors realize how much (their gifts) are appreciated. It’s being well spent on our education. Being able to do research in different fields and places contributes to what we do in the future.”

The South Beach Casino recently gave $50,000 toward the construction of the Aboriginal Students Centre being built at the University of Manitoba’s Fort Garry campus.

The new 13,000-square-foot centre – scheduled to open its doors in early 2008 – will include a meeting place, computer lab, student lounge, study area and space for elders-in-residence.

The casino donated the money to the cultural, spiritual and academic centre as part of their community spirit fund.

“South Beach Casino understands the importance of education of aboriginal people and applauds the University of Manitoba for its commitment to a new Aboriginal Students Centre,” says Chief Ian Bushie of Hollow Water First Nation.

Five per cent of the casino’s net income is contributed annually to aboriginal and non-aboriginal projects. The casino opened in 2005 on the Brokenhead Ojibway Nation Reserve and is owned by seven First Nations: Black River, Bloodvein, Brokenhead, Hollow Water, Little Grand Rapids, Pauingassi and Poplar River.
Start-up...  (continued from page 17)

Entrants, who mirror the industries found throughout Smartpark, are accepted with the goal of graduating within three years. (To graduate, they must be financially independent and ready to go to market.)

Brownstone says the biggest challenge facing eureka project – which is a not-for-profit program that relies heavily on public and private funding – is generating results in a short period of time.

“We have to prove that this model of incubation works and will deliver results in Manitoba that our stakeholders are looking for,” he says. “We have to constantly be on the lookout for ongoing funding to keep our program going so we have to show that this program works...to say, ‘Look, this program makes sense.’”

Eureka project business tenant SMT Research, a group of four engineers and U of M grads, created technology that detects and locates moisture in buildings wirelessly. (New building materials tend to be less porous, causing moisture to get trapped and potentially weakening the structure.) SMT installs moisture detection monitors throughout a building. The devices have sensors that feed information to a monitoring centre 24 hours a day. SMT recently worked on the new Manitoba Hydro building in downtown Winnipeg.

“(Getting the job) was a major coup,” Brownstone says. “Just to be a part of that gives them that instant credibility.”

There are 10 companies in eureka project and four on the waiting list. Brownstone has faith in the program’s approach: “I think that the model makes sense...Companies that go through incubators are five times more likely to succeed.”

JEREMY BROOKS [BA/98]
Through the Years

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS FOR THE APRIL 2008 EDITION IS FEB. 1, 2008.

1940-49

Gersman, George [BA/47] received the City of Winnipeg Mayor’s Community Service Award for his dedication to the social, cultural and economic well-being of his community. The award was established by the mayor’s office during the 1950s.

Pitcairn, John R. [CA/59] has been elected as Marin Symphony Board president for a two-year term. The symphony, in its 55th season, is one of Marin County, CA’s oldest and most prestigious arts institutions.

1950-59

Donner, Allan [BSc/65, MSc/67] was elected as a fellow of the Royal Canada Society, life sciences division, for his many contributions to the development of biostatistical methodology and international health research.

Kalra, Yash P. [MSc/67] (a soil chemist at the Northern Forestry Centre, Canadian Forest Service, in Edmonton, Alta) has been elected chairman of the Professional Institute of the Public Service of Canada, Edmonton Branch, for 2007-09. He has also been elected chairman of the Association of Official Analytical Chemists International, Pacific Northwest Section, for 2007-08. Kalra is the only non-American scientist to serve as chairman of this section, which includes Alberta and British Columbia in Canada and Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington in the United States.

Langtry, David [LLB/76] was appointed deputy chief commissioner of the Canadian Human Rights Commission and executive director of the Multiculturalism Secretariat in Manitoba, which is responsible for implementation of the province’s multicultural policy.

1970-79

Lowry, Lynda [BHEc/73] is the chief operating officer and general manager of the Food Development Centre (FDC) in Portage la Prairie, Manitoba’s newly-expanded FDC promotes the development of new economic opportunities identified by entrepreneurs and farmers, helping them take advantage of new food-related business ventures. The centre celebrated a grand reopening following a $13.6-million renovation in the spring of 2005.

Ma, Mark S.L. [BComm (Hons)/76, CA/80] was elected vice-president and director of the Etobicoke Chartered Accountants’ Association in Toronto. He has also been elected to the Board of Directors of the York District CA Association and the Canadian Chinese CA Association. As a first vice-president and investment advisor at CIBC Wood Gundy in Toronto, Mark specializes in providing innovative investment solutions to senior executives, professionals and affluent investors.

1980-89

Bunio, Gary [BScEE/80] was named COO of MGM Energy Corp., an exploration company focused on the acquisition and development of hydrocarbon resources in Canada’s Northwest Territories and Arctic regions.

Munro, K.D. “Doug” [LLB/81] published a book of personal letters written by William Edward “Willie” Traill during his 29 years as chief trader with the Hudson’s Bay Company. Willie was Munro’s great grandfather and the second youngest child of Catharine Parr Traill. The book has received favourable reviews, including one from the U.S.: 2007 University Press Books Selected as outstanding for Public and Secondary School Libraries.

1990-99

Badiani, Jaymal (Jay) [BComm(Hons)/93] was appointed chief financial officer of the systems & technology group and software group for IBM Canada Ltd. Prior to this appointment, Badiani was the firm’s senior accounting manager and interim chief accountant.

Dahl, Cameron [BSA/91, MSc/98] has been appointed commissioner of the Canadian Grain Commission.
Ag reunion planned for 2008 in Vancouver

A 12th reunion for BSA/55 graduates will take place in Vancouver, B.C., Sept. 17 to 19, 2008. Reunion organizer Mike Warwick notes that the event is not restricted to the class of 1955. Plans for the reunion are underway and include a gathering at the Granville Island Hotel, a gourmet meal at the Culinary School of Vancouver, a cruise and a mountain-top barbecue. For more information, e-mail Mike: mikevirg@shaw.ca.

Gesser, Abraham [BSc/91, LLB/94] was called to the Bar of Manitoba in 1996. He obtained a LLM from Cambridge University in 1995 (Mackenzie King Scholar) and a LLM from New York University in 1998 (Viscount Bennett Fellowship). This summer, he was made a partner of Davis, Polk & Wardwell of New York City, where he has worked since 1998 (except during the year 1999 – 2000 when he clerked for the Honourable I. Leo Glasser of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York).

Gray, Susan Elaine [BA(Hons)/83, MA/86, PhD/96] recently published two books. I Will Fear No Evil: Ojibwa-Missionary Encounters Along the Berens River, 1875-1940 (University of Calgary Press, October 2006) received the 2006 Margaret McWilliams Award from the Manitoba Historical Society for Best Scholarly Book. The Spirit Lives in the Mind: Omushkego Stories, Lives, and Dreams (McGill-Queens University Press, February 2007) is part of the Rupert’s Land Record Society Series and was written with Cree storyteller Louis Bird.

Russell, Yvan [BA(Adv)/96] has started a postdoctoral research fellowship at Brunel University in London, England, after obtaining his Master of Arts in 1999 from the University of Reading and graduating with a PhD from the University of Liverpool (school of biological sciences) on July 2, 2007.

Panagia, Davide [BA(Hons)/93] received an honorable mention in the American Political Science Association’s (APSA) Best First Book in Political Theory category for his book The Poetics of Political Thinking. This award is given by the APSA’s Foundations of Political Theory section and recognizes the best first book published by scholars in the early stages of their careers in the area of political theory or political philosophy.

Tetraut (nee Freedman), Amanda [BPE/95, PBCertEd/04] was named the International Institute of Sustainable Development Scholar of the Year and was awarded the Manitoba Round Table for Sustainable Development Graduate Scholarship.

Wardrop, Craig [BScME/90] has been appointed plant manager at the Lennox Generating Station of Ontario Power Generation Inc. (OPG).

Marriages

Semchyshyn, Pam [BSc/Ag/00] and Marcin Jakub Cychowski [BSc/Pharm/04] were married Sept. 22, 2007, in Cooks Creek, Man.

Schnoor (nee Billinkoff), Marcia [BID/63] and Morley Goldberg [BScEE/65] were married Aug. 26, 2007, in Toronto, Ont. They are blessed with 10 grandchildren.

Rozon (Gauthier), Josée [CertTrad/04] and her husband Michel celebrated their silver wedding anniversary Aug. 28.

Births

Arason, Cade [BComm(Hons)/97, MAcc/98, CA/00] and May Arason-Li [BComm(Hons)/98] are thrilled to announce the birth of their baby daughter Ava Wei Arason, born March 8, 2007, in Winnipeg, Man. Ava weighed seven pounds, six ounces, and measured 20 inches.

Crowe (nee Murphy), Shannon [LLB/00] and husband Geoff are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter Cecily Irene, born in Calgary on June 9, 2007.

2000-Current

Sunabacka, Karen [BMus(Comp)/00] was appointed faculty member in music theory and composition at Providence College.

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in the foreign service and are currently here celebrating in China. Their parents work in the foreign service and are currently stationed at the Canadian Embassy in Beijing.)

Uddoh, Ada [BSW/03] and Bradley Esslinger are proud to announce the birth of their second daughter Abigail Madison Marie Uddoh-Esslinger. She joined big sister Emily Ann Sophia on Aug. 27, 2006, and weighed seven pounds, three-and-a-half ounces.

In Memoriam

The Alumni Association Inc. of the University of Manitoba extends their condolences to the family and friends of the following alumni:

1920-29


1930-39

Capelle, Henry George [BA/38] June 24, 2007
Comrie, Robert (Bert) Taplin [DipAg/38] Oct. 8, 2007
Dill, Eileen May [BA/38] Sept. 30, 2007
Glover, Jean [BA/36] July 12, 2007
Lecker, Manuel [BSc(HEc)/38] June 19, 2007
Shelford (nee Tucker), Gladys Elsie [BA/37] June 30, 2007
Reive, John Stewart [BA/38] April 1, 2007

1940-49

Beckstead, J. Lewis [MD/41] Sept. 8, 2007
Brown, Donald Simpson [DipAg/48] July 1, 2007
Campbell, Mary (Maybelle) Isabel [BHEc/42] Sept. 7, 2007
Goar, Thone Adeline [BSc(HEc)/47, DipEd/48] Sept. 4, 2007
Gray, Freda Georgina [BSc(HEc)/40, BEd/71] Sept. 27, 2007
Harris, Lorne Robert [CA/49] Aug. 6, 2007
McAdam, Raymond [BSc/41] July 1, 2007
Pisacecki, Margaret Alice [BSc/48] May 17, 2007
Riley, Helena Day (Polly) [DipID/44] Oct. 9, 2007
Shane, Audrey Patricia Mackay [DiplID/42] Aug. 23, 2007
Shelton, Peter James [BSc/44, MD/50] Sept. 18, 2007
Wilson, B. Joan [BSc[HEc]/48] Sept. 9, 2007

1950-59

Butler, Roy Leslie McGregor [BSc[Hons]/51, MSc/55, CertEd/63, BEd/66] July 29, 2007
Duncan, John Alton [BA/54, LLB/58] June 5, 2007
Ferris, Charles [BSc(ME)/56] April 9, 2007
Gauer, Catherine Joan [BA/53, BEd/59] Sept. 11, 2007
Harder, Anne [BA/56, BEd/62] Sept. 6, 2007
Lemay-Plesniarski, Gloria [BA/59, BSW/64, MSW/70] Sept. 9, 2007
MacDonald, Richard Benjamin (Dick) [DipAg/55] July 10, 2007
Pepper, Miles H. [BComm/52, LLB/57] Sept. 12, 2007
Procter, Percy (John) [BA/57, MSC/61] June 4, 2007
Schaefer, Theodore (Ted) Peter [BSc[Hons]/54, MSc/55] Sept. 15, 2007
Snow (nee Sniezek), Adelynne Mary [BA/50, BSW/51, CertEd/65] Sept. 8, 2007
Whiteman, William Albert (Bert) [AMM/50] May 23, 2007
Wood, Rubyna Mary [BSc(Pharm)/53] May 15, 2007
Woolley, Lily Patricia [BA/51, BSW/51] Sept. 9, 2007

1960-69

Andrushko, Donald A. [BSc(EE)/62] July 18, 2006
Bozek, Donald J. [BSc/61] Sept. 3, 2007

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<td>Clark, Roberta Joyce</td>
<td>BA(Hons)/68</td>
<td>Sept. 5, 2007</td>
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<td>Clegg, Violet Elizabeth</td>
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<td>Matiation, Zane</td>
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<td>Smyth, Jack</td>
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<td>Sept. 18, 2007</td>
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**1970-79**

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Degree / Years</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ansklains, Gundega (Gundy)</td>
<td>BA/70</td>
<td>Aug. 12, 2007</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bilodeau, Donald Gerald (Jerry)</td>
<td>BPE/73, CertEd/73, BEd/74</td>
<td>Aug. 11, 2007</td>
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<td>Bredo, Lois Lynn</td>
<td>BA/73</td>
<td>Sept. 14, 2007</td>
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<tr>
<td>Browne, Darlene Joy</td>
<td>BN/78</td>
<td>Sept. 26, 2007</td>
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<td>Browning, Mary Anne</td>
<td>BPEd/77</td>
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<td>Buschau, Randofte Gerald</td>
<td>BSA/77</td>
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<td>Connell, Cameron Garth</td>
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<td>Aug. 1, 2007</td>
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<td>Druwe (nee Bazin), Simone</td>
<td>BLatPh/76, BenEd/81</td>
<td>Sept. 25, 2007</td>
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<td>Falconer, Robert Wayne</td>
<td>BEd/76</td>
<td>Aug. 29, 2007</td>
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<td>Frechette, Antoine Georges</td>
<td>BÈsA/76, CertEd/78</td>
<td>June 15, 2007</td>
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<td>Gordon, Charles Barry</td>
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<td>Aug. 19, 2007</td>
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<td>Grodecki, Montgomery Michael</td>
<td>BComm(Hons)/78</td>
<td>Aug. 1, 2007</td>
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<td>Hemmat, Cyrus (Cy)</td>
<td>BArch/71</td>
<td>July 31, 2007</td>
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<td>Janke, Arnold Wilfred</td>
<td>DiplAg/73</td>
<td>June 30, 2007</td>
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<td>Klassen, Addison Henry</td>
<td>CertEd/72</td>
<td>Sept. 1, 2007</td>
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<td>Keutzer, Glenn Armstrong</td>
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<td>July 31, 2007</td>
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<td>MacDonald-Holder (nee Moore), Phyllis Marie</td>
<td>BSW/74</td>
<td>June 8, 2007</td>
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<td>Maksymyk, Tony</td>
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<td>McEwen, Helen</td>
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<td>Melnychuk, Edward Eugene</td>
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<td>Sept. 28, 2007</td>
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<td>Mitchell, Annalea</td>
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<td>Moulden, George Douglas</td>
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<td>Pepper, Miles H.</td>
<td>BComm/52, LLB/57</td>
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<td>Stephenson, Judith Eva</td>
<td>AMM/58, BA/58, CertEd/78</td>
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<td>PhD/74</td>
<td>Aug. 28, 2007</td>
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<td>Watson (nee Cupp), June Marie</td>
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<td>Weighton, William (Bill)</td>
<td>BA/71</td>
<td>Aug. 6, 2007</td>
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<td>Williams, Georgia Christine</td>
<td>PhD/71</td>
<td>March 16, 2007</td>
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**1980-89**

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<tr>
<td>Asham, Diane Holly</td>
<td>BA(Hons)/87, ExtEd/88</td>
<td>July 28, 2007</td>
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<td>Belanger (nee Toews), Del-Marie Susan</td>
<td>BHEcol/85</td>
<td>July 10, 2007</td>
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<td>Bittner, Marlene</td>
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<td>Booth, Colleen</td>
<td>MEd/84</td>
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<td>Chew, Victor</td>
<td>BA/83</td>
<td>July 23, 2007</td>
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<td>Dookeran, Anjali</td>
<td>BFA(Hons)/86</td>
<td>Aug. 30, 2007</td>
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<td>Feindel, Loma Gene</td>
<td>BA/83</td>
<td>Aug. 7, 2007</td>
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<td>Gazan (nee LeCaine), Marjorie Anne</td>
<td>MSW/85</td>
<td>May 26, 2007</td>
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<td>Hopkins, Debra Ann</td>
<td>BEd/87</td>
<td>Sept. 7, 2006</td>
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<td>MacDonald (nee Monahan), Peggy Mary</td>
<td>BA(Hons)/BA/MEd/88</td>
<td>July 13, 2007</td>
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<td>Maurice, Lucille Antoinette</td>
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<td>Sept. 16, 2007</td>
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<td>Seddon, Ian Robert</td>
<td>BSA/85, MSc/88, MEd/92</td>
<td>Aug. 22, 2007</td>
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<td>Skynenyer Henry John</td>
<td>BA(Hons)/82, MA/89</td>
<td>July, 2007</td>
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<td>Thordarson, Brian Allan</td>
<td>BA/80, BEd/81</td>
<td>Sept. 13, 2007</td>
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<td>Townsend, Ann I.</td>
<td>BA/88</td>
<td>June 9, 2007</td>
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**1990-99**

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<tr>
<td>Dubois, Danette Lorraine</td>
<td>BEd/98</td>
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<td>McDonald, Robert Lee</td>
<td>BA/96, LLB/99</td>
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<td>Shank, Gregory A.</td>
<td>BHEcol/93</td>
<td>May 19, 2006</td>
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<td>Vitelli, Marina Christine</td>
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**2000-Present**

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<td>Jackman, Joshua Kaley</td>
<td>BA/07</td>
<td>Sept. 1, 2007</td>
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<td>Warner, Helen</td>
<td>BA/02</td>
<td>June 16, 2007</td>
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A reason... (continued from page 25)

Angela Willox travelled to Africa, Nicaragua and Peru to bring relief to people without access to dental care.

Willcox could have opened her own practice in an upscale neighborhood and made a bigger salary but prefers the emotional payoff of working at the Smile Shoppe. The daughter of two retired Royal Bank of Canada account managers, Willox says she is also driven by her faith.

A desire to make a difference led her to Chicago’s notorious Cabrini-Green public housing project where she not only tutored Grade 8 girls in subjects like math and English but offered a friendly ear. The housing project – known for its gangs, drugs and murders – has been cleaned up somewhat in recent years but remains a scary place, says Willox, who volunteered with an after-school program onsite. The church-run Kids Club offered mentors for young people at risk of gangs and crime. These kids had already been dealt some difficult blows; some had witnessed their fathers murder their mothers, Willox says.

Positive changes came slowly for the girls she mentored, which frustrated Willox, as do waiting lists at the Smile Shoppe or the demand that goes unmet in Benin. But that doesn’t mean she’ll stop trying. “Kids are oftentimes kind of forgotten or pushed aside,” Willox says. “But I just feel that they’re people too. They need to be treated with kindness and care and love.”

KATIE CHALMERS-BROOKS

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West Tache Hall residents Molly Dunbar, Mallory Wray, and Christine Lindenber get fired up for Spirit Cup, Sept. 15, 2007.
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