Making the Team

2008 Olympic Athlete Kelsie Hendry

Bringing Business Back Home

A Prescription for Leadership

The Right Man for the Job

2008 University of Saskatchewan Alumni Association Awards
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Featuring host Chancellor Vera Pezer

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** Since 2011 rates are not yet available, cost is only an estimate at this time but will include accommodation, most meals and daily excursions.

Open to all U of S alumni and retirees.
Please RSVP by November 15, 2008 if you are interested in joining Chancellor Vera Pezer on these exciting Chancellor’s Tours. Space is limited.

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Making the Team

BY MARK FERGUSON

Even as holder of the Canadian record in pole vault, Kelsie Hendry (BA’04) was not sure she would make the trip to the 2008 Beijing Olympics until just days before the event began. Although she did not come home with a medal, Hendry cherishes her memories of the experience, and has set her sights on the 2012 Olympics in London.

The Right Man for the Job

BY MARK FERGUSON

The work is demanding but Jack Poole (BE’54) is the right man to be leading Vancouver toward a significant milestone in that city’s history – successfully hosting the 2010 Winter Olympic Games.

2008 University of Saskatchewan Alumni Association Awards

The man who founded Canada’s most successful health promotion program is this year’s recipient (posthumously) of the U of S Alumni Association’s Alumni Achievement Award. Read about Russ Kisby (BAPE’63) and the other 2008 award winners on Page 16.

Bringing Business Back Home

BY MARK FERGUSON

Having left Saskatchewan in search of work after graduating from the U of S, Michael Lobsinger (BComm’75) is delighted to be back, this time heading a major construction project in Saskatoon.

A Prescription for Leadership

BY MESHON CANTRILL

Dr. Alika Lafontaine (MD’06) won CBC’s Canada’s Next Great Prime Minister competition this year, but the young anesthesia resident has a few challenges to take on at home before he makes plans to move into 24 Sussex Drive.
President’s Message

It has been just over one year since many of you gathered in Saskatoon on a beautiful September weekend for the Alumni and Friends Homecoming, a series of special events to mark the 100th anniversary of the University of Saskatchewan. That weekend, and in fact our entire centennial year, was an enormous success and an important event in our history.

Milestones in the life of any organization offer myriad opportunities to reflect on past accomplishments, but it is also a time to consider what has yet to be achieved. For the University of Saskatchewan, our new integrated plan has set priorities and goals for the first four years of our second century, and we will be looking to leaders at all levels of the university community to do what we have said we will do.

In this issue of the Green & White, we introduce two senior leaders at the U of S – our new provost and vice-president academic, Brett Fairbairn, and Ernie Barber, our new vice-provost of teaching and learning. But we also celebrate leadership that extends beyond campus, into sports, into business, even into the political sphere through the lives and work of some of our outstanding alumni.

The success of our alumni in all their pursuits reflects well on this university. Whether as leaders in a chosen field or leading by example in supporting the University of Saskatchewan with time, effort or resources, our alumni are agents for positive change both on and off campus.

We will be looking to our alumni to continue to find collaborative and creative ways to lead the U of S in pursuit of new priorities, new initiatives and new accomplishments in our second century.

Peter MacKinnon, President
University of Saskatchewan
Welcome to the fall 2008 edition of the Green & White. This magazine is one of our most important ways of communicating with you, our alumni and friends, and I hope you will find its content to be both informative and inspiring.

Fall is an electric time on campus. The return of our students brings a renewed energy; the crisp fall air and the vivid colours of changing foliage suggest a world of new opportunities unfolding. And that’s a fairly accurate description, I think, of the attitude shared by those of us who are fortunate enough to work for this fine university as we embark on a new four-year planning cycle.

The University of Saskatchewan is committed to a culture of success, and this is reflected in the title of our second integrated plan, Toward an Engaged University. True success is possible only with engagement – of our students, faculty and staff, alumni, friends and partners. One very compelling example is the success of the biggest fundraising campaign in our university’s history, which raised more than $150 million in support. You, our alumni, provided 72 per cent of that funding and for that we are truly grateful. We simply couldn’t have done it without you.

Our university has a strong history of engagement. This clear commitment to building on, and strengthening, that engagement encourages exciting new opportunities for collaboration and partnerships. I encourage each of you to think of ways that you can provide your own talents and support to your alma mater as we continue to build a university worthy of, in the words of our very first president, ‘an honoured place among the best.’

Heather Magotiaux, VP of Advancement
University of Saskatchewan

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As the University of Saskatchewan campus is buzzing with activity at the start of a new school year, it is also an exciting time for all the colleges and program areas that will benefit from the generosity of alumni and friends who take part in Annual Fund 2008-09!

Over the next 8 months, more than 40,000 University of Saskatchewan alumni and friends will be contacted through the Annual Fund mail campaign and Student Calling Program. The Annual Fund promotes awareness and encourages financial support for initiatives that benefit U of S students including equipment and computer upgrading, off-campus learning opportunities, scholarships and bursaries, library resources, athletics and recreation – the list goes on.

Expectations are high that results from Annual Fund 2008-09 will surpass those of last year’s campaign. In 2007-08 more than 7,500 Annual Fund donors generously contributed over $1.24 million to initiatives that directly benefited U of S students.

Thank you to our loyal supporters for their ongoing commitment to the University of Saskatchewan. We are counting on your support again this year, and we welcome new donors to take part in Annual Fund 2008-09 when they receive this year’s campaign package in the mail or a phone call from a U of S student!

For more information on Annual Fund 2008-09, contact University Advancement at (306) 966-5186. Or you can give anytime using the online gift form or by calling 1-800-699-1907.
Lowering Campus Emissions

Making a few changes in the workplace could significantly lower the amount of greenhouse gasses emitted on campus, a message the U of S is trying to get across through the new Energy Awareness Training (EAT) program.

While most of the energy used on campus comes from heating and hot water, the majority of greenhouse gases come from electricity. Fifty-eight per cent of the greenhouse gases emitted on campus come from purchased electricity from SaskPower, a number that can be reduced, according to Margret Asmuss, sustainability co-ordinator for the university.

“Electricity is something individuals have a lot more control over,” said Asmuss. “Most things people can do are kind of obvious.” Asmuss said the university is taking big steps to lower emissions, including retrofitting every light on campus with energy efficient models within the next two years. But this only solves half of the problem.

“You can put in the greatest technology, but if people aren’t using it, then what? This program will address the human side of energy conservation.”

Adventures in Service Learning

David Peacock, engaged learning co-ordinator at St. Thomas More College, makes a good case for Community Service Learning (CSL), arguing it is an opportunity for students to come face to face with people who are very different than they are.

“CSL enables students, many of whom come from middle-class backgrounds and may not have very much life experience, to encounter people who are very different from themselves, different in terms of socio-economic status, in ethnicity, and ability,” said Peacock. “When the student encounters someone, there is a space that is opened-up, something that is novel and new. And that space, between what is new and what they are accustomed to provokes new forms of learning.”

Beginning in 2005, Peacock formalized an engaged learning technique that has been used by sociology instructors in their classes for 10-15 years. “CSL is a specific teaching pedagogy,” said Peacock, “where students work in the community alongside their formal academic studies.” In partnership with community-based organizations like AIDS Saskatoon, the Open Door Society and Autism Services, students elect to perform volunteer service for credit in lieu of some regular coursework.

Working with the University Learning Centre, Peacock hopes to make CSL available in more courses campus wide.

MacKinnon reappointed for third term as President

At its May meeting, the University of Saskatchewan Board of Governors approved the appointment of Peter MacKinnon to a third five-year term as president, a move that will allow the former dean of law to continue what he has started.

“When the standards widely recognized as applicable in the university world, we’ve made major strides in both areas, but the work is not done.”

-Peter MacKinnon

When he became the university’s eighth president in July 1999, MacKinnon said his priorities would be improving the research capacity and performance of the institution and ensuring its success in the competitive world of post-secondary education in Canada.

“By the standards widely recognized as applicable in the university world, we’ve made major strides in both areas, but the work is not done.” His priorities will continue to be closely tied to the university’s strategic directions and to the new four-year integrated plan, providing continuity in the coming years.

“There are always things you look back on and say could have been done better, could have been handled better, and there have been several times I felt that way. But those have been matters of execution, not direction.”

For MacKinnon, the advantage of being in year nine as president is that “you do develop an understanding of the many dimensions of the office. When you become president, nobody gives you a list of tasks and initiatives. You have to learn the job, and I think that now I have learned the job.”

His new term is set to begin in July 2009.
Leading Teaching and Learning

Having spent a year as acting provost shepherding the university’s second integrated plan to completion, Ernie Barber will now take on a leadership role for one of the key components of that plan – enhancing teaching, learning, and the student experience.

While the plan did not specifically call for the creation of a vice-provost of teaching and learning position, “we know there is a need to provide an even better academic experience for students and for all those engaged in that experience with students,” said Barber whose two-year term in the post began July 1. According to Brett Fairbairn, provost and vice-president academic, the new vice-provost will lead the university’s academic innovation agenda.

In addition, Barber will be asked to oversee the development and implementation of the Foundational Document on Teaching and Learning, direct the work of academic and instructional support units like the University Learning Centre and the Centre for Continuing and Distance Education. He will also be the primary contact for associate and assistant deans, promote the use of teaching evaluation tools and work with the provincial government on new programs and program changes.

Fairbairn takes over as Provost, VP Academic

Brett Fairbairn, the university’s second provost and vice-president academic, brings to his new position “a belief in the basic strengths and integrity of the institution.”

The former head of the Department of History and Centre for the Study of Co-operatives assumed his duties July 1 with a clear recognition of the unique nature of his job. “As provost, you are the leader of planning and as vice-president academic you are the leader of faculty and the academic processes of the university. It reflects the distinct character of a university that those two roles are united in one office.”

A native of Winnipeg and the son of journalists, Fairbairn, earned a BA in history from the U of S in 1981, serving as president of the U of S Students’ Union for two terms during his studies. Oxford University awarded him a BA Honours in modern history in 1984 and a doctorate, also in modern history, in 1988.

One of his major responsibilities will be overseeing the implementation of the university’s second integrated plan, entitled Toward an Engaged University, that focuses on three priority areas – improving the student experience, raising the profile of research, scholarly and artistic work, and working together.

For Fairbairn, his 35-year connection with the U of S provides unique insights into the institution’s strategic plans.

“Everybody’s student experience should be formative in some respect, and mine certainly was. I discovered history at the U of S. I became involved in student politics, … was a member of the council, senate and board of governors. I suppose you could say that I developed a participatory view of the university from that moment. (And) I think that every teacher I had lived up to the teacher-scholar standard. I had a sense that they cared about their identity as teachers, put thought and passion into teaching, just as they cared about their identity as researchers and creators of knowledge. They conveyed both things to me.”

An accomplished soccer player, Fairbairn usually avoids applying sports analogies to work, but is prepared to make this commitment: “I will be a vigorous, mobile, determined defender of this university and all it stands for; and, I promise that all my tackles will be fair ones!”

Huskie Store Moves Into the Bay

The University of Saskatchewan is giving up one of its seasonal Huskies merchandise stores in favour of a permanent year-round location on the second floor of the Bay in Saskatoon.

Mark Jagoe, director of retail services with the University Bookstore, said the Bay agreed this summer to provide the university with about 500 square feet of space on the second floor of its Midtown Plaza location. U of S supporters will be able to purchase the same merchandise available in regular Huskies outlets – shirts, sweats, jackets, hats and the like – and even with the Bay taking a cut of sales, the arrangement is more economical than the university employing its own staff and equipment in a separate retail space.

The bookstore has also taken over sales of both Huskies and alumni merchandise at Griffiths Stadium before and during football games. The response so far this season has been positive, Jagoe said, and he will be looking to expand the service to other Huskies sports events, and provide sport-specific merchandise.

To purchase U of S gear online visit store.usask.ca.
Making the Team

Although Kelsie Hendry (BA’04) holds the Canadian record in the pole vault, it was only days before the games began that she knew she would be going to Beijing.

After exceeding the International Olympic Committee (IOC) standard, and breaking the Canadian record, with a vault of 4.55 metres at a meet in Utah in May, it appeared Hendry’s dream of going to the Olympics was a reality. But Athletics Canada said her vault would not count because the meet was not recognized.
“I thought, is this really happening?” says Hendry. “I broke the Canadian record, and it didn’t count. I was so let down.”

But that did not stop the 26-year-old track star. Two weeks later, she was at it again, at a meet in Prince Albert, SK, with another vault of 4.55 metres. This time her Canadian record would stick and prove good enough to earn her a spot on the Canadian Olympic team.

Hendry joins a proud list of University of Saskatchewan students and alumni who have competed at the Olympic games, including Diane Jones-Konihowski (BEd’75), Cyprian Enweani (MD’89) and paralympic athlete Lisa Frank (BE’06). She is currently completing her BEd, doing an internship at a local Saskatoon high school.

“I’ve done Olympic standards a lot,” says Hendry. “I felt like I earned my spot on the team. It made me stronger as an athlete (but) there’s always some drama and a lot of people had it worse than me.”

She competed at a meet in Vancouver and at the national championships in Windsor in the weeks leading up to the 2008 games, but this barrage of qualifying events may have taken its toll on Hendry. By the time she arrived in Beijing, things weren’t going as well as they were earlier in the season.

“I got a taste but I wanted more. I went down and I could have gone up,” she says about her performance of clearing 4.30 metres on the Olympic stage. “I felt OK, but practices weren’t going as well as I hoped. My top 12 jumps were 2 months before the games so I guess I peaked too early. I petered out… But my goal is to be a contender for 2012.”

Having just returned from Beijing, Hendry is already making plans for the next summer games, in London, England. Her training and competition routine is going to be a little different to ensure she is ready to peak at the games themselves, and she’d like to find a better balance between training and the other things in life. Training full time, she says, is too many eggs in one basket.

“I don’t like just training. There’s too much focus on one thing, and if it goes wrong… Before the games, I just trained. Track was the only thing I was doing and it didn’t work. I hit a plateau. I was putting all my energy and thought into it, and I thought, why isn’t this going right? It’s not a good feeling.”
Like she’s done in the past, Hendry flew down to Arizona for a month in the spring to train with Greg Hull. The world-renowned coach has helped other Olympic gold medalists, and Hendry says he gave her the confidence to compete at the Olympic games.

“You can compete with the best in the world,” he told her, a notion she’s carried with her for some time.

“I was really excited, it was like I found my niche. I think I had quick success with the vault.”

Hendry helped the Huskie women’s track team win four national titles in her five years, and she herself won three national titles as a vaulter, breaking the Canadian record each time. She credits having strong teammates and coaches for pushing her limits as an athlete.

“I walked on to a great team. We had such a good program,” says Hendry about the Huskies. “That helped a lot with training. We could all learn from each other. It was just a great atmosphere.”

By 2004, Hendry was already meeting the IOC standards for the games in Athens. Unfortunately, she was not meeting the Canadian standard, and two other vaulters made the national team. Hendry says, like a lot of track events, the Canadian records are actually harder to beat than the Olympic ones, but she set her sights on being ready for the 2008 Beijing games.

Other than competing, Hendry says her favourite memory from Beijing is being part of the crowd at the Olympic stadium watching Jamaican sprinter Usain Bolt win the 100-metre sprint. Hendry mimics his dance to the finish line on the track at Griffiths Stadium, with her arms waving in the air, laughing.

“I got a taste but I wanted more... my goal is to be a contender for 2012.”

-Kelsie Hendry

Hendry knew early on that pole vaulting was something she was meant to do. She began as a member of the University of Saskatchewan Huskie track and field team in 2000. With a strong background in gymnastics, the pole vault just came naturally, she says. And it didn’t take long before the dream of going to the Olympics popped in her head.

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Correction Notice

Your spring issue of the Green & White shared some of the many exciting outcomes of the University’s recent Thinking the World of our Future campaign and honoured donors who contributed $10,000 and over to the campaign. We would also like to thank the following individuals and organizations who were incorrectly listed or inadvertently omitted from the list.

Donors to the University of Saskatchewan are helping to turn our vision into a reality and we are sincerely grateful for the support of all of the 30,000 donors who contributed to Thinking the World of our Future, including those donors who choose to remain anonymous.

A complete listing of donors to the University of Saskatchewan can be viewed at www.usask.ca/donors.

* Denotes a deceased donor
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It is my great pleasure to introduce myself as the new president of the University of Saskatchewan Alumni Association.

Your alumni association board has worked over the past year toward the realization of the goals of its multi-year strategic plan. This strategic plan was adopted by the board in 2004 and has been reviewed and revised on an annual basis. The goals set out in the plan include clarifying the role of the association, building community, creating opportunities to connect with alumni and adding value.

In addition to electing a group of talented and dedicated volunteers to the board at the June 2008 annual general meeting (AGM), the members of the association also approved an amendment to the association's constitution whereby a new mission statement was adopted. The new mission statement reads as follows:

"Building upon the proud history and tradition of the University of Saskatchewan, the University of Saskatchewan Alumni Association encourages and fosters lifelong involvement of alumni in the life of the University. It is committed to adding value to the lives of all alumni by engaging the community of graduates and celebrating alumni success throughout the world."

The board believes that the new mission statement is more closely aligned with the association's multi-year strategic plan and puts proper focus on the key strategic goals of the organization.

Attendees at the AGM also witnessed the unveiling of a new logo for the association, which I hope you will have noticed while looking through this issue of the Green & White. The board believes that the new logo celebrates the association's strong connection to the University of Saskatchewan, while at the same time recognizing the U of S Alumni Association's distinct and unique identity.

While much has been achieved over the past year, there is still much for the board to do. Some of the key initiatives that the board will be focused on in the coming year include:

- formalizing an arrangement between the association and its key strategic partner, the University of Saskatchewan;
- continuing our work on the finalization and implementation of a communications plan and volunteer management strategy; and
- undertaking a comprehensive review of the various programs and services offered by the Alumni Association to alumni of the U of S.

I look forward to serving all alumni as president of the U of S Alumni Association for the coming year, working to fulfil the organization's mission statement and to achieving the goals set out in our strategic plan.

If you have any questions about the association, if you are interested in becoming involved, or if you have any suggestions about how the Alumni Association can better serve you, please do not hesitate to send me a note at mjc143@mail.usask.ca.

Michael Clark, BComm’95, LLB’96
Over 100 alumni and friends gathered at Great Western Brewing Company in Saskatoon on May 23 for the Alumni Spring Social. Guests not only enjoyed food, beverages and lively conversation but they also learned about the brewing business as they competed for prizes in a beer history quiz. Due to the success of this event, the Saskatoon and campus branches of the U of S Alumni Association are considering making this an annual spring event.

Thank you to our very generous sponsors:
- Great Western Brewing Company
- Mitchell's Gourmet Foods
- University of Saskatchewan Alumni Association

A little further from home, University of Saskatchewan alumni enjoyed Canada Day celebrations in Bellevue, WA, Woodside, CA and Beaveron, OR. Family picnics and BBQs brought alumni from various Canadian universities together to celebrate Canada’s 141st birthday.

June 30 and July 1 were also busy days in London, UK, for thousands of ex-pat Canadians who gathered in Trafalgar Square and celebrated Canada’s birthday with activities ranging from a rock concert to street hockey.

Other recent branch events have included a Blue Jays game and pub night in Toronto, an All Canadian Universities Alumni Picnic in Victoria, a Saskatchewan Roughriders versus BC Lions game in Vancouver, and a Huskies versus the University of British Columbia game in Saskatoon. The London, UK branch also enjoyed a presentation by history professor and author Bill Waiser.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES:
President Peter MacKinnon’s Provincial Tour

President Peter MacKinnon continues his long tradition of traveling to cities and towns around the province to meet with alumni, high school students, school counsellors and community officials. His goal is to raise the profile of the University of Saskatchewan, meet personally with prospective students and lay the groundwork for the partnerships and collaborations that fulfill the institution’s outreach and service objectives. His schedule for this academic year includes:

- November 4, 2008, Weyburn, SK
- January 20, 2009, Humboldt, SK
- March 3, 2009, Kindersley, SK
- April 29, 2009, La Ronge, SK

At a special evening event last April 21, the University of Saskatchewan received Tourism Saskatchewan’s award of excellence for its Homecoming 2007 promotional and marketing campaign.

The award, for events or festivals with budgets over $20,000, recognized the complexity of Homecoming, which included about 50 individual college and department events last fall as well as central activities—an Alumni and Friends Social, a tailgate party and Huskie Homecoming football game, the U of S Centennial Celebration dinner and dance, and a farewell brunch. The marketing efforts employed various strategies, from the Internet and billboards to direct mail and new media.

The U of S beat out the 2007 Juno Awards ceremony and the Saskatchewan Jazz Festival to win the category.

Members of the 1959 U of S football team and their families joined together at an Alumni Association pre-game event in Vancouver Sept. 13 to watch the Saskatchewan Roughriders take on the BC Lions. Former football team members include, from left to right, Ian Sisett (BA’64, BEd’64), Don Brock (BE(CE)’60), Harry DuRussel (BSA’60), and Ron Graham (BE(CE)’62).

Photo submitted by Steve Flynn (BComm’92)
University of Saskatchewan Senate Elections 2008

The membership of the U of S Senate includes the chancellor as chair and all former chancellors, the university president and all vice-presidents, the provincial minister and deputy minister of Advanced Education, Employment & Labour, the heads of university-affiliated and federated colleges, and college deans and directors. In addition, there are 14 members elected by the Convocation to represent each of the University Senate’s 14 electoral districts, 14 members at large, representatives of professional societies and cultural organizations, and seven student members.

Senate elections happen every year, and members hold office for a term of three years. They may be elected or appointed for a second term.

In 2008, the voting was carried out electronically through PAWS, with an option to return a paper ballot for those without access to the Internet. And the results are:

Elected Senate Members at Large
Joanna Alexander – Regina, SK
Joy Crawford – Saskatoon, SK
Eileen Hartman – Lancer, SK
Robin Mowat – Saskatoon, SK
Peter Stroh – Saskatoon, SK

District 7
Gerald Willms – Dundurn, SK

District 6 and 10
No nominations were received

Reunion 2008

From June 19-21, the University of Saskatchewan held its 2008 Reunion, welcoming alumni from the years of 1948, 1953, 1958, 1963, 1968 as well as graduates from 1928 to 1947. The College of Nursing, which celebrated its 70th anniversary this year, also hosted alumni from all years at events on campus.

More than 370 alumni and friends gathered to participate in activities including campus tours, college lunches, educational sessions and the President’s Luncheon. Many participants enjoyed the sounds of the University of Saskatchewan Jazz Ensemble at the Chancellor’s Banquet, filling the dance floor and dancing the night away.

Thank you to all alumni who came back to campus and helped the 2008 Reunion be a success. The 2009 reunion is scheduled for June 19-20.

Campus was the place to be June 19-21 as alumni from various honoured years as well as graduates of the College of Nursing, which was celebrating its 70th anniversary, took part in a number of events and social activities. Submitted photos
The former CEO of the Vancouver Olympic bid committee and current chair of the games’ Board of Directors said he didn’t even want the job in the first place. Poole (BE’54), a prominent businessman and real-estate developer, was approached by a headhunter in 2001 to lead the bid committee. The job description called for a high-energy, multi-lingual individual that loved to travel.

“I just want to be clear,” Poole told the hiring panel, “I’m 68-years-old and I hate travel. And when they asked me what I required for compensation, what would be your salary requirements? I said, there’s not enough money in the world… It’s been an incredible experience.”

For Poole, this was an opportunity to give back to the community. He put his quiet life and golf game on hold to accept the job on one condition – he would only work for free.

He says one of the best experiences so far was being in the room in 2002 when the International Olympic Committee announced that Vancouver was chosen to host the 2010 games.

“It was kind of a numbing experience. To come that far knowing anything can happen. You don’t dare believe that you might actually win. I didn’t know how I would react, but when they
announced that we’d won, every Canadian in the room went nuts!”

That was just the beginning of Poole’s involvement with Vancouver 2010.

Growing up in the small town of Mortlach, SK, Poole enjoyed playing sports like hockey and baseball. He was even intramural wrestling champion during his time at the University of Saskatchewan.

After graduation, he and his wife, Darlene, moved to Calgary where he worked for a housing company. They moved to Vancouver in 1963. There, Poole co-founded Daon Development Corporation, which grew to become the second largest real estate development company in North America. In 1989, he co-founded VLC Properties (now Concert Properties) and sits as chair of Concert’s Board of Directors.

The boy from Saskatchewan never imagined he’d be organizing the largest peacetime event any country gets to host.

“In life, very few things, good and bad, are in accordance of some plan. It tends to be a series of accidents and how you react to them.”

Although Poole pays his own expenses, one of the perks of his job is observing Olympic games in other cities – Salt Lake City in 2002, Athens in 2004, Torino in 2006, and recently Beijing, which he says set a new standard for efficiency and planning.

“Each time you’re overwhelmed by the number of people moving around,” he says. “It always falls back to, how do you keep things on time? Beijing did it nearly perfectly because everything happened on time. The volunteers were so friendly and it just flowed. It was as near a perfect performance as you could imagine.

“We’re not here to outdo Beijing. Our goal is to put on a very Canadian event – to showcase our commitment and love of sport. Now we’re wondering what we possibly could have missed because we think we’re in good shape, but we know that 18 months out, there is still lots of time for things to go wrong. We don’t know what might happen that we might not know about. It’s the unknowns that keep you up at night.”

With so many athletes, fans, coaches and officials participating, Poole says the 1,000 employees and 25,000 volunteers are the keys to the games.

“Volunteers are what make it work, especially for the spectators. Those are the people they (spectators) will meet. Canadians have shown that there is no one better. We have a great reputation for hosting events. People still fondly remember the 1988 games in Calgary. It was wonderful.”

By the end of the 2010 Olympics, it’s estimated 3-4 billion people will have watched a portion of the games, either live or on television.

“To say we’re excited is an understatement!”

An Honourable Calling: Political Memoirs
(U of Toronto Press, 2008) by Allan Blakeney (LLD’95)

As Premier of Saskatchewan from 1971 to 1982, Allan Blakeney played a pivotal role in the shaping of modern Canada. In this engaging and candid political memoir, Blakeney reflects on his four decades of public service, offering first-hand insights on the introduction of government-sponsored medicare, the patriation of the Canadian Constitution and new approaches to natural resource development.

Haiga Moments
(Raymond Belcourt, 2008) by Ignatius Fay (PhD’83)

Haiga refers to Haiku/Senryu poetry that is illustrated. In Haiga Moments, Fay’s little snippets of observation accompanied by digital photography are captured in verses that provoke deeper levels of emotion and contemplation than suggested by the brevity and simplicity of structure.

A Paradiddle
(Rich Frog, 2007) by Donovan Cowan (BMus’48) and Julie Oakes

There are two drummers with full kits in the archetypal band – the one set on the stage of life – who are a generation apart. After a brief acknowledgement of the other’s serendipitous engagement, they begin a paradiddle. Back and forth, left to right, they talk to each other while the beat goes on, the jazzy walking rhythms of being here, now.

The House of the Easily Amused
(Oolichan Books, 2008) by Shelley A. Leedahl (BA’07)

Where is home? What, and who, constitutes family? Why does one sometimes feel more at home when away? With the poet’s sensibility and the pilgrim’s resolve, Leedahl’s complimentary evocations of disparate people and landscapes – both faraway and familiar – put traditional concepts to the test.

Staying in the Game
(Dundurn, 2008) by Sydney Sharpe and Peter Lougheed

Daryl K. “Doc” Seaman (BE(ME)’48, LLD’82) became an icon of Canadian business and hockey. He is one of the last of a breed of postwar entrepreneurs and sportsmen who forged modern Canada, striking deals on a handshake and always keeping their word. Seaman’s life is a remarkable saga of courage, resolve, generosity, and success.

If you graduated from the U of S and have recently published a book, let us know.
email: alumni.office@usask.ca
Known as one of the founders of the health promotion program ParticipACTION, Kisby (BAPE’63) devoted almost a quarter century to the organization, traveling the country and the world to work with governments, the media, volunteer organizations and the private sector promoting the long-term benefits of physical activity and a healthy lifestyle. His ability to “move a nation” earned him many accolades, including this year’s Alumni Achievement Award.

Born in Yorkton, Kisby did most of his schooling, including an undergraduate degree in physical education, in Saskatoon. His early professional career was spent with the YMCA of Canada in Montreal, moving on to the national level of that organization.

In 1972, he joined the federal government-initiated program ParticipACTION and served as its president from 1978-2001. With the re-launch of the program in 2006, he continued his involvement, this time as an advisor.

Among the awards presented to Kisby during the course of his career were the R. Tait McKenzie Honour Award of the national physical education professional association, the federal government Canada 125 medal, the Dr. Harold M. Segall Award of Merit from the Canadian Cardiovascular Society, the 2000 World Sport for All Award and an honorary doctor of laws degree from the U of S in 1996 “for commitment to promoting a healthier lifestyle for people of all ages.”

While his activities took him around the world, Kisby remained closely connected to his alma mater, serving as honorary spokesperson for the U of S Annual Fund in 1999, providing valuable counsel to the “in motion” consortium that includes the U of S, and supporting students by establishing, with his wife Merle, the Kinesiology Aboriginal Student Award.

Russ Kisby died July 20, 2007 at his home in Ontario. His obituary in the Globe & Mail requested that donations made in his name “be followed by a brisk fitness walk.”
Today, he leads the recruitment and training in Saskatchewan, and eventually to a position of EWB Canada volunteers overseas. Closer to home, Goertz has also dedicated himself to organizing computer training to Saskatoon’s underprivileged youth, becoming a role model for many along the way.

As one of his nominators noted, Goertz is living proof that humanitarianism is not a retirement project but rather a way of life and a viable career.

**MENTORSHIP AWARD**

Dr. Jocelyne Martel (MD’90), a clinical professor in the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences at the University of Saskatchewan, has, over her career, made a significant and on-going contribution to the personal, professional and educational development of others, making her a worthy recipient of this year’s mentorship award.

She truly teaches by example, sharing her passion for her work with students, residents and colleagues, and inspiring a similar passion along the way. Whether she is lecturing, conducting perinatology rounds or helping residents with their exam preparations, Martel provides mentorship which is genuine and without expectation of personal gain.

Martel is also well respected in the medical community for her clear, concise and evidence-based consultations, and for her advocacy for patients, particularly those with limited access to health care.

An active member of the Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists of Canada, Martel has authored clinical practice guidelines used by nurses, midwives, family physicians and obstetricians and gynecologists across the country. Many describe themselves as better physicians thanks to Martel’s mentorship.

**HUMANITARIAN AWARD**

Levi A. Goertz (BE’04) is described as a man who has fiercely and consistently dedicated his life to enabling positive social change, most notably as a driving force within Engineers Without Borders (EWB) in Saskatchewan and around the world.

After graduation from the U of S, Goertz embarked on a year-long venture in Benin, one of Africa’s poorest nations. There, he led the start-up of a sunflower processing plant to create opportunities for the poor and improve nutrient intake in an area where famine and malnutrition are common.

His passion led to the establishment of EWB in Saskatchewan, and eventually to a position as director of chapter development nationally. Today, he leads the recruitment and training of EWB Canada volunteers overseas. Closer to home, Goertz has also dedicated himself to organizing computer training to Saskatoon’s underprivileged youth, becoming a role model for many along the way.

As one of his nominators noted, Goertz is living proof that humanitarianism is not a retirement project but rather a way of life and a viable career.

**HONORARY ALUMNI**

Sue Hicks, through exceptional service, affinity and support of the University of Saskatchewan and the U of S Alumni Association, has been awarded honorary alumni status.

For some 20 years as a U of S employee, Hicks worked with alumni, donors, volunteers, administrators and students, and provided support to the board, executive committee and volunteer development committee of the association. In her role as Alumni Relations Consultant, Hicks was intimately involved in class reunions, helping to strengthen the connections between the institution and returning alumni and touching the lives of thousands along the way. In addition, she assisted the association with planning retreats, selecting award recipients and hosting annual general meetings.

Over the past couple of years, Hicks has worked to develop a more strategic approach to volunteer management, a process that led to the creation of the association’s volunteer management guide and volunteer profiles. Her work will no doubt assist the association with the recruitment, retention and training of volunteers for years to come.

Hamre honed his leadership and analytical skills during his four years at the U of S, earning the prestigious Canadian Council of Professional Engineers Gold Medal at the completion of his studies. Upon graduation, he took on the position of director of chapter development with Engineers Without Borders (EWB) in Canada, overseeing 25 university chapters and some 3,000 active members.

His work in Canada has inspired individuals by both empowering and encouraging them. In Zambia, Hamre was helping villagers change their lives by starting businesses that provide income, skills and confidence. He helped create various opportunities for local people, including planting trees in order to sell carbon credits on the Chicago Stock Exchange and training mechanics to build food processing equipment.
by Mark Ferguson

Michael Lobinger (BComm’75) is the CEO of the Lake Placid Group, a company that is building some of the most interesting developments in Western Canada including the new River Landing Village in downtown Saskatoon. And he is delighted to be bringing business back home.

“When I saw the beautiful piece of real-estate on the South Saskatchewan, I thought, my God!” said Lobinger in an interview from his Calgary office. “Real estate has been undervalued (in Saskatoon) and this is a boom that’s not falling away. People are coming into Saskatoon to buy something good. The province is now recognizing that there is something here.

“Saskatchewan has more natural assets than any other province in the country,” he continued. “I’m hoping the university and the province understands that and manages that well. We’ve invested in a project with an economic value of over $300 million. It’s a project that certainly has never been done in most major cities in Canada. It’s going to be an incredible focal point for the city and the province.”

Plans for the village include a hotel, condos, commercial space, restaurants, business and more. Construction at the river landing at 2nd Avenue and 19th Street will begin in the winter of 2008 and is expected to be complete sometime
in 2011. The plaza at the centre of the village mirrors one of Lobsinger’s favourite spots, Rockefeller Center in New York City, and will feature, like the famous landmark, a skating rink and a Christmas tree in winter.

“When you look at the nature of what we’re building, you’re going to have a lot of people coming to Saskatoon for that. There will be two restaurants, the hotel will cater to the tourists and the business person. The whole riverbank flows to that spot so this will be the centre point for activity for downtown and the residence will be the highest quality in the province.”

When Lobsinger graduated from the University of Saskatchewan, there were few options for the businessman in his home province so the commerce grad, like so many others, moved to Alberta to pursue a career.

“I made the choice to move to Alberta unemployed,” he says. “I hope the province is recognizing that we must maintain and retain our workforce. We are spending a lot of money getting educated in Saskatchewan. This is a big issue to me.”

But perhaps the most significant aspect of the entire River Landing Village project is the number of jobs it will create through its construction and operation. Lobsinger says he is not the only one who recognizes the magnitude of the development’s contribution to the local economy – Grant Isaac, dean of the Edwards School of Business, was the first to call and offer congratulations when the project was announced.

“We’re creating jobs, hundreds of jobs. Not just the building of the project but the operation of it. If you think how many offices we’ll house, first class retail space, first class space. We’ll house a lot of people that will live there. We’re very proud.”

By creating jobs, Lobsinger is also tapping some of the hardest workers in the country.

“I’ve been an employer in Alberta and I look for Saskatchewan people first. If they come from Saskatchewan, then they get first kick at the job. It’s the nature of the industry in Saskatchewan – a sense of drive, a sense of mission. People are typically harder working and more responsible. I’ve been let down very few times.”

But despite the economic boom in Saskatchewan, the job situation remains a concern for Lobsinger. His son Michael J. Lobsinger (BComm ’06), is also a graduate of the U of S and, like his father, the young man faces the reality of having to leave Saskatchewan to make it in business.

“When I graduated, it felt like 90 per cent of the graduating class left Saskatchewan. It’s not much different for my son. There’s this disconnect for business students between the huge opportunities in Saskatchewan and jobs. You go to school, then move to Alberta. What the community actually needs now is massive numbers of jobs, and I know massive numbers are coming back.”

If the boom is bringing the working businessperson back to Saskatchewan, it’s a difficult number to gauge. Certainly, the economic growth in the province is giving opportunities for business and Lobsinger thinks the university has a very important role in the future of the province.

“To me, there can’t be a disconnect from what the market requires and what the university does. The university and the province should be providing training for the economy around them.”
Alumni Services & Benefits

Alumni membership is automatic when you graduate from the University of Saskatchewan. With your free alumni card, you have access to many campus facilities and services. For more information, please call (306) 966-5186 or email alumni.office@usask.ca.

BALLROOM DANCING CLUB
Make your feet soar! Join the University of Saskatchewan Ballroom Dance Club. Make sure to bring your alumni card when you register.
For more information:
Phone: (306) 652-2575
Web: homepage.usask.ca/~uofsbdcc/
Email: ballroom.dance@usask.ca

CAMPUS COMPUTER STORE
As a U of S graduate, you can purchase computers, computer accessories and peripherals at competitive prices at the University of Saskatchewan Campus Computer Store. Non-commissioned IT Product Consultants are available on-site to help you select the right product.
For more information:
Phone: (306) 966-8375
Web: ccs.usask.ca
Email: comp.store@usask.ca

CAMPUS RECREATION & THE PAC
U of S Alumni can purchase a membership to the Physical Activity Complex for $40/month or $400/year (plus GST). All paid members are also entitled to purchase one partner membership. Some of the benefits include access to a five-route 40-foot climbing wall, a 14,000-square-foot fitness facility, a 1,500-square-foot fitness studio, a 200-metre walk/jog track, pools in both the Education Building and Physical Activity Complex, four convertible racquetball, squash and volleyball courts, towel and locker service, seminars on fitness and much more.
For more information:
Phone: (306) 966-1000
Web: kinesiology.usask.ca

FACULTY CLUB
Creating new traditions …
Nestled in a well-treed landscaped lot, the U of S Faculty Club is convenient to all campus locations. This facility is perfect for a professional function or as a retreat from a busy day. U of S alumni are welcome to join the club. The Faculty Club offers “Membership for a Day” for you to try them out at your convenience.
For more information:
Phone: (306) 966-7774
Web: www.usask.ca/facclub
Email: donna.cram@usask.ca

LIBRARIES
All alumni can continue to access the campus libraries by purchasing a library card for $35 (75% off the general public rate). Cards may be obtained at the circulation desk of the Main or any Branch Library.
For more information:
Phone: (306) 966-6005
Web: library.usask.ca

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT & CAREER CENTRE (SECC)
The services offered by the SECC are still available to you after you graduate. With your alumni card, you have access to online job postings, personal career assessments, employability workshops and guides, QuickTalks, career counseling and more.
For more information:
Phone: (306) 966-5003
Web: www.usask.ca/secc
Email: student.employ@usask.ca

THE LANGUAGE CENTRE
Do you need to learn a second language for travel, study, business or to communicate with family and friends? The University of Saskatchewan Language Centre offers alumni a 10 per cent discount on part-time multilingual classes. In these classes, you will develop conversational skills and cultural understanding. You will learn language in contexts such as identifying yourself or others, eating in a restaurant and giving directions. Written work and grammar study support your learning of the spoken language.
For more information:
Phone: (306) 966-4351
Web: www.learnenglish.usask.ca
Email: international.esl@usask.ca

THE SHEAF
The Sheaf, the campus student newspaper since 1912, is offering alumni card holders a special rate for classified advertising – buy one classified ad and receive a second classified ad for free.
For more information:
Phone: (306) 966-8687
Web: www.thesheaf.com
Email: sheaf.ads@usask.ca

Keep in touch!

Share your successes and accomplishments, connect with former classmates and stay in touch with the University of Saskatchewan.
Join the online community.

www.usask.ca/alumni
Email: alumni.office@usask.ca
The Myhr Travel Log

About ten years ago, Darryl Myhr (BA’66) and his wife Fern found their love for travel. They were contacted by the university’s alumni travel program to take a trip through Tuscany and fell in love — with both Italy and the travel program.

“We enjoyed Tuscany. It’s very pretty and very ancient,” said Myhr from his home in Kelowna. “The people we met were so interesting. We saw alumni that went to school with us and people with like minds.”

The Myhrs have been on five alumni trips so far and continue to see familiar faces from repeat travelers like themselves. Along with Tuscany, they’ve been to Greece, cruised down the Rhine in Germany, seen Russia at Christmas, and, on their most recent trip last year, took a cruise through the Panama Canal.

Myhr said the quality of trips were top notch. From the food to the accommodations, he’s never felt disappointed. And having the university supporting the trips means you might just learn something too.

“We were treated with high-end leadership — professors, master students were there to give us talks and provide information.”

Myhr said he and his wife are thinking about heading back to Germany or the Czech Republic for their next trip.

Photos supplied by Dawn Warren

Sign up now!

If you wish to receive the brochures and other travel information, please call (800) 699-1907 or email alumni.office@usask.ca to be added to the U of S Alumni Travel mailing list. See the list of exciting 2009 trips. www.usask.ca/alumni/travel
In March of this year, Lafontaine (MD’06), an anesthesia resident at the U of S, was named the winner of CBC’s Canada’s Next Great Prime Minister competition. The show included campaigning and debate, and the finalist took away accolades along with a cash prize. But Lafontaine says the show itself only presents a small part of what the contestants get up to.

“It’s a long process. I don’t think it comes across on the show, but it was about six months of us putting together ideas, presenting them, trying to get people to watch it on YouTube and then debating issues about your platform and then the platforms of other people. There was a lot of work over the six months leading up to the actual show,” recalls Lafontaine.

Now Lafontaine is taking on a new challenge.

“We just had a little one born July 9. She’s a little girl, and cute as a button. Things are going quite well. Being a parent is a big difference, and it’s funny how your parents were right when they said you won’t understand until you have a child,” he laughs.

With a title like next great prime minister, one might think Lafontaine would be tempted to get into federal politics, but he says there is more he needs to learn before he decides to go that route.

“I’ve been approached by a few parties to get involved and run in the next election, but I think right now I need to focus on family and education, and make sure that my footing is there,” he says. “I think there’s a lot of learning that has to happen before I’d be ready to take on office and do a really good job at it.”

Lafontaine has always done well at school, despite an early speech impediment that raised concerns he was developmentally delayed. When school administrators suggested that he be put in a remedial class, Lafontaine’s parents instead opted for home schooling.

“They pulled me out and really focused attention on trying to find the root problem, which actually ended up being ear infections. I pronounced things the way that I heard them. So they solved that problem.”

Lafontaine advanced quickly academically and was only 19 when he completed his BSc at the University of Regina. He cites a supportive family as one factor that helped him adapt to university despite his relative youth, and says that his young age was not necessarily a disadvantage.

A Prescription for Leadership
by Meshon Cantrill

Dr. Arika Lafontaine may well be touted as a future prime minister of Canada, but he’s not packing for a move to 24 Sussex Drive just yet.
“I think at the beginning university was a bit daunting, but having two older brothers going through courses as well helped a lot. Being young helped me in that I could stay focused on school work. After all, I was too young to get in trouble!”

He says his experience at the U of S has been a good one, adding the quality of professors in the College of Medicine is one reason for his success.

“I had quite a few professors and university administrators who helped me through the transition and completion of my MD. I can’t name all of them but Dr. [William] Albritton [dean of medicine] helped me a lot by mentoring me through some of the tougher times. We still talk occasionally and he always has useful advice. The College of Medicine here is unique from other places I think. It’s large enough that you still attract incredibly talented professors, but small enough that access to them usually isn’t a problem.”

During his campaign for the next great prime minister title, Lafontaine focused on aboriginal issues in Canada. He says that he has seen some encouraging changes at the U of S aimed at increasing the success of aboriginal students.

“I have noticed, over the six years that I’ve been here, a very concerted effort to help aboriginal students at the U of S, and I think we’re just beginning to see the fruits of that investment. For example, when I first entered medical school, I was the first aboriginal student to be admitted to the MD program in four years. Since I started, we’ve seen the number of applicants rise to the point where there are six students admitted to the MD program each year. Those numbers don’t come along by luck. The College of Medicine has a vision that it’s fulfilling through hard, grassroots work.”

He’s come far in a short time, and garnered significant success at a young age, but Lafontaine feels that he’s just beginning his education. His next step, he says, is to learn from the people around him.

“I’m finally coming full circle after this competition, after having a little girl, and after sitting down and chatting with my parents and other mentors that I’ve had. I’ve realized that I’m not really an expert in anything, I just have the opportunity to access people who have experienced things, so now I need to balance experience with knowledge and see if I can pull out any pearls of wisdom that might be there.”
1937
Jessie Gertrude McPherson (MacKay), BA’37, of Ottawa, ON, after graduation went on to Toronto to receive her Master of Science degree. She was on the student council as vice president when Gordon Robertson was president. They now attend the same church in Ottawa. Jessie resides in a retirement home in Ottawa near her son.

1952
James Gregory (Greg) Greenough, BComm’52, of Edmonton, AB, received the Distinguished Service Award from the Institution of Chartered Accountants of Alberta.

1953
Shirley Jo Paine (Tomlinson), BSN’53, of Brandon, MB, received the Degree of Doctor of Science (honoris causa) in recognition of outstanding contributions to the traditions and values of health education through a commitment to the well-being of students, enthusiasm for and knowledge of nursing, and skill and wisdom as a teacher and administrator on May 31, 2008 at the Spring Convocation, Brandon University.

1961
Dr. John William Foster, BA’61, PhD’77 (Toronto), of Ottawa, ON, received an Honorary Doctor of Divinity award from St. Andrew’s College at the May 2008 Convocation Ceremony of the Saskatoon Theological Union.

1962
Dr. Joseph (Joey) Brown, BA’62, BEd’64, MA’69, DDS’71 (Alberta), of Calgary, AB, was presented the 2008 Outstanding Alumni Award on May 22, 2008 by the University of Alberta Dental Alumni Association.

1963
Duncan Rand, BA’63, of Lethbridge, AB, was selected at the 2005 Alberta Library Conference as one of Alberta’s library innovators and leaders in Medium Sized Public Libraries over the past 100 years. A total of one hundred persons were named in categories including: University, Special, and Rural Libraries; Large, Midsized and Small Public Libraries, as well as Library Trustees and Library Support Services.

1965
Reverend M. Vernon Begalke, BA’65, MDiv’69, STM’70, PhD’80, has retired June 13, 2008 after 38 years in ordained ministry, the last 23 years as Chaplain/Director of Pastoral Care in Peace Country Health Region, Grande Prairie, AB. In April 2001, he received a Distinguished Service Award presented by the Alberta Pastoral Care Association, in recognition of training over 100 student chaplains in Hosp. Pastoral Care.

1966
Thomas (Tom) Arthur Shepherd, BComm’66, of Regina, SK, was recently inducted into the Canadian Football Hall of Fame.

1967
S. Patricia Rempel (Allan), BA’67, BLS (UBC), Dip/Educ (Alberta), MEduc (Alberta), PhD (Alberta), of Edmonton, AB, in June 2008 received her PhD from the University of Alberta, Department of Educational Policy Studies. She is currently working as a Librarian at the University of Alberta.

1968
Joseph Leon Handley, BEd’68, MEduc’70, of Yellowknife, NT, received the 2008 Aboriginal Achievement Award in Politics. He has also recently been appointed to the Board of Directors for the CBC and Radio-Canada for a five-year term.

1969
Morley Grenville (Gren) Smith-Windsor, BA’69, of Regina, SK, was appointed Associate Deputy Minister of Health for the Government of Saskatchewan.

1970
Ross Gilbert Wilson, BA’70, BEd’73, of Saskatoon, SK, was honored by the CIS with the Austin-Matthews Award for his outstanding contributions to interuniversity sport.

1971
Dr. Bruce Edward Coulman, BSA’71, MSc’73, PhD (Man), of Saskatoon, SK, received the 2008 Canadian Plant Breeding and Genetics Award. Dr. Coulman is currently Professor and Head of the Department of Plant Sciences at the University of Saskatchewan.

1972
Dr. James (Jim) Armand Jutras, BA’72, BEd’76, MEduc’89, PhD (Oregon), of Saskatoon, SK, director of education for Saskatoon public schools, received the League of Educational Administrators, Directors and Superintendents (LEADS) Distinguished Service Award.

1975
Mark Edmond Wartman, BA’75, of Saskatoon, SK, was appointed Development Officer for the College of Agriculture and Bioresources at the University of Saskatchewan.

1976
Philip Howard Amundson, BSA’76, of Calgary, AB, was presented with an Outstanding Achievement Award of the Public Service of Canada. He is currently with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency and for the past seven years has been responsible for CFIA operations across Western Canada.

1977
Basil Wayne Hughton, BSPE’77, BEd’78, MEduc’92, of Saskatoon, SK, was recently appointed Athletic Director for the College of Kinesiology at the University of Saskatchewan.

1978
Monica Lois Kreuger, BA’78, MBA’94, of Saskatoon, SK, received the 2008 YWCA Women of Distinction Entrepreneurship Award as well as the CYBF National Community Partner Award. This year Saskatchewan Business magazine recognized Monica as one of Saskatchewan’s top ten Women of Influence and Ace Canada (Advancing Canadian Entrepreneurship) awarded her with the National Most Supportive Business Advisory Member Award.

1982
Dr. Joseph (Joey) Brown, BEd’64, of Calgary, AB, was presented with an Outstanding Achievement Award for the 2008-09 academic year.

1984
Dr. Vivian Jane Hajnal, MBA’76, PhD’91, BSc’67 (Manitoba), of Saskatoon, SK, was appointed Acting Dean in the College of Education at the University of Saskatchewan for the 2008-09 academic year.

1986
Joanne McTaggart, BEd’77, of Saskatoon, SK, was recently named head coach for the University of Saskatchewan Huskies Track & Field Team.

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1993
Dr. Jim Kells, BEd’77, MSc’80, PhD’95, of Saskatoon, SK, was appointed to a five-year term as Head of the Department of Civil and Geological Engineering at the University of Saskatchewan to begin July 1, 2009.

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1979

**Dr. Sidney “Lee” Barbour**, BE(CE)’79, MSc’81, PhD’87, of Saskatoon, SK, received the 2008 Outstanding Achievement Award from the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Saskatchewan.

1981

**The Honourable Mr. Justice John Kenneth Mitchell**, LLB’81, BA’75 (PEI), BEd’77 (PEI), of Charlottetown, was appointed a Judge of the Supreme Court of Prince Edward Island.

1983

**Margaret Ann Kuzyk**, P.Eng, BE(CE)’83, of Saskatoon, SK, received the 2008 Brian Eckel Distinguished Service Award from the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Saskatchewan.

1986

**John Paul Keith Schmeiser**, BA’86, of Chestermere, AB, has been appointed as the Vice President of Canadian Government Affairs for the North American Equipment Dealers Association (NAEDA). NAEDA represents over 4,000 farm, industrial and outdoor power equipment dealers in Canada and the United States and is headquartered in Fenton, MO.

1987

**The Honourable Mr. Justice Geoffrey David Dufour**, LLB’87, of Saskatoon, SK, was appointed a Judge of Her Majesty’s Court of Queen’s Bench for Saskatchewan in February of this year.

**Dr. Digvir Singh Jayas**, PhD’87, MSc (Man), of Winnipeg, MB, received the 2008 Meritorious Service Award for Professional Service from Engineers Canada at their gala in Quebec City on May 24, 2008, recognizing outstanding service and dedication to the Canadian engineering profession.

1988

**Patricia (Pat) Monelle Rogal**, BComm’88, of Saskatoon, SK, was chairperson to a successful 2008 CIS Women’s Basketball Championship, the first hosted by the University of Saskatchewan in 25 years.

1989

**Thomas (Tom) Stewart McClocklin**, BComm’89, of Saskatoon, SK, was appointed Director of Victoria Park Capitals Inc.

1991

**Dr. Donald Ekong**, MSc’91, PhD’97, of Macon, GA, USA, was recently promoted to Associate Professor of Computer Engineering with tenure at Mercer University in Macon, GA.

1994

**Leigh-Ellen Keating**, BA’94, of Saskatoon, SK, joined the University of Saskatchewan as Global Relations Coordinator in March of this year.

1995

**Steven (Steve) George Michaluk**, BE’95, of Moose Jaw, SK, was a 2008 inductee into the Saskatchewan Sports Hall of Fame. He is the first lacrosse player to gain hall membership.

1996

**Monica Jane Goulet**, BA’96, MBA’07, of Saskatoon, SK, received the 2008 YWCA’s Women of Distinction Award for Community Building.

1999

**Dr. Susan Carol Blum**, PhD’99, of Saskatoon, SK, was recently appointed Director of Research Services within the Office of the Vice President Research at the University of Saskatchewan.

2005

**Tarra Louise Hall (Prisciak)**, BSKI’05, of Saskatoon, SK, recently became the event coordinator for Huskie Athletics at the University of Saskatchewan.

2006

**Nancy Bawa**, BSc’06, of Saskatoon, SK, was recently awarded the International Fuel Ethanol Workshop Scholarship for her research in bio-fuels.

**Dr. Carrie-Ann Lynn Runstedler**, PhD’06, of Saskatoon, SK, along with her husband Darren Prefontaine welcomed their first daughter, Emma Laura Anne on February 14, 2008. Carrie and Darren were married in August, 2008.
The Alumni Association has noted, with sorrow, the passing of the following faculty and friends:

Ms. Olga Rose Loster, of Saskatoon, SK, d. April 12, 2008.

Mr. William Tyre McKenzie, of Edmonton, AB, d. May 1, 2008.

Ms. Phyllis M Summers, formerly of Saskatoon, SK, d. May 8, 2008.

The Alumni Association has noted, with sorrow, the passing of the following graduates:

(1934) ADAMS, Robert Austin, Assoc’34, of Moose Jaw, SK, d. April 2008.

(1935) ALLEN, Helen Joyce, Assoc’35, BA’37, of Saskatoon, SK, d. July 4, 2008.


(1937) CHASSE, Phillip, Dip/Agric’37, of North Battleford, SK, d. February 20, 2008.

(1937) RACKHAM, Thomas Stanley, BSA’37, of Ottawa, ON, d. May 6, 2008.


(1938) YONG, Jean, BA’38, of Weyburn, SK, d. September 27, 2007.

(1939) HARDING, Lois Margaret, BA’39, MA’51(Univ. of MB), MA’59(unknown), of Calgary, AB, d. May 23, 2008.

(1939) SCHWIEDER, Frank McKay, BE’39, of Mississauga, ON, d. March 17, 2008.

(1940) FOWLER, Verna Edna, BA’40, of Saskatoon, SK, d. June 8, 2008.

(1941) CAMPBELL, Dr. Joseph (Joe) Dempsey, BSA’41, MSC’50(McGill), PhD’53(Michigan) of Victoria, BC, d. March 24, 2008.

(1941) GENGE, John Pope, BE’41, of Richmond Hill, ON, d. April 14, 2008.


(1941) POLLARD, Eber Allison, BE’41, of Wellington, ON, d. March 20, 2008.

(1941) RICH, Dr. Park Judson, BA’41, MED’41, MD(unknown) of Prince Albert, SK, d. May 29, 2008.

(1942) FORSYTH, Dr. Peter Allan, BA’42, MA’47, of London, ON, d. May 8, 2008.


(1945) CLIMENHAGA, Dr. John Leroy, BA’45, MA’49, of Victoria, BC, d. May 27, 2008.

(1946) HAVER, Dr. Cecil Berdine (Doc), BSA’46, MD’46(Univ. of California at Berkeley), PhD’S54(Iowa State Univ.), of Kemptville, ON, d. May 29, 2008.


(1946) TRAINOR, Dr. Lynne Emmet Homer, BA’46, MA’47, of Toronto, ON, d. April 30, 2008.


(1947) MELSNESS, Floyd Donald, Dip/Agric’47, of Saskatoon, SK, d. May 13, 2008.

(1947) PEAKE, Dr. Frank Alexander, BA’47, of Nepean, ON, d. February 13, 2008.


(1948) MOORE, Spencer, BA’48, of Gloucester, ON, d. May 1, 2008.


(1949) NELLES, John Sumner, BE’49, of Leamington, ON, d. March 9, 2008.

(1950) CLARKE, Bertram John (Jack), BE’50, of Saskatoon, SK, d. June 20, 2008.

(1950) GOODEVE, Dr. Allan McCoy, BSP’50, of Vancouver, BC, d. May 4, 2008.

(1950) GROOME, Dr. Agnes Jean, BEd’50, MA’57, of Regina, SK, d. May 30, 2008.


(1952) NEIBRANDT, Harry Frederick, Dip/Agric’52, of Yorkton, SK, d. July 2006.

(1952) TROYER, Cameron George, Dip/Agric’52, of Calgary, AB, d. May 13, 2008.

(1953) BOESCH, Maurice Dean, BSA’53, of Gray and Regina, SK, d. May 15, 2008.

(1953) COGLAN, Donald Owen, BE’53, of Regina, SK, d. May 5, 2008.


(1955) ANDERSON, Frank Wesley, BA’55, of Saskatoon, SK, d. April 10, 2008.


(1959) SOLTY, John, BComm’59, BEd’64, of Regina, SK, d. May 12, 2008.


(1960) SHEWCHUK, Dr. John, BE’60, MSC’61, PhD’66(unknown), of Winnipeg, MB, d. April 14, 2008.

(1961) OAKENFOLD, Leora (Lee), BA’61, of Saskatoon, SK, d. March 15, 2008.


(1964) PANAMAROFF, Edward Victor, Dip/Agric’64, of Sonningdale, SK, d. May 1, 2008.
in memoriam

(1965) DAY, Professor Catherine Frances, BEd’65, MEd’69, of Edmonton, AB, d. May 16, 2008.

(1965) FEDOROWICH, Bernard (Bernie) Valentine, BSP’65, of Yorkton, SK, d. April 6, 2008.

(1965) HALL, Dr. Arnold Anton, MD’65, of New Westminster, BC, d. April 22, 2008.


(1965) DAY, Professor Catherine Frances, BEd’65, MEd’69, of Edmonton, AB, d. May 16, 2008.

(1965) FEDOROWICH, Bernard (Bernie) Valentine, BSP’65, of Yorkton, SK, d. April 6, 2008.


(1967) KOSOLOFSKI, Sister Frances, BEd’67, BA’67, MA’70, of Saskatoon, SK, d. April 20, 2008.


(1973) BROWN, George Maurice, BEd’73, BA’75, MEd’80, of Cobourg, ON, d. June 15, 2008.

(1973) GRISDALE, Verna Marie, BA’73, of Saskatoon, SK, d. April 9, 2008.

(1973) MILANI, Ian Keith, BE’73, of Orleans, ON, d. May 26, 2008.


(1975) KOSMYNKA, Ann, BEd’75, of Saskatoon, SK, d. May 7, 2008.

Bernie Isman, a proud graduate of the University of Saskatchewan’s College of Law, passed away in Vancouver Sept. 5 at the age of 101.

Among his many accomplishments, Isman (LLB’28) was, until his passing, the oldest (unofficial) living collegiate hockey player in Canada. He played for the U of S Huskies against the University of Manitoba Bisons in 1927, and scored the game’s only, and winning, goal.

Originally from Kamsack, Isman spent 61 years practicing law in Saskatchewan and British Columbia, including time spent as a BC provincial court judge. A veteran of the Second World War, he was an active member of the Royal Canadian Legion as well as the Shriners organization where he participated in the local concert band until the age of 96.

Isman was a regular attendee at U of S reunions and was greatly admired for his enthusiasm for life, his stories and his pride in the University of Saskatchewan.
Q&A

with Joan Greyeyes

Joan Greyeyes (BEd’79) is delighted to be back at the University of Saskatchewan. The new special advisor on aboriginal initiatives first came to the university as a student, returning as a part-time instructor in the Indian Teacher Education Program (ITEP) in 1984-85, and again from 1992-95 as director of the Aboriginal Student Centre. She also earned a post-graduate diploma in educational administration in 1985 and a MEd in 2005. Now, Greyeyes is back at the institution she says is doing all the right things when it comes to attracting and retaining aboriginal students.

G&W  Since your time as a student here, what are some of the biggest changes that you have noticed around campus?

JG  One of the most significant changes is the number of distinguished Aboriginal scholars at our institution. This university is prominent in indigenous affairs because of the scholarly expertise of our Aboriginal faculty. Other noticeable changes are the increased representation of Aboriginal students in all colleges, and the position the university has taken to foster and promote a good working relationship with Aboriginal communities. The pace of Aboriginal initiatives at the university has quickened, with specific focus on overcoming the barriers to a post-secondary education faced by many Aboriginal students.

G&W  What is your fondest memory of your time here at the University of Saskatchewan?

JG  Seeing my children graduate from the same institution as myself and taking a leadership role in their chosen careers.

G&W  Did you have any mentors or people that you looked up to as a student?

JG  My greatest mentors have been my parents. They stressed the importance of hard work and a good education to their children. Needless to say the grandchildren have received the same message.

G&W  You were appointed the special advisor on Aboriginal initiatives in November of 2007. What is the importance of this position?

JG  This position is recognition that Aboriginal post-secondary education is a priority. In this position, I have the challenge of identifying and developing strategies that will support Aboriginal inclusion as outlined in the university’s integrated plan.

G&W  What do you hope to achieve working in this position?

JG  I hope that I can influence strategies that will increase Aboriginal participation, not only in math and science-based programs but at the graduate level as well. This is critical to increasing the number of Aboriginal faculty and staff.

G&W  How important is it to have an Aboriginal student space here on campus?

JG  The planned Aboriginal student centre at the University of Saskatchewan is important not only for the academic programs it supports, but also for the personal counseling and cultural activities it provides. By establishing the Aboriginal student centre, the university has created a focal point for Aboriginal achievement and a sense of place for Aboriginal students.

G&W  In the last year, what is one accomplishment that stands out above the rest?

JG  That is a tough question because I have seen many accomplishments by programs and individuals this year. The graduation of 14 students from Fort Smith N.W.T. from the Indian Teacher Education Program in their home community is one highlight. Of course, the establishment of the Indigenous Land Management Institute and Marie Battiste, a faculty member of the College of Education, receiving a National Aboriginal Achievement Award are others.

Victor and Letha Colleaux felt strongly about helping students. They established a trust that could help deserving students from any college or program at the University of Saskatchewan both during their lifetime and after they’d passed. Their generosity continues to have a lasting impact on students at the U of S. Since 1964, over 1,300 deserving students have been recipients of the Victor and Letha Colleaux Awards.

“"The Colleaux award is special because it’s a donor’s personal investment in my education, which is inspiring; but it’s also much-needed support to ease the burden of a costly program,” says Oriana Nahachewsky, one of the award recipients in 2008. For more information on planned giving to the U of S, including making a bequest through your will, please contact the Planned Giving office at (306) 966-5297 or email us at: giving@usask.ca
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