TOMMY DOUGLAS

All roads lead back to Brandon College

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If you have any suggestions, or know of an outstanding alumna/alumnus you believe we should feature, please contact the Alumni Office. We look forward to hearing your ideas, suggestions, and feedback.

Alumni News is published twice a year and reaches more than 13,000 alumni and friends of Brandon University world-wide. To date, thousands of alumni have supported the Brandon University Alumni Association (BUAA) through participation in alumni programs and affinity product and service offerings. If you do not wish to be provided with such product or service offers, or do not wish to receive Alumni News in the future, please contact us.

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SPRING/SUMMER 2005
Brandon University has a lot to be proud of. It has some unique programs, certainly a unique history on the prairies, and most importantly, some outstanding alumni. This year we were treated to something called the Greatest Canadian television series on CBC. Anyone who has thought about the characteristics of Canada cannot fail to realize that the Canadian ideal is very much embodied in the philosophy and politics of Tommy Douglas, B.A. 1930. The students graduating this year continue in the long tradition of social democratic citizenship exemplified by Douglas. We are proud of him and we are proud of the graduates that are out there making a difference. As I have said repeatedly, universities are about teaching people how to live well, how to make a living, and how to live together. Tommy Douglas was about all this.

This May, we will graduate over 500 more great Canadians.

Warmest regards,

Louis P. Visentin, Ph.D
President, Brandon University

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On January 1, 2004, the Federal Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act (PIPEDA) came into force for all organizations across Canada.

Brandon University Alumni Association collects information about its alumni and friends and is committed to the protection and privacy of this information. We make every effort to comply with applicable laws such as the Manitoba Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA) and the Federal Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act (PIPEDA).

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THEN and NOW
The Evolving Campus
Henry Champ

Henry Champ, a native of Brandon, Manitoba, is CBC Newsworld's Washington Senior News Correspondent, delivering Canadian viewers the latest developments in the U.S. political arena.

Champ spent 10 years as a correspondent with NBC News before moving to Halifax in 1993 to become part of the anchor team on the CBC Morning News, CBC Newsworld's in-depth morning news show. During his years with NBC, he was assigned to the network's Frankfurt and London Bureaus, and was also assigned to NBC's Washington Bureau, where he served as the U.S. Congressional correspondent for the network's news programs.

Before making the move south, Champ spent 15 years sharpening his journalism skills at CTV. He held positions as CTV's Bureau Chief in Washington, London, and Montreal, and as an investigative reporter for the network's flagship program W5 from 1978 to 1982. In 2005 Henry Champ was inducted into the Brandon University Alumni Association Wall of Fame.

Tom Cochrane

Tom Cochrane has been a successful writer and musician since the late 1970s with his group Red Rider and then as a solo artist. Cochrane has been awarded seven Juno awards, including Male Vocalist of the Year, Songwriter of the Year, Album of the Year, and Single of the Year, and has been nominated for an additional 14 Junos and one Grammy award for his popular single Life is A Highway. Tom was inducted into the Canadian Music Hall of Fame and recognized by SOCAN with five awards and the National Achievement Award for 2004. Manitoba-born Cochrane remains proud of his Canadian accomplishments.

Cochrane continually demonstrates a social conscience with his involvement in charity work. He is a spokesperson with World Vision and has recently become the Honorary Chairperson for the Parkinsons Society of Canada, a disease that has personally touched Tom's life.

Shirley Douglas

Veteran stage actor, Shirley Douglas, has worked extensively in theatre, film, television and radio since her early 20s. Douglas has become well known for her portrayal of strong and passionate women; however, she is probably best known for her powerfully-acted role of May Bailey in Wind At My Back. She won a Best Actress Gemini in 2000 for the television film Shadow Lake, and in 2004 Shirley was welcomed to Canada's Walk of Fame.

As the daughter of Tommy Douglas, it is not surprising that she is what is usually called a social activist. During the Vietnam War she was prominent in the anti-war movement. She also became national spokesperson for Canada Health Coalition, and she spearheaded the implementation of higher standards and safeguards for child actors, to name a few. In 2003 she joined the honoured ranks of the Order of Canada.

James Ehnes

Brandon-born James Ehnes has established an international career of rare distinction. Ehnes has gained a pre-eminent reputation among the world's great concert violinists. He has performed with scores of internationally renowned conductors and has appeared with orchestras and in recitals around the world.

Ehnes first gained national recognition in 1987 as winner of the Grand Prize in Strings at the Canadian Music Competition. The following year he won the First Prize in Strings at the Canadian Music Festival, the youngest musician ever to do so. Ehnes has continued to win countless awards and prizes over the years, including the first-ever Ivan Galamian Memorial Award and the Canada Council for the Arts prestigious Virginia Parker Prize and three Junos.

Brandon University is honoured to have Ehnes as Francis Chaplin Guest Professor of Violin. Ehnes will perform concerts, conduct master classes and teach private lessons on a periodic basis at the University over the next three years.

For a full biography of our 2005 Honorary Degree recipients, please visit www.brandonu.ca/news
2005 AWARD WINNERS

President's Medal
Dr. Robert Springer

President's Medal
Dr. Robert Annis

Brandon University Foundation
Outstanding Volunteer Fundraiser
Dr. Tom Breneman

Board of Governors
Excellence in Community Service
Dr. Gerald Dueck

Brandon University Alumni Association
Wall of Fame
(The Honourable)
Walter G. Dinsdale

Brandon University Alumni Association
Award for Distinguished Service
Mr. Raymond Bailey

Senate Award for Excellence in Research
Dr. Margaret Carrington

Brandon University Foundation
Apex Award
Mr. Dahl Cannons

Brandon University Alumni Association
Award for Excellence in Teaching
Ms Sandy Margetts
To fans of the serial TV show 24, Jack is the hero who puts his life on the line to save the free world, one day at time. Some might be surprised to learn that the real-life Jack, Kiefer Sutherland, also puts himself on the line to make the world a better place. In this case, it's Sutherland's fame at stake and Medicare is his cause. Why would a successful US-based actor defend a battered Canadian health care system besieged by Americanized forces for privatization? Well, as the grandson of the Greatest Canadian, Thomas Clement Douglas, Kiefer could dodge cold winters, but never the Call-to-Arms on behalf of Douglas' beloved blood legacy.

Though he championed much of what society now holds sacrosanct, from public auto insurance to women's rights, Tommy Douglas is best remembered as the grandfather of Medicare. He remains our national icon even in a day and age where politicians are cellar-dwellers in public confidence polls. Generations of journalists have already covered every nook and cranny of his career, so Douglas' public life is given its due in the timeline (see page 11) and a fresh perspective on the person behind the politician was found by following the unbreakable Brandon thread running throughout his story.

The definitive Douglas biography is co-authored by Thomas H. McLeod (with son Ian McLeod) and entitled The Road to Jerusalem as it chronicles the long journey of Douglas and his believers to establish a new order where people came before profits and human need carried more economic clout than corporate greed. The title might have been All Roads Lead Back to Brandon College as this original incarnation of Brandon University was the Mecca from which an impressive cast of characters went on to collectively change our country.

Brandon College was then described as a combination liberal arts and missionary training school founded by the Baptist Church. McLeod paints a circa-1920 Wheat City as "the chief market town in Western Manitoba, with a population of about 18,000, with Brandon College located on the treeless plain at the city's western edge."
Douglas came to Brandon College in 1924 as a mature student from working-class Winnipeg to resume an education interrupted by the need to apprentice in the printing trade as the first-born son of an immigrant family. Tommy's attachment to his Scottish heritage ran so deep that a well-worn volume of the Bard's poetry was a constant companion, as was the printer's card he carried proudly for the rest of his days.

After completing academic upgrading, Douglas embraced his studies at Brandon College with refreshingly rational views on science and social reform due to his eclectic upbringing where politics, patriotism and Christian convictions mixed comfortably with religious and racial tolerance around the family dinner table. This practical blend of the best of socio-economic ideals, combined with a Celtic knack for story telling and a never-say-die creed, helped forge the man his professional foes called “the most influential politician never to be elected Prime Minister”.

Brandon College experiences led to a lifelong partnership with Stanley Knowles that came full circle when the pair was honoured as the ultimate role models with the dedication of the Knowles-Douglas Student Union Building in 1985. These two giants are remembered for their proclivity for acting, hallway high jinks and exemplary academic standards. Knowles collected wagers from classmates on Douglas' ability to accurately regurgitate lengthy Free Press editorials and Tommy's photographic memory always cashed in. Rumour also has Knowles in this sidekick role when Tommy would take on challengers in boxing bouts at the bottom of the Clark Hall stairs. Douglas also remained undefeated in this theatre, due to skills honed as flyweight boxing champion of Manitoba prior to his college entrance.

Knowles and Douglas even split a senior-year pastoral apprenticeship in Weyburn, SK where Douglas would eventually establish his first preaching and political base.

Douglas was also Brandon College's fiercest debater, suffering his only loss to a music student from Carberry MB, Irma Dempsey, who would later become his wife of fifty-six years. In honour of their shared history at Brandon College, Irma donated Tommy's chair from his Saskatchewan Premier's office, and it is on proud display at the McKee Archives, at Brandon University. Archivist Tom Mitchell also provides a colourful anecdote from a time when...
Douglas was giving a speech and a heckler called him a little communist. “Be careful who you’re calling little!” retorted the diminutive (5'6”) Douglas.

In 1927, Douglas began practice preaching at Knox Church in Carberry. The culture shock went both ways, as Tommy was very much a city boy and Carberry was equally overwhelmed by his larger-than-life style. It was here that Douglas first met his bride-to-be. Later, Tommy would dredge up dim memories of his Scottish grandfather’s horses for desperate leverage with Irma’s father during their college courtship. Old friend Knowles married the couple in 1930 just in time for Douglas to take his newly minted degree and wife to his first official pulpit at the Calvary Church in Weyburn, SK.

In these early Weyburn years, Tommy organized the town’s first theatrical society and Douglas’ dramatic prowess would prove priceless on the political stage. He also created an extra-curricular boys club to foster a love of learning and athletics in kids left bereft of opportunity by the Depression. Thomas McLeod was one of those boys who would follow his hero’s path to Brandon College, teaching Economics at BU at one time, as well as becoming Douglas’ spear carrier throughout his political career.

Brandon College continued to weave throughout Tommy’s life as he completed his Master’s Degree in 1933 through Brandon College’s affiliation with McMaster University, and would reappear in 1961 with an honorary Doctorate of Laws through the University of Manitoba, with which Brandon College was then affiliated. Another honour would come in 1970 when Douglas gave the convocation address at Brandon University, where the University conferred upon him an honorary Doctorate of Laws. Douglas, along with Knowles, was also one of the original (posthumous) inductees to the Brandon University Alumni Association Wall of Fame in 2002.

“He was the biggest man I ever met,” says retired journalist-extraordinaire and long-time Brandon University lecturer, Fred McGuinness. “He was only 150 pounds soaking wet, but TCD (Thomas Clement Douglas) had the heart of a lion in a bantam-weight body.”

McGuinness, also a Brandon University honorary degree recipient, is another well-respected Brandonite who felt the pull of Douglas’ personality when Fred landed the contract to coordinate Saskatchewan’s Jubilee celebrations from 1952-55. Though McGuinness worked independently of Douglas during the day, they actually lived around the corner from each other on matching Regina crescents. Christine McGuinness remembers a gracious Irma Douglas helping the young couple settle in and, to this day, uses Irma’s recipe for the best bran muffins this side of the Rockies. This physical proximity led Fred and Tommy to share many spontaneous road trips where Douglas would commandeer the young gun as chauffeur to community events outside the city. One such country excursion offers a priceless peek at the flesh-and-blood Greatest Canadian.

Douglas was seething at the need for a united front for the good of party and province despite a minister having upstaged him with an unapproved announcement to the Leader Post. “Fred, do you know the difference between a caucus and a cactus?” asked a ticked-off TCD. “With a cactus, the pricks are on the outside!” Though Douglas was a well-known wit and employed this to great effect, McGuinness equally recalls TCD’s philosophical disdain for colleagues who told jokes completely out of context just for a cheap laugh. As in all things, Douglas’ skill as a raconteur was a tool kept sharp for work.

Though Douglas was famous for his approachability he was occasionally infamous for what McGuinness labelled a black day. Tommy’s long-time secretary, Eleanor McKinnon, joined Douglas on the journey from Weyburn to Regina as yet another Brandon College graduate on the team. Her calm control at the office helm was invaluable to TCD’s inner circle when he was in the throes of one of these periodic rages. When Eleanor said, “Don’t go in today, Fred. Better stay away,” McGuinness knew she had spared him, and his request to live on another black day. Tommy’s response was never off the cuff. Douglas was
also well known for never saying no to a petitioner, though sometimes this guarantee came only by craftily redirecting the delivery of bad news onto an unsuspecting department head or minister.

McGuinness offered another anecdote from the day Douglas caught the young Fred limping. “We discovered this curious connection,” says McGuinness. “We both suffered from osteomyelitis—a chronic bone inflammation—for years. I’d finally found effective pills for flare-ups so I let Douglas try one. From then on, TCD would call up out of the blue to say he was on his way over for one of my golden bullets.”

Douglas’ osteomyelitis stemmed from a boyhood leg injury that festered for four years until, by the age of ten, amputation seemed the only option, as the family could not afford a specialist. In the nick of time, a skilled surgeon took up Tommy’s case as a teaching opportunity and his leg and life were saved. Douglas never forgot this lesson that good health was only a right for the rich, though it would take another half century before his dream of universal health care would become a reality.

Love him or hate him, everyone respected him. Douglas was a scrapper clear into his sunset years, as McGuinness reveals in one last tale, where muggers with knives confronted Irma and Tommy on a Jamaican beach. When the sand settled, the elderly Douglas’ dilemma was how to explain two bodies down and a swelling left hook.

Tommy Douglas was a man of his time, far ahead of his time and, most importantly, for all time. No one then or since has ever cared more about the vulnerable among us, especially the plight of the prairie farmer. Pierre Burton called him our country’s conscience and we now call him our Greatest Canadian.

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THE GREATEST CANADIAN TIMELINE

October 20, 1904: Thomas Clement Douglas (TCD) is born in Falkirk, Scotland.

1910: Douglas family immigrates to Winnipeg, Manitoba to join Tom Sr. working in iron foundry.

August 1914: Douglas family returns to Glasgow when Tom Sr. is called up to British Reserves at the start of World War I.

January 1, 1919: Douglas family returns to Winnipeg.

June 21, 1919: Young Tommy delivering papers for Winnipeg Free Press and witnesses RCMP quell Bloody Saturday strikers’ riot.

1922 and 1923: TCD crowned the lightweight boxing champion of Manitoba.

1924 - 30: TCD attends Brandon College for B.A., then again in 1933 for M.A.

September 3, 1930: TCD marries Irma Dempsey (Carberry); two daughters, Shirley and Joan.

1931: TCD takes up first ministry in Weyburn, SK at dawn of Dirty Thirties.

1934: Church officials warn Douglas away from politics, but this only spurs him to run for office.

1935 - 44: TCD elected Cooperative Commonwealth Federation (CCF) MP for federal riding of Weyburn.

September 1939: TCD tries to enlist in World War II, but rejected due to leg injury.

1944 - 61: TCD serves as Premier of Saskatchewan (CCF) and Minister of Health; first Socialist government in North America.


1962: TCD’s provincial successor, Woodrow Lloyd, would officially bring in the historic legislation that led to Medicare when Douglas moved back to the federal stage.


1979: TCD retires from politics; forms Douglas-Coldwell Foundation (sponsors scholarships, debates, tours, publications).


February 24, 1986: Thomas Clement Douglas dies of cancer at 81 years.

1998: TCD posthumously inducted into Canadian Medical Hall of Fame.

2002: TCD posthumously inducted into the Brandon University Alumni Association Wall of Fame.

2004: Thomas Clement Douglas voted number one in CBC’s The Greatest Canadian contest.

HEATHER STEWART B.A. ’58, Pre-B.Ed. (1 Yr) ’61
In 1990, Heather received her Masters of Arts from the University of British Columbia. She has spent 36 years as an educator, specializing in native culture and literacy. She was a faculty member at the Fraser Valley College for 22 years, coordinating a prison education program, and retired in 1996. She lives in Mission, BC with her husband, Henry DeBrunner. She has a son in Chilliwack, a daughter in Toronto, and four grandchildren. Heather has been the recipient of many awards, the most recent being Citizen of the Year, presented by the District of Mission in April 2005.

NANCY J. LINDQUIST (née SHAW) B.A. ’69
Nancy is the Executive Director of the World Guild (www.theworldguild.com), the author of nine books (www.nlindquist.com), including Shaded Light, her first adult mystery, released in paperback in October 2004. She is also a popular speaker and writing teacher. She is a member of Crime Writers of Canada and The Writers’ Union. Raised in Souris, MB, she now lives with her husband of 32 years, Les, in Markham, ON. She has four adult sons and is a grandmother of two (soon to be three).

LARRY F. SUKAVA B.A. ’71
Larry graduated from Brandon University in 1971. He furthered his education at the University of Manitoba, receiving his Masters of Arts in 1978. In 1997, Larry retired from government, and lives on a ranch outside of Dryden, ON. He also works as a consultant in a variety of construction and tourism projects in northwestern Ontario and Western Canada. Larry and his wife Trudy (née Hutchison ’72) have three children, all of whom are taking graduate studies.

JUDY ANN MAYNARD (née CARLSON) B.A. ’72
Judy taught in Dauphin, MB, then moved to Alberta with her husband, Dallas, and children in 1980 and completed her Masters in Educational Psychology at the University of Alberta. She is a practicing Chartered Psychologist in Alberta and has more than 24 years with Sturgeon School Division in Alberta. She and her husband live in St. Albert, AB. They have a daughter in Vancouver and a son in Toronto. They enjoy spending their holidays and weekends at their condo in Canmore, near Banff.

GERTRUDE SUKAVA (née HUTCHISON) B.A. ’72
Gertrude lives on a ranch outside of Dryden, ON with her husband, Larry Sukava B.A. ’71.

ELIAS HADDAD B.A. ’69, B.Ed. ’73
Elias taught French at Vincent Massey School in Brandon from 1970 - 1977. In 1977, he moved back to Nazareth, Israel and taught high school English. In 1996 he became a tourist guide and is now fully retired. He is married with three children.

J AMIE (J IM) BARBER B.Sc. ’76
J amie lives in Silverton, BC with his two daughters and new partner, Penelope Stuart. After his wife’s death seven years ago, J amie embarked on a new academic career with a M.Sc. from Edinburgh University and a Ph.D. from Cambridge. He has recently published a book, A view from Darjeeling, and continues his research interests in vocational training in India.

LOUISE RECCIA (née FALCETTA) Teaching Certificate ’77
After receiving her Teaching Certificate from Brandon University, Louise graduated from Lakehead University in 1978 with B.A. She is presently working with library systems in the Chancellor Paterson Library at Lakehead University.

PATRICIA WARSABA (née FERGUSON) Associate ’80
Patricia attended Brandon University from 1977-79 when she was admitted to the Faculty of Law at the University of Manitoba (U of M). She graduated with a law degree in 1982. Her husband, Ron, graduated from BU with a B.A. in 1979 and is also a 1982 law graduate from the U of M. They moved to Regina after graduation. Ron is a partner with Kanuka Thuringer and Patricia is a partner with Robertson Stromberg Pedersen. They have three children, Bree, Spencer and Reid.

SAMANTHA-JANE MUGRIDGE B.Sc. (4-yr Spec.) ’81
Samantha-jane is currently teaching in the Journalism Department at the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology. She lives on a farm west of Calgary with her husband Tom and their dog Roxy.

DENNIS QUELLETTE B.Sc. ’84
Dennis is currently finishing a two-year Chef’s Diploma at NAIT.

CECILINE GOH B.A. ’87
Cecilene worked in Singapore for a number of years after graduating from Brandon University then moved to BC in 1995. For the past five years, she has been working in administration for a non-profit environmental law organization.

KRISTINA MEADOWS (née PRIBAZ) B.G.S. ’88
Kristina is currently the Chairperson of CUPE Local 873-2, Emergency Dispatchers of BC and has been an Emergency Dispatcher for the past 14 years for 911/Vancouver Police.

JANET STOESZ B.G.S. ’88, B.Ed. (A.D) ’90
J anet is now living in AB, working as a day home provider. She has two children, a boy age four and a girl age two.

NORMA MILLER B.A. ’92
Norma moved to BC in 1995 to pursue a Master’s of Library and Information Studies degree at University of British Columbia. She is currently the Director of Communications for the British Columbia Real Estate Association. In 1992 she married Brandon University graduate Rob Bodnar, B.A. ’93.

DOUG POTTER B.Sc. ’92
Doug graduated with a Computer Science and Math degree and has spent the last 12 years with the Los Angeles Fire Department working on the 911 computer system at the department’s call centre. He has since moved to Switzerland and is now attending the University of Zurich’s Institute for Theoretical Physics.
KEEPING IN TOUCH

CHAD BONNER  B.Ed. ’94
Chad is living in Spruce Grove, AB. He left teaching in 2002 and is now a Financial Advisor with World Financial Group Securities.

TRACY BELLANCA  (née HALL)  B.Ed. (A.D.) ’96
After graduating from Brandon University, Tracy completed her M.B.A. at Baker College, Michigan in 1998. She works as an accountant at Terumo Cardiovascular Systems in Ann Arbor, MI. She married Louis Bellanca in November 2004.

TAMMY MACDONALD  B.Ed. (A.D.) ’96
Tammy taught at École Morden Middle School for six years, then made the leap to administration. She is currently a vice-principal at Garden Valley Collegiate in Winkler, MB. Tammy and her husband, Darren Crane ’97, had a baby boy in 2003.

DARREN CRANE  B.G.S. ’97, B.Ed. (A.D.) ’99
Darren has worked as an elementary teacher for six years. He recently made the move to the Garden Valley School Division and is teaching a grade 4/5 split class at Southwood School in Sanchenfeld. In his spare time he loves to golf and play hockey, and teach his son, Trent, to skate.

MICHAEL RONALD (TROY) KRUSEL  B.A. (Spec.) ’97
Troy practices corporate finance and business law at Gowling Lafleur Henderson LLP. He has acted for clients in various industries, including financial services, technology and mining. He also advises dealers, financial advisors, mutual fund issuers and other securities registrants in connection with registration and compliance issues.

NORM MALLORY  B.Sc. ’97
Originally from Okanagan Valley, BC, Norm graduated from Brandon University with a Computer Science degree. He is now a Major in the Canadian Corps of Signals and lives in the Edmonton area with his wife Lori and three children.

EDWARD EWANOCHKO  B.G.S. ’89
Edward has been a teacher for 25 years and is now teaching in St. Boniface, MB.

TASHA DESCHAMBAULT  (née AMELL)  Grad Diploma Ed. (1-Yr) ’01
Tasha married fellow Brandon University graduate, Al Deschambault. They have three children, Domanique (10), Gabrielle (4), and Joseph (2). They reside in St. Lazare, MB. Tasha has created a company called Beautiful Fields Resource Materials, which offers a new way to teach in the 21st Century. All her resources are delivered electronically via e-mail or on CD. If you would like information regarding her materials or would like to read her reviews you can visit the Beautiful Fields Resource Materials website at www.mts.net/~tashaal/Beautiful_Fields_Resource_Materials.htm

MARCEL PENNER  B.Sc.PN ’04
After graduating, Marcel began work in Dryden, ON as a crisis counsellor through the Dryden Regional Health Centre. His interests are canoeing and back country travel.

CALL FOR MUSIC CDs

The upcoming Fall/Winter issue of the Alumni News magazine, will be featuring BU alumni who have recorded music CDs. If you are an artist and would like us to feature your CD, please send us your information, including photos, to alumni@brandonu.ca or communications@brandonu.ca. For more information, please call 204.727.9697.
And, so it comes to pass, another year has gone. And for present purposes, this is the end of Year Two for me, which means this is my last-ever report as Alumni President. No, please...no tears. This is hard enough on all of us. Anyway, I’ve had a great time. So great, in fact, that I tried to convert the BUAA into the Brandon University Alumni Junta, and have myself declared President-for-Life. Alas, it was not to be.

Next year, I become Past President, that hallowed position on any board of directors which can make a 21 year-old feel like an 80 year-old. I think they keep the Past Presidents on to reap the wisdom of their experience, or the experience of their wisdom, or in my case, none of the above.

But it would be disingenuous of me to say that I have nothing to pass on to future presidents of the BUAA. Indeed, I have been taking notes. For example, many people complimented me on my speech at the 2004 Convocation ceremony. The comments from select spectators range from “nice and short,” “straight and to the point,” to “concise,” and “exactly the right length.” From this, I divined—the less I talk, the better.

I have met so many interesting people, from so many different walks of life, who all came out of the doors of Brandon University. Many went west to Calgary and Vancouver, others went east to Ottawa and Toronto, some went south to the United States, and the rest just burrowed straight down and became subterranean cave dwellers. Yes, our alumni have borne our standard far and wide.

The makeup of our alumni reaches across the chronological spectrum. I remember back in the early 1990s when there was a wide-open field, with trees and a picnic table, in the space where our library currently sits. Many of our alumni remember back when we were called Brandon College. Still others remember further back, and how annoying it was in those days to have traffic backed up six blocks because of some tyrannosaurus rex fighting a stegosaurus right in the middle of 18th Street.

I have also given out alumni awards for excellence in teaching, for distinguished alumni service to the community, and the Wall of Fame Award to our most prominent alumni. And that brings to mind one of our Wall of Fame award recipients, Betty Gibson. As I read her biography in preparation for the ceremony where she would be honoured, I was floored by her dedication to the craft of teaching. She didn’t just do the job well, she wanted to make it better for all of her fellow teachers. Run the name Betty Gibson on Google, and ask yourself —how many teachers have actually developed a curriculum of certain subjects for the entire province?

In closing, let that be your goal, in whatever you do. You have all walked into the room, and one day you will leave the room. Follow Betty Gibson’s example, and leave the room in a better state than it was when you found it. If you don’t, who else will? And why them, and not you?

Rich Lonstrup, B.A. ’94
President, Brandon University Alumni Association
UPCOMING ALUMNI EVENTS

REUNION WEEKEND 2005
BRANDON, MANITOBA
MAY 27 - 29

INVITING ALL ALUMNI

Celebrating the classes of 1935, '45, '50, '55, '65, '75, '85, and '95. Come and join in on the fun at Reunion Weekend 2005. Share in the weekend’s festivities, which include:

- President’s Awards Reception
- Alumni Association Wall of Fame Award Presentation & Reception
- Grand Opening of the new Alumni Association sponsored Gathering Space
- Campus Tour
- Convocation Ceremonies
- Reunion Weekend Banquet
- Golf Tournament
- Farewell Brunch

For more information on any event, or if you are interested in assisting with an alumni event in your area, contact the Alumni Association Office at 204.727.9697 or e-mail alumni@brandonu.ca

Be sure to check out our website for future events at http://alumni.brandonu.ca

FOURTH ANNUAL DANCELAND SOCIAL
CLEAR LAKE, MANITOBA
SATURDAY, JULY 16, 2005

Featuring Big Dyck Cadillac
9:00 PM – 1:00 AM

Door prizes and refreshments
Tickets $12
Available in advance at select locations or at the door.
Call 204.727.9697 or email alumni@brandonu.ca for more information.

Everyone welcome!

Sponsored by the Brandon University Alumni Association

TORONTO AREA ALUMNI
Toronto Argonauts vs Winnipeg Blue Bombers in Toronto
MONDAY, AUGUST 1, 2005 (holiday)

Special group rates available to our alumni

For more information contact:
Brian F. Evans, Group Sales, Account Executive
Toronto Argonauts Football Club
Direct Line: 416.341.2789
Toll Free: 877.896.ARGO ext: 2789
bevans@argonauts.on.ca
www.argonauts.ca

Recent Alumni Events

DESSERT BUFFET AND SOCIAL EVENING
WINNIPEG, MANITOBA

Over 70 alumni gathered in the Golden Boy Dining Room of the Manitoba Legislative Building in Winnipeg on November 18, 2004. The Honourable Stan Struthers ’81 and Mr. Drew Caldwell ’82, Members of the Legislative Assembly, hosted the evening. Dr. Louis P. Visentin, President, shared information on the direction and growth of Brandon University. Guests enjoyed entertainment by the Calosoma String Quartet.

ALUMNI SOCIAL EVENING
SASKATOON, SASKATCHEWAN

Dr. Isabelle Mills ’58 hosted a social evening at the Radisson Hotel in Saskatoon on November 22, 2004. Fellow graduates met again for the first time in many years, shared stories and were treated to succulent desserts.

ALUMNI GATHERING
VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA

On March 4, 2005, Brandon University graduates met at the Laurel Point Inn in Victoria, BC for an alumni gathering. Brandon University Vice-President, Academic & Research, Dr. Jeff Williams, was in attendance and provided an update on the developments and news at Brandon University.

DESSERT BUFFET AND SOCIAL GATHERING
VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA

Mr. George Peary ’61 hosted an alumni gathering at the Granville Island Hotel in Vancouver, BC on March 12, 2005. Dr. Louis P. Visentin joined friends and graduates and shared exciting news about their Alma Mater and the BU & YOU Campaign.

NEW!

Starting in September SUDS will be offering half price appetizers to all alumni the second Monday of every month!

N E W !
Cindy graduated from BU in the spring of 1999 and went to Université de Moncton (U de M) that fall where she entered the Common Law in French Program. While at U de M she got involved in track and field to distract from her studies. Her track coach, Scott Henninger, was a former bobsleigh athlete. Though she claims she was not a stellar track athlete by any means, Coach Henninger felt that she would be a decent bobsleigh athlete. She did not pay much attention to him at that time because she felt that it was more important to finish her law degree and be called to the bar. She graduated from U de M in the spring of 2002 and immediately began her articles in Winnipeg. While articling she still participated in sports. She learned to play rugby with the Sturgeon Creek Rowdies in the summer of 2002. She made the Provincial team and played in Nationals during the summer of 2003. She was happy to have been called to the Manitoba bar in 2002 but felt that something was missing. She decided to call Bobsleigh Canada to find out how she could get involved. With her keen interest and her university track experience, she was invited to a bobsleigh training camp in July 2004. It was here in Manitoba that she found Coach Glenn Bruce, and in January 2004 she began her training. At the end of June she packed up her car and drove to Calgary for her very first testing camp. She made the Bobsleigh Development program and raced on the America’s Cup tour with the pilot Suzanne Gavine-Hlady. She tried out for the National Team and the World Cup tour, however she tied with another athlete for that fourth spot and missed on velocity.

Cindy says, “I did not have sour Grapes. The girls I tested against were National level athletes from track and field, and I was a lawyer who dabbled in sports.”

She really enjoyed the America’s Cup tour because that was where she learned the basics about being a bobsleigh athlete. At the end of the season, she and Suzanne raced in the World Cup in Lake Placid, NY, where they placed 7th overall, the top Canadian finish for the whole World Cup season.

“This past year has been rather phenomenal. I have been pushed to the limit in so many ways. I have put everything on the line trying this sport, but it has been worth it.” This year she hopes to make the Europa Cup Team or the National Team and race on the whole World Cup Tour. Cindy is still training and continues to learn about her new sport. She also works as a Private Practice Lawyer at the Aston Reid Business Centre in Family Law, Real Estate and Immigration. She is eagerly waiting for the next season of bobsleigh to start!

“I had an awesome time at BU,” Cindy notes. “I made some great friends, teachers and staff that I still talk to today. I have some wonderful memories of life there and when I am busy with work and training, I often take time to remember how good I had it when all I had to do was sleep, study in the Robbins Library, eat at the café, and hang out in res. Thanks, BU, for the good times!”

Cindy Marshall B.A. ’99 was born in Thompson, MB. She graduated from RD Parker Collegiate in 1994 and started at Brandon University (BU) in the fall of 1994. While attending BU, she lived in Flora Cowan Residence for four out of her five years. She entered the School of Music to become a band teacher, but in the middle of her third year she realized that she did not have the patience to become a teacher. She decided to study some other subjects within the Faculty of Arts. It was during this time that she realized she wanted to go to Law School.
After BU, Terry was off to the University of British Columbia to continue his studies, MA '70 (Econ), and then to the University of Saskatchewan to teach Economics for a couple of years. But it was his first love that blossomed at Brandon—international trade and foreign policy—that continued to draw him. And so, in 1972 Terry had the good fortune to pass the foreign service exams and join the then Department of External Affairs. Trade policy was his concentration both in Ottawa and abroad.

Terry's first posting was to the Caribbean, based in Barbados but covering all the Windward and Leeward Islands. The next was a secondment to Alberta to learn provincial interests in trade and investment. In 1978, it was off to Washington, DC where he has remained for 27 years—and counting. Trade, investment, taxation and finance were his responsibilities for the first ten years.

But in 1988 then-Ambassador Allan Gotlieb took an interest in Terry and brought him into his office as his executive assistant. Here Terry learned first hand how every part of the Embassy worked and how the various players interacted. It was Allan who determined that Terry had a predilection for public relations and asked him to become the deputy head of the public affairs division. These were heady days: the Canada US Free Trade Agreement was being concluded; an Acid Rain Accord followed; the new Embassy was opened.

In addition to Allan Gotlieb, Terry has had the pleasure of serving under Derek Burney, John de Chastelain, Raymond Chretien, Michael Kergin and now the Honourable Frank McKenna.

September 11, 2001 and the days that followed were some of the most stressful of Terry's life. The immediate paucity of information about the terrorists allowed terrible rumours to run rampant. For days the borders were closed and flights were all cancelled. Our lives in North America changed forever.

Today Terry is the Executive Director for Public Relations and the Deputy Head of the Washington Advocacy Secretariat, a new mechanism that Prime Minister Paul Martin has created within the Embassy to support the coordination of the many complicated elements of the Canada-US relationship. In the almost 27 years Terry has been at the Embassy, two-way trade between our countries has grown from roughly $85 billion US to $465 billion US. More than 200 million people cross the border every year. Ensuring that the movements of these goods and people are conducted in a secure environment has become a top priority. The environment—clean air, clean water, drilling in nature refuges, concerns about the diversion of water flows—has assumed a growing importance to the well-being of people on both sides of the border.

"I have always been truly blessed to have the opportunities my career has brought. But the critical foundation was the education, mentoring and inspiration I received during my time at Brandon."

"I have been truly blessed to have the opportunities my career has brought. But the critical foundation was the education, mentoring and inspiration I received during my time at Brandon. And my good friend, Henry Champ, continues to remind me of this every time we speak, which is almost daily," says Terry Colli.
On November 22, 2004, Minister of Canadian Heritage and Minister responsible for the Status of Women, Liza Frulla, announced the appointment of Patricia J. F. Warsaba, of Regina, Saskatchewan, as a member of the National Film Board.

“I am pleased that Ms Warsaba has accepted this appointment,” said Minister Frulla. “Her legal background and knowledge of the film industry will be a great addition to the Board.”

A lawyer by profession, Ms Warsaba is a partner with Robertson Stromberg Pedersen LLP. After attending Brandon University from 1977 - 1979, she graduated with a law degree from the University of Manitoba. She articled in 1982 with Naylan, Morris & Bourassa, in Regina, and remained with the firm as an associate and partner until 1988. At that time, Naylen Warsaba merged with Robertson Stromberg and became one of the largest firms in Saskatchewan.

“I have always had a passion for film and as a student at Brandon University, I eagerly looked forward to the Film Festival each year. The National Film Board plays an extremely valuable role in our Canadian heritage by creating socially and culturally relevant films and I am privileged to be able to contribute a western perspective as a board member,” says Patricia Warsaba.

Ms Warsaba is currently a member of the Law Society of Saskatchewan and the Canadian Bar Association (CBA). During her career, she has served as Chairperson of the CBA’s National Business Law Section and has worked as Director and Chair of the Governance Committee of the Saskatchewan Motion Picture Association. Ms Warsaba has also provided legal advice to numerous film, video and multi-media production companies.
In **YOUR** Words

My mother, Jean Grace Hitchings, was born in Winnipeg on January 26, 1909, the third of five daughters born to John and Grace Hitchings. The Hitchings family were staunch Baptists and Jean's father, a USA-trained osteopathist, made a comfortable living as a manufacturer of paper boxes. The family did not lack material comforts. Jean, her oldest sister Helen, and her younger sister, Isabel, all attended and graduated from what was then Brandon College.

Jean was part of the renowned 1930 graduating class, the one that included Tommy Douglas and Stanley Knowles. She was bright and pretty but, unlike some of her classmates, she treated study as a useful accomplishment rather than as a calling. Nevertheless, Jean's years at what is now Brandon University were defining ones for her. She kept in touch with many of her classmates throughout her life and was able to attend a very successful class reunion in Brandon in 1980. Her years at Brandon helped to broaden her interests, tune her social consciousness, and expand her mental horizons. She always remained deeply grateful for the grand opportunity she had been given to attend university.

In 1936 Jean married my father R. Darwin Chase. Darwin was born in Dauphin in 1905, the eldest son in a large family. Although he was a socially and politically engaged person with intellectual interests, a university education was beyond his means. At the time he married Jean, he was working with the Pool Elevator in Dauphin and taking some economics courses at the University of Manitoba by correspondence. Their honeymoon trip to Niagara Falls was a prize won by Darwin in a national essay-writing contest.

Jean and Darwin lived in Dauphin and Basswood until 1943 or 1944 when they moved to Winnipeg so Darwin could take on a job with the Provincial Department of Agriculture in the Co-operative Services Branch. He remained with the government for the rest of his working career but he was active in his community. He was a school trustee in Fort Garry before becoming a councillor and eventually mayor of the municipality. When Winnipeg absorbed its municipalities to create a metropolitan system of local government, he ran for, and was elected a metro councillor.

Darwin never lost his zest for life or his sense of engagement. A few months before his death, in 1979, he returned home from a Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) appointment in the Caribbean where he had been with a team examining the scope for establishing a system of federated co-operatives in the Caribbean. Jean accompanied him on this last trip together. From that point until her own death in 1993 she battled with Parkinson's Disease. It was Jean who donated the money to endow the essay prize for Darwin. She thought that an essay prize in Canadian Political Issues best reflected my dad's passions and accomplishments.

Although Jean was born to privilege, she was neither a snob nor a materialist. She wanted others to do well. She would have been very pleased and proud to know that, in her name, one student per year was receiving a little assistance towards the realization of his or her goals.

by Kathryn Chase Merrett  (daughter of Jean Grace Hitchings and R. Darwin Chase)

It was Jean who donated the money to endow the essay prize for Darwin. She thought that an essay prize in Canadian Political Issues best reflected my dad's passions and accomplishments.

If you have some wonderful stories to tell, we invite you to submit articles In Your Words for consideration for this section of the Alumni News magazine.

Please send article and photo to: communications@brandonu.ca or call 204.727.9762 for more information. Articles should be no longer than 500 words.

We look forward to hearing from you.
1. Canada Research Chairs (CRC) - Did you know Brandon University celebrated research excellence in honour of Dr. Wendy Untereiner and Dr. Mary Malainey? Both brilliant researchers have recently been named Tier 2 Canada Research Chairs.

2. Tsunami Expert - Did you know scientist and tsunami expert, Dr. Tad Murty visited Brandon University to collaborate with Dr. Niru Nirupama, professor in our Applied Disaster and Emergency Studies program, on his tsunami-warning systems presentation? The following week, Dr. Murty joined the Prime Minister’s delegation to India where he shared his scientific tsunami information.

3. BU & YOU Campaign - Did you know the $8 Million BU & YOU Campaign launched in May 2004 is the most ambitious campaign in the history of Brandon University? We have currently raised $6 million (75%). For more information on the Campaign visit www.brandonu.ca/BU&YOU

4. Headlines of History - Did you know in remembrance of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, Brandon University respectfully displayed the Headlines of History exhibit? The exhibit, provided by the U.S. Consulate, was a powerful display featuring over 50 posters highlighting the dramatic front pages of international newspapers reporting on the events of September 11, 2001.

5. Bobcats - Did you know the Brandon University Bobcats men’s basketball team has advanced to the National championships 19 times in the last 20 years?

6. Day of Action - Did you know the Brandon University Students’ Union and the Canadian Federation of Students hosted a Day of Action rally? More than 100 BU students gathered in the courtyard to bring awareness to their concerns about tuition and government funding.

7. Professors Honoured - Did you know Professors, Dr. Ron Dong and Dr. John Rice were honoured by Brandon University and the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) of Canada for their continuous 25+ years of NSERC sponsored research funding.

8. Distinguished Young Women - Did you know Carrie Simmons, a second year psychology student, won the 2005 YWCA Young Women of Distinction Award? Simmons was one of five Young Women of Distinction nominees, three of whom were students from Brandon University.

For more information about what is happening at BU visit: www.brandonu.ca/news or email communications@brandonu.ca to sign up for the BU News & Highlights email.
PRESIDENT’S TERM EXTENDED

Brandon University is pleased to extend the contract of Dr. Louis P. Visentin as President and Vice-Chancellor until July 31, 2009.

Dr. Louis P. Visentin began his term as Brandon University President and Vice-Chancellor on August 1, 2000. Prior to coming to Brandon University he was the Vice-President Academic and Professor of Biology at the University of New Brunswick (UNB).

Known as an experienced and accomplished academic, administrator and teacher, Dr. Visentin was active in enlisting support and funding partnerships for various new and innovative programs at UNB.

Around Brandon, Dr. Visentin is known as a renaissance man. He has enriched the Westman community through the establishment of various partnerships between the University and the local school division, health authority and the City of Brandon. Dr. Visentin continues to add to campus life by promoting technology enhancements such as the connection to CA*Net 4, increased scholarship and bursary support for students, and research infrastructure for faculty.

Every chance he can get, Dr. Visentin strongly advocates the importance of numeracy and literacy, the benefits of post-secondary education, and the Jewel of the Prairies known as Brandon University.

CHANCELLOR RE-ELECTED

“I am delighted to continue my association with Brandon University. All who have attended as students, professors and supporters have helped to make Brandon University into a high quality small university in a pleasant, esthetic setting. It is a success story for the community, the region and the University.”

Brandon University Senate is pleased to announce the re-election of The Right Honourable Edward R. Schreyer as Brandon University’s Chancellor. Mr. Schreyer assumed the role as the University’s fifth Chancellor on November 1, 2002. His term will run until October 31, 2008.

The Chancellor is the titular head of the University and confers all degrees of the University. Where possible, the Chancellor attends official functions on behalf of the University and may take on special projects in keeping with the goals of the University.

Mr. Schreyer had been deeply involved in politics for over 30 years. He was an MLA, an MP, the Premier of Manitoba for two terms, the Minister of Finance, Canada’s 22nd Governor General and the Canadian High Commissioner to Australia.

To read Mr. Schreyer’s full biography, visit www.brandonu.ca/news

The Right Honourable Edward R. Schreyer

“I like it here, I like the city and I like the challenge of helping to re-shape Brandon University.”
The last several years have seen a rapid increase in the utilization of technology by most employers to meet their recruiting and ultimately, their staffing needs. This utilization of technology by employers has also required job seekers to become more technologically savvy than ever before.

Job seekers need to be able to competently use e-mail and the Internet as their new best friends when seeking employment. Many employers now utilize on-line application forms, as opposed to paper application forms that were the norm, not too many years prior. This has required a huge leap of faith on the part of job seekers who no longer have the security of mailing or delivering an application. Some employers do send an e-mail notification to the applicant confirming their application has been received; many still do not, so job seekers must continue to have faith in technology.

The two greatest benefits of the technologically enhanced job search is the opportunity to access a far greater number of job postings than was ever possible utilizing past methods, and the speed and ease at which job seekers can apply to these postings. The challenge that confronts many job seekers utilizing the Internet is the frustration from trying to find applicable positions while trying desperately not to be overwhelmed by irrelevant postings. Realize that you will not find every position that is applicable to you while searching the Internet. Start small and research and bookmark a few sites that you find useful. Slowly collect others that are of interest and ensure that any on-line searches have specific search criteria to help cut down the number of sites returned from a search.

The Brandon University Career Planning and Placement Office posts positions on-line through an arrangement with WorkopolisCampus.com. This service is especially valuable if a current or past student is unable to drop by the office to check job postings on a regular basis.

Additionally, many current students and alumni utilize e-mail to contact the office for assistance with their job search and for advice when writing or updating their resumés, as well as for a variety of other employment related questions. For more information, please contact Doug Pople, Brandon University Career Planning and Placement Officer at pople@brandonu.ca or 204.727.9651. All services are available to current students and alumni of Brandon University and are provided free of charge and treated with complete confidentiality.
We have YOU in mind and we want to hear from YOU! Your participation in this survey is appreciated! The information you provide us will help us to tailor our programs and services to fit your needs. By submitting this survey, your name will be entered into a draw for a chance to win a Brandon University Alumni Association T-shirt.

Please mail or fax completed survey and update to:
Brandon University Alumni Association, 270 - 18th Street, Brandon, Manitoba, R7A 6A9
or fax: 204.727.4674. For our on-line survey, please visit our website at [http://alumni.brandonu.ca](http://alumni.brandonu.ca)

**1.** Are you a Brandon University graduate?
   - YES
   - NO

**2.** How would you rate the Alumni News magazine?
   (Circle one—1 is outstanding and 5 is disappointing)
   1  2  3  4  5

**3.** What type of information would you like to see in the Alumni News magazine? (check all that apply)
   - Alumni Profiles
   - Awards & Award Recipients
   - University Events/Schedules
   - Program/Course Information
   - New University Initiatives
   - Faculty & Staff Updates/Profiles
   - Career Information, Resources & Services
   - Annual Foundation Report
   - President’s Progress Report
   - BU & YOU Campaign Information
   - Other __________________________

**4.** What types of services would you like to see, or continue to see, offered to Brandon University graduates? (check all that apply)
   - Affinity Credit Card
   - Insurance, specify type ________________
   - Discounts on University services
     (library, recreational, facility bookings, courses, books, etc.)
   - Discounts on external services
     (internet, cell phones, car rentals)
   - Professional Workshops
   - Mentorship Programs
   - E-mail
   - Other __________________________

**5.** What type of Alumni Events are you most likely to attend? (check all that apply)
   - Golf Tournament
   - Wine & Cheese
   - Dessert Buffet
   - Formal Banquet
   - Dance
   - Reunion Weekend Honouring Anniversary Classes
   - Informal Gathering
   - Other __________________________

**6.** Have you ever attended an Alumni Event?
   - YES  If so, when _________________
     What type _________________
   - NO

**7.** If you have attended an Alumni Event, how would you rate your experience?
   (Circle one—1 is outstanding and 5 is disappointing)
   1  2  3  4  5

**8.** How long are you willing to travel to an alumni event?
   - 5 – 30 minutes
   - 30 – 60 minutes
   - More than 1 hour

**9.** We invite any additional comments
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________

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**ALUMNI INFORMATION UPDATE**

Preferred Title (Circle one):
   - Mr.
   - Mrs.
   - Miss
   - Ms

NAME (Please print):
   First __________________________ Last __________________________

Home Address __________________________ __________________________
   City __________________________ Province __________________________ Postal Code __________________________

Country __________________________ Home Phone __________________________

Business Phone __________________________ E-Mail __________________________

Year of Graduation __________________________ Degree Type(s) __________________________

Employer __________________________ Job Title __________________________

Would you like to include your update in the next issue of the Alumni News Magazine? If so, tell us what you have been doing since graduating from BU in the space below. You may also e-mail your update with an accompanying photo to alumni@brandonu.ca

   __________________________________________________________
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   __________________________________________________________
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If this issue is addressed to someone no longer a permanent resident of your home, please notify us so we can properly forward future issues. If any reader has comments or questions about this publication (or would like to submit story ideas), call (204) 727-9897 or email alumni@brandonu.ca, or write us at the above address. Thank you.

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