

St. Lawrence College

voyageur

The Magazine for Alumni
& Friends of St. Lawrence
College

FALL 2009

On the Firing Line

APR GRAD REPORTS
FROM AFGHANISTAN

Ruddy Hell!

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Fighting Chance

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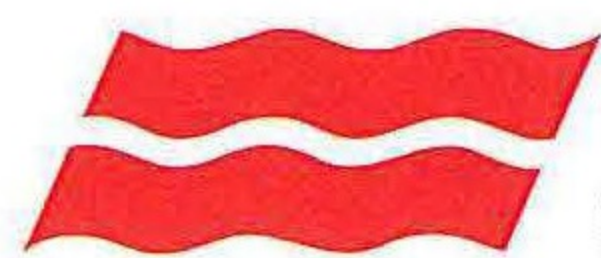
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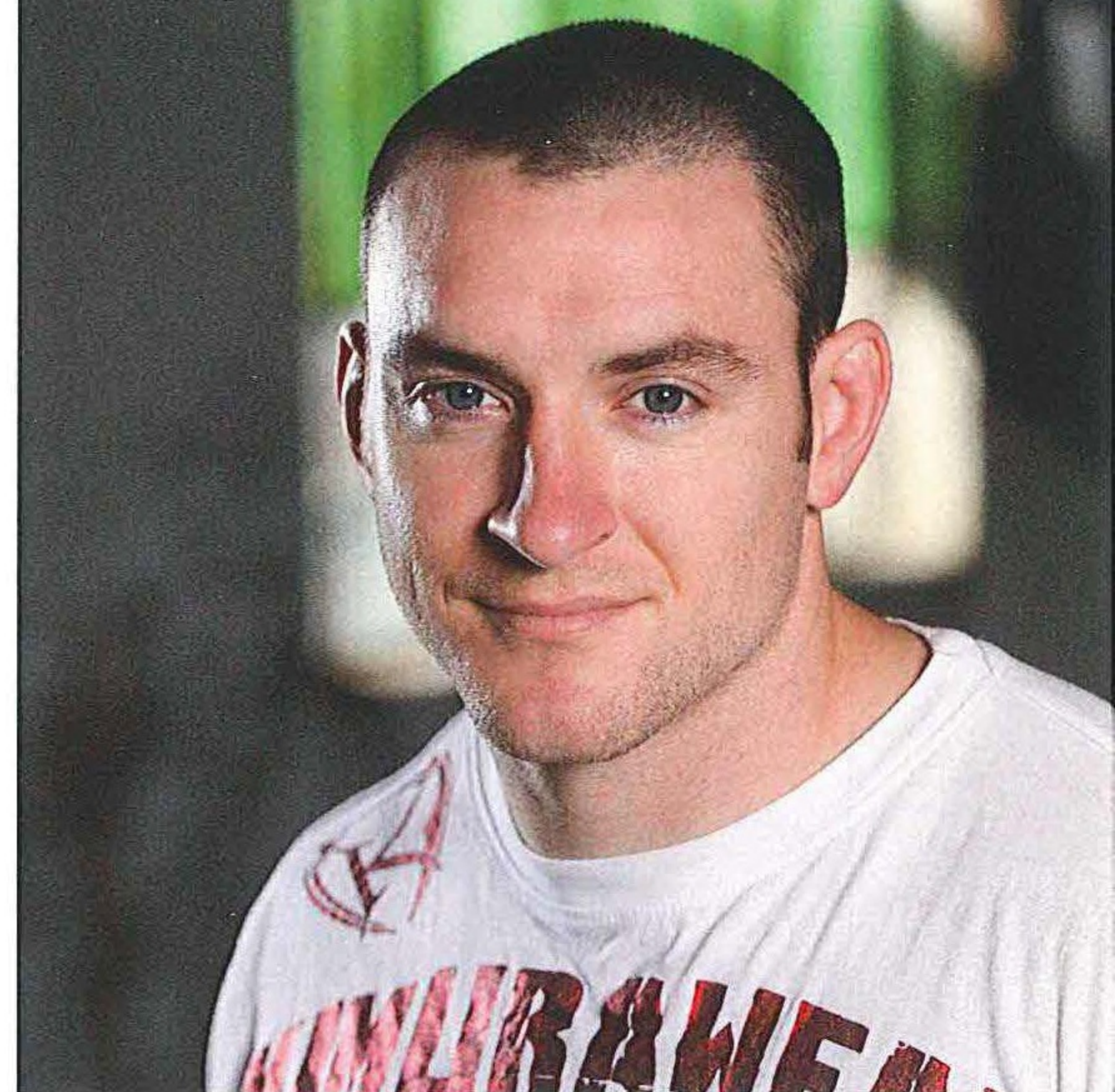
**St. Lawrence
College**



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On the cover

Cory Macdonald isn't the only alumnus to find payoff in MMA. Feature story, page 4.

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Alumni Relations Mission

The Alumni Relations office exists to encourage positive engagement with our alumni, through lifelong, mutually beneficial relationships.

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St. Lawrence College's *Voyageur* magazine is published bi-annually through the St. Lawrence College Alumni Relations Office and is distributed to 50,000 alumni and friends of the College. Contributions of articles and photos about or of interest to our alumni, as well as signed letters to the Editor, are welcomed and are published at the discretion of the Editor. To have your name added to our distribution list or to reserve advertising space in *Voyageur*, please contact the Alumni Relations Office. Ad rates are available upon request.

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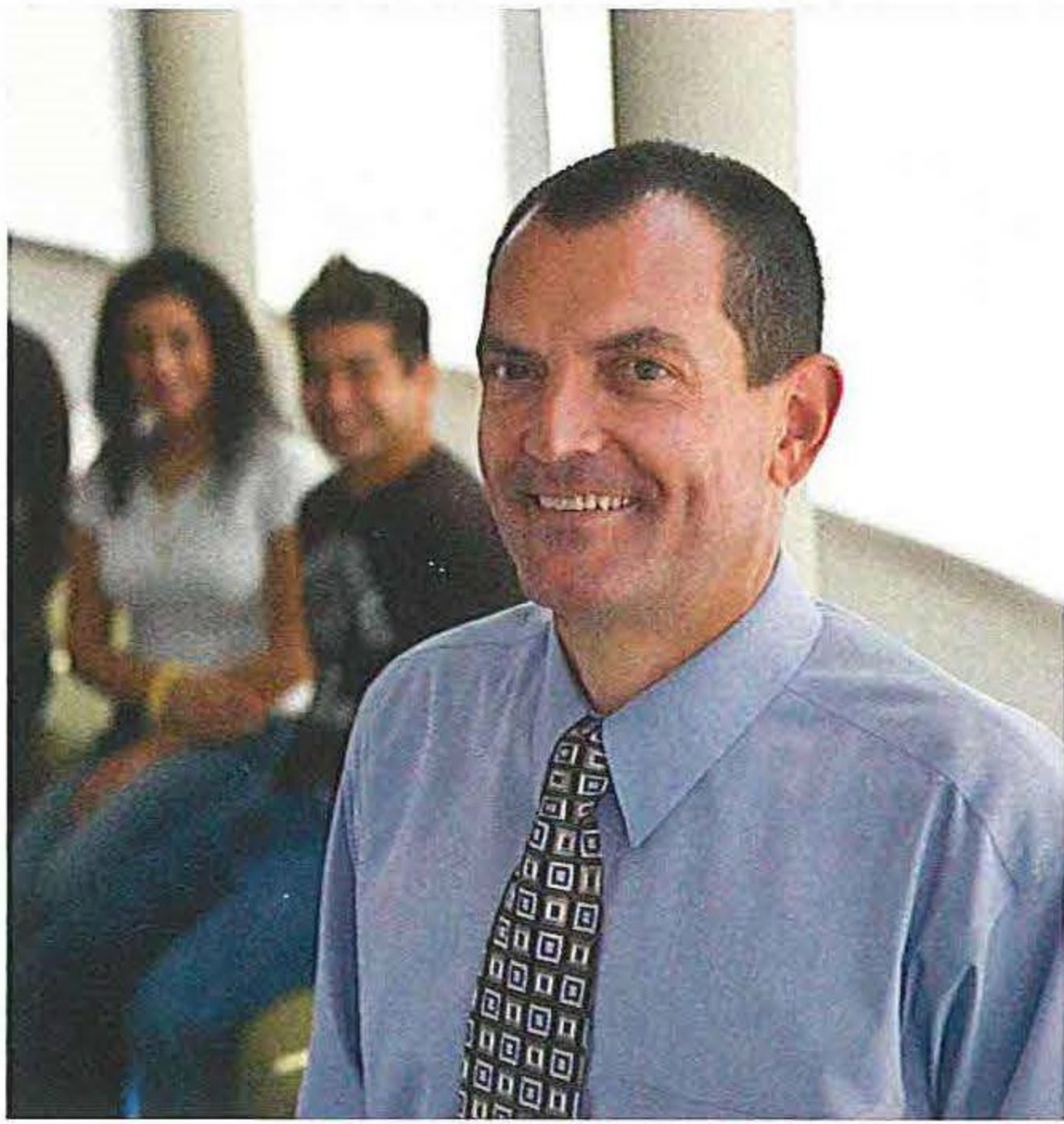
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The Power of Partnerships

BY CHRIS WHITAKER | PRESIDENT & CEO
ST. LAWRENCE COLLEGE

LIKE so many of our alumni, St. Lawrence College is always evolving. It's in our DNA. We continuously take the pulse of our organization, the programs we offer and the ways we engage with the communities we serve. Providing relevant programs to an ever-changing student body to prepare them for a constantly shifting workplace requires no less.

In the last 40 years we have graduated 69,000 alumni from over 600 different programs. You are a testament to our ability to adapt and change to reflect our community and marketplace needs. When alumnus Jeff Whitney (our 2008 nominee for the Premier's Awards) graduated from the Cornwall campus in Data Processing in 1984, he was at the beginning of a new economy whose impact we could barely conceive at the time. Jeff's career evolved as did his industry. Today he's a vice-president of a Silicon Valley company focused on computer security. And while we may no longer offer Data Processing, our Programmer Analyst and Game Developer programs are to today's high tech world what Jeff's program was to his time.

That's why when the College launched into the strategic planning process, we sought the widest input possible. I appreciate the alumni who took us up on our offer of input in an email sent out last spring, and thank those who provided thoughtful feedback on where your College can, and should, chart its future.

So where do alumni fit in to the College's strategic plan? The short answer is "everywhere." The Strategic Plan outlines three key areas for our focus, and alumni have a role to play in each.

Learning Excellence: Last year over 60 alumni returned to the classrooms and labs of all three campuses to share their knowledge and experience with today's students. Our mission to be "a great learning College" is enhanced by your involvement, whether it's as a guest speaker, a placement supervisor, or a member of the program advisory committee. Providing the "real world" perspective keeps our programs relevant to the marketplace and provides a unique advantage to our students.

Community Engagement: As a community within the community, our alumni consistently enhance the connectedness of the College to our communities. As ambassadors of SLC, many alumni have assisted us simply by connecting the College to key people in their field. It can be as simple as passing on information about the program from which you graduated, or as formal as initiating a meeting between St. Lawrence and a key player in an emerging new field. Members of our Community Councils in Brockville, Cornwall and Kingston often include alumni, and the meetings held each year with the councils serve to further our mutual understanding and opportunities for partnership.


Institutional Strength: St. Lawrence College depends on the relationships with our staff and many of our community partners to efficiently and effectively operate our institution. Approximately 25% of our employees are alumni and they contribute to the vitality of the organization through not only their professionalism and dedication, but their unique perspective as former students. Knowing the quality of education received at St. Lawrence College, many of our alumni

employ our grads. A number of our suppliers and service providers employ alumni and we are grateful for their input as we seek to enhance our institutional effectiveness.

And finally, I would be remiss if I did not mention the role that alumni support has and will continue to play in all areas as we move forward to fulfill our plan. The many scholarships that reward the academic excellence of our students, along with the bursaries that make a college education accessible for students with limited financial means, have been possible because of the generosity of our community and alumni donors.

Just last month more than five times as many students applied for the bursaries and scholarships than were available, signifying the growing financial need of our students. We will continue to look to alumni to contribute to enhancing the educational opportunities of our young people.

Additionally, our communities have come to our aid during periods of capital expansion and refurbishment. When Empire Life acknowledges that much of its workforce are St. Lawrence alumni, and they show their gratitude by contributing to the Expanding Opportunities Campaign on the Kingston campus, that is truly an example of the respect our alumni have earned.

It is estimated that 80% of SLC alumni live within one hour of each of our three campuses. You are indeed a community within our community and we will continue to seek your input and advice as we strive to fulfill the promise that higher education brings to our cities, our young people and our economy. 




St. Lawrence College

Jeff Sero: getting the bug

in the clothing lines that have sprung up around the sport. For Jeff Sero (Small Business Management, 2000), the hard-hitting designs embellishing these emerging clothing lines are similar to the designs he's been creating for years. From 2004 onwards, Jeff watched with interest as the popularity of MMA-related clothing began to grow in the US. He notes that, at that time, it was a clothing trend that was yet to become established in Canada: "Over here people were just toying with the idea, but nobody was really touching it."

In 2006, Jeff made the leap from security work to entrepreneurship and launched an extreme-wear clothing line called Punishment Inc. Although his initial business successes were overshadowed by a legal dispute concerning the rights to that name, Jeff redesigned and re-launched his business last year under the name of Infection Clothing. His unique choice of name was intentional. Jeff chuckles and explains, "No one else would touch it. To me it was dirty and memorable, so why not go for it?"

An attention-grabbing name will certainly help Jeff's plans to make Infection Clothing synonymous with extreme clothing in Canada. He's also putting the business skills he learned at St. Lawrence to further use, developing two additional clothing lines to supplement the current Infection Clothing line and negotiating possible UFC fighter sponsorship. Meanwhile, Dan has plans to expand Trendsetters Clothing into a chain of six or seven stores over the course of the next 10 to 15 years.

For Cory, the future also looks exciting. He hopes to win the five fights that make up his current MFC deal, and maybe even take their belt for the 170-lb division. Success at this level will almost guarantee him a place in a major league like the UFC, where he could hope to fight for at least the next five or six years. Despite being so close to his goal, he remains pragmatic and focused: "That's the thing about fighting," he says. "You can't look too far into the future. You've always got to get past that next opponent." 

REPORT ON GIVING

ST. LAWRENCE COLLEGE FOUNDATION ANNUAL REPORT 2008-09

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Despite an economic climate which challenged even the most philanthropic supporters to consider their charitable giving activities, the St. Lawrence College Foundation achieved a number of its objectives this past year. In pure financial terms, the total value of gifts secured on behalf of the College declined this year. We understand the financial challenges faced by many of our supporters. Those who have made long term pledges to our Foundation have continued to honor their commitments and we are grateful for their ongoing support.

I am pleased to be able to report that the total number of gifts received by our Foundation almost doubled over the previous year. This can be attributed to our expanded efforts to engage those closest to the College and by asking

them to make St. Lawrence part of their annual charitable giving practices. This increase in broad-based support bodes well for our long term future. The number and value of awards available to deserving students in financial need also increased this year. As financial aid to help offset the cost of tuition continues to be a major concern for our students, the area continues to be a top priority for our supporters.

I am particularly excited about two new funds created by the Foundation this past year. These funds are intended to enhance learning experiences for our students. The "Engaging Alumni Fund" and "The Extraordinary Learning Experiences Fund" together helped to underwrite the cost of twenty unique student led projects. From nursing students offering health care aid in West Africa, to esthetics students represent-

ing St. Lawrence in a national competition, to fine arts students launching their first exhibition, these learning opportunities served to enhance learning at the College and provide the experience of a lifetime for our future alumni.

Looking forward, I am optimistic that the economic climate necessary for philanthropic giving to grow is improving. It is my hope that all those associated with the College will consider the important role we play in both personal and community development and to then count St. Lawrence among those organizations worthy of their philanthropic support.



Peter Gault, Chair
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STATEMENT OF REVENUE & EXPENDITURES 2008-2009

Secured Funds in 2008-2009

MVS Gallery	\$ 5,000
Exp Opp - Brockville payments	107,000
Exp Opp - Kingston payments	101,000
OTSS New in year gifts	95,000
OTSS Matching Funds	135,000
Annual Gift Award Sponsors	130,000
Event Sponsorships	10,000
Special gifts & directed grants	96,000
Gifts made "in-kind"	29,000
General Interest income	11,000
Endowment interest income	82,000
Total resources secured	\$801,000

EXPENDITURES & TRANSFERS 2008-2009

Endowed Bursary Fund	\$ 230,400
Student Awards	283,800
Instructional Capital	135,400
Capital Projects	179,000
Operations and Events	72,500
Special student projects	11,000
Total Investments	\$912,100

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Nursing students from the Cornwall campus were able to provide much needed assistance and supplies to children at an orphanage in Nepal, thanks the assistance from the St. Lawrence College Foundation, who helped sponsor the trip.

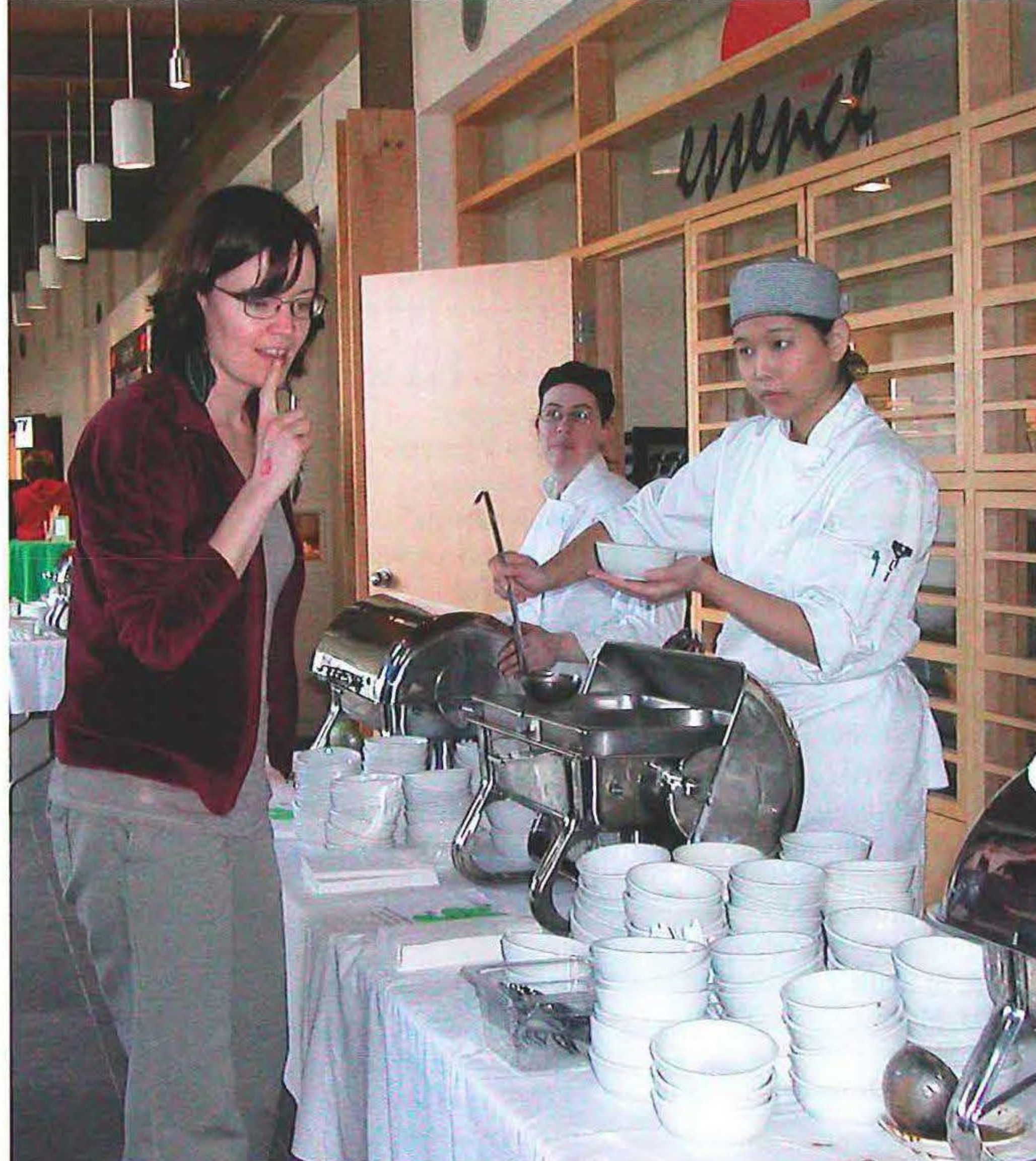
Staff Step Up

ST. Lawrence College staff are at the front of the line when it comes to supporting students. Not only is it something they have dedicated their careers to, but for many, it's something they've dedicated their paycheques to as well.

This year's Campus Community Appeal was headed by just such dedicated staffers. Dean of Arts Terri McDade and market researcher Heather Gregg acted as volunteer co-chairs on the Kingston campus, while admin assistant Julie Johnston took on the task in Brockville. In Cornwall, it was faculty member Jody Souka-Marleau, and tech support guru Sandra Menard who stepped up to spearhead the campaign.

During an eight-week period the three campuses were able to raise over \$45,000, with the bulk of the funds dedicated to student financial assistance. Not only did it raise considerably more than in previous years, but the number of new donors who got the philanthropy bug increased as well.

In Kingston, staff sampled the soups of Culinary students for Souper Tuesday, while Brockville staff served up some sweet treats at Sundae Monday's do-it-yourself sundae bar. But the majority of funds raised came the old-fashioned way: simply giving. "This was really the first year for a new way to conduct our staff campaign and our volunteers should be congratulated for being the brave and inspirational leaders they were," says Annual Giving manager Janine Foster. "As longtime supporters themselves, they already knew the impact their gifts can make, and it was exciting to see others decide to join them."



"We've always been very proud of the way our staff have supported our students," says Frank Lockington, director of Alumni and Development. "But it was great to see so many decide to take that extra step by supporting the Campus Community Appeal." 

Leave a Legacy AT ST. LAWRENCE COLLEGE



The St. Lawrence College Foundation provides assistance to individuals considering a personal planned gift through bequest or life insurance. Personal or family named bursaries, scholarships and awards are among the numerous opportunities donors have to leave a legacy of education at St. Lawrence College.

For information on giving to St. Lawrence through The St. Lawrence College Foundation contact us:

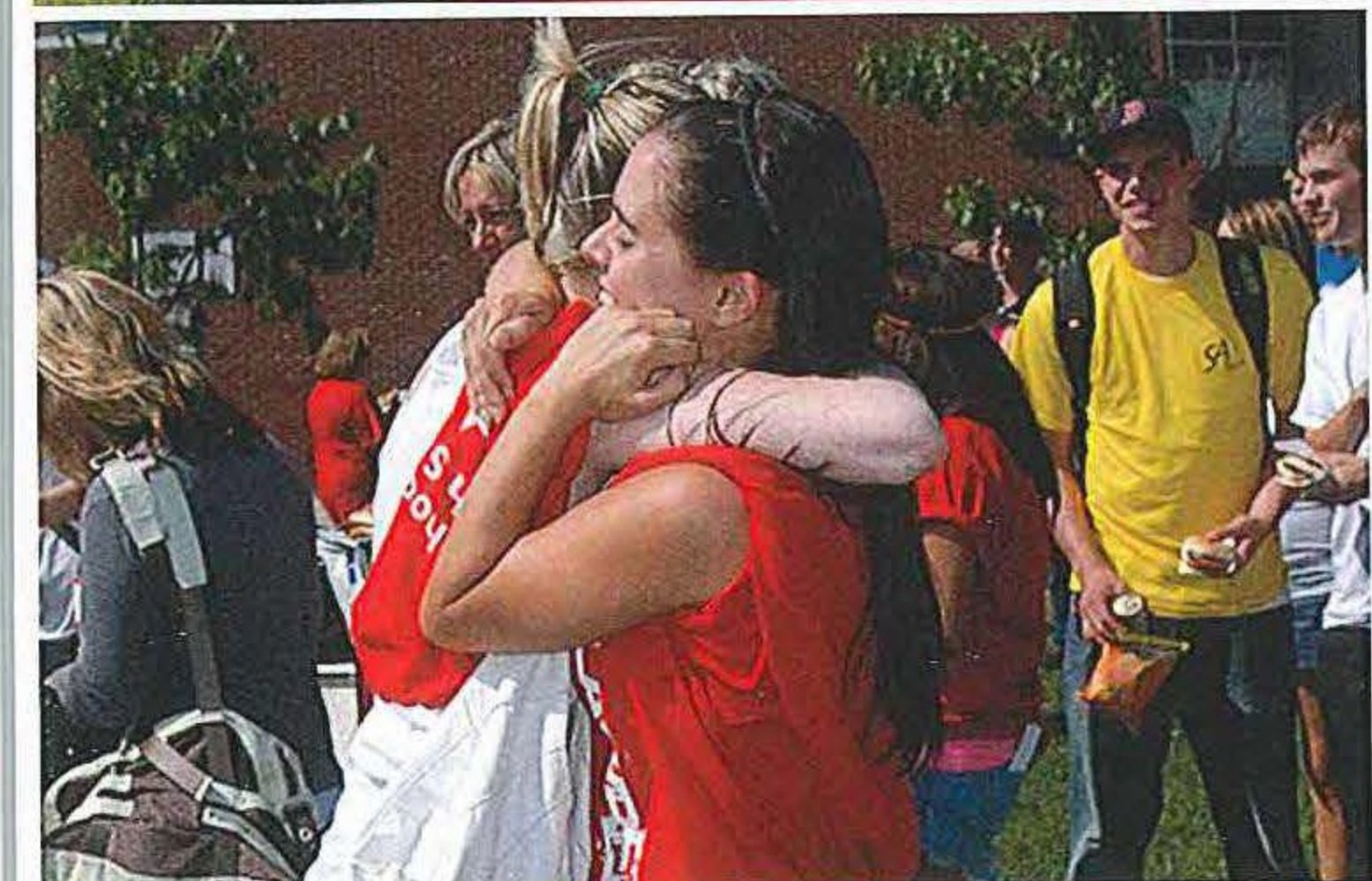
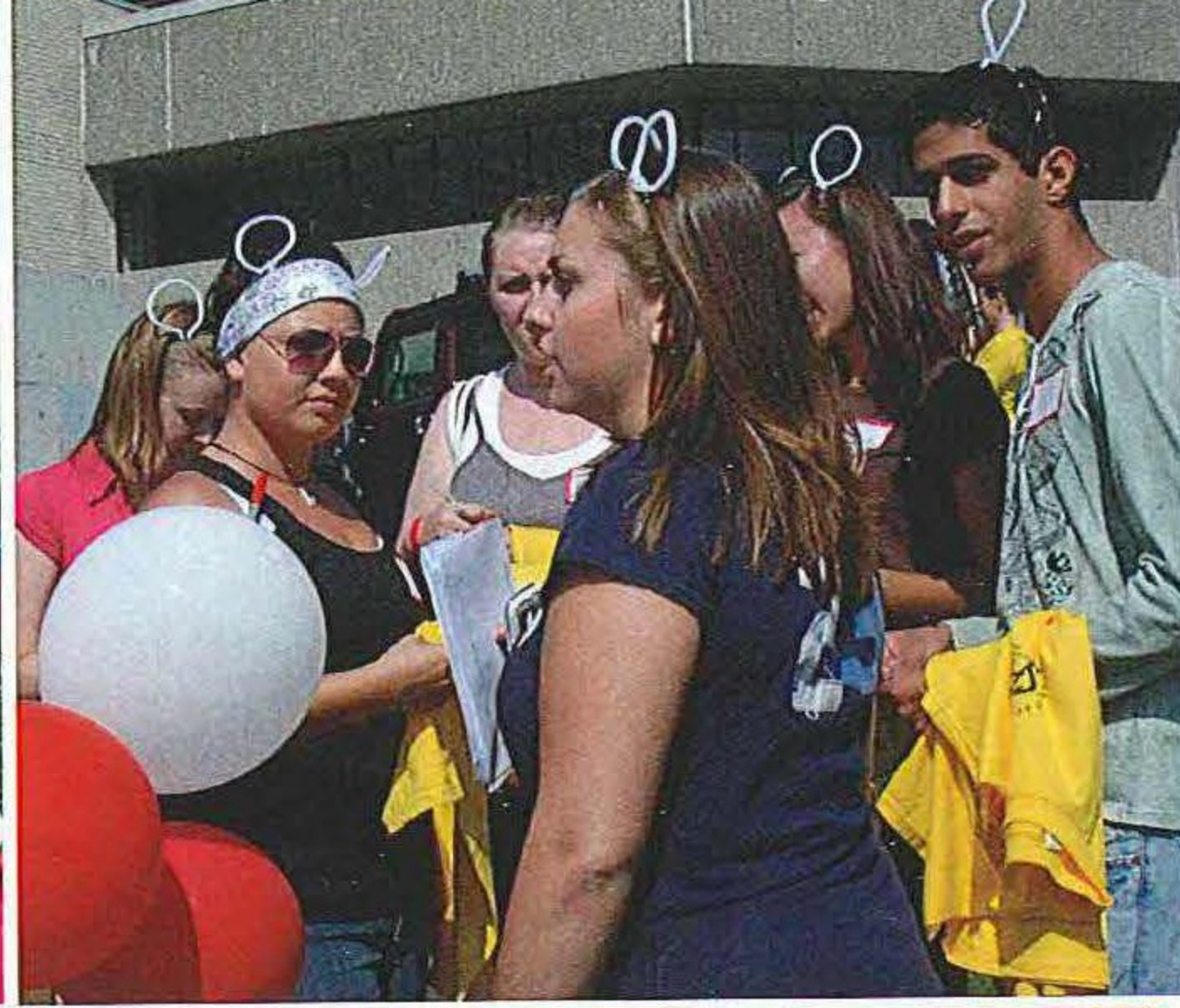
The St. Lawrence College Foundation
St. Lawrence College

2288 Parkedale Avenue
Brockville, ON K6V 5X3

2 Belmont Street
Cornwall, ON K6H 4Z1

100 Portsmouth Avenue
Kingston, ON K7L 5A6

foundation@sl.on.ca
1-800-228-4664



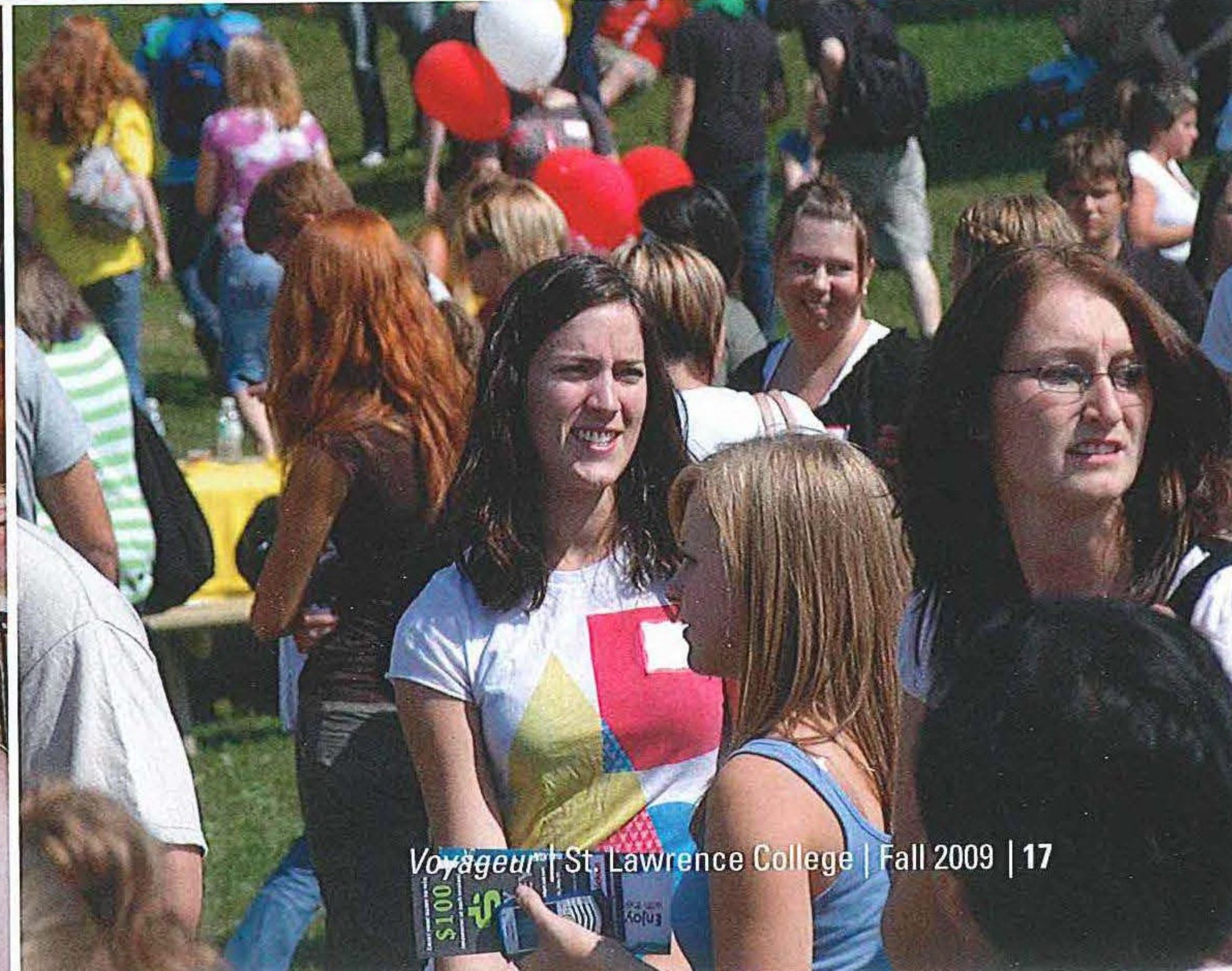
Welcome Future Alumni!

It's first day of school all over again! All three campuses welcomed new students to a day of Orientation activities, in order to familiarize them with their program and the College's services and resources for students.

Activities ranged from "Dunk the Dean" at Cornwall campus, to a friendly ball game in Brockville, but each campus had one activity in common: Free Lunch!

Check out all of the Orientation pictures on the SLC Alumni Flickr site at www.flickr.com/photos/slcalumni/sets/

Photos: Jack Tennant, Henry Petrynka, Debra Dalock



SLC Competes Nationally

ESTHETICIAN, BUSINESS STUDENTS SHOW THEIR WINNING WAYS

FOR Cornwall native and newly-minted alumni Christine Aubry, it was a chance in a lifetime. The then-esthetics student went face-to-face (excuse the pun) with eight fellow students from four other Ontario colleges, turning in a gold medal performance at the Ontario Skills Competition in May.

The event resulted in Aubry joining Team Ontario at the National Skills Competition in Charlottetown PEI just a few weeks later. "I'm so proud to be representing my program at the national level," Christine said at the time.

"Winning the gold just goes to show what a great program St. Lawrence College has and how well it prepares us for our careers."

Aubry wasn't the only student to test her skills in national competition. The business students who make up the SIFE (Students in Free Enterprise) St. Lawrence Chapter took home three prestigious awards at their organization's national competition the same month, after breaking records at the regional level just weeks before. (See *Voyageur*, Spring 2009).

Business student and SIFE SLC chair Darcy Voutt took home the Gwyn Morgan Bursary for Principle Leadership (including \$2,500 towards tuition), while the group took the stage for the John Dobson Best Start Up of the Year Award.

Faculty Advisor and business prof Pamela Bovey Armstrong was recognized for her support of the new group, taking home the award for Rookie Faculty Advisor of the Year, and the John Dobson ACE Fellow of the Year Award for an outstanding contribution as a mentor and coach to a SIFE team.

"This is not only a group that has quickly solidified itself as one of the top SIFE teams in the country, but a sustainable organization that is becoming an incubator for the entrepreneurs at St. Lawrence College," John Conrad, Associate Dean, School of Business. ■



The Ties that Bind

CORNWALL'S WELDING STUDENTS HELP KINGSTON RUGBY TEAMS

THE St. Lawrence College Varsity Rugby teams got quite a boost for their programs at their first training session of the season. The Men's and Women's teams took delivery of their very own scrum sled which was provided courtesy of the St. Lawrence College Welding Fabrication program, located on the Cornwall campus.

A scrum sled is a piece of equipment which allows teams to practice their scrummaging – a key part of the game of rugby. The sled provides coaches the opportunity to teach proper technique and body position during scrums, which in turn addresses crucial safety issues for rugby players.

SLC Men's Rugby Head Coach, Grant Bradley says, "this is a huge boost to actually have a scrum sled of our very own, in the past we have relied on favours from Queen's and the Kingston Panthers rugby clubs who would lend us their equipment. The

students that worked on this sled did an excellent job, it is a top class piece of equipment and we are very appreciative to them for doing this for us."

Gary Peacock, the head coach of the Women's rugby team at St. Lawrence College added, "A scrum sled is always a welcome addition to any rugby program. It is especially important for our women's program as we are in the development stages of the game here at the college and this will allow us to teach proper technique right from the beginning. What a great idea to utilize our own resources within the college to get this done."

The building of a scrum sled for the rugby program was an idea put together by Tri-Campus Athletic Director, Brad Greenwood. As a former rugby player and head coach at Queen's University, Greenwood is no stranger to the game and saw an opportunity to utilize some of the synergies within the college to help fill this equipment need for his rugby program.

"In talking with Don Fairweather, the Dean of the Cornwall campus, I was made aware of the quality of the weld-

ing program there, and how they generally learn in a project-based environment. A light bulb went on for me regarding the need of a scrum sled for our rugby programs and how I could possibly get the Welding program to help us. On our behalf, Don Fairweather contacted Paul Moddeman and Andre Allaire, coordinators of the Welding program to ask for their help. My colleagues at Queen's Athletics allowed me to take photos and measurements from their scrum sled to provide an example from which the welding program could work from, and the rest, as they say, is history."

This project provided students in the Welding Fabrication program the opportunity to work on a unique project while also providing much needed equipment for some of their fellow students. Athletic Director Greenwood added, "It is great that a group of students on one St. Lawrence College campus could help a group of students on one of the other campuses in such a way. The quality of the sled they have crafted is as good as I have seen – we are very fortunate." ■

Taking Care

SLC'S HONORARY DIPLOMA RECIPIENTS DEMONSTRATE CARE FOR THE COMMUNITY AND OUR ENVIRONMENT

HONORARY Diplomas are the highest form of recognition that the College can bestow. They are awarded to individuals or organizations whose accomplishments are of such a high degree of excellence that they can be held up as role models, and serve as an inspiration to our graduates and the College community.

Cornwall Campus: Jeff Ridal

Jeff Ridal, Executive Director of the St. Lawrence River Institute of Environmental Sciences, was recognized for his long-standing and outstanding contributions to the College and the community.

Jeff Ridal is a graduate of CCVS in Cornwall and attended Trent University where he majored in chemistry. After completing his Masters degree at the University of Ottawa, he combined his interests in chemistry and the environment through a PhD in Oceanography at Dalhousie University in Halifax. Ridal's post-doctoral appointments brought him to Canada's Centre for Inland Waters (where he worked on the Great Lakes) and then at the University of Montreal where he conducted research on small Laurentian lakes.

He returned to Cornwall in 1995 where he turned his attention to rivers and the development of the St. Lawrence River Institute of Environmental Sciences, serving as research scientist, manager and presently as Executive Director.

In 2004, Ridal helped initiate St. Lawrence College's Environment Technician program and has taught several courses for the program. He is also an adjunct professor at both Queen's University and the University of Ottawa, and has published widely on water quality and the sources and fates of contaminants in the environment. He is also a member of the Canada-US International Joint Commission's Science Advisory Board.

In addition to his activities with the River Institute, his local contributions include serving as the Chair of the Clean Air Cornwall for the past 8 years, and he is a founding member of the Cornwall Carbon Reduction Initiative and the St. Lawrence River Restoration Council.

"Jeff Ridal has been instrumental in the building of the College's very important partnership with the St. Lawrence River Institute of Environmental Sciences," said Chris Whitaker, president and CEO of St. Lawrence College. "We are proud to acknowledge his achievements, his success and his role in enhancing the environment within our city and area."



Brockville Campus: Sandra Lawn


Local community leader Sandra Lawn received an Honorary Diploma from the college to acknowledge her long-standing and outstanding contributions to the community.

In addition to serving as mayor for the town of Prescott from 1977 to 1991, Sandra has made enormous contributions to her community with her support of and service to regional economic development, environmental initiatives, health and literacy promotion programs for children and youth, and a commitment to supporting the arts.

She is a founding member of the South Grenville Economic Development Commission, inaugural member of the Board of the Eastern Ontario Model Forest, Chair of the Charrette for Children, which highlights the urgent need for meeting the emotional and developmental needs of children and

youth in Leeds-Grenville. Her numerous honours include Woman of the Year award from Girl's Inc. of Upper Canada in 2006, the Queen's University Jubilee Medal, 2002 and the Ontario Confederation Medal, 1992. Sandra holds Bachelor's Degree in Science and Master's in Public Administration from Queen's University. She has also taught in the St. Lawrence College nursing and business programs part-time throughout the last 20 years, and was a Board member from 1986 to 1988.

"Sandra Lawn is a great example of someone who gives back to her community," said Chris Whitaker. "We are proud to acknowledge her leadership and generosity with an Honorary Diploma, and hope that our graduates will be inspired by her example." ❧



FOR ALUMNI ONLY

Did you know that your child was eligible for the Meloche Monnex Child of Alumni Bursary? If you received Explorer, the e-newsletter for SLC Alumni, you would have!

Deadline for application was September 30. Don't miss it next year.

Update your record by adding your email address at www.stlawrencecollege.ca/alumni. Get the latest news before it's too late!

Prime Ministers bring learning to life

ALL teachers dream of bringing learning to life in the classroom, but Arthur Milnes is a couple of steps beyond. Not only will his students' studies leap off the page, but they'll walk right into the classroom.

Milne's course, *The Prime Ministers of Canada*, will include a lecture by the Rt. Hon. John Turner. The visit by one of the 22 men and women who have led Canada since Confederation, will take place at the college's Kingston campus the evening of Monday, November 2, 2009.

"We are honoured that one of these past leaders of Canada has agreed to take the time to share their unique and historical experiences in Canada's highest office with our students," says Lynn Walker, Director of St. Lawrence College's School of Part-Time Studies. "This will be a unique opportunity for students to hear directly from a Prime Minister as they take this class."

Milnes, a Fellow of the Centre for the Study of Democracy at Queen's University, served as research assistant to former Prime Minister Brian Mulroney on his 2007 best-seller, *Memoirs*, and co-edited two volumes of *Prime Ministerial speeches covering the Rt. Hon. John Turner and the Rt. Hon. Richard Bennett for McGill-Queen's*

University Press.

"The invitation was extended this summer and I am pleased that one of our Prime Ministers has accepted," Milnes says. "To have the chance to listen directly to one who has served as Prime Minister of Canada, and to engage in conversation with them personally is one I am very proud my students will have this fall."

Of course, Milnes is no stranger to interactive learning – whether the subject be live or dead.

While he was contacting former PMs to invite them to speak to his fall class, he also managed to conjure up Canada's first prime minister, Sir John A. Macdonald, through the writings of his *Memoirs Writing I* course.

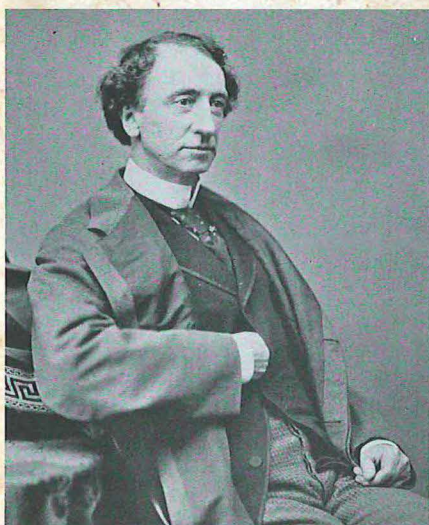
As part of a class assignment, the continuing education students each wrote the first page of the imaginary *Memoirs of Sir John A. Macdonald* (Sir John A. never had time to write his own memoirs) and their work was judged by one of Canada's premiere journalists, Macdonald biographer Richard Gwyn. Gwyn, who is now in the midst of research for Volume II of his acclaimed biography of Canada's Father of Confederation, *The Man Who Made Us*,

chose Kingston's Lisa Russell as the author who best captured John A.'s essence.

"This was the one that came the closest to John A.'s own voice and style," Gwyn said. "John A. wasn't introspective. He wasted no time second-guessing his decisions and none at all on preening about having done this or that well. So he would never have written a memoir. Or, if he did, it's been buried with him." Russell was presented with a copy of Volume I of Gwyn's Macdonald biography as her prize. Fittingly, the presentation took place at the statue of Sir John A. Macdonald at City Park in Kingston.

"To have our work judged by a writer of the statue of Mr. Gwyn is such an honour," Lisa Russell said at the time. Russell's winning entry, read by her, was broadcast nationally across the CBC Radio network on Canada Day.

"I didn't envy Richard Gwyn," Milnes said. "Each entry was excellent but Lisa's captured Macdonald's spirit best of all. As the voters shouted during his last campaign, 'Sir John, You'll Never Die!' Lisa and all my students have proven just how accurate that prophecy was." Read on...



Ruddy Hell! BY LISA H. RUSSELL

I suppose one day the poor, stupid sods will read this and expect me to say something brilliant and illuminating about politics. I suppose as well I should be considering the public when I write this.

I should be careful, schematic and so on. Well, sod it all, I say! This won't be found until after I'm dead after all. Stupid sods, the lot of them. Enough with politics. I am tired. No one will ever find this private epistle for I will make sure it is so.

How will I be remembered? Confederation? The CPR? What of it all at this point? Why now when I am so ill and tired and yet still filled with enough restlessness to blow it all to smithereens! How truly peculiar public life is. They all think they know me and yet not one of them has any idea who I really am. It is a good thing I am writing this alone, in near darkness here at Earncliffe. It will all be buried with me in the end.

Buried because this goddamned country and... ruddy hell, that's enough!

The First Page of Sir John A. Macdonald's "Memoirs"



Beauty & Brains

THIS past summer, St. Lawrence College's Energy House proved itself beautiful as well as practical. The buildings on the Kingston Campus are usually a testament to the efficiency and effectiveness of green technologies, but with the win of the coveted Five Blooms Award in the Public Gardens category in this year's Kingston Blooms competition, Energy House bloomed.

The Kingston Blooms competition is part of the nationwide competition,

Communities in Bloom. Awards are given in the Residential, Community Gardens, Public Gardens, Forgotten Corner and Professional Gardens categories.

"We have been working hard to beautify Energy House and we're very happy the hard work has been recognized," says Don Young, Dean, Faculty of Applied Science. "Special thanks to our 'Green Thumbs' Brenda Vandermeer, Leslie MacDougall, Barb Guerin, and a number of students who have put their hearts into the project over the past five years." ❧



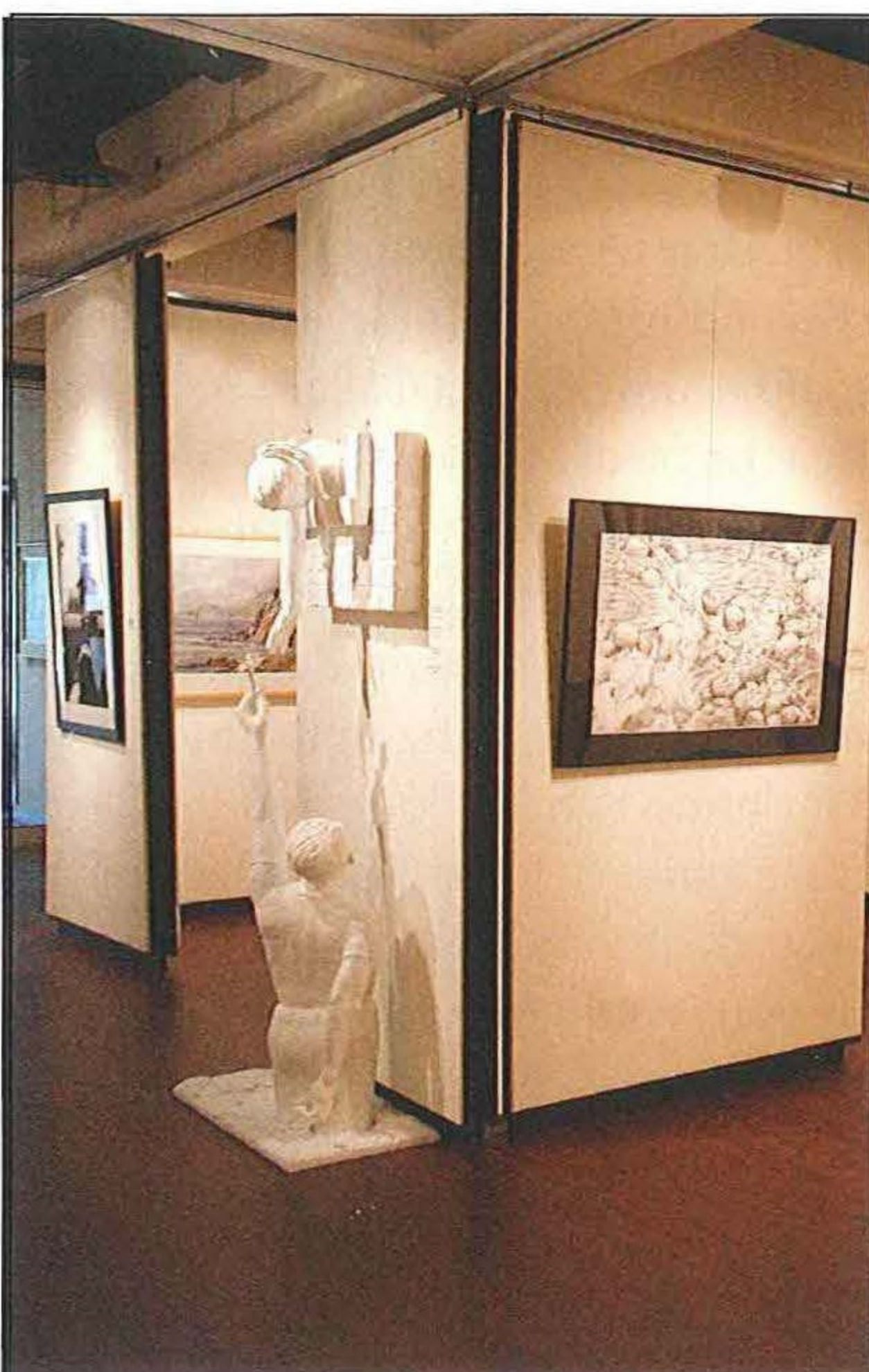
Enrolment up on all three campuses

BY LAURA TULCHINSKY

ST. Lawrence College's population is growing. First year enrolment numbers are exceptionally strong, with more than 3,500 new students this fall. A per campus snapshot shows that Brockville experienced a 12 per cent growth in student confirmations, Cornwall 26 per cent, and Kingston 7 per cent.

"We're very excited by our strong enrollment this fall," said Gord MacDougall, Vice President, Student and External Affairs at St. Lawrence College. "We believe that this may be a reflection of the state of the economy and that prospective students recognize that going to college will give them the skills they need to succeed in the workplace and through volatile times."

Showing particular strength are the Health Sciences and Community Services programs, most reached maximum capacity across all three campuses. As well, for the first time, the Bachelor of Science in Nursing program had waiting lists. Several new programs including Game Development Technician and Wind Turbine Technician Coop Apprenticeship got off to a solid start with enrolment above projections. And because of strong fall enrolment in Veterinary Technology, the January intake has been suspended, while an additional high demand for Culinary Skills – Chef Training has resulted in the addition of a January intake for that program. ❧




St. Lawrence
College


Marianne van Silfhout Gallery

St. Lawrence College, Brockville campus

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At the Branches


CYW Alumni Chapter

THE Child and Youth Workers Alumni Chapter continues to build following its official launch last February. The group has been busy solidifying its connection to current CYW students – and hopefully future members of the chapter – by welcoming grads to the alumni family at Convocation in June. Treasurer Jillian Manning gave the alumni address, and CYW alumni were given a card after they crossed the stage to tell them about the chapter. Recent grads get to join the chapter for free for their first year (fee is normally \$25 annually).

The chapter also reached out to alumni at the Ontario Association of Child and Youth Counsellors conference in Toronto in June.

Fall has already been busy. Lee Anne Campbell and Mike Carr presented to third year CYWs in the classroom in September about why they should consider joining the alumni upon graduation, and a survey is in design now to go out to members first, and all CYW grads (Brockville and Kingston) to see what needs the chapter can meet. Update your email address with the alumni office to ensure you get on the email list (alumni@sl.on.ca).

Plans are also underway for a social event this fall, and some upcoming professional development workshops. A website is also in process, including a “members only” site to promote networking, events and career opportunities.

If you would like more information about the CYW Chapter, including how to join, contact us at alumni@sl.on.ca. You can also join on line at www.stlawrencecollege.ca/alumni and follow the links to our sign-up page. 

submitted by Lee Anne Campbell



The Fine Arts chapter members – and newly minted graduates – gathered for a group picture after the official graduation. Included in the group is teacher Andrea Mossop, and renowned artist and teacher Hugh Mackenzie.

Fine Arts Chapter


THE Fine Art Alumni Chapter held our Annual meeting/reunion September 12, 2009 at St Lawrence College Brockville. The Chapter invited new Fine Art Grads to participate in our gathering, and now welcome 10 new grads that have joined our chapter.

During the Annual Meeting, Susan Tooker completed her term as president, receiving the gratitude of the members for her work on behalf of the Chapter. Sheila Dixon has been welcomed as new President.

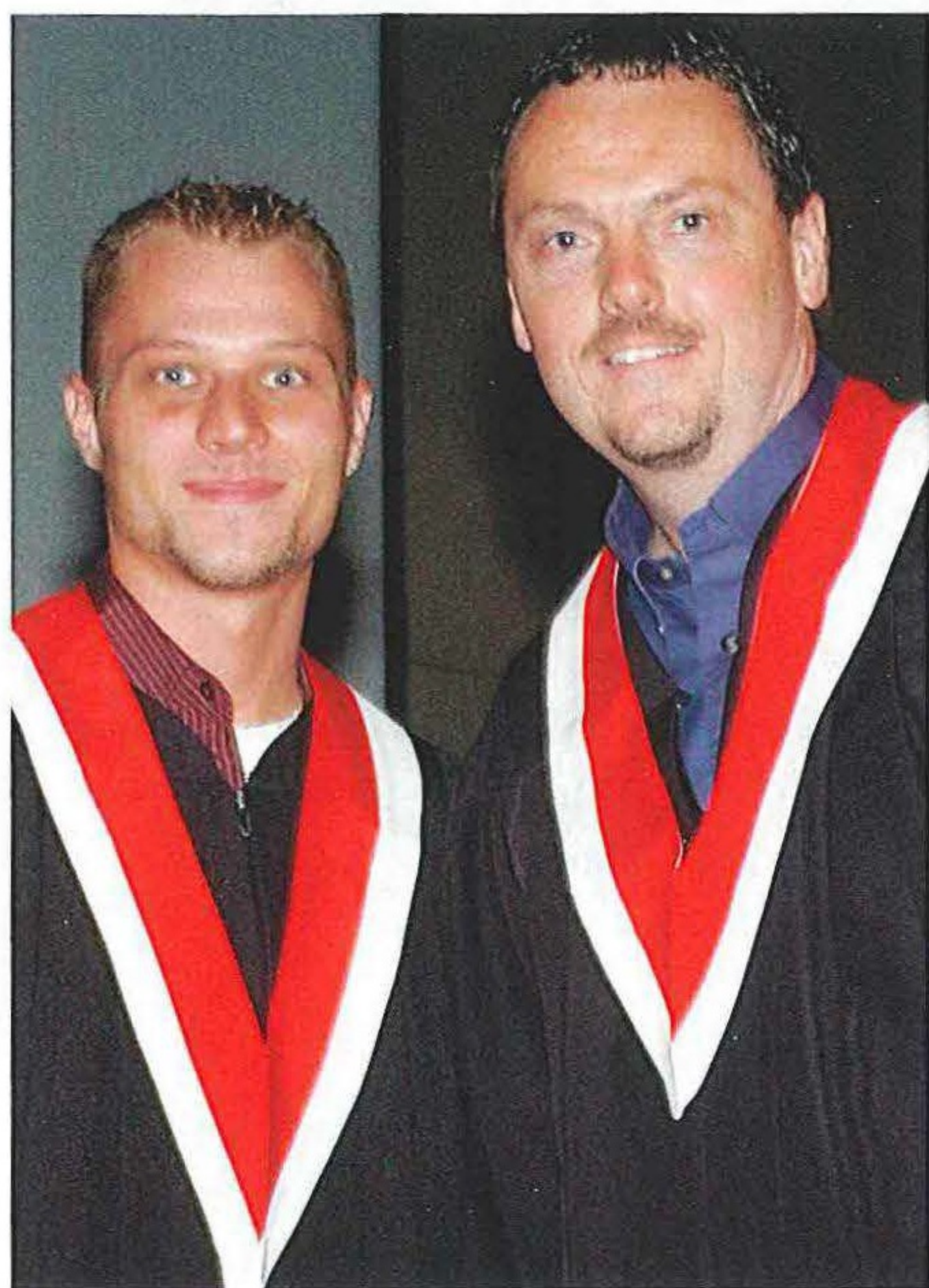
Convocation 2009 was an especially memorable one for the Chapter as many of our members officially completed their diplomas (after years of part-time study) and joined the first graduating class of the Fine Arts Program at Brockville campus on stage.

The chapter was proud to be part of the Second Annual Art Juried Show at the Marianne Van Silfhout Gallery Brockville. With a theme of “Personal Best” the Art Show showcased the work of alumni from September 28 – October 28.

The Fine Art Alumni Chapter has donated a tree planting in the memory of Marianne Van Silfhout, and last year set up a bursary for a deserving Fine Arts student to be given every year.

If you would like to join the Chapter, please contact us through alumni@sl.on.ca. 

submitted by Jean Noel




Dan Leveille (left) welcomed the graduating class to the alumni family at convocation, including branch president Keith Hare, who added to his diploma wall with the Ontario Management Development Program certificate.

Brockville Branch

THE Brockville Alumni Branch continues to be active in the community. The branch held its third Great North Comedy Night Saturday, October 17 at the College, once again bringing comedy to the city and raising funds for the Student Emergency Fund.

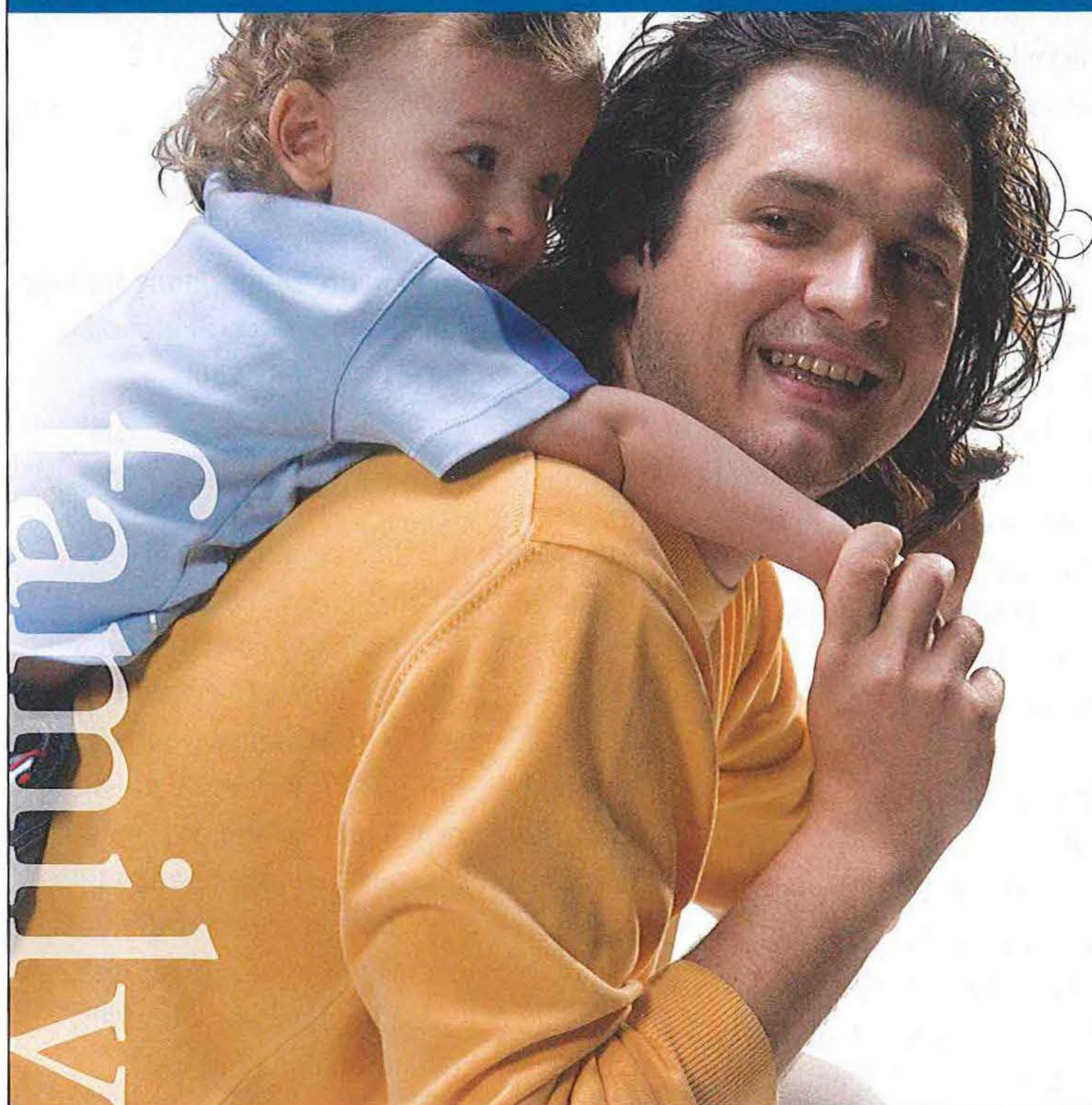
On October 28, the branch has entered a team into the Great Trivia Challenge for Palliative Care. This event is not only being hosted at the College, but Branch president Keith Hare is also the chair for the event, which hopes to raise \$5,000 towards palliative care in Brockville. To make it a true SLC "Family" event, the students of the Music Theatre Performance program perform when the competition moves into the Music category.

Convocation was a great opportunity for the Branch to put its best foot forward. Branch member Dan Leveille was the alumni speaker at the event, and all graduates received a handout about the Branch and its activities.

With the fall comedy event complete, attention has now turned to the Spring event. Keep your information up to date with the Alumni Office so you can be among the first to hear about the spring line-up and early-bird savings. 



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Alumni Echoes



1974

John H. Marjerrison

Child and Youth Worker 1974 – K

"SLC was the foundation that instilled the confidence in my ability and that helped me teach deviant students."

1979

Mary Jayne Overby

Human Resources, 1979

"Living in Embrun, Ontario. Considering going to work at the North Pole on September 1 this year... up for the adventure, I think. I and a friend (a fellow graduate from the same program and year) are looking to connect again with others who graduated with us. Hopefully, we can all get in touch with each other after THIRTY years! E-mail me at either taxvictivm@rogers.com or mjoverby@gmail.com"

Debbie Campbell

Human Resources, 1979 – K

Debbie moved back to the Kingston area as of June 16th, 2009.

1985

Janet Sherris-Asselstine

Business – Advertising and Public Relations 1985 – K

"If there is enough interest, I would like to see an alumni branch or chapter formed for Business Advertising & Public Relations."

1988

Theresa P. Bekessy

Human Resources Management 1988 – K

"I loved my time at SLC, it passed too quickly."

1989

Barbara Petepiece

Accounting, 1989 – C

"Deciding to re-enter the 'college world' after being employed as a Registered Nurse for 20 years was to say the least intimidating. However, as I stood in line in the former pub to register for courses (I initially enrolled as a part-time student in January 1987), a kindly woman asked if I needed some help. Perhaps it was my look of bewilderment and

partial panic that led her to offer assistance, but I was very grateful! I later discovered this Good Samaritan was none other than Dean Arlene Adams. This was the first of many positive experiences I had at SLC. Somehow, the regular student "work" of classes, studying, homework, projects etc. were actually interesting, stimulating and sometimes, even fun — something I cannot remember experiencing very often as a student from the ages 5 to 20 something. Perhaps the intervening years lent a different perspective to the whole experience. More likely the fact I already had a profession I could practice (in fact, still was practicing) diffused the "fear factor" felt by my younger cohorts. Whatever the reasons, those two and one-half years remain part of the best experiences of my life— right up there with raising two great children and sharing my life with my husband. Thank you SLC!"

1991

Patsy E. Osmond

Animal Care Technology, 1991 – K

"I have a 7 year old daughter, who is the love of my life! We now have 7 cats; two of them are Ragdolls which we are showing and breeding this summer."

Mary Laforest

Health Care Aide 1991 – C

"I enjoyed my time at St. Lawrence College. I met some wonderful people and shared some very trying times and losses with some. I also met some wonderful mentors who left an impact on my life and I am grateful for that. I would love to get in touch with the girls I went to college with in 1990-1991 from the Registered Nursing program Cornwall." Mary can be reached at mstng.heart@yahoo.ca

Rosa Waldroff (Pynenburg)

Registered Nursing, 1991 – C

Rosa moved to the U.S. in 1992 for a job opportunity and has spent 16 years at Rochester General Hospital in the Emergency department. She obtained certification in ACLS, PALS, TNCC, ENPC and

teaches TNCC, ENPC and CEN review. She is a voting delegate on the New York ENA, and treasurer of that organization's New York State chapter. She is also in graduate school to obtain her Masters in Nursing Education (she received her BScN from Roberts Wesleyan College in 2006). Rosa has been "married 25 years to the best man in the world" and they have three boys. She can be reached at r5rofrog@aol.com

1993

Reina Bernier

Office Administration/Executive, 1993 – C

"After my children were in school full time I decided to return to college. I had planned the one year program and ended up doing the executive the second year. With great encouragement and support from my family and hard work, I graduated in 1993 with distinction. It was a very happy time in my life. Very glad I did it. I always wanted to be a medical secretary and I have been for 16 years now. Although I am now 57 years old, I have no intentions of retiring any time soon." Reina has been married for 37 years and is the mother of three and grandmother of two.

1994

Elizabeth Sund (Muma)

Business Administration –

Information Systems, 1994 – K

Elizabeth is living in the Netherlands for four years for her husband's work. She can be reached at sag2611@hotmail.com

1995

Lori Higgs

Advertising & Public Relations 1995 – K

Lori is working at The Gananoque Inn.

"Anyone interested in reunions or meetings please contact me, I'd love to provide a quote. We have 57 guestrooms (that) vary in size and design; each it's own unique appeal. Many have a jacuzzi and/or fireplace, creating a year round ambiance and atmosphere. The only Inn on the waterfront, featuring two restaurants, a full service spa, wedding and meeting facilities." Contact Lori at lori@gananoqueinn.com.

1999

Emily Jossinet Singh

Advertising & Public Relations, 1999 – K
“After five years of print advertising I have moved into the fitness industry. The skills I learned in Business, Advertising & Public Relations helped me to become one of the company’s top salespeople in 2006. I was able to get out into the community, help develop corporate leads and drive business to the club. I am now managing my own club where I am responsible for recruiting staff/ members and promoting a healthy lifestyle in the community. We run a GoodLife Kids Foundation Fundraiser every year. This program was most beneficial to help me with the marketing, business and innovative skills I needed to get me where I am! In my spare time, I am a mom who helps run my husband’s renovation company (Singhko Renovations). Thanks SLC, for giving me such a diverse skill set to use to further my career path!”

Debra-Lynn Bellefeuille

Addictions Treatment and Prevention Worker, 1999 – C
Debra is living in the U.K. where she is a mentor trainer for the Royal College of General Practitioners certificate course on substance misuse in primary care. “I am a facilitator for drug awareness programs in Bromley (U.K); assisting GPs, professionals and the general public. I would like to return to Cornwall or Ontario to teach addictions. If there are any positions that would be relevant to my field I would be interested in offering my knowledge and qualifications.” Email debrallynn_ca@yahoo.com

2006

Stacey Charlebois

Industrial Maintenance Mechanic, Welding, 2006 – C
Stacey is keeping very busy, including working as a Volunteer Firefighter with South Stormont Station 2, and launching his side business providing boat detailing, engine work and mobile pressure washing.

2007

Jennifer Normand

Social Service Worker, 2007 – C
“I went to college with the mind frame of just going to get my diploma and nothing else. I left college with great memories and true friends whom will always be part of my life, and the professors were awesome. It was the best experience of my life at the Cornwall campus.”

Helen Baumander

Educational Assistant, 2007 – C
Helen is a writer and her book, *Tara’s Wish*, has been accepted for publishing by Lilley Press. A release date has not yet been scheduled.

2008

Curtis Cumming

Arts and Science, 2008 – C
Curtis is currently at work on a Psychology degree at SUNY Potsdam and fondly recalls his two years at SLC. “The small class sizes and teacher involvement was great. I got to know a number of my teachers well. I also lived in residence at Cornwall for my two years, my second year gave me the opportunity to be an RA. I was lucky enough to become involved in the Student Union and got to meet a lot of great people over the course of my years at SLC.” He can be reached at Curtis_9_8_88@hotmail.com.

Chris Robillard

Paramedic 2008 – C
Chris is working as a Primary Care Paramedic for Lanark County Ambulance Service. “My two-year stay at St. Lawrence was the most fun and rewarding experience ever due to the fact that St. Lawrence College is such a small school which allows for a more close and personal experience not only with the teachers and the classmates but with everyone in the school. But if I had to choose one thing that made my whole experience worthwhile, I would have to choose the extraordinary teaching staff of the paramedic program that not only taught me everything that started my career as a Paramedic, but more importantly, took the time in

doing so to make everything make sense and simply offer all that they could to each and every student.”

Mattea Sargeant

ECE 2008 Distance Ed., 2008
“During my time with SLC I found all the staff to be very knowledgeable about programs and all student affairs. My instructors were very involved with my learning, and made themselves available or help with assignments and even made the extra effort to reach out and offer help and support if I was struggling in a class. Because of the amazing support and instruction I received while at SLC, I was able to secure a full-time job in a reputable daycare centre before I’d even graduated. I would recommend my program and SLC to anyone considering attending a post secondary institution.” Mattea can be reached at yay_ttea@hotmail.com

2009

Lauren Marlowe

BST 2009 – K
Lauren is working as a residential counselor at Pathways to Independence in Belleville and as a Child and Youth Worker at Terrace Youth Residential Services. She can be reached at Marlowe.lauren@gmail.com

Monique Picher

Social Service Worker, 2009 – C
“Thanks to the wonderful teachers who go out of their way to help. The Dean has been of assistance to me when I was in need, and successfully resolves issues at hand. The cafeteria ladies are all friendly and helpful as well. Our student union at the Cornwall campus threw some fantastic parties, with prizes that were above and beyond for a community of its size. The challenge and fun of St. Lawrence College will be cherished in my heart forever.” Monique can be reached at dumbo2005@sympatico.ca



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Alumni in the College

**DID YOU KNOW THAT APPROXIMATELY 25% OF SLC STAFF ARE ALSO SLC ALUMNI?
CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING ALUMNI:**



Bill Atwell (BST 1992) rejoins the College as the Head Coach of the Women's Indoor Soccer team at Cornwall Campus. Atwell brings 14-years of coaching experience to SLC,

including his recent role as Head Coach of the Seaway Blazers league in Cornwall. He took the 2006 U16 Girls to a second place finish in the Premier Level, Eastern Region soccer league, an accomplishment he repeated the next year with the U17 Girls. In 2008, he coached the U18 girls to the elusive 1st place finish in the same league. Most recently, Atwell helped the Cornwall Collegiate & Vocational School Senior Boys Soccer Team to a second place finish at the AAA EOSSA Tournament.

Shawn Montroy (Educational Assistant, 2000) is treading familiar ground, becoming the Head Coach of the Men's Indoor Soccer team in Cornwall – the same team he captained as a student years before.

Most recently, Montroy held the position of Referee in Chief and President of the local Cornwall and District soccer league, and has previously coached at the U15 and U19 Boys level for the Seaway Blazers. He holds a



Level-I Practical and Technical Coaching Certification from the Ontario Soccer Association and is currently working toward furthering his coaching credentials and certifications.



Terri McDade (CYW 1979) is the new Dean of Arts on the Kingston Campus. Terri has been connected with the College in various capacities for over 30 years. In addition to her diploma in Child Care Worker from the Brockville Campus, she holds a Psychology degree from Queen's University and is currently enrolled in the Masters of Education program at Central Michigan University. Terri is active in the Children's Aid Society of Frontenac County as a member and Chair of the Board of Directors, and is a member of the Executive of the newly christened CYW Alumni Chapter. Most recently Terri was the Associate Dean of the School of Community Services.

Passings

WILSON, Tyrone (Pre-Firefighter 2008 – B) – Active Member of the Edwardsburg Cardinal Fire Department. Suddenly in Brockville, ON on Saturday, August 15, 2009, Tyrone Wilson of Prescott, formerly of Brockville and Winnipeg at the age of 22 years. Dearly beloved son of Lorelei and her husband Brian Griffiths and the late Hensley. Loving brother to Colton Griffiths. According to press reports of the funeral, more than 150 people, including an honour guard of area firefighters, attended the service. Three college friends, Jessica King, Brooke Averillo and Brieonna Locche, sang Amazing Grace at the service, led by fire department chaplain Jim Grant.

ADAM, Edith (Irwin) – Longtime Employee of St. Lawrence College (Retired) – Edith passed away peacefully at the Kingston General Hospital in her 79th year. Loving wife to John Adam of 25 years. Beloved mother to Susan (Jim) Thomson and Janet (Randy) Ballan. Cherished grandmother to

Jay, Amy, Christina, Amanda and Allie. Step-mother to Kevin (Tina), Jeff (Susan), Michael (Liz) and Lisa and Step grandmother to Crystal, Sophia, Annabella, Lucas, Sarah, Lance and Allison.

PARENT, Shirley Joan – During the evening of 17 July 2009 at Kingston General Hospital, Kingston Ontario, surrounded by her family and after a short but courageous struggle with cancer. Shirley Joan Parent (nee McKenzie) in her 75th year. The former Head Nurse ICU at KGH put her strengths as a mentor and teacher to work as a Nursing instructor at St Lawrence College for many years. Even in retirement, Shirley remained active in the community and took on leadership roles as President of the Catholic Women's League at the Church of the Good Thief and President of the Auxiliary at Ongwanada Resource Centre where she demonstrated her resourcefulness and skill as a fund raiser.

ELSERMANN, Edi – Dr. Edi Elsermann after a brief illness, at the Cornwall Community Hospital – McConnell Site on Monday August 3, 2009 at the age of 91 years; Retired Professor – St. Lawrence College, Cornwall Campus. Beloved husband of the late Margaret Lovatt.

COMMODORE, Paul (Electronic Engineering Technology 1977) passed away in April at the age of 53, after a courageous battle with pancreatic cancer. He is survived by his wife and best friend, Mary Lou, and his daughter Stephanie. An ATV Poker Run that he founded in 2008 to raise funds for cancer research and services continues on his memory. The second annual Paul Commodore ATV Poker Run was held in Mallorytown in September and has so far helped raise over \$5,000.

Setting Trends

Brockville business alumnus Dan Leveille is just a little bit backwards. He had a thriving business – albeit out of the trunk of his car – and then decided to go to SLC to study business. And then he opened his own retail shop, Trendsetters, in downtown Brockville. His store is the place to be for the young and not-so-young who are interested in the trendiest clothes from the urban and fightwear fashion scene.

How long have you been in business?

I've had the store just over one-and-a-half years but I've been selling clothes for a long time before that. I've been using Facebook (to sell clothes) pretty much since it started. I still use it. I have 1,600 friends on Facebook and most of them are customers.

How much of your business is online, versus the store? In the past six months, I'd say about 25% of my business is online.

What was the best thing you learned at SLC? Networking, definitely. I didn't even know the definition of the word when I started school.

What's the subject you wish you'd paid more attention to in class? I wish I'd paid more attention in Accounting. I did well in it, but I wish I'd retained more of it!

You've marketed your business through creating events like fashion shows and concerts. Is this where you see your business going? I do two shows a year in Brockville and this past summer we did our first show in Cornwall (with my friend and mentor). Five years out, I'd like to see a bigger location here in Brockville and a few more locations in Ottawa and other centres. I'm also in the beginning stages of wholesaling with companies in China, VietNam and Norway.

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