

ST. MICHAELS UNIVERSITY SCHOOL

SCHOOL  TIES



Music in the Air

Spring 2004

A woman in a vibrant floral dress and a straw hat with a large flower is sitting on a log. Behind her, a man in a purple hat and colorful shirt is playing an acoustic guitar. The background shows a red brick building and a chain-link fence.

Spring Fair[®] 2004

May 8, 2004 - That's the date of our fun(d)-raising Spring Fair, with admission open to the entire Victoria community. There'll be lots of things to buy, food, games, pony rides, arts and crafts, and even a garden shop. A Silent Auction will offer gift certificates from local merchants, wine, holiday get-aways, and much more.

**Open from 10 am to 4 pm.
Don't miss it!**

**Visit the website for more
details: www.smus.bc.ca**

SCHOOL TIES is distributed to more than 6,500 members of the St. Michaels University School community, including current families, friends, and current and past staff and students. The goal of the publication is to communicate current activities and initiatives, along with articles and reports on the alumni community. If you have any comments or suggestions regarding this publication, please contact **Jenus Friesen** at (250) 370-6169 or e-mail: jfriesen@smus.bc.ca

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If you are interested in attending school events, call (250) 592-2411 for further details, or visit the school's website Calendar of Events: www.smus.bc.ca

On the Cover

Donna Williams conducts the Senior School Orchestra – in this photo, at the University of Victoria Centre Auditorium – January 21, 2004. That evening, concert choirs, concert bands, and orchestras performed a stellar show to an appreciative audience.

Donna heads the Music Department and has been at SMUS since 1991. Since then, she has demonstrated her passion, talent, and inspiration as a teacher and musician. Donna is a seasoned strings player and vocalist, and besides conducting the full strings orchestra, she inspires the lifelong joy of music in so many. Learn about Donna's passion for teaching and music in her article on page 11 of this issue.

Seen playing her violin is grade 11 student, **Tisah Tucknott**, who has attended the school since kindergarten. This year, Tisah is studying strings and vocal jazz. She has achieved grade 11 and 12 levels at the Royal Conservatory of Music.



C. Farish photo

Music in the Air

SPRINGTIME BRINGS MORE THAN FLOWERS popping from the earth at SMUS...the Groundbreaking in early February for the John & Anne Schaffter Hall initiated its construction – now underway and geared for completion in September 2004. This issue of *School Ties* will give you a look at some of the school programmes, faculty, graduates, vision, and history of the Music Department. Read on and unravel some of the thinking behind why our acclaimed music programme is so successful.

Don't miss the big Spring Fair on May 8 – the excitement is growing! It's still not too late to get involved. Contact the school if you would like to donate any used goods or volunteer in any way. You're guaranteed to have fun!

Hundreds of school alumni will be returning to their alma mater for the big annual Homecoming in May (see schedule on page 22). Everyone is invited to the dinner dance and the many events planned for the weekend, including the rugby game between rivals SMUS and Oak Bay High. Come out and cheer for your school! Don't miss this opportunity to see, or even join in on, a cricket match with fellow schoolmates. – J.F.



Our last Spring Fair drew wonderful crowds. The jazz choir entertained campus visitors in the outdoor Christine Duke Theatre. There was continuous entertainment all day long.



Robert Snowden, Headmaster

Leaders of Tomorrow

by Robert Snowden, Headmaster

THE STORY GOES that we once all spoke the same language, until our arrogance, in constructing the Tower of Babel, ruined that paradise. Now, we have a hard time understanding each other, and strife is rampant. Even those who speak the same language have a hard time understanding each other. It is a difficulty humanity has wrestled with for centuries, and it is a difficulty our students will wrestle with when the world is theirs.

One of the most important gatherings at our school is the Remembrance Day Service in November. In the wars that we mention on that day, we recognize all kinds of people made sacrifices, some of them with the ultimate sacrifice of their lives. Millions of people, who speak many different languages, made sacrifices. Names of the dead are read aloud; Captain Harvey's letter is read aloud. To share the profound emotions on such occasions, we employ a ritual we can share, and a form of expression we can share. Among the formalities this year, the Senior Orchestra played Barber's *Adagio for Strings*. It was played powerfully, and established a tone for the rest of the service, a standard for the emotion that might be in the air. Solemn, measured, and profound...a universal language, speaking to all of us.

Another universal language is goodness. On occasions when we discuss goodness, as it appears in our Mission – *we are a community shaped by the pursuit of truth and goodness* – we make the point that goodness is more than a matter of not breaking rules, of being a good boy or a good girl. Rather it is a matter of making the effort, outside one's everyday, comfortable skin, to make the world a better place. Goodness requires action. One can make the world a better place by working for the Mustard Seed in Victoria, or helping to build a school in Haiti. In the fall, an excellent picture appeared on the front page of the Victoria newspaper, the arrangement of people entirely accidental. It showed the Lieutenant Governor, Iona Campognolo, cutting the ribbon for the Partnership Walk, a walk that took place across Canada and throughout the world to raise money to relieve global poverty. Behind the Lieutenant Governor was the Honourable David Anderson, Federal Minister of the Environment, who is an alumnus of SMUS. Also behind the Lieutenant Governor was a former Board member of SMUS, Mr. Mel Cooper. In the foreground of the picture, their hands around the ribbon, were five SMUS Junior School students. It would be hard to find a better example of the confluence of SMUS lives, past, present, and future, engaged in a story told far beyond our own city, in many languages. We send

our goodness out to do what benefit it can, on the shoulders of alumni, on the little feet of our Junior School people.

"Boarders without Borders" is a terrific initiative, when dozens of day families invite boarders from the Senior School out for Sunday dinner. We have students from over 20 countries in boarding at the school, but our international community doesn't exist only in boarding. Every year, usually in the fall, I tell the story of Noah's flood to students in the Junior School. The reason for telling this particular story, and doing so every year, is that Noah's Flood is a story, not about destroying a world, but about building a world. And of course, schools are about building a world. For the students who think about the story, the important fact is that in building the new world, Noah takes two of every creature on earth, including all the creatures he would prefer to leave behind if he really wanted an easier life after the flood. The diversity is necessary in building a world, just as the combination of backgrounds and nationalities in our school is necessary to build a rich and fruitful world. At the end, I ask how many Junior School students have families who come from different parts of the world. Of course Victoria is a place that many people come to, and it is not always easy to find "native" Victorians – people who were born here. The hands that go up from these Junior School students are numerous, and definitely more varied than the 20 different countries represented in our boarding community.

We want them all to get along.

To ask our students to curtail their use of computers and cell phones is something we regularly do. Some of them look at us like we are from Mars, rolling their eyes, as if they are saying, "when will they ever get it?" These students are also wondering, "How else do people stay connected, how else do they communicate?" These are their normal and natural networks, the channels many teenagers are tuned in to. In this world of cell phones, computer messaging, e-mail, and endless television channels, we adults see often a less-than-humane distraction and fragmentation, but many students see simply the familiar and comfortable lines of their own communication.

A recent magazine article talked about the new divisions in global culture not being comprised of national or linguistic boundaries, but of boundaries between urban and non-urban young people. The thesis is that teenagers in Vancouver have more in common with teenagers in New York, Hong Kong, and Toronto than they have with teenagers in small towns such as Clinton, in the interior of BC, or Port Hardy, at the north end of Vancouver Island. I am

"We send our goodness out to do what benefit it can, on the shoulders of alumni, on the little feet of our Junior School people."

"... the combination of backgrounds and nationalities in our school is necessary to build a rich and fruitful world..."

not sure how completely true this is, but it is partially true.

Our students' eyes already see a global world. They take travel for granted; they communicate with people in other parts of the world. We speak about preparing them for a global world, but we adults are probably in equal need of adjustment to this global world. Having acknowledged this reality, our real job is to be careful about how our young people enter and move through this global world.

Which brings us to leadership.

In interviewing prospective students, we often ask who the students look up to, believing the answers reveal what sort of people the students value. More than half of the students I ask have the same answer: one or the other of their parents – Mom or Dad. Or sometimes a brother or a sister. Beyond that, we get the whole spectrum of admirable figures – and a few not so admirable. Homer Simpson gets his share of mentions. But overwhelmingly, the figures that students mention are international figures: Ghandi, Mother Teresa, Tiger Woods, and others. My own pantheon of heroes, which I talk about when I have the chance, include Odysseus (who shows every side of himself as he endures trials around the Mediterranean trying to return home to Penelope), John A. MacDonald (whose vision of a Canada from sea to sea created the country we know), and Rosa Parks (whose decisive strength, after a tired work day in Montgomery, Alabama, made her an icon for civil rights). We admire such people, and by standing in the light of their greatness, we ourselves are compelled to better things.

There is enough food produced in the world to feed us all; there is enough medicine and expertise to prevent the millions of the lives that are lost through disease and sickness; there is enough knowledge about the environment to save it. Where we seem to be deficient is in our leadership. It isn't easy to lead, and it isn't going to become easier in decades to come. Our students, once the world is theirs, will have the same challenges that have always existed.

One of the themes that will run through our programme development at SMUS in the next few years is leadership, across all three schools, from kindergarten to grade 12. Many people – students, parents, teachers – will be engaged in the discussion at various times of how our students will learn the skills, qualities, and responsibilities of leadership. Our thinking has begun, and it isn't revolutionary. We think leadership must involve the inculcation of principles and the importance of maintaining them. We think it involves a sense of humanity. It involves being literate in all the ways the world communicates – in plain language, cultural phenomena, and

technology. It involves meeting and befriending the environment, outdoors, close enough to nature that we have an inkling of the way the untouched world once was. It involves a responsibility to one's community, both local and more distant. It has a perspective, both global and immediate, connecting those closest to us to those furthest away. It is not theoretical: learning leadership requires doing things rather than reading about them in books: it is experiential. It is important for our students to learn that every one of them is a leader. To be a leader it is not obligatory to sway crowds or win elections; in fact, in speaking about whom they admire, students rarely mention people, generally politicians, who have those skills. Leadership is a complex thing.

We have difficulty conveying what we mean, regardless of the issue. Is a universal language, or at least universal understanding, possible? Great literature conveys meanings that are good for centuries and centuries, as does great art and great music. Those who believe there is life on other planets send transmissions of music and binary code that would surely have meaning to creatures whose universes follow the same laws of mathematics and physics as ours. We believe these are universal languages. It is often observed that in this global village of ours, the main commodity – the commodity that is building economies and ordering communities – is information, or knowledge. Yet is also apparent that there is more than enough of this commodity to go around.

It takes no great gift to make these observations, or to repeat them. In fact, it probably takes no great gift to prepare for this inter-connected, complex, richly-changing, information-overloaded world. It takes balance and courage and many other qualities that, put together, make up "leadership." This is what our students are learning, this is what they will become, each in his or her own special way: the leaders of tomorrow.

"...our real job is to be careful about how our young people enter and move through this global world."

In the fall, Lieutenant Governor Iona Campagnolo cut the ribbon for the Partnership Walk, a walk that took place across Canada and throughout the world to raise money to relieve global poverty. Behind the Lieutenant Governor was the Honourable David Anderson, Federal Minister of the Environment (an alumnus of SMUS). Also behind the Lieutenant Governor was a former Board member of SMUS, Mr. Mel Cooper. In the foreground, their hands around the ribbon, were five SMUS Junior School students.



School News

■ SKATING FOR EXCELLENCE

Middle school student, **Taylor Moon** is a lovely girl who works hard but misses considerable school to pursue her career in skating. Last month, she placed first in the BC/Yukon region at the Pacific Star Skate competition, competing in the silver interpretive event. Soon she will be attempting to attain the highest level – gold. Good luck, Taylor Moon!

■ INTERNATIONAL SQUASH

Edward Gudewill (grade 10) finished seventh in the International U-15 Canadian Open Squash Championship held in Ontario in December. Forty-one players competed, from all around the world, including Mexico and Australia.

■ HELPING OTHERS

The Senior School Service Council "Penny and Food Drive" ran from late February through to Spring Break. Their aim was to collect as much money and food as possible to donate to the Mustard Seed Food Bank in Victoria. Collections took place during homeroom and prizes were

given for the most money (total), the most pennies, and the most food items collected.

■ SMUS AND GVYO

The following SMUS musicians are represented in the Greater Victoria Youth Orchestra this year: **John Humphries** (7) cello, **Ian Chen** (9) percussion, **Eric Chen** (9) percussion, **Evan Hesketh** (11) violin, **Andrew van der Westhuizen** (12) viola, **Louise Reid** (alumnus) violin.

■ SPRING CONCERT – MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

If you'd like to hear some of these talented young musicians perform, plan to attend the All Concert Band evening on Tuesday, April 6 at the UVic Centre Auditorium.

■ RADICAL CHANGE

Radical Change Characteristics have the ability to twist the meaning of a book, movie, or video game in some unusual way. Dr. Pantaleo, a writer invited to visit the Junior School, introduced students to the term "multiple framing," which is associated with the simultaneous application of

colour or shape to a picture, often suggesting hidden meaning. Her presentations addressed the use of text in multiple forms and formats, contradictions between text and pictures, and the all-time favourite, synergy, which looks at pictures and text working together to suggest hidden meaning.

Dr. Pantaleo also introduced the concept of "time travel" to Junior students, citing this as an event where a story can jump back and forth between times or places, thereby allowing multiple views, multiple layers of meaning, or the story to be told by two people simultaneously.

For their final project, students were to create a poster on one of the novels they had read: *Holes*, *Walk Two Moons*, *Flipped*, or *View From Saturday*, and to add in some Radical Change Characteristics. The whole process took about four months. Dr. Pantaleo lit a spark of knowledge within these young minds, and this inspiration will continue to glow forever.



■ FIDDLELING BACHANDS

Quinn and Qristina Bachand raised over \$400 last year (Christmas 2002) while busking for the Times Colonist Christmas Fund. This year, Christmas 2003, Quinn and Qristina made \$1158. The musical pair busked at two different locations and had a repertoire of over thirty tunes to regale their listeners. Both are members of the Victoria Fiddle Society. Quinn is a grade two student at the Junior School while his sister Qristina is in grade eight at the Middle School.

Toonies for China

THE JUNIOR SCHOOL is a special place where children have not yet stopped dreaming. They have an innate sense of fairness, and a contagious enthusiasm to change the wrongs of the world.

In a recent assembly, Junior School students saw a slide show about China that showed Chinese students sitting behind old tables, often sharing books and paper, learning in schools that were no more than run-down buildings – often without heat and few supplies. At the end of the show, the House Captains decided to raise toonies to help support children in China through an organization called Evergreen. This organization helps build schools, runs a mobile library and offers medical support to the poor in China.

Junior School students wanted to help their counterparts, so they embarked on three fundraising activities: funny hat or hair day; wear something red or pink day; and a bake sale.

Each child believes that their donation will help, each child still dreams, and each child still thinks – that they can help to change the world. And they will, one toonie at a time.

Honours Ensembles at the 2004 BCMEA Conference in Delta BC

THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS were selected by audition to the BC Honours Concert Band, Choir, and Orchestra. Congratulations to each one of you – for your accomplishment and superb performances. These students were chosen from hundreds of applicants province-wide, and represented SMUS at the British Columbia Music Educators' Association Conference in Delta. The BC Honours musicians gave concerts on Friday and Saturday, February 13 and 14, under the direction of conductors Marc Crompton (Concert Band), Yarif Aloni (Orchestra), and Larry Patterson (Choir).

Selected members were:

Honour Band: Yun-Ji Lee, Julie Hong, Ian Chen

Honour Concert Choir: Calvin Ng, Calvin Lin, Yeji Park

Honour Orchestra: Fraser Hayes, Hoon Lee, Kevin O'Riordan, Jordan Ofiesh, Emma May, Tisah Tucknott, Evan Hesketh, Marisa Brook, Andrew van der Westhuizen, Navraj Chima, Julie Chun, Brin Porter, Min Gee Han, Jennifer Yoon, Janel Willms

Miracle at Christmas

SMUS STAFF AND STUDENTS designed and decorated a tree at the Annual Festival of Trees, held at the Fairmont Empress Hotel and Conference Centre in December. The SMUS theme this year was *Miracle the Snowman*, and the raised funds were donated to the BC Children's Hospitals. Money was raised by selling snowmen ornaments with donor's names on them.

There were many behind the scenes – people like Robyn Plasterer (who designed the snowman's head), Chelsea Phipps, Meredith Lewis, Massey Poon, Sarah Strocel, Whitney Shiels, Zoe Grams, Laura Christensen, Christina Moser, Calvin Ng, Laura Faryna, Bianka Saravana-Bawan, Jasmine Baines, Henry Pai, Kyung Hye Sohn, and Ivy Chen. Special thanks to Mike Fowler and Warren Freeman who made all the snowmen and Kelsy Mowat who helped sand and paint them.

Decorating team this year included: (back row, l-r) Varinda Wongkulnaparit, Ms. Tammy Fowler, Jen Fritz (middle row) Catherina Hur, Mrs. Michelle Vecqueray (next): Frances Dunn, Sam Saravana-Bawan, Richard Boness (front): Jacob Boness



A Different World

NUMEROUS INTERNATIONAL STUDENT EXCHANGES take place each year. **Mark Featherstonhaugh** and **Sarica May** are currently on a one-year scholarship programme attending Fukuoka Daiichi High School in Japan. Mark and Sarica will resume studies at SMUS in the fall of 2004 for their grade 11 year. Each year, one or two SMUS students are extended the opportunity to attend this Japanese day and boarding school.

In the fall of 2003, SMUS Senior **Sabrina Lueck** attended Tokyo Gakuen Senior High School in Japan for six weeks. As well, SMUS hosted 15 students from Otto-Kuehne-Schule in Bad Godesberg, Germany (about a 10-minute train ride from Bonn) for three weeks earlier this year.

Hayley Hudson, Kathleen Noble, Alex Bridgeman, and Alex Wray met in Melbourne, Australia for six weeks on the second half of an exchange with Ruyton Girls School and Trinity Grammar Boys School. Australian students will travel to Victoria and attend SMUS for six weeks in September 2004.

Lindsay Thierry, Director of Education Extension Programmes, is busy coordinating some new trips. These include exchanges with secondary schools in France, Japan, Thailand, Malaysia, Mexico, and Germany.

The Middle School just returned from two separate trips – one to Quebec and the other, Japan. These schools will be visiting Victoria in March.

Mark Featherstonhaugh wrote to SMUS Director of Athletics Ian Hyde-Lay from Japan, to share some of his interesting school experiences. Included are some excerpts from his letter.

Hello Mr. Hyde-Lay,

Well, there isn't much to report from Japan sports-wise. I have been unable to join school sports teams at the school I am attending because if you are on a sports team in Japan, that is all you'd do. You would eat, sleep and breathe with your teammates. All the teams practice at least six times a week, and about 5-6 hours a day. In the busy Foreign exchange programme, there is no possibility of being able to join one of these teams. So I have been just going out for a run once or twice a week to try and stay in shape. As one of our school classes, we have been learning Kendo, and last term's elective that we had was "Swords" (with Samurai swords). They have been an interesting insight into the Japanese culture and sports. One thing that I find very odd here is that there isn't a lot of grass around. School playing fields are sand and not grass and so is the school's entire baseball field. It was very strange to be playing soccer on sand and not grass! Our rooms seem smaller than the rooms at SMUS.

Mark



Mark Featherstonhaugh is learning the art of the Samurai in a year-long exchange in Japan.

School News

International Goods Booth

DONATIONS FROM THE BOARDING COMMUNITY, day families with ethnic backgrounds, and alumni who reside in other parts of the world have been pouring in for the International Goods Booth – the new addition to this year's Spring Fair.

Interesting contributions to the booth include inscribed golf balls and tees from St. Andrews in Scotland, a crystallized rock from the desert of Saudi Arabia, Matryushka nesting dolls from Russia, Summer Olympic monogrammed hats and t-shirts from Greece, leather-bound tequila glasses from Mexico, hand-woven cushion covers from roving Middle Eastern Bedouin tribes, umbrellas from Germany, miniature silk kimonos from Japan, and a lacquered paper and bamboo parasol from Taiwan. These are just a few of the many decorative and practical items received for the Fair.

The original concept for the International Goods booth was not only to raise money for the school, but also to display the great cultural diversity represented at St. Michaels University School. This has grown and become more than the original idea. In addition to the sale of goods, students will be showing off their native dress, sharing information on the background of many pieces, playing music from various countries, and running a computer with an interactive CD depicting the present and past days in Scotland.

In a nutshell, the booth promises to provide an exhilarating cultural experience.



Middle School students are on the look-out for costumes.

National Costumes Wanted!

MIDDLE SCHOOL BOYS AND GIRLS explore world cultures through costumes – do you have one to donate to their collection?

Eleven years old is a great age! You know in your heart that Santa is...well...(you know). But on Christmas morning, you still look for the Santa gift!

Grade six children can still suspend reality. They are on the cusp of adolescent sophistication but they still love to dress up – hence this ad.

For a few years now, the Middle School has been collecting national costumes through solicitation to parental heritage and annual international holidays. So far, the grade six class has full national dress for an 11-year-old boy and girl from:

- United Arab Emirates
- Peru
- Poland
- Brunei Darussalam
- Nigeria
- Japan (including a complete kendo outfit)
- Thailand
- Germany
- Indonesia
- Australia
- Morocco

The grade six Social Studies course is focused on cultures of the world. It is an ideal study for developing emotional and social development of this age group. They are beginning to understand and appreciate the diversity, complexity, and enormity of this great planet and learn about representative cultures. Students listen to African music, dance the New Zealand haka, eat Thai durian, speak Swahili and the Australian dialect, smell Singapore perfume, sing Cuban songs, and wear all the clothing the Middle School can accumulate. In fact, the school is about to mount a cultural fashion show, but would like to expand their holdings.

Can you help us? If you have, or have access to, a national costume from anywhere in the world that can be worn with pride by an 11-year-old boy or girl, we would appreciate hearing from you. We will gladly cover costs of purchase and shipping.

Just e-mail John Crawford (jcrowfor@smus.bc.ca) and we will work with you to enhance our international studies.

Take me out to the

Spring Fair...

May 8, 2004

**Richmond Road Campus
Open from 10 am to 4 pm**

We welcome everyone to participate – current parents, past parents, students, and alumni. There is no better way to meet other school parents (and staff), have fun, and support the school – all at the same time! For further information, or to volunteer your time, contact:

**Ann Cameron
479-3810**

**Heather Kohler
598-9157**

*Spring Fair
Co-Chairs*





Students witness first-hand the consequences of poor decision-making.

P.A.R.T.Y. Time!

THE VANCOUVER ISLAND HEALTH AUTHORITY is developing a regional trauma programme. The early focus has been trauma prevention for the high-risk youth group and this resulted in the P.A.R.T.Y. "Preventing Alcohol and Risk Related Trauma in Youth." Since car crashes are the leading cause of death in youth, the Party Programme is a perfect fit for a hospital and community-based prevention initiative.

On January 16 and February 13, all the grade 10 students, in two groups of sixty, participated in the programme at Victoria General Hospital. Students cycled through seven unique information or activity stations:

- Lecture session with a local emergency room physician
- BC Ambulance crash scene demonstration
- Paramedic presentation of a crash vehicle and discussion of details
- Trauma room demonstration
- Coroner slide show and morgue tour
- ICBC simulated alcohol impairment activity
- Simulated disability and rehabilitation activity
- Keynote speaker – a survivor of youth trauma

All 22 Senior School Prefects attended as peer leaders with two serving as trauma victims in the emergency room. The programme was intense and packed a powerful message for young people. We hope that the sponsors, volunteers, and coordinators will continue to offer this opportunity to educate young people in the future.

Scholars in Residence

Kim Campbell

Kim Campbell visited the school during the morning of Friday, January 16. She spoke to an enthusiastic crowd in the Copeland Lecture Theatre, and then attended an assembly of Middle School students. She spoke of her broad range of experience including her position in the House of Commons as a leader of the Conservative Party of Canada, her term as Prime Minister of Canada, and her position as the Attorney General. Victoria lawyer and SMUS alumnus Chris Considine (US 70) accompanied her.



Kim Campbell

Maria Coffey

Author Maria Coffey was at SMUS for a full day on January 29. She spoke to students at the Junior School and met with the Outdoor Leadership students at the Senior School. She visited Senior School writing classes and spoke about her books. She and her photographer husband, Dag Goering, gave a slideshow and presentation, open to the entire school community, in the Copeland Lecture Theatre in the evening. Maria's visit is one of a series of sponsored lectures in our Scholars in Residence Programme.



Maria Coffey

SMUS and the Personal Information Protection Act

THE PROTECTION OF PERSONAL INFORMATION is of importance to SMUS, not only because we have legal obligations with respect to privacy, but also because we wish to earn and maintain your trust with respect to our personal information practices.

Effective January 1, 2004, new provincial and federal private sector privacy laws cover all personal information collected, used or disclosed in the course of our activities at SMUS.

We have adopted and are in the process of implementing *Privacy Principles* for SMUS. A copy of these principles is available from the homepage of our website at: www.smus.bc.ca. The principles will be updated and expanded from time to time as our understanding of the new legislation and its application to our activities grows. We have also appointed a Privacy Officer to ensure that we comply with the legislation, including the receipt and response to complaints or enquiries relating to the handling of personal information.

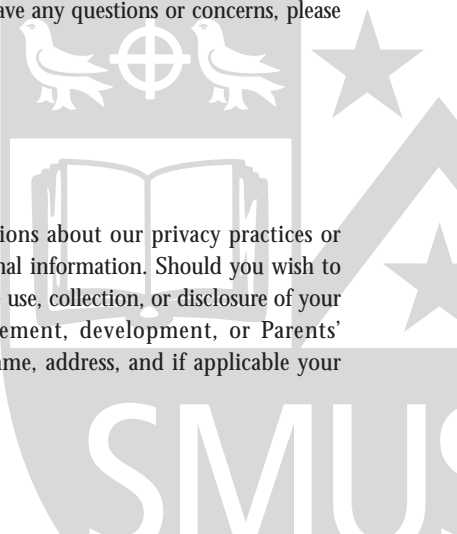
We must ensure that any personal information we collect, use or disclose is done in compliance with the privacy legislation. For example, the legislation, among other things, requires the clear statement at or

before the time personal information is collected, of the purpose for which personal information is being collected. Appropriate consent to the collection, use, and disclosure of personal information must be obtained.

We consider these obligations to be integral to our working relationship with you. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact the SMUS Privacy Officer.

The Privacy Officer
St. Michaels University School
3400 Richmond Rd
Victoria, BC. V8P 4P5
E- mail: mmurgatr@smus.bc.ca

Please contact us if you have questions about our privacy practices or wish to access or correct your personal information. Should you wish to decline or revoke your consent to the use, collection, or disclosure of your personal information for advancement, development, or Parents' Auxiliary purposes, include your name, address, and if applicable your student number.



School News

Evita

ALTHOUGH ORIGINALLY CONCEIVED as a record project, *Evita* was destined from the beginning for the stage. Composer Andrew Lloyd Webber and lyricist Tim Rice provide a rich score, which includes the internationally acclaimed hit, "Don't Cry for Me, Argentina," and lends itself to the highly theatrical stylings of director Harold Prince. Because of the huge success it had enjoyed in London (2,900 performances in its initial run), the Broadway production of *Evita* was nearly sold out before it even began.

The story of *Evita*, told entirely through song and dance, follows the life of Argentina's infamous Eva Peron. It begins in 1934 and follows the young girl from her small hometown to Buenos Aires where she uses her feminine powers to climb the ladder of success, first as a model, then an actress, and finally as the wife of General Juan Peron. When Peron is elected president, Eva becomes the most powerful woman in South America.



Our version of *Evita* began in late October 2003. This is the fourth musical at St. Michaels University School for a number of students, and this adds to the great reputation of our productions.

The leads were doubled this year for the very challenging parts of Eva Peron and Che Guevara. The daunting task of singing six performances would be too much for a maturing voice, and it was wisely decided to offer three performances to each female and male lead. It's a credit to the four students that they switched off so easily and helped each other learn the blocking, the music and the choreography. The rehearsals were a magnificent adventure. The saying that "there are no small parts, only small actors" could not be more true than in this production. Every cast, crew, and orchestra member discovered new depths in their theatrical and musical abilities – it is a tribute to each and every one of them that the show has been so successful.



This year's Recitation Winners: Back row (l-r) Callie Waters, David Heffernan, Ivan Celusak, Natalia Esling, Susan Davis, Peggy Hogan, Emery Moses. Front row (l-r) Lee Ling Yang, Aminah Malik.

Recitation Winners

STUDENTS FROM GRADES 9 THROUGH 12 performed recitations ranging from poetry to dramatic and comic monologues in the Annual SMUS Recitation Evening, held in the school chapel on Wednesday, February 18. Senior School students are required to learn and recite from memory, a selection that they then present in their English class. Finalists from each class participate in grade finals from which four students advance to the Recitation Evening. All 18 participants delivered superb performances. The judges for the evening were Margaret Burke, an associate of Trinity College (London) in Speech and Drama, David Mathers, an English teacher at Victoria High School, and Rev. Lynford Smith, our former chaplain and teacher at SMUS. It is worth noting that the judges were so impressed by all 18 performances that they found their task of choosing winners a most difficult enterprise. Thanks to all who attended in support of these students. The Best Overall Award was presented to Aminah Malik for her performance of a dramatic monologue, "Clear Glass Marbles." The People's Choice Award was presented to Ivan Celusak for his amusing comic monologue, "A Divine Baseball Game." The other winners are as follows:

- 1st place Senior Poetry – Natalia Esling (grade 12)
- 1st place Senior Recitation – Susan Davis (grade 11)
- 2nd place Senior Recitation – Ivan Celusak (grade 12)
- 1st place Junior Poetry – David Heffernan (grade 10)
- 2nd place Junior Poetry – Peggy Hogan (grade 9)
- 1st place Junior Recitations – Aminah Malik (grade 10)
- 2nd place Junior Recitations – Callie Waters (grade 9)
- 1st place International – Lee Ling Yang (grade 10)
- 2nd place International – Emery Moses (grade 11)

For those of you who missed this year's Recitation Evening, make sure you don't miss out on this great event next year!

A scene from the musical, *Evita*, held at the McPherson Playhouse. The show ran from March 2-6. It was an exciting production for all involved.

Admissions and the Alumni – A Powerful Partnership

ALUMNI PRESENCE AT ADMISSIONS RECEPTIONS has a very powerful influence on our prospective families. The Admissions and Development Offices have recently hosted information receptions in Seattle, Calgary, and Edmonton. We invited families who indicated interest in the school and we also met students and their parents who are making a first-time inquiry to the school. Current parents, alumni, and representatives from Admissions, Development, and the Board hosted the evenings.

In each case, the opportunity for our prospective families to meet members of our SMUS family is proving to be a positive and effective experience. The reflections, experiences, and insights provided by our alumni, in particular, provide our new families with valuable information and perspectives about the school. After meeting our alumni, they also begin to understand that their family is embarking on a new journey as they consider the school. As Rob Wilson said at the Calgary reception, "It is a membership for life."

In Edmonton, Mr. Bob Chapman (US 33) spoke to the new families about his appreciation of the opportunities the school provided him and also entertained us with his recollections of days as a young boy at

University School. His message was one of opportunity, devotion, and commitment. Dressed smartly and wearing his 70-year-old school tie, he made a very powerful impression on our visiting families.

As we travel and host receptions throughout Asia, Western Canada, and the United States, please consider joining us when we come to your area. We would be delighted to see you again and help you to connect to the school. Your presence will send a strong message to prospective families.

Thank you to the many members of the SMUS family who have joined us this year at our receptions. We are grateful to Tom Rigos (US 61) (Board Member), Jim Rigos (US 60) (American Friends), Renton Leversedge (SMUS 93), and Phil McCune (SMUS 83) in Seattle, Merlin Ho (SMUS 00) for help in Calgary, and to David Angus (US 62) (Board Member) and Bob Chapman (US 33) for your support in Edmonton. The support and commitment of our alumni is appreciated and we look forward to building on this success through receptions in the years to come.

If you have any comments or suggestions, please contact Sue Saunders, Director of Admissions at (250) 370-6174.





St. Michaels University School
Creating tomorrow's leaders

At St. Michaels University School, we have created an environment that nurtures the academic, spiritual, and physical growth of young people, from kindergarten to grade 12. Inspiration and encouragement motivate students to reach new heights and discover their full potential.

If you know of a young man or woman who would benefit from the opportunities of a SMUS education, please encourage them to enquire. Find out more about the school through a visit to our website, a phone call, or a personal campus tour by the Admissions Office.

Scholarships and financial aid available.

St. Michaels University School

Co-educational, from Kindergarten to Grade 12

Day • Grades K-12

Boarding • Grades 8-12

ESL • Grades 8-10

Headmaster: Robert T. Snowden

Admissions: (250) 370-6170

Toll-free in North America

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admit@smus.bc.ca

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A Magnificent Ambassador

Spicer Leaves after Eleven Years as Director of Development

by Robert Wilson

WHAT CAN BE WRITTEN about a person whose background and commitment to the school is so intricately wrapped into his very being? It is rumoured that his veins course with blood that is red and black and blue!

Christopher Spicer has impeccable school credentials: he attended both St. Michael's School (60-63) and University School (63-70), his father was the University School physician for many years, and his three sons are all SMUS grads – Tye in 1999, Michael in 2001, and David in 2003. Chris served on the Alumni Association committee and was President in 1991 and 1992. He was Director of Development from September 1992 to January 2004. In these latter two roles, he was an ex-officio member of the Board of Governors, and as Director of Development, was a member of the Management Team. There are few others who can claim such a deep and varied involvement with the school.

Chris did well at University School, with strong involvement in rugby, track, cadets, and shooting. He was a leading light in his 1970 grad year, and went on to study at the University of Victoria.

Before becoming Director of Development in 1992, Chris worked for the BC Games, organizing both Summer and Winter games in

various host communities around the province. Previous to that, he worked at the YMCA in Victoria, where his love of physical exercise and fitness was put to good use. He was a fine rugby player at school, university, and club level, and also played for the "Crimson Tide," Victoria's representative team. In his SMUS tenure, he indulged in coaching Grade 9 Rugby. He still keeps incredibly fit with a daily regimen of running, cycling, and exercise.

When Chris became Director of Development, the job description was to create a more focussed alumni involvement in addition to fundraising responsibilities. He went about this task as only he knows how – with enormous energy and enthusiasm. He never spared himself and his efforts and leadership have paid off, as one witnesses the success of alumni weekends, *School Ties* magazine, and the steady growth of the Annual Fund and Planned Giving.

When it became known that Chris was moving to Pacific Sport, Bob Snowden, in his announcement to the school, included the following tribute:

Chris has served SMUS as Director of Development for the last 11 years, a post he has filled with tremendous commitment, energy, and success. His work at the school has been marked consistently by his unselfish quest to improve the school and to create a broad base



Christopher Spicer leaves a superb legacy after serving 11 years as Director of Development at SMUS.

of support among alumni, parents, faculty, and all other branches of the school community. He leaves the school with an increasingly powerful Annual Fund and significant advances in the areas of Major Gifts and Planned Giving. He will be deeply missed, although he says he plans to continue to have a significant involvement with the school.

The Development Office, under Chris's leadership, has been a productive and happy place. Personally, I will miss him, for we worked together on many occasions, particularly joint Admissions/Development annual visits to many places around the Pacific Northwest and the Interior. One of our annual pilgrimages (or marathons) took us from Victoria to Williams Lake, Quesnel, Prince George, Salmon Arm, Vernon, Kelowna, and Penticton in six days by car. From this and other trips we share great memories, as we met so many wonderful people from the SMUS community. Recently a teacher said of Chris: "he took the school with him wherever he went." He covered a lot of territory on behalf of SMUS, and has been a magnificent ambassador.

Chris has left the Development Office in good order, and everyone will continue to work to maintain and improve upon the superb legacy he has left behind. He is now the Director of Development for Pacific Sport, an enterprise that promotes athletics in Western Canada for both the elite and non-elite levels. He goes with the thanks and best wishes of everyone in the greater school community. And he has signified that he will stay involved.

"You can take Chris Spicer out of SMUS, but you can't take SMUS out of Chris Spicer!"



Chris Spicer met with some of his Development Office colleagues for a farewell gathering at Milestones Restaurant: Front (l-r) Jenus Friesen (Design, Photography, School Ties editor), Louise Winter (Alumni Relations), Chris Spicer (departing Director of Development). Back (l-r) Melanie Hadfield (Special Events), and Donna Ray (Annual Fund and Alumni Relations).

A Passion for Music

by Donna Williams, Head of Music

THE MUCH ANTICIPATED sod-turning ceremony on February 10 for the new John & Anne Schaffter Hall for music education marked the beginning of the construction and signalled the near-end to my 13 years of teaching music in portable facilities. To commemorate this “groundbreaking” event, it was decided that this issue of *School Ties* would focus on the school’s music programme, and I was asked to write an article on “the passion for music.”

A passion for music...as I began thinking of approaches for writing this piece, I soon realized that this was something I didn’t think about very much. My thoughts are much more focused on not forgetting to attend the school musical rehearsal that I had scheduled, or remembering to pick up that recently repaired instrument. With music tours to organize, concerts to prepare for, and classes to teach, it is easy to become so inundated with the “what” and the “whom” that one neglects the “why.”

It was therefore a stroke of luck, with a deadline looming and nothing yet written, that I had to spend three days in Delta, BC, as I am the coordinator for the British Columbia Music Educators’ Association Honour Orchestra. This orchestra is comprised of high school musicians from all over BC who audition for the privilege of attending a three-day intensive orchestral experience under the baton of a professional conductor, this year Yariv Aloni. The event culminates in a performance at the conference. As well as an orchestra, there is also an Honour Concert Band, Honour Concert Choir, Honour Vocal Jazz Ensemble, and Honour Jazz Band. Every year, St. Michaels University School has one of the largest number of students participating in these ensembles of any school in the province. This year, there were 21 SMUS musicians participating in the Honours concerts!

And it is all about passion. The opportunity to play their instruments or to sing for six hours a day, knowing that there



will be a mountain of homework that will need doing when they return, is hugely appealing to these students. They are given the opportunity to share their passion with students from other areas of BC, and through their shared love of music, they find that these other students are not strangers, but friends who they just hadn’t met yet.

The amount of research extolling the virtues of music study is vast. It is also very important, because it helps us explain to non-musicians why we work so hard and devote so many hours of our already too busy lives to our music. Of course, anyone who loves to make music doesn’t need to read the research. We already know what it does to, and for, us. St. Michaels University School clearly understands its value as well, and has created a curriculum that allows all students the opportunity to



participate fully in music study. Our students are not taking these courses to obtain the four grade 11 fine arts credits that the province requires for graduation. Our students graduate with about a dozen grade 12 music credits, as well as participating in the school musicals, rock bands they form and practice with on weekends, string quartets that are put together for various functions, and other extra-curricular ensembles that are continually being created in an attempt to satisfy these students’ unquenchable musical thirst.

At the sod-turning ceremony, John Schaffter alluded to the inspirational music teacher, Leonard Takoski, who taught in Winnipeg for years and then moved to Victoria – hired to create the instrumental programme at SMUS. In a quite remarkable twist of fate, the Winnipeg school he taught at was Grant Park High School, my alma mater, and he was, in fact, my high school music teacher for grades 10, 11, and 12. One cannot imagine a more passionate, gentle, or dedicated teacher. I remember how important my high school performance of “Finian’s Rainbow” was to me, how much I enjoyed my orchestra trips to Minneapolis and Flin Flon, and how much better my school day was if it included a music class. My passion for music was born.

At a time in our children’s lives when they are making huge decisions as to what path their futures will take, it is truly wonderful that nourishment is being given to their all-important present. Doing what makes them happy now is as important as doing what will make them happy later on, and for me, that is the most important role of music. A few of our students will become professional musicians, but most will not. However, almost all of our students will continue to keep musically active throughout their lives because they are totally passionate about it, and because it makes them happy. There needs to be no other reason for music study than that.

An Intellectual Complement to the Arts

By Miriam Stanford, Director of Academics

“Must we always teach our children with books? Let them look at the stars and the mountains above. Let them look at the waters and the trees and flowers on Earth. Then they will begin to think, and to think is the beginning of a real education.”

– David Polis

ONE OF THE WAYS in which SMUS distinguishes itself is by its commitment to arts education, including music, drama, and visual arts. We take pride in the accomplishments of our young musicians and performers, and in the many fine examples of student-created art that decorate the public spaces of our buildings. Some may question this commitment, given our focus on academics and university preparation; however, there are good reasons to make the arts an integral part of our academic curriculum.

Children who participate in the arts have increased opportunities to learn self-discipline and cooperation, to develop a wider range of intelligences than is often the case in other subject areas, and to receive recognition for these intelligences. Research shows that students who pursue study in the arts experience greater self-esteem than their peers who don't have these opportunities.

The arts are a useful intellectual complement to traditional academic disciplines. Research shows that improved achievement, especially in proportional thinking, pattern recognition, spatial reasoning, and improved ability in creative thinking and problem solving occur when students participate in an academic programme in which the arts play an important role. Senior Visual Art instructor Anna Forbes says, “In their own work, students must constantly problem-solve in order to find the most appropriate solution to questions of aesthetics, composition, texture, colour, and form.”

Study in the arts also encourages active participation in learning, in an atmosphere of discovery. It acquaints students with problems that may have multiple solutions, and helps them develop respect for alternative ways of thinking and working and for the importance of finding their own meaning and interpretation. Susan Gaines, in her book *The Art of Living*, states that:

“The arts naturally embrace paradox and ambiguity; to study them is to learn flexible thinking. Those who have trained in an art form are more likely not only to grasp the nuances in real life, say the experts, but also to persevere in finding novel solutions to everyday problems.”

When Drama instructor David Gauthier introduced the notion of theatrical “blocking” to his students, he emphasized the emotional motivation for particular blocking instructions, and the possible effects of a change in blocking: Why is it this way? How else could it be? What effect does it have? How would you do it? Students were actively engaged in a process of critical thinking, determining meaning for themselves, imagining possibilities, and evaluating possible options. As his students began to design their own blocking for the dramatic scene, Mr. Gauthier told them, “There is not one right way to do this. This is where you make it work for you.”

Anna Forbes has similar expectations of the students in her art classes. She says that students sometimes become exhausted by her requirement that they be continually thinking for themselves. “Students look to me for answers, but I put the questions back to them. There is no one right answer – students have to find the answers that are meaningful to them.”



David Gauthier coaches grade 12 theatre students Michael MacNeil and Brianne Bentzon on the art of “blocking” in the drama room.

There are reasons to support the role of arts in an academic curriculum separate from the benefit to traditional disciplines. Through the arts, students develop tools that help them understand the human experience, as well as express their thoughts and perceptions. It is often through the arts that students' spiritual and emotional well-being is attended to, and their appreciation for diversity is enhanced. Finally, in fine arts classes, students learn skills and develop interests that will continue to enhance their lives long after they leave our school.

This is a wonderful time for arts education at SMUS. The new visual art classroom in the Crothall Centre inspires everyone who enters with its light and space. The new drama classroom became a centre of activity as cast and crew prepared for performances of *Evita*.

Music teachers are busy imagining their own possibilities as they work with architects to finalize the details of Schaffter Hall. We can take pride in the important place the arts have in our academic curriculum, knowing that the intellectual and emotional lives of our students are enriched as a result.

Current music faculty members attended the reception at Reynolds House following the Groundbreaking Ceremony for The John & Anne Schaffter Hall. In this photo, (l-r) **John Reid**, **Donna Williams**, **Steven Price**, **Mary Smith**, and **Ian Farish**.



Music Faculty

THE GROUNDBREAKING for the new John & Anne Schaffter Hall took place on Tuesday, February 10, 2004. This, indeed, was a memorable occasion. After years of teaching in portables, the chapel, and on top of the old swimming pool, the soil has been broken for a brand new music centre.

A reception was held in Reynolds House and speeches presented by **John Schaffter** (former Headmaster), **Stephen Martin** (Board of

Governors Chair), and **Robert Snowden** (Headmaster) were followed by a piano solo performed by **Yoon Ji Kim** (Grade 10). Yoon Ji has studied under Mae Ling Kwok and Dr. Robin Wood, faculty members of the Victoria Conservatory of Music and the University of Victoria. The liaison between the conservatory and the university has been very strong over the years, and it enables students to develop their musical talents to an even higher level.

Music at SMUS Junior and Middle Schools

EVERY STUDENT at the Junior and Middle schools participates in the Music programme. In addition to choir activity, every student plays a musical instrument.

In the primary grades (k-3), students participate in singing and rhythm work with simple percussion instruments accompanied by piano or recordings that support this activity. In grade 3, recorder playing augments these foundation skills.

Grade 4 and 5 students play string instruments (violin, viola, cello, or double bass) in balanced string ensemble settings. Each grade forms a string orchestra of approximately 40 musicians. Grades 4 and 5 are also formed into two choral groups for the entire academic year. The amount of musical knowledge that is gained by Junior School students is substantial and thorough, and they provide the Middle School with a rich and talented resource for further development.

The string ensemble programme continues at the Middle School (grades 6-8). Many young players logically maintain their participation in strings – approximately 80 Middle School students take part. Often, experienced players join the SMUS community and are received into the string ensembles. This is especially the case at the grade 8 level, when boarding students who are part of the ESL programme arrive on campus.

The band programme at SMUS starts in grade 6, when beginners learn the basics of wind, brass, and percussion playing in balanced ensemble class groupings. Bands are formed at the grade 7 and 8 levels in the traditional way. An Honour Band is drawn together annually from all three grades. Stage bands and jazz bands are also formed.

The choral programme at the Middle School gives students a chance to sing at the intermediate level. A concert choir is formed for special performances throughout the year. Subsequently, a healthy number of Middle School graduates take part in choral singing at the Senior School. Indeed, the Senior School benefits greatly from this steady flow of all-round musical talent from the Junior and Middle Schools

Every SMUS student can find music performance opportunities available through the three main streams of musical learning: choral, strings, or band. The work initiated by Leonard Takoski and Joan Thompson in the early 1980s has paid handsome dividends – the school now enjoys a music programme of the highest quality.

Three Streams of Music at the Senior Level

THREE STREAMS make up the music programme at the Senior School – strings, band, and choir. Music at the Grade 9 level is mandatory. Upon entering Grade 9, Senior School students select one of the above, usually based upon previous musical experience.

In Grades 10, 11, and 12, music is an elective. Despite this, the number of students participating in the music programme is impressive – over 300 students.

Each grade boasts a choir, band, or string ensemble. In addition to the grade ensembles, students have further opportunities to participate in more specialized groups such as the Chamber Choir, Brass and Flute Ensembles, Jazz Band, Stage Band, Vocal Jazz, and Orchestra.

Concerts throughout the year are usually held at the University of Victoria. Some students, especially those who take private lessons, also participate in Music Festivals.

*Each grade boasts a choir,
band, or string ensemble.*

Many students audition for the BC Honours Ensembles, which meet during the week of the British Columbia Music Educators' Association Conference. This year, a total of 21 SMUS students were accepted into the BC Honours Orchestra, Concert Band, and Concert Choir.

Each year, SMUS Senior School produces a musical in conjunction with the Drama Department. This year's musical, Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Evita*, was staged at the McPherson Playhouse in Victoria in March.

The members of the Music Department are excited about the construction of Schaffter Hall – our new music teaching facility. We are indebted to those who have made this possible.

Creative Alumni in Creative Careers

MANY HAVE BENEFITED from both SMUS' music programme and the lively drama/music programme of the late Colin Skinner. The task of tracking down all the students who have made music their profession has been a daunting one. If your name has been omitted, our apologies, but please contact the alumni office and it will be listed in the next edition of *School Ties*.

Hugh Fraser (SMUS 76)

Trombone, Piano, Composer, Faculty Member – Senior School, Juno Award Winner

Benjamin Butterfield (SMUS 82)

International Opera and Lieder Singer

Andrew Sabiston (SMUS 82) and Tim Williams (SMUS 83):

Worked together on the musical "Napoleon," which premiered in Toronto and London

Chris Wynters (SMUS 86)

Actor, Songwriter and Musician

Ian Farish (SMUS 89)

Tenor Saxophone, Faculty member - Middle School

Susan Platts (SMUS 91)

International Opera and Lieder Singer

Ayelet Porzecanski (SMUS 91)

Masters in Voice Performance from the Manhattan School of Music. Now studying at the Cantorial School Jewish Theological Seminary, New York, and is about to spend a year in Israel learning Hebrew prior to becoming a Cantor.



Both Hugh Fraser and Ian Farish are former students who now teach at the school.

Mairi Babb (SMUS 94)

Performing in Musical Theatre and Theatre

Stephanie Gill (SMUS 95)

Studied at the Canadian College of Performing Arts, and has performed in many musicals and choirs in Victoria

Christina Haldane (SMUS 95)

Studied voice at Indiana School of Music and is now working on her Masters in Performance at the Guildhall School of Music, London, England

Amy Rose McCue Gill (SMUS 96)

Working toward her Masters in Vocal Performance at Holy Names College, Oakland as well as her PhD from Berkeley, in Italian Renaissance. Her husband, Patrick Gill, is taking part with Amy Rose in the Holy Names Community Choir as well as working on his PhD in Biophysics at Berkeley

Milos Repicky (SMUS 96)

Has been studying and performing as an accompanist/pianist in New York

Christopher Mavrikos (SMUS 97)

Based in Vancouver as an actor /singer with agent, King Talent Inc.

Christopher Smith (SMUS 98)

Teaching violin, viola, and English in Taiwan

Bryce Soderberg (SMUS 98)

Living in Los Angeles, plays bass guitar in the band, *AM Radio*, and has recorded for Elektra Records

Taylor Rankin (SMUS 99)

Jazz violinist and composer

Bianca Roberts (SMUS 00)

Graduate in Theatre Arts from Grant MacEwan College

John Payne (SMUS 01)

Vocal, guitar, and drums; playing in the band, *The Exceptions*, and moving to Los Angeles in the summer of 2004

Avalon McLean (SMUS 02)

Attending the Canadian College of Performing Arts

Louise Reid (SMUS 02)

Attending the University of Victoria Department of Music

Kathryn Humphries (SMUS 03)

Awarded a scholarship to attend Acadia University as a voice major

Emily Lyall (SMUS 03)

Jazz singer; Emily had lessons in New York from Misha Piatigorsky, husband of Ayelet Porzecanski (91)

Congratulations to all of our very creative graduates! The school is proud of your achievements, as well as many other former students who have gained the love of playing, performing, and listening to the arts through the inspiring music programme at SMUS.

Recent music faculty members who have been, or still are, at St. Michaels University School:

John Reid - Band, Jazz Band, and Choir (former Middle School); Band (this year Senior School)

Mary Smith - Strings and Orchestra (Middle and Junior Schools - grades 4 -8)

Don MacKay (Retired 2003) - Band, Jazz Band, Music Composition (Senior School)

Mary Humphreys (Retired 2002) - Choirs (Senior and Junior School)

Donna Williams - Strings, Orchestra, and Vocal Jazz (Senior School)
Head of Department

Lois Dimoff - Music (Junior School, K-2)

Ian Farish (SMUS 89) - Senior Band, Jazz Band (former Senior School, this year Middle School)

Hugh Fraser (US 76) - Senior School Jazz Band

Geoff Houghton - Band and Jazz Band, one year (Senior School)

Magdi Ghobrial - Choir, one year (Senior and Junior School)

Madeleine Humer - Choirs, Hinton Chair Holder 2003-2004 (Senior and Junior School)

Steven Price - Choir (Middle School)

– list compiled by Mary Humphreys

A Tribute to Takoski and Thompson

by P.K. Bousfield

THE NEW MUSIC FACILITY has been very aptly named the *John & Anne Schaffter Hall*.

When John Schaffter arrived as the Headmaster of SMUS in 1977, he came with a definite plan of how to up-grade the level of various courses within the school. This plan was to include raising the existing standard of a course at the earliest possible grade level, while bringing in new, energetic, and dedicated teachers to carry it out, never mind that at the time the school had no music room or auditorium.

There is perhaps no more obvious example of this stepping-stone plan than the transformation that the music programme received. The music programme went from a very limited one, to one of a much greater scope and richness.

Fundamental to John Schaffter's plan were the appointments, in 1982, of Leonard Takoski and Joan Thompson. Their enthusiastic attitude stemmed from the belief that their love of music would triumph over the challenges ahead. Their commission was to develop a first-class programme of choral and orchestral music. "To do that," declared Len Takoski, "we must start by teaching every youngster in Grade 4 a stringed instrument. For Leonard, music was not meant to be a recreational activity for the children but a disciplined pursuit at the very core of the school curriculum. He was firm in encouraging the students – always onwards and upwards. His vision of producing a full Senior School orchestra never dulled. The Headmaster had chosen wisely.

As a teacher at the Junior School, I was first aware of this revamped music programme in a number of odd ways. There was increased volume in the squawks and squeals and the students initial scraping and snarling on their instruments. These strange noises did not come from just a set music lesson, for Len Takoski had found every available empty space in the school for practice sessions. Thus, I found myself surrounded by odd sounds coming from such places as a janitor's cupboard, broom closet, or empty classroom. Not only this, but I also measured the success of the new music programme by the number of times a day that I tripped upon some oddly angled violin case that we did not have the room to store properly.



Len Takoski and Joan Thompson took the school's music department to new heights. 1989 – Trombones, trumpets, flutes, clarinets, and more! Shown here, the grade 6 Wind Orchestra (back row, l-r) **Michael Roberts, James Smith, Mark Linder, Mark Penaluna, Kyle Cannon, Geoff Morrison, Maxwell Price** (middle row) **Miss Joan Thompson, Gareth Morley, Doug Freeman, Andreas Hestler, Nicholas Jones, Travis Lee, Lee Harms, Tom Eric, Jaret Watson, Mr. Len Takoski** (front) **Michael Grier, Geoff Dunbar, Thor Bjornson, Andrew Hill, John Quirk.** (Archive photo)

In teaching alongside Len, it became very clear that here was a teacher whose talents and goals matched what John Schaffter had been looking for.

It is interesting to note some of the comments that Len Takoski made on his retirement:

The response of bright pupils is always immediate when an instrument is put into their hands, and at SMUS, I found lots of musically talented youngsters. We started, Joan and I, teaching stringed instruments in grades 4 and 5, and wind instruments in grades 6 and 7. Our first public performances in the Junior School came early. An important part of creating music is being able to share it with others and, after two months, our budding young musicians were able to show off their newly-acquired skills to parents and grandparents.

In the Junior School, the musical programme peaked in 1986-87 with a forty-piece orchestra. By the end of the last year, when grades 7, 8, and 9 were in the Middle School, Len Takoski had developed a sixty-piece orchestra. It included twenty-four violins, eight violas, six cellos, and two double basses, as well as twenty wind and percussion instruments.

"I do not think," he says, "that in this region of Canada, there has ever been anything quite like that sixty-piece orchestra in size and calibre in any Junior High School." A musical highlight came when the full orchestra performed for the

Lieutenant Governor and the Honourable Mrs. Robert Rogers at the official opening of the Middle School in the spring of 1988. For Mr. Takoski, assisted by Joan Thompson, it represented the climax to seven years of hard work. Music was scheduled into a crowded timetable that required some sacrifice on the part of other teachers, because of course, all teachers regard their own subject as the most important and feel it must be given priority.

One result of the musical foundations built at the school by Leonard Takoski, Joan Thompson, and other talented individuals who have since joined the department, has been the development of full-length musicals performed in both the Junior, Middle, and Senior schools.

Looking back, Mr. Takoski says: "For me, my seven years building a music programme at SMUS, working with Joan Thompson, was the happiest and most gratifying period of my thirty-four years spent in the classroom."

Besides the obvious contribution of developing a solid foundation for today's music programme, as a result of Len Takoski and Joan Thompson's brilliant structuring of the school's music programme, the other key ingredient was John Schaffter's ability to recognize the talent he needed to follow this through. The two teachers put into place the first stepping-stones of John Schaffter's plan to give SMUS a vastly improved music programme. In Len's words, "It could only happen because the school wished it to happen."

The Headmaster had made it happen, and therefore it is most appropriate that the new Music Centre carries the Schaffter name.

John & Anne Schaffter Hall

MUSIC CENTRE



John & Anne Schaffter

THE MUSIC PROGRAMME at St. Michaels University School has been called one of the finest in the country. In spite of its lack of facilities – tucked away behind the Challoner Building in a group of aging portables – the programme has flourished. The Music Department facilities were recognized as a key priority during planning sessions, and this focus has taken us to the initiation of this new building.

John & Anne Schaffter Hall will consist of three teaching and rehearsal rooms for band,

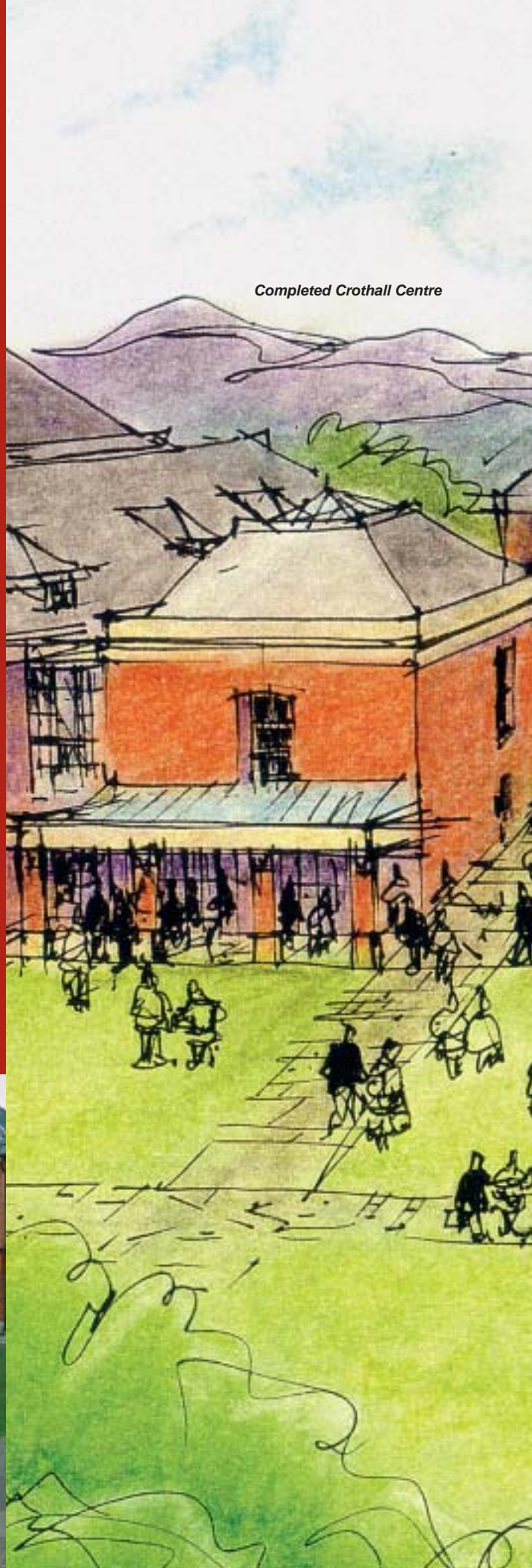
choral, and strings. The building will contain three large ensemble-teaching rooms, centrally located faculty offices, a multi-purpose classroom, individual and small group rehearsal studios, as well as instrument storage spaces. Designed with acoustics in mind, the building will be constructed with soundproofing to separate it from the rest of the campus.

Scheduled to open in September of 2004, Schaffter Hall will stand next to the future Performing Arts Centre, and will be directly accessible to the Copeland Lecture Theatre in the east wing of the Crothall Centre. The location of Schaffter Hall and the Performing Arts Centre at the east end of the campus will define a new quadrangle area in response to the school's desire to maintain as much green space as possible and ensure the availability of student gathering places.

Officiating at the Groundbreaking Ceremony were (l-r): Robyn Plasterer, Head Girl; John Schaffter, Retired Headmaster 1977-1988; Anne Schaffter; Bill Harper, current parent; Terry Harper, current parent and Board Member; Stephen Martin, Board Chair; Penny Martin, current parent; Robert Snowden, Headmaster and past-parent; Joan Snowden; and Andrew van der Westhuizen, Head Boy. This photo was taken on the day of the Groundbreaking, in the Senior School Quad, in front of the newly finished Crothall Centre for Humanities and the Arts.

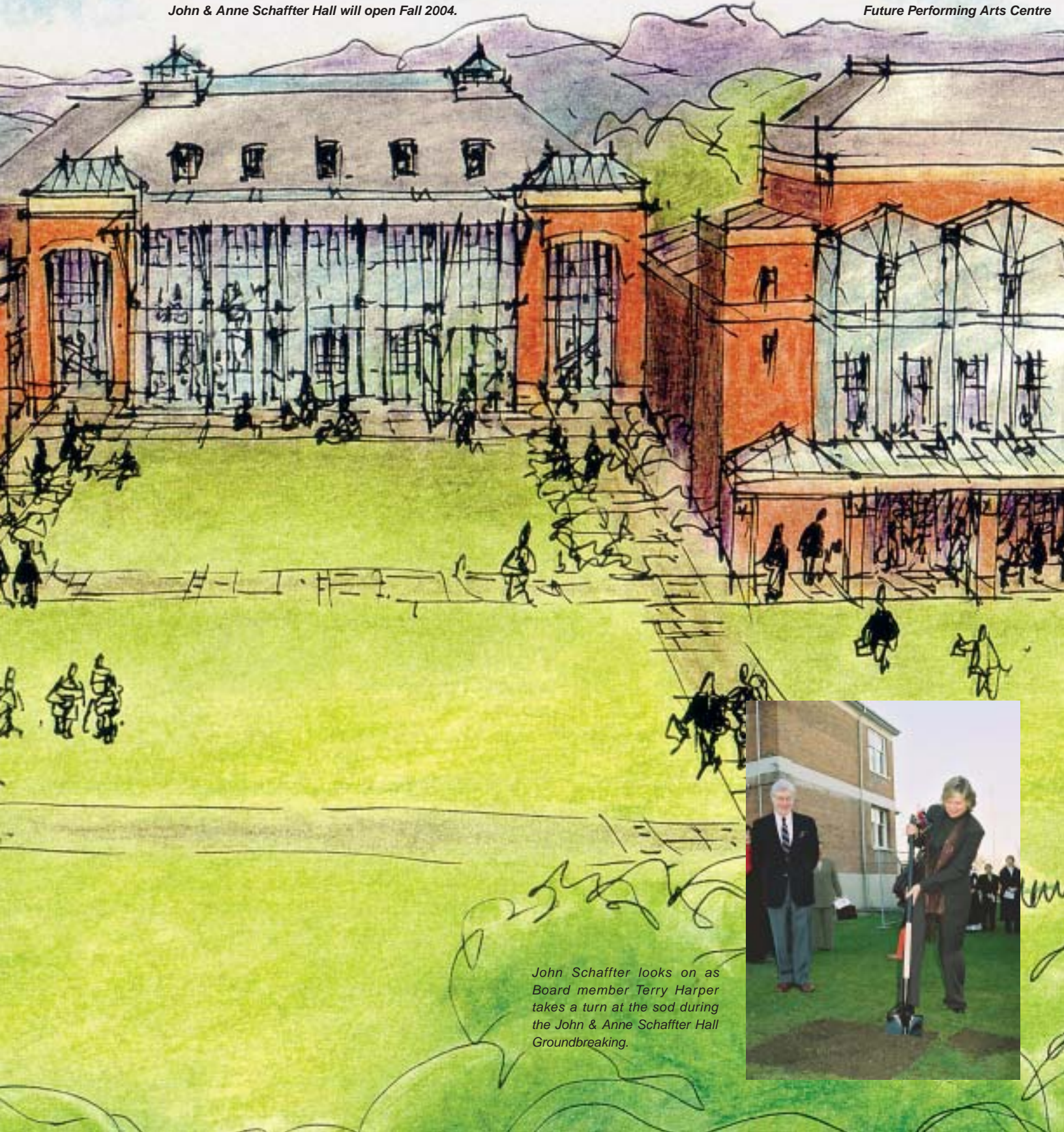


Completed Crothall Centre



John & Anne Schaffter Hall will open Fall 2004.

Future Performing Arts Centre



John Schaffter looks on as Board member Terry Harper takes a turn at the sod during the John & Anne Schaffter Hall Groundbreaking.

The 25th Anniversary Girls!

THIS YEAR MARKS one of the milestone events in the history of the school. Along with the founding of University School and St. Michael's School, followed by the amalgamation of the two schools in 1971, we celebrate the transition from being an all-boys school to a co-educational place of learning. Girls joined the community in September 1978. This was certainly a most significant event as it altered the status quo.

The girls were first enrolled in Grades 10, 11, and 12, and they numbered 37. They were then gradually introduced into the grades below. It was in September 1984 that girls entered the Junior School for the first time. It took some eighteen years before the ratio of boys to girls became almost 50/50. St. Michaels University School now runs a fully co-educational programme from kindergarten to Grade 12. As such it is one of the largest independent co-educational schools in Western Canada.

The idea of enrolling girls in the school belongs to the Headmaster of the time, John Schaffter. It was part of his plan to upgrade the academic results, while providing a more civilized atmosphere to the school in general.

As he pointed out, the greater the number of applicants one has to a school, the greater one's chance of selecting better quality students. The introduction of girls, then, became an integral part of producing improved academic marks, which in turn would attract an even greater number of applicants.

In John Schaffter's words, "The girls, by their ability and enthusiasm, their loyalty, and sheer zest for living, made SMUS a happier, better, and more civilized place." There is no doubt that their presence had much to do with increased achievement in art, in drama, in choral music, in debating, and better classroom behaviour.

The admission in 1979 of BCTV scholarship students to the school meant that girls who were pacesetters in their own schools could be selected from all over the province. It is most appropriate to remember the first-year winners, who contributed so effectively in making the experience of introducing girls to the school such a positive one: **Barbara Samson, Laurel Neil, Susan Weseen, Judy Johnson, and Karen Gustafson.**

Merell Harlow, who served as Matron of the student residences, 1970-1990, had these observations to make about the first girls admitted into the boarding residences:

Within three days of the girls arriving, the whole culture at the school changed. One of the first things was that it did smell better. You could walk into the house and it smelled of talc. That was from the very first day. Parents who had had kids living in the Boys Harvey House would walk in, in September, and they all noticed the difference right away!

Then all the wrestling stopped. You know, little boys would go out and they'd be wrestling on the field. All of that stopped. I don't know what it was. I think the girls had a calming effect on these little boys. Those girls became very, very close to each other. They were all like sisters. There were only 17 of them. Those first two years were wonderful!

We had a split house, it was half boys and half girls. Because the boys were little boys, literally grade one to grade seven, and the girls started in grade 10 to grade 12, the girls all became immediate big sisters to these little tadpoles, as we called them.

I think we were the only co-ed boarding house in Canada.

It is with fond memories that I will think of this 25th Anniversary. Collectively, the presence of girls, their achievements, whether in sports, the arts, or academics, has greatly up-graded the quality of life at St. Michaels University School. What might have been regarded as another dangerous experiment back in 1978, has more than met expectations. Well done, GIRLS!

— by P.K. Bousfield



Right from day one, the girls added achievement and recognition to the fibre of the school. This photo shows the Girls BC A Field Hockey Champions of 1992-93, and is emblematic of the girls' achievements in sports. (l-r) Nancy (Charlton) Mollenhauer (coach), Allison Garwood, Shannon Valdal, Morag Wilmut, Fiona Scanlon, Kim Wahl, Clare Gardiner, Nicole Williamson, Briony Angus, Katherine Tweedie, Meggan Hunt (currently captain of Canadian National Field Hockey Team), Kirsten May, Christie Greig, Melanie Scrivens, Alison Pengelly.



This year, 2004, marks the 25th Anniversary of the First Girls enrolled at SMUS. This School Archive photo was taken in 1979 by Ed Birmingham. Centre of photo: Douglas J. Williams, Deputy Headmaster. Far right: Headmaster John Schaffter.

First Girls to Enter SMUS

Girls 1978 – 1979

Grade 10 (14 girls)

Adams, Gail
 Cottingham, Janice
 Davies, Briony
 Fothergill-Payne, Tien
 Hallatt, Susan
 Hughes, Gillian
 Johnson, Judy
 Karakochuk, Janet
 Kemble, Sharon
 Lopez, Maria
 McElroy, Kim
 Neil, Laurel
 Tibbetts, Peta
 Vanderspek, Anna

Grade 11 (15 girls)

Anderson, Marianne*
 Boulton, Claire
 Chadney, Janet
 Crofton, Susanna
 Gustafson, Karen
 Kapler, Brenda
 Kemble, Susan
 MacFarlane, Tara
 McDonald, Heather
 Middleton, Margaret
 Moat, Alison
 Nigg, Sonya
 Peters, Kirsten
 Samson, Barbara
 Weseen, Susan

Grade 12 (8 girls)

Davies, Hali
 Duby, Clarende
 Lambe, Caroline
 Matuga, Linda
 Philbrook, Susan
 Rugeroni, Diana
 Southgate, Melody
 Wong, Theresa

* *current member of the Board of Governors and first woman graduate to serve on the Board.*



Mr. Ned Symons (1910-1997) shared his secret recipe.

Mr. Symons, revered by generations of boys, taught for many years between 1932 to 1982 at the Junior School.

Mr. Ned's Secret Recipe

from the Parents' Auxiliary 1979 Christmas Cookbook

Apology: Many generations of St. Michael's boys and staff reveled in the delight of chocolate pie made by my mother or my wife. Since both ladies were experts in the kitchen, it is perhaps only natural that their recipes – sometimes nameless – were merely lists of ingredients. To them, procedure was an instinct and quantities were measured in “dabs,” “touches,” and other explicit terms. Trying to follow their skills, the writer has made the pie many times. As yet, no deaths have been reported, small rumbles about overeating have been heard, and those who obviously wanted something have made some flattering remarks. Herewith, my ladies' recipe and my procedure:

Cara pueris memoria sit Michaelis et Chocolate Pie

- 2 oz Baker's unsweetened chocolate
- 4 oz breadcrumbs
- 3 oz sugar
- 2 oz melted butter
- 2 eggs (large)

1. Clear the kitchen of things and people. Children, especially, should not be allowed to remain.
2. Don surgical gown or oilskins.
3. Number five cereal bowls and place in a row along the counter, placing one ingredient in each.
4. Cover the kitchen table – or any other suitable space – with all available bowls, spoons, mix-masters, graters, dish-clothes, etc. It is advisable at this stage to pin any valid accident insurance policies to some obvious spot on the wall.
5. Take telephone off the hook, lock the front door. You are now ready, physically; a quiet prayer may be intoned for mental peace of mind.

- A. Grate chocolate into bowl one so far as is possible. Avoid stepping on chips on the floor unless you wish to complete your Boy Scout tracking test.
- B. Cut 2 oz of butter from the chunk in bowl 2 unless it has already undergone metamorphosis into a liquid state. Bandage finger before continuing. Put section in top of double boiler when you have found it, and place on stove.
- C. Measure out 3 oz of sugar into bowl 3. If scales are not available, use standard measuring cup. In spite of the teachings of our learned science masters, 3 fluid oz of H₂O occupy the same space as 3 oz of dry sugar.
- D. Fill 8 oz measuring cup with breadcrumbs and pour the same into bowl 4. 8 oz of H₂O is equivalent to 4 oz breadcrumbs. (See paragraph C)
- E. Now watch it! Approach eggs gingerly. Using thumb and forefinger pick up the first or nearest if you forgot to number them. Rap the same firmly but lightly on the edge of bowl 5. If possible, persuade contents of egg to slide gently into the bowl. Wipe hands on gown or trousers – optional.

Egg that lands on the floor or hits the wall/ceiling should be wiped up immediately, but not with the hanky. Repeat process with egg 2. Portions of shell observed floating in the bowl should be extracted by finger or forceps but should to be placed in bowls 1, 2, 3, 4. For the mechanically minded, beat eggs into a frenzy with mix-master. Warning: do not lift running mix-master from the bowl to observe results unless planning to redecorate. For the less adept, sophisticated eggs may be whipped with a spoon or fork but not by placing one hand over the bowl and shaking as for a cocktail. Note: egg shampoo is good for the hair, so do not rub off and return to the bowl.

RECESS. Go out onto the sundeck and breathe deeply. Do not take this time to have a shower. That pleasure comes later. On return, scrape congealed mess from bottom of boiler; alternatively start with a fresh saucepan and butter.

- F. Mix grated chocolate and sugar. Licking fingers and inserting in mixture for testing is not done at this time.
- G. Pour mixture into melted butter. What misses the saucepan and lands on the element will eventually burn off.
- H. Add breadcrumbs. Stir vigorously.
- I. Pour beaten eggs into saucepan and slosh around until thoroughly blended.
- J. Search for the spatula, calmly. It must be somewhere. Scrape contents of pan into prepared pastry shell.
- K. Bake in a slow oven. Test with a clean toothpick or straw from well-used corn broom.

FINALE: When guests are ravenous, or unwelcome visitors appear – if you doubt your skill – serve warm, always yourself last. Observe faces before helping yourself. If results are not delicious, blame the procedure, not the ingredients. Repeat steps F to I in varying order. One of the 24 possible combinations is bound to be right. Phone Canada Manpower for clean-up crew and take a week's holiday.

KC SYMONS –

Struggles in the Early Days

By P.K. Bousfield

Source: "That Amazing Institution" – by KC Symons

IT IS WITH WONDER AND AWE that one reads about Kyrle (KC) Symons, the Head and Founder of St. Michael's. However, it is knowing about his ability to overcome adversity that one comes to understand the true measure of the man.

The Head's deeds reflect a character of independent thought, but it was his early working life on Saltspring Island and the starting of St. Michael's that really shed light on his determination to succeed. It is hard to imagine a schoolteacher today who might be prepared to follow in his footsteps.

Probably the most gripping part of KC Symons' saga was the ordeals he and his wife faced in establishing themselves here. KC and Edith Symons arrived in BC in 1908, when a pioneering spirit was definitely needed to overcome hardship. They were young and eager and with little or nothing but each other ("which was great riches," he said).

Dr. Robinson of the Board of Education sent Mr. Symons to Beaver Point on Salt Spring Island. It was a one-room school in a forest clearing, and their first home was a primitive kanaka log cabin. It was here that Kyrle Junior was born.

"Having scraped bats off the walls and filled up the chinks with moss, etc., we pasted on the walls, coloured pictures from magazines, and really made the place quite cheery. Mr. A. Ruckle fixed up the doors and windows and made us a rough sideboard and table. I also made a magnificent cot for the little boy out of some old table legs that I found in the barn! For a mattress, we sewed up an old blanket into a bag, filled it with hay, also from the barn, and never had a prince-ling such a bed!"

Japanese workmen in the vicinity came every night to learn to read English, and in return, they cut and stacked firewood for the cabin stove. Later, the little family moved to new quarters, a rented 160 acres with some cleared ground on which stood another similar kanaka building. This cost \$4 a month in rent, but as the salary was a munificent \$42.50, the schoolteacher felt he could probably manage.

It was a most satisfyingly busy existence. Water had to be fetched from a spring in coal-oil tins. Chickens were acquired, and a vegetable garden started. The energetic young couple felled their own trees, one at each end of a crosscut saw. They fenced against marauding deer using the rails from an old snake-type job which they had discovered, Edith Symons dragging split cedar along with one

hand while she wheeled the baby buggy with the other!

In his turn, Kyrle "fetched the milk every night, a good two-mile walk, with the baby sitting in a sling draped over his shoulder, making pleasant conversation." Second son, Ned, arrived while the Symons were still on Salt Spring Island.

However, on advice from a very good friend, they decided to come to Victoria. A little house in Victoria West was found for them, and "after removing the coal from the bath-tub," they duly settled in.

Their fortunes fluctuated. Private pupils provided an income, but a meagre one, and the chronicler recalls with wry amusement an occasion upon which the Chinese laundryman was rather wistfully asked if he minded waiting until next week for payment of his current bill – 35c! A quite unexpected but most welcome supplementary job as handyman for a builder soon took care of this particular debt, and after that, another temporary post was secured at George Jay replacing a teacher who was ill.

The little school on Esquimalt Road came into being. It was only a large room in a more spacious house to which they had moved, but it was just right for the student body of the time, which numbered six!

"The main anxiety was about proper games," Mr. Symons records. "I well remember looking down from the veranda during a recess and watching the boys. One of them was on all fours and being led along by the others with a rope around his neck – stopping at intervals to crop a bit of grass. They were farmers and he was the cow being taken out to pasture.

"This has never struck me as quite the type of game to win the battle of Waterloo..."

He told this story to the architect, FM Rattenbury, who said: "Look here, Symons, go...and find some level ground, build a house and a school...I'll pay for it and you can repay me in so many years." So, the nucleus of St. Michael's School was built on Saratoga Avenue – later renamed Windsor Road.

The new building got underway and the Symons family moved in long before things were finished. They had their meals in the basement on the dirt floor and they shifted furniture while the plumbers, electricians, and bricklayers operated around them. A group of Chinese workers was hired to level the future playing field – they much annoyed the Headmaster by displaying more interest in their tea breaks than in sod busting!

Finally the workmen were gone and the interior was reasonably well organized. Symons and his equally hard-

working wife went to work – putting up, for the second time, a fence. Together they dug postholes, pouring in water from time to time to soften the cement-hard ground. "Eighteen in one day!" boasts the journal with justifiable pride. "A strange little man used to walk up and down and watch us at work. Imagine my pride when he came up and asked if I'd take a contract to build him a fence. And imagine his surprise when I looked him between the eyes and said 'Yes, but my price will be one million dollars.' Presumably he found a cheaper man, as I did not get the contract."

Little by little, the "Amazing Institution" grew and prospered. Always, there was hard work and problems, but always, there were loyal friends. A third son, Michael, was born, only to be lost many years later to the Second World War.

Holidays came and went, and during all of these summer interludes, the indefatigable members of the Symons family seem to have worked even harder than usual. To pay for rent, they took advantage of free campgrounds on Pender Island, and later on at Albert Head. Year after year, they tarred roofs, built pigpens, sawed wood, picked cherries, stacked hay, and, said Kyrle Jr., "did all the odd jobs they could."

There can be little doubt that the Head's own spirit in establishing St. Michael's meant that he expected no less from those around him – whether student, parent or teacher.

As one "Old Boy" described his experience at the school. "Kyrle Symons Sr. was a taskmaster who demanded hard work and perfection. Nearly every evening was taken up with hours of homework. I lived in dreaded fear of not completing it. I vividly recall not having my Latin assignment completed on several occasions and feigning illness the following day. 'Roman tummy aches', as my mother called them."

The school was very disciplined, and the teachers were very dedicated. I consider that St. Michael's School deserves any credit for my not ending up on skid row. They instilled and demanded excellent study habits.



KC Symons, Headmaster of St. Michael's School, addresses the boys, their tutors, and their families at Prize Day. (Archive photo, circa 1908)

Alumni • Parents • Staff • Friends

An Invitation to the SMUS Spring Dinner Dance

Saturday, May 1, 2004, 6:00 pm
in the Gym on the Richmond Road Campus

6:00 pm Cocktails - SMUS Jazz Band to play

7:00 pm Buffet Dinner
Musical Excerpts from the
SMUS production of "Evita"

9:00 pm Dancing with "That 70s Band"

\$50/person

*All proceeds go to the SMUS Alumni Association
Scholarship and Bursary Fund.*

Contact: Donna Ray
(250) 370 - 6175 or dray@smus.bc.ca

Class Reps

Contact your class rep and get ready for an evening of fun with your old school friends.

Class	Class Reps
Class of 1954	John Williams: rikipere@aol.com (985) 781-8882
Class of 1959	Larry Devlin: ledevlin@shaw.ca
Class of 1964	John Herpers: jherpers@aol.com (503) 525-0891 Roe Archibald: munroe_a@allstream.net (250) 656-6303
Class of 1969	Philip Sherwin: psherwin@sheldrake.ca (250) 385-7922 David Avren: david.avren@bchydro.com (604) 261-9541
Class of 1974	Gregg Turner: holistic@5pillars.com (250) 380-0702
Class of 1979	David Achtem: dachtem@shaw.ca (250) 592-2531
Class of 1984	Susan (Woodland) Irvine: susani@mars.ark.com (250) 339-1761 Gillian (Bray) Mayer: gmayer@horizon.bc.ca (250) 478-7433 Colin Gardiner: gard_puppy@yahoo.ca (250) 654-0354
Class of 1989	Ian Farish: ifarish@smus.bc.ca (250) 598-7199 Sarah Beeton: saritab@shaw.ca (250) 382-0079
Class of 1994	Cory Lee: cory@trieagle.ca (250) 812-6884 Leilani Roberts: leilaniroberts@hotmail.com (250) 386-0009 Kirn Dhillon: famhotel@polarcom.com

If you would like to help in any way with your class reunion, please contact Louise Winter (250) 370-6176 or lwinter@smus.bc.ca. This is not hard work and the rewards really make it worthwhile.

Homecoming Schedule

Friday, April 30, 2004

Alumni from 1920–1964 and their significant others are invited to a reception hosted by Headmaster Bob Snowden, and his wife, Joan, at Reynolds House

For class reunion gathering locations, please contact your Class Representative (listed on this page).

Saturday, May 1, 2004

9:00 am

Breakfast – SMUS Alumni Association honours the
Grad Class of 2004.

Hosted by Bob and Joan Snowden at Reynolds House

10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Alumni Homecoming Registration in the Quad

10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Archives Display, Third Floor - School House

10:00 am

Alumni Chapel Service

11:00 am

Annual General Meeting for SMUS Alumni Association –
held at the Crothall Centre

11:15 am

Alumni Rugby Touch VIIs

12:00 – 2:30 pm

Alumni and Friends BBQ Lunch; No host bar
at the Wenman Pavilion (deck)
BBQ tickets are available at registration table

12:30 pm – 2:30 pm

SMUS First XV Rugby vs. Oak Bay High
Children's Entertainment (Tickles the Clown)

2:15 pm

Senior Girls Soccer vs. (not confirmed)

2:30 pm

Billy G. Alumni Basketball Classic –
held at Mt. Douglas School Gym

Other Activities:

Campus Tours

New Facilities Display, School House Foyer

6:00 pm

Dinner Dance

Outstanding Buffet Dinner

Entertainment and Music by: "That 70s Band"

Musical Excerpts from the SMUS Production of "Evita"

Sunday, May 2, 2004

10:30 am

Cricket Match - School XI vs. Alumni XI Cricket Match
Call John Wenman at (250) 598-5477 or e-mail him at:
jawenman@islandnet.com if you wish to play a few overs

Alumni Weekend Cricket Match



Back row (l-r) Rob Wilson (Past Faculty), Guy Tyrwhitt-Drake (SMUS 74), Jim Wenman (US 66), Jeremy Goodwin (Past Faculty), Chris Travis (SMUS 80), Stuart Jones (SMUS 02), Andrew Murgatroyd (SMUS 02), Kasim Husain (SMUS 02) and Mel Jones (Faculty). Front row (l-r) Dr. John Finch (US 63), John Finch Jr., Giles Thorp (US 63), John Wenman (US 59).

Old Boys Cricket Team – A Merry Band Indeed!

The merry band of alumni, shown above, plus Michael Symons (who arrived late for the photo), showed up last year at the Wenman Pavilion on Sunday, May 4, ready to do battle in the annual cricket match against the school. Unfortunately, despite their dapper appearance and obvious match

fitness, the steady downpour prevented any play from taking place. This was fortunate for Messrs. Rigos, Payne and other birds that were AWOL. A poor show indeed, but the alumni will re-group for this year's contest and no excuses will be tolerated!



Cricketers (l-r): Giles Thorp (US 63), Michael Symons (SM 52-59; US 63), Dr. John Finch (US 63), and Jeremy Goodwin (Past Faculty) at the 2003 rained-out Cricket Match during the Alumni Homecoming Weekend, May 4, 2003.



SMUS Cricket Team (2002/2003): Back row (l-r) Aashish Kumar (SMUS 03), Ben Strocel (SMUS 03), Owen Parrott (SMUS 03), Steven Harmer (SMUS 03), Ivan Celuszak (SMUS 04), Tristan Gething (SMUS 03), Navraj Chima (SMUS 05) Front row (l-r) Rohan Gowda (SMUS 06), Takaya Brunner (SMUS 03), Nader Ahmed (SMUS 05), Colin MacIntosh (SMUS 04), Coach David Fisher.

DON'T MISS THIS YEAR'S fun game between School XI vs. Alumni XI at the annual cricket match during the Alumni Weekend on Sunday, May 2. You'll be sure to spy names and faces there that should twig some old school memories.

Send 'em In!

The 100th anniversary of the Incogs Cricket Team is drawing near – the year 2012. The Archives is looking for any photos, programmes, etc., relating to Cricket and the Incogs. If you have anything you'd like to share, please contact Brenda Waksel in the Archives at (250) 370-6159.

Alumni Reunion Accommodations

Contact Louise Winter in the Development Office for Alumni Reunion accommodation options. The school has been offered numerous bed and breakfast and hotel listings with great rates for SMUS community members traveling to Victoria over the Alumni Weekend. Call Louise at (250) 370-6176 or e-mail lwinter@smus.bc.ca and she will help you find some really great lodgings.

Focus on Alumni



Hugh Fraser (SMUS 76) teaching Senior School Jazz. A Juno Award winner, Hugh has played with many of the jazz greats of our time.

Hugh Fraser – Juno Award Winner

WHEN HE GRADUATED from St. Michaels University School in 1976, Hugh Fraser was well on his way as a positive force within the music world. He was the first recipient of the Blencoe Cup, the prize awarded to the top musician in the school. **Norman Hurrle**, the music teacher at the time, was a highly respected graduate of the Royal College of Organists (London, England) and Choir Master at Christ Church Cathedral. He taught theory, counterpoint, choir, voice lessons, accompanied chamber music recitals which Hugh put on frequently in the Chapel, and produced Gilbert and Sullivan operettas (*Trial by Jury* was staged in 1975). Norman Hurrle personally bought the Padre Blencoe Trophy to foster a greater awareness of the arts and music at St. Michaels University School, which was at the time a much smaller, more sports oriented school. Hugh is still grateful for the work-start he got with Norman Hurrle: "I really owe Norman Hurrle a great deal, as he created a major musical presence here. I found upon entry at college that I had covered most of the Euro-centric musical requirements of a Bachelors degree by grade 12 at SMUS."

There were no jazz or instrumental programmes at the school at that time. Hugh nurtured his other musical interests, on his own time, by being a guest jazz trombonist at Esquimalt High School under the direction of Gerry Bryant; and at Mt. Doug, under Len Michaux; then leading a rock band called *Tuesday Night* that played Chicago, *Tower of Power*, and other

popular funk tunes of the day. As a member of the XX Club (a student union type of organization), Hugh and other students put on a dance in 1976 in the gym. **Collin Yong** (SMUS 76) played guitar in the band – he is now a successful doctor in Vancouver and keeps jazz guitar playing very much part of his life.

Both Hugh and SMUS have come a long way since then. SMUS now boasts one of the top music programmes in the country, with a new senior school music teaching facility under construction and well established music programmes, including string orchestras from grades 4 to 12, choral programmes from kindergarten to grade 12, concert bands from grades 6 to 12, and three jazz bands. Hugh has returned to SMUS as a member of faculty, and is currently working as director of the Senior Jazz Band. Lucky us! Hugh brings with him over 25 years of experience in the international jazz community as a trombonist, pianist, composer, and educator. In 1980, he formed the Vancouver Ensemble of Jazz Improvisation (VEJI) consisting of 13 members, and then went on to international success with The Hugh Fraser Quintet from 1986. The Quintet tours Europe, and North and South America yearly.

Toronto's Jazz Report Awards voted Hugh as the 1996 and 1998 Canadian Trombonist of the Year. He has recorded over sixty of his compositions on thirteen albums as a leader. Hugh won two Juno Awards and many nominations for these recordings, and he appears on over twenty albums as a sideman, including recent releases by Cuban bands Chucho Valdés and Irakere on Bembe Records, *Perspectiva* on Egrem Records, and Kenny Wheeler on ECM Records.

Hugh has performed and/or recorded with such artists as Jaki Byard, Dizzy Gillespie, Maynard Ferguson, Billy Ekstein, Slide Hampton, Frank Foster, Don Thompson, Shorty Rogers, Kenny Wheeler, Dave Holland, Muhal Richard Abrams, Robin Eubanks, Dave Liebman, Sheila Jordan, and Jean Toussaint.

Having lived in New York and London for most of the 1980s and 1990s, Hugh now resides in Victoria, BC where he is the first full-time jazz professor at UVic and tours regularly with the Hugh Fraser Quintet and his large group, Vancouver Ensemble of Jazz Improvisation (VEJI). He is also the artistic director of one of Western Canada's finest original jazz record labels, Boat House Records, and the artistic director of Norkey Music Publishing, which supplies music to secondary schools, universities, and professional ensembles around the world.

As an educator, in addition to his work at SMUS, Hugh has recently been appointed Head of Jazz at the University of Victoria. In the past, he served as the Programme Head of Jazz at the Banff Centre for Fine Arts, Head of Jazz Composition at the Royal Academy of Music in London, England, Head of the University of Ulster Summer Jazz Workshop in Ireland, and is much sought after as a guest clinician by major progressive institutions. He has brought renewed vitality to an already well-established jazz programme at SMUS, and we look forward to continued progress along this path.

The Annual Fund – On Target!

The Annual Fund's importance to the school's health cannot be overstated. As the costs of offering a superb education increase, so must the yearly totals achieved by the Annual Fund. Barbara Duncan and Susan Sharp are doing a superb job leading the school's volunteer parent army – we continue to seek the engagement of everyone in a personal solicitation.

Melanie (Dovey) Hadfield (SMUS 87) is leading the charge to increase alumni support and participation in the **Annual Fund**, the school's most important philanthropic resource. With initiatives like the Michael Walsh Scholarship, Rob Wilson Endowment, and Colin Skinner Endowment, we are eager to engage the support of all alumni. Endowment is the school's key resource – we strive to enable all children of alumni, regardless of financial means, to attend our school.

Focus on Alumni

Kerry Spearing - 2003 Junior National Triathlon Champion

THIS PAST SUMMER, after graduating from SMUS in June, Kerry Spearing (SMUS 03) continued to pursue her career as a triathlete. She competed in many local races, Junior Nationals, an ITU race, and in December, she competed at the 2003 Junior World Triathlon Championships in Queenstown, New Zealand.

In August 2003, Kerry went to Quebec to compete at the Junior National Championships. It was a sprint-distance race, consisting of a 750m swim, 20km bike ride, and a 5km run. Kerry came out of the water in fourth place and took the lead early in the bike portion of the race. By the end of the bike ride, she had over a minute lead on her competitors and had an easy run to win her first-ever National title.

In September, Kerry completed her first ITU race. ITU stands for International Triathlon Union. The ITU put on international races almost every weekend throughout the summer. To get ITU points, (points that



Kerry Spearing (SMUS 03) wins the Junior National Triathlon Championship

determine your world ranking), you have to finish top 10 in an ITU race and be within 8% of the leading time. She competed at the Treasure Island ITU, on an island just out from the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco. It was a tough field compared to most other ITU races – it was the qualifier for the US Elite Team to compete at the World Championships in December. She finished in thirteenth place. The race was Olympic distance, double what she normally does, so Kerry was happy with the result.

Finally, in December, Kerry competed at the Junior World Triathlon Championships in New Zealand. She finished 17th in the race. She came out of the lake after an okay swim and started the bike in the second pack. Her group was working well together, but unfortunately on the first turn, about five kilometres into the ride, she clipped wheels with the rider in front of her and off the road she went.

In May, Kerry will compete in the 2004 World Championships in Madeira, Portugal. Then she will compete in the 2004 Junior Nationals in July in Ontario; it will be her last year as a junior. We'll be cheering for you, Kerry! *Vivat!*

The Michael Walsh Scholar Award

The first recipient of *The Michael Walsh Scholar Award* nears completion of his first year at SMUS. The Walsh Endowment, created in honour of Michael Walsh's contributions to the school, has the potential to become a key endowment. The initial goal of \$100,000, set by Christopher Spicer (US 70) and a small group of alumni, has been exceeded. We look forward to surpassing the next horizon of \$200,000 in this year's Annual Fund, so that a second student will have the opportunity to attend SMUS. The growth of the endowment fund is critical, as the cost of a SMUS education grows. The inspiration of Michael Walsh must continue to flourish. Your support in this great initiative is important – your gift to this year's Annual Fund will make a difference.

Click and Donate

Online Giving Arrives at SMUS

Alumni and parents who visit our website will notice the ability for alumni to update their profiles and addresses via the school's net. We have recently developed the ability to accept online gifts to the Annual Fund via the school net. Information sent is secured by Net Directories Inc., the service provider who supports our alumni e-mail programme. Donations can still be directed to the fund of your choice. Upon making your gift, you will receive confirmation by e-mail and a tax receipt will be sent to you.

If you have questions about Online Giving, call Donna Ray in the Development Office at (250) 370-6175, or e-mail: dray@smus.bc.ca

Are You Connected Yet?

SINCE THE LAUNCH OF THE SMUS Alumni E-mail Directory in 2000, over 1,400 of our mailable alumni have registered online. We are pleased with this progress, and hope our users have found this service useful and informative. For those of you who still haven't registered, we encourage you to do so.

How to Register or Update Your Alumni E-mail Address

Please visit our website (www.smus.bc.ca) and click on Development/Alumni, and from there click on "Alumni E-mail Directory."

Once your registration is activated with this free service, you can search for your contemporaries by year, name, or geographical branch. You can also add your own biographical information and even upload a photo of yourself or family. In addition, there is a "class notes" option where you can post interesting tidbits of information regarding you, your family, or other alumni you have seen in your travels.

Current Families Can Stay Connected, too!

Throughout the school year, we send out information e-mails to our current parents. We are able to communicate important announcements to you, quickly and effectively. To receive these messages, please make sure that we have your current e-mail address and notify the school if there are any changes. Contact Gisele Dilorio in the Data Centre: gdiiorio@smus.bc.ca or (250) 370-6156.

Stay connected!

Christmas Down Under!

The Ford family celebrated their Christmas holiday from their parents' New Zealand farm.

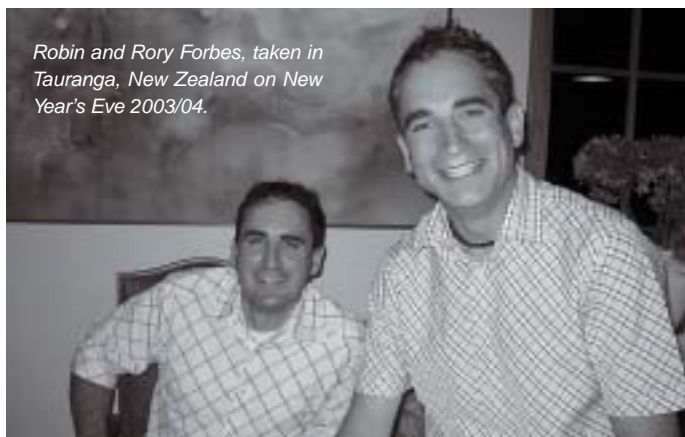
Writes Jen:

"We think that we may have more SMUS Alumni in one place (other than Victoria) than anywhere else in the world right now. After months of organizing everyone's schedules, booking flights, and making sure Donna and Dick (Ford) were okay with having so many of us in one house, we have Julie Ford (SMUS 89), Mike Ford (SMUS 90), Chris Ford (SMUS 93), Jen Ford (SMUS 97), Rory Forbes (SMUS 90), Robin Forbes (SMUS 93), and Fiona Ely (SMUS 93) all together and having a fantastic time. Julie, Chris, Jen, Robin, and Fiona spent Christmas and New Year's together. Rory flew down on New Year's Eve from Hong Kong, where he is based as a pilot for Cathay Pacific Airlines. Mike was the last to join the group just after New Year's. The busy ski season at Big White in Kelowna, where Mike is working as the Guest Services Manager, kept him away until after January 1.

"All in all, it was a wonderful time with lots of laughs and plenty of memories! January came, reality set in, and sadly we all headed back home. Robin went back to Amsterdam where he is working with Blast Radius. Julie and Fiona headed back to Vancouver where Julie is working as the Business Director for the BC Cancer Agency and Fiona is working at the Critical Care Animal Hospital as a Veterinary Technician. Chris and Jen are back in Williams Lake – busy planning for the next season of wilderness rafting expeditions for Chris' company, Canadian River Expeditions. Rory is jet-setting all around the world, and Mike has headed back to the slopes in Kelowna, BC."



The Ford family. Left to right: Mike Ford (SMUS 90), Jen Ford (SMUS 97), Julie Ford (SMUS 89), Bill Telford, Dick Ford, Donna Ford (Board Member from 1994-97), and Chris Ford (SMUS 93). Bill didn't attend SMUS, but is Julie's fiancé – they're getting married in Williams Lake on July 17, 2004.



Robin and Rory Forbes, taken in Tauranga, New Zealand on New Year's Eve 2003/04.



Grad 2001 Yuletide Gathering

All of these young men who graduated from SMUS in 2001 somehow still manage to keep in touch at Christmastime, when they return home to visit their families and friends. Those that made it to this year's gathering had a chance to talk and compare notes. It's hard to believe they are in third year already! From left to right: Andrew Moll, UBC; Glen Roberts, UVic; Pat Bourke, Western; Paul Zakus, UBC; Steven Mitchelmore, Queen's; Brad Broder, UVic; Wayne Lau, Simon Fraser; Geoff Homer, U of Toronto; and Greg Smith, York University. All are doing very well in their studies. SMUS is proud!



This photo was taken at the Portland, Oregon Alumni Reception, held in the home of John and Nancy Herpers, January 22, 2004. (l-r) Jim Crumpacker (US 63), John Herpers (US 64), Rob Wilson (SMUS Rep), Lynn Eves (US 58), Sid Smither (US 60). School representatives visit all corners of the world to stay in touch with Alumni. Sari Prevost (SMUS 85) was also in attendance – the group photo which included her was unfortunately too blurred for inclusion here. Our apologies to Sari.

Alumni Updates

We receive e-mail, snail mail, telephone calls, visits even – and we love to hear from you! This is what gives us the stories to build this important section of *School Ties*. Please take a moment and tell us what you are doing, keep in touch, let us know if you are looking for a contact number for a fellow alumnus, or if you have a question about something at your old school. The more we hear, the more we can pass on in this section.

We want your e-mail address, so why not send us an e-mail update right now!! [iwinter@smus.bc.ca] or [dray@smus.bc.ca]

BEFORE THE '60s

■ **EDWARD KENNEY (SM 53)** of Terrace, BC, was the winner of the December 15 draw for adding himself to our alumni e-mail directory. Congratulations!

■ **RICHARD COX (SM 56)** is CEO and Executive Producer with BeachFront Films, of Takaka, New Zealand. Richard is married to Sage and they have four children.

■ **MERVYN LOUGHER-GOODEY (SM 56)**, retired Military Engineer, is now serving as the Vice-Chairman of the Victoria Airport Authority. Mervyn is also a volunteer with the school archives!

FROM THE '60s

■ **JON DEISHER (US 65)** wrote to us in December: "I and mine will not be able to attend the Christmas social. We will be attending a basketball tournament where my oldest daughter, Tania (19), is on a full academic scholarship and playing for the University of Alaska - Fairbanks Women's team. Her major is biological sciences/pre-med. We will then head for Arizona and Mexico for ten days with my brother Phil (US 66), who still spends summers in Alaska but winters in Arizona. I continue in my private practice in Vocational Rehabilitation of

persons who have experienced traumatic injuries with offices in both Anchorage and Fairbanks. My wife, Laura, continues as a special education teacher of deaf and hearing-impaired children with the Anchorage School District. Our two other children, Rebecca (14) and Linnea (9), are thriving in their respective activities. We all look forward to a visit to Victoria and hope to see old friends there. Would enjoy hearing from any Vivat peers. They know who they are."

FROM THE '70s

■ **DENIS GOURDEAU (SMUS 76)** is the Water Management Coordinator for the City of Calgary. He and his wife, Julie, have two daughters – Karla and Jenna.

■ **IAN BURCHETT (SMUS 77)** is now at the Canadian Embassy in Beijing and sent an update in November: "I joined the Canadian foreign service 13 years ago, after completing a Masters in Public Administration and having worked on Parliament Hill. My previous assignments abroad have included Jamaica, Monterrey, Mexico, and most recently the Consulate General in New York City, working beside Pamela Wallin. I arrived to take up my new position at the Canadian Embassy in September as Counsellor, Public Affairs. It is a three-year

assignment. I am responsible for Canada's cultural and academic relations as well as media liaison. One of my principal tasks will be to establish a new "Branding Canada" campaign, so to ensure Canada and Canadian views are well regarded in this rapidly changing economy, society, and culture.

I was in Victoria in August to visit my parents and made a brief stop at the school to see first-hand, on my own, the exciting changes that have taken place since my graduation in 1977. One would hardly recognize the place. I have fond memories of many good friends and masters at SMUS."

■ **MARTIN DAVIS (SMUS 79)** earned his BSc from Queen's. He is currently working as a Software Designer/Developer for Vivid Solutions of Victoria. Martin enjoys the many wonderful outdoor activities that BC has to offer, including rock climbing, cycling, sea kayaking, and backcountry skiing.

■ **MELODY SOUTHGATE (SMUS 79)** wrote to us in January: "Having visited my brother, **Chris (SMUS 80)** at his home in Nassau for the last month, I am ready to tackle making a new home in Kitchener. It has been an exciting time here, as Chris has been made a Director and Treasurer of the Bahamas International Film Festival (BIFF). Any alumni in the

area are invited to visit! (www.biff2004.com)."

Melody is starting the RMT programme at the Canadian College of Massage Therapy and Hydrotherapy. She'd like to hear from any alumni in the Kitchener area (e-mail: masouthgate@sympatico.ca).

FROM THE '80s

■ **GENNIFER (LANSDILL) RYAN (SMUS 80)** wrote to us in November: "We recently received the *School Ties* and noticed there were no updates from any alumni from our graduating year – 1980. **Claire (Boulton)** and I thought it was time we submitted something about our latest escapades.

As of December last year, Claire and I have been working together again! Over ten years ago she and I ran my clothing boutique in Kitsilano. After going back to school for career number two – Interior Design, I formed a new company called The Source Resource in 1995.

Our company has diversified over the last few years into something far beyond the usual commercial Interior Design scope. Because many of our clients were finding "grey areas" in large-scale construction projects, we found ourselves being asked to provide specialized front and back end planning and coordination of anything from offices to industrial warehouses.



Melody Southgate (SMUS 79) and her brother, Chris (SMUS 80).

Alumni Updates *- continued*

We spent last winter relocating approximately 1000 offices into a brand new high-rise building in downtown Vancouver for the federal government. This year, under a cloak of secrecy, we are tasked with relocating an international border – this will take us to 2006!

When Claire is not in Vancouver working with me, she is enjoying her acreage on Vancouver Island with her husband, Al. My husband Jim and I retreat to our condo in Whistler. Claire and I still have great memories of our 20- year reunion and often think of the great time we had with Mike, Angus, Alison, Amir, Duncan, Don K, Susanna, Annaka, Heather, Tom, Catherine, Barb, Cesar, Brad, Sonia, Janet, and Stephan to mention just a few. We hope to see some of them again in 2005!

We are hoping that one of our projects brings us to Victoria so we can stop in to see you and the beautiful new facilities."

■ **JAMES STONE (SMUS 80)** moved from Cambridge, England, to take up a teaching position with Princeton University in the Department of Astrophysical Sciences.

■ **JOHN WILSON (SMUS 82)** earned his BSc from Queen's

University, and is living in Red Deer, Alberta, where he works as a Process Engineer. John and his wife, Elizabeth, have two daughters – Claire and Julia. The family was in England last summer and had an opportunity to visit Mike Walsh in Ditchat. John writes: "My family and I had a great visit with Mike, his mother, and his sister. I really felt I had to visit him, based on his positive impact on my life and outlook. Not many have made it to Ditchat but I can say I was one of them! We were entertained to Tea and had a wonderful visit."

■ **CLIFF HALL (SMUS 83)** lives in Auckland, New Zealand, with his wife, Heather, and their two children, Riana and Robert. Cliff earned his Electrical Engineering degree from UBC, and a Diploma in Management from the University of Auckland. He is working as Managing Director for Fastening Solutions Ltd. in Auckland.

■ **LEAH DOBELL (SMUS 84)** earned her Nursing Degree from UBC and is now working as a Community Health Nurse for Vancouver Coastal Health.

■ **VANESSA YOUNG (SMUS 84)** earned her medical degree from UBC and is now a Family Doctor

in Victoria. She is married to Dr. Steven Keeler, and they have a son and a daughter.

■ **BRIAN KELLY (SMUS 86)** earned his MBA degree from Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, and is currently working in Thailand in the food and beverage manufacturing industry.

■ **CAROL (FISHER) ARMSTRONG (SMUS 87)** is a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Salk Institute in San Diego. She and her family plan to be there for three years. Carol and her husband, John, now have three sons: Jake is six, Thomas is two-and-a-half, and baby Luke was born January 22, 2004 (see pg. 31).

■ **KURT VOLLMERHAUSE (SMUS 87)** lives in Australia and works at the Queensland University of Technology as a Librarian. He is married to Laura Hahn, and they have one son, Oscar, born in 2000.

■ **JEFF STEVENS (SMUS 88)** and **MANDY (LEWIS) STEVENS (SMUS 88)** were married on September 1, 2001 in Nanaimo. They moved to Toronto the same year after Jeff got a job with Mercer Human Resources. Mandy taught at an inner city school in east Toronto for two years, but is now taking a year off to raise their daughter, Jemma Maria, who was born on July 18, 2003 (see pg. 31).

■ **JASMINE (SIDDIQI) HAYES (SMUS 89)** obtained her Master's degree in Social Work from the University of Toronto and is now working in Washington, DC, as a Research and Information Specialist at the Child and Family Services Agency. She married Rhon Hayes in October 2002. Jasmine keeps in touch with former classmates, **Alison Bodkin** and **Kajola Morewood**. Alison is running a Bed and Breakfast in

Banff, while Kajola lives in Vancouver where she works for the Emily Carr Institute of Art and Design. Jasmine's brother, **Joseph Siddiqi (SMUS 90)** is just finishing his MFA degree at Boston University.

■ **JENNIFER SCHERER (SMUS 89)** earned her Master's Degree in Public Health from the University of Texas Health Science Centre. She is now living in Portland, working as a Public Health Research Associate for the Oregon Health and Science University.

■ **LUDI (JANAKIEV) SCHLAGETER (SMUS 89)** sent us an update from her home in Brussels: "I was married in 2000, and I am working in the Healthcare Pharmaceutical Practice Area with WeberShandwick Adamson. I am also on the Board of Medecins sans Frontiere Germany. I have finished my MA and started work on my PhD. I'd like to hear from other SMUS alumni in Europe."

FROM THE '90s

■ **JASON DEARBORN (SMUS 90)** was re-elected on November 5, 2003, with 60% of the vote into the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan representing the Kindersley constituency. Jason, his wife April, and their two sons, Blake and Spencer, live on the family farm near Eatonia, and also maintain a residence in Regina for legislative duties.

■ **NICOLE (DUNCAN) ROBERTS (SMUS 90)** wrote in December: "**Ian (SMUS 85)** and I have been keeping on top of the developments at SMUS and are thrilled to see that you are offering more and more arts programmes for students. I've been involved with my father in the "family business" for the past seven years. Context Development is a real estate development company. Four



John Wilson (SMUS 82) visited Mike Walsh's house in Ditchat, England, in July 2003. (l-r) Mike Walsh, Julia Wilson (age 6), and John Wilson. "The task of finding the place was somewhat difficult as the location is rather remote."

and a half years ago, Ian and I moved to the Scottsdale area so that I could manage our development operations in Arizona and Ian could go back to school to work on his Masters of Architecture at Arizona State University, from which he will graduate in May with honours. My development business specializes in architectural urban in-fill development. I work with well-known desert architects to create urban mixed-use developments. We currently have two such developments under construction. Please check us out at www.azarchitecture.com."

■ **ALANA YUILL (SMUS 90)** wrote to us in January: "I relocated to Ottawa to take up a position with the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada. AUCC is an advocacy association, representing 93 member universities and colleges across Canada (www.aucc.ca). I joined AUCC as one of their three Senior Policy Analysts, working on files involving the promotion of university research funding, international collaboration, commercialization initiatives and post-secondary teaching and access issues."

■ **DAVID CHMIEL (SMUS 91)** is still with Bakers and McKenzie as an Associate Attorney, but is now manning the "English Desk" in Chicago for a year or so.

■ **JEAN MCPHERSON (SMUS 91)** is living in Vancouver with her husband, Michael Newland, and their dog, Heff. Jean is working as a lawyer for the firm Owen, Bird. Her practice includes general civil litigation with an emphasis on labour and employment law. Jean and Mike were married in July 2002 and enjoyed a reception at the Deep Cove Yacht Club attended by many SMUS alums, including

Tamara Walker (SMUS 89), Justin Chant (SMUS 91), Lisa Cohen (SMUS 91), Sarah Hentschel (SMUS 91), and Gillian Robertson (SMUS 91). Jean and Mike had a wonderful visit with **Conrad Walker's (SMUS 91)** family in South Africa in September 2003, and are now excitedly expecting the arrival of their first child in June 2004.

■ **DANIELLE TOPLISS (SMUS 91)** earned her Law degree at the University of Alberta. In February, she joined the Victoria law firm, Acheson Whitley Cameron.

■ **MONICA (SETHI) TANG (SMUS 92)** recently married and now lives in Vancouver. She works in the Development Office at UBC.

■ **MICHELE WRIGHT (SMUS 92)** wrote to us in December: "After graduating from UVic with a BSc (Biology) in 1999, I headed off on a solo trip to Thailand. I came back to Canada, joined the Army as a medic, and then did a transfer to the Navy where I did a short stint as a Marine Engineer. I'm now working at MDS Metro's Microbiology Lab, and am considering going back to school to pursue a career in Graphic Design."

■ **ANDREAS BERG (SMUS 93)** left Sweden for Ottawa to work with the Department of Foreign Affairs/International Trade as a Foreign Service Officer. Last year, Andreas completed his Master's Degree in Political Science from the University of Leuven, Belgium.

■ **HAYLEY PATTISON (SMUS 93)** left the motorsport world of Formula One to return to London and the fashion industry. Hayley is currently working for an Austrian crystal company, working closely with fashion designers in Milan, Paris, and New York.

■ **KURT SCHWEITZER (SMUS 93)** completed his Wings course in Portage La Prairie in August of 2003 and was promoted to Captain. He is currently posted to 429(T) Squadron in Trenton, Ontario, and will soon be trained on the CC-130 Hercules.

■ **CLARE GARDINER (SMUS 94)** completed her MSc in Experimental Medicine at UBC in prostate cancer research and defended her thesis in October 2003. She is working at the Prostate Centre at Vancouver General Hospital, getting work ready for publication on the exciting ideas that came out of her thesis work. Clare was head coach of the Masters rowing programme (27 years or older) at Thunderbird Rowing Centre in Vancouver for the last two years with some really successful seasons – lots of medals in Victoria and Vancouver, but the best was winning the gold at an international race in Seattle with her eights crew! Clare is taking a break from rowing and coaching to play soccer in the Vancouver city league. She is also an athletic trainer for the UBC varsity women's volleyball team, doing taping and injury assessment for the team at practices and games.

■ **RUBINA (SULTAN) LYONS (SMUS 94)** sent us an update. "My husband and I had our first baby, Tahliah Basina Lyons, on October 23, 2003. In addition to running a volunteer golden retriever and Labrador retriever rescue, we are in the process of restoring an old Victorian manor in the historic district of downtown Indianapolis. I am taking time off to enjoy motherhood. Would love to hear how my former classmates are doing when I receive my next copy of *School Ties*."

■ **KERRY O'NEILL (SMUS 95)** completed her Linguistics Degree

at UVic with a double major in French Literature. She is now working on her Master's Degree in Speech Pathology and Audiology at UBC.

■ **ANDREA HORSMAN (SMUS 97)** earned a BA in International Studies at Gonzaga University. She is now pursuing a nursing degree at UBC.

■ **CHRIS MAVRIKOS (SMUS 97)** studied Theatre at UVic for two years before moving to Vancouver to attend the Vancouver Film School. He studied acting for television and film. Over the last two years, Chris has been auditioning for film and television, landing various roles in movies, TV series, independent films, and local theatre shows.

■ **BRYCE SODERBERG (SMUS 98)** took a music major at Bishop's University for two years, then completed his music education at Musicians Institute in Los Angeles. After graduating from MI in 2002, Bryce joined Elektra recording artists *AM Radio*, managed by *Weezer's* Rivers Cuomo. Since the release of their CD, *Radioactive*, on which Bryce was a co-songwriter, *AM Radio* has been on tour throughout the US, Canada, and Japan with acts including *Weezer*, *Everclear*, and *Third Eye Blind*.



Kurt Schweitzer (SMUS 93) and his wife, **Thandie Ryan**.

Alumni Updates *- continued*

■ **ANDREW WILLIAMSON (SMUS 98)** graduated from UVic with a Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering through UVic's Co-op Programme. He is working with Wakefield Acoustics in Victoria, and enjoys playing golf and bass guitar in his spare time.

■ **GRANT WOOLLIAMS (SMUS 98)** received his Electrical Engineering degree from the University of Waterloo and has returned to Victoria to take up an engineering position with Power Measurement.

■ **MAUDE HENRI-BHARGAVA (SMUS 99)** wrote to us in November: "I am currently finishing up my last few credits of a BSc degree in psychology, with an arts minor in 'the history and philosophy of science'. I have been working in the Psychiatry Department of the Montreal General Hospital; it is comprised of the teaching hospitals for McGill's medical school programme. As for next year, I have no idea what I am going to do. I plan in the long term to end up a lawyer...we'll see!"

■ **KATHRYN HILL (SMUS 99)** wrote in January: "Things in New York are wonderful! My school is incredibly demanding, although I do get a chance to get out and see the city once in a while. I live right in the East village so everything is at my fingertips. It's a pretty amazing city that way.

I'm attending Pacific College of Oriental Medicine in Manhattan. I moved here after graduating with a BA in Political Science from Georgetown. When I graduate, I will be an acupuncturist and herbologist and have a Masters in Science and Traditional Chinese Medicine. I'm really excited about it.

I still keep in touch with my old friends. In fact, **Taylor Davis (SMUS 99)** is coming from Queen's to visit soon. It's

always great to see my friends from SMUS."

■ **KIMBERLY NORDLUND (SMUS 99)** is in her final year of studies and expects to graduate in May 2004, with a Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy at the University of Saskatchewan. At the January 2004 conference of the Canadian Association of Pharmacy Students and Interns, Kimberly won the Apotex National Patient Interview Competition, in competition with 18 of the top pharmacy students from across Canada. Congratulations, Kim!

■ **KRYSTAL O'BYRNE (SMUS 99)** was the focus of a lengthy article in the Victoria Times-Colonist on December 1, 2003. In part: "Nike could have penned their favourite slogan with Krystal O'Byrne in mind. The fifth year forward on the UVic Vikes women's basketball team is a just-do-it kind of person, whether she's out-muscling opponents on the hardwood, or talking to school kids about cancer. O'Byrne will graduate this spring with a Bachelor of Science degree, eventually hoping to exchange her basketball for a stethoscope. When she's not keeping her marks up around the honours level, the 22-year-old is likely volunteering somewhere. Last year she was a recipient of a prestigious UVic Blue and Gold Circle Award for all-round achievement and community service."

■ **YVETTE YANG (SMUS 99)** earned her BA in Political Science from Trinity College, U of T, and is now working as a Reporter/Journalist for The Korea Times Daily in Toronto.

SINCE 2000

■ **CLAIRE JONES (SMUS 2000)** completed her BSc in Biology from the University of Western

Ontario and is now studying Medicine there.

■ **DAVID SPICER (SMUS 03)** played rugby for Canada at the U-19 Junior World Cup, held in Paris, April 2003, while he was still in Grade 12. When he graduated in June, he received the SMUS Carol Lobb Cup, which is awarded for excellence in athletics, good academic standing, and contribution to the school community. David is now attending UVic and preparing for the World U-19 Rugby Tournament, which will be held in March, in South Africa. Fellow classmates from 2003, **Fraser Lee** and **Ben Strocel**, are also members of the National Junior Rugby Squad.

...there were bells!

■ **ANDREW GREIG (SMUS 87)** married Samantha on December 12, 2003, in Vancouver, BC.

■ **ROGER AUBIN (SMUS 85)** married Marilyn on August 23, 2003, at the Royal Victoria Yacht Club.

■ **MAX HUMPHREYS (SMUS 91)** married Carolyn Power of Victoria, on October 4, 2003. The wedding took place on a sunny afternoon at The Quamichan Inn. Max and Carolyn are living in Victoria, where Max works for ACD Systems.



Max Humphreys (SMUS 91) and bride, **Carolyn Power**.

■ **CLAY CHATTAWAY (US 64)** married Avril Sears on December 31, 2003, at Clay's Bar S Ranch in Nanton, Alberta.

■ **MELANIE SCRIVENS (SMUS 94)** was married August 16, 2003, to Dr. Alp Sener of Houston, Texas. The picturesque ceremony took place at St. Ann's Academy in Victoria. The couple honeymooned in Hawaii before returning to London, Ontario, where they currently reside. Melanie completed her degrees at UVic and the UWO, and is now working as a critical care nurse specialist in Emergency Medicine.

■ **KELLY O'SULLIVAN (SMUS 83)** and Jason Whitely were married on August 8, 2003 in Hawaii, surrounded by loving family and friends on that magical day. Kelly now resides in the Lone Star State and welcomes SMUS



Melanie Scrivens (SMUS 94) married **Dr. Alp Sener**.



Kelly O'Sullivan (SMUS 83) married **Jason Whitely**.

visitors, as Houston has great restaurants, golf, and the Galleria! You can contact her by e-mail: jkwhitley@earthlink.net

...new on the scene!

■ **JEFF STEVENS** and wife, **MANDY (LEWIS)**, both **SMUS 1988**, are proud to announce the birth of their new baby girl, **Jemma Maria**, born July 18, 2003.

■ **MICHAEL SWANGARD (SMUS 85)** and his wife, **Galia Ron**, welcome a daughter, **Katarina**, born September 4, 2003.

■ **LYNNE (CHUI) HART (SMUS 86)** and **Bob** announce the birth of their daughter, **Abigail Elizabeth**, born October 17, 2003 – 8 lb 9 oz, a baby sister to **Bobby** and **Jimmy**.

■ **CHRIS BOEHRINGER (SMUS 88)** and his wife, **Kyoko**, announce the birth of their first child, a boy, **Takuya Lucas**. Born August 2003 in London, England.

■ **RUBINA (SULTAN) LYONS (SMUS 94)** announces the birth of her daughter **Tahliah Basina**, born October 23, 2003.

■ **ELIZABETH (JOHNSON) VICKERY (SMUS 85)** and husband, **Lance**, are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, **Celeste Ann**, born May 16, 2003.

■ **ANDREA (WALL) McDONALD (SMUS 88)** and **Jonathan McDonald** are thrilled to announce the birth of **Isabel Rachel Grace McDonald**, born October 16, 2003 in Vancouver, BC.

■ **EMIL LEE (SMUS 87)** and his wife, **Anita**, welcome their first child, **Annika**, born in February 2003.

■ **KIM (HOPE) KREMER (SMUS 86)** and husband, **Peter**, welcome a second daughter, **Jasmine**, born May 1, 2003. Big sister is **Kayla**, born in 2000.

■ **LARA (GAEDE) JANKE (SMUS 89)** and husband, **Michael**, welcome their new son, **Aidan Harrison**, born August 19, 2003 (7 lb 6 oz).

■ **JOHN WATTS (SMUS 86)** and his wife, **Kristine Tom**, have a new baby boy, **Tristan**, born January 19, 2003.

■ **JENNIFER (DANIEL) BISHOP (SMUS 92)** and husband, **Jeff**, would like to announce the birth

of their second son, **William Peter**, born December 18, 2003 (8lb 7oz).

■ **BRYN MCLEAN (SMUS 86)** and his wife, **Lisa**, had their second child, a son, on December 26, 2003. **Merrick Myles** was born 8 lb 10 oz at Women's Hospital in Vancouver. Big sister, **Madeline** (two and a half), is happy to have a little brother!

■ **CAROL (FISHER) ARMSTRONG (SMUS 87)** and her husband, **John**, announce the arrival of their third son, **Luke Connon**, born on January 22, 2004.

■ **JEFFREY HUNT (SMUS 91)** and his wife, **Janelle**, have a daughter, **Teagan**, born October 31, 2003. **Jeff** is currently teaching Athletics at the SMUS Senior School.



Jemma Maria, daughter of Jeff Stevens (SMUS 88) and Mandy (Lewis) Stevens (SMUS 88).



Lynne (Chui) Hart (SMUS 86) and Bob's daughter, Abigail Elizabeth.



Elizabeth (Johnson) Vickery (SMUS 85) and Lance's daughter, Celeste Ann.



Andrea (Wall) McDonald (SMUS 88) and Jonathan's daughter, Isabel Rachel Grace.



Kim (Hope) Kremer (SMUS 86) and Peter's daughter, Jasmine. Big sister is Kayla.



Lara (Gaede) Janke (SMUS 89) and Michael's son, Aidan Harrison.



Carol (Fisher) Armstrong (SMUS 87) and John's third son, Luke Connon.



Jeffrey Hunt (SMUS 91) and Janelle's daughter, Teagan.

Alumni Updates - continued

■ **COLIN GARDINER (SMUS 84)** and his wife, Christine, welcome a baby boy, Max Roland, born January 23, 2004.



Colin Gardiner (SMUS 84) and Christine's son, Max Roland.

PASSAGES

■ **JEFFREY J. BOWLES (SMS 65)** died in a motor vehicle accident in Shanklin, Isle of Wight, England, on 22 August 2003. He attended St. Michael's School 1956-64 and finished his education at Warsash Nautical College in England. After years at sea, Jeff obtained his Master Mariners Certificate and later worked as Operations Manager at CFB Esquimalt. His love of the sea was matched by his love of the air and the flying of small aircraft. His niece, Emma Brownlee, graduated from SMUS in 2003.

■ **CEDRIC WALKER (SMS 1915-20)** died 24 November 2003 at the age of 96. He attended St. Michael's School and completed his University education at the University of Washington. He was a Registered Forester and spent a

good part of his career in international forestry consulting. He was the former Registrar of the Association of British Columbia Foresters. In his later years, he was a resident of Salt Spring Island. He attended alumni functions until quite recently, and has been a generous benefactor to the school.

■ **FREDERICK NORRIS (SMS 1920-26)** passed away peacefully on 18 September 2003, in his 94th year. He attended St. Michael's School and Victoria High School, and completed his University education as a commerce graduate of McGill University. He enjoyed 20-year careers with both Vancouver Island Coach Lines (1935-55) and Victoria Press (1955-75). He was an Oak Bay Councillor, 1949-54 and Reeve of Oak Bay, 1954-58. Fred was a highly respected man with a strong record of public

service. His involvement with St. Michael's School did not end in 1926. From KC Symons book *That Amazing Institution*, in the 1947 Chapter, he noted: "F. Norris has nobly agreed to become our Bursar, and I have voted for him with no misgivings, at the Municipal Polling Station."

The school has also been informed of the following losses:

■ **GEORGE BRUCE KIRKPATRICK (US 1960-64)**. Sad to report that Bruce died 28 June 2003 in Sidney, BC.

■ **PATRICK N. TAYLOR (SMS 59)** died peacefully in his sleep on 23 December 2003.

■ **BETTY BIRCHMAN (US AND SMUS NURSE, 1969-73)** died in Victoria on 13 January 2004.

Our Apologies

In the Spring 2003 issue of School Ties, **Michael McArthur (SMUS 92)** gave news of the research work of fellow grads Dan Klinka and Chris Darimont. Mike then gave an update of his own career and his name was not even mentioned; the information was attributed to Chris Darimont. Our apologies to Mike for this omission.

A recent update from Mike reads: "I'm enjoying my work with Triton Environmental Consultants in Richmond, BC, as it allows me to do aquatic and terrestrial studies in many parts of the province. I'm getting a chance to apply much of my MSc and BSc skills and knowledge, but the basic writing skills I learned while at SMUS are something I use each day. The many outdoor programmes at SMUS and great cycling inspiration from Alan Jones have me hooked on mountain biking, skiing, and hiking in my spare time. I know many of my classmates are now abroad, but I'm hooked on BC and its amazing natural resources, so I doubt I will ever be far from the Old Schoolhouse."



New Director of Alumni Relations

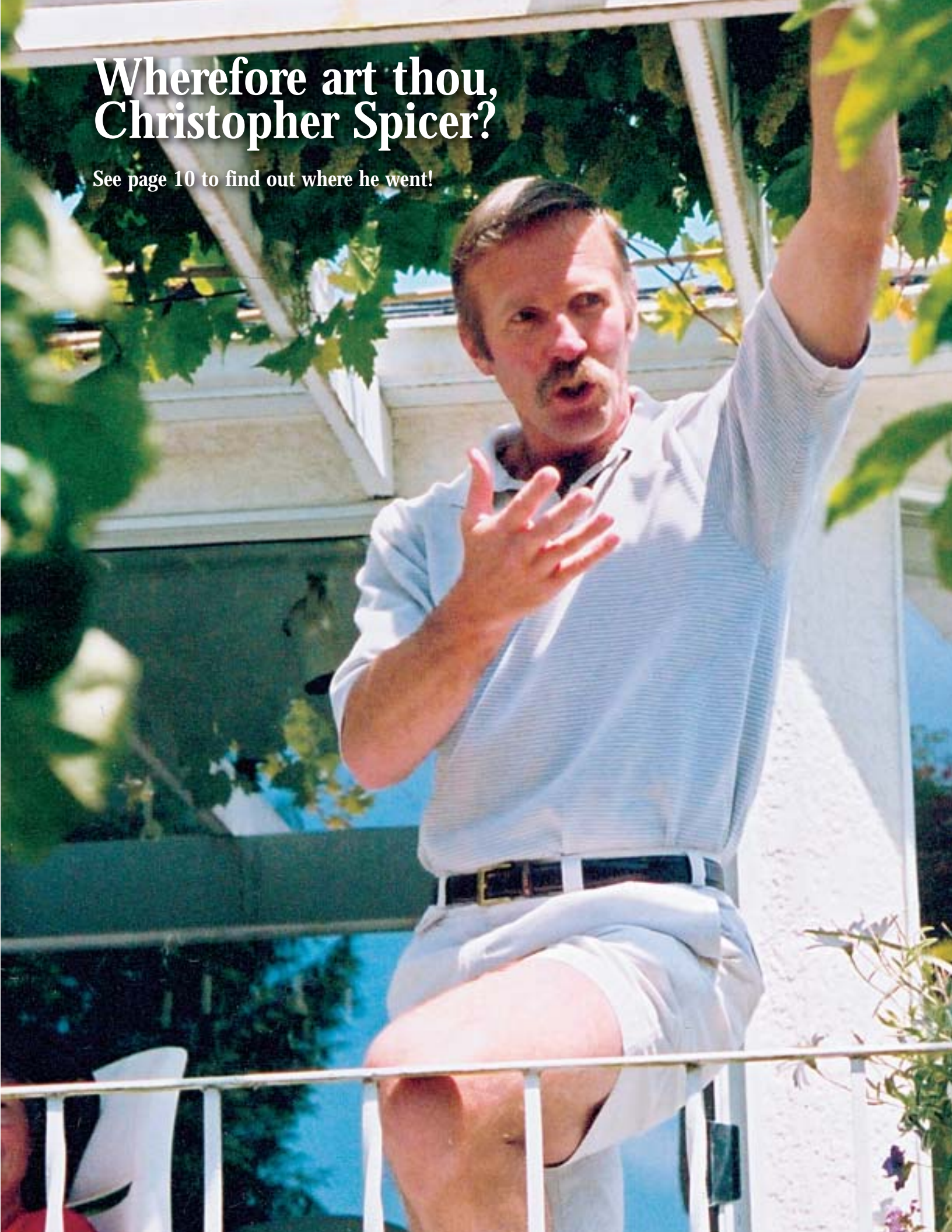
HEADMASTER ROBERT SNOWDEN is delighted to announce the appointment of **Cliff Yorath** as the school's first Director of Alumni Relations. Cliff will begin his new role at the beginning of the Spring Term. In his 28-year career at the school, Cliff has held many key roles, and for the last nine years, has served as the Director of the Middle School. He has worked at Junior, Middle, and Senior Schools and has a storehouse of SMUS knowledge.

Cliff's responsibilities will focus on the re-connection of the school's alumni and ensure that all alumni possible are engaged and play a role in the school's Centenary Year in 2005-06. Cliff attended a recent SMUS alumni gathering in Seattle and is delighted by his new responsibilities.

In the interim, the Middle School will be led by **Jim DeGoede**. Cliff can be contacted at: cyorath@smus.bc.ca

Wherefore art thou, Christopher Spicer?

See page 10 to find out where he went!



Publications
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John Schaffter turned the sod at the Groundbreaking Ceremony for the new John and Anne Schaffter Hall on Tuesday, February 10, 2004. Construction began quickly. This new building is projected to open in the fall of 2004. See page 16 and 17 for more details. In this photo, (l-r): Anne Schaffter, Terry Harper, Joan Snowdon, Stephen Martin and John Schaffter.

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