

PERSPECTIVE

Vol. 16, No. 1 Fall 2007



work left big shoes to fill. Luckily, we found someone with big feet!
No stranger to the Westgate community, Bob left us two years ago to accept a principalship at Lac du Bonnet School. He was very excited to work in quite a different place than Westgate. As Bob put it: "There were significant contrasts that challenged and invigorated me in this new setting."

general Westgate cheerleader. He brings a passion and dedication to this school that can lead us into the future.
"I have faith in the idea of 'capacity building', whether it is within the staff or within the student body. We all need the opportunity to lead in some manner, where planning and experimenting enhance skills. I think our wider church community has benefited from alumni

"And the cat came back ..."

Or dare we say, "look what the cat dragged in?" All kidding aside, it is with much joy and celebration that we welcome Bob Hummelt back to Westgate Mennonite Collegiate as principal. We were saddened that Ed Neufeld resigned his position late last school year. In only one short year, Ed left a lasting impression here at Westgate. His professionalism and commitment to his

After being approached late in the school year, Bob struggled with a decision to stay in Lac du Bonnet, where many good seeds had been planted, or to return to Westgate, where many of his roots remained. In the end, we are all blessed to have Bob rejoin our school in his role as principal. Bob has contributed much to our school in the past, as teacher, coach, Marsh and Mountain leader and

and current students who have been given the tools and opportunity to lead, and at times, the confidence and patience to follow."
We, at the school, look forward to the opportunities that lie ahead with Bob at our helm. May God grant us all the patience and confidence we need to lead and follow in our different roles at Westgate. ■

Douglas Mennonite Church Senior High Youth went on a service trip to Wilmington, Delaware, this past summer (July 29 - August 6). Thirty-four youth, including 12 Westgate students and six adult leaders, including two Westgate grads: Sonja Enns ('04) and Carla (Klassen) Hiebert ('99) participated on this trip. They served with Urban Promise, an inner-city ministry that runs day camps and after school programs for children living in the inner-city. In the mornings, they volunteered at the day camps, playing with children and helping run activities. Afternoons, they performed physical labour including gardening, moving and cleaning, and some construction projects.



*Top left: Amanda Pauls with day campers.
Bottom left: Emmanuel Allieu with Wilmington kids.
Above: Steven Regehr, Cory Funk, Nick Gamble, Thomas Douglas and Connor Entz at community urban gardening project.*

TWO BANNER YEAR FOR CROSS COUNTRY



Varsity Girls AAA Provincial Champions. From the left: Ainsley Wiebe, Rachel Hildebrand, Chloe Bishop, Anneke Hildebrand, Naomi Langelotz, Kirsten Savignac, Gabrielle Wiebe.

Principal Bob Hummelt has returned to the coaching staff of our cross country team at Westgate with a few new tricks up his coaching sleeve. Our first practice, an August ice cream invitational, sparked the enthusiasm for our team's season to begin with gusto and we began regular practices with record numbers of cross country runners. Further inspired by our Whiteshell Weekend training camp, our cross country runners finished their most

successful season ever. Our Grade 8 girls' team won the medal run in their championship race and Junior Varsity boys captured the Divisional Banner for Louis Riel School Division. Doing us proud at provincials, our Varsity Girls Team won Westgate's first ever AAA Provincial Championship Banner. Coach Hummelt, joined by coaches Terry Dirks and Doug Durksen, are confident this new momentum will be carried forward into our next year. ■

COMING HOME

In September of 1980, I walked into Westgate to start my six-year adventure in what turned out to be a journey I would watch my daughter Megan start this past September. She was filled with mixed feelings, excited at times and scared to death at others. As the hours turned to days and days to weeks, the fears have long been replaced with new friends, caring teachers and a loving Christ-filled environment—what more could a parent hope for! For me, hearing her stories, every day, of her new experiences brought back fond memories of my years at Westgate. Coming back to Westgate has felt not only like coming home to family, but also being welcomed with open arms. What a blessing to be able to bring my daughter to the Westgate family.

Rob Piper, Class of 1986



INTRODUCING ...



Dorothy Van Doeselaar (née Penner, class of 1986) returns to Westgate after a long hiatus. She has been working as an Educational Assistant in the River East Transcona School Division for several years before joining us. Dorothy is a member of Douglas Mennonite Church and a parent of current grade 10 student, Nick.



Charlotte Rempel Kroeker. With over 20 years experience teaching elementary age students in the German Bilingual program, Charlotte was looking for a new challenge teaching Junior and Senior High German. Charlotte is a member of Douglas Mennonite Church and a long-time Westgate parent. We warmly welcome her to the Westgate staff.



Shelley Koester is a graduate of the Educational Assistant Diploma Program at the University of Winnipeg. She worked for St. Vital School Division for several years before joining the staff of Beautiful Savior Nursery school. She enjoys working with people and has done respite for several years. She is married and has two young adult children.



Monica Edwards (née Tessmann, class of 2001) joined us late last school year after graduating from the University of Winnipeg in 2006. She started teaching Junior High German and has since added some Social Studies to that course load. Monica is also coaching our Varsity Girls Volleyball team. She and her husband Matt (also class of 2001) recently moved into their house so that Matt can pursue his dream of more housecleaning.



Dewolo Mugaso started working as evening custodian this fall. He recently emigrated to Canada from the Congo. He is single and has joined some of his siblings here in Canada because of the war in his own country. In his words, he chose to come to Canada to find "peace, education and a good life." We wish him God's blessing in his search.

A TRADITION BEGINS

On a sunny Wednesday afternoon at the end of August, Westgate's 2nd Annual Golf tournament found a new home. 63 golfers met for a quick lunch and a leisurely 18 holes at Southside Golf course, just outside of Winnipeg. The weather cooperated and allowed even the less experienced golfers to enjoy good company and an occasional shot on target. Following the round, we were treated to an excellent buffet, courtesy of the cooks at Southside.

We would like to thank the many prize donors, who allowed every golfer to go home with something extra in their golf bag. Also, thanks to our Golf Tournament committee chair, Derek Loewen, for his leadership and planning of this event. Finally, a special thank you to the following hole sponsors and donors who helped make the event a great success:

Rudy's Auto Service
Edward Jones
Team Insurance
Security Decorating
Eastside Self Storage
Gondola Pizza
Crosstown Civic Credit Union
Merlyn Self Storage
Winnipeg Building and Decorating
Stefan Homes
Winter's Collision Centre

Be sure to mark August 27, 2008, on your calendars to attend the 3rd Annual Westgate Golf Tournament, at Southside Golf Course. ■



EVAN KETTLER (grade 9, at centre in photo) was selected to attend the 2007 on-snow training camp at Farnham Glacier this past September. This is a remote, high altitude training centre located approximately 60 km southwest of Radium, BC. The camp included seven days of skiing, and performance enhancement activities such as nutrition, sport psychology, video analysis, dryland training and team building.



"Look what came in the mail!"

These words began an interesting turn of events in the Westgate office late this summer. A used book purchase in Vancouver led to the discovery of a 1973 Westgate Mennonite Collegiate Graduation certificate. A kind consumer sent it back to the school, in hopes of returning the diploma to its rightful owner. As it turned out, Nathan Enns had recently moved away from Vancouver and in cleaning out his bookshelves, had also given away his high school diploma, tucked neatly between the pages of one of his books. Here's his story:

"What a surprise it was to get an e-mail message from a Karl Langelotz asking if I was the Nathan Enns that graduated from Westgate Mennonite Collegiate in 1973, explaining that some kind soul had found my graduation diploma in a used book, and thought that it would be of value to the owner, and then actually took the time to contact the school and return it.

I was happy to say that indeed I was! And within one week, I received my missing diploma.

This action brought back many memories for me of my years spent at Westgate (grades 9 through 12), all of them positive. The friendships made during these years have endured the test of time, and even though our graduating class is spread all over Canada, we still stay in touch and have, as recently as two summers ago, gotten together for a reunion.

I moved from Winnipeg in 1979, after receiving a degree in Fine Arts from University of Manitoba (thanks in no



small part to the efforts of our high school art teacher Mr. Gerry Loewen). I attended a graduate program in Film & Television Studies at UBC in Vancouver, whereupon I worked for 10 years with the CBC producing documentary films. It was in Vancouver that I raised my family, two children, Matthew and Sara.

Nothing stays the same forever and 10 years ago I started a new career in residential strata property management. It has been a good fit (I joke that I am enjoying it because I come from a family of politicians!) and I have just recently been offered a position as General Manager with Colliers International which has meant a relocation to Victoria.

It must have been during one of these moves that my diploma ended up in a book (a favourite practice of mine with cards and clippings!).

That someone would take the time and effort to return a high school diploma is indeed a testament to the better nature in all of us!" ■ *Nathan Enns*



THE MARSH AND MOUNTAIN CLUB enjoyed fine autumn weather on their hike of the Black Wolf Trail in Hecla Island Provincial Park this fall. We are hopeful that snow and weather conditions will allow for the club to follow through on plans to go winter camping—building and sleeping in quinzees in the Whiteshell wilderness in February. And we are really excited that our Alternative Education week in June will again see the club on a hiking trip in the Canadian Rockies around Kananaskis Country in Alberta. The Westgate Marsh and Mountain Club, now in its 24th year is open to any interested students in grades 10 to 12.

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

JUNE 28, 2007

Academic Awards – 97 Juniors and 83 Seniors received honour roll certificates (80% average or higher)

Christian Investors in Education – Emmanuel Allieu

Anna Sudermann Scholarship – Brock Peters

Sara Albrecht Memorial Award – Christina Janzen

German Canadian Business and Professional Association Scholarship –

Rebecca Klassen-Wiebe Nicole Wiens
Thomas Aitken Naomi Langelotz
Rebekah Koop Stephanie Rempel
Jonah Langelotz Erin Lawlor-Forysth

Al Klassen Science Scholarship – Gabrielle Wiebe

Abram Klassen Memorial Trust Fund Bursary – Paul Hildebrand

Abe Klassen-Hildebrand Memorial Trust Fund Scholarship – Naomi Langelotz

Anna Dyck Memorial Scholarship – Stephanie Rempel

Rev. & Mrs. H. Becker Memorial Scholarship – Daniel Elias

Heinrich Heese Scholarship – Chloë Bishop

Karl Fast Scholarship Award – Bryan Kroeker

Mennonite Foundation of Canada Spirit of Generosity Award – Bridgette Elias

Frank Klassen Memorial Scholarship – Philip Daniels, Karin Ens

Dr. Roy Vogt Memorial Scholarship – Sam Heinrichs

Nikki Redekop Memorial Scholarship – Josh Ewert

Henning/Loewen Scholarship – Melanie Kampen

Kimberly Dawn Gusto Memorial Award – Kyle Wiebe

William Loewen Scholarship – Heather Peters

Kirstin Joy Siemens Memorial Scholarship John Klassen

Chown Centennial Scholarship – Michael Montess

Highest academic standing in Junior High – Rebecca Klassen-Wiebe

Highest academic standing in Senior High – Bryan Kroeker

Governor General Award – Josh Ewert

THANK YOU



We would like to thank Otto Klassen, self-taught independent professional cameraman and film producer, for the donation of copies of his work to the Westgate Library. Mr. Klassen has produced over 50 films in at least four languages during his career including such titles as: "The Great Trek 1939-1945," "Prairie Pioneers: The Mennonites of Manitoba" and "Remembering Russia 1914-1927" series. Mr. Klassen's donation is much appreciated by the Mennonite History department and we are looking forward to using these resources in class.

Recently, Mr. Klassen was recognized with an honorary degree from the University of Winnipeg for his lifelong contributions to the "... annals of Mennonite history as a successful and internationally respected documentary filmmaker. Through more than 50 documentaries, Klassen has made the life stories and history of Mennonites in Canada and around the world accessible to a wide audience." (Winnipeg Free Press, Oct. 18, 2007)





A fountain at Versailles.

The first time I saw Paris...

EUROPEAN STUDY TOUR 2007

One of the European Study Tour highlights for me was the castle at Versailles. We arrived in the morning and toured the castle and surrounding gardens till mid afternoon. It was amazing to walk through the castle and marvel at the architecture and art. The gardens were spectacular, with classical music in the background and the sun beaming down—a picture-perfect setting. The maze of bushes that you can wander through must have taken years to create. We rented bikes to travel through the miles of gardens. If there was one place I would visit again, Versailles would be it! *Paul Klassen*

In the middle of exam week last year, most people were writing exams ... except for a group of 31 students and five chaperones who were boarding a plane to Paris! On the tour, we saw a lot of different cities, but my favourite

definitely was Paris. As soon as we arrived, we started sightseeing. That first day, we saw the Notre Dame Cathedral, filled with beautiful stained glass windows. That same night we went on a boat cruise down the Seine River. When we passed by the Eiffel Tower, it was covered in lights that sparkled and flickered. It looked absolutely amazing!

For me, the Eiffel Tower was a major highlight of my trip. When we went to the top, it was very surreal—the view was breathtaking! We took the elevator up and I chose to take the stairs down. That was really neat because the descent lasted longer, and with each step you could look out around you at the city of Paris.

We also climbed to the top of the Arc de Triomphe, toured the Louvre, shopped on the Champs Elysées, and experienced a Paris flea market. For the final afternoon, we were given options of other sites we could visit. A group of us went to Sacré-Coeur (which was beautiful), the Moulin Rouge, and after that quickly toured the Centre Pompidou (a museum of modern art). But after three busy days in Paris, we had to move on to all the many other amazing places that we would see.

I loved the European Study Tour. The memories I made on that trip will stick with me forever, and I feel very fortunate to have experienced it with such a wonderful group of students and chaperones. If I was given the chance to do it again, I would do it in a heartbeat. *Kaeleigh Carrick* ■



CONGRATULATIONS MS. HOW!



On October 20, 2007, Jennifer How (pictured with her parents) was inducted into the Manitoba Basketball Hall of Fame for her part as Manager with one of the winningest basketball teams in North American history. The 1993-95 University of Winnipeg Lady Wesmen teams were inducted for their part in dominating their competition over a number of seasons, winning 88 straight games.



On October 16, Westgate Mennonite Collegiate celebrated the dedication of a new six-foot Petrof grand piano, donated by former student Charles Lage. Mr. Lage is the founder of A Joyful Noise School of Music, a virtual music school that seeks to provide free instruments and instruction to those challenged with brain disorders, brain damage, physical handicaps and poverty.

Charles Lage says, "Music can be your greatest asset ... I hope that this piano brings forth all that God wants for all of you. Every life that plays, hears, hears of, or to whom the piano is dedicated (Peony Wolf), all who are in contact with this piano, your lives will be changed and enriched for the better. All that you seek from life will come to you if you give and seek nothing in return." Westgate can't thank Mr. Lage enough for this most generous donation. ■

ALUMNI NEWS

JON FORREST ('03) is studying economics at the University of Winnipeg and was a summer intern in Ottawa with Western Economic Diversification.

MARNI EVANS ('01) is starting second year law at University of Ottawa. In the summer, she does volunteer work.

CHRIS EVANS, ('99) is working on a Masters in Engineering in technology and policy at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)

MELANIE KAMPEN ('07) won second place in the John Horsch Mennonite History Essay Contest. Melanie submitted the essay she wrote in her grade 12 Mennonite History class at Westgate last year, entitled "Reasons for the Migration of Mennonites: Russia to Canada, 1870s." The annual contest is named in honor of John Horsch (1867-1941), the German-American historian and polemicist who did much to rekindle interest in Anabaptist and Mennonite studies in the 20th century.

1997 - 10 YEAR REUNION

What a difference a decade can make! Babies and toddlers made their presence known as the Class of '97 enjoyed a late August barbeque on the school yard. With some alum returning from as far as Halifax and Seattle, the former classmates regaled each other with stories and memories during a tour of the school and an evening supper at a downtown restaurant.



NATHAN TOEWS—IS BEIJING IN THE FUTURE?

What a summer for **NATHAN TOEWS ('03)** (at centre in photo)! He started his spring traveling with the Canadian Men's National Volleyball Team as they participated in the World Volleyball League, competing against the best teams in the world. After his time there, he joined our national Universiade team to compete in the World Universiade Games in Bangkok, Thailand. The team played outstandingly, defeating powerhouse volleyball nations such as Germany and Italy. Currently, Nathan is spending the year training with our national team in Winnipeg. Here's what he had to say about his summer:

Q: So, tell me about your summer with the Canadian National team.

NATHAN: Well, I was pretty excited to make the National A Squad. I had a chance to travel with the team to Toronto and Korea. It's one thing to dream about playing on this team since I was 15, but another to be sitting on the bench beside these guys. Eating and traveling with players you've looked up to for so long doesn't seem normal. We were treated like celebrities in Korea—people grabbing you and wanting autographs. I felt like Brad Pitt being chased by the paparazzi. That was incredible.

Q: I guess it was more fun playing with the Universiade squad, where you spent more time on the floor?

NATHAN: That was awesome. We got to travel around the world with that team. Our first training event was a commonwealth tournament in Calcutta, India. We had security around us all the time. That was an incredible place. I've never seen that kind of poverty before.

Q: Was it just volleyball?

NATHAN: No, no, we had the chance to travel around. We visited Mother Teresa's tomb, which is actually in the convent where she worked and lived; the poorest part of Calcutta. Wow—a very humbling

experience. We were treated like celebrities, with security guards around us and everything. We were hosted at the mayor's house and saw the world's second largest cricket stadium. I think it seats 120,000.

Q: And the volleyball?

NATHAN: That wasn't so great. We were still getting used to playing together. I think we finished sixth. Australia's A team won the tournament.

Q: But the big tournament was the FISU (International University Federation) World Championships in Bangkok, Thailand. What was that like?

NATHAN: That was something I'll never forget. We were at a university campus about 10 times the size of U of Manitoba. It took us 15 minutes to drive from our dorm on campus to the gym, which was one of about eight gyms on campus.

Q: I understand that your team did fairly well?

NATHAN: Considering we were playing against some pretty big volleyball countries, I'd say yes. Beating Germany in the quarter-finals was an insane feeling. A Canadian team hasn't been in an international semi-final since, I think, 1982. We played a tough Italian team and beat them in a match where we just took control of the play as the games progressed. Our final was against Turkey's A team—basically the same squad that had won the last FISU games. Finishing second to them was nothing to be ashamed of.

Q: I'd say. So what's up for you now? Are you back in school?

NATHAN: No, I'm taking the year off to train with the national team. I guess I'll see where that takes me. I still have a few courses left to finish my B.A., so I might be back at the U of M sooner rather than later. Eventually I'll work with my dad's concrete company. School's okay, but I prefer the physical work—no office work for me.

Q: What about the Beijing Olympics?

NATHAN: Well, first I'd have to make that team. Then we'd have to qualify, which means getting past the US. That would be the ultimate—playing for Canada at the Olympics. ■