

THE EYES
HAVE IT

FROM FIELD TO FORK
THE EVOLUTION OF
THE WHITBY CAMPUS



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT, DURHAM COLLEGE



The academic year is well underway and as usual there are great things happening at Durham College and with all of you – our alumni.

As shown in this issue of Reflections from the development of new programs designed to meet the demands of today's workplace, our increasing number of applied research agreements with companies here in Durham Region and well beyond, to the re-opening of Bistro Max, our student-run restaurant, these are exciting times for the college.

In addition, the Oshawa campus recently celebrated the introduction of two new important services for students with the opening of Suswaaning Endaajig, our new Aboriginal Student Centre, and the Durham Chinese Canadian Culture Centre (DCCC) Career Bridging Centre, both located in the Simcoe building.

At the Whitby campus we are excitedly embarking on the launch of our Growing for our Future Campaign in support of our new Centre for

Food, following our official groundbreaking ceremony in December. As you'll read about in the pages that follow, the new building will accommodate approximately 900 new students studying in culinary, hospitality, tourism, agricultural and horticulture programs and truly reflects our commitment to building a sustainable future for our community.

This issue also highlights some of the wonderful things our alumni are doing in their careers such as Graphic Design graduate Katie Alves who has received international recognition for her unique artwork; Second Career Graduate Gord Newlands who received his Water Quality Technician program diploma in June and is already working as an operator mechanic at the Ontario Clean Water Agency; and Jennifer Jacob, a Nursing graduate and 2011 Alumni of Distinction Award winner, who founded Arms of Love in Romania, an organization dedicated to working with abandoned or neglected children.

Their success and the success of all of our graduates is particularly timely because from now until Friday, April 13 we are accepting nominations for our 2012 Durham College Alumni of Distinction Awards, which are given at our annual spring

convocation ceremonies in June and designed to recognize the extraordinary contributions our alumni make to society while achieving career success.

I encourage each of you to consider nominating someone by accessing a nomination form through our Alumni office.

As you can see Durham College is truly connected to our motto of success matters and our alumni continue to be shining examples of that success year after year. Please remember to keep in touch and let us know how you're doing – we would love to feature you in an upcoming issue of Reflections!

Sincerely,

Don Lovisa
President, Durham College

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT, ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



Winter is now upon us, although it's a little bit hard to tell based on the unseasonably warm temperatures and the lack of snow, and in no time at all the academic year will begin to wind down and the class of 2012 will get ready to graduate.

Even now preparations for our spring convocation ceremonies in June are well underway as we get ready to welcome another group of students into our alumni family. A family that as of today is more than 56,000 members strong.

For me personally, this academic year has been particularly fulfilling with the opportunity to work

directly with students – and future graduates – as an instructor with the Durham College School of Business, IT & Management. I have found it to be a very rewarding experience to see first hand the impact our students have on the college during their time on campus and I look forward to watching their accomplishments unfold as they graduate and move on to the next steps in their lives.

Just like the successful graduates featured in this issue of Reflections, I am confident they will make us proud by achieving great career success and making a positive difference in their communities and the lives of those around them.

This is also an exciting time of year for the Alumni office with nominations for our annual Alumni of Distinction Awards being accepted at

www.durhamcollege.ca/alumni until Friday, April 13. Please consider nominating someone today!

As always, I look forward to hearing about all the wonderful things you are doing so please remember our door is always open – drop by anytime!

Cheers,

Lillian Jacoby
Legal Administration, class of 1976
President, Durham College Alumni Association

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OPENING HER ARMS OF LOVE

by Taylor Jordan



PHOTOS COURTESY OF JENNIFER IACOB.

Graduate Jennifer Iacob with one of the children she works with through the organization she founded, Arms of Love.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF JENNIFER IACOB.

These two brothers in Romania are part of Arms of Love. The organization focuses on working with the Gypsy population living in poverty.

HELPING OTHERS IS ALWAYS ADMIRABLE BUT FOR JENNIFER Iacob it's a way of life. The Durham College graduate and recent Alumnus of Distinction Award winner is a registered nurse and the founder of Arms of Love in Romania, an organization dedicated to working with abandoned or neglected children. In addition to providing necessities, Arms of Love also helps prepare children for school and equips them with strategies for dealing with day-to-day life.

Building a successful outreach centre in a post-communist country was no easy task for Iacob, who got the idea for Arms of Love after embarking on a humanitarian trip to Romania in high school. That's when she decided to do something about the poor living conditions in a country on the other side of the world.

"When I saw the need in Romania I knew that I could actually do something about it," said Iacob. "I wanted to make a difference in the lives of the kids that I saw. Growing up in Canada we are bombarded with images of poverty from all over the world so my heart would always break for those kids."

She soon began to make regular trips to Romania to offer volunteer services to local orphans in the capital, Bucharest. Iacob would stay for months at a time even after September 2001 when she entered the Nursing program at Durham College, something she thought would help her when working with the kids in Romania. She was right.

Nursing taught her how to prioritize needs and when later faced with many overwhelming situations in Romania, her education proved invaluable.

Now, almost 10 years after the official launch of Arms of Love, the organization is still going strong, working with suffering children. Its services have even expanded to create an outreach centre for impoverished families. The program prepares children as young as two to start school and provides humanitarian aid like medicine, clothing and food.

Although Arms of Love has grown throughout the years there have been hurdles along the way. "The biggest obstacle has been the attitudes and thinking patterns that were engraved into many of the Romanians in the communist period," said Iacob. "They don't see a need to actually try and help these orphans and that's a huge obstacle because that's why I'm here. People tell me I'm wasting my time and that these children will never amount to anything."

Iacob refuses to let such negativity get in the way of doing what she loves. Whether it's working hands on with the kids, going into the homes of the families she helps, working on the street to create new programs for kids or even just doing paperwork in the office, she remains passionate.

And why not? After all, she has gone from being a normal teenager living in Toronto to a person who has actually made a difference in the lives of so many children.

"When you see a child who's been suffering and they look at you and they smile for the first time or one of the parents finally realizes that they have an opportunity to change the future for their kids, that's what makes everything worth it," added Iacob. "When it comes down to it, it's not about the programs. It's about changing lives and offering hope."



PROFESSOR GALLOPS TO GREATNESS

by Samantha Anderson

An avid learner, Professor Virginia Harwood feels her horses have taught her lessons she can apply to the classroom.

STUDENTS STRAGGLE IN AT 8:09 A.M., one minute before class begins, moaning and yawning as they express their level of excitement to be at school this early. The lack of enthusiasm doesn't faze phase Professor Virginia Harwood because she is no stranger to early mornings. Before most students are out of bed Harwood has fed her horses, cleaned their stables and gotten them ready for the day.

It's this same passion that translates to her classroom and helped her claim the Durham College Faculty Award for Academic Excellence.

Experiences with humans and horses alike have made Harwood an advocate of lifelong learning. "Humans are much like horses," said Harwood. "What I've learned from my horses, I've learned from my students. I've been taught patience, respect, building trust and taking life's hurdles in stride regardless of whatever I may have going on. Students and horses require great energy and focus at all times. I'm committed to giving my students knowledge they will require upon graduation, the same way my horses teach me about the simple yet overlooked things in life."

Harwood received the faculty award in part because of her contribution to the college's Mediation and Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) program.



Harwood recently won Durham College's first Faculty Award for Academic Excellence.

She also constructed the Mediation-ADR graduate certificate program that was later recognized in Maclean's Magazine and established numerous courses such as Legal Relationship and Civil Process for Non-Lawyers, Practicum 1 and 2 and Introduction to Mediation. In addition, she established a new Ethics for Law Clerks course for the Legal Administration/Law Clerk program and was involved in establishing Campus Conflict Resolution Services, which is available to all students.

The award nomination came as a surprise to Harwood, whose name was put forward by friend and colleague Professor Lesley

"My horses teach me about the simple yet overlooked things in life."

Wagner. Harwood met and exceeded all of the criteria including using innovative teaching techniques while mentoring and coaching other teachers.

Outside of the college, she volunteers with the Durham Community Legal Clinic, the Canadian Power and Sail Squadron and the Ganaraska Forest Horse Club.

"Virginia is a professional with a commitment to lifelong learning," said Wagner. "She knows how to inspire all of her students by using current teaching methods. Virginia is always on the go, she is involved in her community and she offers her time to many volunteer positions. She has a great passion for teaching and enjoys seeing her students become successful in their chosen careers."

It could be her love for lifelong learning that drove Harwood to obtain her Legal Administration/Law Clerk diploma from Durham College, a Bachelor of Arts in Education from Brock University and other certificates. She has called teaching a learning journey and along her journey she has been a student and professor and the program co-ordinator of the Mediation – ADR program at Durham College. Today she is motivated by her students.

As she said in closing her award acceptance speech, "Taking the teaching and learning journey with my students is energizing as I know that our journey is making a positive difference."

LIKE FATHER, LIKE DAUGHTER

SUCCESS MATTERS

by Victoria Allin



Gord Newlands and his daughter Tarra share their graduation experience at the General Motors Centre in Oshawa in June 2011.

ATTENDING THE FIRST DAY OF COLLEGE can be hard for any student but for Gord Newlands and his daughter Tarra it was rather special. The elder Newlands's first day of college was also his daughter's first day. The duo started at Durham College in September 2009.

In fact, the younger Newland drove her dad to school. They walked in together, wished each other luck and then went their separate ways. The elder Newland went toward the Water Quality Technician program and his daughter toward the Practical Nursing program.

"I felt very excited for my dad and me to be able to attend school together," said the younger Newlands. "It's an experience you don't get to have very often. You don't expect to go to school with your parents. You expect to come home to them and for them to ask you how your day has been. But for the both of us, we grew a bond over those two years, which would never have happened otherwise. I am very proud of my dad."

The elder Newlands, at age 47, never envisioned himself having to face college life. With a job at Smurfit-MBI in Whitby and two loving daughters and a wife, he felt blessed. Unfortunately, his life took a turn when he lost his job due to layoffs at the plant. Finding himself in a time of struggle he thought there was no hope.

Then he learned about the Second Career program, which was there to help him get back on his feet.

Second Career is a government program that enables laid off workers to return to school by paying for their tuition and providing funding toward other expenses such as books; living expenses; dependent care; travel and transportation; disability supports; and other living and training costs.

Worried about the future, the elder Newlands decided to take a chance on Second Career and enrolled in the Water Quality Technician program. Because it was the first time he had ever stepped into a college, he was a little nervous.

"Taking my first steps into the classroom was a bit nerve-racking because I was walking into a large classroom full of people I didn't know," said the elder Newlands. "You kind of just sit in the corner and take it all in. You just try and absorb what you can and decide whether you have made the right decision. But I am thankful for Second Career because if it hadn't been for them, I wouldn't be where I am today. I would never have escaped that time of depression."

In June, the elder Newlands not only graduated with honours, he won the Student Leadership Award and the X Doris and Gordon Willey Founders Cup for Excellence Award, the highest award at the college.

After graduating, he landed a job in Sudbury at the Ontario Clean Water Agency where he is an operator mechanic. His job requires him to operate and monitor the facilities' processes and equipment and perform routine preventive maintenance such as taking samples of water and water chemicals to make process control adjustments.

Because of his passion for his job, the elder Newlands came up with an idea that would aid in disaster relief and spoke with his company about having small water systems taken by trains and boats to disaster-ravaged countries where the systems no longer work. These water systems would provide clean filtered water for people. His company was completely supportive of his idea.

"Being part of a college that has just had an impact on one's life gives someone the drive and incentive to change others," added the elder Newlands. "As an alumnus of Durham College, I found it wasn't all about the education, it was about the friendships that were formed. Having my daughter be part of that experience was an absolute value I will always cherish."

HITTING A HOME RUN IN EUROPE

by Lauren Harrison

IN A SMALL, SPARSE OFFICE on the second floor of the Campus Recreation and Wellness Centre, wearing blue jeans and a grey Milwaukee Brewers T-shirt, men's varsity baseball Coach Sam Dempster leans back in his chair to talk about his passion – baseball – and his latest accomplishment.

Most recently, Dempster took part in the European National Championship Qualifier, held in Tel Aviv, Israel in July, as head coach of the Great Britain Baseball national team. After going 3-0 in round robin play, his team beat Lithuania, Israel and Georgia to secure a spot in the finals against Israel.

Dempster was able to bring along Darryl Reid, assistant coach for the Durham Lords, and together they brought Great Britain to victory.

"He's definitely a player's manager. His number one strength is he loves the game and passes that onto each one of his players," said Reid. "He has the ability to find ways to work with all players and to put them in positions to succeed. The part that is seldom noticed, that I admire most, is he is always the first one at the park and the last one to leave. He makes sure that the players have the best field to play on. He truly is a great coach and person."

The win placed them in the European A-pool, allowing them to compete in the European Championship in April 2012 alongside Italy, the Netherlands, Germany and France.

Dempster has a wealth of accomplishments under his belt. In November 2011, he was presented with a career achievement award from the European Baseball Coaches Association; he has won the Major League Baseball



PHOTO COURTESY OF LAUREN HARRISON

Sam Dempster, head coach of the Durham Lords men's varsity baseball team, looks on as the Lords play the St. Clair College Saints. Dempster's contribution to baseball extends well beyond coaching the sport.

(MLB) Julio Puerce Envoy International Coach Award; he has scouted for the New York Yankees and the Milwaukee Brewers; and recently he was inducted into the Whitby Sports Hall of Fame.

Even though Dempster was reluctant to take on coaching for the British team, the previous coach was adamant he accept the job.

"I did everything I could to deter them to find somebody else," said Dempster. "I gave them names of competent people and they just kept coming back to me. Finally I gave them some conditions and told them if they could meet the conditions, I'd do it."

Those requirements included sufficient time off to spend with his family.

Dempster ended up agreeing to a three-year contract with an evaluation period to follow. He landed the position as a result of working with the MLB Envoy Program. His involvement with MLB happened by chance when he attended an envoy program meeting while preoccupied with coaching high school and college baseball. Dempster filled out an application, not paying attention to what it was, and a month later he received a call asking him to go to Germany for eight weeks. That was eight years ago. To date, he has travelled to numerous countries with the program including Africa, Holland, Belgium and Israel to promote the sport of baseball worldwide.

Throughout it all he's maintained his position as the only head coach the Durham Lords baseball team has ever had, coached the team since the early '90s.

The team has done well under his guidance with an overall record of 302 wins to 186 losses and a conference record of 189 wins to 110 losses. The Lords have had only one losing season in the 20 years Dempster has been coaching and qualified for the Ontario Championship finals all but one year.

Although baseball is his career and passion alike, his biggest accomplishment is his family. His three kids also followed in his athletic footsteps. His eldest son Colin is Dempster's third base coach for the Lords while his two daughters were involved in basketball growing up.

"Probably my greatest accomplishment was meeting my wife and setting up a family and having the family that I have," said Dempster. "It is probably the most exciting thing that has ever happened to me."

RACING ON TOP OF THE WORLD

by Tessa Ferrier



PHOTO COURTESY OF GLEN HARKNESS.

Sports Administration graduate Glenn Harkness, pictured left and centre, crosses the North Pole finish line after six gruelling hours of running in -30°C weather.

AS HE CONTINUES TO RUN, THE BODY of Glenn Harkness begins to prepare for surrender. Physically and emotionally exhausted he continues with each stride becoming more unbearable than the last and nothing but white surrounding him. He knows he must press on as he sees this race as an opportunity to prove that no matter how difficult things are, it's imperative to overcome obstacles and push through to the finish line. So that's just what he does.

On April 8, Harkness, executive director of Boys and Girls Clubs of Hamilton, was one of 29 contestants, and the only Canadian, to compete in a marathon at the North Pole. After six hours and 18 minutes of extremely laborious running he finished in 11th place.

A Durham College Sports Administration graduate Harkness embarked on the challenge to raise funds and awareness for On Top Of The World For Kids, a campaign he created for Boys and Girls Clubs of Hamilton that won a public relations/media relations award from the club's national office.

Harkness spent a great deal of time training physically and mentally months prior to the race because he knew that preparation would be vital.

"It was very tough, both physically and mentally, to keep going," said Harkness. "It's difficult to breathe the cold air and you are out there by yourself with basically no scenery and nobody in sight. With respect to finishing, I thought about all of the messages I received from the children of the Boys and Girls Clubs across Canada. I knew I needed to overcome the pain and difficulty of the run because that was part of the message to the children, no matter how tough life gets you need to continue and overcome your challenges."

That message was well received to say the least. Harkness' run raised an astonishing \$120,000, which was used to provide groceries for less fortunate families and expand activity programs offered through Boys and Girls Clubs of Hamilton.

He also received many cards and best wishes from children and youth saying that his race inspired them to join sports and activities and begin running. Enrolment in sports programs operated by the clubs increased exponentially as did the elementary after-school activity program Let's Get Moving, which is also run by the organization.

Harkness has always been a very motivated, hard-working member of society, dating back to his days as a student at Durham College. After graduating from the Sports Administration program he started working for Boys and Girls Clubs of Hamilton as a program supervisor in 1990. A mere six years later, his clear passion for helping children led to his promotion to executive director.

He has spent the last 15 years in that position and has done a substantial amount of work to improve and create the organization's programs. Today, the happily married father of one still credits his personal and professional success to his student experience at Durham College.

"Who I am today is a direct result of being a student at Durham College," said Harkness. "I look back and they were two of the greatest years of my life. I loved being there. The faculty was absolutely excellent. As a member of the track team, I can attribute my passion for running as a result of going to Durham. I think the biggest part of my experience was the total education it gave me. From academic support to encouraging me to be physically active, Durham College was very good to me."

NFL DIRECTOR SCORES GRAD AWARD

by Amber Mulder

A day that includes reports from a staff of seven to 1,500 people isn't what most call typical but it is for Dan Quinn, a 2011 Durham College Alumnus of Distinction award winner, who graduated from the college's Sports Administration program in 1984 only dreaming of the job he has now.

Quinn is currently managing director of the National Football League (NFL) – Canada, one of the NFL's five international offices. Supervising all business aspects of the NFL in Canada, he and his staff are responsible for delivering all television broadcast and sponsorship agreements and consumer products. In short, you can thank Quinn for that fancy new football jersey you got from your significant other last Christmas or that Madden NFL 12 video game you were secretly hoping to get this year.

The career path he has tackled has proved to be nothing less than a positive experience in both Quinn's personal and professional life. "I'm lucky in a sense," said Madden. "I mean if you love what you do, you don't work a day in your life and I love my job. One of the best parts about it is that I've been fortunate enough to have the opportunity to be the caretaker of one

of the world's greatest sports brands."

Before he began working with NFL–Canada in 2000, Quinn held many other roles including vice-president of Marketing and Sales for the Toronto Argonauts football club where he created and executed a marketing and sales plan focused largely on brand building. He was also director of Corporate Partnerships at Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment where he was responsible for positively developing and delivering effective sponsorship programs for the Toronto Maple Leafs.

"Never take a job for the money. If you become really good at what you do you'll get paid for it."

Quinn has one secret to his success and it isn't anything elaborate or mathematical. He lives by one simple life rule that he graciously passes on to others who might be searching for a mystical answer to career success.

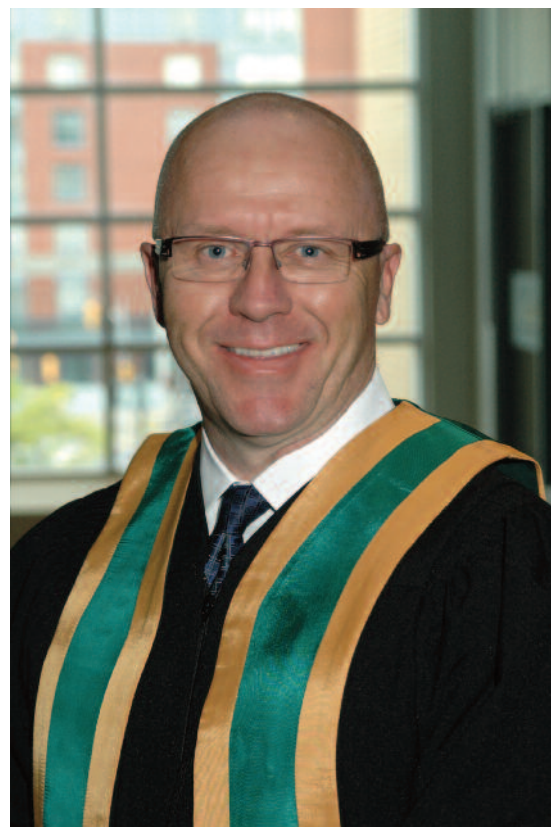


PHOTO COURTESY OF DURHAM COLLEGE

Alumnus of Distinction Dan Quinn heads up National Football League – Canada.

"Never take a job for the money," said Quinn. "I've always taken it because I felt it was either a) the right job, the right thing to do or something I would feel good about doing or b) a position that would allow me to exercise a skill set that I would be able to grow, preparing me for the next position. If you become really good at what you do you'll get paid for it."

Of course, Quinn is living proof of this theory but he has reaped rewards that go beyond financial including receiving his Alumnus of Distinction award at the college's fall convocation ceremony in November 2011.

A firm believer that education doesn't stop the minute you graduate, Quinn feels the college's Sports Administration program did an excellent job providing him with the fundamental skills required to get a good job after graduation. He gained a sense of independence while attending classes at the school and although he's satisfied in his current position within the NFL he admits that other job prospects aren't completely out of bounds.

"There's always room for new and exciting opportunities," he added.



MAKING GARBAGE NEW AGAIN

DURHAM COLLEGE STUDENTS TEST ONE-OF-A-KIND PRODUCT

by Alanna Cobb

Associate dean Maureen Calhoun (left) and her team of Durham College students tested Ply-me, a material made out of recycled plastic bags and plastic wrap.

ABOUT 5.5 BILLION PLASTIC BAGS ARE given away in Canada each year and close to 98 per cent of those bags will end up in a landfill. These numbers may come as a shock to some people but few seem to step up to the challenge of change. Jane Dempsey did. The chief executive officer and founder of Beyond Covers Inc. in Ajax believes in an eco-friendly future and was not afraid to realize her dream and create her most powerful invention – Ply-me.

Dempsey is an eco-warrior with a dream to restructure waste. Her solution was to develop a product that can minimize everyday household waste such as shrink wrap, plastic bags and shower curtains.

The result is a multi-purpose material that comes in two, four, six, eight and 12-ply that can be used to produce items like rain coats, hats, barbeque covers, dog beds and make-up cases. The lighter products have a bit of stretch to them and the heavier material has minimal stretch.

"I am very much an advocate," said Dempsey. "During a trip to Guatemala I saw that the lack of waste management had caused problems for the local town. That, in combination with my kitchen cupboard overflowing with used shopping bags, made me decide to try to come up

with a way to make waste into something usable. After several months of working with chemical engineers we came up with a material that was sewable."

After the development of her product, Dempsey spoke with the college's Office of Research Services and Innovation, which put her in touch with Maureen Calhoun and her team of students, to test the material's durability.

Calhoun, who at the time was a professor and co-ordinator of the college's Chemical Engineering Technology program, was specific in selecting her team of students. They had to be enthusiastic, academically strong, independent and interested in research practices.

The goal of the partnership was to test the indoor and outdoor properties of Ply-me. One student took a sample home and stapled it to her fence in order to monitor the degradation from sun exposure. The group then observed the material to see if it would get moldy with the rain or crack when it was cold. In addition, the durability and integrity of the material was tested and it was compared to other products on the market in terms of optimum thickness.

"Our wow moment was the whole

concept of Jane's company and her commitment to recycling and being green," said Calhoun, who was recently named associate dean of the college's School of Science & Engineering Technology. "It was very nice to see people making practical use of a raw material that we thought you just threw in the garbage."

The National Research Council also helped in testing Ply-me with the product deemed to be one of unusual strength and eco purity at its best.

According to Dempsey Beyond Covers Inc. is the only company in the world to develop a raw material from soft, low-density polyethylene plastics and thanks to her, six months of testing Ply-me exposed five students to the chemical engineering research process, which could just be the start. With some of the future research and development items Dempsey is working on she plans to continue her strong relationship with Durham College.

For further information on Beyond Covers Inc., visit www.beyondcovers.com.



Coach Vaso Vujanovic provides encouraging words from the sidelines to the University of Ontario Institute of Technology's men's soccer team (left) and the Durham Lords women's soccer team (right).

A WINNING PASSION

by Ashley Whelan

IN 1973 VASO VUJANOVIC WAS THE founding coach of the Durham College men's soccer team. In 2011, he became the founding coach of the University of Ontario Institute of Technology's (UOIT) men's soccer team.

Whether he is running down the field with the ball or chanting commands at the players from the sidelines, Vujanovic has played an enormous role in the college's soccer program.

His dedication and hard work on the field made him a successful leader and as coach of the Durham Lord's men's team from 1973 to 1989 he led the team to 128 wins versus 35 losses. It also won two Ontario Colleges Athletic Association (OCAA) championships, five silver medals, five bronze medals and made two appearances in the Canadian Collegiate Athletic Association (CCAA) National Championships, winning the national bronze medal in 1987. In 1988, Vujanovic was named the CCAA's National Coach of the Year.

After a nine-year break to cope with knee and back injuries, he returned to the soccer field from 1998 to 2008 to coach the Lords women's soccer team with similar success. He led it to 119 wins versus 37 losses, five OCAA championships and a bronze medal at the CCAA National Championships, which was one of his proudest moments as a coach.

"I feel that they were the best in the nation," said Vujanovic. "We had a great bunch of ladies with great attitudes and behaviour so that was one I will always remember."

In addition, the women's team competed in the OCAAs indoor soccer league from 2003 to 2008, winning two gold, one silver and one bronze medal. Overall Vujanovic led the women's team to 10 medals and the men's team to 13 medals for a total of 23 medals during his 27 years of coaching at Durham College.

He was recently inducted into the OCAA Hall of Fame for his contribution to college soccer.

"It was like the icing on the cake to be acknowledged as I completed the circle of my long and incredible Ontario college athletic soccer career from starting the men's program in 1973 to finishing with the women's program in 2008," said Vujanovic. "What a journey, what an experience. A lot of challenges and memories that will stay with me for the rest of my life."

Born in Yugoslavia in 1941, Vujanovic has been playing soccer since he can remember. "I always said to people that I was born with a soccer ball," said Vujanovic.

Even when he didn't have a soccer ball or cleats he was still playing. His grandfather used to make soccer balls out of cowhide and pig bladder and he would use the cow patch as his field.

After leaving his homeland of Yugoslavia in 1966, Vujanovic, then 25, attended Durham College and became one of the first graduates of the school.

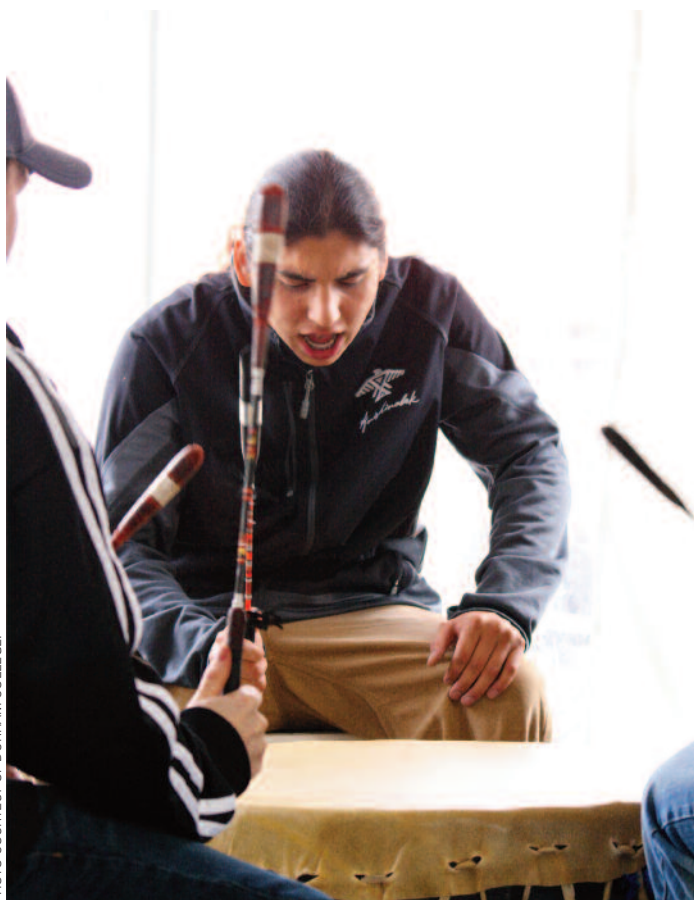
"I was raised with foster parents and I always had to fight for my rights, for my way, for my destiny in life," said Vujanovic. "I came over here and I had to work nights to learn the language because I couldn't speak English."

He began his career in 1970 in the college's Finance department, attended night school to get his Certified General Accountant designation and quickly worked his way up to be the director of Finance.

Not only has he been greatly involved with the college, he has also been actively involved in the local soccer community. With a granddaughter who is five and a daughter who used to play soccer and now coaches, his love for the game has spread throughout the generations.

"Maybe I will go and be assistant coach with my daughter and get my two cents in," added Vujanovic.

He continues to coach and lead the UOIT Ridgebacks soccer team. "I've got passion," said Vujanovic. "I like the young generation. It's a challenge working with young people. It keeps you young and it's interesting. Every year is different, every human being is different and if you can find a way to reach them then it's a great success."



DURHAM COLLEGE WELCOMES NEW STUDENT SUPPORTS TO CAMPUS

On November 25 Durham College opened its new Aboriginal Student Centre at the Oshawa campus.

THE 2011-2012 ACADEMIC YEAR AT Durham College has meant several exciting new developments including the launch of two services that reflect its commitment to ensuring the student experience comes first.

On November 25, the college officially opened Suswaaning Endaajig (the nest away from home), its new Aboriginal Student Centre (ASC), located in the Simcoe building at the Oshawa campus. Embracing teachings from First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples, the ASC strives to recognize and support Aboriginal students through various activities and teachings with the assistance of Elders from all backgrounds.

"This new centre reinforces our collective commitment to our mission statement that the student experience comes first," said Don Lovisa, president, Durham College. "It meets our goal of providing all students with quality learning experiences and support in finding fulfilment in education, employment, productive citizenship and lifelong learning."

The ASC offers a culturally recognizable and inviting environment for Aboriginal learners; materials for Aboriginal crafts; staff members who advocate on behalf of students within and outside of the college; traditional Elders available for private one-on-one counselling; a series of traditional teachings held throughout the year; and much more. Its goals and teachings are tied closely to the holistic practices of the Medicine Wheel, which promote living in a balanced way through the connectivity of its physical, mental, emotional and spiritual quadrants.

The college also welcomed a new community partner to campus when the Durham Chinese Canadian Culture Centre (DCCC) Career Bridging Centre officially opened at the Oshawa campus on January 18.

Also located in the Simcoe building, the centre acts as an important new resource for international students, supporting them in their career endeavours and playing a key role in the DCCC's commitment to provide cultural exchange and integration

programs; newcomer services; and education and training to Chinese Canadians living in Durham Region.

"Now that the centre is open, it will be a place where students can go to make decisions about their futures," said James Sun, a first-year international student enrolled in the college's Mechanical Technician – Mechanical Maintenance and Control program. "I encourage all international students to take advantage of the many supports it will provide to ensure our student experience is great – from the time we arrive in Canada ready to study until the day we graduate, ready to work."

A registered, non-profit organization in Canada, the DCCC is a family, education and inter-culture oriented community organization that devotes its efforts to serving Chinese Canadians and the general public of Durham Region.



On February 29 Durham College and Parkwood announced a new partnership that will see them work together to develop and deliver educational curricula for the college's new Horticulture Technician program.

DURHAM COLLEGE AND PARKWOOD ANNOUNCE NEW PARTNERSHIP

DURHAM COLLEGE AND PARKWOOD National Historic Site (Parkwood) have announced a new partnership that will see them work together to develop and deliver educational curricula for the college's new two-year Horticulture Technician diploma program, which is offered through the School of Science & Engineering Technology and launching in September 2012.

Developed with support from the Landscape Ontario Horticultural Trades Association (LOHTA), a vibrant association representing over 2,000 horticultural professionals, the collaboration will help Parkwood support and expand its ongoing preservation program; enhance community awareness; pursue partnership grant opportunities; and create additional horticultural jobs while enabling the college to increase placement and co-op opportunities for students.

"The program is a huge boost to Parkwood's mission to preserve its outstanding heritage resources and provide quality opportunities for education and enjoyment. Historic gardens and horticultural training are such a natural fit,"

said Brian Malcolm, executive director, Parkwood. "The program is exciting, adding depth to Parkwood's educational programming and the value of its historic resources and paying tribute to the educational and philanthropic legacy of Sam and Adelaide McLaughlin, through the very gardens they created together. We really look forward to continued collaboration with Durham College in creating a unique and rich learning environment for students."

The partnership, announced during an event held at Parkwood on February 29, will provide students enrolled in the Horticulture Technician program for the 2012-2013 academic year with an opportunity to hone their skills through training and study at Parkwood's historic gardens and greenhouses in addition to their regular schooling at the college's Oshawa campus. This includes access to the estate's specialty plants and collections, period research and more. In addition, Parkwood will provide professional expertise, student lecture and study space and lab settings.

"Durham College's new Horticulture Technician program is designed to meet the rapidly growing interest in contemporary landscaping, gardening and urban agriculture," said Don Lovisa, president, Durham College. "We are thrilled to be able to provide our incoming students with this training opportunity at one of the finest historic gardens of the 20th century, enabling them to expand their skill sets and gain additional experience in a living lab environment that is unique to college programs in Ontario."

The college will provide instructional and human resources to Parkwood in conjunction with the Horticulture Technician program along with volunteering opportunities for students to assist with the estate's preservation program, which is designed to rejuvenate and preserve the architectural and horticultural features of its gardens and grounds.

LOHTA played a key role in the development of the partnership and the new Horticulture Technician program itself including providing assistance with program development and offering insight into current employer demands.

"We are extremely committed to the development of new programs designed to meet the demands of the current job market while remaining dedicated to delivering the best possible education to students," added Lovisa. "This new partnership will allow us to work directly with Parkwood's experts in the horticulture field to develop our program curricula while providing new and exciting ways for students to gain the up-to-date skills required by today's employers."



The new Artisan Agriculture program will teach students the skills needed to produce their own quality foods.

COLLEGE PLANTS SEEDS OF A NEW PROGRAM

by Amanda Boyle

BEGINNING IN SEPTEMBER 2012, Durham College will welcome a new crop of students through its new Artisan Agriculture program.

Not only will the full-time program enable students to be part of promoting locally produced foods, it will teach them the food-quality skills required to potentially generate their own specialized crops.

According to program co-ordinator Ross Stevenson, students will have the opportunity to learn the hands-on cultivation of plants and how to produce high-end food items for potential customers. The program's courses will enable students to develop essential skills related to disease and pest management, food and agriculture regulations, soil and plant nutrition and much more.

"You see large companies getting more and more into specialty and local foods," said Stevenson. "Why does local have to be brought in from Niagara? Why can't local be grown here? I think with a lot of

thought and the right connections there is no reason why we can't have a very strong agriculture-tourism industry right here in Durham."

After paying the program's tuition fee students are provided with the essential tools needed to be successful and plenty



PHOTO COURTESY OF ALLY CARLSON.

"I am hoping this program and the graduates from this program can come together and enhance the general economy of the area."

of hands-on experience. Graduates receive an Ontario college diploma before they get on the road to producing local specialty and high-end fresh market foods.

Stevenson takes pride in the development of this new and unique program and hopes to attract students from across the province to enrol. There are several food-processing and product-development courses included that fit very much into current attitudes such as the greening of the environment and food sanitation and safety. These courses will help graduates reap the rewards of numerous career options.

"I am hoping this program and the graduates from this program can come together and enhance the general economy of the area, and in doing so, provide jobs for others by self promoting," added Stevenson. "I think it's just a matter of time, patience and a few motivated people and it can happen."



'From field to fork'

THE EVOLUTION OF THE WHITBY CAMPUS



Durham College's
Centre for Food
to open in
September 2013

In 1993 Durham College's Whitby campus began inside the Cadbury Chocolate Factory overlooking Highway 401. Today the campus is nearing the end of a three-phase construction project that, when complete, will see \$44 million

invested in an expanded post-secondary campus. This project will bring new full-time programs to Durham Region and help develop the skilled workforce needed for our local communities to grow and prosper.



THE COLLEGE THROUGH THE YEARS

Since the college first opened its doors to the community in 1967, serving just 205 students, it has remained committed to student success and the economic and social prosperity of Durham Region. Just ask one of its more than 56,000 graduates.

Close to 30,000 students currently study in Oshawa, Whitby and Uxbridge, each working toward a diploma, advanced diploma, certificate or graduate certificate in one of 130 full-time programs, hundreds of part-time and continuing education programs and 16 apprenticeship programs.

THE WHITBY CAMPUS GOES GREEN

With a commitment to community in mind the college proudly opened the first phase of its Whitby campus project in December 2009. A comprehensive learning facility designed to train students in renewable energy and meet the projected demand for green jobs in Ontario, Phase 1 features:

- Rooftop solar panels;
- Wind turbines;
- Geothermal technology systems;
- State-of-the art classrooms and labs; and

- The Incubator, which was developed in conjunction with the Durham Strategic Energy Alliance and the University of Ontario Institute of Technology to support innovators and inventors in prototyping and testing new products.

BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

In May 2011 the second phase of the expansion project officially opened, adding 38,000 additional square feet of space to campus, 13,000 of which is an expanded shop area for programs focused on green building trades and technology. Phase 2 features:



- New labs, classrooms and boardrooms;
- New Student Association space;
- Renovated student services; and
- Residential labs to demonstrate the many changes happening in the construction and building trades.

BRINGING NEW PROGRAMS TO LIFE

As its many graduates can attest, the college is focused on developing and launching new programs based on current job market and employment needs as identified by businesses and organizations in Durham Region

and beyond. This includes important input from community and business partners, many of them alumni.

FROM FIELD TO FORK

With that in mind, the college officially broke ground on the third phase of the Whitby campus project, a 36,000-square-foot Centre for Food located at the northwest corner of campus, last December. Designed to accommodate approximately 900 additional students studying in culinary, hospitality, tourism, agricultural and horticulture programs, once completed it will provide students with access to:

- A full-service green-certified teaching restaurant and lounge, which will be open to the public;
- A demonstration theatre;
- Three public-viewing kitchens surrounded by glass walls and equipped with the latest in technology;
- Two biomass-heated greenhouses;
- Vegetable gardens and fruit-bearing trees; and
- State-of-the-art labs, classrooms and meeting spaces.

Building on the success of the college's first two hospitality-focused programs, Culinary Skills and Hospitality Management – Hotel, Restaurant and Tourism both launched in September 2010, the new Centre for Food is being created in direct response to the demands of the local culinary, hospitality and tourism sectors.

Students enrolled in Culinary Skills and Hospitality Management – Hotel, Restaurant and Tourism for the 2011-2012 academic year currently use facilities at Maxwell Heights and Father Leo J. Austin Catholic secondary schools to facilitate their learning and they are eager to see the completion of the new building.

"The new Centre for Food will make the student experience available to all those who come to enjoy meals and allow them to see food prepared right in front of them," said Adam Bagi, a first-year Hospitality Management – Hotel, Restaurant and Tourism student. "It will allow customers to see all the preparation and lead-up before their food is so elegantly presented on a plate."

With the region already home to incredible farms harvesting more than 30 different fruits and vegetables, the centre is sure to bring increased awareness of the preservation of local farmlands. In addition, it will complete the circle of sustainability at the Whitby campus by demonstrating better use of energy, water and nutrients.

GROWING FOR OUR FUTURE – SUPPORTING THE CENTRE FOR FOOD

With Phase 3 bringing students and community members together to watch the foods of Durham region grow, from the planting of seeds to the serving of food for consumption, the college is actively pursuing a \$5-million Growing for our Future campaign to raise funds to support the new building.

"This third phase of construction not only marks a new chapter for the college but also creates a strong economic driver for the hospitality, tourism and food industries in Durham Region," said Roger Anderson, chair and chief executive officer, Region of Durham.

Designed to garner financial assistance from the campus community, alumni, community, government and individual investments, the campaign is hoping to raise as much support as possible for this new and comprehensive building, enabling it to grow into a facility that will graduate students at the forefront of Ontario's culinary and hospitality industry and propel the prosperity of Durham Region.

"This project is all about partnerships," said Don Lovisa, president, Durham College. "It's about community building and the special relationships we create along the way that help us realize our vision."

Once complete, the Whitby campus will be a post-secondary hub of excellence that will encourage more people than ever before to build their futures in Durham Region and establish a reliable mechanism of prosperity for generations to come – the college truly is growing for the future.

Durham College welcomes the support and active involvement of its alumni for the Growing for our Future campaign. For more information, please contact David Chambers, associate vice-president, Durham College Office of Development, at 905.721.2000 ext. 3138 or david.chambers@durhamcollege.ca.

THIS HOUSE IS MORE THAN A HOME

by Katie Lapp



This house was moved to the Whitby campus last year to be used as a living lab environment as part of Phase 2 of the college's three-phase campus expansion project.

DURHAM COLLEGE'S WHITBY CAMPUS IS currently constructing a better future for students. As part of the campus's three-phase expansion project, two houses will be used, taking learning out of the classroom.

In January 2011, Durham Custom Homes donated a 1950s-era home from Banting Street in Oshawa to the Whitby campus to be used as a living lab where students in programs such as Energy Audit Techniques and Energy Management and Sustainable Building Technology can gain hands-on work experience including the performing of energy audits and the evaluation of energy efficiency.

Durham Custom Homes is also scheduled to build a modern home on campus that will offer visual components such as open plumbing, insulation and modern technology. Students studying to work with renewable energy and heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems will be able to work with the latest systems available.

"Allowing the students to conduct hands-on tasks is a priority," said Peter Griffin, a professor at the Whitby campus. "To make students as successful as possible, they need to gain experience. Any time they roll up their sleeves and learn how to work with equipment it will make them more of a marketable student."

The addition of the two homes is part of Phase 2 of the Whitby campus expansion, which saw the addition of 38,000 square feet of new space to campus. Approximately 13,000 square feet of the new space is dedicated to an expanded shop area for additional students and programs focused on green building trades and technology including new carpentry and heating, ventilation and air conditioning techniques labs.

The changes are part of a three-phase expansion project at the college that is creating new opportunities for students by allowing the college to offer new programs in areas of importance to the local and national economies.

"Durham College has produced a vision with a strong team," said Don Lovisa, president, Durham College. "We've talked to community members, governments and students. It's unbelievable to see what was once a vision, turned into an actual reality."

With applied knowledge being so important in education today, Durham College has constructed, planned and produced a unique project that provides students with the tools they need to succeed in the workforce.

"The two homes are designed to give students a view into the past, present and future," said Lovisa. "You take a vision, put a lot of smart people together, plan a process and eventually you come up with something amazing. Applied learning at its best."



Graphic Design graduate Katie Alves displays fun artwork on her eyelids using only makeup, patience and a plethora of talent. She also enjoys photography and photographs her own self-portraits.

BEAUTY IS IN THE EYES OF THIS GRAD

by Cait Overend

EQUIPPED WITH A MAKEUP BRUSH and a creative eye Durham College Graphic Design graduate Katie Alves renders people speechless when they observe her artwork.

Alves, who appreciates growing up in a small town, was born and raised in Port Perry. She was always considered very artistic and unleashed her creativity through the many art courses offered at Port Perry High School including photography and drama. She felt blessed to find a program like Graphic Design at Durham College because it encompassed many of her passions and led her to her current career.

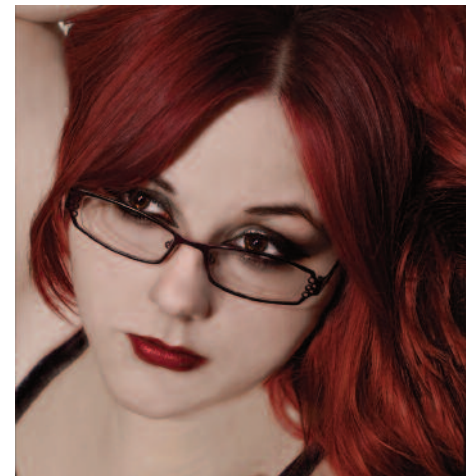
Alves' eyelid art has introduced fame to her small town life. Treating her eyelids as small canvases she paints pictures of movie scenes, famous landscapes and holiday portraits using only makeup. Though her art has been acknowledged globally and her fame is greater than she could ever have imagined, Alves only began her work in October 2010.

"It was for Halloween so it's only been a year," said Alves, taking herself back to a time when her fame was nonexistent. "I just wanted to do something different that no one else really did. I had to do something fun and I had this idea for a while and I always kept going Oh, I won't be able to do this! When I tried it, it turned out okay. I don't know exactly where it came from, it just came out of nowhere."

The artwork reached its height of fame in May of last year when Perez Hilton, a famous Hollywood blogger, posted it to his website. She remembers coming home after work and reading email after email, establishing her fan base.

Since then, she's been recognized by the Toronto Star, CityTV and Canada AM and overseas companies such as BeautyUK among others.

Despite the fact that eyelid art is extremely complex and time-consuming Alves still manages to run her business solo. The hard working artist creates the design, applies the



makeup and photographs it herself. However, it goes to show that this is an art unlike any other because Alves washes the makeup off immediately after taking each picture.

"It's hard because it took so much for me to do it and with one wipe it could be gone," said Alves. "So I take picture after picture until I'm 100 per cent satisfied before taking the makeup off. I feel that as long as I got a photograph of it, it's not a waste. Eventually the uncomfortable feeling that the heavy make-up causes overcomes any sadness of taking it off."

Alves has found a real passion in creating eyelid art and dreams of eventually combining her love of graphic design, makeup and photography.

"My biggest accomplishment is just getting my name out there. If the Internet did not exist, I would still be some weird person drawing on their eyes," she added.

To see more of her work, please visit www.katiealves.deviantart.com.



Durham College graduate Jim Cook keeps his wife Julie, who is also a Durham graduate, close as he accepts his Alumnus of Distinction Award at the college's annual spring convocation ceremonies.

BUSINESS GRAD BANKS ON SUCCESS

by Shannon Emery

ATTIMES, MOST COLLEGE GRADUATES find themselves questioning the journey ahead. For some, success comes faster than others. For those like Jim Cook, opportunity was just around the corner as long as you weren't afraid to work for it.

Cook graduated from the Durham College Business Administration – Data Analysis program in 1983 and with high hopes of obtaining a career shortly after graduation he found himself at the doorstep of Toronto Dominion Bank (TD).

On July 18, 1983 he started at TD at the bottom of the corporate ladder in an entry-level position and worked his way up until 1987 when his career took a temporary turn in another direction.

"We were sitting at Easter having a family dinner and I was reading the Toronto Star," said Cook. Looking in the job section there was something that kind of caught

my, a systems analyst position at the Bank of Butterfield in Bermuda. Then I said to my wife, this looks like a good opportunity for you, you should apply."

She took a leap of faith, had an interview and was hired soon after.

Before accepting the job she suggested that her husband, who was also an information technology (IT) graduate, would also be of value to a company in Bermuda. Jim had an interview with the Bank of Bermuda in Toronto the next week and was hired. As they say, the rest is history.

Having been successful in the Business Administration – Data Processing program, Cook utilized his technology skills in numerous offices across the globe including offices in the United Kingdom, Ireland, Hong Kong, New York, Atlanta, Los Angeles and the Grand Cayman Islands. Those were just some of the perks of

working at the Bank of Bermuda and while living and working in Bermuda for three years he travelled to some of the world's most remarkable countries and cities. Although travelling was an experience in itself, that wasn't necessarily the biggest benefit from Cook's perspective.

"The really rewarding part of that job was the fact that as the senior manager running the department, I hired a number of Bermudians," said Cook who still visits friends in Bermuda regularly with his wife. "I trained them to be able to take on the work so that they could run it without having to bring in an expatriate, which, is what I was."

Cook returned to TD in 1991 and recently accepted a promotion to a senior IT management role, working in technology, security and fraud management. In April, he was approached by the college's Alumni office and was later presented with an Alumnus of Distinction award.

Successful in both his education and subsequent career, Cook and his wife stay grounded by visiting Durham College whenever possible. "Durham College means a lot to both of us for sure," said Cook. "It was very good to both of us and it made us what we are today, both being graduates of Durham."

STUDENTS SIZZLE AT BISTRO MAX

by Ally Carlson

REAL-WORLD EXPERIENCE IS NOW ON the menu for Durham College students at Bistro Max, a fully functional restaurant located at Maxwell Heights Secondary School in north Oshawa. In its sophomore year, the bistro, run by students in the Culinary Skills and Hospitality Management – Hotel, Restaurant and Tourism programs, continues to cater to sold-out crowds twice a week.

As one of the few student-run restaurants in Ontario, Bistro Max provides a full-scale restaurant simulation where students learn the ins and outs of the hospitality and food industries.

Industry veterans, professors and program co-ordinators Dave Hawey and Rob Grieve are among the experts who educate the students on everything from managing a restaurant to washing dishes. From Day 1, students learn not only how to prepare food such as chicken and steak but how to make things from scratch such as pasta and salad dressing.

"I tell people yes we are running a restaurant," said Lorne Pierce, a second-year Hospitality Management – Hotel, Restaurant and Tourism student, kneading

dough in the Bistro Max kitchen in preparation for the evening's dinner. "We are cooking so come and see what we can do. It's fun. It makes you think, wow, I actually made that."

With only 45 students in each program the amount of hands-on learning and one-on-one assistance is unlike any other hospitality or culinary program. Following curriculum set out by the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities, students are taken through a variety of in-class labs that teach them several different skills that are then practised at Bistro Max with students rotating between food prep, washing dishes and serving customers.

The menu at Bistro Max changes every two weeks and incorporates local food when possible, testing the students' skills in key techniques used in the industry. Consisting of two appetizers, three entrées and two desserts, the menu presents guests with a decadent and mouth-watering meal while providing students with hands-on learning experiences.

"The basis and the foundation they get at Durham will be far superior to what they will get from the mega schools," said

Grieve. "It's hands on and we are there. We know the students and can watch them do the work. We make sure they actually get the learning outcomes and can fulfil the requirements."

In any industry there will be bumps in the road but Bistro Max gives students the opportunity to experience those bumps in a controlled setting, ensuring they are fully prepared when entering the workforce.

"We are about quality," said Grieve. "We are about making sure that when students leave here, they are comfortable in the environment, they know what needs to be done and they have actually done it."

Bistro Max is open to the public on Wednesday and Thursday evenings from October to mid-December and again in the winter from February to mid-April.

The menu rotates every two weeks and consists of a savoury three-course meal ranging in price from \$14 to \$17.

SAMPLE MENU

Appetizers

Borscht soup

Baby spinach salad with wonton strips and sesame-soy vinaigrette dressing

Entrée

Braised beef short ribs in Willow Springs Merlot demi-glaze served on sweet potato mash with roasted carrots, parsnips and peas (\$16)

Chicken pot pie served in a vol-au-vent with roasted carrots, parsnips and peas (\$16)

Chevre and arugula quiche served with Portobello mushrooms, purée of green peas and roasted beets (\$15)

Dessert

Bread and raisin pudding with rum and butterscotch sauce

Fruit crêpe

Reservations can be made for Bistro Max via email to bistro.max@durhamcollege.ca or by calling 905.721.2000 ext. 2488.



PHOTOS COURTESY ALLY CARLSON.

Second-year Hospitality Management – Hotel, Restaurant and Tourism students Madison Shenker (right) and Carly Deeth (left) know the ins and outs of a restaurant including how to prepare everything from scratch.



PHOTOS COURTESY ALLY CARLSON

Professor and culinary lab technician Peter Lee (right) supervises preparations for the evening's meal as second-year Hospitality Management – Hotel, Restaurant and Tourism student Lorne Pierce (left) demonstrates skills learned during his classes.

HITTING THE BULLSEYE

by Nicole Air



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MIKE CONLEY

Sports Administration graduate Mike Conley designs and installs stadium signage, among other print materials, as co-owner of Bullseye Marketing.

IMAGINE GOING TO A BUSINESS MEETING at the Hard Rock Café in the Rogers Centre, looking over the field where thousands of fans come to watch their favourite team play and discussing with colleagues ways to enhance fan experience.

Now imagine making it to the last round of Wipeout Canada and shortly after tackling skydiving. These experiences are just a few that belong to Durham College Sports



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MIKE CONLEY

Mike Conley tackled the challenge of Wipeout Canada, making it to the second last round.

Administration graduate Mike Conley.

At 33, Conley gets to work with art directors from major advertising agencies and marketing professionals from professional sports teams. He listens to their creative ideas, explores how they interact with fans and consumers and ties in what his company, Bullseye Marketing, can do to execute his client's vision.

Bullseye Marketing is a full-service print marketing agency that handles design, print fulfilment and installation for many top companies in North America. Some of the clients Conley gets to work with include the Toronto Blue Jays, Maple Leafs Sports and Entertainment, Soccer Canada, Mazda and CTV.

"One of the coolest things we pulled off was with Major League Baseball when they brought the World Baseball Classic here in 2009," said Conley. "There were a lot of components involved in that job including doing the design for the signage of the outfield walls, dugouts, photo pens, baselines and bullpens. Pulling it all off before the big game, getting to attend the first game with my accreditation on the field and seeing everything up and the grand stage was really cool."

Two years earlier, in 2007, Conley had a small family and desperately needed a more flexible schedule than his job allowed. That's when he and two partners joined forces to start Bullseye Marketing.

After graduating from the Sports Administration program in 1999, Conley landed a marketing job with Mizuno Canada, where he had done his internship. After a year of working at Mizuno, he decided to take a leap of faith and go to a digital print company outside of Markham, which gave him the foundation skills to launch his own company.

"I worked there for about seven to eight years in that industry and I found that I really enjoyed it," Conley said. "I enjoyed taking the creative side of my abilities and being able to sell something different than just, say, the newest shoes or latest golf club line. It's like bringing ideas to life."

Today he's doing it in the sports field.

Growing up, Conley had always hoped to be a pro baseball player. When that didn't work out he didn't give up on including sports in his career and personal life. While attending Durham College, he played varsity baseball and volleyball and later met his wife while playing volleyball for a recreational team. Even though he didn't get the chance to play in the big leagues he gets to enjoy watching his kids play sports.

In his spare time, he's up for physical challenges. Recently, Conley was on the show Wipeout Canada, which aired in June 2011. He made it to the second last round, called the dizzy dummy round, before he was disqualified.

"I felt that competitive-wise I should have done better but it was an unforgettable experience," Conley added.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ED GLEDHILL.

KEEPING CLEAN AND STAYING GREEN

by Jasmine Reid

Ed Gledhill, founder and president of Hotwash, shows how safe its Gelled Green Graffiti Remover is by submersing his hand in the solution for half an hour.

LOCAL GRAFFITI ARTISTS ARE NO MATCH for a lean, green and mean solution that a local cleaning company is now using to wash away vandalism in Oshawa.

Keeping employees and the environment safe are main concerns for Hotwash Inc., after commercial graffiti-removing products began to put workers' health at risk. The chemicals that Hotwash traditionally used to remove graffiti were toxic enough to peel the paint off buildings, causing severe burns and exposing workers to the inhalation of fumes. This led the company to produce a new, green alternative that is both safe for the environment and those who use it.

Hotwash pitched its Gelled Green Graffiti Remover at a Resource Alliance meeting in September 2010, where the company was introduced to June MacDonald-Jenkins, project manager and industry liaison with Durham College's Office of Research Services and Innovation. Her office helps companies like Hotwash gain access to the skills and individuals needed to move their businesses forward. In this particular case, MacDonald-Jenkins' nursing background made her question if the graffiti remover was actually safe. It was her job to research the product and make sure that it was.

"Research is a constant adventure and you should never know what the outcome is because then it's not good research," said MacDonald-Jenkins. "Sometimes the results aren't what the industry wants but it's our job to prove what it is and that's all the fun."

The Hotwash project was led by Maureen Calhoun, associate dean of the college's School of Science & Engineering Technology, and involved students from the Chemical Engineering Technology program.

It was up to a team of students to determine the chemical composition of the new product, making sure that it met safety standards. The students looked at the components of the graffiti remover and through their research demonstrated that it in fact did exceed the Canadian Standards Association's expectations, outperforming every comparable product.

"We wouldn't be where we are today without Durham College's assistance," said Ed Gledhill, founder and president of Hotwash. "It was absolutely paramount that the chemical be tested to ensure that it was green and environmentally friendly and that it complied with all environmental standards

for the municipalities in which it is going to be used."

When the gel is applied to graffiti then power washed a surface can be repaired, reducing replacement costs for the city and increasing employee safety by leaving the property, employees and the environment free of chemical harm. Gledhill says he values the use of environmentally safe products and the company has now converted to green solutions and cleaning practices beyond the Gelled Green Graffiti Remover.

"All of the components in this product are made from renewable and natural resources and actually contribute to the rejuvenation of the resources that they're drawn from," said Gledhill. "In the long run we have one planet to live on so we want to use things that are sustainable."



A Hotwash employee puts the Gelled Green Graffiti Remover to work on a building in downtown Toronto without having to worry about harmful fumes.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF MIKE CONLEY.

PARAMEDICS ROCK

by Morgan Cadenhead



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MIKE CONLEY

Paramedic program graduate Ryan Chomiszak came up with the idea to do a musical parody of life as a paramedic for a school function. Little did he know the video would soon garner over 300,000 views on YouTube and an award.

If you had asked Ryan Chomiszak 15 years ago what he wanted to be when he grew up, he would have given you a simple answer – a rock star. Since the huge success of his viral YouTube video, 911 Emergency ROCKsponse, it's clear that although you may not be reading about him in the tabloids, he's without a doubt a rock star in the field of paramedicine.

The 28-year-old from Pickering graduated from Durham College's Paramedic program in 2010 not only as a qualified paramedic but also somewhat of a celebrity. Combining his musical background with his newfound passion for paramedicine, Chomiszak recruited his friend, Dustin Petherick, to make what was supposed to be a CD of songs to raise money for their program's year-end banquet.

The CD idea didn't last long but he was determined to make something from the music he had written already. The result was 911 Emergency ROCKsponse. The video was created and shot in just two days to be ready to show at the banquet. After the dinner, he posted the video on YouTube under the name DCmedicryan for people to watch again and the video's popularity skyrocketed.

"There were only 40 or 50 people at the banquet so I put it up on YouTube," said Chomiszak. "Fifty hits turned into 500, 500 turned into 50,000, which turned into 100,000 and now it's upwards of 300,000. It just multiplied. I get emails still today from people all over the world."

The video acts as an inside joke for those in the world of paramedicine as it's a fun parody of their everyday work. This humorous approach to what can be an intense job has connected Chomiszak and Petherick to a worldwide community of paramedics.

As people from places like the Czech Republic, New Zealand and the United States began to send messages to the Durham College graduates, the pair entered the video in the Sudden Cardiac Arrest Foundation's You Can Save A Life Video Awareness Contest. Sure enough, shortly after the contest closed, the foundation called Chomiszak to deliver the good news that his video had won. It had now been recognized on a worldwide scale and by an organization devoted to the work they do every day.

Chomiszak said the feeling is unbelievable. "Words can't describe it because I did it. I made it for 40 people and now there's people

seeing it all across the world," said Chomiszak. "It's being used as a teaching aid in a lot of classrooms. It is unbelievable. It's not really what I expected."

He isn't the only one feeling disbelief about the success of the video. Ryan's mom, Kathie Chomiszak, has nothing but pride for the work he has done for his career and an opinion like that coming from her is huge for him. Her battle with breast cancer was what motivated him to enter the health-care system. He was so impressed and appreciative of the services provided by health-care professionals that he chose his career path as a way to give back. It's clear now to the whole world he certainly went down the right path and his mother expected nothing less from her musically talented son.



This still shot from the original 911 Emergency ROCKsponse video shows Paramedic program graduates Ryan Chomiszak (left) and Dustin Petherick (right) in their musical element.

"It was hysterical," said the elder Chomiszak. "They have no idea how fast he was able to put it together. He's got an incredible sense of humour. We were told all through high school that he was a gifted musician. You put the two of those together and a passion for a really serious subject and that just opened the door to do a parody and for Ryan to be super creative."

His peers and former teachers feel much the same about Ryan's success with the video and were particularly impressed with what he came up with and his ability to pull it off.

"The depth of his creativity was a surprise," said Steve Bazak, a professor at Durham College who taught Petherick and Chomiszak.

"The quality of it was really something to see."

If you search DCmedicryan on YouTube you will find not one but two 911 Emergency ROCKsponse videos and the musical duo intend to do more. With their first video at over 300,000 views and their second, What I Be At, at over 18,000, Chomiszak and Petherick are merely scratching the surface of what their talents can truly produce for a worldwide community of paramedics. The Durham College graduates have put themselves on the map in their field and will continue to build the esprit-de-corps amongst their peers through humour, talent and creativity, one video at a time.

"I've got three and four done and a few other ideas ready to go for the growth and expansion of our baby," added the younger Chomiszak.

SCORING THE HALL OF FAME

by Larissa Kamakaris



PHOTOS COURTESY OF LARISSA KAMAKARIS.

Former Durham Lord Mario Bruno is still involved with soccer. Here he coaches the girl's under-14 Ajax Thunder rep tryouts where girls are competing for a spot on the team next season.

HE SET THE RECORD 25 YEARS AGO and nobody has touched it since. Durham College men's soccer all-star Mario Bruno was inducted into the Ontario Colleges Athletic Association (OCAA) Hall of Fame last spring for his career scoring leadership on the soccer field. The induction ceremony was held at the Royal York in Toronto where Bruno and Vaso Vujanovic, a former Durham Lords soccer coach, each received Hall of Fame awards.

When the announcement was made Bruno was one of the last to know. "A couple of friends of mine saw me at work one morning and quizzed me on the fact that my name was mentioned on the radio station and that I was being inducted into the OCAA Hall of Fame," said Bruno. "Oshawa's local radio station had announced it and I had no idea. From there he contacted Durham College's athletic director Ken Babcock to confirm the news.

Bruno led the Durham Lords in scoring throughout his three-year college athletic career. During the 1986-1987 season he racked up 17 goals and was named an OCAA All-Star. He finished his career with a total of 32 goals, a record that has yet to be broken. For this he was inducted into the Durham College Sports Hall of Fame in 2008.

His love of the sport is what led the Lords to three consecutive OCAA eastern division championship titles, as well as three OCAA provincial championship medals.

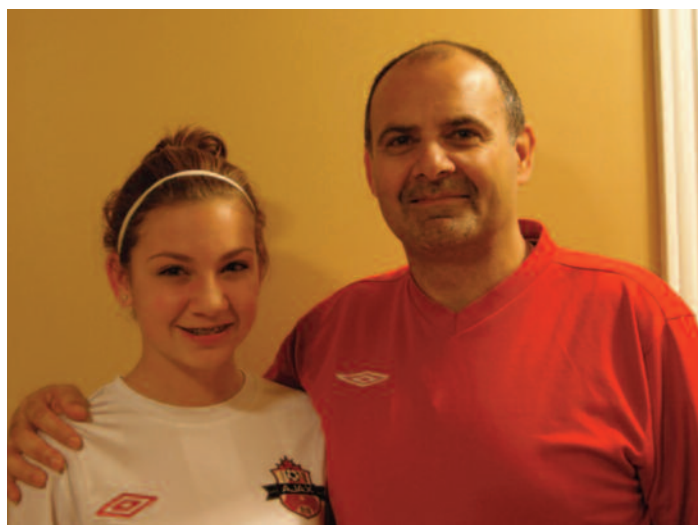
His passion for soccer started early. He was playing competitively at 10 years old and by 13 played rep for the Oshawa Rangers.

By the time Bruno was 20 he was recruited for the North York Rockets with the I Canadian Soccer League and also played for Oshawa Italia, where he made many friends who later became his teammates with the Lords.

Bruno has kept up with his passion for the game by coaching his kids as they grew up. Currently he is focused on coaching his youngest and only daughter, 13-year-old Lisa. She plays for the under-14

Ajax Thunder girl's rep team, which is part of the Ontario Youth Soccer League. Last year they had a great season and tied for first place in the Eastern Division finals.

He also coached both of his sons over the years. His eldest Nick, a student at the University of Ontario Institute of Technology, made the varsity soccer team but unfortunately had to drop out due to his course load. He also followed in his father's footsteps in his chosen field, taking an engineering program. Bruno graduated from the college's Civil Engineering Technology



PHOTOS COURTESY OF LARISSA KAMAKARIS.

Graduate Mario Bruno was recently inducted into the Ontario Colleges Athletic Association Hall of Fame for his accomplishments on the soccer field. His daughter Lisa is following in his footsteps, playing soccer for the Ajax Thunder.

program in 1987 and has worked at Ontario Power Generation (OPG) for the past 24 years.

Keeping his own spark for the game alive, Bruno plays soccer every Sunday with the Oshawa Italia 80 team in the Durham Oldtimers Soccer Club. He also helps out by coaching and managing the age 35 and over teams.

"When I retire from OPG then I can seek a full-time job with one of the soccer clubs and continue giving back to the community as the community gave to me."



The Durham Regional Police Service provided Innovative Solutions Inc. and Durham College with its own vehicles to complete on-road testing of a new emissions control device.

PAST AND PRESENT WORK TOGETHER FOR A GREENER FUTURE

by Lindsay Johnston

THE DURHAM REGIONAL POLICE Service (DRPS) were involved. So were students, a professor and a Durham College graduate. But no one was in trouble, all were focused on the testing of a new emissions control device that could not only benefit the environment but also save money for organizations with fleets of vehicles.

The graduate involved was Roland Kielbasiewicz, president of Innovative Solutions Inc., and students and faculty from Durham College's School of Skilled Trades, Apprenticeship & Renewable Technology conducted the research.

DRPS joined the partnership by providing its own cars and drivers in order to complete on-road testing, which consisted of a series of different road trips to Cornwall and back.

"Innovative Solutions Inc. contacted Durham's research department with a specific product and wanted us to validate whether it would work or not," said Ralph Ruffo, a Durham College professor and faculty lead and principal investigator on the research project. "We did vehicle testing with the product, a bolt-on technology that's supposed to reduce fuel consumption and emissions. We came up

with a rigorous test environment using existing parameters that are already out there being used by organizations like the Society of Automotive Engineers and we used their testing sequences as we tried to mimic those sequences in a controlled environment."

For a period of four weeks in July 2011 and again for a week in September 2011, Bill Bellamy and Jeff Pang, students in the college's Motive Power Technician program, worked side by side with Ruffo conducting research, recording data and analyzing findings in the college's Automotive shop and during on-road testing. They rode along with the police during test drives, recording data as they went. Bellamy and Pang were more than thrilled to have the opportunity to participate in this learning experience.

"Atmosphere conditions were the biggest concern while we were doing the project because this was real live on-the-road testing" said Pang. "We had to strive for the same identical conditions for all the test drives. You have to consider traffic flow, construction and everything else and the car's speeds have to be kept identical."

Bellamy was eager to discuss the benefits of conducting a research project

from start to finish as well as the obstacles they had to overcome as they learned the ins and outs of how a project like this comes together.

"It was definitely a good learning experience," said Bellamy. "It showed us how certain technology is tested and gave us the foundation for future projects, where to start and how to start it, as well as what to expect and where to go for information."

The research and testing portion of the project was completed by the end of September 2011 and the findings were provided to Innovative Solutions Inc. Kielbasiewicz said this was only the first phase of this research project and it was done to narrow the focus of future research.

"The working relationship with Innovative Solutions Inc. was wonderful," said Ruffo. "There was lots of support on both ends. Roland supplied us with everything we needed to complete the testing. I think this new research ability for the college is great for our students. It is a great learning opportunity, it enhances the teaching environment and it exposes us to newer technologies. This allows us to get involved with things outside of our normal teaching curriculum."

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ALUMNI UPDATE

1970

DAVID FOOTE (Business Administration – Data Processing) lives in Bowmanville with his wife Carla. They have two children, Lindsay and Adam. Foote is now retired from his role as a district manager with The Beer Store.

1977

JOHN SHAW (Business Administration – Data Processing) lives in Port Perry with his wife CindyLou and their four daughters, 28-year-old Jennifer, 26-year-old Jessica, 24-year-old Amanda and 19-year-old Michelle. He works at Hewlett-Packard (Canada) Co. as a solution architect.

1981

ALLAN BASDEO (Food and Drug Technology) lives in Chilliwack, B.C. with his wife Jeanette and their two children, 18-year-old daughter Siobhan and 16-year-old son Neil. Basdeo works for Agilent Technologies as a field service representative.

1990

STEVE CAVANAUGH (Business Administration – Marketing) lives in Winnipeg, Man. He works at Canadian Pacific as general manager, operations for Man. and Northern Ont.

1993

KELLY HILL-BERARDI (Legal Administration/ Law Clerk) lives in Ajax with her husband George and their two daughters, 24-year-old Patience and 13-year-old Tia. She works at Newton-Trelawney Property Management Services in Ajax as a property manager.

1998

ALAN SCHAUBEL (Environmental Technology) lives in Mississauga with his wife Laura and their two sons, five-year-old Brock and two-year-old Kurt. He is working on his professional engineers license (PEng) through Professional Engineering Ontario.

JODI STEELE (Business Administration – Information Systems) lives in Seattle, Wash. with her husband Dave and two children, five-year-old Hanna and seven-year-old Liam. She works as an e-commerce marketing manager at Daniel Smith Art Materials in Seattle.

2000

TRACEY STALKER (Early Childhood Education) lives in Keswick with her 10-year-old daughter Sierra. Stalker works as a reconceptualizing early childhood educator at the Little Red School House in Keswick.

2001

ALLISON GIROUX (nee Lebano) (Sports Administration) (Early Childhood Education, 2003) lives in Long Sault with her husband Steve and their sons, Connor and Jordan.

HEATHER SCOTT-MACDONALD (nee Scott) (Dental Hygiene) lives in Cedar Valley with her husband Scot.

JANICE TURGEON (Food and Drug Technology) lives in Toronto with her husband Roy and their three sons, 29-year-old Ryan, 25-year-old Mark and 24-year-old Jason. Turgeon works at the Toronto Rehabilitation Institute as a registered polysomnographic technologist.

2003

ERICA THIRLWELL (Legal Administration/ Law Clerk) lives in Oshawa and works as a senior law clerk at Singh and Tucciarone law firm.

2004

LISA CROMPTON (Sports Business Management and Sport Administration, 2003) lives in Bowmanville and works as a participation program co-ordinator at Softball Ontario.

2008

DANIELLE BARLOW (nee Gilchrist) (Addictions Counselling) lives in Oshawa with her husband Joe. She works as a community withdrawal management services counsellor at Addiction Services for York Region.

2010

JOSH TERRY (Public Relations) lives in Toronto and works at Trillium Corporate Communications as a public relations consultant.

2011

SONNY FRANKEL (Pharmaceutical and Food Science Technology) lives in Toronto and works as a quality assurance technician at Apotex Inc.

Alumni of Distinction Awards

If you know a Durham College graduate who deserves recognition, please consider nominating them for this award.

Deadline for nominations is Friday, April 13.

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