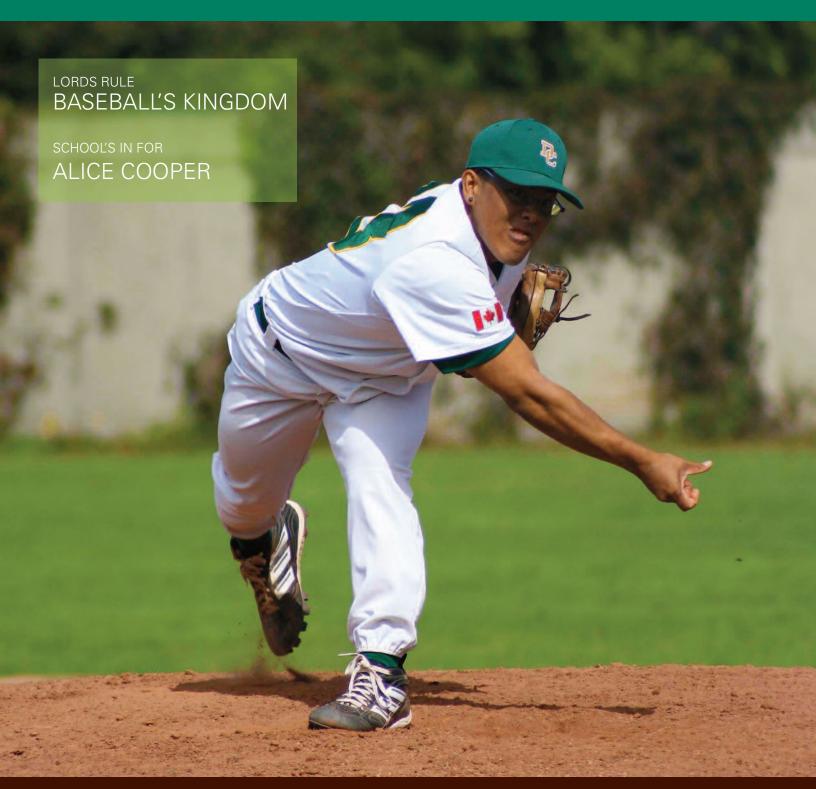


# reflections DURHAM COLLEGE ALUMNI MAGAZINE



# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT, DURHAM COLLEGE



The spring season is always filled with excitement and promise as we celebrate convocation and watch another graduating class set out to determine their own paths and create their own successes.

It's also an opportunity

to reflect on the past academic year and our collective accomplishments and I am proud to say, the list is long!

Durham College's commitment to our community and the Durham Region has never been stronger as we continue to cultivate relationships with our community partners. Evidence of this commitment is seen as we move forward with several exciting applied research initiatives as well as partnerships with organizations such as the Durham Chinese Canadian Culture Centre in the opening of our Career Bridging Centre and the new Aboriginal Student Centre, two wonderful new student services to complement our mission that the student experience comes first.

The college also broke ground on the final phase of its Whitby expansion project. The new Centre for Food is set to open in 2013 and will accommodate up to 900 additional students, create new employment opportunities, and secure our community's collective future. In addition, the expansion of our post-secondary presence in Durham Region will see the college open its doors to a brand new learning site in Pickering and new programming at our Uxbridge site.

Work has also been done to extend our community beyond traditional borders as we strengthen our commitment to internationalizing our campuses. The recent signing of four new memorandums of understanding with academic institutions in China will help us fulfill this commitment.

In the pages that follow you will read about some of the great achievements of our athletes and national champions; what's new in transportation on campus; and what's inspiring our professors and motivating our students. You will also rock along with one 1971 grad as he recounts his fondest Durham College memory and catch up with some of our grads as you read through the Alumni Update section.

Indeed, the college remains a vibrant and dynamic community dedicated to our students' success. The next time you're in the area, I encourage you to drop in and see for yourself. We'd love to hear from you and learn more about your personal success stories.

Sincerely,

Don Lovisa

President, Durham College

# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT, ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



As president of the Alumni Association, convocation is an especially exciting time for me because it brings a sweet sense of nostalgia as I recall my own convocation and the great sense of accomplishment I felt upon receiving my diploma.

As we welcome more

than 4,000 new graduates to the Alumni Association, we are reminded of the common bond we share. The education and experiences gained at Durham College have prepared us well for success in our chosen fields. As you cross the stage to accept your diploma or certificate you are also welcomed into a community 60,000 members strong. I encourage you to become an active member of the Alumni Association.

Please ensure you take the time to update the Alumni Office with your contact information so we can continue to inform you of the great initiatives taking place on campus and throughout our alumni community by emailing us at alumni@durhamcollege.ca.

Be sure to also join our Alumni Facebook page at facebook.com/durhamcollegealumni. Our page is growing more each day and it's a great way for you to share and connect with your fellow graduates and receive the most up-to-date information about events and activities taking place among our membership.

Each of us has our own success story to share and we'd love to hear from you to learn about yours. Stay connected. Our door is always open.

Cheers,

heering Jeday

Lillian Jacoby

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

#### SPRING 2012 CONTENTS

- 4 Leader of the pack
- 6 Paper packaging makes waves
- 8 Hitting a home run at nationals
- 9 Powerful pitch for Durham as former Yankee joins the Lords
- 10 Riot Radio goes visual
- 11 Financial relief granted
- 12 Rock reflections
- 14 Getting a Volt of electric energy
- 15 Bicycles power up for school
- 17 Twenty-five years of summer fun
- 18 Taking the wrinkles out of the mundane
- 19 Looking into the eyes of a dragon
- 20 Hallways to galleries
- 23 Alumni update





#### HAVE A NIGHT OUT ON US!

Please update your email at alumni@durhamcollege.ca for an opportunity to win a \$100 Keg gift card.





#### **REFLECTIONS**

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Erin Emery in action on the court; the same action that led her to become the third player in the history of the OCAA to score 1,000 career points.

SHE AVERAGED ALMOST 16 POINTS PER GAME. WHILE playing on a varsity team she was completing her Advanced Law Enforcement and Investigations program, working as a front desk clerk at the Durham College Flex Centre and still finding time for her fiancé. No, she's not superwoman. She's Erin Emery, captain of Durham College's women's varsity basketball team.

Winning has always been the captain's focus and scoring baskets is essential. This trait was especially evident on December 2 of last year when Emery broke Durham College's women's basketball points record. But when she talked about her outstanding feat, her true captain's colours shone through.

"Surpassing the record was an amazing feeling although I could not have done it without my incredible teammates," said Emery. "The coaching staff also really helped me to achieve this goal over the years."

That's not the only time this basketball star displayed extraordinary talent when scoring baskets. More recently,

she became the third player in the history of the Ontario Colleges Athletic Association (OCAA) to score 1,000 career points.

Emery's love for basketball developed while growing up in North Bay alongside her father and sister who were already involved with the sport. However, it wasn't all basketball for the Durham College captain growing up.

"The sport that I participated in the most was swimming," said Emery. "I also played soccer when I was younger but as I reached high school I had to limit my sports as school became my main focus."

With that understanding, she chose to stick with basketball.

"I just loved basketball when I played as a Grade 9 student," said Emery. "From then on, I have never stopped playing."

After high school Emery decided to move south and enroll at Durham College where she began studying Firefighter – Pre-Service, Education and Training. Upon completing the two-year diploma she went on to study 9-1-1 Emergency and Call



Varsity basketball captain Erin Emery receives the graduating senior player plaque from Coach Tim Baulk.

Centre Communications. Now in her fifth year of school, Emery is enrolled in the Advanced Law Enforcement and Investigations program.

"I'm not sure what I want to do in the future," said Emery. "But I do know that it's something in the emergency management field."

Throughout her years at the college she has had many memorable moments but nothing has compared to her experiences on the court. The basketball star has played five years with the Durham Lords and was appointed team captain all five seasons. She has been a powerhouse for the team both as a talented player and teammate.

"Some players are just in it for themselves or just in it for the social aspect. She's not," said basketball Coach Tim Baulk. "She's in it to win. She keeps adding more to her arsenal and by putting all of her skills together, it not only makes her more of a complete player but it also makes her more of a threat against other teams."

# LEADER OF THE PACK

by Cait Overend

This is Emery's last year playing competitive basketball and while she will be missed, her coach wants nothing but the best for her in her future endeavours.

"I want to tell her good luck," said Baulk. "She was recently engaged to Tyler McGarrity, captain of Durham College's men's varsity basketball team, and they're a great couple. They're very similar. They're both selfless. They care more about others than they do themselves and that's rare to see today. I wish her all the best and I hope we keep in contact."

Emery isn't thrilled about leaving her team either. "I want to thank my coach and my team for getting me to where I am today. Although this was my last year with the Lords, this sport and this team have made a lasting impression and will always be a part of my life."

# PAPER PACKAGING MAKES WAVES

by Ally Carlson

AFTER WEEKS OF WAITING YOUR MUCH anticipated collector's edition leg lamp has finally arrived in the mail. You tear into the package, scattering small Styrofoam pieces around the room. After admiring your new purchase, the reality of the mess hits full force. All that Styrofoam is not bio-degradable and often can't be recycled by basic methods. You'll most likely toss it into the trash where it will sit in a landfill for hundreds of years to come.

The search to find a replacement for the troublesome material has been on for some time now. Fortunately, the global movement for environmentally-friendly packaging has taken a step in the right direction with the help of a partnership between Durham College and the Ontario-based company ALX Technical Services (ALX)-Global Earth Products (GEP). The partnership paired students and professors with ALX-GEP president Ralph Cilevitz in order to create a state-of-the-art

packaging prototype based on Cilevitz' existing creation, Paperchipz.

Paperchipz, a recyclable, reusable and compostable material made strictly of paper, replaces regular packaging like Bubble Wrap and Styrofoam. In addition, companies can produce the material on site, saving the cost of ordering the packing material.

"I realized there was a large shipping and freight cost involved in getting the product to the customer," said Cilevitz. "I changed the game and decided to have the end-user manufacture the packaging product on site and on demand. The first prototype was brought to Durham College and a new and improved version was designed in partnership with the college."

Students and faculty in the School of Science & Engineering Technology have been working closely with ALX-GEP to develop and manufacture the Paperchipz system. The size of a microwave oven, the Paperchipz machine rapidly produces paper-based, small, wavy packaging chips. The end product is 100 per cent natural, protecting the environment while at the same time providing a cost-effective alternative to standard packaging.

Students and staff at the college's Oshawa and Whitby campuses redesigned and manufactured the existing prototype to create a functional and high quality machine.

"When the project began we were given a machine that only did some of what the inventor wanted it to," said Mechanical Engineering Technology student and Paperchipz team member David Tait. "From that base we started designing and prototyping new ideas. Once we had the mechanical workings down we went back to the computers and then packaged all of the components, which make up the Paperchipz machine."



ALX president and Paperchipz inventor Ralph Cilevitz (left) brought the Paperchipz prototype to Durham College where students and staff developed and redesigned it to make it a fully-functional machine. Beside Cilevitz from left to right: David Tait, Mechanical Engineering Technology student, Peter Forint, project manager and liaison of Durham College's ORSI, Rob Braithwaite, professor and Nicholas Moffat, Mechanical Engineering Technology student.

Staff and students took the basic concept and through redesigning and reengineering were able to come up with a fully-functional machine capable of working on a large scale and being used by any operator. With the newly designed and functional product, ALX-GEP plans further testing to gain feedback and make any additional changes before manufacturing it on a larger scale.

The partnership between Durham College and ALX-GEP was made possible with funding provided by the Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario (FedDev Ontario), under the Applied Research and Commercialization initiative. The initiative partnered 16 small- and medium-sized businesses with Durham College utilizing a total of \$750,000 in FedDev funding in order to increase innovation and improve productivity and competitiveness for businesses in southern Ontario. Not only

will the funding allow for the growth of businesses but it will also provide students at Durham College with the opportunity to gain hands-on work experience and in-depth research opportunities, preparing them for future employment.

"The first benefit in any partnership is to the student because the student experience comes first at Durham College," said Peter Forint, project manager and industry liaison for the Office of Research Services and Innovation (ORSI). "They get to apply what they've learned in school to their training in what truly is the real world. They are working on the project but still have guidance of the professor. The professor benefits as well in that they are working on something quite exciting with the students and transferring knowledge and ideas from the company to the college."

Many initiatives have come to fruition due to FedDev Ontario's funding, which

directly reflect the college's commitment to local businesses. Forint said approximately 40 students and 16 faculty members have participated in research and product development over the past year. Working in state-of-the-art labs and facilities, the students and faculty at Durham College will continue to build on the partnerships created allowing for further discovery and opportunity.

"Everyone gets a little bit out of it," said Forint. "The students are learning as they go along but they are also teaching. We are getting good insight from the companies as well as insight into what the current demands are in the real world."

## HITTING A HOME RUN AT NATIONALS

by Taylor Jordan

A NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPTITLE is just a dream for most college baseball teams but the Durham Lords made it a reality this past 2011 season.

The men's varsity team made Durham College history last fall when they took home the 2011 Canadian Intercollegiate



Durham Lords pitcher Richard Burke takes aim at the nationals.

Baseball Association (CIBA) National Championship title in Moncton, N.B. Although they've made the nationals several years in a row, it was the college's first national victory in the team's 20-year history.

The Lords were up against some tough competition playing Crandall University from Moncton, N.B., Concordia University from Montreal, Que., Carleton University from Ottawa, Humber College from Toronto and Cape Breton University from Sydney, N.S.

"We lost our first game against Humber even though we beat them all season. We were down three runs in the last inning of our second game. If we had lost that game we would've been out. All the guys knew we had to pull it together," said Durham Lords pitcher Richard Burke.

And that's just what they did. Although the scores of the games throughout the nationals were pretty close, they went on to win every game beating Crandall University 10-1; a bittersweet victory for Coach Sam Dempster whose brother coaches for Crandall.

The team however wasn't always so confident. At the previous year's nationals they lost coming back from the semifinals. That was a big disappointment for

them so they worked extremely hard all season to make sure they came out on top in 2011.

"Our pitching combined with the way we were set up and the way we'd been hitting - we felt there was no way we were going to lose. We lost the first game but that didn't affect the outlook. We knew it was just a matter of time," said Dempster.

Still, there were some nail-biting moments throughout the four-day tournament. In one of their games against Concordia they were down 5-1 but the Lords managed to score late in the game, pulling out a 6-5 win.

Leading up to the CIBA championship the team practiced the plays they were planning on executing during the tournament but kept the same tone Coach Dempster had set throughout the regular season with one exception: the players didn't get their usual day off during the week. Dempster said he knew this would be valuable when it came time to compete against other Canadian teams.

"In reality it's just another game. I know there's a lot riding on it but I believe motivation comes from within and if I have to drive you then you obviously don't have what it takes," added Dempster.

Last season the Lords proved they did.

Durham's varsity baseball team following their victory at the 2011 nationals in Moncton.





# POWERFUL PITCH FOR DURHAM AS FORMER YANKEE JOINS THE LORDS

#### by Nicole Lorrain

BEING DRAFTED BY THE NEW YORK Yankees would be a dream come true for any baseball player but for Chris Kemlo, a first-year Sport Management student, this was just the start of the rotation.

When he was younger, the Oshawa native never imagined that baseball would become such an important part of his life. Although he always enjoyed playing sports it wasn't until his teenage years that he noticed his talent might actually lead to a potential future in the game.

"I never really aspired to be a big leaguer," said Kemlo. "But once I figured out that I could get a scholarship and possibly do something big with baseball that's when I started getting more serious about it."

In high school he became known as one of the best pitchers in Ontario. Following secondary school he transitioned into playing junior college baseball in the United States. After pitching for the Santa Fe College Saints for a year, the 19-year-old right-handed pitcher was drafted by Yankees' scout Dick Groch in the 34th round of the 2001 amateur draft. The next year, he spent a solid first season with the Gulf Coast League and spent the rest of 2002 improving. As a result, he was

moved up to the high Class-A Tampa Yankees in 2003 where he continued to progress before moving on to other teams in the U.S. and Canada.

Once he turned his focus back to his education he was invited to pitch for the Durham Lords. While the team had come close to winning nationals in previous years, they had never come home as champions. But in October 2011, with a score of 6-1 against the Humber Hawks, the Durham Lords walked away victorious for the first time in the team's 20-year history winning the Canadian Intercollegiate Baseball Association National Championship.

"Our coach, Sam Dempster, was actually one of the scouts who came to my house on the day I signed with the Yankees," said Kemlo. "He has been a big part of my life and has helped me so much. To be able to give back to him was the best part of winning nationals."

Unlike most people his age, Kemlo has had the opportunity to see much of North America while playing for various baseball teams in Canada and the U.S. — including Edmonton, Alta. and Yakima, Wash. But now he's focused on building a career outside of the baseball diamond. Although



Sport Management student and former Yankee Chris Kemlo helped the Durham Lords men's baseball team win their first national championship last season.

he's in no rush to graduate, he's thinking about his future and what he truly wants to do with his life.

"Starting my own college program or something involving baseball would be really cool but I love working with kids so I would like to get a job working in a group home or as a guidance counsellor," added Kemlo. "I think I would be able to get through to some kids and make a difference in their lives. I can't imagine a more rewarding job."

### RIOT RADIO GOES VISUAL

#### by Kaitlyn Radford

"IT WAS NO MORE THAN A WOODEN milk crate with two CD players stacked on top of it," said former station manager and Music Business Management professor, lain McPherson.

Fast forward to 2012. The station, now known as Riot Radio (the Riot), has been moved from a cramped corner office in the Marketplace Café in the Gordon Willey building at the Oshawa campus to a much larger, full studio in the B-wing of the Gordon Willey building. In addition, the Riot has recently hired two full-time staff and has a new focus. Its new mission is to connect all members of the campus community through new media and technology. The station provides both a visual and audio creative platform for students and staff.

"We are very excited to present a new Riot Radio as a limitless creative outlet for both Durham College and the University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT) students," said station co-ordinator Laura Ferr. "This opportunity allows students to share their ideas, experiences and outlook on a college and university campus. We're here to change their experience."

The Riot now has the look and feel of a radio station. It has on-air hosts that only need to focus on being radio personalities instead of running the technical parts of their show. This term, the revamped Riot had approximately 40 on-air programs that ran throughout the week covering topics ranging from sports to music to fashion and more.

In partnership with the Student Association at Durham College and UOIT, the Riot is trying to build an online presence for its listeners and viewers through the station's website, www.riotradio.ca. The station is set up to stream programs 24 hours a day, seven days a week to accommodate the many host personalities and genres of music. Audience members can listen from anywhere online or in front of Riot Radio's

headquarters where they can watch the new digital screen and listen via the parabolic speakers.

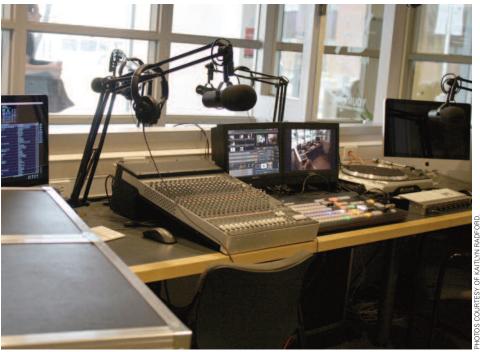
"It should be a way for people to come together and communicate across campus. It should be a way of keeping the college and university student bodies together," said McPherson.

Riot Radio is among the first radio stations in Canada to introduce visual radio. With a 24-hour video feed, students across campus will be able to share information.

"This technology will eventually allow students from around the world to share information," added McPherson. "The ultimate vision of Riot Radio has been to produce this new form of entertainment and communication. It will include polls, videos and things that matter to students at Durham College and UOIT."



A new floor-to-ceiling screen covers the wall outside the new Riot Radio adding a visual element to the station.



Inside the station students can now work with top-of-the-line broadcasting equipment. When the campus radio station launched in 2004 it was known as The FreQ. The station was a class project put together by Music Business Management students with the help of professors Joanne Hill and Dan Clancy, lead singer of the rock orchestra Lighthouse.



Rebecca Glover, full-time mom and college student, was happy to receive a tuition rebate.

## FINANCIAL RELIEF GRANTED

by Lindsay Johnston

DURHAM COLLEGE STUDENT REBECCA Glover was surprised to hear about a free, non-repayable grant in January. After learning more about the grant, Glover was pleased to see the government showing their support especially since she is going to school while raising her three-year-old son Brody.

As a new way to help students manage the high costs of education in Ontario, a non-repayable grant is now available for eligible college and university students. On January 5, Premier Dalton McGuinty announced the new 30% Off Ontario Tuition grant responding to students' calls for financial relief. Durham College's director of Financial Aid and Awards, Chris Rocha, is enthused about the new grant.

"Obviously anything that gets more money into the students' hands and is non-repayable money like this grant, as opposed to loans, is a good thing," said Rocha. "They did promise that this rebate would be implemented this year and they have worked very hard at keeping that promise. We work with the Student Financial Aid branch of the ministry on a constant basis and they are very focused on supporting students and have put a lot of resources in place to support them.

Education is definitely at the forefront in the government's priorities."

This grant targets both those middle-income students who don't qualify for the Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) as well as those who are already receiving OSAP, thus helping a large segment of the student population. As of January 24 there were over 64,000 student applications and close to 24,000 were students who had submitted new applications.

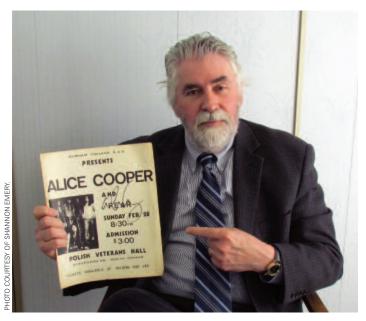
"We have a lot of students who are not receiving OSAP because they still have support from their families. I have three kids in post-secondary and that is a financial struggle for any family regardless of income," said Rocha. "We should be making education affordable for all those involved."

The rebate was set up so that it could benefit the largest group of students. To qualify for the rebate a student's gross family income must be \$160,000 or less, they must be a full-time student and must have graduated from high school less than four years before applying.

"I think it should be available to any post-secondary student but then again it's a matter of budget. You do have to look at how much money is available to support those students and if you're going to support them, what is the cutoff. Those are some of the decisions that had to be made based on budget. What is the best way to disperse that money where the most students are going to benefit from it?" added Rocha.

Like Rocha, Durham College vicepresident of Student Affairs Margaret Greenley is pleased to see the government recognize the challenge students face in their education. She said she hopes the number of Durham College student applications will increase as student awareness of this grant increases.

"Often families are challenged to cover not only the tuition costs but also living costs during two or three years of school. All of these expenses contribute to the middle class challenge of accessing a quality of education that will lead to career opportunities. Our provincial government is committed to education and they are making it more affordable for an increasing part of the Ontario population," Greenley said. "This is an investment in our future labour market and the Ontario economy."



A concert poster signed by Alice Cooper remains a souvenir of the 1971 Winter Carnival for Durham College alumnus, John Hughes.

## ROCK REFLECTIONS

by Shannon Emery

FROM THE RUMOUR THAT HE BIT THE head off a chicken during a Toronto concert to electric chairs and fake blood, Alice Cooper's performances have attracted substantial attention in the last four decades.

But in the fall of 1970 Cooper was not yet a household name. That's when Durham College students John Hughes and John Muldoon booked Cooper for the college's Winter Carnival.

Only months after Cooper and his original band signed the contract to come to Oshawa, the band broke out internationally with their hit single I'm Eighteen. "The day after the Winter Carnival's live show Cooper and his band were set to play in New York for more than 10 times the amount Durham College paid the almost-famous rockstars," said Hughes.

Hughes and his team had an entertainment budget of \$4,000. They spent nearly half the budget on the featured artist and charged \$3 for admission. Not only was it a challenge to choose the right band but there were a few other unexpected bumps along the road. Because Durham College was a

smaller, conservative school in the early 70s some were concerned about the band selection. Hughes still often reflects on that event and remembers the good, the bad, and the surprising turn out.

"We sold maybe 80 tickets four days before the show and we thought 'This is going to bomb'," said Hughes. "Everyone started seeing the posters around school but 70 per cent of the school was quite conservative. No one really knew who Alice Cooper or the band was. We could have maybe gotten an orchestra or another band but not for that price."

He didn't have to worry about attendance though. The Polish Veterans' Hall where the concert was staged held a maximum capacity of 800 people. The Cooper concert attracted nearly 900, not all of them paying customers. A snowstorm hit Oshawa the day of the show, which led fans to park all over the roads. This quickly became a hazard so the police stepped in and requested everyone go back to their vehicles and park properly. Because no stamps or tickets were distributed to those who left, it was hard to tell who had paid for the show and who hadn't when they returned. As a result,

only 500 of the 900 people who attended Cooper's concert actually paid for admission. But that didn't put a damper on anyone's enthusiasm.

Hughes had the experience of a lifetime working with a band like Alice Cooper and was shocked to find how humble Cooper was behind the scenes. "Backstage was a relaxed atmosphere. Guitarists were tuning their guitars and Alice was very open and approachable. I welcomed him and thanked him for coming out. He wasn't eccentric as you might expect but very excited because he was still a new artist at that time. I remember Alice being very open and positive about their future," said Hughes.

After 41 years, Cooper recently proved he could still keep the Durham Region crowd on its feet. On December 7 Cooper rocked the General Motors Centre in Oshawa and again, Hughes was in the audience. The veteran rocker didn't hold back on stage as he played older hits like I'm Eighteen, School's Out, and The Black Widow. Hughes also attended another Cooper concert nine years earlier and said that his performances have been consistently strong over the years. Still, Hughes' favourite was that concert back in 1971.

"Even today I run into people that were at the show 40 years ago. Those who went would say it was a fabulous show. It put Oshawa on the map. It was so exciting and I would gladly do it all again."



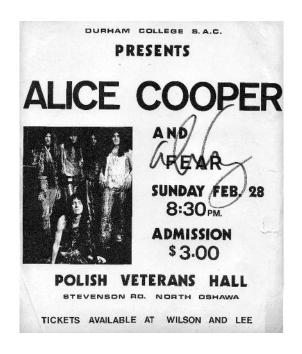
Backstage photos taken of Alice Cooper and the boys before their show at the Polish Veterans' Hall in 1971.



Alice Cooper is interviewed in 1971 by a Durham College Communications student.



Michael Bruce, rhythm guitarist, gets ready for the show.



Durham College's 1971 original Alice Cooper concert ticket.

# GETTING A VOLT OF ELECTRIC ENERGY

by Alanna Cobb

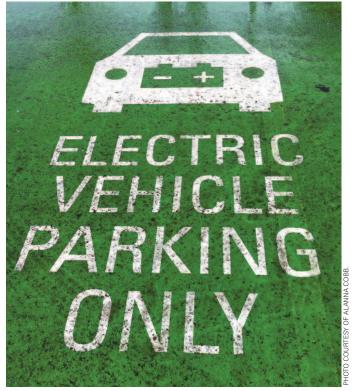
IN 1990 CANADA PRODUCED ABOUT 600 megatonnes of greenhouse gas emissions. In 2004 the country was responsible for 758 megatonnes, a 26 per cent increase. To help combat those statistics, an electric car revolution is sprouting up in Durham Region. The community has formed an energy conscious partnership in the midst of becoming a suburban mecca for the zero emission automobile.

The electric car that 13 regional partners are backing is the General Motors' Chevrolet Volt, a four-passenger vehicle with a gasoline-equivalent rating of 94 miles per gallon gasoline equivalent for city or highway driving. The car can travel at least 60 to 70 kilometres between charges and it charges easily overnight on a 110-volt system from home for only about 90 cents per charge.

"Everyone I talk to has had a good response to the Volt," said Durham College President Don Lovisa. "The Volt is different from other electric cars because the gas engine allows for an extended range compared to other electric cars that you can't drive once the battery charge is exhausted. When the Volt uses up approximately 80 per cent of its charge, a gas engine turns on to produce the required power to drive the electric motor. Basically, the electric motor always drives the car with the energy source being either battery or gas engine."

When the region's largest manufacturer, General Motors, announced that the company would begin selling the electric Volt last year Durham College wanted to get involved. "Durham is the perfect location for this electric-car partnership because the region is making a name for itself as a key energy corridor," Lovisa said.

Lovisa added that students are curious about how the Volt runs and he is always



Electric vehicle owners can recharge at designated parking spaces while visiting Durham College's Oshawa and Whitby campuses.

happy to pass on what he knows about the car to others. The car is showcased at special events and is a great tool for promoting the college and its commitment to green and sustainable practices. The college's Volt can be seen at high schools, trade fairs, and at the Oshawa and Whitby campuses.

Several charging stations are located around the region. One is at the college's Oshawa campus and another is located at the Whitby campus. When the car is plugged into a standard 220-volt outlet it takes only four hours to charge and if you

plug it in at home it takes about eight hours to fully charge.

The growing number of charging stations across North America is great news for electric vehicle owners. They can plug in their car and leave it to charge while they shop or go to a meeting. It's economical from a charging perspective. The Volt will travel 70 kilometres on a \$.90 to \$1.30 charge while a typical car will travel five to 25 kilometres on a litre (about \$1.30) of gas.

"The fact that more and more companies are introducing electric vehicles shows that there is a growing demand for them," added Lovisa. "Over time the technology is going to get better. There are always the early adopters who want new technology when it first comes out and other

people are going to wait and see how the technology improves and how these vehicles perform. So I think you're going to see many more electric cars on the road in the coming years."

For all the benefits of driving an electric car it simply makes sense to open up to the idea of owning one. Lovisa's favourite thing about the Chevrolet Volt: "We have about 2,000 kilometres on the college's own GM Volt and we've not yet bought gas."

# BICYCLES POWER UP FOR SCHOOL

by Stacey Hillis



First-year students Tyler Mewhiney, Aron Araya and Leo Romero work hard on the assembly of a tandem electronic bike.

IMAGINE ECO-FRIENDLY RIDES.
Add to that fewer automotive expenses.
Now picture students gaining real
hands-on experience. A group of Durham
College students are cycling their way
there by transforming regular bicycles into
electronic ones.

Pravin Patel, program co-ordinator of Durham College's Biomedical Engineering Technology program, requested funding from the college for an electronic bike project to enhance his students' learning experience.

The college granted \$3,000 toward the project, which began in the winter semester of 2011. The goal was to provide students with the chance to assemble the bikes while becoming more familiar with renewable, energy-efficient transportation. Patel purchased five bicycles and five renewable battery source kits including drive assemblies. He then assigned groups of four to five students to assemble battery kits on each of the five bikes.

"When I announced that the funding request had been accepted, students instantly showed interest and took the initiative to participate," said Patel. "I informed the groups that the process of creating this project was going to take approximately two semesters. Nonetheless, the students worked well and remained interested during the entire process. I think it was the sense of accomplishment they were working for."

The electronic bicycle has a battery life of 30 to 50 kilometres per charge, approximately 45 minutes of eco-friendly transportation. The bicycle recharges by being plugged into an electrical outlet. However, if the battery were to lose charge in mid-trip, peddling is always an option.

Recently the province of Ontario introduced requirements for electronic bikes. These bikes are no longer permitted on sidewalks and all riders must be over 16 years of age and must wear a helmet. However, the electronic bicycles do not

require a license and do not have to be registered with the Ministry of Transportation.

This semester students involved in the project were making last minute technical changes to the assembly of one uncompleted bike.

Once they were finished, Patel arranged a variety of races to measure the overall power and endurance of the souped-up two-wheelers. All group members had the chance to compete in the races which were held in the college's parking lot with prizes awarded to the winners.

"This will be an ongoing project by disassembling and reassembling the bicycles. It's a great introduction to the electronic and battery technologies," said Patel adding that with more sponsors, future students could potentially have more intense renewable energy projects.





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## TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF SUMMER FUN

by Stephanie McLean



Passing a ball to pass the summer. Over the last 25 years, kids ages seven to 17 have enjoyed a variety of sporting activities offered by the Durham College summer sports program.

SCHOOL'S OUT FOR SUMMER AND YOU have to go to work. Leaving your seven-year-old alone at home is a definite no. With wide eyes he asks every night what he will be doing in the days to come. An easy answer might be, "You're going to the Durham College summer sports camp for kids."

Since 1987 the Campus Recreation and Wellness Centre (CRWC) has welcomed hundreds of children to participate in a variety of sports through its summer sports camps. Originally offering only two weeks of basketball, the program has grown to include week-long sessions throughout July and August for children aged seven to 17 in sports ranging from soccer to baseball, volleyball, tennis, basketball, and a multi-sport program for children interested in playing more than one sport.

"When summer sports camps first started at the college we had about 60 to 100 kids," said athletic co-ordinator Mike Duggan. "Today we have anywhere from 500 to 600 kids in attendance. With that said, our summer sports program has been one of the top two-rated summer camp programs in Durham Region over the last couple of years, which tells us we have the right coaches and instructors to teach kids the sport they are most interested in."

Sports are held in the main gym of the CRWC, outside on Vaso's Field and at the Campus Tennis Centre, all located at the Oshawa campus. On the final day of the program each participant receives a t-shirt and certificate showing they completed the camp.

It's not just the kids in the community who are encouraged to participate in the summer sports camp. Varsity athletes, graduates and students of the Sport Business Management program also have a chance to participate as counsellors making sure that campers reach their full potential and learn new skills.

"It feels good to make a difference," said Kedar John, camp counsellor and varsity basketball player. "It's most

gratifying when at the end of the camp session an eight-year-old kid gives you a card thanking you for being their 'Coach Carter'. Things like that make being a camp counsellor at Durham College worth my time and effort."

Great athletes need fuel and it's no different for the campers. Parents have the option of adding daily or weekly meal plans to keep their budding stars energized and enthused about all parts of their day including lunch.

"With the high volume of campers each year it is necessary to keep everybody well-fuelled with nutritious and fun meals," said Duggan. "With the meal plan offerings, getting ready for camp in the morning has one less step."

Over the last 25 years, Durham College summer sports camps have received positive feedback from parents and campers. The program is a three-time winner of the Durham Parent Reader's Choice award for sports camps in Durham Region.

# TAKING THE WRINKLES OUT OF THE MUNDANE

by Natalie Duffy

AN IRONING BOARD, KNICK-KNACKS, a hammer, and some glue — these are things not usually associated with art. Or are they? Pam Colmer, a Durham College graphic design professor and

Durham College graduate, explores more than just design in the classroom. Although interested in all forms of art, one of the ways she has expressed her creative zeal is by turning old wooden ironing boards into art.

The boards vary from theme to theme. Every item is strategically placed and plays a role in completing the desired look. In the case of a musically-themed board, imagine sheet music, a triangle, a metronome, and other related pieces placed in a harmonious collage. Each item becomes an element that completes the bigger picture.

"I started collecting antiques and just interesting things. I've been doing that for years," said Colmer. "I collected as many boards as I could and then started collecting the little stuff. I finally just started merging them together, making more and more. Each one has a separate theme."

After creating a number of ironing boards with themes from music to horses and kitchens, Colmer began looking for a venue where she could display her creations. She contacted Ruth Rodgers, teaching and learning specialist at Durham College's Centre for Academic and Faculty Enrichment to show her some of her work.

"Pam is unique, quirky, and herself unpretentious, honest, and fun to be with - and her art is just the same," said Rodgers.

It wasn't long before Rodgers asked Colmer to mount a display of her work at the college in May 2011. "I think Pam has connected with people's interest in nostalgia in a very creative and visually appealing way. Her works were very popular with all of our visitors," added Rodgers.



Professor Pam Colmer holds up her mini sewinginspired ironing board. Most of her works are on full-sized antique boards.

The summer following the art show, Colmer sold 10 of her ironing board creations.

"I have some favourites because of how much thought went into them. You just can't throw them together," said Colmer. "I try not to become too attached. Professionally speaking, if someone sees and appreciates the work that I have put into it, I say it's your time to enjoy it."

An artist herself, Rodgers explained the challenges artists face when creating and presenting their work. She said there are always challenges when expressing your vision but there are economic challenges too. Selling your work for income and not allowing your audience to affect the work process is a constant struggle.

"In an age when patrons of the arts are scarce, most artists must work at other jobs to finance their lives and do their artwork on the side. Few are able to make

> a decent living at it full time — but few genuine artists are able to stop making art, nevertheless, so we are pulled in several directions," said Rodgers.

> One thing is certain, Colmer's strong passion for creating original work won't let anything stop her. "Some people, even friends of mine, look at my work and say, 'Well that's weird, what are you doing that for?' and I just say, 'Because I like it."

Raised in Oshawa, Colmer grew up curious to explore her artistic path. One of four siblings, she followed in her parents' artistic footsteps. "Both of my parents were very artistic, both very musical, both very smart," she said.

"I just loved being able to do
things with my hands, drawing
perspective and working with
wood," Colmer said. "When I was
a student here we had an interior
design stream and a graphic design
stream that you had to pick after your
first year. I wanted to do both but
you had to pick one, so I chose graphics."

She soon transitioned from graphic artist to professor in the School of Media, Art & Design's Graphic Design program but her love of art remained.

Colmer is looking forward to developing more pieces as well as a new project she currently has in the works. Her passion for art, eye for placement, and prolific imagination continue to fuel her creativity, turning her ideas into reality and motivating her students to do the same.

# LOOKING INTO THE EYES OF A DRAGON

by Kristine Nieuwendyk



Professor Rick Kerr holds the paddles he trains with in preparation for the Dragon Boat World Championship in Hong Kong.

AFTER WITNESSING THE SPORT OF dragon boat racing while at the Stratford Festival a decade ago, Durham College Professor Rick Kerr immediately felt a yearning to become a part of it. These days, he finds himself training to win gold at the Club Crew World Championships (CCWC) being held in Hong Kong, China this summer.

Currently teaching in the School of Interdisciplinary Studies & Employment Services and training intensely with the Pickering Dragon Boat Club (PDBC), Kerr lives a hectic life but because of his love for the sport, he doesn't seem to care. He's having too much fun.

"The feeling of making your mind and body stronger while working with a group of people to achieve a common goal is why I think dragon boat racing is such an amazing sport," said Kerr. "You find out what kind of character someone has when things get tough. That's when people's true colours come out. You discover who breaks down or who gives it all they've got. It's always a test."

Kerr qualified for the CCWC in Macau, China, last year but a viral muscle and joint infection, which led to a major shoulder surgery, kept him from the competition. The PDBC went on to win one gold and two silver medals at the championship but having missed the race, Kerr was left with a bittersweet feeling.

"I felt terrible because I didn't want to let my teammates down. You've only got about 150 to 160 strokes in a dragon boat race, which means if you so much as sneeze or if you look up and don't reach as far you can lose by an inch," he said. "So the team dynamic makes a big difference but luckily in this case they found a way to balance the boat without me."

With the 2012 CCWC taking place Wednesday, July 4 to Sunday, July 8 and his 60th birthday around the corner, Kerr certainly has a big year ahead and says he is not planning to waste a minute of it.

"Sometimes I say to myself that even if I live to be 100 I won't always be fit enough to do the things I can now. I understand my body has a window of opportunity so I've been determined to continue living an active lifestyle and to see the world as much as I can, while I can," said Kerr. "I'm looking forward to seeing the Great Wall of China and hopefully coming home with gold. You have to make sure life doesn't pass you by."

Being born in the year of the dragon, Kerr often jokes that he was destined to be a dragon boat racer all along. Looking into his eyes, it's easy to see that may in fact have been the case.



This painting was among the pieces of art showcased at the previous juried art show at Durham College.

## HALLWAYS TO GALLERIES

by Ashley Slater

TRUE ARTISTS USE A CANVAS OR other medium to express their passions putting all of themselves into their work and occasionally creating masterpieces. It's the same for art students at Durham College and visitors saw their creations on display during Art Comes Alive at Durham College, an annual art show at the Oshawa campus.

The show takes place each spring and includes paintings, 3-D sculptures and figurative drawings. The artwork is courtesy of students enrolled in the Foundations in Art and Design and the new Fine Arts – Advanced program introduced in fall 2011by professors Sean McQuay and Herb Klassen along with Greg Murphy, dean of the School of Media, Art & Design.

"Students who have taken the one-year Foundations in Art and Design program at Durham College have always asked about additional programs along the same style of learning. We are filling that niche with the Fine Arts - Advanced program," said McQuay.

"Art is a huge part of life. It is necessary in helping the world, especially the human world, maintain its spirit, its soul."

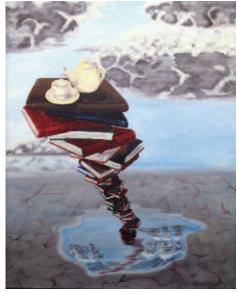
The juried art show is part of the Fine Arts - Advanced program's curriculum. There are two judges. One is an art professional from outside the college and the other is associated with the college. The event marks the students' first public art show. Each participant can enter up to four pieces of work resulting in multiple types of art.

There are numerous awards including a \$500 purchase award from Durham

College, in which the college purchases the art from the winning student and displays it in the School of Media, Art & Design wing on campus.

"We have created an art show and it is right in front of you. [Students] walk right by it," said Murphy. "It gives you an understanding of what an art exhibition is like. You start to get a sense of the quality of the art. It is that much more engaging and challenging. I see it as a nice way to celebrate the accomplishments of these students."

The art show is a great event for students to gain experience as well as exposure. The winning pieces go on to the Whitby Station Gallery where they are put in the limelight for an entire month, this time for the general public to enjoy.







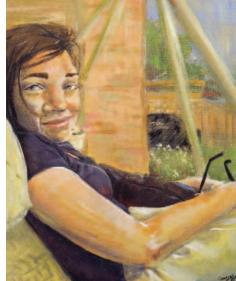




Students' work showcased at the 2011 annual juried art show, Art Comes Alive at Durham College.









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# Annual general meeting

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2012 AT 7:00 P.M.

Durham College, Gordon Willey building Community Room, A144

Guest speaker – Durham College President Don Lovisa

All Durham College alumni are invited to attend, please RSVP to lori.connor@durhamcollege.ca

#### RUTH RODGERS WINS NATIONAL COLLEGE SECTOR EDUCATORS AWARD



Ruth Rodgers, Durham College professor with the School of Interdisciplinary Studies & Employment Services and teaching and learning specialist in the Centre for Academic and Faculty Enrichment, has been named the recipient of the inaugural College Sector Educators Award by the Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education (STLHE) for her outstanding work in college teaching and peer leadership.

The STLHE College Sector Educators Award recognizes Canadian educators who have made quality efforts to promote and support the development of their peers in teaching excellence in addition to providing exceptional leadership regionally, provincially, nationally and internationally in the field of teaching and learning.

Rodgers joined the Durham College team as a teaching and learning specialist in 2008 with more than 30 years of experience in higher education.

She was officially honoured with her award at the annual STLHE conference in Montreal, Que. on June 21.  $\,$ 

# ALUMNI UPDATE

The Department of Athletics would like to connect with one of Durham College's former top basketball stars, Bob Burley, who held the college's single game men's basketball scoring record of 39 points for over 20 years (1970-1994); a remarkable achievement. Bob, if you are reading this or if you know of Bob's co-ordinates, please email us at ken.babcock@dc-uoit.ca.

#### 1970

JAMES HIGGINSON (Advertising) lives in Peterborough with his wife Alice. James is retired from the Peterborough Fire Department after working for 31 years. He has four children and five grandchildren. James and Alice enjoy spending their summers at the cottage on the Bay of Fundy in St. Martins, N.B. He hopes all the graduates from 1970 are doing well and enjoying themselves.

#### 1977

IAN MCGEE (Sports Administration) lives in Brooklin. After 30 years at General Motors working as a tool and die maker, lan has retired and is now selling cars at a Ford dealership in Pickering.

#### 1982

**DANA MATHER** (Business Administration - Operations Management) lives in Peterborough where she is currently working for the Ontario government.

#### 1984

**CHERYL STRONG** (Legal Administration) lives in Ottawa with her daughter Deanna.

MARC MACRAE (Sports Administration) lives in Waterdown with his wife Elaine and their two sons, 16-year-old Connor and 15-year-old Carson. Marc has worked for 28 years in the sporting goods sector holding various positions from sales and operations to marketing, buying and brand development. Marc is currently vice-president at RMP Athletic Locker in Mississauga.

TANYA MULDER (nee Grech) (Legal Secretarial) lives in Oshawa with her husband Jan. Tanya is employed as a senior project auditor in the Internal Audit department at CIBC in Toronto.

#### 1985

NANCY KELLY (Registered Nursing) lives in Oshawa. She has two sons, 36-year-old Justin and 35-year-old Travis. Nancy works as a registered nurse for Ontario Shores Centre for Mental Health Sciences at their clinic in Lindsay. Over the years, she has worked in Oshawa, Windsor, Florida, Tennessee, Wisconsin, New Hampshire, and Saudi Arabia. Nancy just published a children's book on Amazon.com in the U.S. called Bryce Likes Trains.

SUSAN FORRESTER (Legal Administration) lives in Ajax. Susan works as a customer administration specialist at Thomson Reuters in Toronto.

#### 1986

**KAREN WILSON** (Journalism) lives in Mississauga. Karen is currently working as a communications specialist with Deloitte in Toronto.

#### 1987

JACALYNTWENTYMAN (nee Hayes Little) (Human Resources Management) is currently living in Australia with her husband Steve and three children, 21-year-old Darcy, 19-year-old Tegan and nine-year-old Nicolette. They own and operate a medium-sized merchandise display business in Melbourne. Jacalyn is responsible for human resources and learning and development.

#### 1991

**KAREN LEMONT** (Legal Administration) lives in Walkerton with her three children. Karen is employed with Elaine Burrow as an administrative assistant.

#### 1997

JERRY SAUNDERS (Sports Administration) lives in Milton with his seven-year-old son Mateo and three-year-old daughter Grace. Jerry works at Arbon Equipment as a district sales manager.

PAMELA WILSON (nee Worr) (Food and Drug Technology) lives in Courtice with her husband David and their children, six-year-old Ava and three-year-old Benjamin. Pamela works as a chemical technician at Ontario Power Generation in Pickering.

#### 2001

MELISSA WILSON (nee Laundry)
(Legal Administration) lives in Bowmanville
with her husband Cory and their son,
seven-year-old Carter. Melissa works at Borden
Ladner Gervais LLP as a law clerk in Toronto.

#### 2002

SANDRA MACISAAC (Graphic Design) lives in Oshawa with her husband Donald and their three-year-old son Tanner. Sandra works at the Business Information Group as an art director in Toronto.

JOHN PHILPOTT (Computer Science Technology) lives in Redmond, Wash. with his wife Judy and their three-year-old son Nicholas. After 10 years with the Regional Municipality of Durham's IT department, John moved his family to Redmond in January to begin working for Microsoft's Managed Platform & Services Delivery team as a senior system analyst.

#### 2010

**KAIJA RIABOV** (Legal Administration) lives in Thunder Bay with her husband Jonathon. Kaija works at Cheadles LLP as a real estate law clerk.



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