

The UN Comes to Manitoba

The University of Winnipeg was the site of the official launch of the new Manitoba Chair of United Nations Studies. The UN Chair, the first of its kind in Canada, is being established with \$500,000 in federal/provincial funding and is a cooperative effort of the University of Winnipeg, University of Manitoba, Brandon University, College St. Boniface, and the United Nations Friends of the Universities.

Lloyd Axworthy, Canada's Minister of Foreign Affairs and MP for Winnipeg South Centre, presented the first guest lecture at the launch. "This Chair of UN Studies is an important investment in the future of the world that we can provide in Manitoba," he said. "It will significantly increase the presence of the UN in our universities, through new courses, UN lecturers, and conferences. While students will see the most benefit from the establishment of this Chair, all Manitobans can become more involved

with the United Nations and the affairs of the world."

Minister Axworthy was instrumental in establishing the new Chair, together with former University of Winnipeg president Marsha Hanen, University of Manitoba president Emőke Szathmáry, and members of the local United Nations Association. "I welcome the opportunity to help deliver a UN education to students from all four universities," said current University of Winnipeg president, Dr. Constance Rooke. "We plan to have the Chair staffed and operational by September 2000." In the meantime, an advisory board will be set up to guide the organization of Chair activities. Minister Axworthy's lecture was the first of an ongoing series of UN lectures to be presented.

See UN, continued on page 5

Minister Axworthy delivered the first guest lecture at the launch of the UN Chair.



IUS Celebrates 30th Anniversary

The University of Winnipeg's Institute of Urban Studies (IUS) is celebrating 30 years of service to the inner city. "We've been up and running for 30 years and hope to expand our role in research and community service," says the Institute's new director of urban and regional research, Phil Cyrenne.

"We want to balance the three major goals of the Institute: to provide academic environmental research as well as contract work, to provide continued community service, and to be involved in as many important urban issues as possible," adds Cyrenne, who began his three-year term at the IUS in July 1999. Cyrenne, a professor of economics, shares management responsibilities with the Institute's director of environmental research, geography professor Ed Cloutis.

"Those important issues include inner city housing, aboriginal development initiatives, and research on the economics of heritage buildings," Cyrenne explains. "The IUS's support role is key in terms of research and work within the community. We plan to look at regional issues such as the City of Winnipeg's relationship with surrounding rural municipalities and trade corridors."

Members of the Winnipeg business community and representatives of the civic and provincial governments were in attendance at an IUS open house held in December.

English Professor Captures New Muse Award



Uma Parameswaran says she writes about life in Canada, but never forgets the importance of her roots in India.

a mix of laughter and tears,” says Parameswaran. “It explores women’s bonding, which takes on many forms.” It also focuses on the role of memory in the life of Indo-Canadians. Memory, Parameswaran explains, plays a part in who we are, what we do, and how we look at life.

Parameswaran describes the title story, *What Was Always Hers*, as an intense, compassionate account of the relationship between two women. “It is complex, as are all

Be careful what you tell English professor Uma Parameswaran — it just might end up in print. “My stories aren’t biographical, and sometimes, I do use other people’s stories,” she laughs. Maybe not entire stories, she notes, but threads of others’ lives are often woven into Parameswaran’s fiction.

Her most recent book, *What Was Always Hers*, won the 1999 New Muse Award, which recognizes first-time short-fiction and novel writers. Both touching and humorous, these three stories and two novellas look at relationships, especially women-oriented relationships. “It’s

stories about the relationships of women,” says Parameswaran. The story could have had a variety of endings, Parameswaran notes, but she chose to reveal the relationship as a lesbian one. “Some people have expressed surprise, and when they ask why I used that ending, I just reply, ‘why not?’” she says. “The entire story builds to that particular ending. Their relationship is many things—this is just one aspect.”

Parameswaran’s characters have their roots in India, but the stories are about their lives here in Canada. “The majority of the plot action takes place in Canada. This is my home; I write about here,” she explains. Life in India is described mainly in terms of memory—how characters have evolved and how their past experiences and relationships inform their current situations.

Humour is expertly used to dispel the myth that first-generation immigrants always focus on the negative. “Most anthologized poems are the ones that talk about racism,” notes Parameswaran, who has published a play, poetry and fiction in various magazines, and a book of poetry entitled *Trishanku and Other Writings*. “The stereotype is that immigrants find something wrong with all aspects of life in Canada. If we aren’t weeping and groaning, our writings aren’t given very much attention. But the reality needs to be represented in literature.”

Building Bridges

The University of Winnipeg has signed an agreement with the Canadian Centre on Disability Studies, which will allow for collaboration on research and education surrounding disability issues.

“We are delighted to form this new link and are looking forward to the education and research initiatives that it will provide. I am excited about the important work that we can do together,” says University president, Dr. Constance Rooke.

Katherine Schultz, associate vice-president of research and graduate studies, says this move will benefit both the University of Winnipeg and the University of Manitoba. “This link will provide additional resources for faculty and staff as well as students involved with disability issues,” she says.

In addition to collaborating on research, the Centre plans to work with the universities to deliver distance education courses, and develop initiatives associated with the universities’ Manitoba Chair in United Nations, says CCDS Executive Director Henry Enns. He says the new alliance will also help the Centre to develop its disability information network, a virtual library and web page on the Internet, which deals with current disability issues and research.

“It’s an exciting time to work on research in disability issues,” added Laurie Ringaert, CCDS board chair. “Specifically, the Centre must focus on social research, such as how people live in communities. This new link will not only improve accessibility for students with disabilities, but for everyone at universities.”

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Student Combines Creativity and Compassion

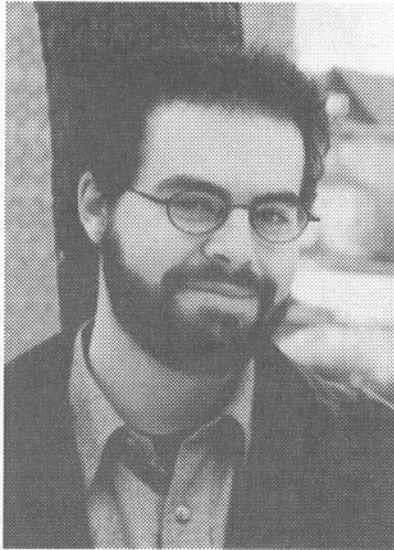
"I don't think I could be proud of achieving something that comes exceptionally naturally to me," says Steven Selchen, one of the two 1999 Sir William Stephenson Scholarship winners. "I'm most motivated when I'm not especially good at something and I overcome my fears or whatever obstacles are in the way of meeting the challenge." Selchen believes in setting goals just beyond his reach — and then reaching them. "With focus and determination, nothing is impossible."

Now in his final year of the four-year BSc program, Selchen has lived up to the promise he showed when he entered the University of Winnipeg on a Special Entrance Scholarship. Since then he has earned three University of Winnipeg Academic Proficiency Scholarships, the Rev. Thomas Buchanan Memorial Scholarship, the James Dowsett Memorial Scholarship in Biology, the Dr. A.R. Cragg Scholarship in Psychology, the Isbister Undergraduate Scholarship, and the Gerry McVay Book Prize.

A student with wide-ranging interests, Selchen combines his creativity and compassion to make a difference on campus and within the community. Over the past three years he has participated in rebuilding the Jewish Students' Association, including two terms as co-president. "The association is really strong now, and we've begun a number of social programs," he says. The newly thriving organization now provides services to more than 600 Jewish students and countless non-Jewish students in Manitoba.

In his continuing volunteer role as senior advisor for the Winnipeg chapter of the National Conference of Synagogue Youth, he acts as role model, teacher and friend to young people. "It's important to reach young people; they're so impressionable," he notes. "Critical thinking and the ability to make independent decisions are the kinds of things I try to teach them."

Selchen has been described by one of his professors as showing "a strength of character and maturity beyond his years." This is evidenced in his commitment to the Jewish community. Over the past several years, Selchen has served as a volunteer pallbearer for those who do not have surviving family or friends. According to Jewish law, bodies must not be left alone during the period from death to burial; Selchen has served as a "Guardian of the Deceased," sitting throughout the night with those who have passed away. "The



Steven Selchen says his family has been instrumental in life and his success.

surviving family members feel better if someone is there to ease them through the grieving process," he explains. His compassionate contributions have been recognized by the Jewish community; he is now employed as associate director of the Chesed Shel Emes Jewish Funeral Chapel, where he tutors, and leads religious services.

Selchen has been able to incorporate his love of sports into work as a volleyball and soccer referee. "I believe that a healthy mind must be supported by a healthy body," he says. In keeping with that philosophy, year-round training in the Chinese martial art of Kung Fu has provided Selchen with a highly disciplined and rewarding physical program. "It gives you incredible control over mind and body."

A genuine love of learning has influenced Selchen in his decision to work with Michael McIntyre in the Psychology Department and as a student research assistant

to Evelyn Schaefer, also in the Psychology Department. He plans to pursue a career in researching and teaching neuroscience. "I like exploring undiscovered territory," says Selchen. "Cognitive neuroscience is an area that is so fundamental to who we are, and yet there is so little known." He adds that he isn't afraid to approach areas that are new and unknown to him. "I enjoy investigating areas where all the answers aren't in yet. I want to find the answers to some of the big questions."

Outstanding Support

Congratulations to all University of Winnipeg employees who helped to make the 1999 United Way Campaign a success! While there may still be a few more donations to tally, we are wrapping up with a grand total of \$69,434, which is 110 per cent of our goal! Special congratulations to the following departments for winning Gold Participation Awards: Human Resources and Counselling Services. The vice-president finance and administration office won a 100 per cent Participation Award. The Technology Solutions Centre and Physical Activity and Sport Studies each won a Bronze Participation Award.

To everyone who got into the spirit of the United Way Campaign this year, thank you! "It is the way to give the most."

Student at Home in Many Cultures

"The greatest gift given me by the circumstances of my life is breadth of experience," says Jennifer Dueck, a 1999 winner of the Sir William Stephenson Scholarship. Dueck's education began in Jerusalem, continued in French immersion schools in Winnipeg, and included a two-year stint at a college in Hong Kong, where she earned an International Baccalaureate in English and French. "I was raised on multiple continents and exposed to a variety of international environments from a very early age," she



says. "This has taught me not only cultural openness, but also a great respect for Canadian society." At a young age, Dueck says she came to appreciate freedom of speech, the right to education and basic necessities, such as heat—things that most Canadian children take for granted. Her experience in other parts of the world revealed that safe, comfortable living conditions are not universal. "My parents worked with the Palestinians, and seeing soldiers in the streets and living under restrictive laws became part of everyday life," she explains. "Education, freedom of speech—these are things we shouldn't take for granted."

Wherever she goes, Dueck contends that all members of society are responsible for its well-being. Since her senior secondary years she has been a leader in a variety of ventures, all of them contributing to the cultural, social or educational life of the community around her. Dueck entered Li Po Chun United World College of Hong Kong on a Canadian scholarship, and immediately became a leading member of the student community. She coordinated the children's playground at a detention centre for Vietnamese refugees.

She was also the executive coordinator of an environmental conference for local Hong Kong students and a two-day conference on world faith and philosophy. Her ease of living and working in another culture was reflected in her ability to pick up the Chinese language. T. Blair Forster, principal of Li Po Chun, noted that "...after only one year of study she was able to speak the language with confidence and fluency."

That was all before her arrival at the University of Winnipeg. Here this exceptional student has garnered the University Gold Medal in French (General course), the Senior French Department Scholarship and an Academic Proficiency Scholarship, among others. This year, in addition to the Stephenson Scholarship, she received the Gerritdina and Alphonse Hince Scholarship in French as well as the Rutherford-Altnow Scholarship in History. One of Dueck's professors describes her as "one of the most mature, most poised and most accomplished students" he has taught over the past three decades.

While at the University, Dueck has acted as a research assistant in the French and History departments and taught

French conversation. She also made her way to Paris to serve as an English language assistant at Lycee Louis le Grand. "I enjoyed every aspect of life in Paris," says Dueck. "I learned the nuances and the rhythms of French society—the food, the gestures, the language—it's a very rich culture." Dueck embraced the arts while in Paris. "There are so many small theatres. And the museums are well funded; there is a lot of support for the arts." Now in her final year of studies at this University, Dueck continues to be an active member of both the French Studies and History Students' Associations.

Dueck's talents extend far beyond academics. A dedicated volunteer, she has organized a benefit for a Bosnian family, worked for the Terry Fox Organization, and supervised the Wellington Elementary School homework tutoring program. More than 60 inner-city children have benefited from this innovative program. For her outstanding efforts and community service, she received the Mayor's Volunteer Service Award in 1998.

A former violinist with the Winnipeg Youth Orchestra, Dueck also performs in an assortment of school musicals, dramas and choirs. Between school and extracurricular activities, she likes to go on hiking trips in places like the Sahara Desert and Crete.

Dueck plans to pursue graduate studies in French colonial history. "I owe many thanks to the faculty at the University of Winnipeg," Dueck says. "My professors have been some of the most significant people in my life."

Another Open House at 49 Oak

In December, Connie and Leon Rooke hosted a number of parties for faculty and staff in their home at 49 Oak Street. Eight parties were held, and all were well attended.

Some of you, however, were unable to attend because of previous commitments, the treacherous flu bug, etc. In addition, it seems that a few invitations went awry. Dr. Rooke has therefore decided to hold another Open House on Monday, January 31, from 7:30 to 9 p.m.

So that she can plan for the appropriate number of guests, Dr. Rooke asks anyone who couldn't come in December, and who is able to attend this "make-up" party, to please contact Darcy Duggan by e-mail (d.duggan@uwinnipeg.ca) or phone (786-9174), by Wednesday, January 27.

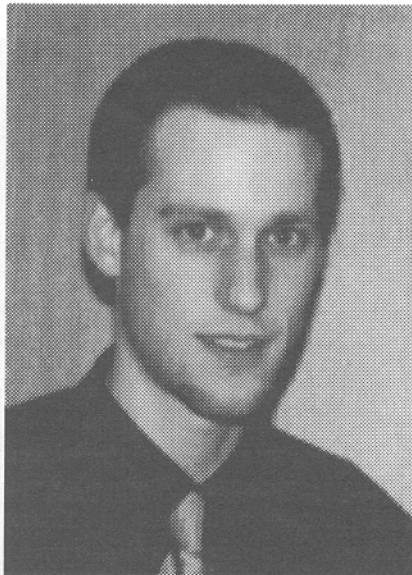
You are most welcome to bring your spouse or guest. The President and her husband look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at their home on the 31st.

Making a Difference — At Home and Abroad

When UWFA Scholarship winner Tim Parker enrolled at the University of Winnipeg on a Special Entrance Scholarship, he hoped for small classes where the professors really get to know the students, and that's exactly what he found. "My professors know me by name," he says. "You wouldn't find that in first-year classes at larger universities."

The UWFA Scholarship has been made possible through the generosity of the University of Winnipeg Faculty Association and is awarded annually to two students who have made exceptional, voluntary contributions to campus life at the University or to the larger, off-campus community.

Parker is pursuing a degree in education, having already earned a BA in history from the University of Winnipeg. One year before entering the University of Winnipeg, Parker joined the Student Work Abroad Programme through the British Universities North America Club. Living and working in the Lake District of England provided Parker with the kind of education he really craves. "I met all kinds of students, mainly from Canada and Australia, who were doing exactly the same thing," Parker explains. "I worked as bartender in White Horse on Parson's Green, a



Tim Parker says that he would love to return to Ireland when he completes his studies.

pub where lots of other Canadian students had worked."

Between shifts at the pub, Parker traveled around Europe, making stops in Ireland and 13 other European countries. "I love that European countries are steeped in history. The architecture and the stories — it's fascinating."

An active volunteer for Save Our Seine River Environment Inc., Parker plants trees every summer in an effort to restore the river bank. "We target a different section every year," he says. "We've made visible progress." Fall clean-up has also made a difference in terms of raising awareness and improving the condition of the Seine. "Again we target a specific area and remove as much garbage as possible. I'm always amazed at the trouble people go through to pollute. They go through dense brush to dump things like tires and mattresses; it's appalling." Parker notes that the group does remove log jams, but they are careful not to upset the natural balance in the area.

In addition to his concern for the environment, Parker cares about people. His interest in helping others led him to assist the Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada with fundraising events, such as golf tournaments. "I've known people who suffer from this disease, and it makes you feel so helpless," Parker says. "Getting involved in the search for a cure is the least I can do."

To prepare for his future as a teacher, Parker taught Bible School last summer. "I love working with kids. There's nothing better."

UN

continued from page 1

"The United Nations Chair could not have been established without the initial financial contributions of the federal and provincial governments and the cooperation of the presidents of the universities in Manitoba," Szathmáry said. "The rewards of this cooperative venture will be manifest for years to come. The Chair adds a new, innovative dimension to university education for Manitobans."

The purpose of the Manitoba Chair of United Nations Studies is to promote research into the problems and issues

facing the UN, to generate innovative solutions, and to encourage exchanges between students, diplomats and academics in Manitoba. The Chair will offer courses, lectures and conferences for students and Manitobans with an interest in the United Nations.

In addition to the \$500,000 contribution by the federal and provincial governments to establish the UN Chair, the UN Friends of the Universities is seeking \$1.5 million from other groups and individuals to support its continued operation.

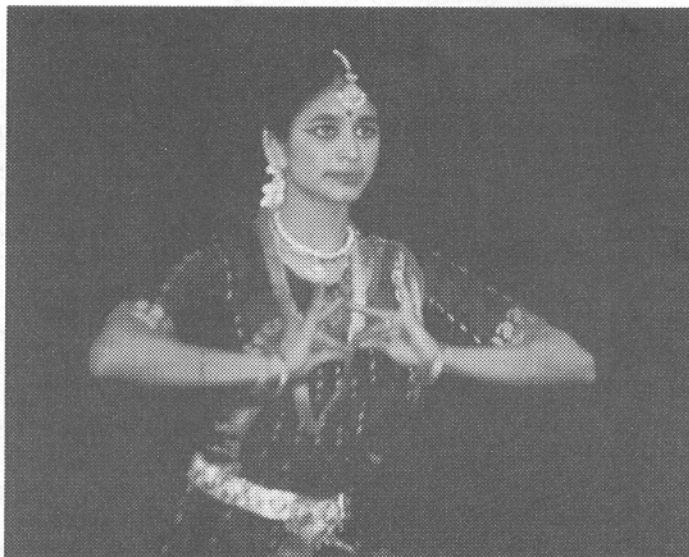
Dedicated Student Grateful for Canadian Education

The first time Saumya Jayakumar saw snow she was five years old. She and her family had just arrived in Canada after fleeing war-torn Sri Lanka. "I went outside to play, and my feet were burning—I didn't want to go out ever again," she recalls. "I missed the lush plants and the sea, but now I have to admit I find snow kind of comforting; it gives me a cozy feeling."

Jayakumar says she loves much more about Canada than just the snow. The education she is getting in Canada is one of the

things she is most grateful for. Throughout her academic career, she has excelled at her studies, receiving many awards for academic proficiency. She earned an Alumni Entrance Scholarship, the George A. Grierson Scholarship, and two academic proficiency scholarships. A member of the Biology Club, Jayakumar says she has enjoyed working as a research assistant to Scott Forbes. "I got to work in the field, gaining valuable experience in biological research," she says, adding that she is currently working as a lab demonstrator at the University. "I've enjoyed all of my classes at the University, especially the ones I'm taking this year. We're looking at things in greater detail."

A peer tutor for the last six years, Jayakumar helps other students get through math and science. "I have tutored in the areas of math, biology, chemistry, physics; I basically help



Saumya Jayakumar in traditional East Indian dance costume.

anyone who asks," she says. She has also volunteered as a judge at science fairs and as a group activity organizer with Parks and Recreation Canada. "I appreciate the opportunity to work with younger children," she notes. "I hope to set a good example and to become a role model for other immigrant children."

Jayakumar has enjoyed her duties as UNICEF representative for the last two years. "I've also worked with the Canadian Red Cross as a donor recruiter, a registrar, and a mascot. I

walked down Portage Avenue dressed as a drop of blood," she laughs. "I certainly got some interesting looks." She has volunteered a total of 300 hours with the Red Cross.

Never forgetting her roots in India, Jayakumar has completed several levels of Bharatha Natiyam (East Indian classical dance) at the India School of Dance. "I have danced at the Manitoba Folk Festival, Folklorama and the Pan Am opening ceremonies," she says. "Next year when I graduate there will be a huge performance, so I've been working very hard to prepare for that." Jayakumar also studies violin and is an adept photographer.

Upon completing her BSc in biochemistry, Jayakumar plans to enter medical school and to practice in the field of neurosurgery. She hopes to dedicate a period of service to the Doctors Without Borders organization.

Speaker Series

The Margaret Laurence Chair is sponsoring a series of thought-provoking lectures by dynamic speakers. The following is the winter 2000 roster. If you have any questions, please call Joanne Boucher at 9421.

Mon., Jan. 17 at 7:30 p.m.—**"Researching Women's Needs in the AIDS Epidemic,"** by Cindy Patton, associate professor of interdisciplinary studies, Emory University. Location: Moot Court, Robson Hall, University of Manitoba

Thurs., Feb. 3 at 7:30 p.m.—**"De-Constituting American Feminism,"** by Kate Millett, author, artist, activist. Location: Moot Court, Robson Hall, University of Manitoba

Tues., Feb. 29 at 4 p.m.—**"Econstructing Sisterhood,"** by Jane Gallop, distinguished professor of English and comparative literature, University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee. Location: 313 Tier Building, University of Manitoba

Thurs., March 9 at 7:30 p.m.—**"Reconstructing Innocence: The Language of Sexual Assault Trials,"** by Susan Ehrlich, professor of linguistics, York University, Toronto. Location: Room 2M70, University of Winnipeg

More Than a Rivalry; It's a Challenge

by Dan MacKenzie

Turn the calendar back to 1991 when Dr. Harry Duckworth had an idea. "I've always had a keen interest in the Wesmen and the Bisons," Dr. Duckworth admits, "as well as a keen awareness of the rivalry between the two schools. The Wesmen Classic has always attracted a lot of excitement, but back in those days there was a lull after it ended." That left an opening for an institutional competition rather than a team competition. Enter the Duckworth Challenge — an annual tradition for almost 10 years. Named the Duckworth Challenge after the man who has been so instrumental in its success, the event puts the teams of Winnipeg's two universities head-to-head every January.

The upcoming Challenge will be the 9th annual, and Dr. Duckworth is full of anticipation. "I'm really looking forward to this year's event," he says. "All the teams involved play at such a high level."

What makes the Duckworth Challenge unique is its format. For one of the universities to win the event, its teams must win three of the four games played. As usual, both venues will play host to the tourney. The first portion of the Challenge is scheduled for Wed., Jan. 19. The meeting place — the venerable Duckworth Centre. The basketball court will rock with intense action, beginning at 6:15 p.m. The Wesmen women, led by Erin Soroko, host the Bisons. Then, men's basketball coaching rivals Bill Wedlake and Rick Suffield will match wits one more time. That contest will tip-off at 8 p.m.

For coach Wedlake, the Duckworth Challenge holds special memories. "Back in 1996, Steve Newton sank a three-pointer at the buzzer and sunk the Bisons in overtime," he recalls. And Wedlake says this Challenge has added impor-



Dr. Harry Duckworth: a Wesmen fan through and through.

tance. "Because of the schedule realignment, we really don't play the Bisons as much as we should." He adds that the Bisons will be ready to play after dropping a loss to the Wesmen in the semis of the Wesmen Classic. "They were not happy after losing to us in the semi-finals," says Wedlake. "We expect the Bisons to be at the top of their game."

After the basketball is over, the focus switches to volleyball. Coaches Larry McKay and Diane Scott will lead their teams to hostile grounds. One week later, on Jan. 26, the Investors Group Athletic Centre at the University of Manitoba will host the games. That will determine which institution will get to hold the Duckworth trophy. History reveals the Bisons hold a narrow edge, five to three over the Wesmen. University of Winnipeg athletic director Aubrey Ferris says the Challenge adds to the heated rivalry. "It's another bragging right," he says. Ferris

admits there is another important element that this event promotes. "It involves us more with alumni at both institutions."

Dr. Duckworth is impressed with how the University of Winnipeg Alumni Association caters to the Challenge. "They have this event as one of their two or three events of the year," he says. "But alumni from both schools have been very good at supporting it." Dr. Duckworth knows his sports. He encourages professors and students to come out to support their teams. "There is no charge for faculty, staff and students, and it is an excellent chance to see high caliber athletics. After each game, Dr. Duckworth and University of Winnipeg President, Dr. Constance Rooke present player of the game awards. This year the last word goes to Wedlake. "I know that Dr. Duckworth is still a Wesmen fan at heart."

Walker to Head Fundraising

Janet Walker, who graduated from the University of Winnipeg in 1978 with BA in English, will be returning to campus to assume the position of director of advancement. Walker's previous positions at the University include director of public relations, and she has served on the Board of

Regents three times, as a student, a staff representative and later a United Church representative. She has served as executive director of the Health Sciences Centre Foundation for the past six years, and brings extensive experience in public affairs, marketing and fundraising.

COMING EVENTS

"Coming Events" is compiled by University Relations. Planning a campus event? Please let us know. Send **written** information to Paula Denbow (paula.denbow@uwinnipeg.ca), University Relations, 10 working days in advance of the event. Basic details are required: what, when, where, sponsor, price of admission (if any) and the name of a contact person.

THURS., JAN. 13

• **Gallery 1C03 presents Red, Yellow and Blue: Oil Paintings and Other Works by Bill Lobchuk.** The works included in this exhibit illustrate Lobchuk's concern for the sudden disappearance of innumerable plants and animals across the globe as a result of pollution, industrial development and the spread of the human population to the farthest reaches of the planet. The exhibition opens on Thurs., Jan. 13 from 4 to 6 p.m. It continues Fri., Jan. 14 through Sat., Feb. 5. Gallery hours are Mon. to Fri., 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturdays, 1 to 4 p.m.

MON., JAN. 17

• **The Laird Lecture** — Ann Clark, from the University of Guelph, will present "AgBio-tech: not ready for prime time." This free lecture begins at 7:30 p.m. in Eckhardt-Gramatté Hall.

WED., JAN. 19

• **The Wesmen's women's basketball** team plays the University of Manitoba at 6:15 p.m., and the Wesmen men's team plays the U of M men's team at 8 p.m.

FRI., JAN. 21

• **The Wesmen women's basketball** team plays Saskatchewan at 6:15 p.m., and the Wesmen men's basketball team plays Saskatchewan at 8 p.m.

SAT., JAN. 22

• **The Wesmen women's basketball** team takes on

Saskatchewan at 6:15 p.m., and the Wesmen men's basketball team plays Saskatchewan at 8 p.m.

• **Mondetta Global Stage** presents Licanantay, which means "People of the Highlands." Now celebrating their 15th anniversary, Licanantay includes six friends from Chile, El Salvador and Winnipeg who feature authentic instruments and music of the Andes. The concert begins at 8 p.m. in Eckhardt-Gramatté Hall. Tickets are \$15, \$13 for seniors and \$5 for students.

MON., JAN. 24

• **President's Open Forum** — The forum runs from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend.

FRI., JAN. 28

• **Faculty and Staff Professional Development/Aboriginal Awareness Day** — The student-related issues task group of the deans of arts and science Aboriginal initiatives committee has organized this event. The purpose is to educate faculty and staff about the issues and challenges that Aboriginal students face. Increased awareness is critical to professional development. It will take place from 1 to 4 p.m. in Room 2M70. For information, please contact: First Nations Students Counsellor Mary Young at 9865 (or email m.young@uwinnipeg.ca), student-related issues task group co-facilitators Chantal Hutchinson or Frank Daniels at 9467, or chair of the Ab-

original initiatives committee, Mark Ruml at 9752.

• **The Wesmen women's volleyball** team plays Alberta at 6 p.m., and the men's volleyball team takes on Saskatchewan at 7:30 p.m.

SAT., JAN. 29

• **The Wesmen women's volleyball** team plays Alberta at 6 p.m., and the men's volleyball team meets Saskatchewan at 7:30 p.m.

TUES., FEB. 1 THROUGH TUES., MARCH 7

• **19th Century Social Observers and Commentators: Reflections on Society Through the Eyes of Major Literary Figures** — This course, offered at the University Women's Club of Winnipeg (54 West Gate), will examine the life and times of Elizabeth Gaskell, Anthony Trollope and George Eliot, among others. The following three novels will be studied: **The Warden** (Trollope), **Mary Barton** (Gaskell), and **Adam Bede** (Eliot). The instructor is Celine Kear, (BA, Memorial University; MA, Laval University). The cost is \$50. For more information, please call Kay Beatson at 489-2492. To register, contact UWCW manager, Susann, at 772-1077.

WED., FEB. 2

• **Annual Collegiate Open House** — Faculty, staff, and potential students and their parents are invited to The Collegiate's open house. Collegiate faculty and staff

will be on hand to answer questions and to provide information about The Collegiate. The event runs from 5 to 9 p.m.

SAT., FEB. 5

• The University Women's Club of Winnipeg presents "**Food for Thought**," a seminar on genetically modified foods. Presenters include: Anita Brule-Babel, plant scientist, Elizabeth Hamilton, industry/consumer perspective, Arthur Schafer, director of the centre of professional ethics and philosophy, and Ingeborg Boyens, journalist. The cost is \$10 and includes lunch and materials. The seminar is at 54 West Gate. Please call Susann at 772-1077 for details.

• **Virtuosi Concerts** presents pianist Alexander Tselyakov. James Manishen of the *Winnipeg Free Press* says Tselyakov's sound maintains its richness even in the loudest dynamics, and a fine lyric sensibility. The program includes Bach's Italian Concerto, works by Chopin, Glick, Messiaen, Liszt and Balakirev's *Islamey*. The concert begins at 8 p.m. in Eckhardt-Gramatté Hall. Tickets are \$22, \$20 for seniors and \$13 for students. Call 786-9000 for tickets.

MON., FEB. 7

• **Technical Solutions Centre Open Forum** — TSC wants to "talk tech" with the University community. Everyone is invited. Bring your lunch to Eckhardt-Gramatté Hall. The forum runs from 12:30 to 1:20 p.m. Learn about the information technology strategy that is underway.