



SEVEN OAKS
SCHOOL DIVISION
community begins here

Community

B E G I N S H E R E

ISSUE NO. 20

January 2007

The Class of '06 in '07

A look back as grads move forward

The start of a new year is a great time to have a look back and see how far you've come.

That's why a group of Seven Oaks School Division graduates were asked to reminisce about meaningful moments and positive influences from their high school days that they've taken with them.



Joshua Salamandyk

Today, Joshua Salamandyk is a University of Manitoba student planning a BA in either history or geography before moving on into education. But less than a year ago, he was a

Maples Collegiate student, winner of a University of Manitoba entrance scholarship, the Maples Scholarship Leadership Award and the Seven Oaks Education Foundation Award for Academic Achievement and Citizenship which had special meaning to him.

"The Seven Oaks Education Foundation Award was for academics and volunteering," explains Joshua. "I volunteered a lot during high school. I was an Ambassador for Canadian Blood Services at Maples, initiated different programs in school and did things like walk for cancer in my spare time."

His volunteer spirit remains an important part of his U of M life. As he volunteers with UMSU (the University of Manitoba Student Union) and contributes to the University paper, the *Manitoban*, he also remembers a teacher whose actions contributed to his high school experiences.

"Ms. Boyko taught me Senior 3 & 4 English, and was my biggest high school inspiration," says Joshua. "She helped me with expanding my volunteering experiences, and was an amazing person, both in teaching me and helping me become a better person."

"I will never forget Ms. Boyko, and hopefully I can teach with her some day at Maples!"



Brittany Budzan

graduate who won the Governor General Award in 2006.

"It meant so much to me," says Brittany. "It's not so much about the recognition as it is about knowing that your hard work has paid off."

Brittany was also the 2006 West Kildonan Collegiate Valedictorian – another role she worked hard to earn. "I had to 'audition' for it by making a mock speech in front of three Language Arts teachers!" she recalls.

Obviously, she impressed her teachers, but there was also a teacher who made a particular impression on Brittany; her math teacher Ms. Suzanne Martin.

"She was a friend and a teacher," says Brittany. "You could talk to her about anything, her classroom was fun to be in and she was always really supportive of her students."

What Brittany appreciated most was Ms. Martin's encouragement when it came to thinking about the future.

"She helped me make decisions about which Grade 12 courses I should take," says Brittany. "She always encouraged me to push forward and look for opportunities. That meant a lot to me and it's something I will always remember."



Austine Nonato

"Winning the Governor General's Award wasn't something I expected at all," recalls Maples Collegiate graduate Austine Nonato. "It was a very happy surprise and I was extremely

honoured because it meant a lot and made my parents really proud."

Austine was also surprised to be

presented with University of Manitoba Chown Scholarship, Luther Home Award, a Seven Oaks Foundation Award for Academic Achievement and Citizenship AND – much to her surprise – a Governor General Award in addition to several other scholarships. But there was no doubt in anyone's mind that she earned them through hard work and effort.

Some of that hard work and effort were inspired by a couple of her favourite teachers.

"I had Mrs. Collins for English and French. She was always helping people and was available as a reference when I needed her. Then there was Mrs. Zhila, my Grade 9 Science teacher. She was always pushing you, telling you to challenge yourself and saying 'you can do it!' But all my teachers played a role in motivating me... and for that, I'm very grateful."

What's next for Austine? While she's not certain yet, she is attending the University of Manitoba and thinking about a career in nursing...where her hard work and dedication will continue to serve her well.



Deidre Lotecki

Deidre Lotecki – a graduate of Garden City Collegiate – will never forget winning the Governor General's Award.

"When my name was announced, I squealed –

except I couldn't even hear it because everyone BURST into cheers," she recalls. "I ran up to the stage clapping with excitement and couldn't stop

beaming for the rest of the day...and for days after!"

Today, Deidre's a long way from Winnipeg, taking Arts at Dalhousie University in Halifax. Yet even far from home and almost a year later, she still has fond memories of her high school.

"There were many teachers that inspired and encouraged me. Every teacher I had added something special to my high school experience."

"Whether it was Mrs. Freund or Ms. MacNaughton in my foods classes, or Mr. Woo or Mrs. Lubkey in my science classes, they always provided me with all the information I could absorb, while keeping me interested."

Although she won an award for academic achievement, Deidre feels it was her life experiences at Garden City Collegiate that helped her choose the direction she wanted to go.

"My experiences at Garden City Collegiate showed me that I wanted to get out of Winnipeg and see the world. Halifax is the first step in that!"

"There were a lot of things that I will never forget, and that molded me into the person I am today. That is something that is irreplaceable."



Jaclyn Sault

With everything she accomplished during her high school years at Maples Collegiate, you'd wonder when Jaclyn Sault found time to sleep!

The valedictorian for her graduating class, Jaclyn won the Ken Seaford scholarship as well as the Seven Oaks Education Foundation Award for community and school involvement and academics. She received several awards as a concert and jazz band musician and for excellence in athletics. She was also co-president of a school fundraising committee.

Jaclyn found a lot of inspiration that really encouraged her to give it her all in all she did.

"My teachers really encouraged and supported me," says Jaclyn. "Like my grade 12 math teacher Mrs. Bosiuk. She's just a really great person and a really good teacher."

"I was also really inspired by Mr. Zimmerman, the band teacher. He made me want to be part of music because of his own passion for it."

Life hasn't slowed down for Jaclyn now that she's at the University of Manitoba.

"Right now, I'm considering majoring in commerce or architecture, I'm working part-time, I just finished coaching junior volleyball at Maples Collegiate and I'm working out five times a week," laughs Jaclyn.

Then again, for Jaclyn, maybe this IS taking it slower.



Seven Oaks School Division Board of Trustees

Bill McGowan (Ward II) Chairperson 694-0808
 Claudia Sarbit (Ward III) Vice-Chairperson 339-8758
 Gary J. Fogg (Ward II) 694-8998
 Teresa Jaworski (Ward III) 334-3063
 Evelyn C. Myskiw (Ward I) 339-1242
 Edward P. Ploszay (Ward III) 339-1260

Dennis Ruggles (Ward II) 694-3976
 Richard Sawka (Ward III) 338-1199
 Judy Silver (Ward II) 633-1845

Ward I – West St. Paul
 Ward II – Maples, Riverbend
 Ward III – Garden City, West Kildonan

note: all phone numbers provided
 are home phone numbers

Website: www.7oaks.org

Telephone Number: 586-8061