

Crop Development Centre Leads the Way

The Crop Development Centre(CDC), established as a unit of Crop Science and Plant Ecology in 1971, has fulfilled its mission of diversifying crops and their products for the farmers and agricultural industry of Saskatchewan.

So successful has it been, that it is serving as both inspiration and example for other departments.

The record speaks for itself. Gordon Rowland, director of CDC notes that the centre has released 90 crop varieties in 20 crop kinds. Because it takes about ten years to create a new, superior variety, it is not surprising that over half were released in the 1990s. Some of the most successful varieties have been Harrington malting barley, Brier feed barley, Derby oat, CDC Teal wheat, Sceptre durum, Vimy flax and Laird lentil. Those varieties are widely grown in Saskatchewan and neighboring provinces.

Rowland said that the centre maintains or assists breeding programs in CWS wheat, CPS wheat, winter wheat, durum wheat, malting barley, feed barley, hull-less barley, lentil, pea, dry bean, chickpea, linseed flax, solin flax and other lesser-known crops.

It is regarded as a centre of excellence in those crops. By general agreement, the centre leaves canola, mustard and forage crop development to Agriculture Canada Research to avoid overlap and provide a clear mandate for both institutions.

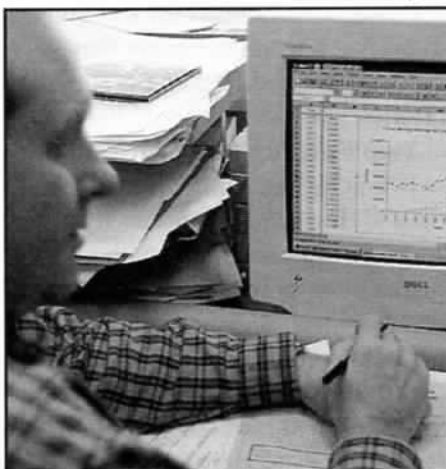
The CDC was established through joint funding of the National Research Council and the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture. It continues to

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\$3 million to Prairie Swine Centre

Saskatchewan's spring budget allotted \$3 million for capital expenditure to the Prairie Swine Centre located near Floral, SK. and an additional \$300,000 per year for three years to cover expanded research activity.

The added funding will enable the Centre to broaden its research program and help to support major developments in the pig industry. It is expected that the industry will create up to 6000 jobs in the next few years.



Gordon Rowland checks out a graph that shows the increasing acreages of flax, lentil, peas and canary seed grown from 1974 to 1994. Those crops received developmental support from CDC.

Knowles scholarship fund

The late Dr. R.P. (Bob) Knowles '41C, veteran research scientist with the Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada Research Station, has bequeathed about \$1.5 million to the U of S for the establishment of the Robert P. Knowles Scholarship fund.

Many agros will recall Bob Knowles as an instructor in forage crops. The scholarship will be used to support the training of post-graduate students in plant breeding improvements of forage, cereal, oil seed and pulse crops. Recipients must be Canadian citizens who have lived in Canada for at least five years and graduated from a Canadian university with high academic standing.

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The Thundering Herd



Jim Spiers'71C sent along a letter last November that just missed the deadline for the December issue. So he has first place in this issue. Jim and his wife Wendy (nee Smillie '70 BSc Pharm) have moved from Red Deer to Edmonton, where Jim is general marketing manager of Case IH dealership. First Equipment Centre Inc, a venture Capital group in Edmonton, has acquired 12 Case IH dealerships from Dawson Creek through to Red Deer, making it the largest in North America. This represents a new direction in agricultural equipment marketing. Drop in and see Jim at the new, northwest Edmonton dealership location. Jim adds that his son Jim has graduated from Red Deer College and started a one-year travel program with the Up With People program. Daughter Rebecca is in second year phs ed at U of A, Edmonton.

Allan McDougald'65C and **Blaine Canitz'80C**, head office gurus at Saskatoon, provide direction and inspiration to the nine-location kingdom, known also as HFM AG Services. The company (a growing version of Humboldt Flour Mills) does fertilizer blending, crop contracting, seeds, crop protection and custom application at Albertville, Hoey, Humboldt, Kelvington, Parkside, Rose Valley, Southey,

Strasbourg and Watson. Gary Pappenfoot'87S is one of their "get the job done" guys at Humboldt.

Don Mitchell'89S is still farming with his brother and father near Blucher, but they shut down the broiler chicken business in the fall of 1996. Dione, Don's wife, works part time as pharmacist in Saskatoon. They are also running Mitchell and Sons Trucking, a small company that moves grain and fertilizer around the prairies.

Tom Keeping'61S, Garrick farmer, says that he and Ruth will celebrate their 30th wedding anniversary come June. The nest is empty, with one married son in the Navy at Halifax NS and the other son in the oil patch earning money to take his second year at the College of Agriculture at the U of S. Ruth is a nurse at the Nipawin Hospital, where she has been employed since 1970. Tom has returned to their small farm after one term as an MLA - his constituency of Nipawin having vanished with redistribution. He says, "Believe it or not, I miss the good times I enjoyed while MLA. Having a selective memory (it goes with the position) I have forgotten the not so good times, and I am glad I have. I have been trying to replace the excitement with things like old timers slow pitch, riding my motorcycle, hiking, writing poetry and travelling. I work in some local farmer-operated sawmills in the winter and take care of a few cattle."

Word has it that **Terry Clark'76C**, is currently serving as head man for Elanco Animal Health Products at Seoul, South Korea.

Monique Detillieux'88C, explained in a note that her husband Martin is still the Pioneer elevator manager at Cavalier, SK, this despite the fact Cavalier is no longer on the Saskatchewan road map. Where is

Cavalier, you may ask? Well it is along Highway 26, north and west of North Battleford - between Meota and Vawn.

If you want to find **Marcell Kolla'83S**, drop around to Westlock AB. He may be handling a torch at Kolla Welding Ltd. or running a tractor on the farm.

Jeff Schoneau'84C, is a valued faculty member in soil science at the U of S, a farmer at Central Butte and one of SAGA's newest life members.

Reg Skinner'63C, Regina, took early retirement from Sask. Crop Insurance Corporation in March 1997 and is now self employed. Says he gets involved in things like property assessment, tax consulting etc.

Gary Flaten'80S sent along his new, North Battleford address, but did not explain what he is doing there nor why he left Saskatoon. The only clue is the UGG envelope.

Leroy Bader'71C, extension agrol-ogist with Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food at Tisdale, reports growing interest in a new kind of Cinderella crop, namely medicinal herbs. No one knows if it will be as dramatic as the development of rapeseed - er canola, but at \$35 per pound for the root of a common wildflower, it suggests potential. Yes that is the going price for Echinacea root, commonly known as purple coneflower.

There is probably a few drops of distillate from the root in a 50ml bottle that you pay \$15 for at the herb seller's counter. Growers have formed NorSask Botanicals that is working toward development of a medicinal herbicide industry. Leroy is working with that group.

A number of SAGA members are also involved in developing specialty livestock enterprises in Saskatchewan. They include **Ralph Howes'71C**,

The president's pen

The annual reunion was a huge success, as usual, and executive members of SAGA are actively preparing for the 1999 version. On behalf of all SAGA members a sincere thank you to executive committee members as follows:

Trevor Herzog'93S - curling

Trent Bobinski'85C - banquet & dance

Ron Froelich'79S - mixer

Bill Hill'76C - hockey

Those individuals have finished their two-year stints on the executive (except for Bill, who will do hockey again next year) and organized very successful events for all to enjoy during reunion weekend.

Another big SAGA thank you is due to **Lawrence Peterson'65C**, who has stepped down after serving five years as the very efficient SAGA secretary. Lawrence has done an excellent job of recording minutes, correspondence and participating on the executive. His efforts are greatly appreciated. Lawrence is still working on updating the SAGA History Book and hopes to have it finished for the year 2000 reunion.

I recently attended the A.S.A. graduation banquet and presented the Tommy Fraser Memorial award to Lana Oster. Lana is a fourth year student who has been very active on the A.S.A. council and in many sport activities. Congratulations Lana! I also had the opportunity to expound on the benefits of becoming a SAGA member. Les Henry'64C, was the

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receive strong financial support from Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food. This support is very important because it encourages the scientists to plan ahead and complete the projects.

guest speaker and he highlighted SAGA activities as being memorable and enjoyable events in his career.

Debates were recently held in the degree and diploma student lounges between SAGA members and current students. Jill Turner'82C, membership chair of SAGA, initiated the debates to raise awareness of SAGA with students. Further membership increasing efforts will be made this year.

This year SAGA will be involved in a fund raising effort to see what can be done with the stone barn on the university campus. This initiative dubbed 'Barn Builders' aims to raise about \$30,000 to fund a feasibility study to convert the little-used barn into meeting space, office space or whatever a converted structure could be good for. The barn will soon need extensive maintenance to prevent further deterioration and SAGA is just the type of group to kick-start action on this magnificent and historic structure. If you want more information or wish to contribute contact me or past president Rod Delahey'80C.

Finally, for those of us preparing to put a crop in this spring, I don't think we'll complain if the tow cable gets used a time or two. Hopefully all the fog in the first half of February translates into much-needed spring moisture. Good seeding.

Corey Loessin'86C President

The centre has ten scientists and part years of three Crop Science scientists are seconded to the centre. But at the height of activity in the summer there may be 150 centre employees, including office and field staff.

President profile



Corey Loessin (above) and spouse Joan Heath are partners in a fourth generation farm at Radisson, SK, along with Corey's brother, father and uncle. The farm currently crops about 6000 acres of cereals, oilseeds and pulse crops and has a herd of commercial beef cattle. Corey has spent the last seven winters at the University of Saskatchewan as coordinator of the Certificates in Agriculture Program. Prior to rejoining the family farm in 1990, Corey and Joan'85HEc spent five years employed by Alberta Agriculture in extension.

Corey graduated from the U of S in 1986 (Ag. Mech. major) and has been a life member of SAGA since. He has served several years on the SAGA executive, including four years involvement with the hockey tournament, an interim stint as secretary/treasurer and vice president last year. He is keenly interested in making students aware of our organization.

Corey's other interests include hockey, curling, snowmobiling, water skiing, camping and wood-working. And of course his family, wife Joan, children Audra(6) and Aidan(4 months).

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farm management specialist, Moose Jaw, who finds that elk are giving very good returns on investment. **Martin Ferguson'70C**, Edgeley and **Stewart Adam'68C**, Prince Albert, have been explaining the prospects of bison farming to many interested audiences.

Ted Sakaluk'77C, who is program head of the Farm Business Management Section, at SIAST's Wascana campus in Regina, is preparing a two-day course and instructional video on precision farming. The course should be ready for presentation to interested farmers and others at various locations in Saskatchewan this fall. The purpose of the course will be to help farmers understand and use the concept, perhaps through mapping and use of maps in managing their farms.

Saskatchewan Charolais members attending the 34th annual meeting at Madge Lake, returned SAGA past president **Kim Harder'83C** to the Charolais executive committee.

Norm McIntyre'84S continues to farm at Wiseton and Tyner, but he's found all kinds of other interesting things to do. He has received his Business Administration Certificate from the U of S and he has just got elected trustee to the Eston-Elrose School Unit and the Wiseton town council. He is also working on the local board to build a Heartland hog barn in the Wiseton- Dinsmore district.

Bill'60C and **Alma Copeland** spend winter months in their Mesa, Arizona place, but should be returning to Rosetown soon to gear up the farm operation. **Clarence'54C** and **Darlene Collins**, Rosetown, were snowbirds in Arizona this year too.

Cindy Hokanson'82S reports from Estevan that she is an office clerk with

Schlumberger of Canada. She also sent along her annual membership dues. \$60 more would buy you life, Cindy. Give it a try... **Celeste Foster (nee Thomson)'92C** reports that she and Earl Foster got hitched on May 17, 1997 and it snowed the next day (sort of like the sky falling). In February they took a delayed honeymoon at Montego Bay, Jamaica - claims its the best. They are in the process of moving from Saskatoon to Regina.

Paul Cann'71C, Calgary has decided to take early retirement from the newly-created Canadian Food Inspection Agency, on April 1/98. But he isn't going to hang out - he's getting involved in things electric. He also sent along notes on some of his colleagues at the CFIA, as follows:

Don Hepburn'72C is hanging in as food program manager and it is a big job now that the Western region includes the four provinces. **Brian McCrum'71C**, Vancouver, a counterpart to Don Hepburn, has also taken early retirement. He plans to take it easy for a while. **Eric Jackson'83C** also works at CFIA and helps Don manage the food programs. **Al Kohlman '78C** is the training officer for CFIA and it is a big job since the old departments of Fisheries and Oceans, Agriculture Canada Food Products and Inspections, Consumer and Corporate Affairs, and Health Canada food inspection staff members are all in the CFIA.

Bob Hunter '67C, Red Deer, is a food inspector with Alberta Agriculture and part of a joint project between CFIA and his department. They are working toward a single food inspection group in Alberta.

Gerald Coutts'72C, his wife Sheri and family are reported to have moved from Vancouver to Calgary in early 1997. We understand that

Safeway, Gerald's employer, transferred him to strengthen the Calgary management team.

Russell Jacobs'64C writes that he is a minister occupied with ministry of the word of God in Norway and he would be glad to see any grads who come to Norway. He can be reached by telephone at 92 84 1835 (mobile tel GSM net), or you may write to him at Jacob Stuastrgt. 5, N-1776 Halden, Norway.

Peter Hacker'75S is chairman of the Operations and advisory committee for Sask. Wheat Pool district 4. sub.3. They are currently deciding how to divide up condo space at the new Maple Creek Terminal; also to come up with a distinctive name for the new facility. There will be a 'naming' contest for the school children in the area.

Tracy Jans'88S and his wife Laura have produced two future cowboys for the Jans spread, southwest of Maple Creek. Riley Paul was born on Mar. 1, 1995 and Nolen Patrick on March 28, 1997. The boys are the proud owners of nine grandparents, including greats and greats-greats.

Ian'71C and **Eleanor Bowie** accompanied **Don'30C** and **Julie Bowie** to mesa, Arizona for a couple of weeks in February. Son **Jon** and daughter **Elayna Bowie'94C** kept

Food industry building

In March, the Province of Saskatchewan allocated \$2 million for a new food processing centre on campus. This announcement came days after a \$1.5 grant to the U of S to support expanded teaching in biotechnology.

The new centre, whose location is to be determined, will be a non-profit co-operative, offering full-service assistance to food processors wanting to add value to their products.

Pooped deck



Lloyd Proctor'41S, retired farmer at Mervin, SK, visited classmate **Edgar Mapletoft** at his home in the Frenchman Butte district last November 30. Lloyd was much impressed with the pioneer artifacts building located high above the North Saskatchewan River. It is truly a marvellous collection, well displayed and cared for. At present a group of about 25 are working on a small park complete with a stream amongst four exhibit buildings and many pioneer machines. They have built a native log home with an upstairs and it is available for weekend stays. (Editor's note: This is a beautiful area of the province and there are a number of other historical sites in the area west and north of North Battleford.)

Archie Campbell'35C and his wife Vivian have ended their 80-year stay in Saskatoon and are now living in their seniors condominium in Calgary. Health concerns played a part in their decision to move. Last April Vivian broke her hip and the doctor noted heart problems when her hip was being

mended. With children in Vancouver and Calgary such a move had been considered earlier but nothing done about it. In a note in early January Vivian and Archie said they were fine and looking forward to making new friends and enjoying their new home. Being close to family is a bonus.

Walter Brice'40C penned a short note before leaving for Arizona in December. In it he noted that the best looking member of their class was not named in the photograph in the December SAGA issue. Yes, that was Bruce Martin, reunion host at Vancouver. Walter said they will meet up with classmates Harvey Dunn and Joe Hudek and probably a few other grads in Arizona.

John'51C and **Doreen McConnell** are still pretty active members of the Saskatoon community. John has been encouraging innovative and practical waste recycling methods by writing about success stories in other communities. And he has been working with 27 organizations on forest policies.

George Price'46S and wife Esther, left their Ottawa home to spend Christmas with their son in California. They are back now to curling, dancing and discouraging those awful ice storms.

A picture of a handsome **Gordon Wilson**'48C and his pretty, young wife Marion, appeared in the December 27, 1997 issue of *The StarPhoenix*. Congratulations on your 50 years of marriage!

Saskatoon couple **Betty Brown** and **Delmar Remple** returned recently from Haiti, where they visited several Mennonite Central Committee(MCC) assisted projects. One of these was a road construction project, where villagers were provided with hand equipment and \$100,000. It will make it much easier for them to move goods to market. They also provided some

pencils and other school items. Betty is the widow of the late Dean of Agriculture **Jake Brown**'51C.

Wally Clarke'42C says the SAGA means more to him every year - especially the notes and articles on historic years. Like a third of a century or more back. Give him a call if you are in Victoria and near Oak Bay Road.

Al Myhr'49C has retired from the University of Guelph faculty and he and Jenny have moved into their new home in a retirement village bordering the university. Al is now devoting much time to musical pursuits, mainly with a company of entertainers called The Troubadours. In this group he plays piano for a harmonica band; plays guitar or ukelele and sings comic parodies, or sings the baritone part in a trio. The group entertains at banquets, hospitals, senior centres and any other audiences that will tolerate them.

Paul'51C and **Joan Turner** hosted **Jim**'51C and **Holly Rooke**, **Jack**'51C and **Joan Braidek** at lunch recently. The Turner house is located on the shores of Oak Bay, Victoria, where they can watch the ocean traffic and keep an eye on their lobster trap anchored out in the bay. Paul's health is good following bypass surgery, but he needs more knowhow to go along with their new fishing boat. No catch the first time out!

On their westward swing Jack and Joan Braidek visited several retired grads. They included **Jim Ellis**'57 MSc (**Ruth**) at Chilliwack and **Al Dawson**'49C (**Margaret**) at Kelowna, both of them former soil survey guys, Al in BC, Jim in Saskatchewan. Both couples and Gwen Barr, widow of **Dougie Barr**'40C, Westbank, live in nice new digs, are well and enjoying life.

The Ag Grad Reunion: January 16,17,18, 1998

Honorary Life members



Joe Linnell'51S (above), Summerberry seed grower, thanked the SAGA for naming him an Honorary Life Member. Joe was a busy guy while at University and he really hasn't slowed down yet. He's been a valued member on almost every organization in his community and has found time to pursue international connections, first as a Nuffield Scholar in 1961, then as an organizer of Nuffield Conferences in 1983 and again this year. He's visited scholars in Australia, New Zealand and Africa and served on a CESO canola instruction program in China. Joe, his wife Joan and son Kevin are partners in the family farm founded in 1885. They are using conservation practices such as zero till to keep the farm productive for future generations.

Their daughter Jennifer lives in Medicine Hat.

Joe was presented to the SAGA banquet crowd by **Doug Kent'49C**, Grenfell farmer.



L to r above: **Gordon Wilson'48C**, his wife Marion, Lucille Rondeau and **Mac Rondeau'48C**.

Mac, an exuberant student and class morale booster (AKA "College Squeak"), later a successful agricultural entrepreneur, was also named a SAGA Honorary Life Member.

Following graduation Mac worked for Dow Chemicals and was one of the first grads to introduce farmers to 2,4D and MCPA. He bought a small chemical formulating plant in Regina, ran it for a few years then sold it to Niagara Chemicals and managed it until 1967. He set up Midland Vegetation Control and Midland Agricultural Services, a land services company: Both operate to this day. He also farms at Parkman and is still the enthusiast.

Lucille and Mac are the proud parents of three sons and two daughters. Mac was presented to the crowd by classmate Gordon Wilson.

Travelling west?



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Paul Douglas, B.S.A.'66C
General manager



Empty Saddles



Lorne Frederick Barber'38C, died at White Rock, B.C. on September 29, 1997, at age 81 years. Lorne was born at Wolseley, SK and following his marriage to Margaret Ross of Saskatoon in 1941 they took over the family dairy farm in the Westfield community south of Wolesley. He was a member of the school board, active in the United Church and one of the organizers of the Triple-T 4H Dairy Club. In 1959 they moved to Regina where Lorne worked for Saskatchewan Agriculture, transferring to PFRA in 1968. They retired to White Rock, BC, in 1982.

Lorne was predeceased by his parents, a brother Harold and a son Malcolm. He is survived by his wife Margaret, sons **Donald'65C** (Janet), Regina, Robert (Merle), Ottawa; daughter-in-law Jean, Calgary; sisters Cora Wilderspin, Comox, B.C. and Nora Knight, Richmond, B.C.; and seven grandchildren.

John Leslie Bews'47S, died at the Eaton Health Care Centre on November 19, 1997 at the age of 79 years. Les was raised on the farm, the eighth of ten children of Rev. James and Elizabeth Bews. Following five years as an aero-engine mechanic with the RCAF he returned to the family homestead and had a successful farming career. Les liked to try new things, enjoyed reading and

playing the accordion. He had a great sense of humor and will be much missed by his friends and family. Les is survived by his wife Lenora, sons Craig (Connie), Eaton, Bradley, Kindersley; daughters Lynne (Henry Peters), Hanley, Brenda (Kevin Churchill), Saskatoon, and five grandchildren. Surviving also are brothers Jim and Dave, Eaton, Bill of Salmon Arm, BC and **Bob'50C**, Regina; sisters Dolly Spafford, White Rock, BC and Mame Farden, Dauphin, MB.

Russell John Campbell'50C, 69 years, died at Saskatoon on January 22, 1998. He is survived by his wife Shirley, son John (Judy), daughter Janet (Rick) Tofani, four grandchildren, and his sister Willa (Doug) Loewen.

Following graduation Russ worked briefly for the Farm Loan Board, then joined the Canadian Army, served in the Korean conflict and attained the rank of First Lieutenant. Russ grain farmed and taught agricultural mechanics, first at extension courses all over Saskatchewan from 1956 to 1962, then at the University of Saskatchewan from 1962 to 1995. He served on the University of Saskatchewan senate. A friendly, outgoing person, Russ was great company and will be sorely missed by his family and many friends.

Burton MacKay Craig'44C died on December 27, 1997 at Royal University Hospital, Saskatoon. Burt was born in 1918 at Vermilion, Alberta, and had a very productive career as research scientist with the National Research Council at Saskatoon. He was an important member of the research team that

developed rapeseed into a widely accepted edible oil. He was awarded the Saskatchewan Order of Merit in recognition of his achievements. Burt's first wife Inez predeceased him and he is survived by his wife Jacquelin, his son Wayne (Peggy), daughter Cheryl Lynne (Tom), four grandchildren, brother Lloyd (Emma) and numerous nieces and nephews.

Gladys Dexter (nee Chapman) of Victoria, BC, born February 1, 1919, died on February 13, 1998. She is survived by her husband **John Dexter '41S**, son Ralph and his family at Otavalo, Ecuador, and her daughter Beryl Nikiforuk and family of Calgary. She is also survived by her brothers, **Harold'43C** (Mary) of Saskatoon, **Earl'46C** (Elsie) and **Charlie'46S** (Yvonne) of Melfort, **Bill'48S** (Mary); sister Alice (Gene) Bader and sister-in-law Phyllis of Saskatoon. She was predeceased by her parents and brother Jack. Gladys and John grew up in the Meskanaw district and following their marriage in 1943 they farmed at Meskanaw, being part of the Laurel Co-op Farm for 26 years, retiring to Victoria in 1971.

Henry Wesley Everett Greenshields '49C, 74, died at the Royal University Hospital on December 1, 1997. He is survived by his wife Verna, children Jim (Lorna), Saskatoon; **Grant'81S** (Callie), Semans; Patty (Tom) Burk, Chetwynd, BC; Linda (Kevin) Ness, St. Albert, AB; nine grandchildren and his sister Isobel Beeler, Nokomis. Wes was predeceased by his parents and brother **Ross'49C**. Following gradua-

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tion Wes worked for a brief period for the Agricultural Representative Service and University Extension, then operated the family farm at Semans until his death. He was a select seed grower and took a great interest in the business of agriculture. Since 1982 he and son Grant operated their seed plant in town.

Joseph Paul Jerome, Rosetown, age 74, died on December 29, 1997. He was predeceased by his wife Thelma and is survived by eleven of their 12 children, **Joe**'75S (Pat), Iv-Lee (Greg), Sally (Joe), Gale (Dennis), Jaqueline (Doug), Paulette (Ian), Theresa (Darren), Leslie (Bob), Micheal-Ann (Howard), Zena and Stephanie (Don).

Robert Patrick Knowles'41C, born at Unity, SK in 1919, passed away at Saskatoon on December 29, 1997. Bob started work with Agriculture Canada as a student in 1938, then after serving in the Canadian Army and completing his MSc and PHD he worked full time at the Saskatoon research station from 1948 to 1985. Then an additional ten years as Emeritus Scientist. Bob took a special interest in grasses for hay and pasture and published extensively on them, as well as instructing undergraduate and graduate students in forage crops. He developed six varieties of brome grass and three of crested wheatgrass. He received many awards in recognition of his contributions to science and agriculture, including the Agronomy Merit Award, Honorary Life Membership in the Canadian Seed Growers, Fellow, Agricultural Institute of Canada, merit certificate from the American Forage and Grassland Council, recognition of contributions to the Dept. of Crop

Science and Plant Ecology, Distinguished Graduate in Agriculture Award, Award by the faculty of agriculture, U of S, in recognition of a Lifetime of Exemplary Service to the Advancement of Agricultural Science and many others. He was an honorary life member of the SAGA. Bob, a bachelor, is survived by his sister Dorothy Knowles, a nephew and nieces.

John Terry Phalen'50C died at the Ottawa General Hospital on January 11, 1998. He was 78 years old. Terry is survived by his wife Marjorie Herrick and their children Phyllis (Leonard Kalk), Larry (Christen Severson), Kim (Bernadette Irvine), Maureen (Greg Hussey), Patricia (Roland Guerra), Karen (Michael Doucette), Barbara (Michael Pashkoski); 13 grandchildren, one great grandchild and his brother Thomas (Mildred) of Shaunavon, SK.

Terry spent his entire life working in the co-operative movement, beginning with the Department of Co-operation and Co-operative Development of the Saskatchewan government in 1950 and was director of the extension department for 15 years. He worked very closely with the production co-ops, Saskatchewan Co-operative Fisheries and Northern Co-operative Trading. In 1967 Terry became director of educational services with the Co-operative Union of Canada, Ottawa. He was named general secretary the next year and served in that position until 1979. In 1997 Terry received the Saskatchewan Co-operative Enterprise Award for outstanding initiative and achievement.

Archie Norman Robertson'47S, Zealandia farmer, telephone lineman, school bus driver for 34 years, 4-H and Cub Scout leader, died on January

17, 1998. Archie also coached hockey, did accounting for the Pym Co-op and was a crop inspector for Agriculture Canada. But above all he was great company for his beloved family and his wit brightened the day of all he met. Archie is survived by his wife Beth, sons Norman (Mahnaz), Swift Current, Jim (Darlene), Edmonton, Doug (Donna), Saskatoon, Keith (Jennifer), Halifax; eleven grandchildren, sisters Donna and Deanna.

John Sawatzky, 85 years, died at Saskatoon on December 17, 1997. He farmed at Bradwell and has lived in retirement in Saskatoon. He is survived by his wife Lydia, children, **Kurt**'66C and **Pat**, Saskatoon; Charlotte, Victoria, B.C., and Rick, Hudson Bay.

Edith Child Rowles Simpson '32 BHSC died at the Royal University Hospital, Saskatoon, on December 29, after a brief illness. She was born in England in 1905 and came to Canada with her family in 1910, settling first in Manitoba, then moving to an Empress, AB farm. Following graduation she joined the Extension Division staff at the U of S and became girl's work supervisor, organizing the first homecraft clubs. She was an assistant professor in agriculture 1941 to 1945, then Dean of Women, professor then dean of Home Economics and received many awards for her achievements. She was predeceased by her husband Professor George Simpson, her brother William, sisters, Jessie Caldwell and Phebe Winnifred Rowles. She is survived by her brother **Charles Rowles**'36C (Janet), Vancouver, nephews and nieces.

Girvin farmer **Robert 'Bus' Lincoln Storey**, age 83, passed away

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Reunion Plans

1949 Diploma grads

The late John Reid used to marshal his class members for reunions: In his absence new organizers are stepping forth to lead the ranks to a super 50th anniversary reunion in 1999.

Lloyd Redick, Regina, and Oliver By, Kelvington, have agreed to organize the party, so you 1949 diploma grads can expect to hear from them in the days ahead. Now, if you have some good ideas for this event, or wish to volunteer your help with the project, or have recently changed your address, let your guys know.

Contact Lloyd Redick at
51 Brook Bay, Regina, SK S4N
1M7

1960 Diploma Grads

Ye 1960 grads are reminded that the year 2000 will be your 40th anniversary since graduation. Plans need to be made: Rooms should be booked soon.

Orest Nawrocki, Regina and Milton Brown, Climax will be making plans for the big event and will explaining them to you.

If you want to get in touch with Orest, you can telephone him at 306-584-8694.

Or write to him at 79 Hudson Drive, Regina, SK S4S 2W1.

60 year graduates



Above: Sylvia Thompson, Stuart McBean, Ruth McBean, Ed Thompson
Stuart and Ed both grew up in Saskatoon and graduated in 1938. Ed worked for the province and was head of the Assessment Branch for many years. He and Sylvia are retired in Kelowna, BC. Stuart was a plant breeder with Agriculture Canada during his work career. He and Ruth continue to live in Swift Current in retirement.

Home Grown

Monique Detillieux (Hannotte) '88C is back to work with SAMA after a one year maternity leave with the birth of child #3, a 6lb 3oz baby girl, Madison Madelaine. She was born on Nov.19, 1996. Big brother Mitchell and sister Mikayla were ecstatic were ecstatic about the addition. There is never a dull moment in the household!

Dione Mitchell gave birth to a little boy - Andrew Sayles, in August, 1997, a brother for 2 year old Jessica and son for **Don Mitchell**'89C.

Sherry and **Glen**'91C Hill, Rosetown, are excited to announce the birth of their son, Brett Andrew, on November 16,1997 at Rosetown Hospital. He weighed 7 lbs 6 oz. Proud grandparents are Bob and Pat Carstairs, Rosetown; Ken and Tracy Hill of Nipawin.

Maureen and **Norm**'84S McIntyre, Wiseton, are proud to announce the birth of Caelan Michael, on May 13,1997. A brother for Matthew and Sheldon.

Denise and **Todd**'89C Treslan announce the birth of their second child, Troy Porter, on November 27,1997. His big sister Abbie is very proud of the new addition to the family. Tom is an appraisal agrologist with SAMA in Regina and Denise is (extra) busy with her other career as a Creative Memories consultant.

Corey Loessin'86C and **Joan Heath**'86HEc are pleased to announce the arrival of Aiden Heath Loessin on Dec. 17,1997. He tipped the scales at nine pounds and his big sister Audra(6) says "He's heavy." The family keeps on farming at Radisson and Corey is president of SAGA this year.

Echoes from the University halls

A couple of times each year the College of Agriculture issues a bulletin called AGNews, a resume of happenings at the college. The articles in this section are scalped from the January, 28/98 issue. Most have been squished down a bit or a lot.

Dean Stewart's message

What can we make happen in 1998? Let us first consider our mission. It is:

"To meet agricultural and food industry needs through teaching, research, extension and service programs. A strong emphasis is placed on the practical aspects of research and education, ensuring that the College keeps in touch with realities of sustainable production and processing, responsible resource management and market requirements."

Whereas little has changed in either the overall mission or the college's roles since it was established, we have made significant modifications to the way we have interpreted them in recent years.

Role 1: Instruction

Our BSA curriculum, although only three years old, is constantly under scrutiny with several departments critically examining individual courses and programs. Several department reps have worked on interdisciplinary needs such as developing a biotechnology core that could serve all the life sciences, and others have adapted introductory classes for both television and electronic delivery. At each step of these examinations I get the sense that we are still overly hide bound, traditional and cautious in our approach to change and acceptance of new theories. This may be an admirable trait in some disciplines but it is not so appropriate

in an applied science. I think there is much to do to keep abreast of new developments in theory and practice and to present this to students.

The Diploma program review is in the final stages of examination. Plans are well advanced in developing animal production certificates programs. The industry has asked Prairie Swine Centre Inc. to mount instruction programs immediately for pork production needs. This will be a joint arrangement between PSCI and the Extension Division contracting services from prairie colleges and universities. This material should be useful for the development of future diploma and certificate offerings.

Roles 2, 3 & 5: Research, technology transfer & economic development.

The applied research and transfer aspects of the college role has been greatly aided by the development of not-for-profit corporations. These combine the efforts of academia, industry and producers into responsive science centres. They include the Prairie Feed Resource Centre, Western Beef Development Centre, Sask. Food Industry Development Centre and Prairie Swine Centre. These centres are a logical development and build on the success and impact of previous college/industry partnerships, such as the Crop Development Centre and the Prairie Swine Centre. Newly endowed chairs in biotechnology, food science, pulse crops and sustainable agriculture should help to stimulate research and graduate student instruction. Agriculture Canada's new Centre of Excellence in Oilseed Technology, and NRC's Plant Biotechnology Institute greatly expand the critical mass of scientists that influence scientific and economic development in

crops.

Role 4: Public awareness

This is where we have not had much success, nor have others. We have much to be proud of and must tell the public.

Role 6: Public policy development

The college continues to be active in this area and the advent of CSALE (the Centre for Studies in Agriculture, Law and the Environment) has helped advance our activity.

Role 7: International awareness and development This still depends on individual initiatives and has not involved our undergraduates in any substantial way. We should work toward more research and student exchange linkages in the international area.

In summary, there are many challenges and opportunities looming in 1998. We have some extra tools but must be aware of the challenge and focus on what is achievable.

Comments by Associate Dean Graham Jones.

The committee charged with reviewing the Diploma in Agriculture Program has completed its job and a report of their deliberations is available from the College of Agriculture.

The College is now planning how it will proceed with implementation of the report and will complete that effort on May 8. The plans approved at that time will go before the University vice president for approval to proceed.

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Echoes from the Halls (cont'd)

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The committee made 21 recommendations. The first being that the Diploma in Agriculture Program continue and that it be supported by the necessary resources. Also that the course offering be adjusted to be of greater use to students who will not farm but wish to stay in the agricultural industry. Raising admission requirements and restructuring the program from the three years with six 9 or 11-week terms to two years with four 13-week terms is also recommended, although students had argued against the latter.

The target date for changes to the Diploma course is September 1999.

More computer space for more students

In the current year enrolment in the

degree program increased by 3.8% and in the diploma by 11.6%. This put more pressure on computer laboratory space. The problem has been solved by converting the adjacent study room, to accommodate six more computer stations, for a total of 21. Funds came from the Agriculture Enhancement and Endowment Trust Fund.

Off-campus classes

Assistant Dean Iain Christison reports that over 40 students at nine locations in Saskatchewan, are taking Agriculture 111 and 112, first-year degree classes. Every week they 'attend' a three-hour study session that includes lectures, interviews, demonstrations and group discussions, delivered by TV satellite. Students receive comprehensive study notes and com-

plete weekly assignments that are mailed in to Saskatoon for marking. Help is available via telephone.

Agriculture Building phase II Sixth floor addition

Bob Mc Kercher '54C reports that the project is at the room design stage and hopes construction bids will be called later this year. The area is about 2000 square metres and is allocated as follows (each in sq. metres): bioinsecticide research - 281, Food Industry Development Centre - 370, Department of Animal and Poultry Science - 1293. That department will also retain use of its existing building, but the trailers that crowd around it now will be abandoned. The bioinsecticide group will transfer from the Toxicology Centre. The Food Industry Development Centre is a new joint ini-

Memories: 50 years & older

by George Price '46S

It was called "The Little Royal" - an opportunity to parade the university farm animals around the Livestock Pavilion - the site also of "I place A over B" judging classes. Spectators also included staff and students from other colleges, whose roots were back in rural Saskatchewan. For the most part the parades were well behaved, being kept on a short shank. But the odd cantankerous beast added to the jollity as students assisted a flustered showman whose heels were plowing furrows through the shaving-strewn ring.

One of the most memorable moments of the spring show was the wind-up lunch. Everyone was invited to partake of coffee and sandwiches. In his concluding remarks the MC

acknowledged all who had made the event possible. The list included a special thank you to the Swift Current horse meat plant. Maybe it was my imagination, but this could have conjured up memories of riding Buster to school. There seemed to be a mini stampede of students to the biffies located under the green stands on the east side of the pavilion.

Some classes at the School of Agriculture seemed more popular than others. Students disliked memorizing the names of flowers and drawing bee landing boards. House plants were perceived as being in mother's and sister's domain. Poultry had its moments, especially when it came to bleeding and sticking birds. Pigs and steers one took in stride, but to give

the coup de grace to a chicken with other than an axe and chopping block, was a rooster of another color.

On the fateful day in which we assembled in the slaughtering room of the now-demolished Livestock Pavilion - the one with the large concrete scalding tank. The chickens were suspended from the rope leg tethers with the weighted bleeding cups in place. Each student took their squawking bird over to swish and soak prior to plucking. The plunge into the "hot tub" revived the birds and a number actually flew through the air, coming in at 12 o'clock and 3 o'clock high. Fortunately, those who knew what needed to be done - did it, and no SPCA people came by.

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on February 17, 1998 at St. Paul's Hospital, Saskatoon. He is survived by his wife Burna, son **Gary'63C (Joelle)** and their children Kristin (Mark Hillenbrand) and Lauren (Jason Sheehy).

Joseph Sparks'28S, age 89 years, passed away in Kamloops, BC, after a lengthy fight with cancer. During his earlier years Joe was well known as a pedigreed seed producer in the Glamis district, Saskatchewan. Following this he worked in semi-retirement at the Sask. Wheat Pool seed warehouse in Saskatoon. On retirement he built three family cottages at Coteau Beach, on Lake Diefenbaker where he enjoyed the summers among friends and family.

Joe is survived by his ex-wife Millie, of Nanaimo, daughter Margaret Thompson, Saskatoon; **Joe'66C (Wendy)**, Kamloops; Jim (Diane), Nanaimo, 20 grandchildren, 33 great grandchildren and four great great grandchildren. He was predeceased by his parents, one sister, two brothers and son Jack.

David Albert Zemlak'75S, Elfros, passed away in Wynyard Union Hospital on November 12, 1997. David was born in 1955, attended high school at Elfros and was a strong competitor in sports. After graduation from the School of Agriculture he farmed with his father until 1985, then on his own, at the same time serving as a brakeman and engineer for CPR. He was a loving, generous and caring son, husband, father brother and friend. He is lovingly remembered by his wife Kari (nee Yurak), children Christopher, Laurie, Tyler, Andrew and Joshua.

John Zwaan, 65, died on December

12, 1997 at Royal University Hospital. John came to Canada from Holland in 1947 and was a successful businessman in Saskatoon. He is survived by his wife Rachel; daughter Blanche Zwaan, Tortola, BVI; four sons, Bruce (Wanda), Edmonton, **Brian'81C**, St. Denis, SK, Barry (Kathy), Saskatoon, Brad (Janet), Martensville, SK, adopted son Marvin, Saskatoon; seven grandchildren, his mother Trudy Zwaan, Langham and sister Trudi (Les) Bernath, New York, NY.

Harold Jack Barclay'46S, Kindersley, died on March 4, 1998, at age 75. He is survived by his wife Mabel, daughters Helen (Bill) Rosher, Eatonville, Victoria, Toronto, Jacqueline, Saskatoon; brother **William Barclay'41S**, Kamloops and sister Jean Barclay, Kindersley. He was predeceased by his parents, son Donald and a baby granddaughter. Harold farmed all his life, strongly believed in the cooperative movement and was an active participant in his community.

Thomas Victor Beck'50C, passed away peacefully at his Regina home on April 6, 1998. He was 76 years old. Vic is survived by his wife Lee, children Linda (Cal) Gary, Duncan, BC, Nola (Bill) Jones, Saskatoon, Donna (Don) Martin, Regina, Brenda Beck (Neil Budd) Coquitlam, BC; ten grandchildren, two step-grandchildren, brothers Stan (Margaret) and Norm (Camila), sister Merida Fowler and sister-in-law Jean Beck. After graduation Vic was employed by Saskatchewan Agriculture as provincial weed specialist, then as director of the Plant Industry Branch. In his weed job he was a popular speaker at countless field days. Vic will long be remembered for his cheerful nature and great sense of humor.

The Honorable Patricia Mabel Blacklock Linn, retired justice of the Court of Queen's Bench, died on March 18, 1998, at the Palliative Care Unit, St. Paul's Hospital, Saskatoon. She is survived by her husband Dale G. Linn, their sons, Robert Dale and Brian David Linn, her parents **Jock'43C** and **Mabel Blacklock**, brothers **Jack Blacklock'71C** (Dr. Patricia Slimmon), Robert (Marjorie) Blacklock, sisters Leslie Blacklock (Allen Chalupiak) and Jean Blacklock (Don Hlga).

Cecil John Jenkins'51S of Strassbourg, passed away on February 17, 1998, at the age of 77 years. He leaves to mourn his wife Florence, daughter Laurel Jenkins, sons Warren and Edwin (Bonnie). Cec farmed and had a machinery dealership. Community-minded and friendly, he will be missed by a wide circle of friends and associates.

James William Mulhern'65S was born in 1937 and passed away on March 5, 1998. He was predeceased by his parents and is survived by his sister Evelyn (Nick) Pidhorney, and brothers John, Saskatoon and Allan (Cecilia), Meyronne. During the 1970s Jim was an instructor at agricultural extension courses. Jim was a founding member of the Meyronne Lions Club and director of Meyronne Co-op for 24 years. He was an outdoor person, a good farmer and very proud of his Hereford herd.

Due to a lack of space, obituaries of the following deceased Agros will be carried in the August edition.

Howard Lyle Biehn'52C
Donald Julius Driedger'49C
Harry-Jae Elder'52S
Roger Thomas Gray'49C
John Tregloan Rogers'23C

Reunion weekend sport reports

Hockey

The tournament was a success again, with eight competitive and four recreational teams. Because of an error in booking the ladies were unable to play. This will not happen again.

In the Championship game the Drake Mighty Ducks defeated the FCC Loan Sharks by a score of 4 to 1. Playing for Drake were Jack Zenert, Trevor Mehl, Trevor Blair, Scott Blair, Craig Blair, Tracy Preete, Darren Blair, Greg Howat, Rob Gibney, Ellis Clayton, Billy Gust, Lionel Redden and Scott Gibney.

The Consolation final was won by the SVAA Students by a score of 5 to 3 over the Soviet Towel Bandits. Playing for SVAA were Glenn Fafard, Kyle Fraser, Wade McLeod, Sean Nelson, Mike Burechaib, Ryan Melster, Bryce Thom, Trevor Schermeh, Gilles Gaiceu, Shawn Colborn, Doug Bedord, Garan Reacects, Roman Domashovitz, Dale Gee, Jeff Doud, Brent Vermuelen, and Greg Lundsten.

In the recreational division the Hornets were the winners and another SVAA team came second.

Next year the championship game will be at 10:30 an the east rink and the consolation at 10:45 in the west rink. Folks with a long drive to get home will get an earlier start.

Thanks to all who played and to the help provided by Corey Loessin and Larry Hayes.

Bill Hill
Hockey chair

Curling

The 1998 SAGA bonspiel had 24 teams in the regular draw and seven in the Hutcheon(senior) event. The winners are noted under the photographs on this page.

All the teams enjoyed the weekend and the 'spiel ran smoothly with help from the Hub City and Granite curling clubs. I thank the bonspiel sponsors - The Royal Bank, Cargill, Monsanto and John Deere. Each supplied prizes for the top two rinks in each of the four events.

Next year's bonspiel will be held January 15 to 17,1999. See you there. Have a great summer!.

Trevor Herzog'93S Drawmaster



A event winners: (l to r) Trevor Herzog presents the trophy to Art Delahey, Stu Cutts, Denny Holben, Rod Delahey.



B event winners: Bill Klassen, Tim Wiens, Rudy Wiens, Rod Wiens.



C event winners: Darrin Clauson, Gerald Ife, Scott Anderson, Scott Ife.



Hutcheon event winners: Elwood Fleming, George Noble, Wayne Jensen, Ron McKinnon.

SAGA directors: 1998

Honorary president - Irene Ahner -
662-3463
Past president - Rod Delahey -
(o)665-4255, (h) 477-3104
President - Corey Loessin -
(o)966-4049, farm 827-2022
Vic president - Ewald Lammerding
477-1369
Secretary - Tom Burwell
373-3938
Treasurer - Michael Turley
1-800-668-7171, (h) 249-2452
Regirtrar - Richard Bellamy
668-6370
Editor - Jack Braidek - 933-1257
Advisory Council rep - Bill Cooper -
477-2050
Ag Hall of Fame - Bob Brack
343-0075
U of S Alumni - Fred Fulton,
373-1440

Directors on committees

Banquet : Jim Bessel
373-6671, cell222-8300
Rod Lessmeister
(o) 477-5415 (h)664-6137
Mixer: Ken Sapsford
(o)933-5287, (h)948-2767
Bev Rosher -
(o)244-5192, (h)373-3243
Curling: Judy McMillan, 329-4414
Stuart Cutts -
(o)933-5532, (h)373-7131
Hockey: Bill Hill - 668-6039
Larry Hayes -
(o)975-4248, (h)373-2235

Membership:

Jill Turner - 283-4626
Blair Cummins - 373-4393

Members at large

Jim Pratt, Swift Current - 778-8291

S.I.A. scholarship winners

The Saskatchewan Institute of Agrolgists award scholarships to students **Stephanie Wielgosz** of Rose Valley, **Doc Crooks** of Lafleche and **Tyson Cooper** of Saskatoon.

Canadian Seed Trade awards

At its annual meeting the Canadian

SASKATCHEWAN AGRICULTURAL GRADUATES ASSOCIATION					
FINANCIAL STATEMENT FISCAL 1997					
NOVEMBER 1, 1996 to OCTOBER 31, 1997					
INCOME		EXPENSE			
MEMBERSHIPS	3030.00	NEWSLETTER	5949.78		
HOCKEY	3940.00	HOCKEY	4183.15		
CURLING	3594.00	CURLING	2960.58		
BANQUET & DANCE	7620.00	BANQUET & DANCE	8311.40		
MIXER	8164.00	MIXER	6974.80		
BANK INTEREST	17.97	BANK CHARGES	23.40		
INVT. INTEREST	5556.40	MICELLANEOUS	2159.63		
ADVERTISING	320.00				
TOTAL INCOME	\$32242.37	TOTAL EXPENSE	\$30562.74		
INCOME over EXPENSE		\$1679.63			
TREND ANALYSIS		1994	1995	1996	1997
BANK BALANCE	\$7617.20	\$4337.74	\$4350.34	\$4029.97	
INVESTMENTS	\$64040.50	\$70893.00	\$76500.00	\$78500.00	
TOTALS	\$71657.00	\$75230.74	\$80850.34	\$82529.97	
GIC's: COMPANY		INTEREST %	MAT. DATE	CURRENT VALUE	AN. INCOME
LAURENTIAN(B)		5.100 %	02/03/2001	\$ 7000.00	\$ 357.00
LAURENTIAN(B)		8.700 %	02/20/2000	\$ 15000.00	\$ 1305.00
BONAVENTURE		7.375 %	04/01/1998	\$ 8000.00	\$ 590.00
LAURENTIAN(B)		7.800 %	04/18/1999	\$ 20000.00	\$ 1560.00
GRANVILLE S&M		5.200 %	08/23/1998	\$ 10000.00	\$ 520.00
TOTALS				\$ 60000.00	\$ 4332.00
MUTUAL FUNDS:		ISSUE DATE	CURRENT VALUE		
TEMPLETON GROUP		06/20/97	\$ 10000.00		
MACKENZIE IVY		10/06/97	\$ 8500.00		
TOTAL			\$ 18500.00		
Prepared by: <i>Michael G. Turley</i>		Audited by: <i>D.L. (Darryl) Reynolds</i>			
Michael G. Turley, P. Ag. (Treas)		D.L. (Darryl) Reynolds, P. Ag.			

Bill Hetland, Naicam - 874-5694
Eric Johnson, North Battleford -
466-7475
Ralph Wasylynuik, Raymore -
764-4484

Student reps to SAGA

ASA : Jeff Jackson - (lounge)966-7742
SVAA: Roman Domashovitz - (lounge)
966-7751

Seed Trade Association honored three plant breeders from the University of Saskatchewan for outstanding achievement. They are **Keith Downey'50C**, Agriculture Canada, for his development of varieties and other contributions in canola development, **Bryan Harvey'60C**, Crop Science department, for developing the leading malting barley in the world and **Al Slinkard**, Crop Development Centre,

for elevating pulse crops to importance in Western Canada, through new, superior varieties, extension and organization of growers.

Geoff Horsman, fifth-year student in honors agricultural chemistry at the U of S, was awarded a \$1000 undergraduate scholarship by the Weed Science Society of America, at its annual meeting in Chicago.

Greetings from the SVAA

The last two months have been extremely busy for the Voc Ags. Two pubs took place during the month of January and both were very well attended. February saw the kick off to HARDTIMES, also known as ooh month. We held many social events that all turned out well. Some of the events were the Power Parade, Stag/Stagette, Reunion of Little Bro/Sis with Big Bro/Sis, 5 cheap drink nights, HARDTIMES dance and PUB CRAWL. Also the second WHEAT DRIVE.

The wheat drive is a new concept we came up with to help the the less fortunate people of the fine city we live in. We collect wheat from all members and under the gristing program, with the help of CSP Foods, it is made into flour, cake mix and fudge brownie mix, and given to people in need. This year's total was 2200 kg.

March will see the new executive take the reins, final exams and as always, the year end BBQ. Our graduation will be held on April 24.

Sincerely,
Roman Domashovitz
Prez, SVAA

Letter from a prairie chicken

March 10, 1998

Dear Jack:

It has been a long time since I sat down to create one of these letters, but due to recent, unusual circumstances, I owe SAGA a few lines.

This Prairie Chicken has been strutting around with all feathers fluffed out proudly, since the Ag Grads kindly elected me as their Honorary President. Thank you SAGA. I was astonished and very pleased with such an honor. If I had known that such a possibility existed on the day in 1961 when I walked into my first agriculture class in the Crop Science Building, to be greeted by 80 pair of male eyes, I wouldn't have had to take so many deep breaths before entering the room. It was a very scary experience at first, but I made many life-long friends there, including the one I married.

Life in the southwest has been pretty soft this winter, due to El Nino. It is so much easier to do chores when you don't have to go outside all bundled up in a multitude of layers, to find that the extension cord leading to the truck has been pulled out by a dog in passing, or that the waterers are frozen up again. The feed supplies may even last till spring. Our cows are getting their exercise this year, as they go out to graze for a mile or two each day. A year ago they couldn't travel more than a few hundred yards, because of deep snow and/or icy patches. We had an excellent runoff last spring, so if we are headed into a drought at least there is still some water in the dugouts. We hear about the vicious snow storms in other parts of the country and wonder if one will hit us at calving time.

Folks in our area are very excited about the new SWP terminal to be built in the near future at Maple Creek. This project will keep Maple Creek on the map for many more years. It is too bad, though, that many other small towns and villages in the area will disappear, as the rail lines are abandoned and the elevators close. I guess this is what people call "progress", but one wonders.

Well, enough of this rambling. I just wanted our SAGA friends to know that husband **Derald'65C**, our cows, kids, cats and dogs are all fine and we are looking forward to reading all about the rest of you in the next edition of the newsletter.

Irene Ahner'65C
Honorary President of SAGA
Maple Creek, SK

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Thinking it all over, there is something to be said for knowing a geranium from a columbine.

The mid-1940's saw a growing interest in agricultural use of AI - artificial insemination. There was much interest in our class when a demonstration at the University Barn was announced. The whole class was there, all but the lone female classmate who must have been reassigned to table setting 12, or some like class. That sort of treatment today

would trigger a bra-burning at the Dean's office.

First of all, Ferdinand did his thing mounted on a mattress-covered welded pipe support. He may have been short sighted, but the collection bottle popped off the rubber collector in a wink.

Then came a demonstration of using a speculum, a pen light and a pipette. A small area and a lot of eyes made you realize how a linebacker feels on the Calgary ten yard line. AI has come a long way since - and so have we.

