OLDS JR. SR. HIGH SCHOOL

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

GORDON MITCHELL MEMORIAL FUND

DECEMBER 2004

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 THE MITCHELL
 FAMILY

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- \$14,600.00 raised
- Additional \$500 pledged
- 115 donors in 2004
- 3 youth share \$1,000 each year
- Independent selection committee selects the students annually

A JOURNEY OF A 1000 MILES MUST BEGIN WITH A SINGLE STEP

"Each one of us is born for a specific reason and purpose, and each one of us will die when he or she has accomplished whatever was to be accomplished. The inbetween depends on our own willingness to make the best of every day, of every moment, of every opportunity. The choice is always yours".

Elisabeth Kubler-Ross

The Gordon Mitchell Memorial Fund (GMMF) is a legacy to his life, and encourages youth at the Olds Jr. Sr. High School in their pursuits! It's fitting that the GMMFund awards three students in sports, and the apprenticeship program.

Gordon was "hands on" and loved extra-curricular activities, especially sports as a young boy! While living in High River he and his friends were involved in baseball, 3:3 basketball, soccer, and karate.

In Olds (1998), he made new friends and enjoyed the community to its fullest. In short order, he became involved in a variety of sports and extracurricular activities including: bantam baseball, the Spartans wrestling team, the Bulldog football team, and the long distance running team. He took pride in the fact that he received honors in phys-ed for nine-years in a row.

As an older teenager, he loved everything related to the water especially wakeboarding and cliff-jumping! When he wasn't with his friends; he was at school working towards becoming a welder. The first step, on that journey, was the "RAP" program.

Gordon's short life is a reminder to how fragile life can be.

The **GMMF Awards** are an excellent tribute to the potential of youth!



Gordon with his sister Kaitlyn 2003

WIN:WIN

A NHL Calgary Flames "signed" Hockey Jersey was made available to the Gordon Mitchell Memorial Fund through Rob Cookson (Assistant Coach-Calgary Flames), and his wife Shirley Mitchell.

Through the generous support of **CKLJ 97.7fm** (Olds), the jersey was auctioned "on-air" on May 31, 2004. Bidding

started off at \$225 at 7:15am, and closed at 10:00pm with Keith Eslinger/Shell Canada Central Alberta Employees winning the Jersey for \$4,500. Charitably, Keith delivered a cheque for \$5,000, enabling 20 youth access to the Rotary – Gordon Mitchell Sports Bursary!

Immediately, Keith and the Shell Canada Employees

agreed that the Jersey would have another purpose! Employees sold tickets on the Jersey – raising another \$8,500 for the United Way [part of their \$108,000 gift].

Calgary Flames Head Coach Darryl Sutter joined Shell employees, on November 8, 2004, and picked the winning ticket for the coveted Jersey that did so much for Olds & District.

2004 AWARD RECIPIENTS

"I am honored to have been chosen to receive the first annual Gordon Mitchell Award. Thank you for making this scholarship possible. I am looking forward to attending the U of C Dino's Camp in July. Thank you again."

Karen Jorsvick

Sports Award —Basketball



Ashley Lappage

Sports Award—Basketball

"I am very proud to receive the Gordon Mitchell Memorial Award that was given out on September 24, 2004. ... Once again - thank you very much"

Daniel Zimmerman RAP (Welding) 2004



The Rotary Club was quick to respond and became the titlesponsor of the Rotary -Gordon Mitchell Sports Award

\$13,500 JERSEY-BUILDING COMMUNITY



(L-R: Keith Eslinger, Jim Mitchell, Katelyn Eslinger, Darryl Sutter)

November 2004

"Never in his more than 15 years experience has Darryl Sutter seen a professional jersey go for so much money." Olds Albertan

2004 DONORS: COMPANIES AND ASSOCIATIONS

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Shell Canada Central Alberta Employees

The Alberta Game Warden Association

Thank-You!

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2004 INDIVIDUAL DONORS:

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Parasailing 2003

THANK-YOU-

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"To touch the soul of another human being is to walk on holy ground."

Stephen R. Covey

YOU'VE MADE A DIFFERENCE!

James & Audrey Prizeman Robert & Janet Pushie Shane & Jacquie Ramsted Clayton & Deborah Rockwell Cathy & Craig Scott Joyce & Harvey Shaw Doug & Sandra Slatnik Rick Smee G.W. (Buck) Smith

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Deborah & William Wheeler Jim & Sharlene Young Anonymous Donor *Deceased

Russ Pouliotte

Thank-You!



Gordon Mitchell (16) Mexico, December 2003

Gifts are tax deductible

OLDS JR. SR. HIGH SCHOOL

Gordon Mitchell Memorial Fund

5122-48 Street

Olds, Alberta

T4H 1T1

Phone: 403-556-3391



'MAKING A DIFFERENCE FOR YOUTH'

The Memorial Fund honors Gordon Mitchell (Grade 11 student at Olds Jr. Sr. High School) who passed away December 29, 2003, at the age of 16.

Three (3) awards are awarded annually (to students from Olds Jr. Sr. High) from gifts made by family, friends, & faculty.

Gordon Mitchell (RAP) Scholarship Fund

1 x \$500 annually (Sept)

Students are nominated; See: Ms. W. Vandervelden

Rotary - Gordon Mitchell Sports Awards

2 x \$250 annually (June)

Applications available at Olds Jr. Sr. High School

MESSAGE FROM THE MITCHELL FAMILY

During this extremely difficult year, we are grateful for the unbelievable support and generosity that our family, friends, colleagues and the Community have shown us.

Gordon's memory is forever in our hearts - he was a great kid with so much potential; he was also a "fireball" with his own ideas. If you knew him personally, you'd know that he had beautiful eyes – eyes that gave the gift of sight to two people through the organ donation program. This important decision has never been regretted; we hope that you have a conversation with your family about your beliefs. An angel is placed upon the HOPE tree at the Devonian Garden (Calgary) as a tribute to Gordon and others who have made that choice.

Tributes have also been made honoring Gordon's life at the Children's Hospital, Calgary (May), in Mexico (April), Christina Lake (August), Lacombe (September), Blue Hill Lookout near Sundre (Oct), and at his grand-

parents farm (Oct) – these have been important times for us... we continue to savor his memory and miss him tremendously.

The student award program at Olds Jr./Sr. High School is of special interest to us! Olds Jr. Sr. High School is an environment that encourages ALL youth to be tomorrow's best today. We sincerely thank-you for your involvement with assisting youth in reaching their potential.

Jím, Joyanne & Kaítlyn Mítchell



"Our heartfelt appreciation"