

PRESS RELEASE

WALL OF ATHLETIC EXCELLENCE UNVEILED AT GRAY ACADEMY OF JEWISH EDUCATION

September 12, 2007 – Hart Sera, Principal for Gray Academy of Jewish Education, would like to announce the unveiling of the school's new Wall of Athletic Excellence which is generously sponsored in part by **Western Scrap Metals**.

"The Wall of Athletic Excellence represents for us at Gray Academy the 'other' side of school. We strongly felt the need to recognize student achievements outside of text books. We've always had sports team, but now this wall gives us an opportunity to honour the student athletes who've contributed to the growth of Gray Academy's Sports Program. We will be unveiling almost 20 team photos from the 2006-07 school year, and this wall will bring athletics to a new level of awareness. It's about honour and recognition for our dedicated student athletes," said Hart Sera, Principal.

When asked what influenced his decision to sponsor the unveiling of the 2006-2007 Sports Teams, Hart Kaplan, Vice-President, Western Scrap Metals said, "Every public school I've been to has pictures of sports athletes on their wall going back 15-20 years....Grant Park, Kildonan East ...if they can do it, then we should do it. As a parent, I passionately feel kids should be recognized. It's a great thing for the school and the students to have pride in their accomplishments!"

Last June, Gray Academy honoured their student athletes at the first Athletic Awards Dinner with special guest speaker Thomas Steen, former Winnipeg Jet. Thanks to Physical Education teachers Kevin Abrahams and Grant Buckoski, families enjoyed pizza and ice cream and delighted in the evening presentations.

The following awards were handed out at the 2006-07 Athletic Awards Dinner:

- Grade 7 Boys Basketball Leadership Award: Jeremy Hecht
- Grade 8 Girls Basketball Co-MVP: Sheara Raber & Meira Raber
- Grade 8 Boys Basketball MVP: Ross Book and Coaches Award: Daniel Meyers
- Grade 9 Boys Basketball MVP: Brayden Bernstein and Coaches Award: Zee Lubocki
- Varsity Boys Basketball MVP: Jesse Garber and Co-Coaches Award: Jordan Vine and Aden Benarroch
- Junior Varsity Girls Basketball MVP: Yael Kaplan and Coaches Award: Jessica Donen
- Girls Soccer MVP: Lauren Slusky and Coaches Award: Mia Nelko

- Boys Soccer MVP: Joey Frohlinger and Coaches Award: Jordan Vine
- Varsity Girls Volleyball MVP: Lauren Slusky and Coaches Award: Jessica Donen
- Varsity Boys Volleyball MVP: David Coodin and Coaches Award: Jesse Garber
- Grade 8 Boys Volleyball MVP: Asher Billinkoff and Coaches Award: Josh Donen
- Grade 7 Girls Basketball Leadership Award: Lauren Yusim
- Golf Team MVP: Jorel Minuk
- Curling Team MVP: Justin Lasker
- Grade 7 Co-Ed Flag Football MVP: Griffin Bernstein
- Badminton Zone 12 MVP: Jonathon Ripstein and Coaches Award: Mitchell Billinkoff
- Pembina Trails MVP: Yale Selchen and Coaches Award: Deby Cohen
- Grade 8 Co-Ed Football Co-MVP: Sheara Raber & Meira Raber
- Grade 8 Athlete of the Year: Asher Billinkoff and Sheara Raber & Meira Raber
- Junior Varsity Athlete of the Year: Zee Lubocki, Jessica Donen and Yael Kaplan
- Varsity Athlete of the Year: Jesse Garber and Leah Pfeffer

The school congratulates the 123 student athletes for great sportsmanship all year round and for representing Gray Academy on the athletic stage.

Please join us for the unveiling of the photo montage honouring the 2006-07 athletes:

Tuesday, September 18, 2007
7:15 p.m.
Gray Academy of Jewish Education
Multi-Purpose Room
123 Doncaster Street

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For further information, please contact:

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