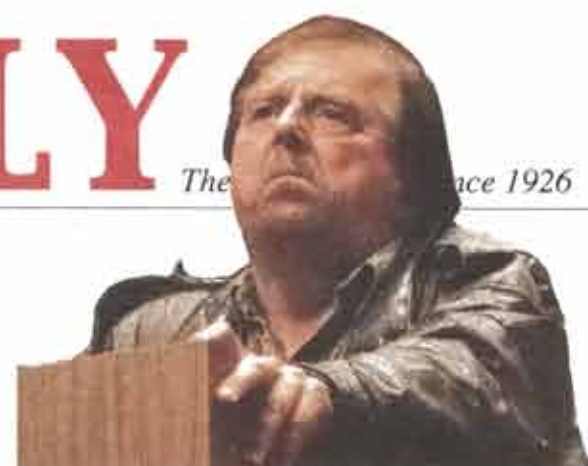


IT RUNS IN THE FAMILY

The blood runs deep when it comes to Laurier alumni ... **PAGE 12-13**

I AM THE GWYNNE DYER

It's not terrorism that scares him – it's climate change ... **PAGE 8**



Volume 47 Issue 16

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 29, 2006

www.cordweekly.com



Sydney Helland

NEW BLOOD - Ginny Dybenko hopes to make some big changes in the School of Business this January.

SBE to innovate and integrate

Evolving international aspect of business a prime area of advancement

MARK D. HOPKINS
STAFF WRITER

Laurier's business school wants to bring innovative trends and globalization to the classroom — and is looking to other faculties for help.

As part of the new SBE Accord, the faculty will be undergoing some alterations in the new year, and the magnitude and nature of these changes will stem from feedback received from current students, alumni, faculty and members of the local business community.

Dean Ginny Dybenko, in only her third month at her post, has set up various formal and informal meetings to discuss the future vision and strategies of the School of Business and Economics (SBE).

"I really wanted an opportunity for all the students' input," she

noted. "People have their own frustrations or their own dreams about how this place could be. There is nobody that knows that better than those in the program."

Discussions have been held with the stakeholders and numerous e-mail suggestions from students of past and present have been reviewed. Meetings and communication efforts with these stakeholders will continue until the new year, at which point the feedback and new direction will be put into action.

Dybenko will not predict what specific changes will be implemented until all the feedback is received and carefully reviewed. "I don't want to predict anything because this isn't about me," continued Dybenko. "[But] you can guarantee by January we'll start to build the teams and start to move."

The goal of this movement is twofold in nature. First off, Dybenko wants the SBE to take a proactive stance on evolving trends in the business world and thus provide its students with the best preparation possible. "What we've been doing so far is talking about strategy and vision — what do we want this place to look like in ten years?"

Dybenko views the evolving international aspect of business as a prime area to target for advancement.

"If you look at every single website right across the country, they all report to be the leaders in internationalization," she said. "We have to strengthen the international component. It's unfair to graduate without really having a good fla-

- SEE **DYBENKO**, PAGE 5

Feels like home to me

It's not always easy to know where 'home' is



DON MORGENSON
ACADEMIC PERSPECTIVE

I am not exactly sure when it happened, but it did happen. And it wasn't when I went away to university for the first time or when I was a young conscript sent to the US army during the Korean "conflict." Nonetheless, at some point I stopped considering the two-story stucco house where my parents lived for 50 years home.

And at this wonderful time of the year, people will ask, "Are you going home for Christmas?" or "Are you going to be home for Christmas?" All such questions assume we all know where home truly is.

The painful truth, however, is that it is not always easy to know exactly where home is. In a recent issue of *Time* magazine, essayist Lance Morrow reflected on the mystery of the word "home." He spoke of a man named Ernest who lived under the trees in a park. Ernest showed Morrow how he had made his home out of cardboard boxes, interlocking the

boxes in an ingenious manner so that they kept out the cold night air.

Although Ernest's boxes were not exactly a dream home, they had many of the attributes of home. The boxes provided him with some security; it was warm, even cozy. And like homes everywhere, the boxes allowed Ernest private space to keep some things secret and to himself.

But for writer Morrow, Ernest revealed another side of homelessness, beyond the physical hardships, issues of emotion and pain at their deepest and most basic level. But perhaps Morrow's pity for Ernest was somewhat misplaced. People who work with the homeless know that homelessness is not merely "houselessness."

Such a point was recently made in a news feature in the *New York Times*, where women were living in a tent city in Portland, Oregon. They called their tent city Camp Dignity and made the point they were not homeless only houseless. They had a very supportive, caring community; they were at home.

They reminded us, "It takes

- SEE **HOME**, PAGE 22



Contributed Photo

Darfur support in question

Student directors unsure if supporting anti-genocide coalition is within their scope

ARLA LATTO-HALL
INTERNATIONAL EDITOR

What started as a helping hand to a fellow student has turned into a debate about moral judgements and has raised questions about the scope of the Students' Union.

Josh Smythe, one of fourteen WLUSU directors, brought a motion on behalf of first-year student Colleen Canivet to the board at its previous meeting nearly two weeks ago. In it, he proposed that the Board of Directors send a letter to

Prime Minister Stephen Harper, advocating that more attention should be paid to Darfur.

Canivet recently started up an unofficial chapter of Students Taking Action Now: Darfur (STAND) here at Laurier. STAND is a US-based advocacy group that describes itself as a "student anti-genocide coalition." According to Smythe, who wanted to start a chapter of STAND at Laurier — only to be told by its Canadian branch that Canivet had

- SEE **SCOPE**, PAGE 9

THE CORD WEEKLY

- The tie that binds since 1926 -

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Next Issue: See you in 2007!

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"That's the grossest thing I've ever put in my mouth
and I've sucked some dirty-ass dick."
- Blair Forsyth-Stark, eating a gross cookie

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COLOPHON

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Preamble to The Cord Constitution

The Cord will keep faith with its readers by presenting news and
expressions of opinions comprehensively, accurately and fairly.

The Cord believes in a balanced and impartial presentation of all
relevant facts in a news report, and of all substantial opinions in
a matter of controversy.

The staff of *The Cord* shall uphold all commonly held ethical
conventions of journalism. When an error of omission or of
commission has occurred, that error shall be acknowledged
promptly.

When statements are made that are critical of an individual, or
an organization, we shall give those affected the opportunity to
reply at the earliest time possible.

Ethical journalism requires impartiality, and consequently
conflicts of interest and the appearance of conflicts of interest
will be avoided by all staff.

The only limits of any newspaper are those of the world around
it, and so *The Cord* will attempt to cover its world with a special
focus on Wilfrid Laurier University, and the community of
Kitchener-Waterloo, and with a special ear to the concerns
of the students of Wilfrid Laurier University. Ultimately, *The
Cord* will be bound by neither philosophy, nor geography in
its mandate.

The Cord has an obligation to foster freedom of the press and
freedom of speech. This obligation is best fulfilled when debate
and dissent are encouraged, both in the internal workings of the
paper and through *The Cord's* contact with the student body.

The Cord will always attempt to do what is right, with fear of
neither repercussions, nor retaliation. The purpose of the
student press is to act as an agent of social awareness, and so
shall conduct the affairs of our newspaper.

Healing with sound

A newer method
of physical therapy
seeks to enter
Canadian clinics

TONY FERGUSON
NEWS EDITOR

The Laurier Centre for Music Therapy Research (LCMTR) introduced two new physioacoustic chairs to a small crowd in the Maureen Forrester Recital Hall on Saturday.

At first glance, the chairs look like products from the Sharper Image that you'd find in someone's ultramodern living room. As nifty as they look, this isn't all they're good for. They do everything from curing insomnia to helping people with substance abuse problems to reducing the pain in injuries sustained by athletes.

Clinical therapists who have been using physioacoustic chairs are confident that it works but there's one problem - they don't know how.

"I have no doubt about this system," said Marco Kärkkäinen. "I have given over 7,000 treatments and it never ceases to surprise me."

Kärkkäinen is a physical therapist from Finland who flew to Canada to present the chairs to the LCMTR.

Despite Kärkkäinen's confidence about the performance of the chairs, he was frustrated that he could not provide answers to all of the audience's questions.

The chairs work by sending sound waves through the entire body. Six low-frequency speakers are mounted throughout the chair: two for the calves, two for the thighs, one for the back and another for the neck. The idea is that these sound waves stimulate parts of the body and in doing so they can alleviate pain, insomnia and other physical and mental



Paul Alvir

OHhhh GAUD YEAH - Caryl Ann Browning, a music therapist, gives the physioacoustic chair a test-run during the presentation in the Maureen Forrester Recital Hall.

disorders.

Heidi Ahonen-Eerikainen, psychotherapist and associate professor at the LCMTR, is trying to pursue research with Alzheimer's disease but has the same problem as Kärkkäinen. "I don't have any scientific results," she says. "I can only tell people what my clients have been telling me."

Ahonen-Eerikainen is hopeful that she can get scientific data to prove to skeptics in the scientific and medical community that these chairs are working.

"With physiotherapy, you have to have objective measurements," says Elvino Rocha, a physiotherapist from Cambridge who attended the presentation.

Rocha came to see for himself how the chairs worked and if they would be a legitimate method of treatment but after the presentation he was still skeptical.

Rocha said he would like to see more tangible results on the effectiveness of the chairs. Once these are obtained, he said he would

consider using them in his own treatments.

"If [these chairs produce] some objective findings then sure we can implement it over things that are not so effective."

The physioacoustic chair originally went on the market in 1990 in Finland but sales moved to Norway after a lack of Finnish financial support because of skepticism over their medical and therapeutic credibility.

After getting wind of the results that the chairs were producing in patients, Finland jumped back on board two years later and today, according to Kärkkäinen, physioacoustic chairs are common in certain medical facilities.

"In Finland, there are several [of these] chairs in leading hospitals," he says.

Today Canadians are as receptive to the chairs as the Finnish were in 1990 and this is why Kärkkäinen and other therapists are having so much trouble getting people to use them.

"[People] are still skeptical because somehow this is connected to the new age treatments and Shamanism but it's not ... and that's what I'm trying to tell people," he says.

As it stands now, therapists who have been using the chairs, like Ahonen-Eerikainen and Kärkkäinen, don't know why the chairs have the effect that they do on patients but it is their intent to find out.

"It's really the beginning of the scientific research here," he says. So far, the only evidence that is working to support the effectiveness of the chairs is anecdotal and this doesn't fly in the scientific and medical community, where therapists like Kärkkäinen and Heidi are trying to get them.

Heidi has started a collaborative research project with the kinesiology department and will be starting another one on December 4 with Dr. Quincy Almeida and his Movement Disorders Research Centre at Northdale Campus.

OUSA seeks student voices

New campus program to gather input from
students, present it to provincial government

MARK ADAMSON
STAFF WRITER

The Ontario Undergraduate Student Alliance (OUSA) kicked off a new campus awareness program, "Be an Educated Voice," last week. The OUSA is a research and lobby group that looks out for the interests of students in Ontario and has student representatives and teams on several campuses in the province.

OUSA kicked off the Educated Voice campaign at Laurier, talking to students on campus and having them voice their comments and concerns with the undergraduate

university system. OUSA delegates traveled across campus taking photos of Laurier students holding a large white board with their thoughts on the post-secondary education system written on it.

OUSA has been doing these campus tours at several schools, and the photos will be featured on the OUSA website.

"It allows students to see what's going on in other campuses, seeing that a lot of our concerns are really similar," says JD Muir, WLUSU vice president of university affairs, who sits on OUSA's student committee. "We all really need to come together and be a voice to the provincial

government," adds Muir.

The Educated Voice program is being instituted with an eye towards next year's October provincial election. The goal is to get undergraduate students thinking about the issues affecting them and how each political party caters to their needs.

"We're looking for more youth participation in the voting process," said OUSA President Paris Meilleur.

In addition to increasing the impact of youth voters, OUSA hopes to make post-secondary education a priority for each of the provincial parties. "If we can do that, which I'm sure that we can, then we'll have a very successful campaign," added Meilleur.

The creation of the interactive program is part of a motion to get students to be more active in how they deal with government, encouraging them to make their voices heard to MPPs and hammer home the notion that post-secondary education is an important political issue.

"We need a campaign to engage students - something that can get students to be interactive," says Muir. "We're not asking them to comment on things that they might have no idea about, or asking them to read up on a bunch of stuff and come back to us. We want them to talk about what concerns them. We want them to start thinking that they are a priority."

> VOCAL CORD

What do you want to get as a gift this year?



"I saw a nice bath robe at Fortino's and I thought it would be nice to have one with my initials on it."

- Joe El-Achhab
Second-Year Geography



"I don't know ... there's nothing specific I've thought about."

- Shannon Reynolds
Second-Year Sociology



"I'm getting married this year so I want money for my wedding."

- Amanda Mitchell
Fourth-Year Sociology



"I just want to spend time with my friends and family."

- Steve Wood
Fourth-Year Music



"I'd like a Playstation 3 ... it's just on my wishlist, it'll never happen ... I'm easy to please though."

- Kyle Sommerville
Second-Year Communications

Compiled by Tony Ferguson, photos by David Goldberg

From small dorm to big desk

I Love Rewards CEO Razor Suleman returned to WLU to talk students about business and life

DAVID GOLDBERG
CORD INTERN

Ten years ago, a first-year Laurier student sat in his residence and would have no idea that his basic business ethics principles would help create a multi-million dollar corporation. That small dorm room became a large desk in an 8,000-square-foot office. The man behind the desk is Razor Suleman.

Suleman is the 33-year-old CEO of the multi-million-dollar business venture, I Love Rewards. Its purpose is to develop employee incentive programs for corporations. Currently, I Love Rewards boasts a clientele that includes Rogers, Scotiabank, KPMG and Sears.

The former Laurier student (Class of 1998) told an attentive

Organizational Behaviour class about his humble and important beginnings last Thursday.

Suleman's first dance with business began when he started his first company, Razor's Edge. He sold athletic apparel to fellow students on campus.

Thanks to the success of Suleman's first enterprise, he graduated from Laurier Business and Economics with a degree and debt-free.

Discussing his transition to the real world of business, Suleman said, "I started selling corporate apparel to companies instead of students because companies generally have more money than students."

So while Suleman and his dedicated staff of 10 developed programs for bank employees who re-

ceived things like ING Direct hats, backpacks and jackets, he realized that this is not what the people wanted.

This is where Suleman came up with the idea for the foundation of his business, and that was communication.

It seemed to Suleman that more people wanted iPods, gift certificates and vacations rather than just a stupid hat.

Suleman admits that it was a "long and grueling" process to get where he is today and that at one point employee morale was at an all-time low. He confesses, "One year ago I didn't want to come to work. I was literally ready to leave my keys to my [Chief Operating Officer] and say, 'See ya, I'm off to work on a cruise ship, let me know how it turns out.'"

But the boss hung in there and created what his employees claim to be one of the best working environments. "Culture is king," said Suleman. "It's your secret sauce."

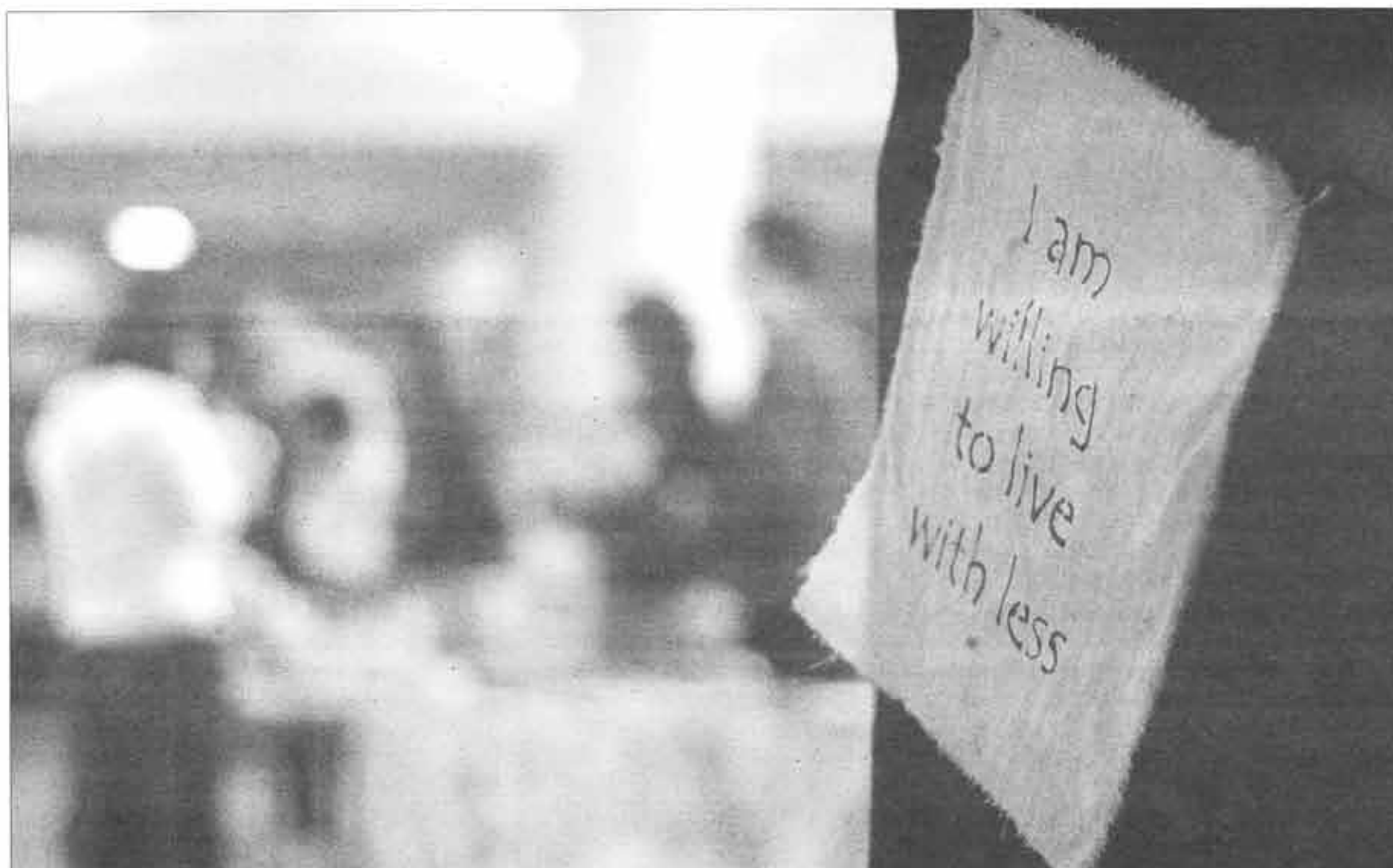
Suleman said communication helped to streamline his business. "Just a nine-minute meeting everyday can eliminate half the e-mails and nonsense that usually takes place."

But while Suleman did talk a lot about business ethics and the importance of communication, he usually traced the skills he learned back to Laurier.

"I didn't pay attention to OB because it's not finance, and it's not sexy like marketing. But some of the most important things you will ever learn will be in this room."

Suleman doesn't want to scare away students with all this talk of culture, especially because Laurier grads make up 18 percent of his staff.

"Our culture may seem a lot like a cult but we're pretty easy-going, just drink the Kool-Aid and if you're not okay with it, that's fine."



Sydney Holland

MESSAGE OF MINIMALISM - Students heard various lectures about the impacts of consumerism in the Concourse on Buy Nothing Day.

Laurier's consumer-conscious campaign

BRIAN WEADICK
CORD NEWS

Last Friday, the annual shopping frenzy took place on the day after the American Thanksgiving.

While shoppers in the United States flooded shopping malls and sales numbers soared, a growing number of individuals worldwide participated in the fourteenth annual Buy Nothing Day.

Laurier students were no exception, as Laurier Students Public Interest Research Group (LSPIRG) organized a variety of events in the concourse to mark WLU's fifth Buy Nothing Day.

In order to raise awareness about issues surrounding consumption, LSPIRG organized a series of speakers, films and booths geared towards consumerism and

its effects. The topics discussed were diverse and included media, ethical purchasing, environmentalism and free/fair trade.

Speakers at the event included Laurier professors Deborah Van Nijnatten, who delivered a keen presentation on environmental impacts of consumerism, Colleen Loomis, who approached Buy Nothing Day from a psychological perspective, and Adam Davidson-Harden, who linked the consumerist lifestyle with global implications.

Another speaker, Dr. Lisa Jeffery, a former television producer lecturing about Buy Nothing Day in connection to media literacy, expressed the rationale behind the Buy Nothing Day events as "one day to pay attention to these larger issues" of consumerism and the

commodification of our society.

Angela Reid, the principal organizer of the Buy Nothing Day events, explained that the purpose of Buy Nothing Day is to criticize neither producer nor consumer, but rather to reflect on the culture of consumption.

Reid went on to illustrate the importance of having engaged involvement from individuals across the entire social spectrum. Members of LSPIRG reiterated this point and stressed their desire to make the Buy Nothing Day

events as inclusive as possible for the whole student body.

The free coffee and abundance of free food helped with this goal, as tired and weary students of all sorts were attracted to the Concourse.

Organizers, recognizing that anyone interested by the Buy Nothing Day events will in all likelihood continue making purchases in order to live, provided numerous suggestions for alternative and ethical purchases for the upcoming Christmas season.

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NEWS UPDATES DURING EXAMS

NEWS IN BRIEF

Feds dole out money
for research grants

The Canadian federal government doled out the remaining \$422 million of the research funds program to hospitals and universities coast to coast.

The main focus of the funding was the University of Waterloo, which received roughly \$33 million for a variety of programs including a building for the development of quantum devices.

Laurier received \$300,000 and expectations are that this amount will be matched by the Ontario government.

Underdogs take win

Weeks of intense Jeopardy matches finally culminated in two teams competing for the final prize last Wednesday evening in BA201.

"We felt like underdogs," said Kyle Smith, speaking about competing against the heavily favoured senior team Team Vanilla Face. Smith, a third-year history student and member of the winning team Team One was happy with the performance of his team.

Team One will go on to compete against a professor team for what Timoshenko describes as "a very active first semester" for the HSA.

UW mourns beavers

Beaver memorial
held at University of
Waterloo last week

STEVE NILES
STAFF WRITER

Nearly 100 students and members of the community gathered this past Wednesday at the University of Waterloo to remember four beavers killed the previous week. The beavers were exterminated by a trapper who was hired by the school.

In consultation with the Ministry of Natural Resources, the university trapped the beavers in the interest of the safety of students and faculty. The beavers posed a risk due to their consistent gnawing on trees, which created potential for a collapse that could injure bystanders, according to the university. The week prior, one tree fell on a path near a student residence. Fortunately no one was hurt.

Many students felt that alternative solutions were available rather than trapping and killing the beavers. They were also upset that the university acted without consultation from student or environmental groups.

"It's not okay for them to do things like this in secret," said Asha Philar, a first-year environmental studies student. "At the very least,



SAYING GOODBYE - Students gather near Laurel Creek as Ann Ross (far left) reads a eulogy.

Tony Ferguson

there should have been a public consultation with input from students."

Professor of environmental studies, Greg Michalenko, echoed the sentiments of students and called for the university to create better environmental policies in the future.

"This only goes to show that it is time we get a sustainability office here at the university," he said.

The size of the rally was a pleasant surprise for organizers. Federation of Students President Michelle Zakrison said that she "hadn't seen a rally this big in a long time."

Zakrison, herself an environ-

mental studies graduate, pointed out the irony that UW has the oldest environmental studies program in Canada. Despite that, she hopes that in the future student input will be part of any environmental policy the university makes.

"Students really care about this issue," she said.

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Dybenko wants feedback

FROM DYBENKO, COVER

your for what it's like to work at a global level, because ultimately you will be."

Additionally, the dean believes that not only the SBE, but the Laurier brand as a whole, must be distinctively positioned against competing institutions.

After years in industry as a corporate executive holding numerous upper management titles, Dybenko knows the positive outlook that the business community has on Laurier graduates.

"[Employers] say they've got it all," she noted. "They don't have to put up with the arrogant attitude that comes out of some other schools."

With that said, Dybenko also envisions some non-traditional marketing efforts stemming from the new strategies. The new dean is not attracted to mediums such as the expensive newspaper advertising used by other business schools like Queen's and York. A focus will be on leveraging the success of Laurier alumni while exploring other media focus points as feedback continues to become available.

While positioning the SBE competitively against competing business and commerce programs, Dybenko realizes the importance of the Laurier brand itself. She plans to explore options of integrating the SBE with the other internal faculties. This may include adding more courses, including some for non-business majors.

"The biggest objection [about] business students is that they are too narrow," admitted Dybenko. "I think we have a great integrated program, [but] I think it could be even better. Every musician has to manage their own business. Every social worker at the end of the day is a part of a big business."

Thus, there has been discussion of adding a number of concentration paths into the SBE. Focuses on international specialization programs and information technology classes have been targeted as possibilities.

Until the new year, new ideas and constructive feedback will be welcomed and considered. Dybenko concluded by stating, "It's going to be a combination of what is today plus where do we want to be in the future."

> BAG O' CRIME

Suspicious Circumstances

Reported: November 20, 2006

Time: 0945 hrs

The University Stadium manager reported that he had found a ladder lying next to the exterior fence line of the stadium. Special Constables attended and did not find any signs of entry into the facility or any reports of theft.

Property Damage

Reported: November 21, 2006

Time: 1924 hrs

Special Constables investigated a report that an unknown culprit wrote "WLU BLOWS" in the fresh cement in the Dining Hall Quad area. The contractor came to the site and repaired the cement and then covered the area to prevent any further damage.

Assist Other P.F.

Reported: November 24, 2006

Time: 0245 hrs

While on patrol the Special Constable noticed a 2x4x8 piece of wood that had been thrown through the driver's side window of a vehicle parked on the roadway. WRPS were called and made aware of the situation.

Disturbance

Reported: November 24, 2006

Time: 0241 hrs

Foot Patrol reported that five males were seen in an altercation as well as having been seen climbing on top of the PP&P Grounds trucks parked in the lot. Special Constables arrived on scene but all the males had fled the area prior to arrival. There were no obvious signs of damage to the trucks.

Trespassing

Reported: November 25, 2006

Time: 0828 hrs

Special Constables escorted a known street person from campus after he was observed rooting through the garbage bins located in the Quad area. The suspect was seen drinking from half empty bottles of beer that he had found in the garbage. This person has been removed from the property before for panhandling.

Trespass

Reported: November 26, 2006

Time: 0125 hrs

Special Constables received a report from Residence Life Staff that a male student who was evicted from Residence in September for

drug use continues to attend the residence and cause problems for duty dons and the RLAC. Matter will be forwarded to the JAC.

Assist Other P.F.

IR# 261106-1172

Location: King St. South

Reported: November 26, 2006

Time: 0157 hrs

Officers observed a yellow construction backhoe being driven erratically on King Street. The backhoe was swerving from lane to lane and would beep its horn at passing students. WRPS was requested and attended. The driver was charged with impaired driving (blew .250), his fourth charge, and was also arrested on outstanding warrants.

Message from Clayton and Jen, WLU Community Safety and Security:

"Jen and I would like to thank the Laurier Community for the tremendous support we received in response to our incident on Sept 21st. Your emails, flowers and personal wishes were really appreciated. We are really lucky to be working in such a supportive community and look forward to your continued support."



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MANO A MANO - Laurier forward Jayme Helmer's breakaway opportunity is all for naught as York's Kevin Druce stands tall between the pipes. The Hawks would prevail 4-1.

Sydney Helland

Best start in years

Despite climbing to ninth in the latest national rankings, 'number-one' goalie still unnamed by Hawks

JAMIE NEUGEBAUER
STAFF WRITER

Laurier's hockey team continued their winning ways this past Saturday with a sound 4-1 defeat of the York Lions.

Despite a lethargic first 40 minutes, the men in purple and gold came out flying in the third period, scoring three times within four minutes, courtesy of Mark Voakes, James Edgar and Tyler Grover.

Starting in the net for Laurier on that day was Aaron Forer, the third goalie to man the spot between the posts this year after the team's number one tender, Jeff MacDougald, went down with a groin injury and fellow second-year Mike Thomson let in five goals in Ottawa's 7-2 drubbing of the Hawks almost two weeks ago.

While the success of the men's

team this year can by no means be attributed to just goaltending, solid net-minding has been a clear pillar of strength this year.

MacDougald went out three games into the season in a match against RMC. Although playing su-

"I don't think there's a clear-cut guy who's going to play on any given night."

- Kelly Nobes, Laurier Head Coach

perbly, his duties as the "number one" were taken over by Thomson who shone just as brightly, taking the Golden Hawks on an eight-game unbeaten streak from the end of October to the beginning of November.

After the aforementioned 7-2 loss to Ottawa, Thomson was pulled and the spot was given to Melfort, Saskatchewan's Aaron Forer who has been rock-solid in his two starts since including a 5-2 victory over the Guelph Gryphons on Thursday and the 4-1 pummeling of York at the Waterloo Recreational Complex.

Head Coach Kelly Nobes was quick to deny that the present situation is even a controversy, despite the fact that MacDougald is well on his way to returning to the Hawks.

When asked whether he had it in mind to put either Forer or Thomson as the number two behind MacDougald upon his return, Nobes simply stated, "We're just going to

go with what's working and who's playing well.

"I don't think there's a clear-cut guy who's going to play on any given night."

The attitudes of the goalies themselves differ somewhat from the coach, though.

"I'm not the starter...Mike [Thomson] and I, we're just doing our best to challenge 'Doug' (MacDougald) for his position.

"He is good and we know it and we're just trying to play up to his potential," said Forer.

Whether or not Jeff MacDougald is the clear-cut starter for the Golden Hawks, the three goalies representing Laurier have been fantastic and have subsequently made the decision of who should man the net an interesting one for the head coach.

SPORTS BRIEFS

DAN POLISCHUK
SPORTS EDITOR

Weekend split tightens up standings

Laurier's Lady Golden Hawks garnered two out of a possible four points this past weekend in OUA hockey action.

Their victory came Friday night on home ice against the last-place Windsor Lancers. Laurier received goal contributions from Andrea Ironside, Fiona Aiston and Lauren Barch. Liz Knox picked up the shut-out.

The goal scoring did not show up when the Hawks needed it most though, more specifically in their 1-0 loss to the Toronto Varsity Blues.

The road loss, which dropped the Hawks to fourth in the national rankings, has made things a little tighter in the standings, with the Guelph Gryphons only two points behind the first-place Hawks. Only five points separate first from fourth in the OUA thus far.

Before breaking for the holiday season, Laurier will face the Western Mustangs Friday at RIM Park.

Paying Hawks their dues

Despite their loss in the Yates Cup this year, Canadian Inter-university Sport recognized an otherwise strong season for Laurier's football team - allotting All-Canadian status to six Hawks.

On the defensive side of the ball, linebackers Jesse Alexander and Yannick Carter were named to the First Team group of all-stars while defensive backs Josh Maltin and Justin Phillips were named to the Second Team.

One of Laurier's offensive leaders, receiver Andy Baechler, was also recognized as a First Team member. Line-man Scott Evans, named to the Second Team, rounded out the selected group announced this past week.

Struggling squad pulls out a win

Life without McGrath not so easy for women hoopsters as squad falls to four games below .500 and last place in the OUA

MARK D. HOPKINS
STAFF WRITER

While the Golden Hawks still sit in the OUA West basement with a record of 2 - 6, the basketball squad was able to celebrate for at least one night on Saturday.

Coming off a tough 55 - 52 loss to the Ottawa Gee Gees on Friday, the women's team found themselves in the middle of another close contest on the following night.

The visiting Carlton Ravens were able to take advantage of a sloppy Golden Hawk first half full of turnovers and poor shooting to take a

28 - 17 lead into the locker room at the break.

However, the Golden Hawks were able to promptly plow their way back into the game in the third frame.

Riding an eight-point quarter by veteran Laura Taylor, Laurier cut the deficit heading into the final period.

A fourth quarter exemplifying questionable officiating and inconsistent shooting from both teams somehow ended up producing a dramatic finish.

Laurier guard Christine Gibson was able to drain a three-pointer

with 40 seconds remaining to deadlock the score at 58.

After the Ravens were successful on a pair of free throws to take a late lead, Gibson responded with a ten-foot jumper with only 11.3 seconds left. Following a defensive stop by the home side, the game entered overtime.

With Carlton leading 63 - 60 with 90 seconds left in the extra frame, the Golden Hawks had a horrible possession that unimpressively ended with a shot clock violation.

As it appeared that the home side was destined for their fifth consecutive loss, Taylor was able to hit from

behind the arc with 31.4 seconds left to tie the score.

Point guard Elise Carruthers followed with a jump shot at the buzzer to lift the Golden Hawks to a thrilling 65 - 63 win in front of a packed house at the Athletic Complex to snap their four-game slide.

"Especially after two close [losses]," Taylor commented, "It's good to finally get a win."

After losing offensive leader Meghan McGrath to graduation last season, the team has evidently struggled to pick up the slack thus far.

With a roster of six rookies,

the team is still searching for an identity.

"We're a young team," Taylor continued, "I think we're still in the process of learning to play together."

Taylor also pointed to the leadership of Carruthers at the point. It was largely Carruthers' ball control and one-on-one defence that held the visitors in check in the overtime period.

Christine Gibson led the Golden Hawks with 19, while Taylor added 13 to complement her seven rebounds and six assists.

Hawks bow to national champs

Young men's squad shows inexperience in losses

PARRY SOHI
STAFF WRITER

Coming off a remarkable season last year, in which the men's basketball team finished amongst the top 10 at the national championships, the Hawks kicked off their new season with a 3-1 record.

Having lost seven key graduating players, many of which were starters, the team now dresses ten players that are in either their first or second year.

According to Head Coach Peter Campbell, there are significant differences from last year's team, which would indicate a season of rebuilding.

"There's an absence of game experience and maturity when you compare this year's team to last year's, but we'll be able to build on that over time," said Campbell.

The Hawks kicked this past weekend off against the #5 nationally ranked Ottawa Gee-Gees. Laurier played well in the first half, keeping up with Ottawa on both the offen-

sive and defensive side of the ball, with the score at the half 39-32 in favour of the Gee Gees.

WLU would fall apart, though, at the start of the second half, as poor defence, offensive execution and turnovers led to a 22-1 run by the opposition.

The Hawks were unable to regain their stride as the final buzzer went off on a 79-61 victory for Ottawa. Matthew Walker led all WLU scorers with 21 points, while Jermaine Campbell led the Gee Gees with 18.

Laurier was put to the test the following night as they faced the #1 nationally ranked Carleton Ravens. Laurier's lack of experience was prevalent early as Coach Campbell was forced to burn a timeout forty seconds into the contest—due to poor defence and turnovers.

The four-time national champion Ravens were dominant as they consistently exposed a shaky Hawk defence and forced Laurier into tough, long-range shots offensively. The score at the half saw the



Sydney Holland

THE AIR UP THERE - Carleton's Ryan Bell takes it hard to the hoop.

Ravens up 40-25.

Carleton continued their strong presence in the second half as the Hawks were unable to break the 15-point lead, based on consistent shooting and defensive pressure by the Ravens. The final score was 89-59 in favor of Carleton. Once again Walker led all-scorers with 18 points, while WLU first-year forward Andrew Pennycook led all rebounders with 10.

Overall, Coach Campbell felt the difference down the stretch was maturity and consistency.

"I thought we got off to a good start, but the difference in the end was that their good players made us pay," he explained.

In terms of season goals, Campbell has set the goal to finish at .500

for the holiday break.

"With this weekend's losses we're at .500, and I think we have the potential for victory in a few upcoming games, so it's a realistic goal," he said. To do so, the team will be relying heavily on Walker, Jesse McDonald, Trevor Csima and Omar Miles for strong veteran play this season if they want to achieve that goal.

Walker was optimistic about the loss to Carleton, identifying time as a key component in the further development of the team.

"We've come along way this year since the first game. I think if we had played [Carleton] in our first game we would have lost by 60 instead of 30."

GOLDEN HAWK UPDATE

Week of
Nov 29 - Dec 5, 2006

RECENT SCORES

11.22.06
W Volleyball 3 - Brock 0

11.23.06
M Hockey 5 - Guelph 2

11.24.06
W Basketball 52 - Ottawa 55
W Hockey 3 - Windsor 0
M Basketball 61 - Ottawa 79

11.25.06
W Volleyball 3 - Lakehead 1
M Volleyball 0 - Ryerson 3
W Basketball 65 - Carleton 63
M Hockey 4 - York 1
M Basketball 59 - Carleton 89

11.26.06
M Volleyball 0 - York 3
W Hockey 0 - Toronto 1

UPCOMING HOME GAMES

11.30.06
M Hockey vs Brock
RIM Park, Pillar Ice, 7:30pm

12.01.06
W Basketball vs Ryerson
WLU Athletic Complex, 6:00pm
M Basketball vs Ryerson
WLU Athletic Complex, 8:00pm
W Hockey vs Western
RIM Park, Pillar Ice, 7:30pm

12.02.06
M Volleyball vs Waterloo
WLU Athletic Complex, 2:00pm
M Basketball vs Toronto
WLU Athletic Complex, 8:00pm

12.03.06
W Basketball vs Toronto
WLU Athletic Complex, 1:00pm

LAURIER BOOKSTORE ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

Mark Voakes

Men's Hockey

Christine Gibson

Women's Basketball

www.laurierathletics.com



CALL FOR COMMENTS Evaluation Committee for the University Librarian

Sharon Brown's term as University Librarian ends on June 30, 2007. In accord with University procedures, an evaluation committee has been established to evaluate the work of the incumbent, review the position description, and make a recommendation regarding renewal.

Submissions are invited from the University community on issues that should be considered during the evaluation process. A copy of the position description can be obtained by contacting Debbie Thayer, Secretary to the Committee, at ext. 3727 or at dthayer@wlu.ca. Submission (in writing or by e-mail) should be sent to the Committee Secretary by 4:30 p.m., December 15, 2006. All submissions considered by the Committee will be regarded as confidential. You may request to remain anonymous to the members of the Committee. The Committee Secretary should receive comments that indicate who the commentator is and she will delete names of those who wish to be anonymous before the comments reach the Committee.

If you wish to meet with the Committee in person, please advise the Committee Secretary by 4:30 p.m., December 15, 2006.

Evaluation Committee Members:

Sue Horton, Vice-President: Academic and Chair
John Banks, Senate representative
Lesley Cooper, Dean, Faculty of Social Work
Vera Fesnak, Library representative
Jean Haalboom, Board of Governors
Don Hamilton, Staff representative
Lucy Lee, Senate representative
Kristine Lund, Seminary faculty representative
John McCallum, Library representative
Joanne Oud, Library representative
Michael Skelton, Library representative
Eun-ha Spiteri, Library representative
Ryan Weston, Graduate student representative
Deborah Wills, Library representative

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Forget the Middle East, watch for China: Dyer

Dyer packs the house in his third visit to Laurier

MARY ERSKINE
CORD STAFF

Bush was once asked: "How do you know that Saddam Hussein has chemical weapons?" To which he replied: "We kept the receipts."

This was one of many light-hearted moments during world-renowned Canadian journalist Gwynne Dyer's talk at Laurier last night. His lecture, entitled "Back to the Great Game", captivated the audience as he made note of the shifts of global influence, particularly since the events of 9/11. Originally from Newfoundland, Dyer now has over 20 years of experience in journalism and as a military analyst, and currently has his work syndicated in over 175 publications within 45 countries.

Dressed in his recognizable bomber jacket, which he joked was worn according to his contract, Dyer spoke to a packed Maureen Forrester Hall audience containing a crowd representative of both Laurier students and the surrounding Waterloo community.

To start, Dyer spoke about "what [he doesn't] worry about," including such high-profile topics as terrorism, the Iraq war and other topics focused on by the media. "Terrorism doesn't worry me," said Dyer.

"There hasn't been a single person killed by a terrorist attack in North America within the last five years," he continued, which rep-

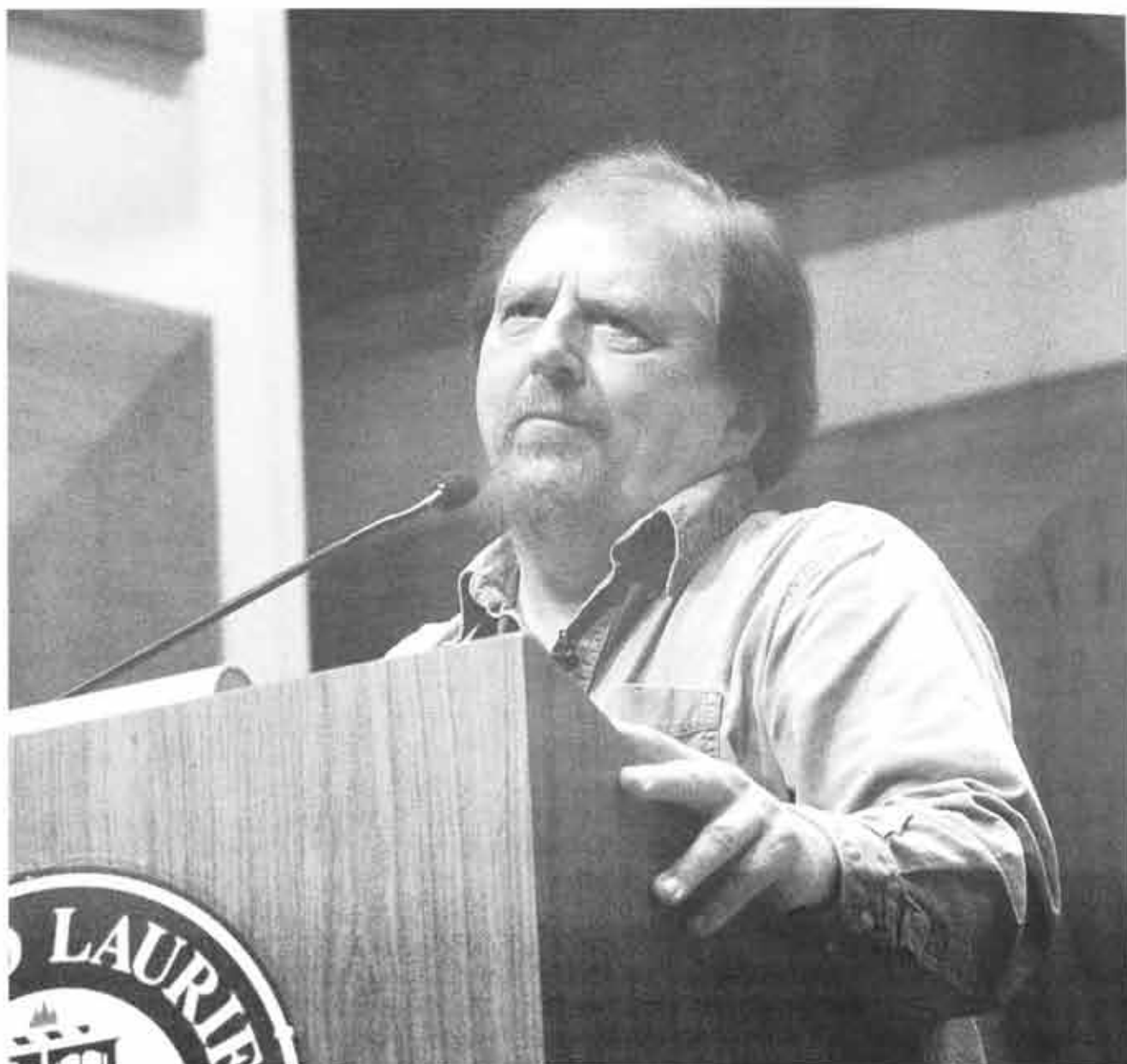
resents the longest terrorism-free period since the 1960s. Within the greater Western world, the statistics aren't much worse, with relatively minor incidents occurring in London and Madrid over the past couple of years. "The scale of threat we face is ... small."

Dyer continued by attempting to make a differentiation as to how the 'terrorists' of today are perceived. "It's about as useful to refer to the terrorists as Muslims as it is to refer to the entire IRA as Christians," Dyer continued, making the distinction between the Arab Muslim world and the Muslim world as a whole. He then alluded to the connection between the lack of democratic governments within the Arab world and the perpetrators of the 9/11 atrocities.

"You don't have to invade [the Middle East] to get oil ... it would be cheaper to just send them a cheque."

- Gwynne Dyer, political commentator

Upon outlining his perspectives towards what dominates the press and yet personally doesn't worry him, Dyer continued by explaining what it is that presently worries him. "The invasion of Iraq was actually about China," and American anxiety regarding its emergence as a great power, he said.



Sydney Holland

INTELLIGENCE, INSIGHT - Prolific author and journalist, Dyer fears climate change and not terrorism.

Dyer noted general statistics which highlighted fairly steady economic growth rates of 4.5 percent and 10 percent in the US and China respectively, and commented that: "if you run twice as fast, you catch up."

Logically, Dyer proceeded, "there will not be a sole superpower in thirty years," but rather three superpowers of relatively equal strength — the US, China, and India, which is also experiencing rapid economic growth.

"I can't imagine that China or India will behave worse than their predecessor," Dyer then noted his personal perspective, which is if the world "[sets] two more places at the top table and shuffle over a bit, it'll be fine." However, Americans do not share his vision of the future,

says Dyer. Due to an entire generation of Americans being raised to believe that prosperity and freedom are "inextricably linked" with being a sole superpower, they have a hard time picturing a future where others share their global influence.

Connecting his two themes of discussion, Dyer then diverged from popular notions that oil fueled the Iraq war by stating: "you don't have to invade [the Middle East] to get oil ... it would be cheaper to just send them a cheque." However, he continued, if one wanted to prevent a rival from drawing from the same oil resource, money would not be the answer. Herein lies the United States' motivation for controlling oil in the Middle East: "to put a stranglehold on China."

Reminiscent of the pattern used during the Cold War, Dyer outlined the American attempt to surround China by building their allies with countries in the region. Along with

their open dialogue with China, Dyer defined this dual involvement as pursuing both "engagement and containment strategies." China's reaction, Dyer continued, has been to completely ignore the actions of the US so as to not be distracted from their current economic growth with military expenditures. How long they can ignore this situation, however, is unknown.

Dyer concluded his insightful lecture by commenting on something that went beyond worrying him, something that "scared [him] to death": climate change. With a global temperature increase of five degrees the positions of the actors within these various conflicts will be drastically altered. Desertification is no longer only an African issue, as viable land will be increasingly restricted around the globe. This is a variable that no superpower, emerging or otherwise, can control.



Contributed Photo

PREQUEL TO WORSE - The nuisance of Rhesus monkeys may be replaced by bigger Langur monkeys with larger teeth.

Delhi wages war against monkeys

India's capital is overrun by Rhesus monkeys; no long-term solution in sight

HEATHER MACDONALD
CORD INTERNATIONAL

Delhi's government officials have waged war against their most sacred city dwellers: monkeys. Rhesus monkeys, the original inhabitants of what is now the capital city, can be found everywhere you look: crossing streets, interacting with people and even forming their own gangs.

Groups of monkeys have been seen approaching many of India's government buildings and temples in the city with such force that even at 53 centimetres tall, they are quite threatening. Many residents have complained of monkeys attacking them while walking to work and have also been known to snatch

food right from their hands.

Because the Rhesus Macaques are considered sacred to the Hindu people, there is no easy way to get rid of them. Large groups of irritating monkeys have already been captured and are being held in cages outside the city while officials decide where to relocate them.

Court officials have already ordered 300 captured monkeys to a forest in the middle of Madhya Pradesh, but there are still thousands more to deal with. Animal rights activists are protesting this movement because they believe that the monkeys don't have a very good chance of survival if held in captivity for too long. Also, because the monkeys have grown so accustomed to living in the newly urban-

ized area, they will likely have difficulties being dumped in the middle of a forest and expected to live.

Some of the locals have resorted to using a much larger primate, the Langur monkey, to scare off the smaller and more annoying monkeys that have seemingly taken over. The 18-kg Langur, in comparison to the 7-kg Rhesus, is a good form of protection for those that insist on the coexistence of humans and monkeys. The sharp teeth and strong tails of Langurs presently frighten the Rhesus monkeys but soon enough these two animals, like humans and monkeys, will learn to coexist as well.

A solution to Delhi's monkey troubles has so far proven evasive.

BOD uncertain about Darfur

- FROM SCOPE, COVER

beaten him to the punch – several students had indicated that the current problems in Darfur were “something that they cared about.”

“My personal belief, from an advocacy perspective,” said Smyth, “is that it would be helpful to have the added little bit of legitimacy that a larger organization speaking for you can give you.”

At the same time, Smyth recognizes that letter-writing campaigns are not very effective. “Will it make a difference in the Prime Minister’s office if we write him a letter? No. To be honest, of course not. But will it make a difference to the individual students who are involved and maybe draw other students in? That’s something.”

With only nine of fourteen directors present – fifteen, if WLUSU President Alan Cayenne is included – four chose to abstain from voting on the motion. Four others supported the motion, and JD Muir, VP: University Affairs, voted against the motion. Representing a student body of nearly 14,000, including both full- and part-time students, the Board’s lack of participation in this motion and unusual absenteeism at this meeting leaves many wondering how representative this decision could have been.

“We are 15 students representing 14,000,” said Muir. “And we are to represent all of the students as best we can. Whether or not [the motion] will be revoked, I don’t

know.”

Matt Park, chair of the board and decision-maker regarding any questions of the board’s scope, was also absent from the meeting, leaving many of the board’s questions unanswered – including whether or not Smyth violated procedure in bringing forward this motion on Canivet’s behalf. If it is deemed outside the board’s scope, it is possible that the motion will be revoked.

“I brought it up as a matter of student interest ... there’s some debate over whether I violated established procedure and rules in running the motion.”

- Josh Smyth, WLUSU director

“I brought it up as a matter of student interest, but as past precedent, the board has avoided these sort of issues,” said Smyth, adding that “There’s some debate over whether I violated established procedure and rules in running the motion, which I think I did, as it happened. So there will probably be further discussion around this at the board level before any letter gets sent.”

At press time, Park was unavailable for comment.

The board was faced with a similar decision in 2001 regarding support for students who condemned the war in Iraq. The board seemed

to take a safe stand on the issue, supporting the student’s on-campus initiatives, but making no off-campus statement.

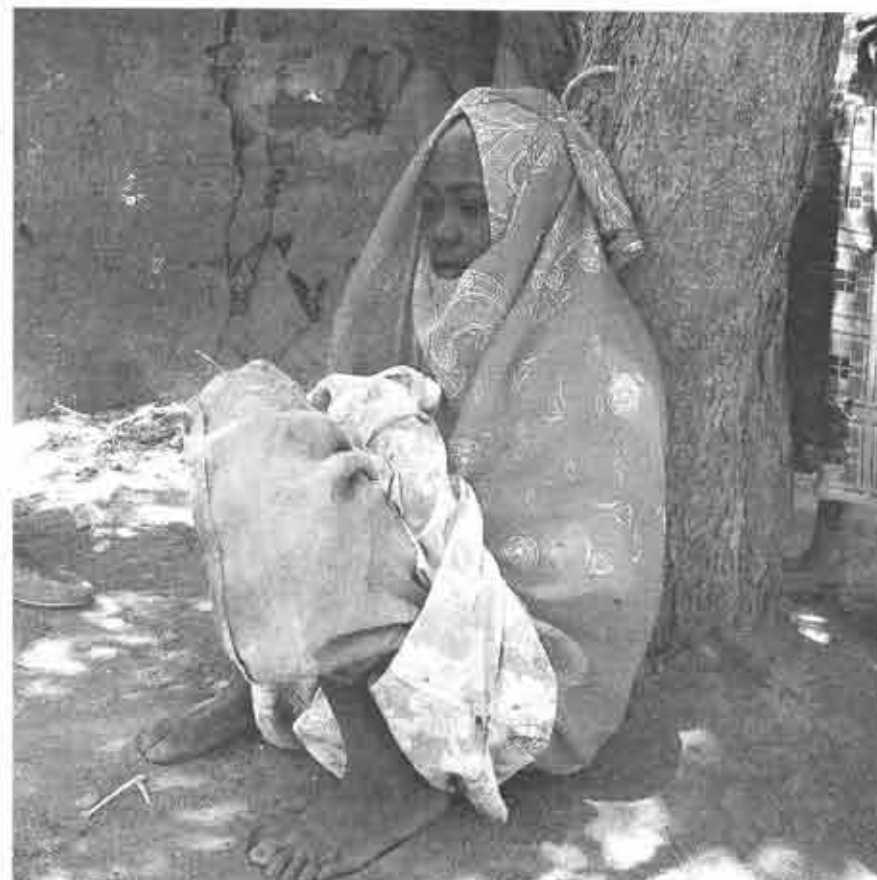
“My opposition for this motion is essentially reflecting the same reasons,” said Muir. “I don’t necessarily feel that WLUSU should be passing motions or representing issues on the international political level that does not deal with education and our students here. That being said, an issue with Iraq was that we, as WLUSU, can’t condemn it, when all the student body doesn’t necessarily condemn the war in Iraq.”

“Passing a motion like that doesn’t bring any value to our students. A more effective motion to pass would be to show our support for the students who are making efforts, as opposed to writing a letter on their behalf.”

The issue of Darfur, however, seems substantially less controversial in nature – notably through extensive UN efforts in the region and international consensus that outside actors should participate in peacekeeping – especially after efforts by the African Union have reportedly failed.

“We still can’t confirm how everyone feels,” Muir commented, adding that student input can be gathered through open forums, and solicited through face-to-face director-student contact, calls in to Radio Laurier, letters written to student news media and input on the Students’ Union website.

The open forum, intended to



Contributed Photo

AID NEEDED - Sudan is set to release its approval or denial of a UN-AU joint peacekeeping force this morning, shortly after press time.

reach out to students who are less politically motivated than those who actively voice their opinion, is also a way for students to get in touch with directors. The next open forum will be held tomorrow night, November 30 at 5:30pm in the Senate and Board Chambers.

“It is such a personal issue – it deals with a lot of things that we as directors can’t necessarily represent students on because that’s not what we’re elected for – we’re not elected to make moral judgements on other nations.”

Smyth also cited discomfort among the board in making such a “moralistic” decision. “Maybe people were more comfortable taking a position against [the motion], I can’t completely say.”

Both Smyth and Muir agree that the issue should be discussed again with more directors in attendance,

especially since the four abstaining directors. This would also give directors more time to inform themselves on the topic, which both Smyth and Muir agreed was likely a contributing factor to the abstentions. “I would rather have the motion fail but be fully discussed,” said Smyth.

Emily Anson, one of the four abstaining directors, emphasized caution during the meeting, saying that “if [the Board of Directors takes] a stand on an international issue, then I think it sets a precedent to debate future issues like that. And there are a lot of issues like that. And we can’t possibly tackle them all.”

The motion is expected to be brought before the board again during their next regular meeting, occurring tomorrow night at 5:30.

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Canada Research Chair in International Human Rights

STUDENT INTERSHIPS IN HUMAN RIGHTS

The Canada Research Chair in International Human Rights (Rhoda E. Howard-Hassmann, Chair holder) sponsors a summer internship in human rights. The Chair will fund two students in the summer of 2007. The funding is to cover travel and living expenses and medical insurance: there is no salary. Wilfrid Laurier University students who are Canadian citizens or permanent residents and are currently in 3rd or 4th year are eligible for this internship. Students may not participate in an internship in a country of which they are citizens, except in Canada.

For the summer of 2007 placements have not yet been determined, but will probably be with organizations either in Central America (applicants’ ability to speak Spanish is an asset) or English-speaking Africa. Applicants may also be considered for a self-generated internship, at the discretion of the Chair holder and Selection Committee.

Application information will be posted on Dr. Hassmann’s website at <http://hassmann.wlu.ca> by December 15, 2006. Look for the internship link.

For more information, and detailed instructions on how to apply, contact Wendy Webb, wwebb@wlu.ca or 884-0710, extension 3185.

Applications are due by email to Wendy Webb (wwebb@wlu.ca) by January 15, 2007. Applicants will be notified of the final decision by February 25, 2007.

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Student Publications Annual General Meeting

The Student Publications Annual General Meeting will be held on January 15, 2007 at 7:00PM in Science Building Room N1001 at WLU Waterloo Campus. This meeting is open to all WLU Undergraduate Students.

- Nomination Packages for the WLUSP President and WLUSP Board of Directors will be available January 2nd.
- Packages will be available for pickup in the Student Publications office in the basement of MacDonald House.
- Proxy forms will also be available in the Student Publications office during business hours.

Questions can be directed to Fraser McCracken, President & CEO of WLU Student Publications, at (519) 884-0710 ext.3565 or fraser.mccracken@wlusp.com.



The WLUSU Board of Directors wants to hear from you!



***Come out to our Open Forum
on November 30th and
share your opinion with your
representatives***

Senate and Board Chamber (above the Dining Hall)

5:30pm

Refreshments provided



Laurier Family Values

Decade after decade, term after term, Laurier has been a university to which multiple generations of the same families return to study. The *Cord* speaks to eight students at Laurier, who have shared their campus with family members, to find out what exactly keeps this genetic cycle in motion

ALEX HAYTER
FEATURES EDITOR

There is a contagious hereditary condition lying dormant in the classrooms, lecture halls and residence rooms of our cherished Laurier campus. It can be found anywhere and everywhere: in the musty library corridors, the leaf-speckled pathways, the crowded dining halls and the undersides of plastic chairs.

The condition's horrendous symptoms? A peculiarly strong sense of community. The feeling of being well-educated. The sensation of having lots of friends. A fever-like beating in the heart.

And it's passing along family lines like wildfire through a genetic forest soaked in gasoline. Will there ever be a cure? Or, better yet, is one even needed?

In the following case studies, The *Cord* will delve into the depths of what it means to have a "Laurier Family." Contaminated members of the Laurier student community have come forward to express their concerns, in order to expose the threat of this harmless virus.

The Parent Trap

Laura Scott is a fourth-year English and communications studies student. As well as three uncles, both her parents, Donna and Lawrence Scott, attended Laurier back in the seventies. "My parents actually got married when they were here," she says. "My dad was in economics and my mom did a double major in psychology and sociology."

Both parents are also proud of their involvement at Laurier in their hey-day: "Both of them were very involved; my dad was the president of the Students' Union. When they were here, married couples ran the residences. So my parents actually looked after Willison House."

Scott says that it was her parents' constant mentioning of Laurier's strength in community involvement that attracted her to coming in the first place. "My parents had always told me that Laurier was small and had more of a community, and told me it was a place I could get involved, and I'm the type of person who likes to get involved."

Prior to coming to Laurier, Scott began her undergraduate career at the University of Toronto, but was

intimidated by its massive scale and students. "I really just didn't like the atmosphere at U of T. I found it was kind of unfriendly."

After some gentle nudging from her parents, she made the choice to apply to Laurier after first year and hasn't looked back since. She says that Laurier has most certainly lived up to her parent's descriptions. "I love Laurier. I've been able to get involved and meet great people."

"Unlike a big campus like U of T, you get to walk through campus and see people who you recognize."

Scott's parents still cling to the Golden Hawk school spirit that seems so prevalent in our close-knit community. "My dad does come to football games still ... and my parents will drive through campus and be like, 'That's the stadium we used to go to!'"

Although he doesn't notice huge differences to the campus over time, Scott's father still has pangs of his Student Union president past: "His biggest pet peeve is the Turret: he doesn't understand why we don't have bigger acts coming here."

Would Scott recommend this Laurier to the next generation of her family? "I would recommend it. But I think it's personal: it all depends on what you're looking for at a university. I would never want to pressure them."

"My younger brother in grade nine already knows that he wants to come to Laurier." At least for the near future it looks like this "Laurier Family" will hold to its Golden Hawk tradition.

College Clan

Mike Patience, a fourth-year business student currently on co-op, includes a sister, an aunt and an uncle in his "Laurier Family." His aunt and uncle came to Laurier in the seventies while his sister graduated just prior to his arrival.

He says that while coming to Laurier was entirely his own choice, his family's pro-Laurier influence didn't hurt his initial opinion of Laurier. "They told me about the close-knit feel of the university, and that it's a really nice place," he says.

Patience's family has stayed interested in their relationship with Laurier since graduating. "My sister still comes to homecoming," he says. "And my uncle was just recently buying Golden Hawk clothes at

the bookstore: the typical hoodie."

Patience's relatives enjoyed their time at Laurier, and likewise he has had a great experience at this university. He has definitely felt that the university has lived up to his relatives' descriptions of it.

Through the input of different generations of his family, Patience has come to realize that Laurier's firm popularity depends upon the university sticking to its "small community atmosphere."

"If Laurier stays the same, I would definitely recommend it to my kids," he says, although, of course he would not force his "potential" children to attend.

Sibling Revelry

Brothers Graham and Andrew Duggan are in their third and fourth years, respectively. Andrew majors in history with the administration option, while Graham takes biology and minors in history.

Not even a year after his brother arrived on campus, Graham had made the choice to study at Laurier. "There were three schools in Ontario that did Arts Biology, and I didn't want to do calculus. And I knew Laurier well because [Andrew] goes here and I've been here before as well. I liked how it was small, compared to somewhere like Queen's where I could have gone."

"[Graham] stayed for a weekend to experience the whole university life," says Andrew, which gave his brother an idea of what residence existence was all about.

Andrew would also frequently talk about his experiences at home with the family: "I would say that I was having a great time and I loved this school, and I guess it did rub off on him."

But for Graham, has Laurier lived up to his older brother's descriptions? "It has, if not been better. I've been pretty involved with volunteer stuff. So it's better than I imagined, based on what he had said."

So was it just a ploy of their parents to get them to come to the same university, making it easier on travel times? "Oh, our parents said 'you should go to Laurier!' as a joke, but they didn't care," says Graham.

"It's definitely a huge advantage for them to pick us both up at the same time, but ultimately it was his decision and mine as well," adds Andrew.

Both brothers have noted many changes to Laurier during their stay here. "People seem a lot younger now that I'm in my final year," notes Andrew. "When I came it was the double cohort; there were people in residence who were 19 and 17."

During his four years here, Andrew has also been an observer of the "constant evolution" taking place in Laurier: "There's been consistent construction all the time while I've been here."

Keeping this in mind, are either of the brothers worried that Laurier is at risk of losing its close-knit community? "I think the community spirit will continue because it's such a small area," says Andrew.

"If you go over to the University of Waterloo, you get lost, it takes over 20 minutes to get around on campus," adds Graham, who agrees with his brother.

Both Graham and Andrew would be optimistic for their future genetic-tree to continue at Laurier, but in the end it's a purely personal choice. "If you want a school with a good community, volunteering and good classes, I would recommend it," says Graham.

"But I definitely wouldn't push it upon them," says Andrew.

Family Ties

Kristy and Courtney MacDonald are sisters a year apart at Laurier. Courtney is majoring in English and history in second year, while her older sister Kristy majors in English and is in third year.

"We kind of have a family thing going on at Laurier," says older sister Kristy. "Our cousin came in the 90s and did psych ... we knew that she had a really good time here. And we also have a cousin in first year. And our younger sister really wants to go here!"

"I've wanted to come to Laurier for a long time," says younger sister Courtney. "We're both local so it was the best place for us to go."

Although she had always planned on coming to Laurier, she found her sister's input useful in making the decision.

"She told me it was a good experience, and that Laurier had a great sense of community."

Based on what her sister Kristy said, Courtney agrees wholeheartedly: "It's lived up to her descriptions: it's small, easy to get around, and nice to be at."

Being local family members at the same university has had its convenient perks too. "It's been practical for driving home together; we link up our schedules and try to come home at the same time," says Kristy.

For the moment it appears that most young members of this family have caught the Laurier bug, and there's a fair possibility it will stay that way in the future. "I would definitely recommend it [to my children]," says Kristy. "I love the atmosphere, it's really nice and they're still making it nicer."

Their only concern is if Laurier undergoes any drastic changes in the future, as these sisters believe that Laurier's strength comes from its small sizes. "If it got to the magnitude of Waterloo or U of T, I definitely wouldn't recommend it as much," says Kristy.

Courtney agrees. "If it gets that big, people would say 'Why not just go to U of T instead?'"

Wrapping Up

The samples shown only display a fraction of the students who have come to Laurier upon the recommendation of a family member, or who have recommended Laurier themselves to their family.

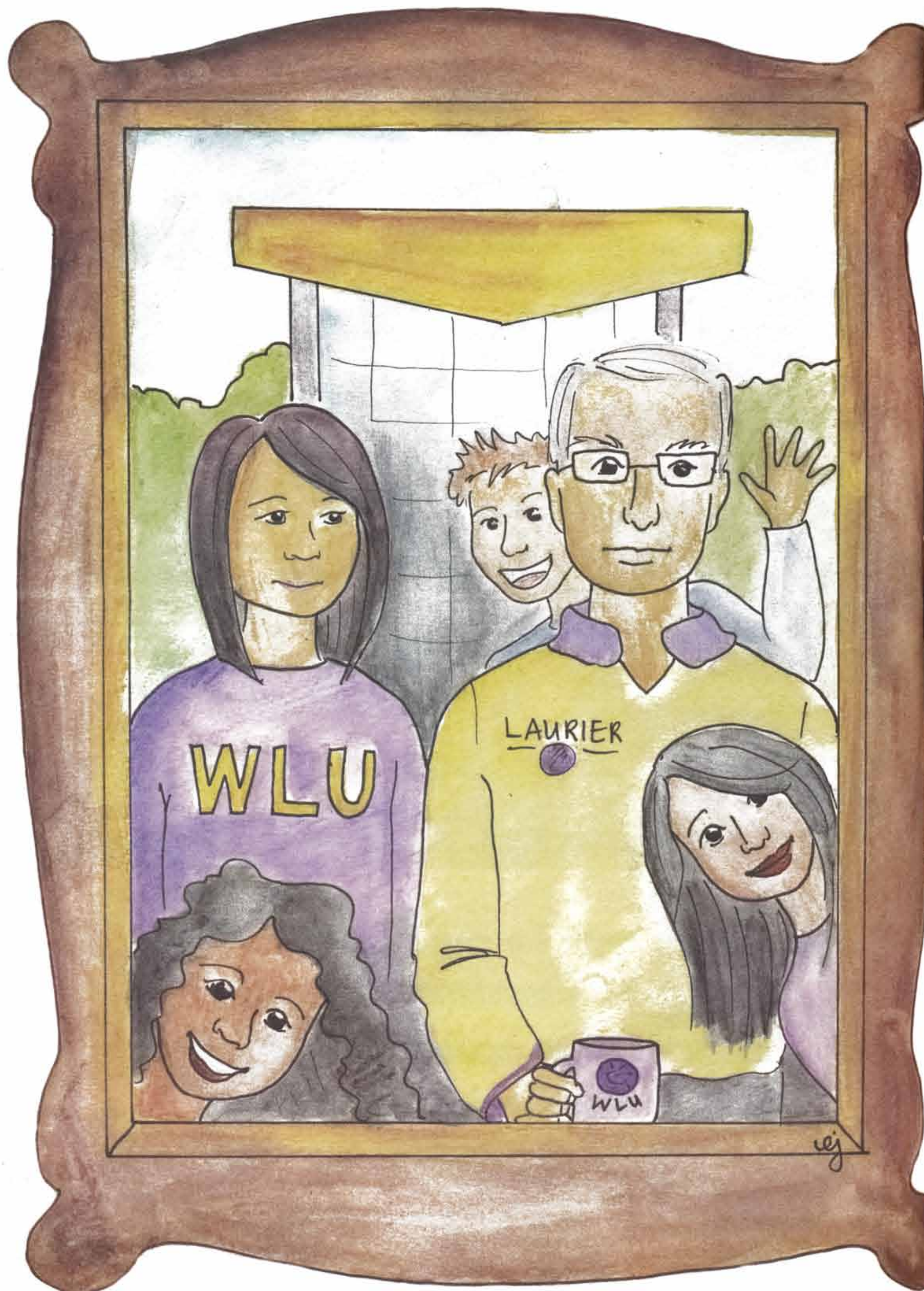
Laurier's small campus and closely-knit community remind us all of that homely, familiar feeling of being in a family environment. The friends, activities and locations provide that feeling of connectivity and belonging that is paralleled only by our genetic relationships.

But as illustrated by the concerns of these "Laurier Families," things won't always be this way if Laurier undergoes any drastic changes.

With a quickly increasing body of students, off-campus expansions, increased focus on graduate programs and research and the maturation of our university, some might say that Laurier is at risk of losing its strongest assets.

Ask yourself: would you want your kids to come to university at Laurier, based on your experiences as a current student? If the air of familiarity and common sense of community of this institution is lost, your answer might well be no.

For now, Laurier seems to be holding on to what makes it strong, at least in the minds of its genetically-linked students.



LUCK supports POGO

This year's featured charity helps children with cancer

LAURA CARLSON
STAFF WRITER

This year's 11th Annual Charity Auction, put on by the Laurier University Charity Council (LUCK). Held November 22 in the Turret, close to 150 people were in attendance for the "Viva Las Vegas" themed event.

Through a live and silent auction, raffle ticket sales and donations at the door, the money raised was donated to the Pediatric Oncology Group of Ontario (POGO).

POGO is an organization over twenty years old that helps children affected by cancer. The group works to ensure that those who unjustly live out their youth in sickness have the best quality of life possible. All the money raised at the auction will be going towards two programs that POGO has developed.

The first program provides financial assistance for families whose kids are currently undergoing treatment. Many don't realize that there are a lot of out-of-pocket costs associated with the cancer recovery process, and several employers

are unable to compensate salaries of parents who need to take time off work. The second program the money goes toward is cancer related research.

Heather Kea, LUCK's coordinator, choose POGO as their charity this year because she feels that working more intimately with a smaller organization has benefits over larger charities.

"We wanted to do something more small-scale and more specialized, so the money we raise can actually make a difference."

Mindy Weber, the development officer at POGO, marvels at how enthusiastic Laurier students were to help.

Weber explains that although they receive the majority of their donations from corporations and individuals, it's important for university students to get involved at this age. "It's the time where they're learning how to give back. It's important because they are the future big donors."

Raising charity awareness in a university environment is something that last year's LUCK coordinator, Kelly Furgal, feels particularly passionate about. "Students sometimes forget the important things when they're out partying. But I think these things are important to remember."

The event seemed to effectively combine a party environment and helping out a good cause, as all things related to liquor seemed present. There was a cash bar running throughout the course of the night, and a member of the Water Buffalos, Laurier's infamous drinking team, was in attendance to present LUCK with a \$500 donation.

There also seemed to be a reoccurring theme of alcohol in many of the prizes, and these included everything from pint glasses to wine and beer prizes.

Several giveaways were also offered in prize packages, including various excursions to winery tours, a trip to Niagara Falls and a stay at Dr. Rosehart's chalet in Collingwood. The 24-hour trip to New York donated by Laurier's Dean of Students was the highest grossing prize of the night at \$2700.

David McMurray, Dean of Students, shared how proud the university is of its students for all that they do outside of class. "It goes beyond the expectations of going to school and getting a degree. [Laurier students] get involved in the community and are really making a difference."

At time of publication, the amount of funds raised was not yet determined.



Veronica Hughes

LUCK'S BLUE SUEDE SHOES - Elvis impersonator, Shon Carroll, performed at the LUCK Charity Auction.

Global celebrations

Snapshots of holiday festivities in December

CHRISTINE SUIZA
STAFF WRITER

Christmas is not the only major holiday celebrated in December. Around the world different cultures and nations revel in festivities.

Christmas for many Christians commemorates the birth of Christ. Nowadays, many non-Christians also celebrate the holiday.

Families celebrate Christmas by attending church, eating turkey or ham, opening presents by a decorated Christmas tree and singing of carols.

These are just some of the common family practices, but depending on a family's cultural background or which side of the world they reside, there are different ways in which they celebrate.

Christmas celebrations in Norway, for example, are slightly different from those in North America. Trond Stian Nutveit, an MBA student from Norway, explains the differences in celebration festivities.

For Christmas dinner, "We have sheep and fish." He mentioned that a couple of days before Christmas, they will have mutton and a specific type of cod up on the rooftop and wait until Christmas day to cook it.

After the dinner, Nutveit explains that each person gets one present and takes turns opening presents.

Although Christmas is one of the biggest celebrations, there are other

important religious holidays. Vibhuti Sharma, a third-year business administration student, discussed the Hindu tradition.

During this holiday, "We have what you call little diya [candle holders] and put oil in them and we put a little cotton swab through the oil," Sharma explains. "It soaks up the oil and light it and you put it all around your house."

Sharma continues, "[At] seven o'clock there is a religious ceremony," which she explained as "Diwali Pooja. [It's] kind of like a mass, only you do it with your family, everyone praying together." After the prayers, there's a large family dinner. They end off with fireworks.

Another big religious holiday is Hanukkah, celebrated by Jewish people. According to Joshua Otis, PR officer for the Jewish Students' Association, "Hanukkah commemorates the dedication of the second temple in Jerusalem."

"When [the Maccabees] wanted to re-dedicate the temple they only had enough oil, what they thought would only last one day. What ended up happening was the lamp burned for eight days."

On each of the eight nights of Hanukkah, a candle is lit on a Hanukkah, an object similar to a Menorah, says Otis.

"We eat latkas, which are potato pancakes and we also eat doughnuts because like latkas they are fried and oiled to commemorate the oil. [This] reflects on miracles that transpire."



Campus Kiss



ALI SCOTT
THE SEXPERT

Dear Ali,
I've been with the same partner for several years and find it hard to get in the mood. I don't want to have sex very often, but I love my partner and enjoy intimate kissing, hugging and cuddling.

My partner has noticed that I'm not always "into it" during sex and he feels badly. How can I bring hot sex back into my relationship?

Sincerely,
Not in the Mood

Dear Not in the Mood,
This is a common occurrence among couples that have been together for long periods of time.

It usually occurs for one of the following reasons: lack of time, stress, changes in the relationship (new baby, weight gain, loss, etc.) or repeating sexual patterns.

The most common is falling into a pattern of being intimate in a particular way that becomes familiar

and predictable.

This can make your sex life boring and make you feel disinterested. The easiest way to change this is to mix it up a bit.

Do something different. Buy an erotic movie to watch together or costumes to dress up in and role-play. You could also buy the Karma Sutra and try new positions. Try something different and be spontaneous, and that will certainly wake up your sex life.

If you are too stressed or tired, then you need to be creative in your lovemaking. Stress is actually alleviated during lovemaking, and also helps relieve headaches and body aches.

It is a physical and emotional release, so the excuse of "being too stressed out" does not really work.

If you are tired, there are certain positions you can be in that require less effort on your end. You can be in the missionary position, or lie on your side and be penetrated from behind. It is relatively effortless, so the next time you are feeling tired, try those positions.

But the number one thing you need to get in the mood is foreplay. Foreplay can encompass a wide range of activities, including un-

derstanding, kissing, petting, touching, nibbling, biting, licking, sucking and oral sex.

The average woman needs between 20 to 40 minutes of foreplay before she is aroused enough to have intercourse. And it also helps if the senses are stimulated.

Men are primarily aroused by visual aspects of intimacy, while women are aroused more by their sense of smell and sound. So turn the lights down, put on some incense and talk sweet nothings into her ear.

Massage can also be very arousing. Learning to let go and relax can also make it easier for a woman to get in the mood.

So your partner will have to put more effort into foreplay in order to get you aroused, but it is both of your jobs to turn each other and yourselves on, so make it a two-way connection.

If you have tried everything and you still can't get in the mood, then you may suffer from low sex drive, which is a treatable medical condition.

Talk to your doctor to learn more.

campuskiss@cordweekly.com

Coping with student stress

In the last installment of our series, O'Neill tackles stress, a common student issue

JENNIFER O'NEILL
STAFF WRITER

Around this time of the year a common understanding is felt amongst students – we're stressed. If the burden of final assignments or exams hasn't hit you, there are a million other things that can cause stress.

Stress can be experienced emotionally or physically, and it can involve biochemical, physiological, cognitive, and behavioural changes. With prolonged exposure to stressors and a lack of positive coping skills, stress can lead to physical and mental health problems.

If you have experienced headaches, abdominal or chest pains, fatigue, trouble sleeping or changes in your eating patterns (either more or less food), stress could be the cause. If these problems continue for prolonged periods of time it may be wise to seek the help of a professional.

Coming into a new environment such as university people often have to deal with a variety of different stressors. The two most common causes of stress among students is a lack of sleep and depression. Although late night study

sessions may seem worthwhile, if this becomes a regular habit it can affect more than your grades.

Even though chatting online or playing games may seem like ways to relieve stress, good time management skills are more effective.

Often students respond to stress with activities that might further compromise their health. Binge drinking or eating, prescription drugs or non-prescription drugs are unhealthy and potentially dangerous ways of dealing with stress. Often they are quick, in-the-moment fixes that contribute no cure for avoiding stress in the future.

How to Start

When dealing with stress you need to recognize the signs. Remember, if you are experiencing any of the following symptoms you may be under unhealthy stress:

- Headaches or backaches
- Not being able to sleep
- Feeling angry or frustrated
- Problems staying focused
- Avoiding others, crying
- Upset stomachs or ulcers
- Rashes or high blood pressure

Next, you need to decide what is causing the stress. If the situation is unavoidable you need to start learning some coping and prevention strategies. If the situation can be fixed then it's time you make some changes. For example, if the problem is a bad relationship, you

need to reconsider the value it has.

Take Small Steps

Although everyone deals with stress in different ways there are some ways to prevent and treat it.

Get regular exercise. Just 20 to 30 minutes of physical activity (walking, jogging, or sit-ups) can clear your head and give you time to think. Some people get tense and their muscles get sore. Getting up to stretch can also help.

Meditate. Put on relaxing music and close your eyes for 10-20 minutes. Take deep breathes and clear your mind.

Keep a journal or talk to someone. Writing your feelings down or talking to someone can help you realize what's making you stressed.

Eat healthy. Eating healthy meals makes a difference in how you feel. Your mind will be clear and you'll be able to stay alert.

Learn to say no. Don't take on more than you can handle. This can be very daunting for some people. But if you know you're going to have a busy week and suddenly your job is demanding you work overtime, be prepared to choose.

Make it a Lifestyle

Although university is only a short period of your life, stress doesn't stop when you graduate. The techniques you learn now will be able to help you in the future.



Contributed Photo

STRESSED? - Hopefully exams don't make you look like this.

STUDENT LIFE HEALTH CHALLENGE WEEK SIX: STEVE'S FIT DIARY

STEVE NILES
STAFF WRITER

As a fourth year student, it would have been nice to finally have figured out how to avoid stress and beat my deadlines. Sadly, I am as organized as a game of Twister and have recently found myself falling dreadfully behind my preconceived plan of when things would be done.

Thus, the last few weeks have been chaotic, with my typical schedule involving me, the con-course past 2:00 am, and plenty of Diet Coke. Clearly, I have been stressed.

In regards to what I have done to diminish the hold stress has on me, I found that a walk with a roommate, even if for 15 minutes, goes a long way. Fresh air and exercise

clears your mind, and time with a friend is always preferred to writing papers. I never went as far as meditation, but I did play music to calm myself; nothing like some Beethoven to settle the soul.

One of the smartest things I did was limit my social engagements during the past two weeks. As much as it pained me to miss Friday at Phil's, the reward is a few hours of work that night, and not having to nurse a hangover the next day.

If I go out, I lose two days of work, but because I didn't, I got much more done.

My piece of advice in this whole matter is to understand that university and this sort of stress is temporary, and that after each semester we get a few weeks off to recuperate and get ready for good times at home.

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THE 2007-08 RESIDENCE LIFE STAFF SELECTION PROCESS

Information Sessions

Tuesday January 16, 2007

Location: BAB 101

Wednesday January 24, 2007

Location: BAB 101

Applications Available

Monday January 8, 2007 – Residential Services

Applications Due

Monday January 29, 2007 – Residential Services

1st Round Interviews

Saturday, February 10, 2007 – Location: 1st Floor BAB

Sunday, February 11, 2007 – Location: 1st Floor BAB

2nd Round Interviews

The week of February 26 to March 2, 2007

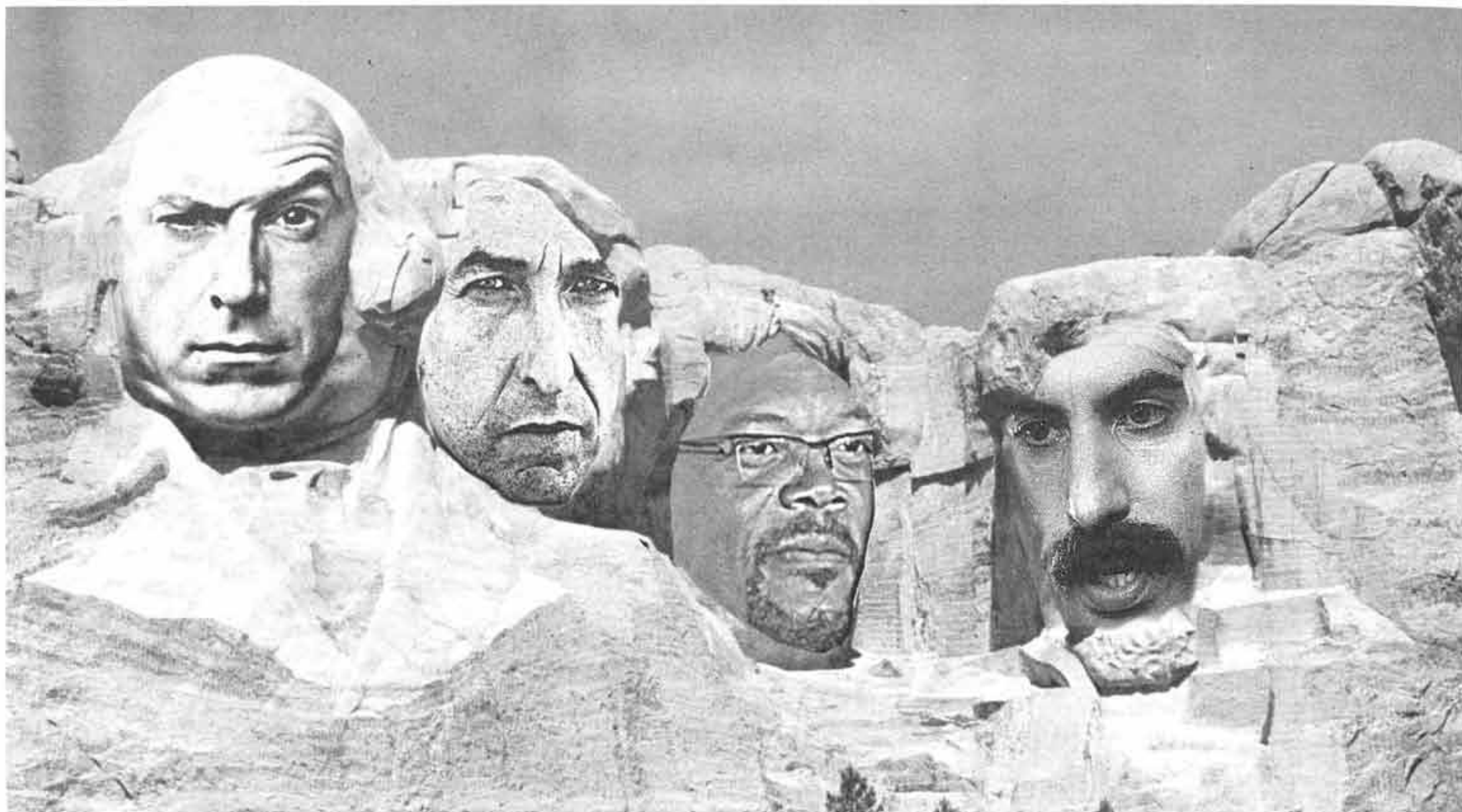
Final Offers

Friday March 9, 2007 – Residential Services

For More information Please contact Dave at the Residence Life Office at 884-0710 ext. 2458 or dshorey@wlu.ca

2006 Year In Review

With another year in the books, *Cord* A&E looks back at the good, the bad and the ugly of 2006's A&E scene



RUSHMORE REDRAWN - With the term coming to an end, the Cord celebrates the newsmakers of 2006: Stephen Colbert, Bob Dylan, Samuel L. Jackson and Borat.

JOE TURCOTTE
A&E EDITOR

ALBUM -
Bob Dylan, *Modern Times*
SONG -
M1 f. K'naan, "Till We Get There"
FILM -
The Departed
BUST -
The One: Making a Music Star
COMMENTS -
"Only a year after the passing of the great Hunter S. Thompson, we've lost another one. With the passing of Ed Bradley, in mid-November, another King of journalism and culture has passed. Soon there won't be any of the old guard left. Who will replace them?"

NICK BOYD
CORD A&E

ALBUM -
Buckcherry, *15*
SONG -
Cobra Starship, "Snakes on a Plane"
FILM -
Talladega Nights: Ballad of Ricky Bobby
BUST -
The Da Vinci Code
COMMENTS -
"Finally a good year for sweet ass rock music. With the debut of Wolfmother and the return of Buckcherry I finally didn't have to subject myself to listening to boring indie/artsy music or generic pop-punk"

JESSICA PETER
CORD A&E

ALBUM -
Dresden Dolls, *Yes Virginia*
SONG -
Tool, "Vicarious"
FILM -
V for Vendetta
BUST -
Little Man
COMMENTS -
"I was really disappointed by *Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest*. Ugh, it seemed like it was a story aimed at little boys: heavy on the goyness, fighting and people falling apart. I wanted logical, piratical adventures, damnit!"

DRU JEFFRIES
CORD A&E

ALBUM -
The Decemberists, *The Crane Wife*
SONG -
Tool, "Vicarious"
FILM -
The Fountain
BUST -
Cars
COMMENTS -
"While in Toronto for the Decemberists concert, me and some friends were asked to be part of the *Much on Demand* audience, since not enough people showed up to see... Kevin Federline. That same day Britney filed for divorce. I take full credit."

JOSIAH YOUNG
CORD A&E

ALBUM -
Brand New, *The Devil and God are Raging Inside Me*
SONG -
John Ralston, "Gone Gone Gone"
FILM -
V for Vendetta
BUST -
Fall Out Boy, This Ain't A Scene
COMMENTS -
"I could go political, talk about Korea or maybe Darfur. But come on, everyone knows the top story of the year is Britney dumping K-Fed, via text message. Absolutely, hands-down, the most important event in American history, hell, WORLD history. If those crazy kids can't make it, what hope do the rest of us have?"

ESTHER WHEATON
CORD A&E

ALBUM -
Final Fantasy, *He Poos Clouds*
SONG -
The Islands, "Rough Gem"
FILM -
Thank You For Smoking
BUST -
Aeon Flux
COMMENTS -
"For my favourite concert I'm going to have to be geeky, here, and say the KWS "Save our Symphony" Concert. There's nothing like Brahms 2."

BEN MCNEIL
CORD A&E

ALBUM -
K-Os, *Atlantis: Hymns for the Disco*
SONG -
Arctic Monkeys, "I Bet You Look Good on the Dancefloor"
FILM -
Snakes on a Plane
BUST -
Tenacious D, The Pick of Destiny
COMMENTS -
"Enough is enough! I have had it with these motherfucking snakes on this motherfucking plane!"

PAUL ALVIZ
CORD A&E

ALBUM -
Broken Social Scene, *Broken Social Scene*
SONG -
Sam Roberts, "Bridge to Nowhere"
FILM -
Superman Returns
BUST -
Arrested Development getting cancelled
COMMENTS -
"My favourite show of the year was the olympic island Virgin music festival (*Sunday Show*) with Matt Mays, Sam Roberts, The Strokes, Raconteurs and Broken Social Scene all in one night."

LAURA CARLSON
CORD A&E

ALBUM -
Tom Petty, *Highway Companion*
SONG -
Buckcherry, "Crazy Bitch"
FILM -
The Departed
BUST -
K-Fed, Playing with Fire
COMMENTS -
"Since this was the year of trashing Kevin Federline, his divorce had to be the perfect way to end things off. To be honest I even have a new-found respect for Spears after she managed to completely screw Federline out of his alimony pay. Now the only question that remains is how will K-Fed support his ridiculous habits without his sugar mama? Clearly he won't be making much profit from his record sales."

MIKE LIPPERT
CORD A&E

ALBUM -
Boy Hits Car, *The Passage*
SONG -
Incubus, "Anna Molly"
FILM -
Bee Season
BUST -
K-Fed, Playing with Fire
COMMENTS -
"K-Fed shames hip-hop even more than he shames himself."

Fan favs

Unibrows victorious at *Last Band Standing: Rd 2*

BEN MCNEIL
CORD A&E

This past Thursday, Will's put on the second round of Laurier's own battle of the bands, *Last Band Standing*. The night featured Canis, Phineas Gage, Macro Fiesta and the Unibrows.

The judges, looking for a mixture of stage presence, engagement, and just all around good sound, chose the Unibrows to move onto the next round of the *Last Band Standing*.

The Unibrows, a mixture of various genres of music, took to the stage last. The crowd at the front of the stage reached its alcohol-induced peak for the night, and midway through the set, very few heads in the crowd weren't bobbing up and down to the beat. The judges stated that the sound was reminiscent of Weezer, and the vocals sounded similar to Blink-182.

While the Unibrows were ultimately victorious, Macro Fiesta was possibly the most intriguing sound of the night. When they first hit the stage with their country attire and an acoustic guitar, I expected something along the lines of Jason

Collett or Cuff the Duke. However, I quickly found myself without any reasonable musical comparison for the band.

A mix of many musical styles, Tommy J., lead singer and guitar, explained the band's sound as "a little bit of everything ... I guess if I had to I would say it's grunge, reggae-rock fusion."

The evening's opening band was Canis, a four-piece outfit featuring the standard two guitar, bass and drums format. The vocals were weak through the entire set, as they featured low, inaudible vocals followed or accompanied by inaudible screaming.

Being their first performance as a group, it was an "ok" showing. They definitely have growing to do as a band, but it was a promising first set.

Phineas Gage was the highlight of the night for me. This band's strong vocals, guitar and bass dominated all of the other acts of the night. Also taking inspiration from Dredg and Silverchair, Phineas Gage performed a strong set and created the most complete sound of the night.

The only thing holding Phineas



BANGIN' BASS - Canus bassist Ken Matheson lets his tie loosen while performing at *Last Band Standing*.

Gage from walking into the finals was that the band did not seem to hit it off with the still relatively sober audience.

In defence of Canis and Phineas Gage, I haven't seen such an unenthusiastic crowd in a long time. Which was rather tragic, considering it could not have been in any

way related to the style or ability of the performers.

The general level of talent at this edition of *Last Band Standing* was high, and relatively even. Thus, it was the crowd interaction that set the bands apart. However, this is more than a little misleading. Once the night got going, alcohol started

flowing and more connected bands hit the stage the crowd formed up front. But, that should in no way reflect on the earlier performances of the night.

While the night proved to be successful, here's hoping the kinks in the judging system get ironed out in time for Round 3.



BOY'S CHARM - Joel Plaskett seduces the crowd Thursday night.

Plaskett's East Coast energy

The Joel Plaskett Emergency rocks sold-out Starlight with a double encore

NICK BOYD
CORD A&E

The last time Joel Plaskett graced the stage of the Starlight Lounge, he was going at it solo and opening for Kathleen Edwards. This past Thursday, however, Plaskett and his band, The Emergency, were the main attraction as they rocked a sold out Starlight crowd.

Born and raised in Halifax, Joel has been in the rock and roll game

for over a decade now, dating back to 1992 when he was the lead singer and guitarist for the Nova Scotian rock act Thrush Hermit. Since then he has been amassing a wide collection of tunes with The Emergency, as well as on his own.

Plaskett pulled from his strong catalogue of music, which includes his latest release *Make a Little Noise*, performing the catchy "Nowhere With You," which deserves to be sung along with as your drink is raised in the air.

The toe tapping and groovin' "Work Out Fine" got the crowd going as well, alongside the sweet and pretty "Happen Now." "Come on Teacher," which might be known as their biggest hit to date, was saved for later and it put the exclamation mark on a set of solid tunes.

Plaskett and the boys also treated the fans to some new material, which will be on their upcoming CD, slated for an early 2007 release. And if songs like "Drunken Teenagers" are any indication, this CD will not only become a commercial success but a Canadian classic.

The night's crowd was surprisingly diverse, as everyone from drunken teenagers to adults were on hand for the occasion. Proving that Plaskett is not just admired for his music a few ladies in the front row offered the main man a nice cold brew. Plaskett politely passed it off to his drummer, as he had his own tasty beverage in the form of a classy glass of wine.

The Waterloo fans were extra lucky this night as they were able to witness a double encore by Plaskett

and The Emergency.

Encores are pretty much run of the mill nowadays but a double encore is something else. By tossing in the fan favourite "Light of the Moon" to cap the night off, those in attendance went away quite satisfied to say the least. While also managing to leave them hungry for more.

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PHONES REDEFINED



New Music fills Forrester Hall

Bi-weekly Faculty of Music presentation entertains and engages

ESTHER WHEATON
CORD A&E

Laurier's New Music concerts may be the Faculty of Music's best-kept secret.

While concerts take place every second Wednesday evening in the Maureen Forrester Recital Hall, only a small group of music lovers gather to listen to their colleagues perform a variety of improvisations and newly composed works.

The concert this past Wednesday evening was particularly spectacular, with student and professor composed pieces dominating the night. Ranging from solo piano improvisation to a mildly trippy agit-rock-and-recitation work, the com-

positions reflected the diversity of the musical spectrum.

The Prometheus Guitar Quartet kicked off the evening, with a performance beginning well before the hall began to fill. The piece, "In C", is an original composition by Terry Riley, involving the complicated interweaving of musical phrases, sometimes in harmony, and sometimes otherwise.

Nancy Tam followed "In C" with an improvisation on piano that sparkled even more than her dress. Excellent use of the lower tessitura of the instrument led to beautiful contrast when she did finally move up the keyboard.

What followed was perhaps one of the highlights of the evening. Lorrina Belluz performed the self-composed "Meditation on gd." The stage was darkened, lit only with an orange-tinted lamp.

Belluz plugged in her violin and did something any Final Fantasy is familiar with: looped plucked and

bowed patterns. Belluz changed the styles of these melodies several times, from gypsy-like to a fiddling jazz, to an almost East Indian flavour.

The next work to be presented was "Jesus Call the Row", by Matthew Neugebauer. Glenn James

The volume and density grew throughout the whole piece, the guitar and bass underlay punctuated by cluster chords on the two pianos.

and Heather Olaveson played this beautiful and reflective – but extremely difficult – piece very well, on two pianos. A cool, blue light angled from either side of the stage effectively set the stage for the next work, "An Icy Day!" by Afarin Tehrani.

It was, to be sure, an ethereal Icy Day, reminding me of the phases

of dreams. It was well played by the three guitarists, but Margaret Ashburner's harp-work was the star of the show, grabbing my attention with her "icy cool" percussive techniques.

Tomas Bouda's original work, entitled "Triptych" filled the stage with performers and the hall with collectively chaotic sound.

Its basic premise seemed to involve groups of four performers "going crazy" with their instruments in sequence. However, the "craziness" fit together remarkably well, with the occasional lyrical phrase.

Following "Triptych" was a second improvisation, the extraordinary vocal stylings of Pam Patel, with texts by Marianne Bindig.

The final performance of the evening was another multi-performer

work entitled "Howl," written by Glenn Buhr, professor of composition at Laurier, and performed by the composer and a group of students.

The stage was interestingly set up, with the two pianos side-by-side in the centre of the stage, so that the standing pianists had their backs to the audience, and the other performers were spaced around them.

Margaret Sweatman performed a recitation of the poem "Howl" by Allen Ginsberg. Her voice was perfect for the text, low and rough. The piece began with subtle but intense guitar and bass distortions, beneath Sweatman's murmur.

The volume and density grew throughout the whole piece, the guitar and bass underlay punctuated by cluster chords on the two pianos.

The New Music series of concerts provide a good way to experience forms of music that don't fall within the mainstream.

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WRITTEN, DRAWN AND INKED BY: JACOB DUPREY

SYD-OKU

Fill in the blank squares so that each row / column and each block of nine includes the numbers 1 to 9.

7		3	6	2				4
6	3	1	5	8				9
					6			
1			2		6			5
	5			7			2	
2			1		9			8
		5						
3				9	1	4	5	2
7			8	4	5		3	

Last Week's Answer

2	4	3	7	6	9	5	1	8
8	7	6	4	5	1	3	9	2
1	5	9	3	8	2	7	6	4
4	1	2	6	3	7	8	5	9
5	6	7	2	9	8	1	4	3
3	9	8	5	1	4	2	7	6
6	8	5	9	7	3	4	2	1
9	2	1	8	4	5	6	3	7
7	3	4	1	2	6	9	8	5

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9	5	1	5	4	9	2	6	7
2	5	4	1	6	7	8	9	3
7	6	8	3	2	9	5	1	4
8	9	7	6	5	1	3	4	2
1	2	3	8	7	4	9	5	6
5	4	6	9	3	2	7	8	1
3	8	9	7	1	6	4	2	5
6	7	2	4	8	5	1	3	9
4	1	5	2	9	3	6	7	8

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Spend time, not money

The next time an English professor asks a class to define irony, feel free to use this example: on Friday, November 24, the Royal Bank of Canada's debit transactions were unavailable for three hours, causing wide scale panic among RBC users who were shopping... on Buy Nothing Day.

Adbusters, an alternative Canadian magazine, promotes Buy Nothing Day every year in an attempt to showcase the power of consumers to say no to the needless, excessive spending common to First World nations.

And yet, shoppers couldn't restrain themselves last Friday, even when debit was unavailable, switching to cheques and cash instead. It's a sad statement about our society that a glitch in payment technology can cause so many problems. And with the holiday season fast approaching, a very valuable lesson can be gleaned from the technical breakdown: holiday joy and merry-making don't depend on the amount of money individuals spend.

It seems that every year, society gets further and further away from the intended meaning of the holiday season, opting instead to buy bigger and more expensive gifts to display the festive spirit. Whatever the holiday, the time away from school and work is intended to be spent with family and loved ones, not out shopping for the latest and greatest gadgets.

Spending money around this time of year is practically unavoidable, but that's alright. Individuals should be able to spend money on the ones they love, but not as a replacement for spending time with them.

A gift that was bought with thought and care is worth so much more than the one that puts a dent in the pocketbook. Something as simple as baking cookies for a friend is an exceptional gift because it shows that you took the time to plan and bake, rather than just rushing to a mall and throwing down a debit card.

So this holiday season, take the time and care to really think of your loved ones and cut down on your shopping to spend more time with the ones who matter most. You may actually get a chance to enjoy the holiday season, instead of stressing out in over-crowded malls and breaking the bank, if the debit machines work.

Walk safely

Students would be wise to watch their step. With the fourth pedestrian fatality in Waterloo this year occurring only four days ago, students need to be more cautious while driving and crossing the street. While none of the four pedestrians killed this year were students, one of Laurier's residences is named after a past student who was fatally struck by a motor vehicle. Brigitte Bouckaert was killed about twenty years ago when she tried to help control the crowd outside of Bingeman's during O-Week, and when the all-female residence was opened in 1986, it was named after her.

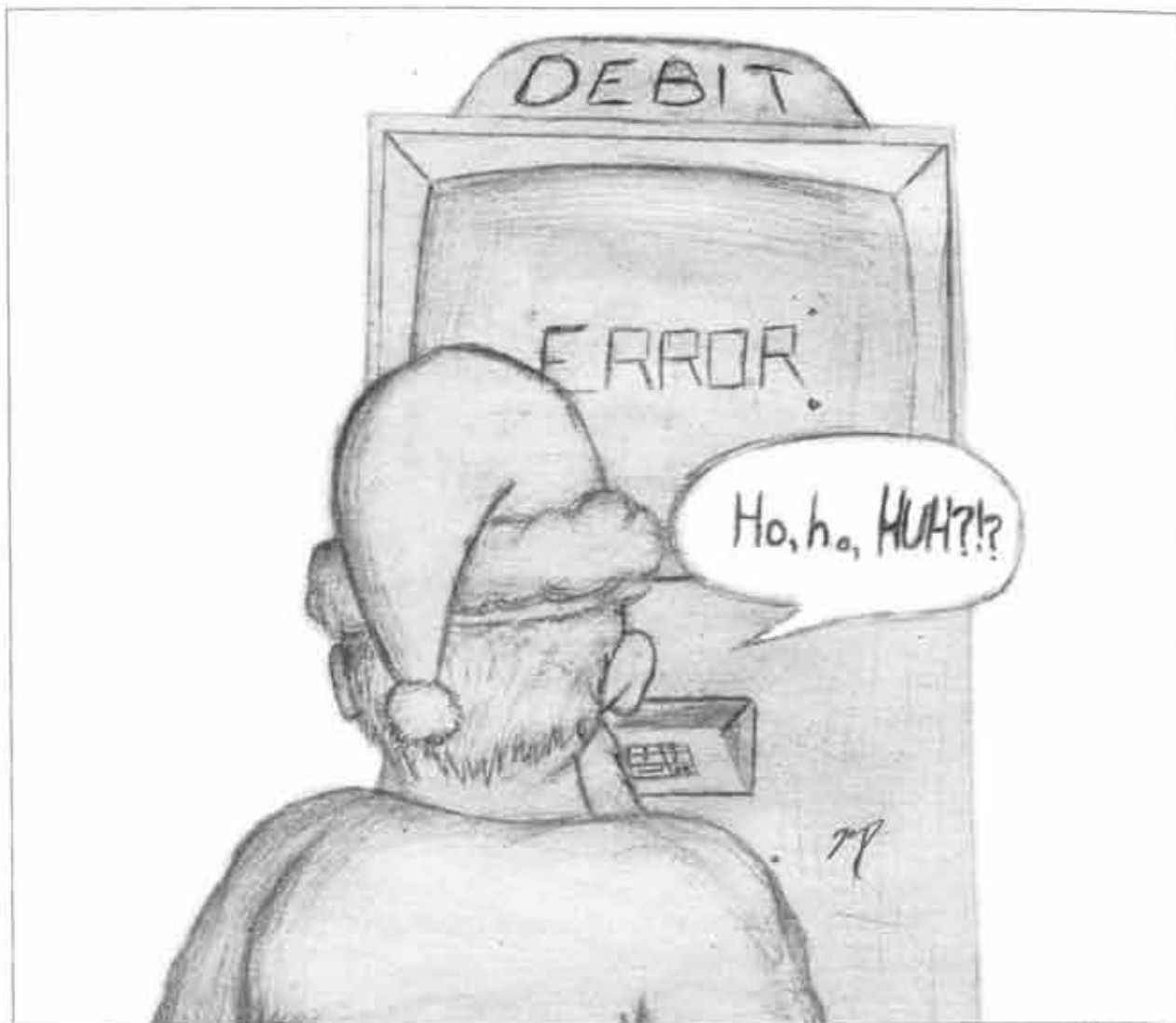
Too often students are seen crossing the street illegally, rushing to get to their next destination. But with a campus that only takes

five minutes to cross from end-to-end, there's no real reason students should be rushing.

In addition to the threat to students' safety, jaywalking comes with a hefty fine. If presented with a charge of "pedestrian fail to use crosswalk," an individual faces a fifty-dollar charge.

Students' desire to cross the road whenever they please also frustrates local drivers and sullies the reputation of students in the community.

Instead of risking your safety, your money and your reputation, the next time you venture outside ready to walk to your destination, leave a little bit earlier and wait your turn at the crosswalk. After all, arriving late is better than never arriving at all.



Mallory Richard

Two-nation country

Its unique culture and history merits Quebec's recognition as a nation

JOE TURCOTTE
A&E EDITOR

With a bold and historic statement, Prime Minister Stephen Harper has finally acknowledged that there is, in fact, an elephant in the room and that it must be dealt with. By proposing a motion that recognizes "that the Québécois form a nation within a united Canada," the Prime Minister has addressed an issue that has plagued Canada since the country's inception. The issue of the status of Quebec did not go away with the Referendum in 1995. In fact, the "Quebec question" has remained a problematic element of Canadian existence since Confederation.

In the 1839 *Report on the Affairs of British North America*, British politician Lord Durham remarked that in Canada there are "two nations warring in the bosom of a single state." And with that elegant line of prose the good lord illuminated the contested nature of Canadian identity.

It must be remembered that the country of Canada was formed by combining two distinct, and historically oppositional, nations. As such, the idea of a unified Canadian identity is problematic at best. In part because of this fact, Canada-Quebec relations have been strained ever since. So now, with the Prime Minister's motion to affirm the identity of the Québécois people, Harper has once again opened the debates concerning the identity, and future, of the Canadian nation.

And good for him.

By opening up the possibility of debate, Harper has put Canada on a path towards resolving the issue of Quebec sovereignty. The prov-

ince of Quebec is a fundamental part of the Canadian project. To lose Quebec from within a unified Canada would be a tremendous loss for the country, both culturally and economically. Culturally, Quebec adds to the diverse and multicultural nature of our country, and reminds us that multiculturalism has been a Canadian fact for centuries. Economically, the separation of Quebec would send shock waves throughout Canada. One must only look back to 1995, when an uncertain referendum outcome had government and private economists searching for ways to deal with a shattered Canadian dollar. So, in order to maintain the Canada that we cherish, we must work to ensure that federalism prevails.

But ambiguity is threatening to tear apart the fabric of our country. The word "nation" is so loaded and ripe with connotations that affirmation of the nation of Quebec can be used as a tool of the sovereigntist movement. However, while the definition of a nation may be elusive and debated *ad nauseam*, one thing is certain: the word nation does not necessarily entail independence or political sovereignty.

For this reason, the notion of a Québécois nation within a united Canada is an idea that is long overdue. Liberal MP, and the frontrunner to becoming the new leader of the federal Liberal party, Michael Ignatieff said it best when he said, "Recognizing Quebec as a nation in the Constitution is difficult. Yes, it's difficult, but we must do it."

By not dealing with the status of Quebec, the country of Canada is sweeping its problems under its rug. While it may be difficult to affirm the identity of a distinct society, not to try and deal with the questions relating to Québécois identity is damaging to the Cana-

dian psyche. Across the country, deeply ingrained ethnic resentment, in the form of pro/anti English or Francophone, persists. To alleviate these concerning feelings the status of Quebec needs to be addressed and reconciled.

The rest of Canada needs to come to terms with what is already a well-known fact within Quebec: that the province of Quebec is a distinct society. This is not just because the majority of Quebecers speak French and not English. Socially, culturally and legally the people of Quebec are historically different from the rest of the Canadian public. This is not to say that Quebec is a different country. Rather, historically, the Québécois peoples are a nation unto themselves.

But, what the people of Quebec (in particular the sovereigntists) need to understand is that being a nation does not mean that the Quebec nation is separate from the project that is Canada. As with any hard, and important, project, compromises need to be made. And the biggest, most important compromise that needs to be made is to reconstruct our notions of the ideas "nation" and "country" so that they are not mutually exclusive. If Canada is truly going to be the tolerant and multicultural society that we claim to be, then we need to rethink our outdated ideas and formulate new solutions to the problems that plague our society.

Canada can function as a country while still retaining the nation of Quebec, just as easily as Quebec can function as a nation within the country that is Canada. After all, this is what has been happening since the British North America Act was enshrined way back in 1867. Unfortunately, it nearly took one hundred and fifty years for us to try and formally recognize it.

> Letters to the Editor

LETTER OF THE WEEK:

CORD A LGBTQ ALLY

On behalf of the coordinators and volunteers at the WLU Rainbow Centre, I would like to thank Ashley Jang and the staff at the *Cord* for your recognition of homophobic hate crimes as a reality on campus. Furthermore, to give such coverage on the front page of the *Cord* shows the LGBTQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, and Queer) community that there are allies in the Laurier community that wish to help fight against hate crimes. Thank you for helping propel the Laurier community towards being more aware and accepting of all of its students.

Regarding the "Homophobic Acts Childish" editorial in last week's edition, however, there was an ill-informed term used when referring to the LGBTQ community. The term "lifestyle choice" is problematic, as it denies the lived reality of LGBTQ individuals; it assumes an individual makes a choice regarding their sexual orientation or gender identity. In a campus climate that is becoming more aware, it is important to challenge pre-existing, incorrect stereotypes.

- Adam Cilevitz

WHO IS INSTILLING HATRED?

It is sad to see that sometimes people go overboard when disagreeing with others, to the point of discussing issues which distract from the matter at hand, with words which can only be described as blind labels. This is in reference to a reply in the *Cord* about the article entitled: "The Attacks on Gaza were careless" by Yusuf Faqiri, Nov. 15.

The author of the reply entitled "Fire Faqiri," Nov. 22, begins by disagreeing with Faqiri, which is the author's opinion. The problem starts when the author accuses Faqiri of propaganda, and goes on to give some propaganda himself, with unbacked statements such as, "Their schools instill hate. Their religion instills hate."

Faqiri did not at any point in his article attack any specific religion, but was talking about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. So why not discuss the conflict from an objective standpoint, instead of stereotyping all those involved on the Palestinian side and insult the religion of Islam itself?

Who is instilling hate? Islam, which forbids Muslims from insulting other faiths, or the one who said the above statements? The author started defaming and demonizing Islam, and yet accuses Islam of instilling hate.

This is a conflict between two sides. How does Islam instilling hate come into this? So does the author want us to conclude that whomsoever defends his dignity and livelihood has a belief that instills hate? I hope not.

The author accuses others of narrow-mindedness and bias views. Does the author really believe that his own reply is neither bias nor narrow minded? Then why else does he blindly defend Israel without caring for the plight of the Palestinians in any way, but rather tries to dehumanize them by attacking Islam?

The trick is, first demonize a population's belief, then pass on the idea that their oppression is justified. This is the true propaganda.

The author stated, "Thus, hate breeds more hate." That is very

true, but no one seems to be spewing out hate but the author, which spills out hypocrisy upon hypocrisy, and is thus rejected.

- Helal Fattal

WHY SHOULD WE HIDE THE TRUTH?

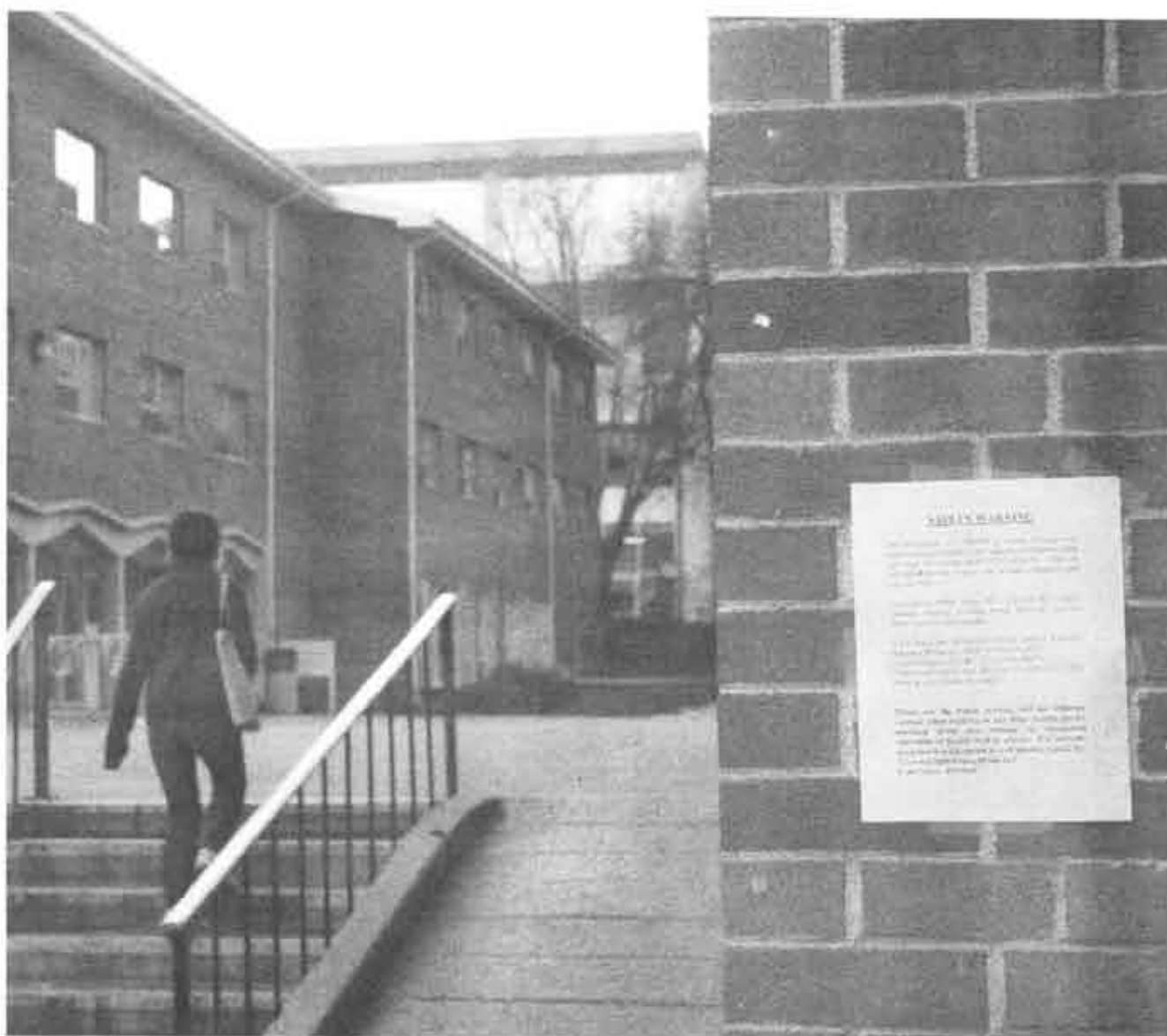
I am an occasional reader of the *Cord*, and I noticed in the letters to the editor section a response to the Faqiri article on the reckless bombing of a Palestinian home. The respondent did make some valid comments; however, he is allowing himself to be overtaken by propaganda regarding Muslims and Arabs.

If you wish to respond to such a sensitive issue you must know the actuality and reality of the daily lives of Palestinians living under Israeli occupation. The so-called militant activities and firing of rockets into Israeli towns comes from the depression and daily humiliation that the Palestinian people endure. Palestinians have the right to defend themselves, even though their means of actions are not always positive and are often damaging to themselves. You should be aware of the sequence of events that take place resulting in such responses. It saddens me to see that Palestinians and their cause used as reasoning for fundamental groups with their own political agendas. The one thing that Faqiri is doing right is his effort to represent the Palestinian people and make their struggle visible to an academic audience.

- Osamah Jazar

Letters Policy:

All letters to the editor must be signed and submitted with the author's name, student identification number, and telephone number. Letters must be received by 12:00pm Monday via email to letters@cordweekly.com or through our website at www.cord-weekly.com. Letters must not exceed 350 words. The *Cord* reserves the right to edit any letter for brevity and clarity. Spelling and grammar will be corrected. The *Cord* reserves the right to reject any letter, in whole or in part. The *Cord* reserves the right to not publish material that is deemed to be libelous or in contravention with the *Cord's* Code of Ethics or journalistic standards.



LONE WALKER - Despite clearly posted signs, students aren't taking the advised safety precautions.

A new culture of fear

Even with an attempted assault occurring near campus, Laurier students aren't taking posted precautions to heart because they're desensitized



DAVID SHORE
NO RELATION TO PAULY

Back in March of this year, there was a murder in my hometown of Aurora. The killing sent shockwaves of fear and anxiety through our daily small town lives. Crime was always something we heard on the news, something that happened elsewhere, but never really existed close to home. Even though the killer was caught and found to be the husband of the murder victim, and nobody in our town was in any real threat, there was a heightened level of fear in the community. Regardless of the circumstances, crime had become far more tangible.

Currently, we're facing a similar situation here in Waterloo. It has been roughly a week since reports have emerged of a young woman being sexually assaulted in Waterloo Park, just minutes from both universities.

We have all heard stories of these things happening before. We have all been warned numerous times not to walk alone at night. Crimes like these always seemed to be things that happened to other people, but would never happen to us. Now with this atrocious crime so close to home, crime seems a lot more tangible once again.

However, the atmosphere of the community in this case seems much different than in March when panic swept through Aurora, Ontario. The students of Laurier generally seem to have an air of indifference about them.

Every student received an e-mail

discussing the crime and warning the students to take utmost caution until the assailant has been caught. Students have been advised to use the buddy system when walking, to use Foot Patrol and not to walk with headphones on or while using a cell phone. The same message has been posted on flyers throughout the campus.

Regardless of numerous warnings, I have still seen students walking alone at night. I have still seen students walking alone with music to keep them company or talking on cell phones. Despite crime coming to our doorsteps, nobody seems to be paying it any notice. Life is going on as usual.

It is clear that our generation responds differently to stories of crime than our elders. While the family-based community of Aurora reacted with anxiety when crime struck their town, the students of Laurier seem to be a lot more resilient when faced with messages of fear.

There are many reasons why this could be the case. There is a possibility that our generation is more naïve and arrogant. We see crimes happening, but we don't actually believe that they could happen to us, so we ignore precautionary methods.

But I see it from a different angle. I think our generation is very aware that crime can happen to us. In fact, I believe we are too aware of it. Our lives have become saturated with threats, warnings and precautions to the point that all we can do to cope is to ignore them. It has often been said that we are living in a culture of fear. It seems to me that this culture is fast approaching its breaking point.

The idea of a culture of fear is epitomized in 9/11. In the months that followed the attack, people with scheduled commercial flights feared for their lives. Airlines suffered massive losses in sales, as people were too afraid to fly.

In the past five years, airline sales have crept back up to nearly their former level. This past summer, there was another airplane scare when men were arrested in London for trying to carry explosive fluids onto planes. This time though, far fewer people were afraid to get on an airplane. During the barrage of fear-inducing news stories ever since 9/11, people have been becoming more and more desensitized to danger.

The more people hear about potential danger, whether it is international terrorism or assault on the streets of Waterloo, the more they are inclined to ignore it. We have reached a point in our culture of fear where our perpetual danger has become an inevitable truth. We have come to a point where we simply have better things to do than to be afraid. We have places to be, things to do and lives to live and the culture of fear in which we live attempts to severely restrict these ends. Increasingly, our generation has chosen to live life normally rather than be affected by fear.

In a way, it is promising to see how Laurier is reacting to this crime. Unlike the people of Aurora who bought in to fear last March, Laurier students have not allowed fear to overcome their daily lives. Perhaps one day soon, the notion of a culture of fear may no longer apply.

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Finding a refuge on campus

University offers students opportunities to find a community where they feel like they belong and no longer feel like outsiders



WALEED HAFEZ
COMMUNITY EDITORIAL BOARD

I'm the only gay in the village.

To some that sentence is just a statement, to some it is a quotation, but to a select few it is a sentiment. That is what it is for me. It's one that has encompassed my life as a child, as a teen and now as a young man in university.

Since starting university a little more than a year ago, I have come to learn many things. I've learned about bongs and kegs, research assignments and Scantron, condoms and dental dams. But what I have learned the most about is myself.

I've learned that whether I like it or not, I am different. Whether physically different or emotionally different, I certainly am. However,

what I am most different from and am most indifferent to are stereotypes. Being a – dare I say it – brown man, I've come to realize that a lot is expected of me.

Moreover, being a gay brown man, I've come to realize that most of what is expected of me isn't coming true. So I create my own expectations for myself and hope that they will suffice.

Among the many initial surprises that university held for me, the one that I found pleasantly shocking, was that I was not alone in the way I felt.

One evening after walking into a room filled with strangers and attending my first GLOBAL meeting, I saw that, in fact, there is a whole group of people who empathize with me.

In some way or another, we feel that we are outsiders within our own communities. Whether because of religious, moral or politi-

cal reasons, we are ostracized due to our apparent sexual "choice" and "lifestyle". So I told myself that I should not only appreciate the accepting environment I am in, but involve myself so that the next person walking through the door

After walking into a room filled with strangers and attending my first GLOBAL meeting, I saw that, in fact, there is a whole group of people who empathize with me.

who had been feeling the same way I did so many months ago would be greeted with a welcoming and comforting smile.

That is what, in my mind, the Rainbow Centre is – a refuge, an oasis. It provides not only a safe space for the volunteers to meet but also a place where anyone is welcome

and the ideals of tolerance and pride are kept sacred.

Although the prime purpose of the Rainbow Centre was to increase acceptance of LGBTQ-identified students, staff and faculty members and to increase awareness of the current state of homophobia on campus, we have become so much more than just that.

The cultural tug of war I go through in my head is not resolved, and I don't believe it ever will be. But what I feel is important for me and others to know is that it doesn't need to be. The best part about being involved in the Rainbow Centre is that I've realised that labels are pointless. You can always find a label for yourself, but the next person you meet will have one of their own

for you.

So instead of living my life in the pursuit of a label, I can just live my life. As time goes on, my identity will become known to me and those close to me and my self image will better with every passing moment of friendship and closeness with the others involved in the Rainbow Centre. Together, we can create our own community where we are all accepted and celebrated and where we can never feel like outsiders.

Given that I have so much more to learn and accept about myself, I feel so fortunate that I am surrounded by people who bring out the best in me. And hopefully, with time, I won't be the only gay in the village anymore.

letters@cordweekly.com

Waleed Hafeez is a member of Laurier's Rainbow Centre.

Houses become homes with heart

- FROM HOME, COVER

hands to build a house but only hearts can build a home." And it just might be more difficult for some of us with lovely, spacious houses to find our way home than it might be for Ernest and the women of Camp Dignity. It is within ourselves where we are most likely to feel out of place, alone... placeless.

Our sense of homelessness is clearly created by our culture of separation, our demands for privacy and our denial of our basic dependency needs. Philip Slater (*The Pursuit of Loneliness*) identifies three basic human desires uniquely frustrated by our culture.

The first of these is the desire for community – the deep wish to live in trust with others in a visible collective entity.

The second is the deep desire for engagement – that wish to come directly to grips with our social and

interpersonal environments. And third, the deep desire to dependence – the wish to share responsibility for the direction of one's life.

The fact is that our society increasingly frustrates these deep yearnings and creates a widespread sense of existential homelessness.

However defined, home involves the recognition that our individual selves are made in community and the richest forms of individuality can only be achieved in the sustained company of others. And though pop psychology urges that the fractured soul is best healed by drawing in upon itself, the fractured soul is best healed by being poured out in relationships with those outside the self.

The solitary individual finds it more and more difficult to bear alone the weight placed on him/her by a progressively more fragmented modern life. Never have we needed to find our way home the

way we do today.

Technological change and our love affair with individualism combine to rupture the bonds that tie each of us to a family, however defined: a community, a kinship network, a geographical location – bonds that give us a comfortable sense of ourselves at home. When we actively deny human interdependence and pursue unrealistic fantasies of self-sufficiency, we feel homeless.

Our folklore abounds with stories about beings who cannot find a home, some of whom are the most tragic figures in all literature. We need only recall Marley's ghost in Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* to get at the truth expressed in such tales. Jacob Marley was cursed to roam the earth without rest because, as an individual, he never showed any love for others and obsessively pursued his own personal, financial profit. Caring only for himself, Mar-

ley was stuck within himself in life and in death.

Our precious individualism means that as we hotly pursue our own destinies, we are forced to maintain an emotional detachment from our social and physical environments and the end result is a deep-seated sense of homelessness, perhaps felt more acutely during the holiday season.

We must rediscover the instruments, maps and charts to guide us home.

The lyrics of the Christmas song suggest, "I'll be home for Christmas... if only in my dreams."

Yes, as long as we strive to satisfy our own individual needs with little or no context of love, with no context richly woven into and with others or in the song – "Where the love light gleams" – homelessness at Christmas will dictate that we may be home for Christmas, "but only in our dreams."

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Racism still prominent

Michael Richards' recent racial rant sparked controversy, but society's prejudices have just been pushed to a preconscious level



MICHELLE PINCHEV
SPECIAL PROJECTS EDITOR

I am going to do my best not to offend anyone — but we all know how hard that is when talking about race.

A week after Michael Richards was caught on tape assaulting some African-American hecklers with racist expletives, the actor better known as "Kramer" is trying to recover from public crucifixion.

With the advice of Reverend Jesse Jackson, with whom Kramer has been in contact via his newly hired celebrity public relations representative, Kramer will soon partake in some "race sensibility training" and psychotherapy. Maybe fellow racist Mel Gibson can recommend a good shrink.

After watching his tirade on tape, there is no doubt in my mind that this man is in dire need of psychological help, but from what I've heard, his mental instability shines through in all of his acts, not just ones that end in racial slurs.

In his best-selling book *Blink*, author Malcolm Gladwell talks about prejudice and the judgments we make in the "blink" of an eye.

He points to one particular study that shows racism has not declined in our society as much as we think. Instead, as racism has become far less socially acceptable, our prejudices have been pushed down to a preconscious level.

Scary stuff. Unfortunately, racism is so embedded in some of us that it may take generations to iron out all of the lingering ignorance.

Despite the fact that many think racism is a thing of the past, films like *Crash* do a good job of showing what a large part of our daily lives it is. And for those who didn't get around to seeing *Crash*, we can thank Kramer for bringing that to our attention.

The frightening thing is that Michael Richards or Mel Gibson may be no more racist than the average North American. They just happen to be celebrities who got caught. According to research, anger and frustration are the things that cause racism to rear its ugly head.

Why do people lash out with racism when angry?

For Richards, being heckled in a comedy club probably hit close to home. After all, that's a long way down from playing Kramer on *Seinfeld*. He retaliated. All Kramer knew about his hecklers was that they were African-American.

Unfortunately, this gives him enough information to attack them in a very personal way, without really knowing anything about them personally.

When a car cuts you off on the road, the only thing you know about the driver is what you can see — their race, gender, and often their socioeconomic status.

If a brand new Mercedes cuts you

off, you just might find yourself thinking the driver is cocky or spoiled. If the car is a 1992 Ford Tempo, you might be thinking about the driver's "low-class" status.

This is the same ignorance behind comments people make about Asians being bad drivers.

The myth has even been developed as far as people attributing their alleged bad driving to the shape of their eyes, which most intelligent people know is ridiculous.

These types of prejudiced comments are rooted in frustration, nothing else.

They need to be separated from the comments of ballsy comedians like "Borat," who use prejudice to point out the irony and absurdity of it, not

to hurt others.

Not everyone resorts to using offensive language when angry, but a lot of us do. Some offensive words are more acceptable than others, but

Kramer knew that his hecklers were African-American. Unfortunately, this gives him enough information to attack them in a very personal way, without really knowing anything about them personally.

even words like "retarded," which many of us use without realizing, are extremely hurtful to some. To an ex-

tent, while almost all of us are guilty, Kramer, Mel and even Borat are our scapegoats.

The very fact that blatantly offensive racial slurs are in heavy circulation in our daily music, media and dialogue should be held partly responsible. With these notions so easily available to us, it's just inevitable that they surface in the context of hate.

I am not African-American and it is clearly not my place to talk about what Black people can and cannot say. Every culture has its own customs

and rules as well as its own rhetoric. But it is impressive to see that some prominent figures in the Black community, like Oprah and Will Smith, waive their "right" as African-Americans to use the "n-word."

Reverend Jesse Jackson himself is pleading with the Black community not to use the word.

He's pushing for an outright ban of the "n-word" in music and media. I, too, challenge everyone to use more responsible language, as I am trying to do myself (with limited success).

The biggest challenge, you may find, is not to poke fun at your own culture, race or religion, as for some reason, that is considered acceptable.

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Cayenne's new Hawk

In a bizarre act of animal abuse, WLUSU President Allan Cayenne went on a day-long hunting spree and quest to literally 'bring back the Hawk' which has been so sorely missing from the Fred Nichols building Hall of Fame. Chaos ensued

ALEX HAYTER
FAKE NEWS EDITOR

WLUSU President Allan Cayenne has shot, killed and committed taxidermy upon an actual golden hawk. The stuffed idol is set to replace the missing floor-tiled 'Hawk' previously located in the FNCC Concourse.

Driven by the exasperation caused by constant complaints from the student community bemoaning the loss of their beloved 'Hawk' symbol, Cayenne took matters into his own hands when he grabbed his trusty hunting rifle, 'Excalibur,' and fled to the nearest sanctuary for injured animals in a WLUSU golf-cart.

Witnesses at the sanctuary claimed that they heard a mixture of manic screams and laughter as Cayenne unloaded a barrage of bullets upon an unsuspecting and doped-up wild hawk. The hawk, which was fresh out of surgery to fix a broken face, made an easy

"I didn't realize that this was part of his Presidential platform, but I'm impressed he's making an effort"

- Deanna Louth, crime witness

target for the battle-ready WLUSU President.

"It was just horrible," said Ben Durston, owner and operator of the animal sanctuary. "He even took pot-shots at a group of squirrels and stomped our blind tortoise to death.

Following the massacre, a delirious Cayenne quickly hid the animal carcass in his Afro before rushing

ing his golf-cart to Jr's Taxidermy in Cambridge, where the owner was forced to stuff the golden Hawk at gunpoint.

"The thing was still fricking breathing," said a teary-eyed Jr. "I'm going to have nightmares for the rest of my life.

Police cruisers had reportedly pulled the erratic driver over on his return to Waterloo, but Cayenne convinced them that he was "the President" and he was allowed to continue unhindered.

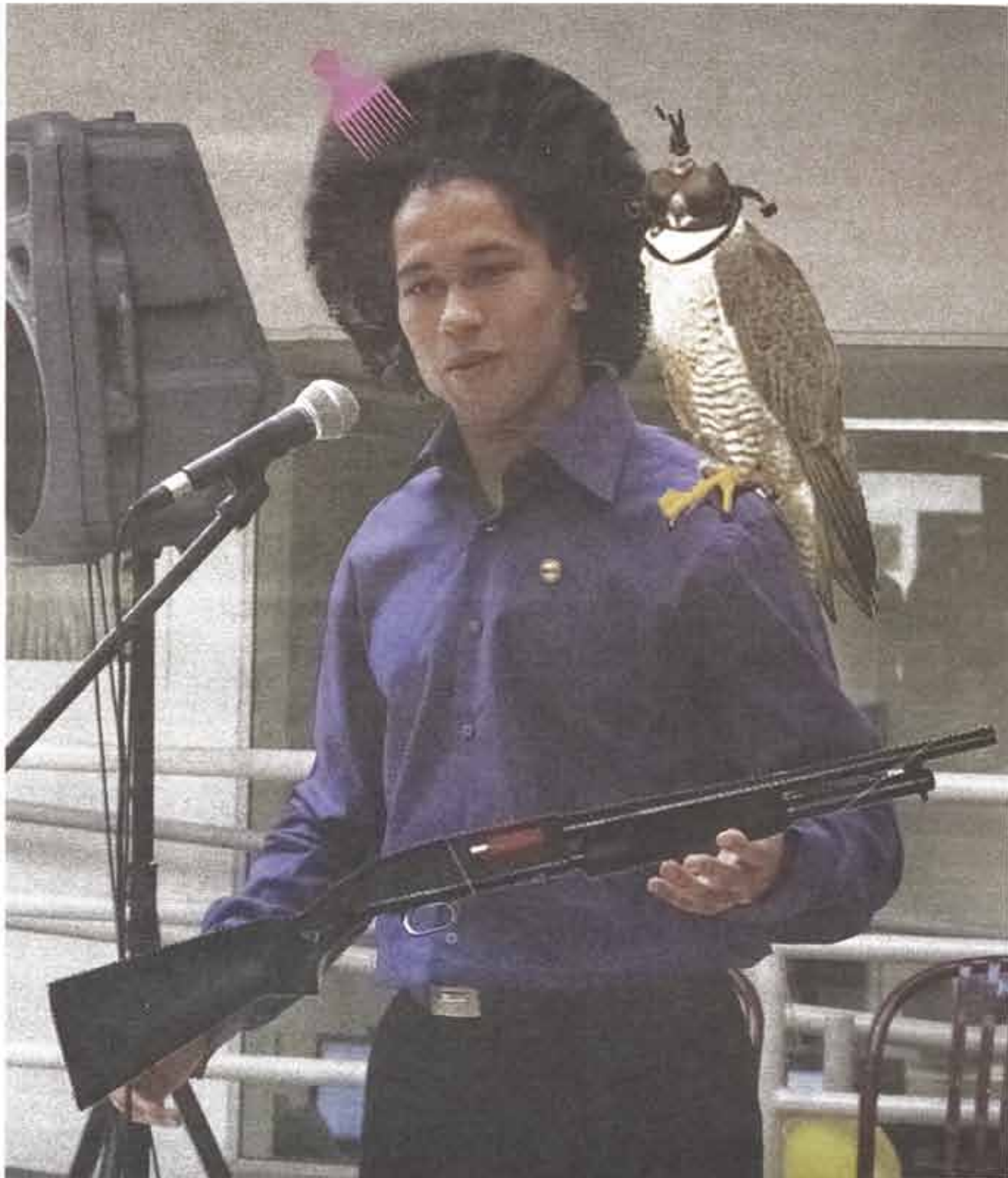
A bloodstained Cayenne was seen several minutes later on campus, climbing a stepladder in the Hall of Fame and stapling the stuffed bird to the ceiling, screaming "Happy now?!" at passers-by.

Laurier student Deanna Louth was witness to Cayenne's mad cries, stating: "I didn't realize that this was part of his Presidential platform, but I'm impressed he's making an effort.

Response to the new Laurier idol has been generally positive among students on campus. After the shocking loss of our tiled Hawk, students have been struggling to find a common symbol of community.

The Hall of Fame's iconic Hawk symbol was initially replaced by bitter students in early September, who used simple masking tape to craft the animal's artistic likeness. Just last weekend, a drunken and belligerent student was retained by security after defecating in the shape of a hawk in flight at the same spot.

In spite of committing a plethora of criminal offences during his rampage, Cayenne's position as President gives him immunity to



PETITION THIS, HAWK-SUCKERS - Allan Cayenne shows off his trusty hunting rifle while the new Golden Hawk, freshly killed, rests on his shoulder in a taxidermied state.

persecution by law, so he gets off lucky this time. Although he has been unavailable for comment on the issue, friends and family believe that Cayenne has gone completely insane.

The WLUSU President was last seen donating a stuffed beaver to the University of Waterloo's Beaver Memorial Society, making them cry.

> CELEBRITY VOCAL CORD

What do you think about Cayenne's new Hawk?



"I would totally give it a hand job. If it wasn't dead already. Actually, I'll still do it."

- Paris Hilton
Famous Penis-holder



"Makes me wanna make them pancakes, stir 'em up good. Because I'm the pancake man. Bitch."

- Kevin Federline
Talented rapper



"At least it's not a black hawk. Fifty years ago, we'd have a black hawk upside-down with a fork up its ass."

- Michael Richards
Racist



"Matte Babel!"

- Matte Babel
Much VJ