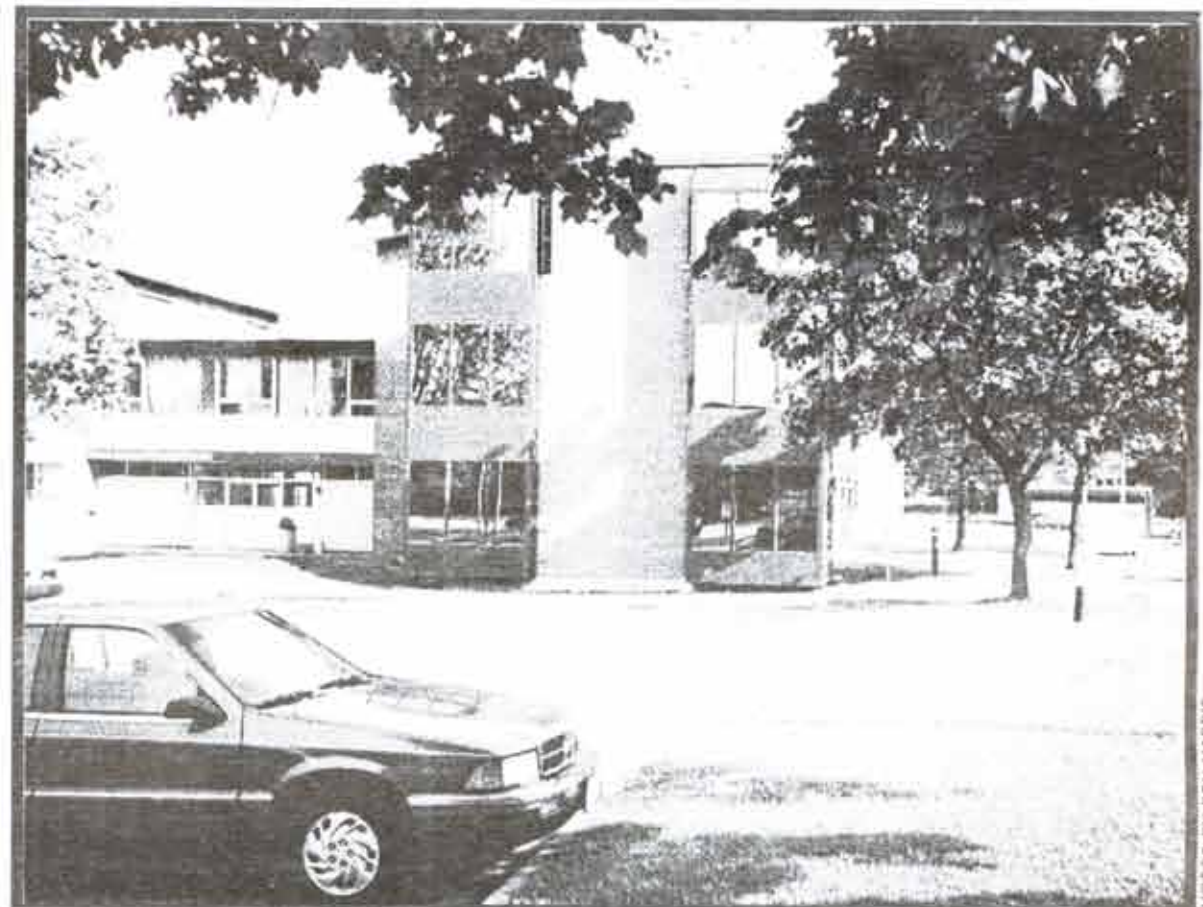




## Willison and Bouckaert go Co-ed



PHOTOS BY BEN HARRIS

JAMES MUIR

Laurier's housing system now boasts three co-ed residences following the decision to change Willison and Bouckaert into co-educational buildings.

The decision was made for a couple of reasons explained Mike Belanger, Director of Housing and Parking Services: "we are changing it for students best interests, gender relations and just to be more progressive. Also behaviour is so much better in co-ed buildings than it is in single sex."

The move comes after the successful transformation of Macdonald House from an all-male residence into a co-ed building a few years ago.

"The changes were remarkable: behaviour, attitude, actions and cleanli-

ness, everything went the right way," said Belanger of the noticeable improvement at Mac House following its change to a co-ed building.

Because of behaviour and maintenance problems, Willison was targeted as next in line for integration. To maintain equal numbers, a female residence building was also required to integrate and Bouckaert was the most suitable candidate.

Originally senior residence staff had planned to integrate the two buildings next year, but a somewhat disappointing year with Willison prompted officials to consider bumping up the schedule for change.

"Willison didn't finish on quite as good a note as we would have liked this year in terms of cleanliness,"

explained Belanger.

In January senior residence staff met to discuss plans for hiring subordinate staff at which time the idea of going co-ed was banded about, but it was decided to leave it until next year.

In mid-April, prompted by some residence problems, the idea was given more serious consideration and it was quickly decided to integrate the two residences in time for alternate literature concerning the residences to be mailed to prospective students.

After consulting school administration and the head residents the decision was quickly reached.

"There really wasn't enough obstacles in the way, so we decided to go ahead," added Belanger.

Another precipitating factor was the

number of residence applicants specifying MacDonald House as their first choice. "Mac House gets three times the number of applicants that other residences get, so students were basically telling us that they wanted to live in a co-ed environment," explained Belanger of the responsible aspect of the decision.

Slight renovations have to be made to some washroom facilities, specifically in Willison, to accommodate female tastes, but Belanger does not plan to invest a considerable amount on renovations:

"We don't expect to spend much more money, but we want to be able to open the doors and be proud of our buildings so we have a fair bit of work to do between now and the fall."

Belanger was also confident that students could adapt to the new arrangements without significant problems: "privacy just isn't an issue, people learn to cope."

Belanger cited the open design of Mac House as an example of students' ability to alter their behaviour to respect others' space.

This decision marks an historic occasion in the history of both buildings. Originally called East Hall and ending its 38 year all-male seniority is Nils Willison Hall, re-named after the first graduate of Waterloo Lutheran University. Built in 1986 and named after Bridgette Bouckaert, a residence don who died in 1985, Bouckaert Hall ends its 12 year tenure as an all-female building.

## Salt Water Moon under the stars

ADRIENNE STEIN

The Laurier version of theatre in the park is a young, but growing tradition on campus. This is the third consecutive year of the University Players' outdoor productions.

This year's play is David French's drama *Salt Water Moon*, winner of the 1985 Canadian Authors Association Literary Award for Drama.

Set in 1926, the play tells the tale of eighteen year old Jacob Mercer, who returns to his home of Coley's Point in Newfoundland hoping to win back the heart of his lost love Mary Snow. Mary, engaged to the wealthy Jerome McKenzie is intrigued by Jacob's return but will not be easily wooed.

The stars of this production, Gord Bolan and Leah Shery have participated in other University productions, working together in Iccarson's *Pisces is a Water Sign*, last term.

As one would expect, performing outdoors is a unique experience in contrast with the confined atmosphere of the

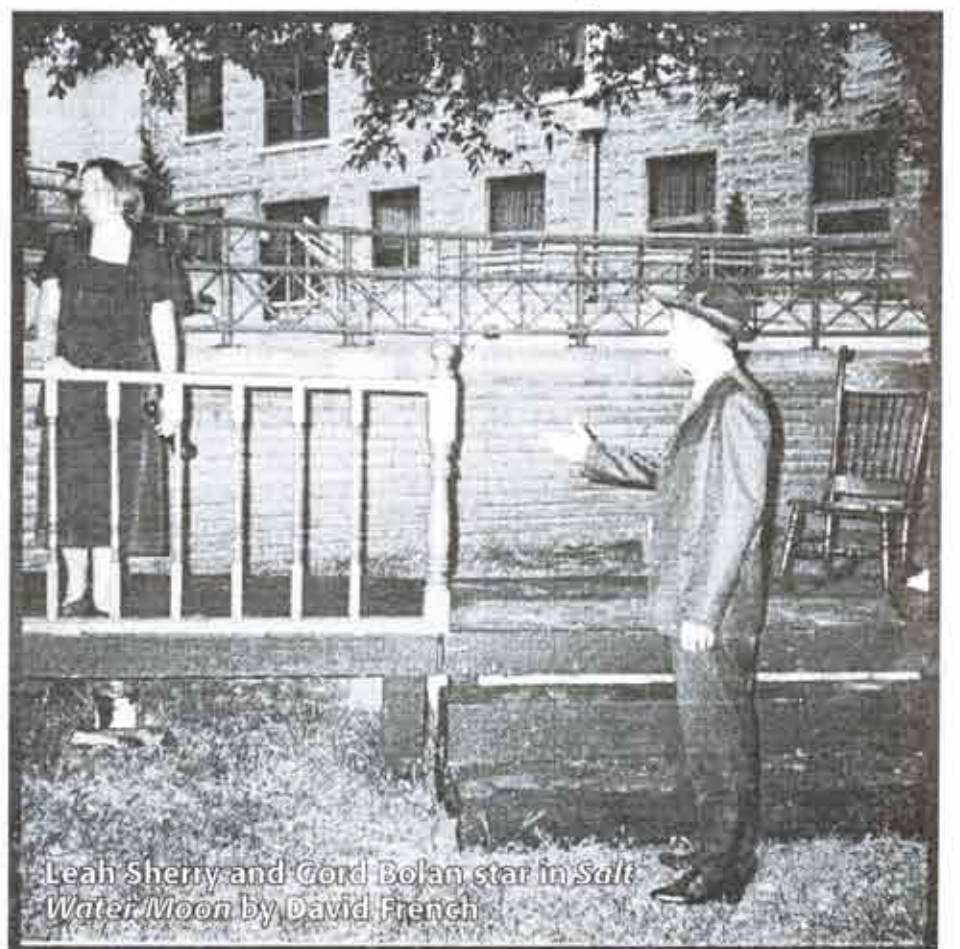
Fringe theatre. "The action takes place outdoors," says Bolan, "the lack of defined space challenges us to explore new levels of the script."

"Ic wanted us to work with the environment," says Leah, "if it rains we have to work around it. Each time we went back to the script some external force had changed and we had to look at the script in a whole new way."

Based on past years attendance assistant stage manager Jen Breithaupt expects a fairly diverse audience including "students, family members and people from the community at large. They all come to Laurier looking for a connection with local theatre."

Certainly this play has a capable cast on stage as well as an experienced crew in the background including producer Adam Qualter and stage manager Paul McKone. The stage, set beneath the large trees by the Bricker ramp will be lit by candles. Be sure to bring your own blankets and lawn chairs to this highly anticipated production.

**Salt Water Moon**  
Where: Bricker Quad  
When: May 20 - 21  
Start time: 8 pm  
Director: Iccarson



Leah Shery and Gord Bolan star in *Salt Water Moon* by David French

## NEWS BITES

### A ROSE BY ANY OTHER NAME

The Ministry of the Attorney-General, heeding advice contained in the inquiry into the wrongful conviction of Guy-Paul Morin, has moved to humanize defendants in the Ontario court system.

Defendants are now to be called by their given names instead of "the accused," those not being held in custody are to sit with their lawyers, and testimony given by prison informants and other suspect individuals is to be reviewed by a special committee before presentation at trial.

### REPORT TARGETS PARENTS

The Ontario crime-control commission is scheduled to release a report in the next few weeks outlining tougher measures to deal with young offenders.

The report recommends the province create a citizen's court designed to deal with non-violent first-time offenders with the power to dole out severe punishments. For example, shoplifters would have to pay restitution of three times the price of the stolen item, gang members would be ordered to stay away from one another, and offenders could face a three year wait before being eligible to receive their driver's license.

Should the young offender not have enough money to pay for their crimes the parents would be responsible for restitution not exceeding \$6,000.

### WATER EVERYWHERE AND NOT A DROP TO DRINK

The provincial government announced that it intends to revoke the permit of a small Ontario company that wants to tap the Great Lakes for bulk fresh-water exports. The move is part of a campaign to protect the country's natural resources.

Currently, there is no law in place that specifically forbids the export of fresh-water, but environmentalists are pushing for each province to participate in talks that will identify Canada's fresh-water strategy.

Most provinces seem receptive to a nationwide moratorium after both Ontario and Newfoundland are having second thoughts about recent permit grantings.

### ABSALMON! ABSALMON!

The British Columbia fishing industry remains in flux as negotiations with US officials are going nowhere.

The lucrative Sockeye Salmon stocks are at the heart of the debate over a reduction in the number of fish Alaskan fishermen are permitted to catch en route to spawning grounds located in Canadian waters.

Canadian officials maintain that the number the Americans suggest is insufficient to ensure the survival of the species. All sides described the most recent set of talks as disappointing and are not optimistic for a solution to be reached before the start of the season in six weeks.

### GUSTING WINDS HAMPER BRIDGE TRAVEL

The pride of Canadian engineering, the Confederation bridge linking Prince Edward Island to the rest of Canada, is celebrating its first anniversary.

Naysayers contended that it would be swept away by ice, paralyzed by jack-knifed trucks, and that journeys would be hampered by high winds and ice. A year later the critics have been proven wrong on all counts, save one.

The bridge may have weathered a storm of controversy, but it has fared poorly in its ability to weather storms.

High winds have forced officials to restrict traffic on 53 separate occasions. This has angered the trucking industry which embraced the bridge and caused much embarrassment to the bridge's builder who made the statement that, "there will never be a day or an hour when a loaded truck can't cross the bridge."

# Budget "holds the line"

KATHERINE HARDING

On April 21, the Board of Governors easily passed what the administration has called a "hold-the-line" Operating Budget for the 1998-99 fiscal year.

This year's budget is a product of a new, open pre-budget consultation process the Rosehart administration initiated.

For undergraduate, Masters Social Work, and Masters Business Administration students the budget includes a 10 per cent tuition increase. Of the moneys collected from the fee hike, 30 per cent will be funnelled back into bursaries.

The 10 per cent increase was the maximum amount the province allowed universities to raise tuition for the 1998-99 academic year.

While the university will not be implementing the tuition increase until September 1, which is particularly important for summer co-op and graduate students, student representatives are not happy with the increase.

"This is fiscally a very responsible budget, but that doesn't mean that I have to like a 10 per cent increase," said student governor, Jason George. "There are a lot of money issues for students right now."

"Sometimes I find the priorities of

this university strange," George said. "You go out and buy a residence, but we still have all these problems with the library."

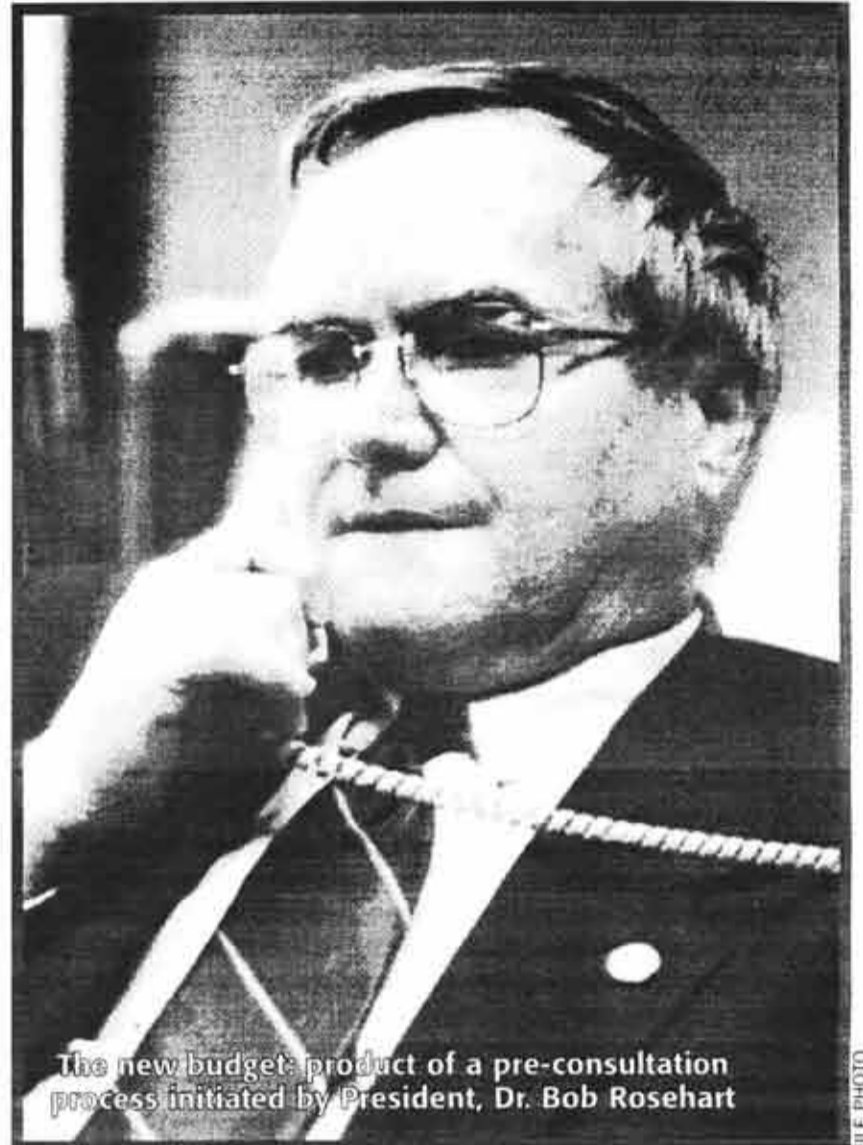
Out-going WLUSU President Stewart Wong was present at the BoG meeting and expressed his dissatisfaction with the increase to the university governors.

"People have become de-sensitized to how tuition increases affect students," said Wong. "There can be an incredible amount of increased stress added to the student which results in a lower quality of education."

"My request is not to take the full 10 per cent as a sign of good will to the students ... there is always a way to do this," Wong said.

WLU administrators explained that for each one per cent decrease in tuition fees the operating deficit is increased by \$170,000 and the amount of funding available for student bursaries is decreased by \$70,000.

Some members of the Laurier community were concerned that the budget's delay some months ago could have indicated concealed controversial content, but with its release came the satisfaction of no unexpected surprises.



The new budget: product of a pre-consultation process initiated by President, Dr. Bob Rosehart

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 1998-99 WLU OPERATING BUDGET

- residence and food rates will be held at 1997/98 levels
- ancillary transfers to the budget will be held to \$236,000 in 1998/99 (versus the planned \$400,000)
- visa fees will be held at 1997/98 levels
- all other ancillary fees will increase at the rate of two per cent
- the budget will produce what the university has termed a "small but manageable" deficit of \$ James find out please
- 15 new initiatives have been financed totaling \$1,830,000 including:
  - \$100,000 for increased graduate scholarships and bursaries
  - \$100,000 enhancement of the library acquisition budget
  - \$15,000 for a student employment initiative
  - \$100,000 for classroom enhancements including building a computer lab in the old Torque Room kitchen

(Note: over the last two years tuition at WLU has increased by 24.6 per cent)

# Five year plan goes to Senate

BEN HARRIS

Tuesday, May 12 marked the final town hall meeting to gather input on the direction of the university for the next five years.

Discussed at this meeting was the recommendations paper, the third and final publication on which the wider Laurier community has had influence.

Included in this document are suggestions to improve library facilities. A representative from the library outlined a litany of problems including poor climate control, safety and building code violations, general aesthetics, and handicapped access. Suggested renovation costs have been projected at \$5.4 million. A massive fundraising campaign is planned following Senate approval.

Also included is a proposed plan to move Housing and Food Services from the Ancillary Services portfolio to that of the Dean of Students. This would be a \$6 million transference of responsibility designed to address student concerns over rising ancillary fees.

In addition, the Faculty of Arts and Science could be split into a Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities and a Faculty of Science. This change, if passed, will be effective July 1, 1999.

Exploration has begun to determine the

viability and success of satellite campus locations in Brantford and Barrie. These locations would focus on professional and part-time studies in an effort to broaden Laurier's prospective student base.

Since December of 1997, the University Planning Team has been drafting papers regarding the direction and vision of the university as a whole over the next five years. Several town hall meetings were convened to solicit input from the wider university community. Students, faculty, staff, and concerned groups were urged to contribute at every step of the process.

This recommendations paper follows the issues and options papers and its contents reflect the university's commitment to the open and malleable town hall format. Only those suggestions considered beneficial and viable made it through the lengthy process. The next step in this process will take place on Monday, May 25 in the Paul Martin Centre when the Laurier Senate will review and vote on these recommendations.

The Senate meeting on May 25 will be an historic one. Not only does the "town hall" process encourage input from the entire community, it ensures fairness and promotes the kind of "you-had-your-chance" atmosphere that forces people to take notice what is going on around them.



Renovations to the library are just some of the recommendations that the Senate will have to vote on come May 25.

# Province delivers one-two combo budget punch

SCOTT HARRIS  
SPECIAL TO THE CORD

The provincial government delivered a one-two combination punch to students earlier this month, first with the presentation of a new budget, and then by announcing the anticipated guidelines for deregulation the following day.

The education portion of the provincial budget was vague and non-specific, leaving students with more questions than answers. The government committed once again to reform the Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) by harmonizing it with the federal program. Unfortunately, it added no new details or commitments to a promise made in the Common Sense Revolution three years ago. Students are also left wondering whether the government is finally prepared to consult with students and other stakeholders before developing proposals which are not sound, much like the one rejected by Canada's major banks

last month.

The government also announced the creation of a Canada-Ontario Millennium Fund using Ontario's portion of the Millennium Scholarship Fund (announced in this year's federal budget). The Quebec government suggested a similar move last month which was squashed by Ottawa. The federal government, however, has not shown any indication that it would be willing to give the money directly to the provinces.

"We would be far more comfortable seeing that money go into the hands of students, rather than the coffers of the provincial government who may use the money in the form of loans rather than

grants or scholarships. The Millennium fund was established to directly support students in need, not supplement the provincial loan system" argues Robin Stewart, VP: Education for the UW Federation of Students.

## The move to de-regulate came at the worst possible time for students

The only good news for universities in the budget was \$29 million over three years invested in promoting enhanced job opportunities for graduates and \$150 million over three years moving towards doubling the number of students enrolled in Computer Science

and high-demand engineering programs. "A re-investment in education is good, but there are many areas of need other than technology-oriented

programs" notes Stewart, "particularly at small schools like Laurier".

Students across the province went into the budget looking for commitments on loan reform, rules for deregulation, and funding increases. What they got were some small reinvestments in technology programs and a whole pile of unanswered questions.

The following day, Education Minister David Johnson announced that universities will be allowed to deregulate all graduate and undergraduate professional programs. This includes undergraduate programs in Medicine, Law, and Dentistry. Engineering and Computer Science programs will be able to de-regulate if universities can commit to doubling entry-level spaces by September 2000.

"It's rather odd to suppose that you will encourage increased enrollment by charging higher fees", noted Rick Martin, Executive Director of the Ontario Undergraduate Student Alliance (OUSA).

The move to de-regulate came at the worst possible time for students. Some universities have set fee schedules for next year without de-regulating fees, others have already pledged to de-regulate fees in programs where it's not allowed; there simply isn't enough time to properly reform student aid to minimize the impact of de-regulation on students.

Students who plan to apply for student aid for September 1998 may face the difficulty of not knowing exactly how much their program will cost. Some programs will face staggering fee increases, such as Orthodontics at Western, which will increase from \$5,736 to \$14,000 in just one year.

For more information on the provincial budget, the announcement on de-regulation, and how it affects you, visit you Vice President: University Affairs, Scott Harris, on the 3rd floor of the Fred Nichols Campus Center, or email him at harr6910.

## Bag o' Crime: Notifying your parents since 1926

### Theft Under \$5000

1000 - 1500 hrs., Fri. Apr. 24

A staff member reported the theft of money from her desk drawer. Investigation continues.

### Trespass

0055 hrs., Mon. Apr. 27

A non-WLU male was issued a written trespass warning when he was found skulking around the Science Building.

### Mischief

1950 hrs., Mon. Apr. 27

A number of youths were evicted from campus when they damaged flowers in front of Alumni Hall. Their parents were notified.

### Unauthorized Soliciting

1610 hrs., Tues. Apr. 28

A report was received of individuals attempting to sell stereo speakers from the back of a van in lot 7. The vehicle could not be located.

### Theft Under \$5000

Sat. May 2 - Sun. May 3

Person(s) unknown stole a 16 foot banner fastened to the outside of the AC advertising the Waterloo Regional Police/RCMP scubathon.

### Impaired - Care & Control

2005 hrs., Fri. May 8

Officers prevented an intoxicated male from entering and driving his vehicle in lot 2. The individual was turned over to a sober friend who took him home by taxi.

### Possession of Drugs

2030 hrs., Fri. May 8

A small quantity of marijuana was seized from an individual in lot 13. No charges were laid.

### Suspicious Person

0215 hrs., Wed. May 13

Officers responded to a report of a male individual loitering near the front entrance to Bouckaert Hall and pressing numerous call buttons. A thorough search of the area was conducted with negative results.

### Theft under \$5000

1300-1900 hrs., Wed. May 13

A WLU student reported the theft of his bike from the north side of the Peters Building.

### Trespass

1735 hrs., Wed. May 13

Three individuals were evicted from University Stadium after they refused to leave when requested by staff. Trespass notices were issued.

## New admissions cycle discussed at Senate meeting

BEN HARRIS

The Laurier Senate met on May 11 to discuss recent developments and review on-going projects.

Dr. Rosehart, in his president's report, commented on the recently released provincial budget. The new budget includes \$29 million set aside for the purpose of "assisting universities who have opted to grow," says Rosehart. From this WLU could see a funding increase of \$2 million, but a portion of this would be tied to faculty renewal.

Rowland Smith, Vice President: Academic, reported the latest developments from the Council of Ontario Universities (COU). The admissions cycle for high school applicants to universities has been revamped.

Under the new rules, offers of admission can be released any time after March 10. First semester marks from high schools will be sent to the universities in January, with mid-term marks going out in late April.

With fee increases making university less-accessible, this shift in policy for COU is designed to alleviate some of the competition for new students between post-secondary institutions.

Responses cannot be required of the applicant until June 1, but Smith sounded confident that Laurier could get firm information in March for two-

thirds of potential students.

These changes, combined with the scholarship grid launch, and the inclusion of bursary applications with offers of admission, will hopefully draw a diverse and interesting freshman class.

An increasingly common Banner upgrade update reported that things were going smoothly. The Banner Steering Committee has been working for months to upgrade the system to be Year 2000 compliant. Every department, service, club, and faculty at Laurier will have to take steps to prevent computer difficulties when the date rolls over from "99" to "00."

The report from the Registrar included the addition of an Honours Bachelor of Science program, and the renaming of the Department of Classics to the Department of Archaeology and Classical Studies.

Currently, the Archaeology program operates within the Faculty of Arts and Sciences. Dean Arthur Read moved to create this new department using full-time staff from the Department of Classics, and members of other departments who already contribute directly to the Archaeology program. Read's motion was passed with a wide majority. The move takes effect July 1, 1998.

The next Senate meeting is the special recommendations paper presentation on Monday, May 25, at 5:30 pm in the Paul Martin Centre.

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Someone start better  
gettin' funny!

James Muir

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## Contributors

Sterling Lynch, Andrew White, Sarah Parker, Coke Diète, Scott Harris, S. Slavik, G.E. Clarke, is that all? Man we need some writers. Extreme Faith – "Jesus of Nazareth it's hot!", Eight page papers that take as long as forty page papers. Coo! If anyone knows anything about Mac networks, please help us. It's not that we're incompetent, but well...a drunken mule could produce a faster printed page than our "brand new" network can. Man, there's alot of space to fill here. Apologies to L. Marsden. uh, I mean ha ha. Oh yeah, another thing. All the night classes that got let out early to watch the Seinfeld finale pile of crap, for shame. A university education comes before any prime-time debacle. Much thanks to all the staff who endured my endless video game play while they wrote stories, who stood by while I did all the important work (James "lazy" Muir, Tim "dopey" Durkin), and who were the first to speak up when I made tiny, easily fixable mistakes. First paper make Ben sleepy.

# The Tactics of Tory Timing

## Harris squelches affordable education

Timing, as they say, is everything. Any kid who's ever asked his or her parents for anything knows that when you ask is just as crucial as what you're asking for. It's a lesson most of us learn early; I know I certainly took it to heart at a tender age.

I don't know exactly when I learned the importance of timing. It was probably a gradual realisation, culled from a number of events. Through a painful series of trials and errors, I must have figured out that it's best to tell dad that you've clogged the toilet just as he's heading out the door for work, when he's unable to take the time required to give you a good old fashioned whuppirt'.

You've got to know when to strike; it's knowledge that will carry you throughout your entire life. As a silver-bearded purveyor of roasted chicken once warbled, "You've got to know when to hold 'em, know when to fold 'em. Know when to walk away, know when to run! You never count your money when you're sitting at the table; they'll be time enough for counting when the dealing's done."

Clearly, our provincial government has remembered their childhood lessons. They know the importance of timing, so eloquently expressed in Kenny Rogers' timeless tune. That's why they waited until university students across Ontario were on their winter break to announce a twenty-percent tuition increase over two years. That's why they waited until the summer to

announce that they're now completely deregulating tuition for some undergraduate programs and all graduate programs.

The timing is perfect for once again sticking it to the students, making education even more inaccessible. The provincial Tories know that their announcement is unlikely to meet much protest. Right now, university students are scattered to

**The provincial Tories know that their announcement is unlikely to meet much protest.**

the four winds, preoccupied with finding summer work to pay for their tuition, which is already amongst the highest in the country. Besides, after releasing a 'good news' budget and emerging as heroes in the Hepatitis C compensation debacle, the Tories are riding a renewed wave of popularity. For the first time in a while, Harris and his pals look like good guys.

It's truly frightening to think that the Tories are so conniving that they plot their every move so that it meets with the least resistance. The

government's tactics are appropriate for a mischievous five-year old who's just broken a window, or perhaps in a crooked poker game, but not for our elected officials. There's too much at stake here.

Deregulating tuition will further stratify our society, making it nearly impossible for anyone to move beyond their economic background. Many students are going to find that they can not afford to pursue their intended educational path. For example, first-year tuition at U of T's medical school, which cost \$4500, may cost \$11000 in 1999. With increases like that, only the rich will be able to afford tuition for programs that lead to higher paying professions.

By timing their announcement of deregulation so that it meets with little more than a ripple of attention, however, the Tories have ensured that their renewed popularity won't be affected.

The government's actions are certainly not the actions of those who have their constituents' best interests at heart; deregulation of tuition is a deathblow to affordable education. Mike Harris' strategy has always been to keep the wool over the public's eyes, feigning populist benevolence while following an agenda that benefits no one but the rich.

**RW HICKEY**  
OPINION EDITOR

*The opinions expressed in this editorial are those of the author, and do not reflect those of The Cord Staff, the editorial board, or WLUSP.*

# Some pity with that whine?

SARAH PARKER

Laurier is offering a new business course this fall: Milking the System 101 featuring former Laurier President, Loma Marsden, as prime lecturer.

Having recently failed her crash course in law and ethics at a Toronto court, Marsden is finding her \$3000 "tuition" fee a little distressing. In a desperate plea for understanding and reimbursement of personal funds, Marsden created this new course as her way of "giving back" to the Laurier community.

Sorry Loma, no sympathy here. Your \$3000 court fee is a mere sliver of your \$223,000 annual salary and a thorn in the sides of all hard-working students. But perhaps you'll now realize what a big deal that "small" sum of money is to the 18-23 year old age bracket.

In what was a voluntary move to preside as administrative head at York University upon the end of her contract as President at Laurier, Marsden's request for an extra year's salary as severance pay was not only selfish but shallow

and wrong.

Although some university presidents are granted paid leaves at the end of their contracts before returning to teaching, this was one clause not included in Marsden's contract. And consid-

**Perhaps all disgruntled students should follow her lead and sue their universities too.**

ering that Marsden was neither fired, laid off, nor returning to professor status, Laurier was in the right to fight her on this request.

Having myself just completed a four year degree at Laurier, I'm feeling a little pooped. Perhaps the university would be so kind as to offer all graduating students a small severance package to allow for a year of travelling and recuperation before heading out into the work force. After all, don't they owe it to us?

The biggest disappointment and most frustrating aspect of this whole ordeal is that while Marsden and the university were in court battling over an extra \$223,000, Laurier students were stressing over and worrying about earning enough money this summer for next year's tuitions hikes.

Although I must hand it to Loma, I guess she did learn a thing or two from those scary protesting York students. Perhaps all disgruntled students should follow her lead and sue their universities too.

If this is what our money goes to support, expensive administrators, then count me out. Regardless of Marsden's impeccable track record, her departure is a definite blessing.

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- All letters must be signed and submitted with the author's name, student identification number, and telephone number.
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- The Cord comes out on Wednesdays. Letters must be received by Tuesday at noon, on disk, or via e-mail at [22cord@mach1.wlu.ca](mailto:22cord@mach1.wlu.ca).
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# Cord Opinion:

## Put Up or Shut Up.

## A poor script is hard to save



The Waterloo Stage Theatre goes beyond the realm of musicals for their latest adaptation

STERLING LYNCH

The Waterloo Stage Theatre is celebrating its first anniversary with a production of Norm Foster's *The Affections Of May*. This is the theatre's first non-musical production, directed by Dale Mieske. Unfortunately, due to a horrible script and lifeless performances, this production can only be described as a failure.

The plot is simple: May Henning (Rose Ryan) is unexpectedly dumped by her husband (Tim Seabrook) and left to look after the country bed and breakfast that was supposed to save their marriage.

Nary a week later, Quinn, a roguish, yet charming handy-man appears on May's doorstep looking for work in exchange for room and board. Coincidentally, the nerdy local banker, Hank, also appears on the scene to woo May.

Needless to say, May withstands

Hank's silly advances, is bedded by Quinn, and, when the husband 'unexpectedly' returns in the final scene, she breaks an egg in his pocket as the 'hilarious' revenge for all her heartache.

Despite being touted as "Canada's most produced playwright," the failure of this production began when the company chose to produce Foster's script.

It was as if the theatre forgot that popularity does not necessarily mean quality. Foster's characters are shallow stereotypes and the plot is simple minded and predictable. The result is a script which is little more than an extended sitcom.

As an example of the shoddiness of the playwright's characters, look no farther than the central character, May.

Thanks to Foster, there is one more female character, added to the grand literary tradition of men writing about women, who are inca-

pable of functioning without them.

May is simply not an active agent in this play. I cannot bring to mind one instance where she actively controls her own destiny.

When she is not fretting about men leaving her she's cooking them a meal. May also narrowly avoids

**Foster's characters are shallow stereotypes and the plot is simple minded and predictable.**

sexual assault thanks to the arrival of a man, and, of course, avoids emotional ruin thanks to the help of a man. From beginning to end, May's story is a long line of her reaction to the activity of her "affec-

tions."

Foster does make a glib attempt to provide May with a bit of depth by relying on a typically male understanding of what it means to be a strong independent woman. Consequently, the audience is subjected to a tried and true rant about 'how men are too sexual for us non-sexual passive women.'

The speech ends with May, on her back, legs wide and welcoming, with a 'come and get it boys!' sentiment. Fortunately for our heroine, Quinn decides she is too drunk for sexual intercourse (though he is more than willing a few minutes later) and dismisses her observations as they typical 'man-hating' of a scorned drunken woman.

Having been saddled with a poor script, the cast does little to improve the situation. Rather than trying to squeeze some life out of Foster's dry stereotypes, the cast takes few risks and, except for the

occasional farcical moment, is absolutely uninspired.

Moreover, as an ensemble, they commit the greatest crime any cast can commit: they gave up on a small audience.

After the intermission, the cast returned to the stage without any energy and simply went through the physical motions. What had once been an inoffensive production now became a burden to the audience.

There are some funny bits tucked away in the script. Unfortunately the biggest laughs are got with the sort of sexual innuendo that wouldn't offend your grandma.

For example, there are bankers in bunny suits holding big phallic carrots and the drunken 'sexually tense' scrabble game with naughty words like 'horny.'

What funny bits there are to be found are not enough to save this production.

## Olde skool games for the retro kids

ANDREW WHITE

There was a day in the history of video games, before full stereo CD soundtracks, before thousand-colour displays, before on-the-fly rendering, and far before a \$200 game console had more power than any workstation available in the '80's.

It was a time when die-hard gamers

squinted and crossed their eyes so that the little yellow triangle actually looked kinda like a space ship. Losing, winning, killing, and being killed were all indicated by four toneless beeps. End of level bosses, just sat there, far too big to animate.

At the Arcade the game consoles had a thick film of pop on them. Fire buttons had been frantically pressed by thou-

sands of fingers, none of them recently washed. Everything was dark, decorated in myriad shades of orange and brown. The guys who made change had hair like Luke Skywalker.

This was the lost Golden Age of the Video Arcade.

But, as in all things '90's, the latest craze is retro-computing. Enter MAME, the Multiple Arcade Machine Emulator. MAME is a powerful platform that lets you turn your desktop computer into a 15 year old Z-80 based console.

MAME is an emulator, a programme that makes your computer behave like a different type of computer so that you can run the emulated computer's software.

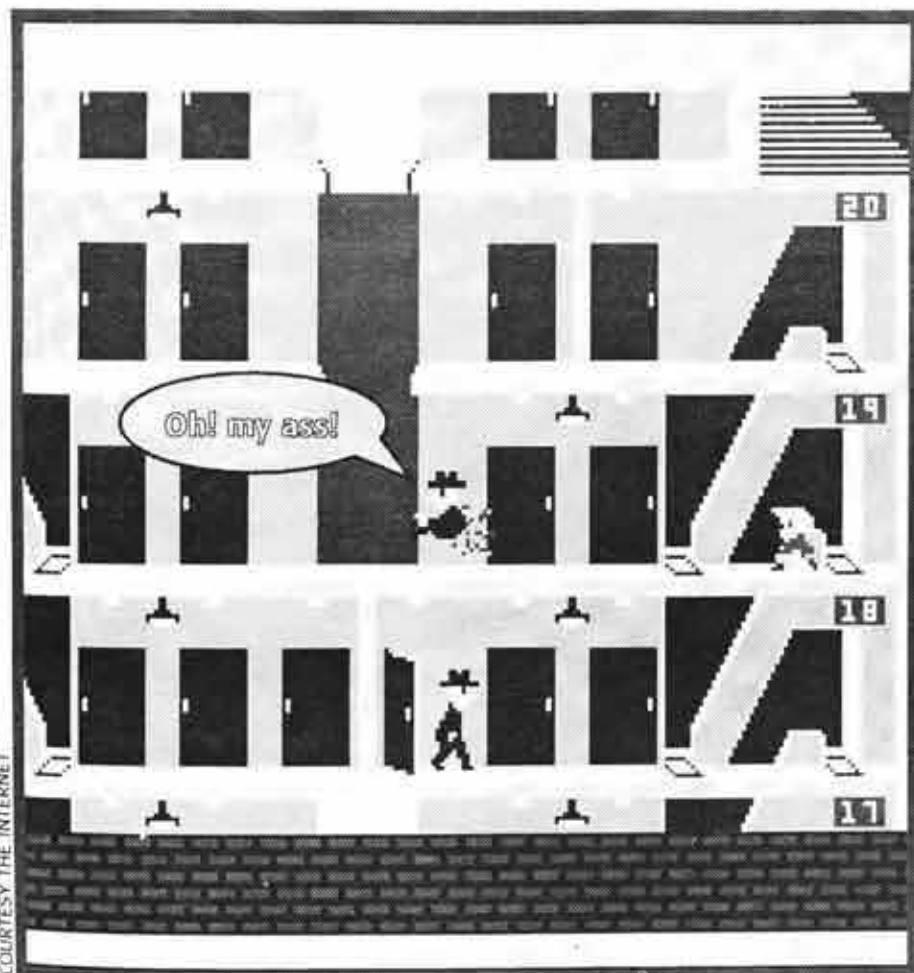
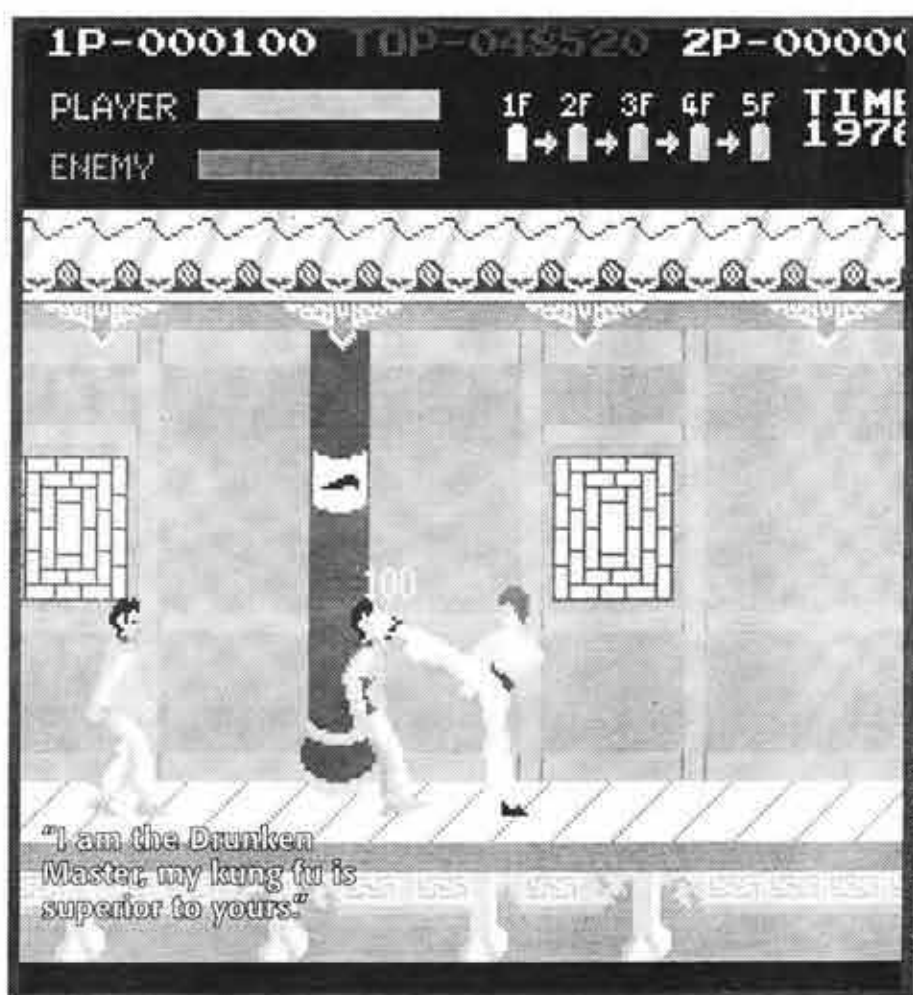
In the case of MAME, you mount old ROM images (files that contain the information stored on the games chips). Once you have mounted this image, you can drop in coins, hit one or two players, and off you go.

There are currently roughly 480 ROMs that are supported by MAME. A few of the more popular titles emulated are Gyruss, Bubble Bobble, Elevator Action, Kung-Fu Master and Q-Bert.

MAME has it's own section on Yahoo! (go to [www.yahoo.com](http://www.yahoo.com) and search for Multi Arcade Machine Emulator). From there, you can find links to the software for Windows, Macintosh and UNIX.

The accuracy of the emulation varies: some games have sound or display glitches that have to be worked around.

The UNIX version is the most com-



plete, but the Mac version is also very stable. While the Windows version has better sound than the Mac, it is prone to crashing. From this section, you can also find links to archives of ROMs.

Before you download anything, check to make sure that it is supported by your version of MAME. Some ROMs are available just so people can write the

support for them. The entire package of MAME, and all the available ROMs, currently takes up 5 Megs of space on my Mac.

You can have the arcade experience in your own home. Well, minus the teen punks, and drug deals, and neon signs, and wood paneling ...

Andrew enjoys Drum and Bass and hugs

# Grad Pub grabs mugs

STEVE METZGER

Laurier's own Grad House is open and ready to compete for your entertainment dollars. Regardless of your age (probably should be 19, though), sex or university status, the Grad House welcomes all.

The building is located beside the Science Building, on Bricker Avenue. Plans for construction have been in the works since 1997 and finalization relied almost completely upon the funds of Grad Students.

Moving through the front doors the pub portion is on the right. The multiple televisions, tables and couches create a very casual atmosphere. This is a great place to relax with your favorite bevvy.

Just outside, facing Willison, is one of the two licensed patios on the premises. Joel Lynn, the Grad House Manager, is especially proud of the fact that they have the only fully licensed patios on campus. The patio promises to be a great place to sit and lounge for the few warm days we get during the school year.

Downstairs, there is another patio and a games room. Joel promises that this room, soon to be finished will boast pool tables, dart boards, TVs and more. The sound system, wired throughout the house and to the patios, is also quite exceptional.

There are tunes a-plenty to be had too. The atmosphere is down right groovy during lunch when Lynn throws on the jazz

CD's. Lynn also plays host for Undergrad's Wild Wednesdays. Don't miss Lots o' Music Thursdays either. Joel hopes that these nights will be as raucous as any other high energy, party bar.

Food at the Grad House is more scarce than the music though. It doesn't yet have a kitchen so they can only offer bagels, sandwiches, soups and salad.

They have reached agreements with other food establishments in order to provide a wider selection. For example, they offer a pitcher and a Dominoes pizza for \$18.95. They also have cheap burger specials on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Aside from all of this fun stuff, the Grad House also functions as a practical building for Grad students. For instance, there will be a Grads-only computer lab complete with an overhead projector and a big white board for the preparation of presentations. Furthermore, the GSA Board Room, which is also licensed, can accommodate meetings.

The Grad House will most likely host conference-like activities on weekends, but anybody has the power to house their own function at the facility. If you need a licensed building, you can give them a call at 884-0710, ext. 3155.

The Grad House is a great venue for the members of the Laurier community to spend their free time this summer. Hours of operation are Tuesday 11am - 7pm, Wednesday and Thursday 11am - 2am and Friday 11am - 7pm.

*This is the first story by our new president.. He's a busy body.*



People lounging and sipping bevvy's at the new Grad Pub

STEVE METZGER

# Shields and Howard: A good season

TIM DURKIN

*A Celibate Season* is the story of what happens when Jock and Chas, who have been married for twenty years, are faced with a ten-month separation. In order to economize, they choose to write to one another rather than use the telephone. Through their letters, we follow the evolution and eventually the breakdown of

orate in telling two sides of the same story. Both are long time corresponders, (a practice which is undervalued today) and as such gives a feeling of romanticism to the novel. The plot, however, is far from a classic romance, as Chas and Jock struggle to stay together as time progresses.

Jock, as well as being a lawyer, had been the family's primary care giver while Chas worked in an architectural firm. Jock accepts a position as legal council for the National Commission on Poverty and Women in Ottawa. Chas, in Vancouver, is left to play Mr. Mom to their two children. Both originally see this as golden opportunity

Both Jock and Chas cling to their traditional social-family roles but feel increasingly distanced from them as well. The forced situation allows both insight into worlds they used to know nothing about. Chas has lost his job and is feeling too overwhelmed by his stasis to instigate anything at all. When he does he finds that working with ones own family never goes as smoothly as a business meeting. Many times Jock and Chas are put into spots that the other would have likely handled.

One particular example is when their daughter, Mia, locks herself in the washroom during the onset of her first menstrual cycle. Chas is completely lost and has to be saved by the housekeeper, Sue.

Jock on the other hand is finding herself empowered by the whole experience, not only does she gain knowledge of womens issues but she becomes much more forthright and proud as a result.

There are social and political issues realistically and practically dealt with in the book. Feminism is the overarching tenant but, as with the theory itself, there are many other related areas..

The authors also use the geographical disparity advantageously throughout the book. With the West to East coast distance Shields and Howard touch on the Quebec separation debate and posit two distinctly different views. While Jock learns some French in Ottawa her lessons, as manifested in letters home, are less than welcome.

There is some sense of voyeurism in reading a book of other peoples letters. All of the text takes place in the past tense, as such the plot is forwarded via

the other spouse reading the letter, as we peer over their shoulder. The reader is allowed into an intimate world of two people.

In the course of their letters there are intimate moments which they ask each other not to speak a word of to outsiders but, here we are reading every word.

This book has depth that rings true with every passage. Readers will find themselves growing attached to the characters, sometimes taking sides but most often hoping for the best. Shields and Howard have created a great body of work together.

## A Celibate Season

Carol Shields

Blanche Howard

**A Celibate Season**  
**Carol Shields and**  
**Blanche Howard**  
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their communication.

As the months progress, we begin to see two very distinct views of their time apart. Their 'season of celibacy,' as they initially joked, is proving to be more of a challenge than either had imagined and tests the strength and commitment of their marriage.

Authors Carol Shields, (*The Stone Diaries*), and Blanche Howard, (winner of the Canadian Booksellers Award), collab-

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# International

## Blarney and Back... England, Scotland, and Ireland

OLIVER MARTIN

With the stress of exams just subsiding, sitting back in my seat on the plane seemed one of the most relaxing experiences. Arriving at London Heathrow airport early on April 16th started a very exciting, but fast paced trip to the British Isles and Ireland. For the next two weeks I traveled through the South of England, in and around Cork City in Ireland and all through Scotland.

My backpack on and wallet in hand. I passed through British customs and proceeded to the travel station. Taxi, rental car, train and bus company kiosks greeted me, along with hundreds of busy travellers in Terminal Four. After speaking with my aunt, she advised me to purchase a National Express Network Card, allowing me to receive up to 40% off of inter-city coach prices. National Express, Britain's national coach service, prides itself on offering routes to 1200 destinations around the country. After using the bus service over the next two weeks, I can honestly give it two thumbs up for excellent service in terms of prices, efficiency and friendly drivers. I jumped on the bus to Bristol, and viewed the

Indian to Mediterranean and catered for the student budget. The night life was dynamic to say the least. Art studios doubled as pubs and cinemas, rows of cafes vibrant with activity lined the main streets and night clubs were wild into the late hours of the night. I said good-bye to Bristol on the Sunday and proceeded on my adventure to Swansea, Wales.

Only passing through Swansea, I boarded the ferry to Ireland at 9:00pm. The ship was a massive ferry, encompassing, three pubs, two restaurants, various duty-free shops, private cabins and plenty of sitting space. I explored the ship and sampled some Irish stout with some friends over the 10 hour trip. We were entertained by an Irish high school rugby team that was obviously celebrating a recent victory.

Bright and early in the Cork City Port, we were greeted by a friendly bus driver who took us to the main bus terminal. From there we toured around the city centre and took a trip out to Blamey Castle. Blamey was a quaint village with a dominant castle in the distance. Some of the best woolen sweaters are knitted at the world famous Blamey Woolen



Ireland. Their views were so different from the text book, news room opinions that we get here in Canada

Back to Britain and around the South, first stop, Bath. At first glance, Bath presents itself as a modern city, with the perimeter lined with industrial complexes and large shopping districts. Heading into the core of this ancient city, you get to appreciate its historical significance by the first views of the Roman wall ruins. As the bus stopped, I lost no time in finding the famous Roman Baths, where the city got its name. Quickly paying my £7, I jumped at the opportunity to see some of the best preserved examples of Roman engineering in the world. Spending the afternoon going through the bath museum and touring the bath structures, I boarded the bus once again on the long journey to East Grinstead, in West Sussex.

Over the next three days I spent time with family exploring the quiet South of England. A place I was fascinated by, was Chartwell, the family home of Sir Winston Churchill. This estate in Kent County, was wonderfully preserved and displayed Churchill's numerous paintings, written volumes and personal memorabilia.

Mid-way through the week, I headed up to London, and the excitement of England's capital city. London is an adventure all on its own. I recommend getting a daily rail pass which allows users to travel all day on the bus and subway system. I toured the parliament buildings, the Imperial War Museum, The Tower of London and the shopping districts of Covent Gardens and Oxford Circus. London is a vibrant city with a culture on its own. Just a suggestion when traveling, keep track of all your belongings, even your watch. Mine was stolen in Harrod's shopping store.

Before any trip, I recommend getting an International Student Card (ISIC), my card came in handy on various occasions, from savings on admission to travel discounts. In London, just outside Victoria Station, I found a Campus Travel centre which caters to student and youth travelers. In the office I found an air ticket from London City Airport to Edinburgh, Scotland for £49. I jumped at the deal and changed my plans from the 10 hour bus ride.

By now I was a week in England and the weather was dismal at best. I learned a new appreciation for weather which includes some sunshine. Edinburgh greeted me at night. From the airport I proceeded to the nearest youth hostel in the city centre. For an amazing price, I settled in for the night.

Waking up early the next day, I went down for breakfast, which is usually included in hostel prices, and met some other student tourists. I ended up touring Scotland with the same students from Australia and Germany.

We toured Edinburgh for two days. Once again, I was fascinated by this

magnificent city.

The views of the ocean, Highlands and the surrounding city were spectacular. Edinburgh Castle, built on an extinct volcano in the middle of the city was a beautiful historical monument. On the third day we traveled to St. Andrews, the home of golf and the setting for the filming of the movie Chariots of Fire.

We continued our journey into the heart of the Highlands made famous through the adventures of Scottish heroes such as Rob Roy and William Wallace.

The fourth day was filled with famous sights of Loch Ness, Loch Lomond, the Trossachs and the city of Glasgow. On my last day in Scotland I toured Stirling Castle and viewed the Scottish Royal Jewels. Just before heading back to Edinburgh, I visited the fields of Bannockburn, where Scotland won its independence from England during the Wars of Independence.

If a trip or an exchange is in your future or if you are interested in world affairs, write for the Cord! Contact Oliver at 22cord@mach1.wlu.ca.



countryside over the two hour journey.

What a city Bristol is! With an amazing mix of Victorian and modern architecture and a world class university the city reminded me of a trendy Montreal. I stayed with my cousin for three days getting in the sights, such as the suspension bridge, the famous tobacco docks and the university. The restaurants in the downtown core ranged from

Mills, or so I was told. Over the next two days we traveled the area in and around Cork City, visiting art galleries, castle ruins and the Murphy's Stout factory. At all the places we visited, the local people were extremely friendly and always eager to help us. What I found extremely interesting, was the opportunity to speak to some of my friend's family about the recent peace deal in Northern

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## Bag of Snakes

### Skin

Her skin was covered with a fine, deep blue tattoo of cursive words, starting high on her shaved head and across her face in a closely argued text, disappearing along her long, fine neck into her white blouse—when it appeared when I first met her, and no doubt she was attractive to men who loved her “only for her skin” as the argot used to be. Certainly when I met her and later as I became close to her I came to be absorbed in the story spiralling across her skin, following it with my tongue, reading it aloud to her, confusing it with the story she whispered in my ear during late afternoons, confusing the dates and places and names, confounding them so that I wondered who it was I was examining so closely, smoothing the text and wrinkles here and there, to ascertain the story, wondering what certain words were as they passed over moles or across darker patches of her skin, watching them stretch and bend as we moved in our strange ways at various times and places. Often it was exciting to stand back and watch the story ripple across her, or in the shower to spin her around, reading the story for both of us. And, strange to say, it changed. I could read it complete and return to the top of her head and find a different tale, with different characters and names, than had been there before. We started again, our round of confusion and passion. Needless to say, I loved her passionately and endlessly, sky-blue deeply, as if my life depended on her, as if she somehow brought me home to my original birth place in the sky. I too slowly turned blue, as if she had been dyed with mere blueing instead of tattooed with India ink under the skin. We had lots of bedtime fun and reading, following the text into the crevices between her toes, into the pits and fungus, looking for the final details of how it all ended.

-S. Slavik

### Hammond Plains African Baptist Church

drunk with light  
 i think of maritime country  
 i sing of birchtown blues, the stark  
 sad beauty of that Kimmerian land.  
 i dream of a dauntless dory  
 battling the blue, cruel combers  
 of a feral, runaway ocean—  
 a trotskyite ocean in a permanent revolution  
 turning fluid ideas over and over  
 in its leviathan mind,  
 turning driftwood, drums, conundrums  
 over and over. . .  
 then, crazy with righteous anger,  
 i think of Lydia Jackson,  
 slave madonna, pregnant with child,  
 whose Nova Scotian owner, distinguished Dr Bulma  
 kicked her hard in the stomach,  
 struck her viciously with fire tongs  
 and then went out upon the ocean  
 in his dory  
 to commune with God.

-G. E. Clarke

I was doing fine except for Satan

He's after me all the time to do wrong.

SIGAFOOS