

THE CORD WEEKLY



Read the diary of an Au Pair Page 11

Meet the International Jackass of the Week. Page 8



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Students battle city

Stefan Serecki

Fighting for your rights: the Women's Movement was all about it, the Beastie Boys did it, and there was a great episode of "Full House" where Uncle Jesse fought to keep his favorite nightclub from going out of business. While the last example has nothing to do with rights, the principles behind it relate closely to a struggle that the University of Waterloo's Federation of Students is undergoing.

Like Uncle Jesse on behalf of the Rippers and himself, Christopher Edey had to plead his case on behalf of the U of W Feds and the U of W Planning Students Association to the Council of the City of Waterloo on Monday, October 21. The contentious issue revolves around the city's "Minimum Distance Requirement" (MDS), a rule which makes it against the law to develop a lodging house within 75 meters of a previously licensed lodging house.

The Federation of Students at U of W passed a motion stating that they want the bylaw eliminated as they feel it intensifies the student housing crisis Waterloo.

"Currently there are 14,400 students living off-campus in the city of Waterloo and this number is projected to increase to 17,400 in only three years, putting serious

pressure on an already taxed rental market" asserted Edey in his speech to Council. Edey brought up several sets of statistics relevant to his argument, including the reality that the City of Waterloo has the second lowest rate of residential vacancy in all of Ontario. The City of Waterloo's Height and Density Policy Study Discussion Paper also notes that less than 50 new apartment units suitable for student accommodation are constructed annually. According to Edey, 600 new units per year are needed to meet the projected demand.

"The existing Minimum Distance Separation requirement... restricts the establishment of new lodging houses in low-density residential areas close to the university and drives up rents," stated Edey, on behalf of Waterloo students. "The existing MDS is increasing rents, pushing students far outside of walking distance to the universities, keeping marginal properties in operation, and is giving landlords an effective competition-free bubble in which to operate."

Attacking the study itself, Edey flatly put that "the University of Waterloo Federation of Students and the Planning Students Association cannot support this study unless it recommends the removal of the existing minimum distance separa-



Ryan Chen-Wing

The "75 meter rule" was under fire at Monday's City Council meeting where students demanded a change.

tion. It is the only way that we can be sure that all current and future students will be able to find affordable, quality housing within a reasonable distance of the universities." Edey also stated that "there are too many assumptions in the study for us to safely agree that students needs are being

adequately met."

Part of the reasoning behind the 75-meter rule, or bylaw 00-140, is to prevent the emergence of student ghettos.

The Feds took particular offense to this, arguing their belief that "a more robust enforcement of bylaw 02-85 [the Property

Standards Bylaws] and the building and fire codes would ameliorate many resident concerns over the appearance of lodging houses as well as improving the safety of those who live within."

(continued on page 2)

Residence tragedy

Bryn Boyce

In the early morning hours of October 15th, 21 year-old Julie Robbins committed suicide in her Laurier Place (Conestoga House) residence. Julie, who suffered from clinical depression, overdosed on anti-depressant medications and was rushed to Grand River Hospital where she later died. Julie was a first year psychology student who had taken Distance Education before enrolling at Laurier. There was no individual incident that provoked her suicide.

There was a great outpouring of community support in Julie's

hometown of Gravenhurst and at her funeral, which was held Saturday, October 19 at the United Church. Her father sang several of her favourite songs and many of her friends spoke to the assembled guests in the crowded church. The ceremony was designed to celebrate Julie's life. The Dean of Students office and WLUSU organized transportation for eight of Julie's roommates and friends who wished to attend her funeral. Dean of Students David McMurray, WLUSU President Andy Pushalik and Residence Life Area Coordinator Melanie Hazelton were in attendance to show their support for Julie's friends and family.

Melanie Hazelton is also arranging a training session for Residence Life staff that will deal with mental health. The session is designed to help the residence dons recognize the signs of stress, depression and other mental disorders.

"Laurier is known for its community and at times like these it's important that people know that

there are a variety of services available for students who need to talk," stated Pushalik. WLUSU was very active during this process, and ensured that Julie's roommates were made as comfortable as possible during this crisis and that transportation was available to the funeral service.

The Director of Counseling, Dr. Dale Fogel, also worked in conjunction with Dean of Students office to help roommates and friends deal with this loss. "The Peer Help Line is available to Laurier students to provide information, referrals and support for any areas of student life," said Sophie Kotsopoulos, Vice President of Student Services.

Julie's parents have been very supportive in this process and agreed to speak to her friends and roommates about Julie's past history and background. "Not everyone has the strength to reach out to others as they did to the roommates in a time of crisis. They really need to be applauded for it," commented Dean McMurray.

Football dreams denied

Caitlin Howlett

For the first time in 13 years, the Laurier Golden Hawks' football team has failed to make the playoffs.

The Hawks flaccid season came to a close when a pass by their only uninjured quarterback was intercepted and carried down the field along with all hopes and dreams of a Vanier miracle.

Laurier, despite losing in the dire minute of the fourth quarter, managed to end the season with one record, but not one that they will be proud to hold. This year's 2002 Golden Hawk football team now holds the title for the worst season record in the history of Laurier football.

Prior to capturing this title, the same record was held by the 1984 Hawks, who won two games, and lost five.

Last year the Hawks managed to squeeze their way into the playoffs, unfortunately and

much to the dismay of the Hawks many loyal fans, they were unable to pull off the same feat this year.

The Hawks made a valiant effort early on in the first quarter, appearing for a short time as though they might actually win the game that would sneak them into the last playoff birth.

Third string quarterback, Chris Adams, filling the void of Ryan Pye and Jamie Partington, threw a two yard bomb to fourth year linebacker, Kevin MacNeill who completed the touchdown. A short 83-yard punt return to defensive back Ian Logan made the scoreboard read 14-0, and no, it was not a typo.

A scoreless second quarter was filled primarily with light running, a bit of grunting, some heckling and a wide array of scratching.

The third quarter gave way to Guelph, when quarterback Mike Brake completed a TD strike to wide receiver Ryan

Kooistra. A single point was conceded by Laurier to Guelph before the end of the quarter, making the score 14-8.

Five minutes remaining in the fourth quarter was more than enough time for Guelph to rally back. Defensive lineman, Chris Demaiter, tipped and intercepted Adams pass, running it all the way back for the touchdown and the one point lead.

This win not only reduced the Hawks to tears, but ended a five game winning streak they had previously held over the Gryphons.

The cessation of football frenzy marks the end of several football careers, including, linebacker Rohan Thompson, defensive back David Agro and kicker/punter Ed Becker. These three players have made generous contributions over the course of their playing careers at Laurier and will leave large helmets to fill.

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How they stand Shuttle bus coming

Stefan J. Sereda

The middle: it was occupied by Berlin during the Cold War, the Liberals for the last several decades, and Stephanie Tanner on *Full House*. All of these situations have shown, in one way or another, that being in the middle is never easy.

Now WLUSU and the Student Senate Caucus are experiencing this harsh reality: last week confusion emerged as to where the loyalty of these student organizations really fell. As WLUSU maintained its position of neutrality, the Student Senate Caucus actively participated in last Wednesday's controversial "no-confidence" vote.

Despite the requests of some attendees at the Senate meeting that the Student Senators abstain from voting, they voted against the motion to declare no-confidence in President Bob Rosehart's leadership during the labor dispute. While members of the student body and the Staff Association felt that this move was not neutral, the Student Senators insisted that their vote was partial only to students.

"We maintained our neutrality on this issue", said Student Senator Sarah Carroll. "I put forward an amendment that would

have seen the motion of no confidence be directed towards both parties in the negotiations, as we have insufficient information that would suggest which party is to blame for prolonging this strike."

Since this amendment was defeated,



Pushalik: "Somebody set up us the bomb"

the Student Caucus voted against the motion. According to the Student Senators, they voted against the motion because they "did not feel that such a resolution was constructive in the present situation."

Student Senator and WLUSU VP of Finance and Administration Paul Tambeau affirmed this, commenting that he "felt the no-confidence motion is not productive in any means to resolving the dispute." Tambeau further stated that "people think we compromised our neutrality because

we didn't abstain."

Not only have the Student Senators been blamed for compromising their neutrality, WLUSU also became a target for criticism yet again. In a news release issued on Wednesday October 16th, WLUSU clarified that, "the voting stance taken by the Student Senators regarding the no-confidence vote does not reflect WLUSU's position of neutrality. Further, the university should not interpret the results of the no-confidence vote as a chance to prolong this current labor dispute." WLUSU also maintains that "a quick resolution to the labor dispute is needed immediately."

The Student Caucus wishes to make clear that at no time did the President, Executive Vice President: University Affairs, or Board of Directors of WLUSU direct the caucus how to vote. Speaking for himself, Paul Tambeau commented that, "neither Andy [Pushalik] or [VP: University Affairs] Kristi [Edwards] told me how to vote."

The votes cast by the students resulted in Dr. Bob Rosehart retaining the confidence of the Senate and thereby not having his position as leader scrutinized by the Board of Governors.

Bryn Boyce

The failure of the Academic Senate's no-confidence motion may have been the focal point of the October 16 meeting but some strong resolutions passed late in the proceedings. The student Senators successfully passed two of its three resolutions and the third will be clarified in a Senate Academic Planning Committee meeting on Monday. The three resolutions were all academic in nature.

The WLUSU and Student Senate collaborated to draft a total of ten resolutions and released them on October 9. The first resolution that passed was related to the rescheduling of midterms that have been postponed due to the labour dispute. The resolution now requires that faculty and departments consider student input in the midterm rescheduling process.

The second resolution that passed will help accommodate students in their research at the Dana Porter Library. A shuttle van was set up on Monday, October 21 to provide Laurier students with transportation from the Aird Underpass to the Dana Porter Library at the University of Waterloo. The shuttle will run every 30 minutes between 12pm and 12am. This service will run for the duration of the WLU library's renovation process. This new project "will allow students to safely travel back and forth during the evening hours," stated Ben Durrer, Chair of WLUSU Board of Directors and student Senator.

The last motion was in reference to guidelines for new lab and class dates. A resolution was proposed that would ensure that those students who have missed classes and labs due to the strike

will not be required to attend make up sessions on weekends or holidays. This motion is still being considered by the Senate Academic Planning Committee and will be resolved on October 31.

There was no opposition to the first two motions and the third was delayed to allow for details to be further worked out. The remaining four resolutions, (outlined in the October 9 Cord) all deal with financial matters, requiring the approval of the Board of Governors.

They are motions that, if passed, will grant a ten percent winter term discount, a 25 percent Bookstore discount on course material only, a full payment to the student teaching assistants and an amnesty of interest accumulated during the work action on business account payments. The Board of Governors will convene on December 3 and these motions will be presented and voted on.

The motion concerning commencement is now complete. This was issue was brought to the Academic Senate by the Registrar Dr. John Metcalfe who proposed either December 1 or December 8 as a new commencement date.

The tenth request, set out by WLUSU, proposed that a student representative meet with both sides of the negotiation to observe whether they were truly negotiating. Both negotiating teams have not responded to this request.

"These resolutions were designed to compensate undergraduate students for the services they are paying for and not receiving as well as addressing our academic concerns," stated Ben Durrer on behalf of WLUSU and the student Senators.

\$40,000 back to students

Jennifer Volz

Moving into the sixth week of the WLUSA strike, good news is finally delivered to Laurier students. Although the issues involved in the WLUSA strike have put a lot of pressure on students, it has been announced by Andy Pushalik, President of WLUSU, and Abednego Aryee from the WLU Graduate Association that \$40,000 will be returned to the students of Laurier. There is no better time than the present, as the strike drags on and it seems that there is no easy resolution; this money will hopefully help students feel better about being at Laurier.

The Student Services Agreement fee will go to fund 145 new scholarships along with online journals. The scholarships,

available to all graduate and undergraduate students, will be at a value of \$100 and drawn at random.

A \$500 scholarship will be available to students who choose to write an essay expressing the importance of the Laurier Community. Pushalik commented, "This \$500 scholarship will allow students to reflect on the effect that the labour dispute has had on Laurier and provide input on how they can rebuild the community after the strike." The \$500 scholarship is available to anyone who attends Laurier full or part time at the graduate or undergraduate level.

The remaining \$20,000 will be put towards new online journals at the WLU library for students to use. This investment towards the library resources proves how

important academics are to the students at WLU. The online resources will also allow students to access journals that are not currently available because of the library situation. This good news comes at a time when students have been paying for services, which they have not been receiving due to the WLUSA strike.

Although no date has been set as to when these scholarships will be offered, it is a start towards rebuilding the academic atmosphere within the university. Andy Pushalik President of the WLU Students' Union or Abednego Aryee of the WLU Graduate Students Association will be happy to answer any questions regarding the new scholarships and service.

'Student ghettos' an insult

(continued from cover)

Edey further attacked this speculation as a secondary issue. "We also take issue with the continued negative stereotyping of university students and the implications that it has for public policy and community perception of us. This stereotyping has even crept into the dialogue between the City and the Federation of Students on the issue of MDS to the detriment of all." Edey cited a PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP study that found "expenditures by students from outside Waterloo Region results in an economic impact of \$89 million on the local economy." On this statistic, Edey commented "we feel that we are a significant asset to this community, and yet we often feel that we are treated like a pest that needs to be controlled."

U of W students also took issue with the study's suggestion that students "will find accommodation in apartments or in houses that don't require licenses." Edey pointed out that "it seems odd that the same groups that take issue with student behaviour and want lodging houses restricted would choose to solve the

problem by renting rooms in their own houses to the very same students."

The Feds were also concerned with the potential rise of illegal apartments in the city. "Madame Mayor, you yourself said that after visiting the sites where two students tragically lost their lives in house fires that you made a vow to 'ensure that the City of Waterloo would do everything in its legal power to create safe dwellings for students and other lodgers.' The potential rise of illegal housing units in the city conflicts with your noble goal in every imaginable way" stated Edey.

The response of the U of W students should be taken into consideration by the City or further policy-making. The U of W Federation of Students have taken other measures to fight the 75-meter bylaw including the refusal to negotiate for a Universal Bus Pass until the dispute is resolved. WLUSU members will be meeting with Fed VP: Education Ryan O'Connor on Wednesday, October 23 to discuss this issue among others.

Housing 'realigns'

Stefan Sereda

Getting caught up in the language of the labor dispute is as confusing as building the Tower of Babel with Ozzy Osbourne and a host of other rock stars who could be better understood when they were still struggling with substance abuse. Rumors and confusion have been spreading and Laurier seems to be going off the rails on a crazy train.

Controversy surrounding the employment of student workers at the Housing Office has emerged in certain sectors of the WLU community. Current and former Residence Life Staff have been working in the Housing Office, previously operated by members of WLUSA.

Dean of Students J. David McMurray insists that new student employees have not been hired by the Department of Housing since the outset of the labor dispute. Dean McMurray did offer the statement that dons and Residence Life

Area Coordinators have been 'realigned' to the Housing Office. McMurray stated that realigning (moving workers from one department to another) has been common-place since the strike began. He offered the example of the Special Needs Office as one area which has been run by workers from other departments since the strike began.

Dons, as well as RLAC's are non-unionized university employees, who are on-call seven days a week, 24 hours a day.

Students employed in the Housing Office did not wish to comment on their positions to the press. Both Chris Dodd, the Manager of Housing Services and Residence Life and Michael Belanger, the Director of Residential Services, were attending the OUA golf competition when an attempt was made to contact them.

Vocal Cord:

What do you think about pornography ads in the Cord?



Stephanie Dries
4th year Political Science

"The Cord should be able to advertise anything it wants. If anything, I think it should have more porn. More advertisements for strip joints, more advertisements for escort services... all porn, all the time! God bless."



Arsul Walji
2nd year Economics

"I sort of find it humorous a bit because whenever I see people reading the paper, they're fixated on that page."



Brendan McCann
4th year Kinesiology

"It reminds me of the perverts who go there and waste their life away, drowning their sorrows in cold, alcoholic beverages and lusting for a beautiful wife that probably will never come."



Vicky Blackwell
3rd year Women's Studies

"I really don't pay that much attention to them. I focus on all the good stuff in the Cord. I'm your number one fan."



Ryan McGuffin
1st year Passionate about Classics

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"I know I go to bed every night with my
puppet...he's made of foam."
- Stefan Sereda

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LETTERS POLICY:

• All letters must be signed and submitted with the author's name, student identification number, and telephone number.
• All letters will be printed with the author's name. Letters can be printed without the author's name with permission from the EIC.
• The Cord comes out on Wednesdays. Letters must be received by Tuesday at 12:30, on disk, or via e-mail at letters@wlusp.com.
• Letters must be typed or easily legible and cannot exceed 350 words.
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• The Cord reserves the right to reject any letter, in whole or in part, that is in violation of existing Cord policies.
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Rolling with the times

Kristen Lipscombe



Sports Editor

Time passes by more vigorously these days. Even though it feels like it was just yesterday that I was a naïve first year living it up in the Conrad "Convent", some how I have made it to my fourth year. Now it seems as though I am becoming focused on applying for grad schools and figuring out what the heck I am going to do with my life. When did all this lollapalooza transpire?

Yep, time is just flying by, something like a hummingbird on a heavy dose of speed. As more time passes, the more my memories seem to fade. My early child memories are becoming increasingly more vague; however, these hazy recollections are interrupted by intermittent details that tend to stick out in my mind.

One such memory is of the music I was exposed to by my parents when I was young. Leftover remnants from the age of flower power and Woodstock, my parents drove a red burgundy "hippy" van and played what is now referred to as "classic" rock on our trusty record player. Even though I didn't know what I was listening to at the time, I now remember humming along to the tunes of Led Zeppelin, Pink Floyd, and The Rolling Stones.

When I hit the pre-teen years, I became way too cool to hang out with my parents and started to pay closer attention to the top forty shyte on Much Music. I thought my parents were way

behind the times and I allowed myself to be bombarded by the pop culture scene. For a while, I forgot about my favourite childhood songs, including "Paint it Black".

It wasn't until my late high school that I began to recall the music of my childhood. I started to dig through my parents' dusty record collection, and began to listen to the artists from the era of peace, love and rock n' roll. I became more astute to the fact I had been ignoring the incredible musical expertise that had emerged out of the sixties and seventies, the time when my Mom wanted to save the world and my Dad was a rebel without a cause.

I will be the first to admit that I am certainly no classic rock buff. However, my appreciation for the stuff has been exponentially developing over the past few years and I am beginning to give my parents a little more credit. This appreciation reached a significant pinnacle last Friday. About a week ago, my Dad mentioned to me that had two extra tickets for the Rolling Stones Forty Licks show in Toronto.

Of course, I jumped at the chance to attend the concert. How could I possibly pass up an opportunity to see the Stones? Even I knew that this was my chance to see some musical genius at work, I still wasn't prepared for what I would experience.

When my boyfriend and I met up with my parents for the show, my parents were acting like two giddy kids. My Dad was discussing the rock greats with my boyfriend, while my Mom was showing of her retro leather jacket; meanwhile, I was standing back and taking it all in. The Skydome was filled with reminiscent hippies like my parents, along with the very young, the very old and everything in between. There was lots of leather, tassels, tattoos, tie dye and an unforgettable atmosphere that won't soon leave this daughter's memory.

As eager fans awaited the much-anticipated

show and after an opening set by No Doubt, the Stones finally rolled on stage with the charisma of seasoned veterans. The concert itself was much more than spectacular. I can't even begin to give justice through words to the outstanding performance put on by the Stones, and to the sheer exhilaration and intensity I felt, being a part of this unique rock and roll experience.

Now approaching sixty, Mick Jagger's energy and gusto on stage was invigorating for a performer of any age. Keith Richards' outstanding performance on the guitar blew the audience away, while Charlie Watts banged on his drums like no contemporary drummer could. These musicians extraordinaire have still got it.

I was on my feet the whole time as tunes like "Brown Sugar" and "You Can't Always Get What You Want" left the audience charged with the electric vitality that rock injects into one's system. It was a transcendent, surreal experience and of course, my time spent soaking it all up seemed to pass by as quickly as time can.

The production that was put on was phenomenal, but the heart of the concert was in the timelessness of the music that filled the air. The Stones' music is something that every generation can find enjoyment in; Mick Jagger, Richards and the rest of the crew have withstood the test of time, like stones they remain as solid as ever. I have learned that true musical talent surpasses all boundaries of time and age.

I felt like that evening, I finally gained a deeper understanding of what rock is all about, and what makes it classic. The memory of the night will surely stay with me for a at least for another forty licks. And for some reason, all of a sudden, my parents seem, well, kind of cool again. Hey Mom, can I borrow your leather jacket some time?

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

LETTERS

Clarification required

In the October 17 edition of the Cord, two letters were printed with my name displayed as the author. The problem is that I only authored one of those letters. The editorial staff at the Cord would be well advised to inform themselves about the possible repercussions for such careless and damaging misrepresentation, especially around issues such as the labour dispute where there are such different opinions and values. This lack of editorial integrity begs some serious questions about process and accountability and should be reviewed by WLUSP.

"Quality in Question" was actually written by me and therefore represents my views of the labour dispute. "Profs Butt Out" was written by an undergrad student senator and is in direct and CLEAR OPPOSITION to my views. Unlike the real author, I believe that professors, students, staff and administrators should be involved in debate about the quality and leadership of this university community. Every member of this community has a stake in a fair workplace. Students may consider actually learning from the current situation rather than pretending that complacency solves anything. People who engage the issues around the strike are not "distracting" anyone. They are participating in a democratic manner rather than copping out as "neutral" while simultaneously working to silence debate, participation and any view that doesn't represent the corporate and oppressive ideology of the administration. The student senator who authored the letter obviously doesn't like to be called to account by anyone, even though that's exactly what should happen when elected representatives show no signs of leadership and ignore their constituents. Again, I did not write "Profs Butt Out" and it does not represent anything I believe or would support. Whether Ms. Cherry, the editor of the Cord, has heard of me or not is irrelevant and doesn't erase the damage that this misrep-

resentation has caused. The published word is powerful and permanent, retractions are not.

Naomi Ives
2nd year Masters of Social Work
VP External Affairs, WLUSGA

It's just not the same

My name is Michael Overholt and I am a third year Laurier student who has had a lot of fun in my first two years here. This year, well, fun is a little harder to come by. The strike has made everything very different from what I have been used to.

I am the kind of student whom every professor I've had knows the name of, the kind of person who gets to know all that staff I interact with on a first name basis (even the majority of administrators that I have had the opportunity to work with know who I am). But now these people aren't available to me, not how I'd like them to be anyway.

I suppose that this is going to turn into an argument against the strike, an argument that one of my profs would wonder about because it's not "prudent". It seems to me, however, that this strike isn't about prudent things anymore. I believe that both sides involved are well aware of all the prudent reasons for coming to an agreement.

I still have class, and profs still know me by name, but now they are run ragged trying to do their job the best they can without the support of the staff that they have always depended on. The members of the Staff Association that I have gotten to know are out on the picket lines, but they aren't in a position to talk with me the way that they could under normal circumstances. Even the administrators that I've learned a lot from in the past as a member of WLUSU and the Senate are still here,

but they are too busy dealing with the negotiations, the media, and a million other things and don't have the time they used to.

As a student in general I miss having the faculty available to me like they were in years past. As a philosophy student, I miss having Anne Duffy upstairs when I'm bored and want to talk or need help with something. As a special needs student, I miss having Mary Beth to bug whenever I have a few minutes to spare. I also miss complimenting the rest of the Special Needs Office staff on their hair whenever I'm a day late handing in a form. As a member of the Laurier community who spends a lot of his on-campus time in the 24-hour lounge, I miss Cathie Hughes being in her office so that I can drop in and chat. As a student Senator, I miss having the administration available to me whenever I have an issue I would like to discuss.

I just don't get it. WLUSU is composed of kind, wonderful people like Anne, Mary and Cathie; the WLU administration is made up of decent people like Bob Rosehart and Rowland Smith. How can the two sides not be able to compromise? Does it really boil down to the almighty dollar or has each side simply forgotten that the other is made up of good people like themselves?

I realize that I am oversimplifying this here but I am really worried about the future of the Laurier community. I have seen in meetings how each side reacts to one another. I've heard the rude comments from one side and the petty replies from the other. This strike is eventually going to end. But what is going to happen to the atmosphere around here when the staff comes back? I can only hope that both sides can put aside their current childish behavior and replace it with the behavior that had gained my respect during my first two years here. I miss my first two years here.

Michael Overholt

L E T T E R S

Biased Judgement

It seems, these days, that there are fewer and fewer groups which one can insult with impunity. Aboriginals, feminist women, homosexuals and a plethora of ethnic groups are considered off limits. There is, however, one group for which this does not apply, conservative Christians.

I would not have been surprised to see Jerry Falwell criticized in a student newspaper. After all, universities, other than Falwell's Liberty University and others like it tend to be disproportionately liberal and secular-humanist in their general outlooks. However, the labeling of Falwell as a "jackass" crosses the line from informed opinion to immature name-calling. I watched the 700 Club interview in which Reverend Falwell made his comments regarding September 11. Falwell did not blame homosexuals, atheists and other liberals for the attacks but stated that the general decline in society's morality had caused God to lift a barrier of supernatural protection from the United States. This theory is known as the "Deuteronimical Principle" and can be found in many books, chapters and verses throughout the Old Testament.

I do not know if Mr. Currie has ever watched Jerry Falwell's Old Time Gospel Hour (7:00 PM Sundays on the Mirabeau Channel), but I would recommend he do so before passing further judgement on Falwell and his beliefs. Unlike many ministers, Jerry Falwell does not alter his preaching to accommodate political correctness. Some may take offense at what Falwell says, and it is their right to do so. However, Christ Himself offended enough people that he was executed by the painful means of crucifixion. Falwell, I am certain, would be honoured to be received in the same way as his Saviour and Lord.

Mark McMerle
Graduate Student

New residence not so hot

I am writing with regards to shabby living conditions of the new Waterloo College Hall residence (aka the concrete jungle). After receiving a letter mid-summer informing me of my new home in the brand new residence, I was excited knowing everything would be clean and unharmed by the hands of previous freshmen. There were skeptics that doubted construction would be complete by Labour Day, but the trusty WLU website kept promising of a speedy finish.

Well soon came move-in day filled with cars, luggage, ecstatic and nervous fresh, hard-hatted tractors, exposed beams, gravel pits, and less than functional telephone and internet lines. Promises started to circulate that communication lines would be up before the starting of class, and the cafeteria, parking lot, and landscaping would be finished by early October. Well simple joy of escaping my tiny hometown overshadowed all that...for a while. Then the inconvenience of not being able to talk to family and download course materials became a real nuisance. We are still yet to have our mailboxes built (as amusing as it is not to be able to receive bills).

Furthermore, our trusty OneCard security door system seems to fail at least once a week locking out unsuspecting students and compromising security temporarily. But above all, the worst of the worst, is the built-in residence alarm clock. Every morning at 8:00 I have the extreme pleasure of waking to stone-cutting, trench digging, beam welding, and paving. All are conducted within spitting distance of my window, as I live on the first floor.

Now please don't be confused. I don't

write this letter in hopes of sympathy, but rather in hopes of helping to shed some extra light on the subject that two residents have already started a petition for. We pay close to an extra \$1000 more than those living in other single rooms, and for what? Our promised cafeteria, OneCard operable washing facilities, computer lab, and gaming facilities are still yet to be seen, and we live surrounded by trucks and desert. I believe all residents of WCH are deserving of some sort of financial compensation for the past two months. Pizza parties aren't going to cut it.

Neil McVeigh, Unpleased WCH resident

Call for Student Poll on Strike

As the strike now drags into its second month it seems that the University Administration and WLU SA are no closer to an agreement. On the surface there appears to be no solution for students except to wait it out. But in the meantime student services, services we paid for, are not being fulfilled. Yet the Students' Union, in claiming to speak for all students, cultivates an air of indifference. The Students' Union crafts careful neutrality that does not serve the best interest of its students.

Some representatives serving in administrative or on board positions seem to believe that this neutrality reflects the opinions of students. However there has never been any widespread polling of student opinion on the issue to give a basis for this position.

Since the Students' Union has never taken an extensive poll as to what popular opinion is amongst students, its assumption on this issue may be inherently flawed, non-representative or non-democratic.

To better serve the needs of its students it is incumbent on the Students' Union to accurately reflect the views of its students. Thus, by a simple extension of logic, it is necessary that the Union seek student input on the current strike crisis.

It need not be a complex question. The question need only give an accurate indication of students' general opinions. A question such as:

"Are you, as a student at Wilfrid Laurier University, more inclined to support the WLU SA's position or are you more inclined to support the Administration's position in this strike?"

It would be prudent on the part of our Students' Union representatives to at least gauge the responses to such a poll before deciding on an official position in the current crisis. And as an added benefit, such a poll would also speak to what actions should be taken in support of one side or the other in order to help end this strike. The longer the Students' Union stays indifferent the longer this strike will last. In fact, by invoking official neutrality in regards to this issue, there is only one side that the Students' Union representatives are working against - the best interest of their own students.

Timothy Kalinowski

S-NO Service

The university, by establishing and maintaining the Special Needs Office (SNO) acknowledges an obligation to offer services to students with disabilities. This acknowledgement is mandated by both their own policy (6.1 Harassment/Discrimination) and the Ontario Human Rights Code. Both of these policies establish a positive obligation to prevent discrimination - aspects of which include access to, and denial of, services.

The University administration chose not to identify the SNO as an essential service on par with Health and Counseling Services. It has

decided instead to provide the students with an ad hoc setup of volunteers, student staff and other employees from student services. Even if they were made, accolades for their effort are irrelevant. These replacement staff do not have the experience or familiarity with the students and their medical, physical, psychological or even psychiatric conditions. The individuals staffing the office, no matter how friendly or hard-working, are not learning specialists or professionals who have experience dealing with the day-to-day of disability accommodations.

Should an individual problem flow out of this lack of service, it could be argued that there is a demonstrable, causal link between difficulties experienced by that student and the ad hoc services being provided. Questions would then have

to be raised as to where the responsibility for any failure may lie.

Both in the hallways and out on the picket line, there is a general concern that this subpar level of services may result in legal accountability both for those thrown into the breach during the strike and those staff faced with the inevitable chaos upon their return. This is a legitimate concern, for who knows where the chain of responsibility may lead.

In the future, it could be argued that any serious failure was a direct consequence of the University administration's decision not to designate or declare SNO an essential service. This is something that the "directing minds" of Laurier should be aware of in reflecting on their choices over the past six weeks.

The University administration's decision to leave disabled students in the lurch could be construed as a manifestation of its broader non-chalance when it comes to the provision of disability services. Their choice was a disappointment but not a surprise.

Kathryn Fitzpatrick
Graduate Student

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日本

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Melinda Cockburn

I don't envy anyone who has roommates. Not to say that I don't enjoy being around people, but living by yourself has many perks of its own. There's no arguing about who has to do the dishes, who's turn it is to cook dinner, who's been using all the hot water in the morning, or who's been on the phone for five straight hours. You can play that Queens of the Stone Age CD as loud as you want and if you have three weeks of newspapers piled up in the living room, no one can say anything about it. Well, except friends, your boyfriend/girlfriend, or parents when they come to visit; a mad cleaning spree that goes on until almost 2am is in order in this case (yeah, guess what I was doing on Friday?).

As I'm writing this, I'm sprawled across my couch, with no feelings of guilt simply because I don't have to share the space with someone else. The TV is on and I can watch whatever I feel like because no one is going to change the channel. When living by yourself, you become the lord or lady of the remote. If I feel like watching some

strange morning cartoon about a tiny boy who flies around in a heli-car, or whatever sorry excuse for entertainment City TV has on for a movie at night, no one can tell me any different.

Basically, I am in complete control of everything and it feels great. I'm not a selfish person and I don't crave power; I just love the idea that I don't have anyone to answer to when it comes to the goings on in my apartment (except for my landlady for rent and whatnot but she's awesome so it's all good). I don't have to do dishes every night because no one else is filling the sink. Working on campus works to my advantage as well because I can grab something to eat during my shifts and there are no dishes to be cleaned.

That brings me to food. I don't have to worry about someone else using all my salad dressing or eating my jar of pickles. They're only pickles, I know, but it's the principle of the matter! No one will pick at my ever so precious bags of junk food and my freezer can be full of boxes of veggie burgers without having to try to figure out how to cram in food for four other people.

I hear so many complaints from friends and co-workers about roommates waking them up at 2 in the morning because they think you should get up and have a beer with them, or roommates who feel they don't have to contribute to cutting down on the utility costs. I suppose this is just all a part of the 'university experience but personally, I have enough to worry about, never mind whose turn it is to take out the garbage.

Passion and pride



Ben Durrer

The continuing strike has had a great impact on our Laurier campus and we will likely experience the effects of the strike throughout next semester. People are getting through this challenging time that makes it clear that Laurier is no regular university... Laurier is a campus with intense passion and institutional pride.

Last week BACCHUS launched a successful campaign and Radio Laurier held a fun DJ Spin-Off. These events, along with many other student groups filling the concourse, is a clear indication that Laurier students are going on as per usual when it comes to campus involvement and student life.

Laurier has a reputation as a campus with a high sense of community and that characteristic is what attracted so many of us here. This unique environment exists because students, staff in all areas, and faculty contribute great amounts to our community. But what drives these contributions? Why is this sense of community building so wide spread? I think that it is contagious; at Laurier our efforts rub off on each other and we enjoy interacting while we work.

Most of us have squeezed a few trips to the U of Waterloo library into our busy schedules and Foot

Patrol has stepped up to accommodate so that the campus gets there safely. Women Fostering Leadership is recruiting and planning for the Vagina Monologues. The hardworking Cord volunteers are putting out a quality paper. LOCUS continues to hold their Thursday Survivor nights. And despite many campus office closures the Legal Resources office is open with full hours.

Volunteerism at Laurier is the backbone of our campus community and volunteers do their work with such passion that their accomplishments including Shinerama, the ACE Bookswap, and Habitat for Humanity house raising are among the greatest at our school.

Laurier is continuing to excel in athletics. Dedicated students stepped up to organise a smooth running intramural program and hundreds of students compete against each other every week. The Hawk Desk continues to work full hours allowing complete access to facilities. And our varsity teams are practising hard as several teams have confident eyes on their league championships.

Students have a huge presence, but staff from all areas also contribute a great amount to our school and Laurier would not be the same without their dedication and expertise. Residence life at Laurier is an incubator of campus leadership because residence staff provides intense support to dons who work very closely with their floors. Laurier's Computing Services hires students and educates them individually which helps them find employment upon graduation.

Despite all of the short-term conflict that plagues our campus right now, it encourages me to know that most vital parts of our campus community are intact and as strong as ever. Student pride and passion is evident and I continue to be a proud Laurier student.

In the October 17th issue of The Cord, the letter "Profs Butt Out" should have been attributed to Nicholas Avramis, and not Naomi Ives. The Cord deeply regrets the error.

Goat Goes to Laurier

It was Thanksgiving and goat was alone. Goat's parents were killed in a freak milking accident too emotionally painful for goat to discuss.

Everyone went home for Thanksgiving! So Alone! Sob!

In an effort to quell his loneliness, goat got on the GRT to try and enjoy the Oktoberfest it had heard advertised....

BUS STOP 98

Teen Mommy Trench Coat Man

The key was tapped and goat received its first beer ever! The festivities were under way!

Wonderbar! (I found a wonderbar on the ground! Can I eat it?)

Good Lord no!

Eventually, goat became a little disoriented and was taken home in a cruiser. It was the best Thanksgiving goat ever had!

If you puke in the car, you'll pay!

I love you man! Hey! are you guys Mounties....

Shut up.

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Analysing reconstruction

American policy focuses on war in Iraq; ignores urgent needs of Afghanistan

A commentary by
Paul Jarrett

As American President George W. Bush and CNN push forward with a 'regime change' in Iraq, one must examine the effects of America's most recent 'regime change': installing President Hamid Karzai in Afghanistan.

More than a year has passed by since coalition forces, lead by the United States, began bombing Afghanistan. As of yet, the United States has not sin-



File Photo

New Afghan President Hamid Karzai lacks the resources to rebuild his nation.

cerely begun to replicate the reconstructive triumph of the Marshall Plan. Instead of the long-term macro-economic and political reform that were employed in Europe following World War II, the US has followed a patchwork of short-term policies.

These policies include installing President Hamid Karzai, a known American supporter who has ties with Vice President Dick Cheney's former company, Halliburton Oil. Also, Romanian peacekeeping troops, not American or British, are stationed in Kabul and the other sparse urban centers. Lack of personnel has also placed much of Afghanistan under the authority of unstable warlords, some of whom recently defected from the Taliban, claiming they bring peace and stability to those in the Afghan hinterlands.

The only concrete attempt to rebuild Afghanistan was recently announced by Central Asian and Caspian nations. These small, mainly Muslim nations agreed to create a fund to support Afghan reconstruction. Along with the fund, the nations discussed building a 900-mile pipeline to transport nat-

ural gas from Turkmenistan through Afghanistan to Pakistan. President Karzai hopes that this pipeline will bring close to \$300 million dollars in annual revenue to Afghanistan's struggling economy.

Despite international aid totaling \$1.8 billion dollars, organizations have done little to find long-term solutions for the country; aid is used primarily for short-term food and shelter for refugees and the dispossessed. Karzai believes that the only way to bring security and prosperity to the region is to build Afghanistan's infrastructure, which the West has shown no interest in supporting. While efforts are being made in Afghanistan by small nations that have

regional concerns, international media attention is focused squarely on another war in Iraq.

With the Washington sniper on the loose, and the NASDAQ, S & P 500, and DOW Jones Industrial Average facing brand new lows, public attention is being redirected even further away from issues of reconstruction. This should not be surprising, as US policy experts suggest that "domestic American opinion does not regard reconstruction as important as military combat".

It is no secret that George W. Bush wants a regime change in Iraq, similar to that in Afghanistan. This probably means eliminating Saddam Hussein and much of his power structure by force of arms. However, beyond destroying Saddam's regime, there is no coherent plan to re-establish the principles or

Despite receiving 1.8 billion dollars in aid, there are no long-term plans for Afghan development.



File Photo

US Vice-President Dick Cheney addresses American troops in Afghanistan.

massive funding of the Marshall Plan.

The US Senate Committee on Foreign Relations is discussing on how Iraq could be rebuilt, but much of the rhetoric surrounds the American garrisons of oil fields and international peacekeeping. Policy experts agree that if American interests control Iraq's oil supply, Iraq will lack the proper resources for reconstruction.

George W. Bush is attempting to gain international support for action in Iraq, but his appeals are being met with both acceptance and skepticism. The Senate Foreign Relations Committee recommends that "the international community should begin now in planning and assigning roles and key tasks", demonstrating the lack of American resolve to finish yet another war which they will lead.

WORLD WATCH

North Korea

North Korea officials have acknowledged that the country is operating a secret weapons program - a program that includes the production of nuclear arms.

This program violates a 1994 treaty and can potentially place the US into a crisis situation reminiscent of Cold War days. President George W. Bush has called on North Korea to improve their behavior in many respects, but most notably on the production of weapons of mass destruction and for support for terrorism. In return, the US will offer economic and political aid. There has been no official resolution as of yet.

Indonesia

Several Islamic radicals have been arrested in conjunction with the terrorist bombing in Bali, Indonesia. At least 183 victims died at the Sari Club in Bali when a car bomb detonated, leveling the building.

Many of the victims were tourists, as the night club was a popular tourist attraction. According to the Koran Tempo, an Indonesian newspaper, seven Indonesians under the leadership of a Middle Eastern man, drove to the club, left one van outside and fled the scene in another van. The bomb detonated seconds later.

A combination of C4 plastic explosives and gas cylinders destroyed the club and gutted Paddy's Bar, across the street. With help from America, Australia,

Japan and Germany, the investigation continues.

Russia

Just minutes away from the Kremlin in Moscow, Governor Valentin Tsvetkov of the Far East Magadan region was shot point blank in the head by a hired assassin. The killing took place during morning rush hour on Friday October 18, on one of Moscow's busiest and most heavily guarded streets, Novy Arbat. This political assassination is the first since President Vladimir Putin took office in May 2000 and flies in the face of his tough crime-fighting policies.

Tsvetkov, 54, had served for six years as governor of the Magadan region which located seven times zones east of Moscow and once notorious for the Stalin-era gulag labour camps. The region is now is a major gold producer and it is believed that his death was associ-

ated with his professional work.


Somalia

At least 70 people were found dead in a drifting boat off the coast of Mogadishu, Somalia. The passengers, 120 Somalis and Ethiopians from a small village known as Marear, were en route to Yemen in search of a better life. The engine failed and left them stranded for 17 days.

The remaining survivors finally beached at Las Qorey, 750 miles north of Mogadishu. Five people died immediately after the boat landed. The others, including children born to two mothers while on board the boat, are still in critical condition.

Compiled by Dan Sennet





Geraldo Rivera, international journalist and worldwide media icon, is challenging you, the student body, to aspire to the same calibre of international reporting that he demands of himself. Fortunately, you can be like Geraldo, without having your nose broken by white supremacists on national TV.

Write for Cord International

Contact the editor at b_currie30@hotmail.com, or come to the 3rd floor of the FNCC

International Opinion

Mindless rhetoric



Robert Demile

I know the issues that flood our everyday lives. Bombardment from newspapers and television has molded society into a blob that often fails to express opinion when it is needed. I love subtle differences that define us and allow us to be set apart from the crowd. That is what I aim

to do in this article, set myself apart, onto a one-way road surrounding American politics and the warmonger attitude that has again gripped our southern neighbour. The news reeks of talk surrounding the imminent military campaign to be launched upon the sovereign country of Iraq, by a President who is living out his father's legacy. The information out there is distorted, though it seems that America and America Junior (Britain, not Canada) are the only enthusiastic supporters of a military campaign before any other alternative can be reached by the United Nations. The United Nations has to forge through and put its foot down in this situation; take a stand damn it. For once, tell the United States to sit down, shut up, and abide by the decisions of the United Nations. The thirst for blood and oil is the

only thing that drives America in any thought of a military invasion. To put it bluntly, the U.S. is only exploiting the world's fears to further its global dominance and self-interest, as it did in Afghanistan. Oh wait; the North American media didn't cover the story of American oil conglomerates signing a pipeline contract before the new administration of Afghanistan was elected, so if that one were unfriendly they would still be able to pump oil. There is no evidence of nuclear weapons. The mindless rhetoric that Bush has used to cloud the minds of the people is a joke; even former weapons inspectors agree that there is no way that Saddam is a threat to the region. Speaking of weapons of mass destruction, I wonder where Iraq obtained its chemical weapons technology in the first place? When it serves their

purpose, the U.S. seems to smother any debate on chemical weapons. Violations, violations, violations. Say that one three times fast. So Iraq has broken a few resolutions that the United Nations has passed, which should in the future be remedied? Now what about all the resolutions Israel has broken since the Six Day War? I don't see the United Nations considering military intervention in Israel because of a few broken resolutions. Our attention has been refocused again to a greater threat, or is it? An Iraq without Saddam would not be much better. The northern and southern regions of Iraq are home to significant minorities, and the entire country itself has many religious and ethnic groups. Under the plan America is proposing for a post-Saddam Iraq, these minorities would be given more power, guarantee-

ing civil turmoil once the current government falls. A civil war is a good possibility under this plan, which would result in thousands of civilian casualties. Not to mention the catastrophic consequences for the region in general, and heightening, not destroying, anti-American sentiment that already runs deep in the Middle East. Over the last 12 years, America has carried out two full-scale military invasions, countless infringements of sovereignty under the Treaty of Westphalia, around the clock surveillance, and yet America says that up until a couple weeks ago there was no connection to Al-Qaeda? This is unbelievable, but lucky for the Bush administration, people are used to believing things that seem too good to be true.

Jackass of the week: Kenneth Cole

By Brandon Currie

I have to applaud Kenneth Cole for being the vanguard of the fashion industry. While most clothing companies merely exploit the individuals and governments of the developing world, Kenneth Cole's latest ad campaign simply exploits the entire region. I encountered a billboard in Toronto that read, "Middle East peace is the must-have this fall. Make a statement. Kenneth Cole." So in the spirit of Kenneth Cole, I have decided to make a statement, "Shamelessly capitalizing on desperate situations for the sake of profit is the most callous advertising tactic this fall. Make yourself a jackass. Like Kenneth Cole."





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Pilate - October 24th

The business of Oktoberfest

Annual festival does wonders for the economy of Kitchener-Waterloo

Jen Wilder

The term "Oktoberfest" is generally associated with parades, parties and beer. However, this German holiday means much more to the Kitchener/Waterloo area than an endless array of alcohol and entertainment. The Oktoberfest celebration generates money for non-profit organizations, stimulates local businesses, and is a major means of boosting the city's economy.

This Bavarian tradition was first established in the K-W region in 1969 by the city's founding fathers. They viewed the Oktoberfest as a great chance to both promote the city's German-Canadian heritage and to provide an opportunity for community growth. Since then it has become the largest Bavarian festival in North America, consisting of over 450 community volunteers, six full-time staff members, and thousands of guests who come to experience this long-standing tradition.

During the course of this nine day festival visitors come from both the K-W area and non-regional cities in order to view and participate in the 45 family and cultural events, witness the greatest

Thanksgiving parade in Canada, and to flock towards the 15 Festallen located throughout the city.

This active participation results in thousands of individuals unknowingly stimulating the K-W economy. For example, over \$1.5 million was raised by approximately 70 non-profit organizations through the sale of buttons, lottery tickets, and Festallen profits. This money is then put towards public facilities such as arenas, ice rinks, swimming pools, recreational facilities, parks, and public fountains.

Oktoberfest profits are one of the major reasons that K-W is able to afford all of the extensive facilities in the area today.

The funds from ticket sales and other proceeds of Oktoberfest are allocated for the construction of social amenities that contribute to the well-being of K-W citizens. Just some of these amenities include homeless shelters, training schools for seeing-eye dogs, group homes for the mentally challenged, construction of senior citizen residences, Big Brother/Big Sister programs, and contributions and renovations to the three area hospitals.

The Oktoberfest can also be credited



Regan Watts

These people are just like the dancers on *Soul Train*... wait a second...

Over \$1.5 million was raised by non-profit organizations through the sale of buttons, lottery tickets and Festallen profits.

with stimulating local business and showcasing new talents. Businesses in the entertainment field, such as restaurants and clubs, benefit from the increased business that Oktoberfest generates. With the celebratory atmosphere that takes place during the nine days of festivities, people from K-W and beyond are attracted to the night scene, which means an increase in both demand and profit for these establishments.

This festival also provides the opportunity for both local and non-regional craftsmen to show and promote their wares. "This is a wonderful opportunity for me to generate interest in some of my arts and crafts; I look forward to this festi-

val all year long," said one woman who has been participating in Oktoberfest for the past seven years. She is not alone, as there are approximately 350 vendors featuring arts and crafts, local produce, meats and cheese, and furniture, as well as a quality flea market. The wares are all veered towards emulating the food, crafts, and merchandise found in the German culture.

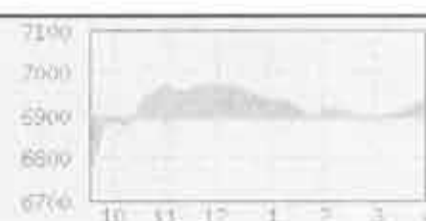
The Oktoberfest tradition started out in 1810 as a means of celebrating a happily received marriage between the German Crown Prince Ludwig I and the princess Therese von Sachsen-Hildburghausen, and has since then progressed to a point where it is the largest

celebration of its kind in the world. Not only is it a way to meet people, explore a different culture, and have a 'few' beers, it also is a vital way of promoting business and producing funds that will enrich our economy.

Obviously, the benefits that are associated with Oktoberfest are deeper than most people realize. This festival now promotes economic growth, individual capitalism, and cultural enrichment. So the next time you raise your beer at the Oktoberfest Festhallen remember that you are doing so to support your city.



Business Bytes



Bush Advocates Generic Prescriptions

President Bush is aiming to bring generic drugs quicker and cheaper to the people of America. His goal is to block pharmaceutical corporations from filing patent-protection lawsuits that can stall the cheaper products from reaching the consumers for up to two years. Bush strives to create a more open and competitive market where generic drugs are as accessible as brand-name drugs, thereby reducing the cost of the average prescription.

Wholesale Markets on the Rise

According to Stats Can, wholesale trade increased 1.1% last August due to the strength of auto and industrial machinery sales - 0.6% higher than economists predicted for the month. Eight of the eleven sectors increased, led by the auto sale industry (3.4%) and closely followed by the household goods (2.4%) and industrial machinery fields (2.1%). This increase was largely due to high employment rates and low interest rates.

WestJet Airlines

As of Monday, WestJet Airlines received sufficient funds to purchase 15 new Boeing Jets. These finances were raised through both the ING Group and the Export-Import Bank of the United States. The funds secured totaled \$47.8 million. According to Clive Beddoe, president of WestJet, these funds will help expand their fleet and keep the airline costs down. The airline currently services 21 Canadian cities with a total of 34 Boeing crafts.

Court Case in Turmoil

Montreal-based real estate company, Castor Holding Ltd., (bankrupt in 1992 with a \$1.6 billion debt) is currently suing their former auditors Cooper & Lybrand. The former investors of Castor claim that Coopers failed to properly audit the company and is now demanding \$1 billion in damages. This trial has been ongoing for over four years, and has been deemed the longest and most complicated trial in Canadian history. Last week the key defense lawyer, Clement Gason, was

named as a new Quebec judge, so the trial will now be delayed until a new lawyer can be found who is familiar with the case. The clients are frustrated by the number of delays that this trial has undergone and hope a verdict is reached as soon as possible.

Compiled by Jennifer Wilder



We mean Business

The Cord is looking for writers for the business section of the newspaper. This section strives to show how business affects the students here at Laurier. We're looking for enthusiastic and motivated people who want to be a part of the team here at WLUSP.

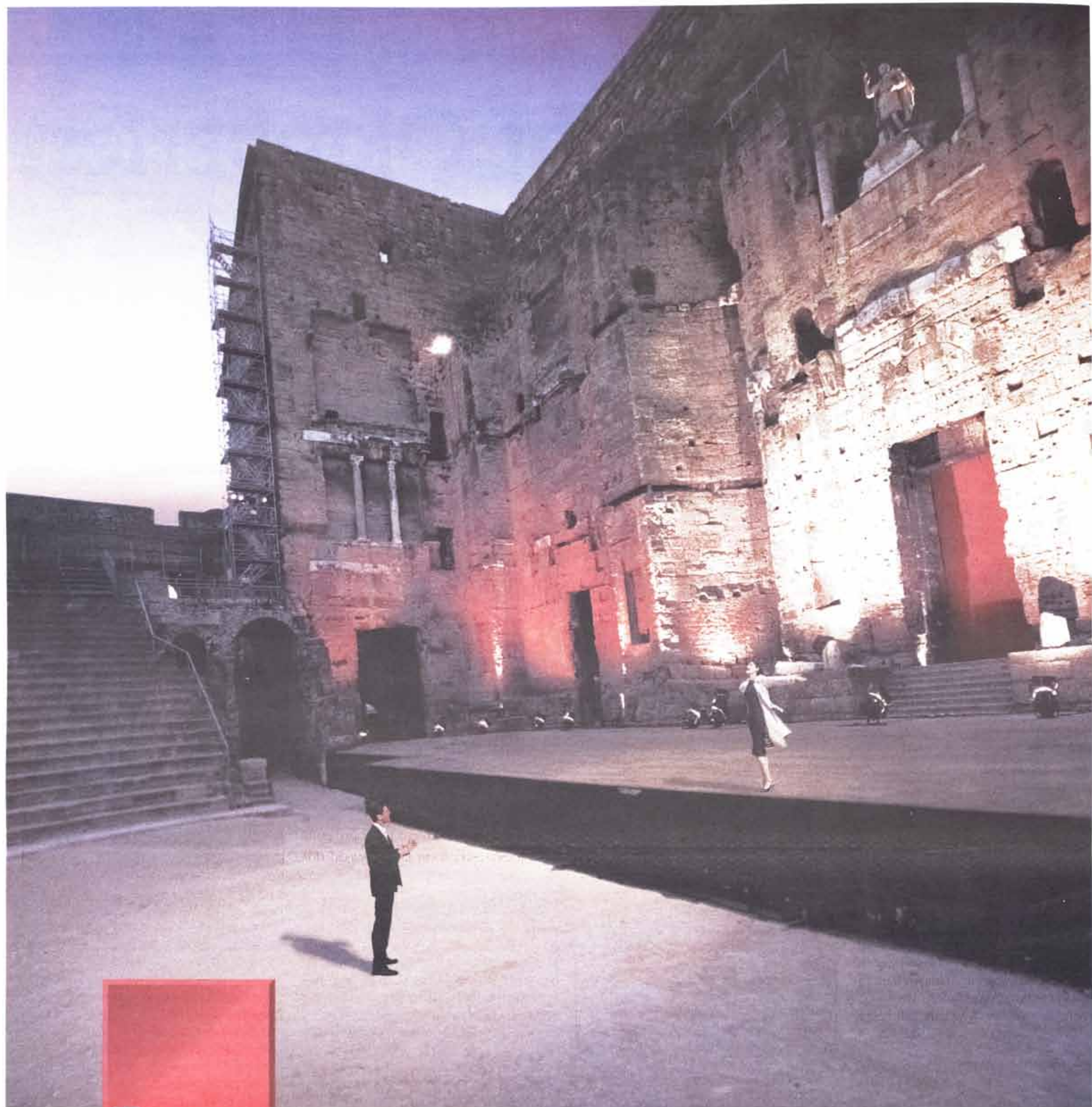
This is a great volunteer opportunity that will hone your people skills, and give you experience working on a team.

So if you're interested in pursuing the truth, showing your side of the story, and joining the team then pick up an application from the WLUSP office on the third floor of the FNCC or apply online at <http://www.wlusp.com>. If you have any further questions email me at wild9070@wlu.ca.

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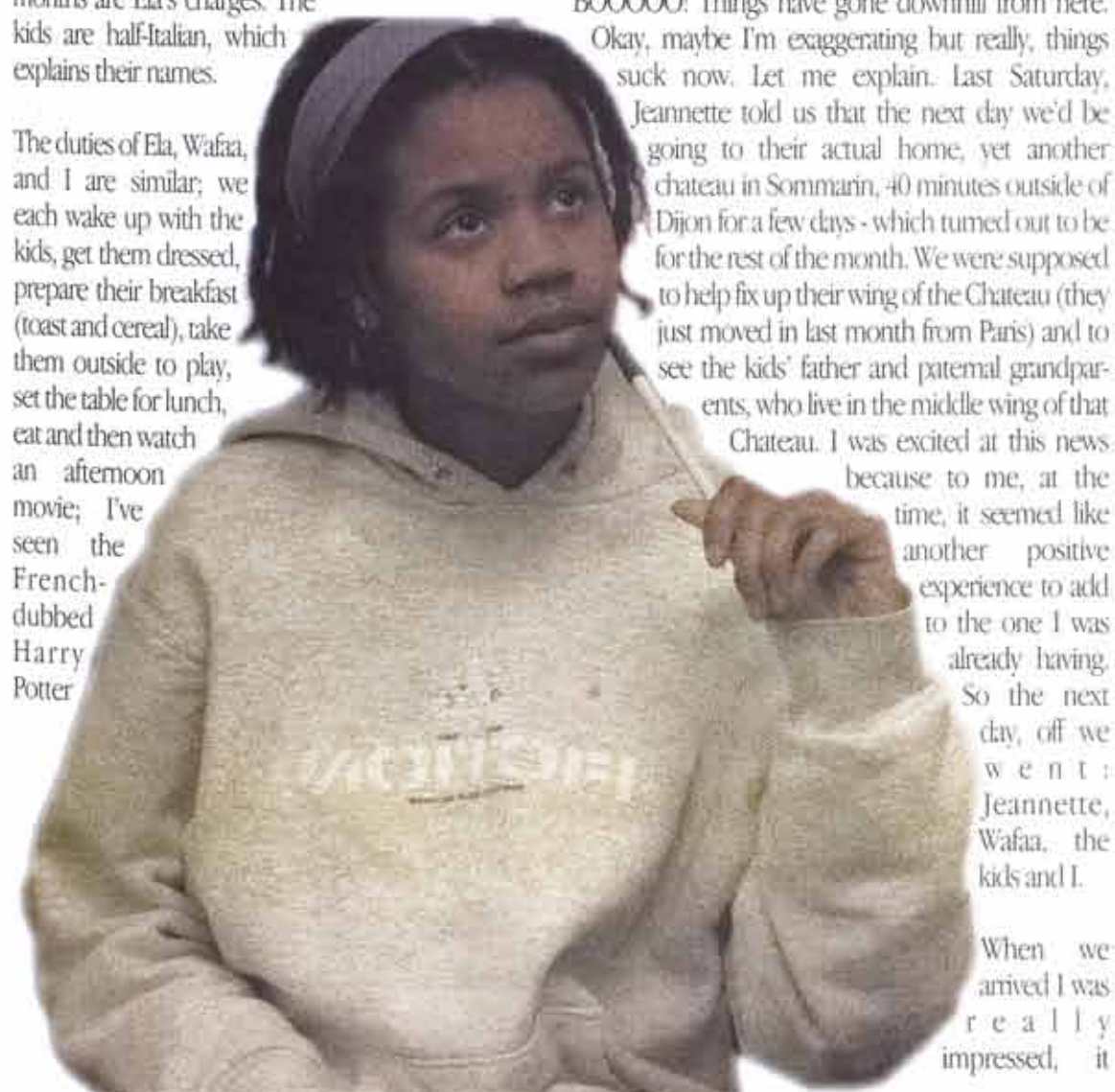
Week 1



WOW. All I can say is WOW. Madame de Damas (Jeannette) was not kidding when she said they lived in a big house. In fact, a "big house" was a gross understatement. Laurence's parents, the kids' grandparents, live in a 17th century chateau called Chateau de Linteville. This chateau is about four or five times bigger than my house in Brampton and my room is bigger than my entire apartment back in Waterloo. Not only that, but Laurence's family has a cook, a maid, and a girl that does laundry (her name is Stephanie, she's 18 and really cool... if only I could get past giving a stranger my dirty laundry). Oh and the kids... the kids are beautiful. Incredibly spoiled, but beautiful. Auralie is an eight-year-old, Marie is six, Thierry is three and Pierre is eight months old and adorable as a cabbage patch kid! Wafaa, a 15 year old French-Moroccan will be looking after the kids with me. At first I thought that 15 years old was way too young to look after three kids (she looks after the three older kids, while I'm in charge of the baby) but actually it works out perfectly. Wafaa has so much energy that she's always actively playing with the kids, while I'm content sitting and watching them with little Pierre in the stroller.

There is also Ela, she's the au pair for the children of Jeannette's sister Elise. Ela is Polish with long curly blonde hair and a sarcastic sense of humour... we have a lot in common and bonded instantly. Alegro, age four, Giovanna, age two, and Michelangelo, 11 months are Ela's charges. The kids are half-Italian, which explains their names.

The duties of Ela, Wafaa, and I are similar; we each wake up with the kids, get them dressed, prepare their breakfast (toast and cereal), take them outside to play, set the table for lunch, eat and then watch an afternoon movie; I've seen the French-dubbed Harry Potter



Melissa Allen

Monday July 30th, 2002

I'm on the train, a crappy Societe Nationale des Chemins de Fer one, on the way to Chaumont, where I will meet with my new host mom, Madame de Damas*. I'm about to start taking care of her kids and I'm as nervous as hell. What was I thinking, agreeing to travel all the way from London, UK, to go be an au pair to a strange family in the French countryside?! It's not like I have a choice, I'm broke and stranded in Europe. I really hope this works out.

* Names have been changed to protect identities

movie about 10 times now. We let them have their nap while we rest (those kids are tiring!) The kids play before dinner and after dinner and then we put them to bed. The parents don't see the kids at all, as they are too busy going out to lunch and dinner, all the while hobnobbing with the social elite, I guess.

But all in all, I could get really used to this life. I live in a beautiful chateau, a chef cooks us delicious French meals every day (I'm eating a ton), having a blast with Ela, Wafaa and the kids, watching MTV Europe constantly...AND they have high-speed internet! My only complaint: Pierre's teething and he won't go to bed without crying for an hour first. All in all, things are cool here. The only thing is that Ela warned me that Jeannette was not as nice of a person as she seemed, and that I should be careful. Hmm...

Week 2



BOOOOOO! Things have gone downhill from here. Okay, maybe I'm exaggerating but really, things suck now. Let me explain. Last Saturday, Jeannette told us that the next day we'd be going to their actual home, yet another chateau in Sommarin, 40 minutes outside of Dijon for a few days - which turned out to be for the rest of the month. We were supposed to help fix up their wing of the Chateau (they just moved in last month from Paris) and to see the kids' father and paternal grandparents, who live in the middle wing of that Chateau. I was excited at this news because to me, at the time, it seemed like another positive experience to add to the one I was already having. So the next day, off we went: Jeannette, Wafaa, the kids and I.

When we arrived I was really impressed, it

was slightly bigger than Chateau de Linteville but the Grandparents, the Comte and Comtesse de Damas put me off, slightly with their air of superiority. I mean, back in Linteville, the Marquis and Marquise de la Belleville (the kids' maternal grandparents) were so down-to-earth and hospitable towards me. I also finally met the father of the kids, Jeannette's husband, Henri, who seemed nice. The kids were starting to show their real personalities, how incredibly spoiled they are... especially Aurelie, who yesterday marched up to me with a white teddy bear in her hand:

"Melissa, look!" she said, shoving the stupid bear in my face.

"What?" I asked, slightly annoyed.

"Look at the bear! My mom said it's YOU who has to clean up our things every night and you didn't and now my bear is ruined!" she screamed.

I couldn't speak. I had never been talked to that way and ESPECIALLY not by an eight-year-old. How was I to deal with this for three more weeks??

There is no maid or cook here in Sommarin, so guess who does it all? That's right, Wafaa and I! Now, not only do we have to watch these bratty kids 12 hours a day, but also we have to do the cooking and chores on top of it. Wafaa agreed to do the cooking if I did most of the housework. The really frustrating thing is that Wafaa and I have no time to organize fun games and activities for the kids like we used to back in Linteville because we're so busy doing laundry, scrubbing the kitchen, the bathroom, the living room... so exhausting... argh, I think I'll go to bed now...

Week 3



Well this week certainly has been interesting. Henri is quite the character. I was watching TV, after putting the kids to bed, and he stayed up watching Buffy the Vampire Slayer with me until 12:30am! Finally, I asked him if he liked any of the shows we'd been watching. "Not at all" was his reply. Okay... I thought to myself. The next morning I told Wafaa about how creepy I felt drinking wine (yeah, he offered me a glass that night but who am I to turn down alcohol?) and watching TV with Henri. She thought it was a little strange too and she told me that he actually approached her and told we are not allowed to talk or hang out with any boys in the village and if we

come home later than 11pm he'll lock us out. This pissed me off; I can understand imposing rules on Wafaa who's obviously a lot younger but to give me such a lame-ass curfew and forbid me to see any guys? Whatever! God forbid we come home after hanging out with the young people in the village and are actually be happy! Also, I seem to be finding myself alone with Bertrand, lately... and not by my choice. He always follows me upstairs in the evening when I go to check on the kids, but he uses the excuse that he wants to check on the kids too.

This afternoon, Wafaa pulled me aside and told me to stay away from Henri because apparently, according to the maid, he had an affair with the au pair that was staying with the family before. Jeannette knew and didn't care because she was just happy being titled "Countess de Damas" and living in another chateau, so she wouldn't give up her charmed little lifestyle. I was sick to my stomach. "This family is F****D!" I yelled out loud in English. Wafaa started cracking up... she doesn't understand much English but she definitely understood that.

Week 4



Some more juicy family gossip! Apparently, Henri, Jeannette and the family weren't supposed to move into Chateau de Sommarin and eventually inherit it - it was supposed to pass on to Henri's older brother, Guillaume. The reason why Guillaume did get the 'honour' of moving into right wing of the chateau with his family was because he married a Spanish girl and in the words of the kids' grandmother, the matriarch of the family, "No Spaniard is living in my Chateau!" Dissssss! This little tidbit is courtesy of Alain, the Chateau's tour guide.

Jeannette had guests over for a couple of days: her friend, her friend's husband and their two young daughters, and they just left yesterday. Thank God. This week's been hell. Jeannette has been a slave driver to Wafaa and I, making us do all the cleaning and cooking AND looking after the kids 24 hours a day. I swear, this woman is obsessed with appearances and social status, but is too cheap (even though Pierre wears baby Dior?) to get a real housekeeper so instead she hires impressionable young girls to crack the whip on. Wafaa and I were so drained that we started to slow down, but I really wouldn't call it slacking off with the amount of work we were doing. Our exhaustion was starting to visibly show, but of course, Jeannette mistook our exhaustion for laziness...

Jeannette called me into the living room when the guests were having lunch, because we needed to 'talk'. It wasn't so much as talking as Jeannette bitching at me, accusing me of becoming lazy. Apparently, she thought I was too slow cleaning the kitchen and was angry that I hadn't started the laundry yet that day. I stood up for myself pretty well. I told her straight up that she was giving us too much work and that I would take my time and do it because I wasn't going to kill myself for nothing. She told me that Wafaa and I were starting to have a bad attitude and

Diary of an Au Pair

that she blamed it on us hanging out with the villagers because they resent the de Damas family and their wealth. I told her that I was old enough to have my own opinions and that I would hang out with whomever I wanted to. I could tell she was getting frustrated with me but I didn't care. I wasn't one of the uneducated Eastern European girls she was used to. "That woman is completely crazy" Wafia said. Duh. Sigh, life here sucks, but I truly take pleasure in knowing that her husband had an affair with Mikaela, who was the Czech au pair before us. Really, that's what's keeping me going.

Week 5



going back to Linteville on Thursday, August 29th for two days because it was Leonardo's birthday! I nearly cried with happiness when Jeannette told me we were going. We left so suddenly and I was so afraid I would never hear from Ela again! As soon as I got there I ran and hugged Ela (her being of a cool nature she was a little taken a back by my hug). I told her how right she was about Jeannette being an evil bitch and I even told her about Henri, his creepiness, and his affair with the Czech girl. She nearly died when I told her the last part and she didn't waste anytime telling Elise. At first I panicked - Ela told Elise everything I had mouthed about Jeannette! But then Anne came to me and said "You know, everyone knows that Jeannette is crazy. In fact, once when the adults all went to dine at a restaurant, Phillipe (the younger brother of Elise and Jeannette) told Jeannette that she seriously needed psychological help and she broke down crying, right there in front of everyone. Elise told me stories about Jeannette's intense jealousy of other people and her notoriety for pushing away au pairs (or pushing them into the arms of her husband

I thought to myself) and how it's having a nasty effect on her kids, which explains that little monster, Aurelie.

Let me tell you how much better I felt about everything and knowing that even Jeannette's own family sympathized with me, and that they thought she was pathetic. I'm just glad that I have some sort of strength inside of myself to be able to put up with that woman, her husband, spoiled kids, and snobby in-laws.

Last night, my last night in France, I took a walk by myself around the Sommarin one last time, just to clear my head and you'd never believe it... I saw a shooting star! That's when I really felt incredibly privileged for this experience. I got to live in not one but TWO chateaus, dine with near royalty, and eat like royalty (which resulted in 10 extra pounds).



So, I am somewhere between Paris and London on my way back to England and dying to see Alison, who I was traveling with, but got separated from two and a half months ago, when I was in Paris.

This last and final week has definitely been the hardest, mainly because I was counting down the days until I left for London, and then home. What made it easier was

This summer has been so crazy, how am I really going to be able to express that when people back at school ask me "So how was your summer?"

Soon, I'll be joining up with Alison again at Waterloo station and together we'll fly home to face our family, friends,

boyfriends, Midterms, bills and another year at Laurier.

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Have a special interest you'd like to write about? Interested in improving your writing ability while learning about the wonderful world of feature writing?

Then be a Feature writer for the Cord.

Contact Jeff Latosik at fallwell32@hotmail.com or come visit him in the WLUSP office on the third floor of the FNCC. He really is a nice guy.

LOCUS has spoken

Brandon Weigel

It was just before eight on a Thursday night. It was dark, and the campus was quiet as I prepared myself for my epic journey from Bricker to the 24-Hour Lounge. My quest: to infiltrate and observe the activities of the little-known off-campus student society: LOCUS.

It is rumored that this time, Derek Leis and Amanda Kirkwood hold a little something called Survivor LOCUS. The name suggests something dark and cult like perhaps related to a worldly ritual pitting students against one another in mortal combat.

When I got there, however, I found something completely different. More of a social event than a game, Survivor LOCUS was created to give LOCUS students an opportunity to get to know one another, although Derek and Amanda emphasize that the invitation is open to all LOCUS and non-LOCUS students.

During this time, students get together every week in the tropically decorated 24-Hour Lounge to watch Survivor. They then compete during the commercials, vying for a secret final reward that, according to Derek, is somewhere close to one million dollars, okay maybe not, but I was still intrigued.

Modeled after the television show, contestants are divided into two teams: Sawadijao (hello) noted by the yellow leis they wear and Sanook Maagk (very fun) wearing orange leis. The teams then compete for the coveted immunity idol (a sock in this case), and at the end of the show the losers have to vote not one but two people off of their team.

The first reward challenge consisted of a skipping contest. Fairly simple, the winners were the ones who stayed jumping the longest. Orange managed only three jumps and were a bit envious as Yellow enjoyed their New Orleans Pizza reward.

Spirits were high on both sides as we



Caitlin Howlett

Are you sure *this* isn't the hokey-pokey?

wandered back to watch the show whose contestants weren't doing quite as well as those who had just scarfed down the pizza. As we laughed and joked, the TV Survivors whined and complained about one another and the conditions they were facing. Before things got too depressing though, another commercial aired, and it was time for immunity.

The leaders put a lot of thought into this challenge, as it was insanely complicated given the time in which they had to complete it. To begin, the contestants had to choose from their ranks, a card shark, a movie buff, a speller, a game show Jedi, and someone with a good eye. Essentially, each person had to complete a different challenge or puzzle and, blindfolded, find

the next one. The first team to finish won immunity. It was an extremely close race, but Yellow managed to nab the Immunity Sock. This was met with shouts of "We were cheated!" and "Unfair!" Tensions were mounting, and I became afraid that things would get ugly. However, things soon quieted down, as the Orange teammates reflected on who they would oust from their ranks.

During the show, I had the chance to talk to some contestants about the upcoming decision. Specifically, I wanted to know about alliances. "Right now, I'm the only girl on Orange, and I'm feeling kind of vulnerable," confides Monika, one of Orange's more vocal members. "But that's okay, because we have a plan.

Unless they turn on me." She then added, "Orange is pretty tight."

Orange's strategy: to vote out the team members who didn't show up. Absenteeism is a bit of a problem in LOCUS Survivor apparently, what with the obscene amounts of reading and exams everyone has to deal with. But would the strategy work? I had to wait, until the final ritual: Tribal Council, the place where the official voting takes place.

After Survivor: Thailand was over, the Orange team took their seats at Tribal Council, each avoiding the so-called "Cursed Chair", a chair that had at some point seited nearly everyone previously voted off either team. Each team member placed his or her votes in a jar, with some

pausing to talk to an imaginary camera. Then the votes were counted.

The first person to go was an absentee named M.C. This had come as no surprise to those assembled. But we were all shocked at the second exile: Ryan, an Orange who was present and had apparently voted for himself—go figure.

By the end of the night though, even I, an outsider strange to the ways of this eccentric tribe of students, felt closeness to the LOCUS nation. Evident in the joking and playfulness of the participants, LOCUS Survivor has done its job of helping the students to bond in a way others don't get a chance to. And although I'm not a fan of the TV show, I just might stop by again next week, as should you.



Food for thought



Jennifer Asselin

So I was sitting in The Cord office one day and I thought to myself... where do we students tend to eat? The first thing that came to mind was of course the ever-popular Dining Hall. Almost every student at one time or another has chosen to dine here so why not review the sucker?

I approached friends and we made our way through the maze of food and drink. We established the fact that the new lay out of the Dining Hall is quite confusing which doesn't help when your hunger pangs are calling. This was one point against it.

I quickly made a tour around the place, looking at specials and other options. On this particular day, Tuesday, specials included: in the Home Zone, 1/4 rotisserie chicken - \$3.95 but with roasted potatoes and glazed carrots, the price rises to \$5.95. The Deli included specials such as dill tuna on focaccia - \$4.25 and green apple and cheddar on sourdough bread at \$4.25, along with the always-available turkey, ham, or roast beef.

Another bonus this year is the new salad bar option as well as the copious amount of soups, such as pasta fagioli, beef fajita and creamy garden broc-

coli. Salad bar prices are \$2.50 for a small plate or \$4.50 for a large plate. Soups are \$1.90 for a small and \$2.90 for a large.

Drinks are pretty normal in price with bottles of both pop and juice being \$1.50 and fountain drinks ranging from \$1.25 to \$1.50 depending on the size.

My friends and I decided to go for the Mediterranean special marinara cacciatore - \$4.75, the ever popular Home Zone special of potato and cheddar perogies - \$3.95, the dill tuna mentioned earlier and the always dependable and reasonably priced hamburger and fries found at the Grill.

For an intimate setting, we chose a small booth. Seating is arranged to better facilitate conversation as compared to last year's set up with the large round tables. Seating is available in booths, larger and smaller tables as well as bar like tables with stools. "The choice of seating is really good," said Nicole Wilker, one of my eating companions. Lighting is what's to be expected in a University cafeteria, harsh and sometimes bothersome.

Unfortunately, I found the perogies to be somewhat disappointing as they were undercooked and at only 5:00pm, I had the bottom of the barrel. Not really what you would expect at the optimal time for dinner. I would think the cooks would be more

adamant in keeping the perogies coming.

"The marinara cacciatore" as Amy Mallett said, "is very good. The mushrooms should have been sautéed longer though and there could be more spice in the sauce." However, we all know that cafeteria food is usually quite bland.

As for the dill tuna, it was well liked. "But" Nicole said, "the flavor of the bread takes away from the dill tuna. All in all though, it's good."

Lastly, the burger and fries were very good. Susan Davis replied, "I like how everything is cooked in front of me and I know that it's fresh." She continued, "This food tastes like it's just been on the grill. If you were to put this food in front of me, I wouldn't be able to tell you the difference of whether it was restaurant food or cafeteria food."

Dessert-wise, there is few choices but apparently the Rocky-Road squares are to die for. The prices range from .75 cents to \$1.00.

Even though I know the Dining Hall isn't a new idea and that it's not a likely place to take a date, I hope this review helps you try new things and not be as afraid of the mass confusion in the area. Oh, and next time, definitely try the ciabatta muffalatta recommended by our very own Assignment Editor Caitlin Howlett.



Jennifer Asselin

Wanna chew on my pickle?

Dining Hall
Wilfrid Laurier University
884-0710 ext. 3463

Cord's Rating: Out of a possible Five Smiling Jenn's

Hokey-pokeying at Bingeman's

Dan Sennet

You haven't lived until you've seen an overweight, middle-aged bald man in leather pants stand on his hands and down a pint using only his mouth, all to the tune of "Ein, Stien, Drine."

Students from all walks of life mixed with Kitchener's locals last Thursday night at Marshall Hall, part of the Bingemans complex, to help celebrate Oktoberfest. This Kitchener yearly tradition honors good, old-fashioned fun and of course, beer-drinking. Kitchener celebrated the 34th annual weeklong event with many activities including parades, daily events and of course, parties.

Most of the night's events sponsored by the city or private clubs had a 19+ policy, no exceptions. However, some of the events sponsored by WLU and U of W had wristband policies for those who were underage. This included Oktoberfest, which used the old X on both hands trick combined with the wristband to ensure no one under 19 drank. There was a definite emphasis on legal fun.

Traditional events that took place such as the "Tapping of the Keg" which kicked things off at 11:30 in the morning Friday, October 11 and the Miss Oktoberfest pageant that delighted the masses as usual. The Bavarian Square was set up on King St. in Kitchener all day, every day for families. Finally, there were the many evening events including places such as Bingemans and the Aud.

I had my second visit to Marshall Hall in as many years, and it continues to be my favourite night of the year. It's a chance to let loose, have a couple pints and catch up with old buddies under a festive roof. Buses came from Western, McMaster, U of T and Guelph to partake in the fun, and a good time was had by all.

The night began with a DJ playing familiar tunes for awhile. People slowly entered the Festhallen (fest hall) but quickly got inebriated.

The local no-name polka band came on for awhile and entertained the audience with the traditional sounds of their music.

Around 9:00pm, the games began. A huge tub was brought out onto the stage filled not with mud or water, but sauerkraut. Two contestants, chosen randomly from the crowd had to battle it out to a rather filthy ending!

And then it happened. The moment I had been waiting for all night. The drummer, just before the set break, walked to the front of the stage and got the guitarist to hold his feet in the air while he stood on his hands. With a smile from ear to ear, he grabbed the pint with his mouth and drank the beer in its entirety without flinching and without the use of his hands. It was breathtaking!

This stunt is a ritual performed by the drummer every year.

The interlude music was as untraditional as listening to the German band hammer out "No Woman, No Cry." The DJ had the entire crowd doing the "YMCA" and prancing about to Shania Twain.

The band returned and got the crowd "feeling the groove." What groove you ask? The "hokey pokey" groove. That's

Imagine a crowd of 800+ drunken people between the ages of 19 and 60 doing the hokey-pokey in unison. And you thought the Macarena was fun.

right, "You put your right hand in, your right hand out, right hand in and you shake it all about." Imagine a crowd of 800+ drunken people between the ages of 19 and 60 doing the hokey pokey in unison. And you thought the Macarena was fun.

The night ended at 1:00am. The people slowly exited the building and returned to their respective schools or homes, anticipating the good times to come next year.

Bingemans and the events that took place in its Marshall Hall, is just one of many Festhallen that ran during Oktoberfest this year. If you missed it this year because of an exam or you just didn't know, make the extra effort to go next year, it is definitely worth your while to take part in an event that encompasses the entire K-W area.

Student Life Writer Meetings: Every Monday at 5:30 pm in the Student Publications Office (Located on the 3rd floor of the FNCC)

If you don't show up, you may receive the dreaded zero smiling Jenns!

Keep it simple, stupid

To easily squeeze juice from a lemon or other citrus fruit, place in microwave for a few seconds (if it's cold, approximately 40 seconds). This will produce more juice.

To remove stuck on food from pans simply place hot water in pan to cover the stuck on food. Return the pan to the burner and get it going to a low boil. With a wooden spoon, stir the foodstuff until it comes loose and floats in pan.

Try refreshing chips or crackers by putting them on a plate and microwaving them for 30 to 40 seconds. Let stand one minute to crisp.

Butter the rim of pots or pans in which you cook rice or macaroni so it won't boil over.

If you burn a pot of rice, place a slice of white or "light" bread on the top of the rice. Let it sit for a few minutes (5-10). The burnt taste will be gone but be sure not to scrape the bottom of the pan.

Use leftover slivers of soap to cut expenses. Cut a small pocket in a sponge and place the small slivers of leftover soap into it for a sudsy washing sponge.

Spray your Tupperware with nonstick cooking spray before pouring in tomato-based sauces. No more stains.

Use Lifesavers candy to hold candles in place on your next birthday cake.

Stuff a miniature marshmallow in the bottom of an ice cream cone to prevent dripping with the benefits of a tasty surprise.

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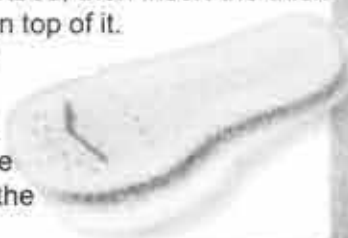
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Profile: Lowest of the Low

Gavin sits down and has a pint with members of Lowest of the Low

Gavin Graham

In 1991 at the height of the independent rock explosion in Toronto, The Lowest of the Low released what would become one of the most influential albums in Canadian music. Shakespeare My Butt's seventeen songs document the bands love for their city. Thousands and thousands of copies were sold to youth who were moving through their lives, searching for their place in the world in much the same way as the album's protagonists.

"They tell you to write what you know," says singer Ron Hawkins, "it's just not as unusual to write about New York as it is to write about Toronto so it kinda stood out."

After several tours and a follow up album (1994's Hallucigenia) The Lowest of the Low decided to call it quits in 1994. When speaking of the now infamous split,

Ron simply says that "the good thing about us is that we do things on our own terms and we do them when they feel right; things just didn't feel right then." Steve Stanley adds "I don't view anything as cut short; the band just ran its natural course. We're getting a great second chance and we're coming back as different people."

The second chance that Steve alluded to is their reunion tour. A show at the Molson Amphitheatre, a live album (2001's Nothing Short of a Bullet) and dozens of US and Canadian club dates has The Low back at the top of their game. "(But) I'd be lying if I didn't say that we're looking very forward to recording some new material," laughs Ron.

The Lowest of the Low have long been known for their political activism, which is often reflected in their music but in more subtle tones. "It's the politics of the everyday; the politics of our (daily) poetry" Ron says, "There's a place for people to be dogmatic, but it's just not us. We use our positions in the band to do political things in our private lives and some of that comes into the songs. We're not (the Canadian band) Propagandhi, but there's a place for that."

"We've been doing quite a lot with OCAP (Ontario Coalition Against Poverty) and I was in the Pope Squat," which Ron explains "is a house on King Street in

"We're not into the idea of being in a ghetto of 'we're punker than you, so we're never on a major label.'"

-Lowest of the Low

Toronto that has no owner according to the government... so OCAP is squatting in it and renovating it and giving people a place to stay. The idea was to rally a lot of people together to make it harder for the police to evict everybody, which seems to have worked—that and nobody stepped up with a lease, so if there's no owner then you can't be charged with trespassing."

"We also did a benefit for a place in Toronto called Red Door Shelter, which is a place for battered women and children who are running from abusive situations. They've branched out into education and are doing an auction in the fall, where they're giving some of our stuff away," Steve continued.

When asked about the relation between their political leanings and the music industry, Ron is quick to expand on these thoughts: "I don't see it as any different from where the global capitalist situation is going, which is the anti-global-



File Photo

Lowest of the Low, strutting their stuff.

ization concern that there's no representation or accountability for corporations. They're these closed clubs in a hierarchy around the world—these closed groups of people who make decisions regarding foreign policy... and when you break it down to the music industry, there are less record companies now than when we existed 10 years ago; fewer people are setting the rules and lowering the bar. There's less opportunity to be seen." "To have mass appeal, the reality is... radio, but it's so dead and you have to pay to play," Steve says, shaking his head.

But why is it difficult for a band such as The Lowest of the Low to gain mainstream exposure? They've sold thousands of albums and are distributed by Universal, yet the major label contract has eluded them. Could it be their overt political views or their activism? "We've had no real contact with major labels and we're still independent... but I don't think that's because of our lyrics or any of the benefits we do," was drummer Dave Alexander's response.

Ron continues with a personal anecdote: "I did an interview with Rage Against the Machine for Chart Magazine and one thing that shocked me was that they said 'We've never had any problems with our record label' and I was like 'so sending money to the Zapatistas isn't a problem?' As long as they're selling records, then capitalism can co-opt with them."

"If we thought there was a major label... that would throw a lot of money at us to do exactly what we wanted to do and not dick with us... we would probably think about it. We're not into the idea of being in a ghetto of 'we're punker than you so we're never on a major label'."

The Lowest of the Low are continuing to demo a number of new songs and are returning to the studio this winter. Their first studio album in over 8 years can be expected sometime in early 2003. You can hear this interview in its entirety on Tuesday, October 29th at 12:30 on Radio Laurier (streaming live at www.radiolaurier.com).



File Photo

Lowest of the Low, on stage.

X-rated

Ashley Lewis



File Photo

Not Ashley, this is Tony Lee!

Would you ever call your best friend and tell her you had a double headed purple vibrator? The answer to that, I hope, is no but for one lucky girl at the Hypnotist show on Friday, she did just that. 12 or so brave volunteers from the audience got up on stage and did whatever they were told to do, through the powers of hypnosis. Many volunteers thought that it wasn't going to work but once they looked out into the naked audience, they must have known just how wrong they were.

For all you skeptics, this is the real thing. Want proof? Some of the things these poor people did are just too crazy to have been faked. Remember, this show was X-rated...Two men were asked to lick

whipped cream off of the newest member of the A-Team's chest! Others were asked to give their best orgasms into the microphone. And if that's not enough, some were asked to pretend their chair was their partner, and to, umm...

Inside, Turret nightclub was transformed into a dimly lit comedy club. People gathered and laughed hysterically as Tony Lee, the hypnotist, worked his magic and turned Laurier students into uninhibited social daredevils. But the next day, back to normal, some of the volunteers were too embarrassed to even say what they had done!

I asked some of the viewers after the show what they thought: "It was one of the funniest f#@%\$g things I've ever seen!" said Mike Dunn, 1st year Laurier student. "I couldn't believe what they were doing!" exclaimed Matt Chaplin, 1st year Laurier student.

Clearly the show was a hit, next time Tony Lee is in town be sure to go and check out his show, and remember, it's X-rated so if you plan on being a volunteer, wear your best underwear; you never know if the audience is going to end up seeing it.

Editor's note:

Please welcome our newest entertainment writer, Ashley Lewis! We look forward to reading more of your work.

One big review

Dan Clark

Wandering but not lost. Five friends embark on a psychedelic American road trip. Offering questions as answers and fact as fiction, these seekers capture and reflect on this day and age. Where do we come from, where are we heading and who will we meet in between? Five ounces, four cameras, three guys, two girls, One Big Trip.

Willfrid Laurier University, *One Big Trip*. Both can be seen as a journey of self-discovery and consciousness. One big difference, *One Big Trip* involves a joyride of mindful hip-hop and an RV load of drugs, and Willfrid Laurier University is Willfrid Laurier University.

A penny for your thoughts, *One Big Trip* shows that there are two sides to every coin. Disc side one is a Deconstruction Company Film entitled *One Big Trip*, while Disc side two acts as a quasi-soundtrack.

The audio side of the CD consists of 13 tracks from the Hieroglyphics Camp and associates. Standout tracks include "Soweto" where Hieroglyphics and Goapele bless a hypnotic A+ beat. The DVD exploring the human journey, psychological parallels and personality typologies didn't get you open? How about some "I diunno dogg/ maybe its just me/ but I feel I'm clutching to hold nothing/ I mean bluffing/ I got the poker face/ I don't really know my place/ and I never chose this way" from Del? How's that third eye? There's a little Canadian content on the trip too, with Swollen Members contributing the track "The High



File Photo

Cover art for the *One Big Trip* CD/DVD.

Road". Madchild's verse is an expression and analysis of the film (you trying to take my job, Mad?).

The DVD is a demonstration of a title accurately reflecting a film. Although not explicitly stated on the packaging, it is suggested that viewers partake in an herbal and / or other session before viewing the DVD portion of *One Big Trip*. Raw footage, quick cuts and soul shaking realism combine as five young adults travel across America in an RV. Their journey finds them in a vast array of situations, from watching a drug-dealer cry, to speaking with professional mimes and sharing a night in a hotel room with a newlywed couple. Interesting stuff, to say the least.

If you are an open-minded thinker who is looking to travel without moving, then it is suggested that you take *One Big Trip* out for a test drive.

ear candy

Return of the Dragon

Zenmaster Chi



out of five smiling Jerrys

My love for the drum & bass genre has grown with evolution of Zenmaster Chi as a technically gifted DJ. A current Wilfrid Laurier Masters student, a former Radio Laurier DJ, and current coordinator of soon-to-be North America's first pirate radio station showcasing local jungle, techno and hip hop talent, this young man has years of experience in the local and underground music industry.

The introductory track on *Return of the Dragon* is a sample from an old Kung-Fu movie, keeping in line with the theme of the CD. The second track "Razor Lazor" by Simon 'Bassline' Smith is a very new skool track you'd find on any of the more recent jungle/drum & bass compilations, or at a small, sweaty club in downtown Toronto. There's the basic jungle beat layered with the rough in-your-face sound that most jaded old-skoolers would describe as "farting noises." "Razor Lazor" was seamlessly mixed into the next track "Dread Comes 2 Conquer" (2002 remix) by Twisted Anger. This track has quite a modern sound but is less edgy than the one before it and consists of the ever-present drum/bass/snare/high-hat combo. These opening tracks give the listener a hint as to what the CD is all about: a bit of old, a bit of new, a bit of classic, a bit of modern.

Now, track 5 instantly reminded me of a dark and dirty Jumping Jack Frost set at a mid-1990s Helter Skelter party and looking at the track listing, it all makes sense — this track, entitled "Jah Bless," was produced by none other than the Usual Suspects. Other wicked "choons" on this mix CD include the John B remix of the hip hop track "Oh no" by Mos Def and Pharoshe Monch featuring Nate Dogg, "Funktion" by Metalheadz crew members Ed Rush and Opitcal and "Drumz 200" by Doc Scott.

Throughout the entire CD, Zenmaster Chi's mixing is so flawless, I wonder if there's any possible way he could have cheated, but alas, I could think of no means to carry out this unscrupulous act. *Return of the Dragon* is all Zenmaster Chi, showing off his incredible talent for turntablism and track selection.

Melissa Allen

Higher Ground

The Blind Boys of Alabama



out of five smiling Jerrys



The Boys have been kicking around in one shape or form since the early '40s, back when principal vocalist Clarence Fountain was cutting his teeth on the rousing gospel that shook the walls of his parents' Methodist church.

These days, Fountain doesn't quite roar with the gusto that marked those old-time religious gatherings. Rather, he and his fellow Blind Boys find their inspiration in a mix of tradition and the music of such

unlikely sources as Stevie Wonder, George Clinton, Curtis Mayfield and Jimmy Cliff.

So like the previous *Spirit Of The Century* album, *Higher Ground* is a compelling meeting place of the old and the new, with the songs of the aforementioned artists mixing beautifully with time-tested standards. Some impeccable instrumental support from the likes of Ben Harper adds a nice finishing touch to some of the purest gospel-blues you'll hear this year.

Ross Macdonald

Welcome to planet Irs

Irs



out of five smiling Jerrys



Welcome to Planet Irs is the collective effort of Kory Deez, Black Cat and T.R.I.C.K.S., all natives of Scarborough. Irs (which stands for Instinctive Reaction to Struggle) have been pioneers in T-dot's infant hip hop scene for many years.

Their highly anticipated full-length album, *Welcome to Planet Irs*, is a celebration of all things that represent youth, culture and fun in Toronto. The album starts off with the up-beat track "Lift Off," featuring Nish Rawks, Dan-e-o, and Wio-K, and while the initial record-scratching grabs your attention, it's the

strong MCing skills that keep it.

The whole CD is chock-full of Canadian hip hop goodness. In fact, the track "Girls (A man's best weakness)," is a fun song that many young guys (and girls) can relate to as they go on about how they love (and lust after) the fairer sex, etc.

Other stand-out tracks on this album include "Whatchuwantnow," with clever rhymes backed by infectious beats, which all define Irs' personal and definitely unique T-dot style. The 8th track, "Reprise," is a melodic, and mellow musical interlude. My only disappointment was with "T-dot Pride," the MCs sounded like they were yelling at the top of their lungs off of the CN Tower, rather than rhyming.

All in all, a good CD, that will please the most jaded underground hip hop fan.

Melissa Allen

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Laurier field lacrosse on fire

Caitlin Howlett

Lack of fan support continues to plague women's field lacrosse, but this past weekend is proof positive that the deficiency of a fan base has no bearing on the way that the Hawks have been playing. A close victory and a tie would seal their second home tour-

LAURIER 12, MCGILL 9

namment of the season and leave Laurier tied for second overall in the OUA (Ontario University Athletics) with Western. Both teams are trailing behind the University of Toronto Blues.

Cheryl Hooper, second year homme, put the lady Hawks on the scoreboard first, but McGill would answer back within minutes. A painful rally would ensue for the greater part of the half; however, the Hawks commanded a 6-4 lead going into the second part of the game. The McGill Marlet's effortlessly potted two goals past goalie Tamara Watt in the first two minutes of the game, but the Hawks would power their way back.

Hooper made a superb pass from behind the net to Ainslee Howard, allowing for Howard to make a terrific one time shot and smoke it past the McGill goalkeeper. Howard, a second year Kinesiology major, continues to have a strong presence on the field.

"She was working very hard today; she busted it

out," noted Hawks Captain Kelly McFadyen on Howard's strength and persistence.

As the game progressed into the latter half, tensions mounted and stick check became more vicious. Hooper received a yellow card for a check to the head, which set the Hawks back temporarily as they struggled to hold on for the 12-9 victory. Megan Yaraskavich and Caitlin Orth added one goal each, while Howard contributed one more for the deuce and Katerina Galanakis made the triple.

"I had expected us to come out a little bit harder from the get go," said Co-Captain Vanessa Cowlen, who scored four goals in the game. "Once you come out flat, it is hard to get going." The Hawks are notorious, as noted by many of their players, for playing down to the level of the team they are up against. Luckily, the Hawks managed to squeeze out the victory.

"We were not completing our plays today," McFadyen added, when asked what contributed to the tight score. "Our basics are lacking: passing, catching and running. We underestimated McGill."

LAURIER 11, BROCK 11

Much like the previous game, the game against Brock would be a high scoring one, and emotions would run rampant, as both teams struggled to hold on to any sort of lead.

Brock's centre, Heather Stephens, overpowered



Matt Benassi

Golden Hawks Katerina Galanakis (#3) and Kathleen McCrea (#11) try to concentrate on beating Brock to the ball, as the cold fall wind blows up their purple and gold kilts.

Orth on the first two draws, scoring two goals in less than two minutes. Galanakis put the Hawks on the board after three minutes and then again after six minutes. Laurier would fatten the lead to three goals by the half, with a score of 8-5.

Cowlen continued her scoring frenzy with five goals over the course of the game, while Hooper added two. Orth and Yaraskavich both contributed singles.

Stephens and her team would rally back and forth with the Hawks, fighting for the lead. A late goal by Badger Cassie Sams tied the game at eleven, and last minute efforts to score the winning goal were unsuccessfully met by both teams.

"We were much calmer [against Brock] and ready to play our game," said Head Coach Lynn Orth

when asked how her team fared in the two games. She felt that the girls were slightly intimidated by McGill's physical play and that McGill's goalie had a relatively good game. "We will continue to work on our transition game, as well as double teams in the fan," Coach Orth said in response to preparation for the OUA Championships, which are fast approaching.

The Hawks appear to be in good position both on the field and in the standings to come out on top once again. The Hawks had a fourth place finish last season in the playoffs, and won the OUA title in 2000. The Golden Hawks head to London this Saturday to face Western and York in their final games of the regular season.

Hawks twice as nice on ice

Colin Duffett

Laurier men's hockey fans are loving the taste of CC right now. No, not Canadian Club, but the combination of Richard Colwill and Kevin Corso. These two Laurier forwards led the charge this weekend as the men's hockey team came out on top in their weekend contests against Queen's University and RMC (Royal Military College).

Saturday night's game against Queen's saw a Laurier offensive explosion. The Hawks would get on the board early, as Colwill would tip in a pass from

LAURIER 5, QUEEN'S 4

Corso three and a half minutes into the contest. Colwill, the 6'1", 205-pound right-winger from Arthur, ON, would score again later on in the period, giving the

Golden Hawks a 2-1 lead going into the second period.

Laurier would continue to put pressure on the skilled Golden Gaels in the second and third periods, as goaltender Justin Day kept Queen's offense at bay for the majority of the game.

Left-winger Corso would provide Laurier's final three goals, completing the natural hat trick in the process. With five minutes remaining in the game, Laurier was up 5-2 and all for the Hawks was looking jim-dandy. Cue the Queen's Golden Gaels comeback.

Led by the talented Queen's players Ryan Poll and Andrew Haussler, the Gaels would manage to squeak back to a one-goal difference, scoring goals with four minutes and forty-four seconds left, and then again with thirty-seven seconds remaining.

The second period of Laurier's Sunday afternoon game would have an

eerie resemblance to the previous night's final minutes. Already up 2-0 after the first period, as a result of Colwill and Chris Hodgins goals, RMC would battle back to

LAURIER 4, RMC 2

tie the game at 2-2, after what would turn out to be a rather disorganized period for the Golden Hawks. Poor passing and tentative plays let an inferior RMC team back into the contest.

Laurier would come back in the third period when defenseman John Jaram would score his first university hockey goal on the power play. Laurier capped off the victory, when centre Bryan Kazarian intercepted a stray RMC pass and was able to deposit the puck into the empty net, with thirty-six seconds left.

The victory would cap off a successful opening weekend for both the Laurier Golden Hawks and Head Coach Mark French, who was making his debut as coach of the Laurier hockey squad. When asked for his thoughts after the Queen's contest, French replied "You can never say anything negative about a win. A win is a win."

The combination of Corso, Kazarian and Colwill combined for a total of fifteen points in the two games over the weekend. Colwill and Corso both contributed three goals and three assists, while Kazarian added a goal and two assists to the score sheets.

The Golden Hawks find themselves on the road this week, as they play Toronto and Ryerson on October 25 and 26, respectively. Laurier will be forced to play solid games against these two teams and will surely be faced with some strong challenges leading up to the Hawks' next home game, against the Western Mustangs on October 30.



Wilfrid Laurier Athletics

Laurier winger Kevin Corso (#15) had a natural hat trick against Queen's and a total of six points over the weekend.

Sports nuts unite

Brad Archbell



CFL

Here at Laurier, we know a little something about striking employees. While I understand that labour disputes are sometimes unavoidable, it is the opinion of this observer that they are also extremely annoying. There is very little I can do about the WLUSA strike here at Laurier. As a sports fan, is there anything I can do about professional sports work stoppages?

Well, of course there is. You can choose to stop watching games and stop following the league. To a real sports fan, of course, that's not a particularly realistic answer. Baseball could go on strike every year, and some of us die-

hards would keep coming back for more; just because it's sports and it's on TV. What we sports nuts can do, however, is seek out our sports elsewhere. Don't stop watching pro sports (because most of us couldn't if we tried), but when the

Gone are the days when pro sports leagues thrived on their sheer passion for the game.

inane politics become more than you can handle, so find some real sports to watch.

Wilfrid Laurier University has over twenty varsity sports teams. Some of them might interest you, some of them you might find wholly uninteresting, but they're worth checking out, if only because the players are unpaid and are playing because they want to. This is not a plug for Laurier sports; I could care less whether you support Laurier's athletic teams or heckle loudly for them to fall and break their necks. My point is simply that the drive and desire of athletes playing solely for love of the game is a refreshing break from the absurd money-driven world of pro sports.

Sports, for many of us, are irresistible. We love the spectacle of competition, we love rooting for our favourite teams, we love second-guessing the coaches and managers. Many of us spend our Saturday nights watching hockey and our Sundays watching football, while finding space in a busy schedule to catch some basketball, baseball, lacrosse, curling, golf, or whatever sport happens to be on. We are sports fans.

And some of us are sick of professional sports. Gone are the days when pro sports leagues thrived on their sheer passion for the game. Modern professional sports are about money, politics and egomanias.

Case in point: the sham that used to be Major League Baseball. An eleventh-hour agreement prevented a strike this year, but conclusively resolved exactly zero of baseball's main labour and financial problems. Player salaries are still uncapped, and the revenue discrepancy between the large- and small-market teams is still too enormous to be considered anywhere near competitive. Baseball is not alone, however; many hockey observers believe a labour stoppage in the National Hockey League is inevitable in 2004, when the current contract expires. Even the Canadian Football League has produced rumblings of a players' strike - the

Golden Hawk Sports Quote of the Week

Question:

Why do you think there is minimal fan support at women's field lacrosse home games?

Response:

"Well, it's minus five out and my nipples are falling off."

~ Cindy Eadie, women's hockey and 2001-2002 CIS Rookie of the year.

Play ball

Kristen Lipscombe

New to the Laurier athletics scene this year is women's fastpitch softball, a club team that is striking out the competition in its inaugural season.

Earlier this month, Laurier hosted a three-team tournament at Hillside Park. Western, Guelph and Ottawa all made the trek to Waterloo for the competition.

The Hawks have emerged victorious throughout this first season. In Laurier's own tournament, the Golden Hawks defeated the Western Mustangs with a score of 7 - 0 and took out the Guelph Gryphons 9 - 4, and all in the first day. Ottawa's solid team, however, was able to edge Laurier 3 - 2.

As the tournament progressed, Laurier successfully sought out their revenge against Ottawa, scoring six runs for a final score of 6 - 0. Laurier defeated Guelph for the second time in the tourney, with a score of 6 - 4.

The Laurier tournament marked the end of regular season play. In order to prepare for the Championship series, the Hawks sought out to defeat Guelph and Waterloo, in various exhibition matches.

Head Coach Hans Roach is satisfied with Laurier's performance this season. "I believe we played up to our abilities. This was such a short season and we didn't have much time to coach. That's why we selected players that had experience at a high level," commented Roach.

Roach noted Jessa Janelle and Cathy Ingalls as being pivotal players for Laurier. Janelle "...pitched all five games (thirty-five innings) in the tournament, with a record of 4 - 1. Janelle was also one of the top hitters," said Roach.

"We were fortunate to have Cathy Ingalls play for us this weekend. She is one of the top talents in Canada," he added.

The Hawks are now busy in post-season action, and are already preparing for the years to come. "Next year the league will have at least two more teams... They include Queen's and Waterloo. That brings the total up to ten schools... There is tremendous interest, and unlike some varsity sports, we are thriving," Roach explained when discussing the future of Ontario university softball.

Basketball Hawks have high hoops

Bernard Dawson

It might only be preseason, but the Wilfrid Laurier Golden Hawks women's basketball team is off to a blazing start. In two exciting games this past weekend, the youthful Hawks picked up wins against two quality teams to begin their year.

On Friday, the Hawks faced the Concordia Stingers in their first test of the season. After falling behind early, Laurier rallied to take a 36 - 32 lead at the half. The second half was a see-saw affair, with neither team able to control the play.

The Hawks held a small lead going into the final minute of the game. However, a questionable call by the referee put the Stingers on the line with a chance to tie the game. Concordia sunk the needed basket and sent the game to overtime, tied at 63 - 63.

Laurier dominated the five minute extra frame, scoring ten points to secure a 73 - 68 victory. First year players,

Meaghan McGrath and Kerri Jilesen, paced the Hawks with fifteen and fourteen points, respectfully.

Laurier was back in action on Saturday, this time up against the St. Francis Xavier X-Women. The Hawks came out of the gate on fire, taking an early lead behind the strong play of Robin Roszell. At half-time, the Hawks lead 43 - 25. The second half was a different story. St. FX bounced back and soon had the Hawks on their heels. Only a late Laurier rally prevented a repeat performance of overtime. The Hawks escaped with a 67 - 54 win, showing grit and character in the late second half.

Laurier Head Coach Stu Julius summed it up best when he stated, "We faltered but didn't break, which is important."

Hawks forward Dee Channer lead the team in scoring, with fifteen points.

This year's Golden Hawks women's basketball team is a youthful squad. The six first year players on the roster will be

expected to come up big this season, as Laurier looks to better last year's record of nine wins and eleven losses. Among the veterans returning to the team this year is last season's OUA Rookie of the Year, Sarah Zagorski. Zagorski is returning from an ACL injury, which ended her season early.

All in all, this was a very good weekend for the young Golden Hawks. "This is a good start to the year with two wins against two good teams," said Julius. "The young kids played well for us."

After a solid summer of recruiting, the Hawks are ready for the tough challenge of the OUA season ahead. Last season, the team earned a playoff berth. This year the youthful Hawks look to challenge for the OUA West division. The first year players must be able to step up and handle the pressure, if the Golden Hawks want to improve on last season's success.

The Hawks begin their season at home on November 2, against the Guelph Gryphons.

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PERSONALS

Dear Michelle and ladies of UP4,

I enjoyed the dance at Wil's last wednesday. Let me know when I can see you again! "If I guess your high school, will you dance with me?"

Matty B

Nobody says NO to FUN!

Thanx for all the Fun guys & gals of R.L. Wicky

Krista Blue,

Happy 20th Birthday...Have a blast!

Anon

The FAM, Forever hardcore!

Cainer, Bear & Bestie

Tacos? With extra lettuce? Don't forget the mayo baby!

Neil and Bob

Wilbur,

You really should get your splooge problem looked at. Want me to?

Kristen H.

Erin Banks...

You got a job! Way to go kid. Phil's won't be the same without you. What am I saying? Screw work...

Your partner in crime

Dearest Science Building,

Why don't you have any seats for me to sit in? Why are they filled with all the people who are smarter than me?

Mad stoopid guy

Fake boyfriend,

We are so over. Don't call me and I don't want to hear about your rash.

Your Fake GF

Shouts to the Committee

You know who you are...

Amanda,

Hello Lover...I love when we watch our show together. Emmett is my fav and Brian is so hot! Lets make some minute rice and cuddle on the couch.

Critt

Andrew,

Foot Patrol rawks! Thanks for driving me home that one time. Someday I'll be a code 2-4! I'll make sure I have that crazy DayGlo band next time!

FootVan Regular

Brian Sloat,

You are the sexiest linebacker at Laurier. Meet me on the 5th floor Library stacks Friday at 1pm. You know the place, let's get it on.

Love Smoopie

THREE EAST,

Ehhy Fun Boys, I want all of you so badly, my number is 883-2671, please call me you all make me so hot! I stole your nintendo, now you have to play with me! COME TO ME NOW!

xoxoxox Love BETTY

Bryn,

That is what you get for leaving early...

xoxoxox Love CHRISTINE

Kristy,

The girls of 11 James B want to wish Kristy Wiltshire a very fun-filled, super-calfradgalistic 22nd birthday. We better see you shakin' your groove thang in the cage this weekend. Many shots at the Rev are callin' your name!

Love your girls

Lil' B,

Sorry I missed your birthday. I hope you still love me.

Boss

Amy M,

Just because I don't know how to spell your name and I don't know your phone number doesn't mean I don't love you my dear!

Jenn

Grand Central,

...the only house at Laurier where you have to have an interview!

Jiggly Toinks, on Tour

Blue Eyes,

Come back soon. I miss you already. These are going to be the longest two weeks. Are you missing me too?

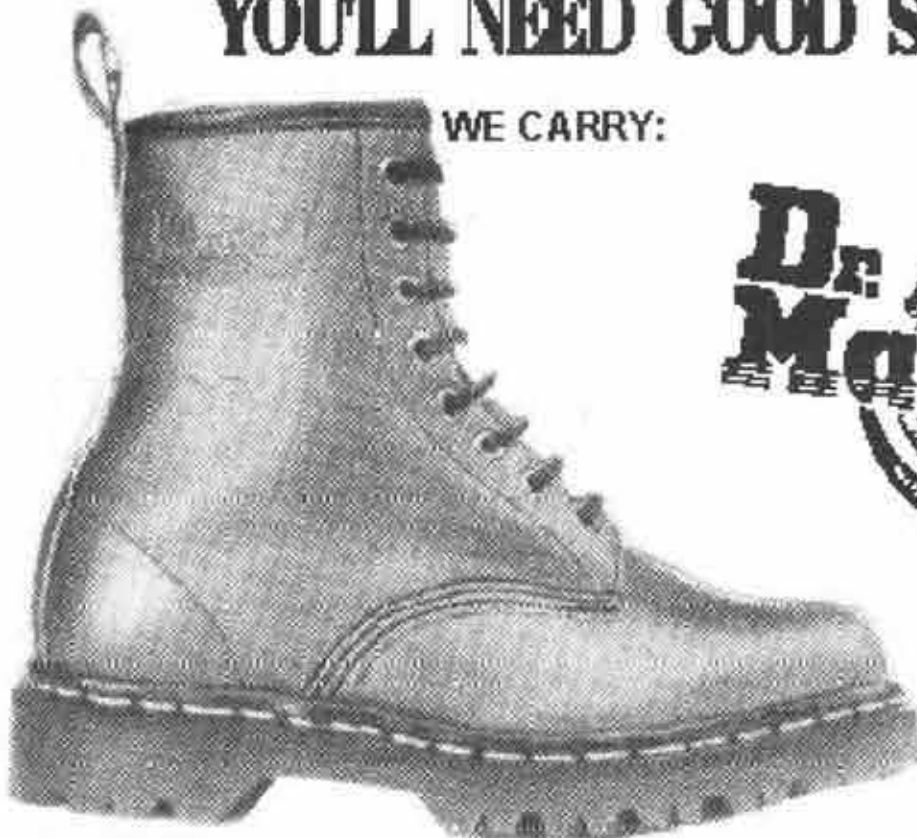
It really is me

Stacey,

For this, and every other week I haven't written you a Classified ad: Here you go! Now where's my prize?

Tiger

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PHIL'S

Ghost Stories

By Siobhan Bhagwat

Glamis Castle

Based on a True Story

Earl Beardie, the second Lord of Glamis was an enthusiastic card player. He and the Earl of Crawford were playing cards late on a Saturday night when a servant came to remind them that it was near-midnight. It was sacrilegious to play cards on a Sunday - the Sabbath. Before ordering the servant out, Lord Glamis angrily bellowed that they would play until Doomsday if he wanted. Five minutes before midnight, the servant returned to warn the Lord of the time, angry Earl Beardie announced that he would play with the Devil and demanded the servant leave. At midnight there was a knock on the door and a tall dressed in black entered and requested to join the game - neither of the Earls objected. Soon after there was a loud argument, when a servant looked into the room he saw the two men engulfed in flames. It is said that Earl Beardie had played cards with the Devil. His ghost still roams the halls, trapped for eternity and doomed to return to the room to play cards with the Devil. Sounds of stamping, swearing and dice rattling are heard from the tower where Earl Beardie is said to have cursed God and played with the Devil.

THE SINGER

Kathleen had a beautiful voice and loved performing for others. She was thrilled when, due to construction, the final choir rehearsal was held in the stairwell. Kathleen, the soloist, sat on the banister of the highest floor. The group put on an enchanting show for their colleagues as they entered the building but the rehearsal took a tragic turn when Kathleen lost her balance and fell to the ground below. Legend has it that she maintained the note she was singing until she hit the ground. Many people who now use the building have experienced chills up their spine as a beautiful female voice sings. No one has ever seen Kathleen's ghost but her voice has enchanted many people who follow it to the top of the stairwell before it fades. It is believed that Kathleen is singing the song she was practicing that night so many years ago, waiting for her chance to shine on stage.

THE GRANDFATHER

It was Sunday night and Marianne and Nicole were supposed to be working on the finer points of their project that was due the next day. Marianne, as usual, was running slightly late. Burdened with last minute additions, she merely kicked on Nicole's front door to get someone's attention. To her surprise, the door opened and she was almost certain she heard someone hiss, "late again." She soon found Nicole in the kitchen and they began work on the project. For the rest of the evening Marianne felt as if someone was watching her. She occasionally felt something brush against her hand - each time this happened she felt a shiver run down her spine. When a door slammed causing her to jump she looked up. "It's just my grandfather," smiled Nicole.

"Your grandfather? I thought..."

"Well, his spirit actually. He thinks you're a great artist."

"He doesn't open doors too does he?" laughed Marianne.

"Actually he opened it for you tonight," responded Nicole.

Marianne could not get out of the house soon enough. She quickly reviewed her notes and made her exit, as she hurried away from the house she looked over her shoulder. In the upstairs window a misty figure was looking at her. Its glowing eyes glared at her for what seemed an eternity and as the figure slowly faded the eyes remained - piercing, staring until they vanished into the darkness of the night.

Michael

Six year old Christopher had just moved to a new city with his family. His parents' concerns that he would not make friends quickly were soon dispelled when he came home talking about his new friend, Mike. Mike, Chris explained went to a different school (high school) but they lived in the same building so they had met when Chris was walking home from the school bus stop. Though Chris' parents always encouraged him to invite Mike for supper, Mike always found away to avoid meeting them, and as Chris began to feel more comfortable and meet more people his meetings with Mike became rare. One day Mike met Chris at the bus stop and told him that his family was moving once again.

"Can I come?" asked a distraught Chris.

"No you see I have to watch out for my family and you have to do the same for yours," explained Mike, "your family would miss you a lot if you went away. So you have to stay with yours and I have to go with mine. You know if you're ever lonely or scared and you think of me you won't feel so alone."

After Mike promised that this was true Chris went home and divulged the afternoon's conversation with his parents.

Chris' parents wanted to thank the boy for his kindness to their son so they asked their neighbours about him. Nobody seemed to have heard about Michael, no one with the exception of the landlord who willingly told them Michael's story.

Michael had been six when he moved into the neighbourhood with his parents and had a difficult time making friends with other children. When he was fourteen Mike became very sick (the landlord couldn't recall what had ailed him) but after two years Mike lost his battle. Mike's family had sold their house and moved into the building shortly after his death. His parents, the landlord informed them, had claimed to see their son's ghost whenever one of them was having a bad day or needed help with something. After his appearance the day either improved or help arrived. Mike's father had received a job offer and they were leaving today to go to England; Michael was following his family.

The Grey Lady

The chapel of the castle is a place where an overpowering sense of sadness overcomes anyone who enters it. The sadness deepens if you into contact with the Grey Lady who has been spotted kneeling in prayer before the altar. Over 400 years ago, Janet Douglas married the sixth Lord of Glamis and gave birth to one son, John. After the death of her husband, King James V, who had a vendetta against the Douglas Clan, accused her of witchcraft. He confiscated the castle and imprisoned both mother and son in the dungeons of Edinburgh Castle. To get confessions from those closest to her, he brutally tortured her relatives and servants, included her 16-year-old son John. Lady Janet was burned alive. After King James V's death, John was released and Glamis was restored to him. After the execution of Lady Janet, the Grey Lady began haunting the castle.