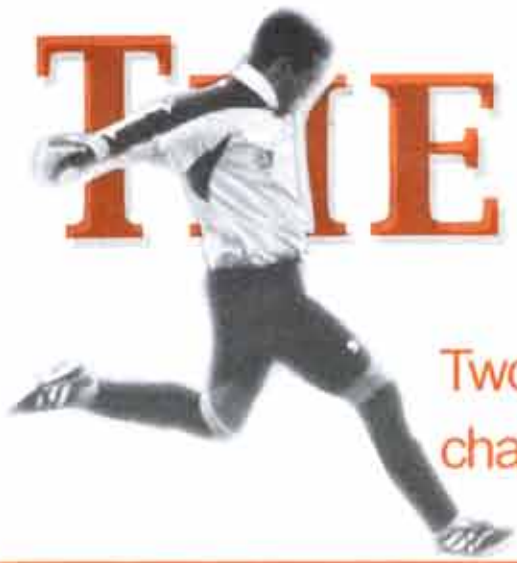


THE CORD WEEKLY



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www.wlusp.com

Arbitration under debate

Impasse reached in negotiations; Two sides yet to agree on arbitration protocols

Stefan Sereda

As some students were shocked to discover, the regular decorations of disparity surrounding the Laurier campus are still strewn about. The tents, pumpkins, logs and sorrowful picketers greeted those arriving on campus this past Monday, despite speculative talk that the striking staff would be back to work.

Although proposals were traded back and forth last weekend, WLUSA and the university administration have yet to agree to the terms and conditions of binding arbitration. Some protocol for the process must be reached before arbitration can be implemented, but the two sides have yet to compromise on what those terms will be.

While both WLU and WLUSA were able to agree on placing the resolution of the labor dispute into the hands of an outside mediator, this landmark accord is the only common ground they have found. "The university has repeatedly stated that it agrees to binding arbitration, and has offered to have employees return to work under the existing collective agreement while the details of binding arbitration are worked out between the parties," states the university's web site. The statement issued by the administration goes on to comment that, "the university does not

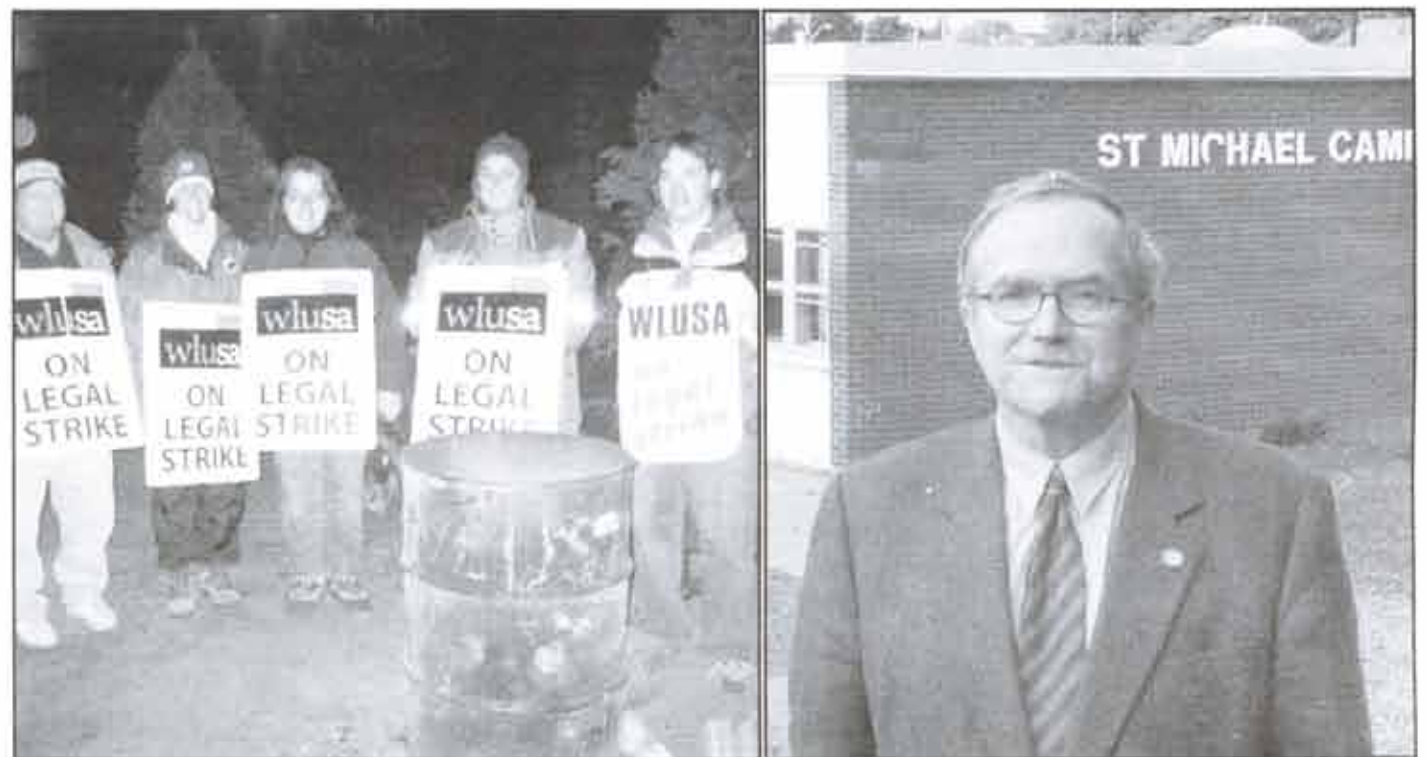
accept the union condition that would allow repercussions against members who chose to report for work during the strike." The union claims that this is a violation of the Ontario Labour Relations Act.

The university also refuses to accept the union condition that demands that progress made on many clauses during negotiations be ignored. "The union wants to be able to renege on its final offer of October 23, 2002 and backtrack... despite the fact that [a] practical agreement had been reached (or was close to being reached) on a number of articles."

The Executive and Governance Committee of Laurier's Board of Governors met at 8:00am and at 6:00pm on Friday, October 25 to discuss their position on binding arbitration. At the 8:00am meeting, WLU's VP: Finance and Administration Jim Butler met with union representatives to negotiate back-to-work protocols for striking WLUSA members.

However, a procedure for negotiating the process, terms and conditions associated with binding arbitration had yet to be agreed upon when the Governance Committee met again later that day.

According to a statement made by the leaders of WLUSA, the union finds former mediator Luke Fusco's call for binding arbitration "straightforward, [but] the administration feels it must limit the arbi-



Matt Benassi

The two sides (WLUSA strikers, left, and administration's Rosehart, right) struggle to agree on arbitration.

trator's jurisdiction over the disputed material." The University insisted last Friday that their lawyer look over the agreement on binding arbitration. WLUSA feels that "the WLU administration dragged its feet throughout the weekend, bringing discussions about binding arbitration to a halt."

The bickering between the Staff Association and the University directly opposes Fusco's earlier suggestions calling for an immediate return to work and for all outstanding issues in the dispute be submitted to binding arbitration. "The administration used Friday, Saturday, and Sunday to demand ever more restrictive conditions to prevent the mediator's recommendations from taking effect" asserted WLUSA.

Meanwhile, the Staff Association used

Sunday afternoon to picket outside the home of Bryce Walker, Chair of the Board of Governors. WLUSA President Bruce Wolff told a TV reporter that "we have taken the strike off-campus because the power of approval [for binding arbitration] now rests with the Executive and Governance Committee. We are holding them accountable." After the October 29 meeting of the Executive and Governance Committee, the conditions of the binding arbitration process were still yet to be agreed upon.

WLUSA's statement went on to claim that, "they [the administration] want to limit the arbitrator's power to only the choice between the administration's or WLUSA's position on the outstanding issues." WLUSA also detailed that "this Final Offer Selection is the least used of the

forms of binding contract arbitration. It is almost unheard of in cases such as ours where seventeen issues, both monetary and non-monetary, remain outstanding. The administration wants to decide which issues WLUSA has the right to bring before the arbitrator."

WLUSA further attacked the administration for cherry-picking "with a complete lack of integrity" from the final proposal that the WLUSA bargaining team brought to the table, a proposal that should now be obsolete. The Staff Association claims that the University is, "taking only those items they like and marking them resolved to prevent WLUSA from presenting these issues to the arbitrator. In a dispute about any of this, it is the arbitrator and not the administration who decides what is fair and appropriate."

Laurier in Globe & Mail's top ten

Bryn Boyce
Caitlin Howlett
With files from Jennifer Volz

Despite the incessant construction, painfully long lines and influx of students, the first ever University Report Card sur-

vey released by the Globe & Mail and Scotia Bank on October 23 2002 rated Laurier seventh overall in Canada.

The 100-question survey was designed to measure student satisfaction in ten primary categories and 58 sub-categories, including courses, quality of teaching, atmosphere, etc. The Report Card survey was conducted in 29 universities across Canada; each was required to submit a minimum of 250 responses.

Unlike the famous Maclean's magazine ratings, which includes the input from employers, alumni, and other outside sources, this internet based survey was completed entirely by undergraduate students. The goal of the survey was to measure student satisfaction at each of the 29 universities. The article is intended to help future undergraduates decide

between various Canadian universities, using this first hand student input to help guide them toward the school that best suits their needs.

"The article reinforced what we the staff and students find so valuable about Laurier," noted Dean of Students, David McMurray.

Placing second only to Guelph in the university atmosphere category, Laurier secured number one rankings in the sub categories of school spirit, on campus fun and sense of community.

Quality of education at Laurier was rated fifth. The sub category relating to quality of teaching found a second place berth topped only by Queen's University. Laurier received a third place ranking in class sizes and a fifth place ranking in student services

Dr. Bob Rosehart stated, "This survey was taken at a time when the school was in trouble, and it just goes to show how great Laurier stands up." Since the university is in the throes of a major labour dispute, these results are indicative of Laurier's resilience and spirit.

The results were not all in Laurier's favour. The library rated dead last among the 29 universities across Canada and on-campus technology was dismally ranked twentieth.

"Laurier students have an unbelievable amount of patience, looking beyond things like the strike to see that there are still good things happening at the school," said WLUSA President, Andy Pushalik.

The survey results are a testament to Laurier's academic excellence and community spirit, as well as a peer-based

guide for future undergraduate students as they select their post-secondary institutions.

Globe & Mail University Report Card

(of 29 Canadian Universities)

Wilfrid Laurier University Overall Results — 7

Quality of education	5
Course Variety	27
Student services	5
Building and facilities	10
Quality of technology	20
University atmosphere	2
Off-campus environment	14
Career preparation	7
Financial assistance	3

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Fusco leaves parting advice

Dean of Social Work Luke Fusco leaves bargaining table, calls for binding arbitration

Bryn Boyce

The ongoing labour dispute, if nothing else, has shown that in negotiations the third time is regrettably not a charm. Dean of Social Work Luke Fusco called an impasse to negotiations in the early hours of October 24.

Fusco first joined the negotiations as mediator in the evening of September 26. He was pulled out of a Swiss Chalet dinner to begin his role as mediator. President of the Faculty Association (WLUF), Joyce Lorimer first proposed that Fusco mediate the negotiation. Lorimer further proposed that VP: Finance & Administration, Jim Butler take on a role with the Administration's negotiations and that she would begin advising WLUSA as needed.

The previous mediator, John Mather, a Senior Mediator with The Ministry of Labour, stepped away from the table on September 26 after just two days. He felt that "the two parties were still too far apart". Dean Fusco entered in to the negotiations that evening and began his month-long mediation.

He acted mostly as a 'shuttle mediator' between the two conference rooms in the Waterloo Inn. "For the most part they were in different rooms with me acting as an intermediary." Very rarely did the two sides meet in a common area to negotiate directly.

Fusco stated that this was likely due to "personal feelings and emotions" between the two parties. Despite this apparent animosity, on occasion representative members of both sides would meet at the table and discuss specific issues.

There was considerable progress during the early part of the negotiations headed by Fusco. The list of issues began to dwindle down to a small number of major issues. From either account the negotiations pace began to slow, and then to a crawl.

The negotiations degenerated into a word by word, sentence by sentence system of negotiations with Fusco presenting one side's choice words to the other.

In later days of negotiations, Fusco attempted to put pressure on both sides to reach an agreement by threatening to call an impasse. "There wasn't sufficient movement for both sides to see that getting the agreement at that moment was vital," said Fusco in an interview, "In the end what needed to happen didn't." Unfortunately this pressure was insufficient to force a settlement on the major issues.

"The critical one is contracting out, if you get that one settled it will be easier to settle the other items," said Fusco. Much of the negotiations gravitated around this one issue. WLUSA fears that the language in the university's

final offer will permit them to contract positions out after older WLUSA members retire from them. This could slowly reduce the size and strength of the Union. The university counters that the union has grown by 41 members since their previous collective agreement and would be expected to grow by 20-25% under the university's final offer. WLUSA is seeking more than just an observational role in the hiring process.

The university community is now holding its breath in anticipation of the labour disputes next move. "I think in the next day or two we will see if either side is going to move enough to reach an agreement on the specifics of binding arbitration."

said Fusco who later added "I hope there will be some incentive to come back to the table." He believes that both sides were not far away from an agreement, but were both refusing to give on the controversial issues.

Since the impasse has not shaken the two parties enough to find a compromise, the new threat of losing all control of the outcome may be a serious incentive to work out their difference. Fusco believes that the university would look better if the dispute could be resolved without having to commit to external arbitration.

The stage is set for the two sides to negotiate the specifics of arbitration. Once the rules of arbitration are laid out, a process of selecting the arbitrator must be negotiated and conducted. The intricacies of this binding arbitra-



Fusco gestures towards arbitration, or a less photogenic individual.

tion process could prove to be a new stumbling block on the road to resolution.

Before the Laurier community scratches their eyes out in frustration there is hope. Both sides are able, at any time, to contact the other in an effort to continue negotiations. Fusco believes strongly that three things must happen in short order. The first is to set an arbitration date. This will put pressure on both parties to resolve their issues before that date.

The second step therefore must be the reconvening of the two negotiating teams. This will ensure that a forum remains open between the parties to continue negotiations under the pressure of a looming arbitration deadline.

Thirdly, Fusco believes it is essen-

tial that the strike end immediately through a back to work action. This will allow WLUSA services to resume under the old collective agreement. This back to work movement will continue under the condition that there is a negotiation/arbitration process in the works. A set of protocols would naturally have to be worked out between the university and WLUSA to ensure any pending law suits (on illegal bargaining practices etc...) are dropped by both sides. WLUSA would still have the ability to walk out at any moment should they feel the university is not committed to reaching a new settlement. "The absolute priority is to have the people [WLUSA] come back to work."

Students vexed with ongoing dispute

Cleavage, guns and money among students' concerns

Brandon Currie

Students spoke out regarding the news of the breakdown of negotiations much in the same way they have reacted over the past several weeks - with opposing voices. When asked, most students were not aware of the fact that negotiations had broken down completely and exhibited mixed reactions to the prospect of arbitration. An appreciable segment of students thought that the staff should hold their ground while others expressed that they would be content, with any conclusion the strike, by whatever means necessary.

Once again, students expressed their frustration with the situation, placing personal inconveniences caused by the strike ahead of any ideological debate on the prospect of arbitration. Many students simply want the staff working again, regardless of how it is accomplished. One student demanded, "I want them to come back to

work and stop wasting my money standing around handing out stickers."

Students that continued to support WLUSA's demands thought that potential arbitration could compromise the principles upon which the strike is based, and that the staff has been too persistent to concede to a third party arbitrator. A group of part-time students commented; "They should stick to their guns, we're comfortable enough now...as long as we still get our tax return, we're happy."

A number of other students also agreed that, regardless of the details of a potential deal, the strike has evolved into a matter of principle that the staff should not abandon. Jeff Baker explains, "Students are tired of being screwed by our de facto administration, so naturally we would support others that are trying to fight for what they're entitled to."

Regardless of the outcome, there was talk that Laurier would not simply return to business as usual when the staff does come back. Student Josh Barnaby commented, "The foundation of this school is crumbling.

Rosehart has created a cleavage in our community that won't disappear when the staff comes back."

In fact, the credibility of Rosehart was questioned by many of those surveyed, who claimed that financial concerns have overshadowed the essence of any university - quality education. Melissa Ryan states, "Laurier doesn't exist to make money, it's here to provide education, plain and simple."

Also discussed was the sense that students are still largely uninformed about the exact financial considerations that were driving the negotiation process. Lucas Colley asked, "How much money does the school stand to save by contacting out?

What is being done with the money not paid to the staff? How much will it cost each student to give WLUSA what they want?"

"WLUSU supports arbitration as we feel that it is in the best interest of students that this dispute be resolved and that the staff returns to work," stated WLUSU President Andy Pushalik. He went on to say, "I think there's a lot of unanswered questions that need to be answered by both sides as to why after six weeks we have come to this impasse"

Similarly, many felt that Laurier's claim to being a small, community-oriented school can no longer be made. "Our school isn't small, the services available to us are," commented second year student Sarah Friesen. This feeling was also present with many other students who doubt that President Rosehart can rebuild our sharply divided campus community.

"The credibility of Rosehart was questioned by many of those surveyed."

LSFL walks the walk

Sarah Brimson

On November 10, from 11am until 2pm, Laurier Students For Literacy (LSFL) will be holding their ninth annual Walk for Literacy. Proceeds from the walk will go towards the many LSFL-run programs in Kitchener-Waterloo.

LSFL is a group of Laurier students dedicated to working with children in the K-W area in order to promote literacy and learning habits. The volunteer-based organization has approximately 110 participants who each commit three to four hours per week for LSFL's programs.

Some of LSFL's on-campus projects include an Outreach tutoring program and group reading circles. Reading circles bring children throughout the community together to share crafts, activities, and one-and-one reading with an LSFL volunteer in a supportive environment. The Outreach tutoring program is specifically designed to support students who are in need of extra help with their studies.

LSFL is also involved in partnerships with The John Howard Society for Young Offenders, the Courtland-Shelley Community Center, Grand River Hospital and Laurentian Public School. The John Howard "Partners in Reading Program" is an alternative measures program for youth aged 12-15 who have been charged with a minor criminal offence. Volunteers meet one-on-one with program participants and help them with their homework, read, and have general discussions. At Grand River Hospital LSFL volunteers read to patients, have patients read to them, and participate in other quiet activities to help make younger patients' hospital stays more pleasant.

When asked why she volunteers LSFL Fundraising Coordinator Nadine Fladd answered "It's an incredible program, which offers an important service to the community. Spending a Saturday morning interacting with children is a great reminder that there is life outside Laurier, and the children benefit from the extra individual attention that they might not necessarily receive at school." LSFL's goal is to raise a total of \$2,000, with each participant raising an average of \$20. They hope to have between 300 and 400 people take part in the fundraiser. To join the walk you can register and pick up a pledge form at the front desk of the Students' Union office. The Walk for Literacy is LSFL's major fundraiser of the year, but plans are also in the works for a book drive in second semester.

Bag o' crime

MISCHIEF 2310 HRS MON OCT 14/02

Occupants of a passing vehicle threw eggs at picketers at the main entrance to the University.

FIRE DEPT RESPONSE 2235 HRS MON OCT 14/02

Waterloo Fire Department responded to an alarm at Waterloo College Hall. The alarm was caused by some popcorn overcooking in a microwave oven.

THEFT UNDER \$5000 1435 HRS TUE OCT 15/02

A faculty member reported the theft of her wallet from her office in the Aird Building. The office door was left open while the occupant stepped out for a short time.

CAUSE DISTURBANCE 2335 HRS THU OCT 17/02

A male WLU student was creating a disturbance at the Turret when he was evicted due to his intoxicated condition. A struggle with pub staff ensued and the individual was eventually removed from the premises. The matter will be forwarded to the Judicial Affairs Council.

MISCHIEF 0150 HRS FRI OCT 18/02

A male WLU student was caught throwing around some bricks in the Nichols Ctre Quad and knocking over some garbage cans. The matter will be forwarded to the Judicial Affairs Council.

Crime of the week

NOISE COMPLAINT 0110 HRS SUN OCT 20/02

Residence staff called to complain about excessive noise coming from Willison Field. A number of people were playing with a frisbee and were asked to keep the noise down. They complied.

THEFT UNDER \$5000 SAT OCT 19/02 - SUN OCT 20/02

A WLU student reported that her bike had been stolen from the bike racks at Mid Campus Dr.

FORGED PARKING PERMIT 2150 HRS MON OCT 21/02

A WLU student was found to have a forged parking permit in their vehicle. The matter will be forwarded to the Judicial Affairs Council.

MISCHIEF MON OCT 21/02

Person(s) unknown punched a several holes in the drywall at the Athletic Complex.

MISCHIEF 0310 HRS TUE OCT 22/02

Person(s) unknown dislodged a lamp standard at the Science Building which appeared to have been used to smash a window at the entrance off Bricker Ave.

THEFT UNDER \$5000 1630 HRS TUE OCT 22/02

A WLU visitor reported that her purse had been taken from her car which was parked in lot 2.

MISCHIEF WED OCT 23/02 - THU OCT 24/02

Person(s) unknown cut a hole in the chain link fencing at the construction site on King St.

MISCHIEF 0235 HRS FRI OCT 25/02

Person(s) unknown broke one of the gate arms at lot 20.

MEDICAL ASSIST 0010 HRS FRI OCT 25/02

An ambulance was called for a resident of University Place who was severely hyperventilating. The individual was transported to hospital.

THEFT UNDER \$5000 THU OCT 24/02 - FRI OCT 25/02

Person(s) unknown removed a sofa from the first floor lounge at Little House.

MEDICAL ASSIST 1045 HRS FRI OCT 25/02

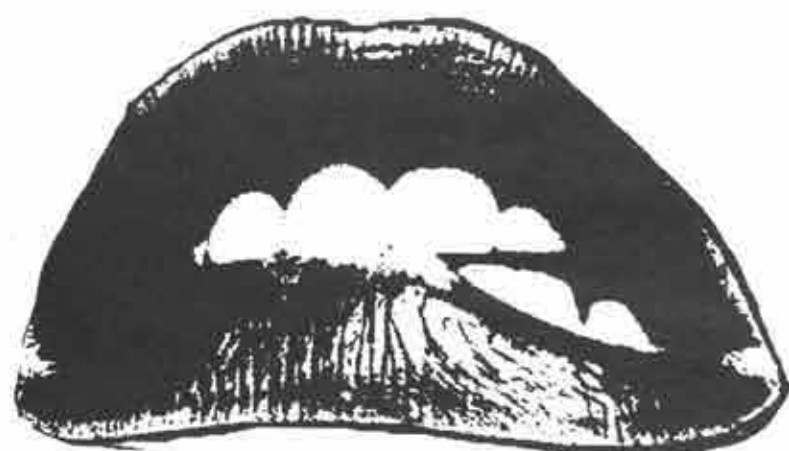
An ambulance was called for an individual who was apparently suffering from a seizure. Ambulance attendants arrived but the individual declined treatment.

INTOXICATED IN A PUBLIC PLACE 0110 HRS SAT OCT 26/02

A University of Western Ontario student was lodged in a Regional Police cell for his own safety due to his level of intoxication.

FIRE DEPT RESPONSE 1918 HRS SAT OCT 26/02

Waterloo Fire Dept responded to an alarm at Little House A Wing. The cause of the alarm was determined to be food that had been left on a burner too long.



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WLUSU BOD passes housing motions

Stefan Sereda

Even though they may take away from your critical schedule of Full House viewing, meetings held by the Board of Directors are often more insightful than Danny Tanner. Unfortunately Chair Ben Durrer does not have the evocative and masterful orchestral strings which accompanied Bob Saget's riveting performance as the patriarch of TV's favorite blended family.

On Tuesday October 29 the Wilfrid Laurier University

Students' Union Board of Directors (BOD) met to discuss the issue of off-campus housing and the Union's financial statements. Presentations made by WLUSU President Andy Pushalik and VP: Finance and Administration Paul Tambeau generated a seemingly positive reaction from the BOD.

The BOD passed two motions made by Pushalik regarding the impending off campus housing crisis and The City of Waterloo's Minimum Distance Separation Bylaw. The bylaw, which became

infamous due to protests from the Students Federation at the University of Waterloo, severely reduces the amount of available, affordable and adequate student housing. The UoW Feds recently approached WLUSU to help pressure the City, and passing Pushalik's motions shows a significant first step.

The first motion asked that the Student's Union oppose the bylaw, while the second asked that the BOD "direct the President and Executive Vice-President: University Affairs to inform the

Waterloo City Council and other appropriate stakeholders of WLUSU's opposition." Further WLUSU action in this matter is yet to be discussed.

The Union's monetary position appears to be in proper shape, as shown in Tambeau's financial statement. Overall the Union is profiting, despite significant competition from other businesses. For example, with the improvements made to the Dining Hall, the Terrace Food Court profits are down from last year, with the Golden Wok yet to experience

any profit whatsoever. However, business at the newly improved Turret nightclub has considerably increased, and efficient management in a number of areas has more than made up for other losses.

Although Pushalik insists that the statement is "only a snapshot" of the Union's monetary position, both he and Tambeau agree that the Union's finances are in good order for this point in the year.

Cord News: It can only get better from here

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"I can't believe that creature was spewed forth from the loins of a woman."
- Caitlin Howlett

Caitlin Howlett



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"Over there, that's her!"

four years, the Cord has done nothing of the sort. We do, however, make a conscious effort to cover events and newsworthy items from various campus organizations, because it affects a larger percentage of the Laurier population. Nowhere does it state that we must cover every WLUSU sponsored event or every home soccer game or every event held in the Concourse.

The contents of the paper, as mentioned earlier, are designed to present unbiased news stories, as well as opinion pieces. All columns, by nature, are the opinions of those who write them. Opinion columns are framed by a box and accompanied by a photograph and byline denoting the writer. These columns do not reflect the ideas of anyone except the person who wrote the piece. The writer's friends, family, or roommates do not necessarily hold the same opinions, nor do they know anything about the column or the thought that went into it. Similarly, the Editor-in-Chief of the Cord or the President of WLUSU does not necessarily agree with the columns. As readers of The Cord Weekly, you, an informed student spending massive amounts of money on an education, should be able to understand the difference between an article and column. If you have failed to make the distinction between the two, then you have failed to make use of your costly education.

Columns are designed to spark controversy, debate and tension. They are a strategic ploy to increase readership by disagreeing or agreeing with an issue that plagues the writer, possibly the readers or anyone for that matter. It is how people respond to columns contained in The Cord that concerns me.

If you have a beef with an opinion or even a news article in The Cord, insulting friends of the writer or sending flack in the wrong direction leaves your mes-

sage unheard, and essentially, leaves you open for more criticism. I can only speak for myself when I say this, but if you have a problem with the contents of the paper or what I wrote in one of my columns, you can approach me at any time and anywhere. I have had the pleasure of meeting several people over the last week that fearlessly approached me in public places, some sober, others inebriated, to tell me what they disliked about a column I recently wrote. Many of their comrades did no such thing, but continued to send flack in the wrong direction or toward those who are simply guilty by association. These select ignoramuses continue to roll eyes, glare incessantly and essentially hide behind their own cowardness. They have for one, misunderstood the intention of the column, and secondly, have been truly unsuccessful in voicing their disapproval in a manner that will bring about any change.

If there is one thing I can commend more than someone who is willing to print their opinions alongside their name and picture, it is being able to go head to head with that same person and offer their own opinion. So this one is for Geoff, Jason, Elliot and Mike, because they stood up for what they believed in and had the guts to tell me face-to-face. These four gentlemen make my job worthwhile, so I would like to extend a personal thank you to them. To all those who cannot stand beside the flack they emit, you are only painting a target sign on your forehead, and trust me, my aim gets better and better each week, just like every issue of The Cord.

Remember, if you have a problem with the me, The Cord, or anything else: letters@wlusp.com

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

LETTERS

Scabs that won't heal

SCAB (pronounced 'skab'): "A stiff crusty covering that slowly forms over a wound."

Wounded. A word that sums up how I feel. Wounded by the university administration's lack of 'good faith' bargaining. Wounded with Dr. Rosehart's lack of concern for WLU's reputation as an institution of higher learning. Wounded with the way certain managers have been treating their staff. Wounded with certain WLUSA co-workers who I now refer to as 'scabs'.

Every morning I wake up to my alarm and begin my usual morning ritual that I've become accustomed to in the last six weeks...always hoping that this will be the day we hear something, anything positive. I greet my fellow picketers at 202 Regina St. with somewhat enthusiasm that this could be the day. Trying to stay positive, we chat to those students and faculty that support us and we thank those staff members working on the inside that come out to chat and offer us support, not to mention the greatly appreciated hot chocolate and coffee. Managers and administration staff drive through our picket

lines giving their fake smiles and look at us like they really care. Don't be fooled, I see right through you. Up until two weeks ago, I always smiled and waved back. I didn't realize how naive I was, until two weeks ago at Thursday evening's Board of Governors/Senate meeting. There I sat and watched some of my non-union co-workers across the room mock us as we clapped for those senate members that voiced their heartfelt support for WLUSA. Once again, I find myself disappointed in people that I once considered friends.

My thoughts turn to the idea of going back to work. I wonder to myself, what is it going to be like when we go back? It has become apparent that there will definitely be a hard line between management, staff members and those (scabs) who crossed our picket lines. I realized the huge workload that we will all have to endure, but I can't help but wonder what will we say to our managers? And, what will they say to us? Most of us have already experienced the shock and disbelief at certain managers approaching us at the line or calling us at home, some even having the gall to threaten us when we get back to work!! But what really concerns me more than anything is what we will say

to those WLUSA members that crossed our picket line?

Everyday they cross, some entire departments. I don't quite understand it. I think of all the excuses, but cannot come up with any that justify passing us on the picket line, as we stand out there making gains that EVERYONE will benefit from. I think of one scab in particular who, a year ago, filed a grievance with WLUSA to get her old job back. WLUSA fought and won on her behalf. Yet, she crosses our picket line every day. My frustration continues to climb as I come to the realization that she is one of many that only think of themselves, while all of us on the picket line think of each other. To those of you who've crossed, this is one WLUSA member who will NEVER FORGET!! Maybe one day I'll forgive, but mark my words, it will not be forgotten. To one scab who shouted "It's my own personal decision!" I say, "You're darn right it's personal - crossing my picket line is something I take very personally!"

I wonder how many scabs I will have once my 'wounds' (if ever) heal?

Cathy Mahler
(WLUSA member on strike)
Account Administrator, Business Office

L E T T E R S

(continued from page 5)

Give me money

I am writing with regards to the article in last week's Cord "\$40,000 back to students". I have to admit that when I read the headline, I was really happy to see that the students were finally being compensated in view of the labour dispute. However, I quickly became frustrated and angry while reading the article. I do not think that 145 new \$100 scholarships are quite adequate to compensate the approximate 8,000 students attending Laurier. Why not just take the money directly off of our tuition bill? That makes sense to me. \$20,000 for new on-line journals in a library that is not even functioning, however, does not make sense to me. I am beginning to think that the administration has not yet reached a deal with WLUSA in order to redirect funds to all the construction happening on campus in preparation for the arrival of the double-cohort next year.

Being a fourth year student, I do not feel that my tuition money is being spent in good faith because I will not see the supposed benefits of these journals. My hard-earned money is not giving me the quality of education I

came to Laurier for. Should I, the student, not have some say in how my money is being spent? And should I not be directly compensated for the fact that seven of my twelve-week semester has passed without a working staff association? I'm sorry, but \$100 is not going to make me forget that I am regretting coming to Laurier in the first place.

Anita Montesano

**Dr. Bob 'N' Friends
Fun Page**

Take a break from studying and play the following enigmatic challenges provided by President Rosehart and his colleagues.

How many students, staff, faculty members and unions from across the province, nation and continent does it take to be heard by university administration types?

How many university administration types does it take to ignore the above-mentioned students, staff, etc.?

Following are two lists. One is a list of questions offered to the President, the other his IMMEDIATE responses. Match the appropriate response to each question. (Some questions may have more

than one response)

QUESTIONS: a) What is the university trying to achieve that is worth this strike?

RESPONSES: 1) "Bargaining is done at the bargaining table." 2) "You can laugh." 3) "Students should get involved." 4) [blank] 5) "The issues are complicated." 6) "I'm tired of being laughed at." 7) "I want an immediate resolution."

How many times have university administration types said, "I want an immediate resolution" in the last month and a half?

WORD OF THE DAY: IMMEDIATE (adj.) as soon as possible, without delay, now, instantly (Note: Geologically speaking, 1000 years is considered IMMEDIATE).

Following are two lists. One is a list of statements made by university administration types, the other, their corresponding actions. Match the appropriate action to each statement. (Some statements may have more than one action)

STATEMENTS: a) "I want an immediate resolution."

ACTIONS: 1) Stopping contract discussions for summer vacation. 2) Going golfing 3) Delaying response to WLUSA counteroffer for days. 4) Stopping negotiations for Thanksgiving

weekend. 5) Not having stood outside for 4 hours a day for over 6 weeks without a steady income. 6) Delaying response to binding arbitration proposal for days. WORD OF THE DAY IN CONTEXT - WLUSA accepted the unaltered proposal IMMEDIATELY (not geologically speaking)!!! 7) Offering offers that offer less than previously offered offers had offered.

WORD EQUATIONS: actions=motives, words=?

If you have been able to truthfully and logically solve all of the challenges given by Dr. Bob'n'Friends, then I encourage you to write them and express your appreciation for their honesty, consideration and respect. If not, then reconsider everything they say and watch their actions.

Ian Carruthers

**Forty Grand an Insult
to the Students**

After reading in last week's issue of The Cord that the administration is giving back \$40,000 to the students, I was offended. I thought to myself "Where's the rest? Why am I paying more to upgrade the library and why do I have to do more work to get my money back?"

After finding out that there are close to 400 WLUSA members on strike and that the average wage for them is around \$35,000 a year, I did some quick calculations and discovered that the school has saved well over \$1.5 million so far during the strike. This is only the wages though, so what about all the benefits that the school normally provides for the Staff Association? I think that students have a right to know where every last penny has gone that the administration has saved, and we also have a right to our fair share of it. Who knows, the administration could just be taking a little longer to settle the strike because of all the money they are saving, money they can use to fund new buildings, upgrade their offices or, who knows, maybe buy a new car.

Out of the \$40,000 that the administration is willing to part with, one half of this is going towards new online journals for the library. While I'm sure we need these journals, why are we as students paying more money for it? Do we not already pay enough tuition and shouldn't this sort of income cover things like this? Did anyone ever ask us if we wanted to pay more to upgrade the journals? I'm sure that a lot of

(continued on page 7)

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I'm going to cry

I get high during exams

Chris Clemens



Midterms. Everywhere. You can see their presence in the half-empty bars on weekends and the residence room lights that don't switch off until five in the morning, temporarily converting the campus into a gaudily lit mini-Vegas of twilight silence. Their influence is heard in the frantic rustling of pages as students rush to cram that last Stats chapter into their head and the muffled weeping of girls and hey, maybe guys too, immediately after the fateful test. Midterms offend your nasal cavities in the form of toxic socks that have been worn for five days straight and filthy, food encrusted pajamas which own a near-permanent home on various individuals.

With all of these sensory assaults added to the usual pressure of writing numerous essays or exams in a relatively short period of time, it's no wonder that stress levels have been sky-high lately. Although there are many possible psychological reactions to suddenly becoming burdened with massive tension, there seem to be a few unhealthy, albeit amusing, trends going around here at WLU. As a journalist of great moral integrity, I feel the need to warn the student population of these pitfalls in light of the upcoming horror known as December exams, even if it

means fewer stories for me to exploit. That's what Laurier is all about kids, personal sacrifice.

The biggest mistake that most people seem to make during midterms is consuming massive amounts of coffee, caffeine pills or other assorted wake-up drugs to power them through all night study sessions. This is a ridiculous habit to resort to because the only thing these 'uppers' really do is hype you up to the point where you can't even focus on a textbook because your eyeballs are vibrating at supersonic frequencies and your hands are involuntarily playing a piano concerto on the page. Believe it or not, those are the positive benefits - once the high wears off you crash and burn with all the grace and style of a grizzly bear on heroin. You also get the added benefit of missing out on regular sleeping patterns, one of the most important components of effective memorization and coherent thought. In addition, your new zombie-like demeanor will be unlikely to impress most people unless they, too, are the walking dead.

Creating added stress through relationships is also a big winner at Laurier this year. It seems that people everywhere are picking the absolute worst times to "just be friends", "think about seeing other people" or "schlock your girlfriend's promiscuous roommate and hope wifey doesn't find out". You may think that make-up sex or furious beatings are sweet diversions from work, but consider saving this stuff for a later date. After all, it's pretty tough to concentrate on culture industries and commodity fetishization when some psycho who used to be your significant other is in possession of your entire CD collection.

Hey, guess what else is a bad idea? -smoking copious amounts of marijuana on nights when you absolutely have to get work done. Unless you plan on writing a paper on the mysterious phenomenon of one of your buddies suddenly morphing into a giant chipmunk, getting blitzed is a surefire way to demolish any potential for productivity during the following few hours. People will try to tell you that it relaxes your mind and lets ideas flow, but staring at a cat for two hours will just make you more stressed when you sober up and realize what a stone-bag you've been. And just in case you've been misinformed, the pop-movie mantra "Study high, write the test high, get high marks" is about as ludicrous as the recent claims that WLU will be adequately equipped to handle the pseudo-triple cohort next year. No illicit substances during midterms!

Some people go the complete opposite route and lock themselves in their rooms for days on end like hermits, forgoing any kind of personal interaction so that they can anxiously pore over their notes for the ten thousandth time. Although this may seem like the ultimate in productivity, complete isolation from humanity typically leads to insanity or a nervous breakdown. To break this stress cycle in a friend and save them from the nuthouse, just gleefully tell them "Hey, don't worry. This one test is only the rest of your life, you know!" Then when they're finished crying, take them out for a few hours to remind them that university isn't really all that bad.

If you stay away from these major behavioural deviations you should make it through midterms just fine. The only word of positive advice I can possibly offer is to remember that we're supposed to be having the best time of our lives right now - try to enjoy it in a balanced manner. Life only goes downhill after university and if you don't believe me, watch the movie Office Space sometime.

(or now being shuttled) to the University of Waterloo library, but it's what we have been forced to do. Now we have to do more work to get the money back that should be ours in the first place? Give me a break!

Finally, what happened to the promises that Andy Pushalik, our WLUSU President, gave us a few issues ago? Things like 10% off tuition, 25% off textbooks, etc. I thought that sounded quite fair, but reality seems to be far different than what he had promised us. A chance to get \$100 scholarship, which is not that great considering there are 8,500 Laurier students and only 145 scholarships, or provided I do more work, a chance for \$500.

Nice try Andy, but you had better do a lot better than this.

Kris Cote

French Bench

What's 'real'?

Jacky Drouin



Back in the day, when hairstyles were still on fire and we drank our martinis cold and straight from a box, there used to be this thing called Tuesday. Most of you won't get this, but those that did took the notion and ran with it. We lived in Tuesday, and the rest of you, well, the rest of you were ultimately ...Friday.

Now this is Tuesday, and when you read this again it might still be Tuesday. The thing I'm left wondering is if any of this ever matters, how to find the happy medium between zen and not caring and/or caring too much, since effort and sweat completely defeat the purpose, and finally on how to be real, since it's the only thing any of us are striving towards.

We can be anything and everything: MTV has proven it, with the new show "Becoming" where young kids get the chance to dress up and act like their favorite rock stars. Craig Kielburger from Toronto, age 19, has proven it. A Nobel Peace Prize nominee for his non-profit group, Kids Can Free the Children, Kielburger and 100,000 kids have been advocating children's rights in developing countries for seven years. This isn't the first time that Kielburger's been nominated, and "Becoming" is a very popular show. What's the difference? Who cares, achieve zen, and repeat after me:

"That's cool."

It's the difference between a Friday night and a Tuesday night. It's the difference between buying a pair of pre-faded jeans, with the faded-out patches on the thighs, and my boyfriend coming home from a night in the factory with his jeans faded in the same spot. I though he was trying to be cool; he

tells me that jeans fade that way because you have to lean on the conveyor belt at the factory.

Are all these kids trying to look like factory workers? Probably not. Listening to Bob Dylan doesn't make you a hippie, knowing how to assemble a computer doesn't make you a candidate for Adobe, and playing soccer like Pele doesn't make you Brazilian. It just makes you who you are, which can be pretty confusing in a time where looking outside the box is encouraged, but people are still fixed upon placing everyone inside a box.

It's harder to become real or authentic in a world where opportunities and cultures are being presented to us as commodities on racks and trays, just waiting for us to catch onto the next big thing. The end result is that bright diamonds and fancy shoes have been distracting us from what we really came into this world for: (fill in meaning of life here).

The next big thing is just around the corner, and for a culture fixated on the notion of progress, to remain stagnate in one fixed ideology or style is like the kiss of death. So we progress, continually evolving to hopefully better our selves and the world out there. But what kind of goals are we setting for ourselves, what are we progressing towards? Is there anyone leading the way, or are we all just blindly stumbling towards the finish line? Where are the leaders in the evolution of cool, determining what's real, authentic, or just out there?

It might be that we're just getting the short end of the stick; every other generation had its thing, and what we get clumped with is the best/worst of each generation. We're busy sorting through the past, dusting off old notions to make them sparkly and new again, but the truth is that it's been done. I've already laughed at that, smoked that, read that, and drank to that. I'm giving up and heading home (and even that's been done already).

Who are the next heroes, the next Bob Dylans, the next Pele? I wish I knew, cuz then I'd be cool.

LETTERS

(continued from page 6)

you will agree with me and would rather just take the money. This is just a sorry excuse for the school to upgrade the library and make us pay more for it.

So why do I have to do more work to get my money back in the form of a scholarship? In the first place, I am not ever guaranteed to get \$100 dollars back. I can guarantee you that I have been affected by this strike as I am sure every other student at Laurier has, not just a 'random' number of us like those who will get the scholarship. Second of all, why do I have to write an essay on the "Importance of the Laurier Community" just to be eligible for ONE scholarship of \$500. I'm sure we all have enough school-work as it is and the strike has made this work harder to do many students. It would be great to be able to use the Writing Centre or research a paper without walking



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Hostage crisis in Moscow

Siege of theatre latest chapter in desperate Chechen independence movement

Robert Demille

Last Saturday, amidst clouds of noxious gas, Russian troops stormed a Moscow theatre occupied by suicidal Chechen militants, resulting in the death of the Chechen rebel leader and over 100 hostages.

Reports say that at least 30 armed Chechen fighters known as the "Suicide Commandos of the 29th Division" besieged the Moscow theatre last Wednesday, took up to 1000 people hostage and threatened to detonate explosives throughout the building if counterinsurgency forces attempted to liberate the premises.

Demanding total withdrawal of Russian troops from Chechnya, the Muslim fighters entered the building during the middle of a popular musical, firing their guns into the air. Shortly after, children and some women, including all Muslim members of the audience, were allowed to leave the theatre.

The Chechens branded themselves as suicidal independence soldiers and were comprised of both men and women. Reports suggest that the perpetrators had explosives strapped to their chests, and that suicide was an acceptable objective.

A rebel website said with regards to the situation, "The building is mined and all mujahideen are mined. They are suicide commandos. They didn't come to live but to die." Witnesses said that some of the men and women posed as couples to gain access to the theatre without arousing suspicion.

On Thursday two hostages were able to escape the theatre under fire from the Islamic fighters inside the building. Police said "the Chechens threatened to kill themselves and their hostages if the Russian army does not pull out of Chechnya."

The only known casualty before Saturday was a woman in her late twenties who was apparently shot in the chest by her captives. Two doctors were allowed to enter the theatre to retrieve her body late on Thursday.

The incident has sparked international outrage

and Russian President Vladimir Putin condemned the hostage taking as a cowardly act, which will only precipitate more death. He also went on to describe it as one of the worst acts of terrorism in recent history and claimed it had been planned "in one of the foreign terrorist centers."

The hostages included up to 75 foreigners, 3 of whom were from the United States. It is not known if there were any Canadian nationals held at the theatre, which is located only 3 miles from the Kremlin.

In a statement monitored on Al-Jazeera, a Qatar-based satellite channel, a source said thousands of Chechens stood ready to die for independence. "I swear by God we are more keen on dying than you are keen on living," a black clad male said in the videotaped broadcast. "Each one of us is willing to sacrifice himself for the sake of God and the independence of Chechnya."

"Each of us is willing to sacrifice himself for the sake of God and independence of Chechnya"

—unknown Chechen militant

The hostage taking was a heavy blow to Putin, who has maintained that the situation in Chechnya, a mainly Muslim republic in southern Russia, is under control. Hopes for a peaceful end to this drama were raised briefly when a spokesperson for the rebels said that foreigners from countries that were "not at war with Chechnya" would be released.

On Saturday, reports suggested that Russian commandos stormed the theatre just after releasing alleged BZ gas, "a colorless, odorless incapacitant with hallucinogenic properties," first used by the United States in Vietnam. However, it is presently unclear if this was actually the gas used as BZ is typically slow-acting, and would not immediately cause death.

When the smoke cleared, many hostages had to be rushed to hospital, while 117 were confirmed dead, two from gunshot wounds and 115 from gas exposure. Many others remain in critical care at local hospitals from gas inhalation. It is not known where any foreigners are included among the dead or injured.

Vladimir Putin responded to the situation by asking relatives of the victims to forgive the deci-

When the smoke cleared, 117 were confirmed dead, two from gunshot wounds and 115 from gas exposure.



File Photo

Movsar Barayev, leader of the Chechen militants, was killed in Saturday's raid.

sion that had to be made. Ultimately, "more lives were saved then would have been lost if no action had been taken" he said. Monday October 28 has also been recognized as a day of mourning for the Russian people as Putin tries to avoid backlash from the tragic events that have plagued his term.

The Chechen problem first originated in 1783 when a fledgling Russia absorbed the province before the Soviet Union was even a thought. According to historians, during World War II conflict was ignited again when Josef Stalin accused the Chechens of helping the Germans. He sent the entire nation into exile, killing about one-third of the population.

Separatism has been an issue ever since but only after the fall of the Soviet Union did the movement take a true physical form. Battles raged from 1994 to 1995, which diminished the Chechen people and left its capital Grozny in ruins.

Boris Yeltsin did make moves towards allowing the creation of a separate state during his time, though any gains have since been destroyed by Putin, who came to power in 1999 as a fierce advocate of anti-separatism. This hard-nosed approach was an easy sell nationally, but internationally it received negative responses.

However, September 11, 2001 changed everything in the world of politics. The Russians have now branded the Chechens as terrorists and are no longer harshly criticized for their actions against the Muslims. Putin has made it clear that he will not negotiate with terrorists.

"Immediately after September 11, Putin decided he could get support for this position because it looks very similar [to terrorism] and it is very similar," said Gusejnov, an expert in ethnic conflicts in the former Soviet Union. "And no doubt there are contacts between Chechens and Arab groups or the Taliban or al Qaeda because it is a shadow world. And it is a world with huge amounts of weapons."



File Photo

Female hostage takers sit dead after inhaling toxic gas courtesy of the Russian Army.

WORLD WATCH

England

Confession blames British troops

On January 30 1972, the British Army's 1st Parachute Regiment opened fire on a crowd of demonstrators armed only with bottles and stones. The victims were part of a crowd protesting the British 'Policy of Internment' for suspected members of the Irish Republican Army (IRA).

The British Army has maintained that the shootings were justified and insisted that the IRA had fired first. Three months after the shootings, the infantry was cleared of any offences, concluding: "There is no reason to suppose that the soldiers would have opened fire if they had not been fired upon first."

However, this week in England, "Soldier 27" testified anonymously from behind a screen in Britain's largest, longest and most costly public inquiry in its history. He testified that on the day before the massacre, the head of his anti-tank platoon, "Lieutenant 119", took his men aside and said, "Let us teach the buggers a lesson—we want some kills tomorrow." The inquiry into the wrongful deaths will continue into 2003.

Kuwait

Court overturns conviction

A Kuwaiti appeals court has overturned a Filipino man's conviction in the murder of a Canadian last November. In the same proceeding the court cleared the dead man's widow for giving false testimony in the case.

Two other Philippine citizens convicted in the shooting death of Canadian Luc Ethier, 36, were also cleared. Teddy Tomaro was originally sentenced to life in prison for murdering Ethier on November 10 2001. The court heard that Tomaro had shot Ethier and his Filipina wife, Mary-Jane Bitos, as they walked at night along a street in Fahaheel, south of Kuwait City.

It was believed that Ethier's murder was in retaliation for the US-led war in Afghanistan. The court was told that his wife and five Philippine citizens plotted to kill him for insurance money. However, a close friend of Ethier's testified that his wife, Ms. Bitos, was not the beneficiary of her husband's insurance and the defence had argued that the murder gun had never been found.

Italy

Banker's death ruled homicide

In Rome last week a judicial tribunal concluded that the death of Roberto Calvi, a financier connected to the Vatican, was a murder and not a suicide. In 1982 Calvi had been implicated in Italy's biggest postwar banking scandal.

A panel of forensic experts has concluded that the incident was indeed a homicide, after new evidence was found and examined by a Roman tribunal. His body was found hanging under a London bridge in 1982, just days after the collapse of Banco Ambrosiano, of which he was president. The Vatican's bank held a large stake in Banco Ambrosiano. Since his death Mr. Calvi's family has maintained that he was murdered.

Have an opinion on international events? Why not write a letter to the Cord and let the school read your thoughts?

Write letters@wlusp.com.

Maximum 350 words

International Opinion

Jackass of the week: Michel Houellebecq

By Brandon Currie

Idiotic comments regarding Islam once again made international news last week, as French author Michel Houellebecq (pronounced Wellbeck) appeared in a Paris court to defend his allegations that Islam "is the most stupid religion, and is charged with sexuality-male sexuality", and that Muslims "multiply like rats." Just to remove all doubt that he is an uniformed bigot, Houellebecq added; "when you read the Koran, you give up." To place him in his own rubric, I say, "Houellebecq is the most stupid person, and is charged with hatred - religious hatred. When I think about his logic, I give up." Maybe the Ayatollah will do us all a favour and give him in the Salman Rushdie treatment.



Who's the rogue state?



Paul Jarrett

In a recent State of the Union address, US President George W. Bush stated "The United States of America will not permit the world's most dangerous regimes to threaten us with the world's most destructive weapons."

The Democratic Peoples Republic of Korea (DPRK) is a part of what Bush calls the 'Axis of Evil', along with Iran and Iraq. These nations are considered 'rogue states' to the United States because they blatantly disregard treaties that America imposes on them. These are not the only nations which follow such political courses, as Bush passed up what SatireWire.com calls the "Axis of Just as Evil" with Libya, China and Syria and "The Axis of Somewhat Evil" with Cuba, Sudan, and Serbia.

The USA is the only nation to ever use nuclear weapons. Since 1945, America has attempted to dictate nuclear policy to the world, which essentially consists of dictating who can and cannot possess nuclear weapons.

On Wednesday October 16 2002 the DPRK admitted that they had a nuclear weapons program, in opposition to a treaty signed in 1994. The nuclear program began several years after they signed a so-called "Agreed Framework" with their neighbors. In the "Agreed Framework" the DPRK promised the United States, Japan and South Korea that they would freeze their nuclear program in exchange for nuclear electricity generators.

In response to the violation the United States is attempting to force the DPRK to concede their weapons program. Why should the DPRK give up what they have

developed? Nuclear treaties are not worth the paper unless the US shows leadership by ending their proliferation. While the US makes threats and demands of the DPRK, Bush continues to develop weapons that have the power to destroy the entire globe.

The DPRK possess a moderately advanced missile delivery system, the Taep'o-dong-2, which has a maximum range of 4300km. The system is of strategic concern to Eastern Russia, China, Japan, South Korea and Alaska among other places. The DPRK needs weapons to guard their security against their traditional enemy, Japan and their sponsor the USA, not to launch an aggressive campaign. If the DPRK is such a 'rogue state' why have they not acted in a threatening manner to any of their enemies? The DPRK developed their technology to bring more security to their region by forcing aggressive nations to think of the nuclear ramifications of military actions which might threaten the DPRK.

The United States possess the most advanced missile delivery systems available, which currently is the Peacekeeper Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM). The Peacekeeper is a four-stage ICBM and is capable of carrying up to ten independently-targetable missiles with greater accuracy than any other missiles. The US possesses 50 such weapons with a range of more than 6000 miles.

Many nations have demanded that the US halt their program of nuclear proliferation, but America has stayed their unilateral course. Furthermore, the US is primarily responsible for most of the weapons proliferation throughout the world. For instance, the US supplied Iraq weapons against Iran, and supplied Iran weapons against the Soviet Union. America has created the 'Axis of Evil' and has now decided that North Korea is the enemy. If the US can maintain their arsenal and continue to proliferate weapons, then the DPRK should not fear hypocritical American reprisals.

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Paranormal Investigators

With Halloween fast approaching, the inevitable television specials on ghosts, goblins and ghoulies have begun to frequent our living rooms and residences. For some, this is merely entertainment, a brief distraction from the normal programming we have become used to. For others, it raises a question, or possibly, a number of them. They ask "What if?" It is this question I will attempt to answer, from the perspective of a Paranormal Investigator and Psychic Medium.

Mediums

Mediums are people who can perceive spirits, either by hearing, smelling, tasting or physically feeling them. They speak to spirits, sometimes through telepathy (in contact) or by simply speaking out loud. For a Medium, it is a daily occurrence, and usually not a fad or difficult to scientifically evaluate a Medium's abilities. Some are considered real if their insights and messages seem accurate and helpful. Some Mediums work for free, such as many of the Spiritualist Church, which has a local chapter in Galt. Others are paid, both for readings and teaching Mediumship. Mediums have existed throughout history under a variety of names. In the past, it was the modern Spiritualist movement that renewed interest in spirits. Unfortunately, this movement, especially in the beginning, was plagued by frauds and con artists, which is still a problem today in the world of psychic phenomena.

While being a Medium often comes naturally, most believe that one can learn, given time and patience. In essence, it allows a person to make contact with the spirit world, and possibly even with loved ones. A number of Mediums also describe themselves as psychics, with various psychic abilities, ranging from clairvoyance, telepathy, clairaudience and various degrees of healing abilities. It is considered the sole province of Mediums and much like Mediumship, it is learned given enough time and effort.

For Mediums, Halloween is not an interesting season unless one accounts for individual religious beliefs. Learning, investigating and communicating with spirits goes on regardless of the season and how

Paranormal Investigations

In Southwestern Ontario, there are at least ten Paranormal Investigation teams attempting to discover whether spirits actually exist. Some are convinced already that they do, whereas others are still undecided. Each investigation team employs its own unique methods and equipment, and many also use

Psychics or Sensitives (a 'suffering psychic' people who are so psychic that they cannot block out the impressions, emotions or visions that they get.) The activity and professionalism of each group varies, from mildly interested amateurs to extremely talented and experienced Investigators. Some perform monthly investigations, whereas others may only do one or two jobs a year.

The investigations themselves are generally carried out with the utmost discretion. If the area being researched is public, the investigators do not want to attract undue attention to their job. If the area of investigation is a client's home, many clients do not wish their neighbours or landlords to know what is happening. Most successful investigators can guarantee both discretion and professionalism.

Investigations are typically carried out in teams of less than ten people. The team has a leader, who debriefs everyone a few days before the scheduled investigation. Team members, in groups of two or three, are assigned tasks and given the proper equipment. Maps of the area or home to be searched are distributed to each team. If the team employs Psychics they are given the opportunity to give any impressions and feelings they receive from the maps or anything else provided by the team leader. During the actual investigation everything is recorded - impressions, observations and out of place noises, including those the team members make themselves. A sneeze from one team member could sound like supernatural phenomena to another. The times of each observation are also recorded and then cross-referenced with other team members' log of events.

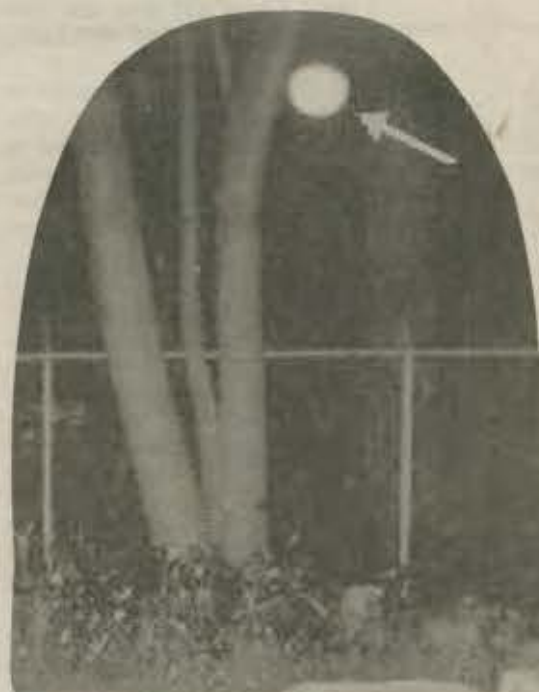
Investigation equipment can include a 35mm camera, video camera, tape recorder with an external microphone, thermometer, electromagnetic field detector (EMF), motion detector, night scope and a number of common sense items such as flashlights, water, watch and cell phone.

Cameras, both film and video, are used to obtain pictures of spirits which often show up on film as balls of energy known as orbs or spirit orbs. Unfortunately, it is very easy to take a picture of a false orb and mistake it for a real one. Investigators must differentiate between possible spirits and false orbs that are caused by light reflection and/or refraction due to pollen, dust particles, rain, snow, smoke, and reflective surfaces.

Tape recorders are used to record Electronic Voice Phenomena or EVP, which simply means spirit talk. Skeptics point out that EVP is incredibly easy to fake, and in some cases the noises recorded could simply be natural noises that sound similar to English words.

Thermometers are used for tracking extreme changes in temperature, especially when indoors. Many Investigators have found spirits will make an area hotter or colder than normal. EMF's are used for detecting electromagnetic fluctuations in a given area. Of all the equipment used, the EMF most closely resembles the equipment used in the movie Ghostbusters. This black piece of handheld equipment beeps louder and faster as electrical activity in the area increases.

Investigations are not wild hair raising adventures portrayed in film. Blood doesn't drip from the walls, closets don't eat little girls, and people don't get slimed. Investigations involve painstaking sweeps room by room with the EMF and video recorder, carefully consideration of the placement of the tape recorder and photographs must be taken of every area of possible interest. Psychics explore the entire area and offer suggestions for where some of the equipment, especially the camera, should be placed. Afterwards, all the data must be compiled, watched and listened to carefully, with every effort made by the investigators to distinguish between natural and possible spiritual phenomena.



ors, Ghosts and Mediums

Sean Wilde

Ghosts



The belief in ghosts or spirits dates back thousands of years. As far back as ancient Sumer (fifth century BC) there were Gigim xul (evil spirit), Gidim xul (evil ghost), Lalartu (phantom) and Lalassu (spectre). Various cultures have attempted to define and explain ghosts and related phenomena with varying levels of success.

In Paranormal Investigation, ghosts are roughly defined as the sentient spirits of deceased people or animals, who (for some reason) have remained earthbound. These spirits can be seen on film, recorded and measured using the proper equipment. All human beings have an electromagnetic field that is often referred to as an aura. It is this aura that remains after death and can be detected by investigators.

There are two key points in the definition of ghosts: that of 'sentient' and 'earthbound'. Non-sentient ghosts are called hauntings. Hauntings are actually more like psychic imprints or a re-enactment of a past event. A haunting in the form of a re-enactment could be a set of Roman Centurions marching, a murder, or countless other possibilities. The key feature is that the re-enactment is an image of the past and involves the actual people who once participated in the event; it is a supernatural recording of what once happened. Many hauntings are often confused with actual sentient spirits.

The second key word in the definition of ghosts is "earthbound". A belief in spirits does not preclude many paradigms of the afterlife. People still go to Nirvana, Heaven, Hell, Elysium, etc. It is those people that do not enter the afterlife that are the spirits investigators and others encounter.

Today there continues to be much speculation regarding why spirits remain earthbound. It is almost impossible to find an objective answer, as there is no concrete way of proving supernatural phenomena. Any answers given are based predominately on faith, which unfortunately is not really relevant to scientific investigation. Current theories offer the suggestion that spirits choose to be Earthbound, are trapped here, don't realize they are dead, are Spirit Guides, or are sent to earth by others from the afterlife. It is my personal belief that all of these theories are correct, it just depends on the circumstance.

For the most part, spirits are unable to interact with our world, or physical reality itself. Only in rare cases can they affect our reality, most often by moving an object, making an area feel cold or hot, or by creating a physical sensation of being touched; sometimes spirits are even able to speak to people.

Hollywood most often depicts spirits as negative or comical. In general they are actually much as they were in life. Essentially a spirit is a person without a physical body. Some are negative, some comical, however the majority are your average type of person. Some spirits desire only to be left alone, whereas others will attempt to communicate with people. Those humans who can reliably communicate with spirits are known as Mediums.

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About Sean

Sean began his study of the paranormal with his first spiritual experience at the age of four. For the last 25 years he has studied a variety of areas in the spiritual and uses his personal library of 250+ volumes to supplement his own knowledge. He is an alumnus of Wilfrid Laurier University and has lectured for various Religion and Culture courses at both Laurier and Waterloo Universities. For the last ten years he has sat on various spiritual and religious panels for conferences in Ontario and Ohio. In 1992 he founded the Laurier Pagan and Psychic Fellowship, now known as Students for Esoteric Exploration. Sean is also a resource for two international esoteric groups, giving them advice and pointers on energy work, spirits and numerous esoteric topics. A natural Medium and Psychic, he shares his knowledge by holding weekly classes on the paranormal and esoteric. Most recently, he has begun learning the First Spiritualist Church method of Mediumship.



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Is it fair to be healthy?

That question, among many others, were asked at the Health Services' Stress Fair held in the Concourse this past week

Kristen Howard

The Stress Fair, brought to you by Health Services, was in full swing and full of action last Thursday. The event had the Health & Fitness Team round up different clubs from across campus to promote healthy ways for dealing with the stress of midterms and a plenitude of other uncontrollable responsibilities.

Clubs were lined up all across the Concourse promoting their student friendly services. Peer Help Line handed out suckers with a friendly smile.

For those of you who have never heard about this service, Peer Help Line is a service you can call and get a little off of your mind. The number to call is 884-PEER. Someone is available seven days a week from 7:00pm to 1:00am for information, advice or anything else you need to know.

The Peer Help Line's promise of confidentiality makes students feel more comfortable with calling a random stranger to complain about crazy roommates and creepy landlords.

The next booth I checked out was Tutorial Services who had information about how to get in

touch with a tutor, in case you are stressed about not knowing certain material or need a little extra help.

More details on tutoring are available on the service's web site that can be accessed through WLUSU's main page, www.wlusu.com. You can also reach them at 884-0710 ext: 2264.

Mik Vasarais, one of the coordinators of the event, spoke diligently of the newly introduced Stress Fair. "This is our first year (for this activity) as we are trying to get the word out about health and fitness."

As we continued to discuss the Fair, Mik challenged me to a round at the punching bag, and I gladly accepted. I felt silly at first swinging half-heartedly at the punching bag but after a while I could feel a lot of natural endorphins flowing.

The use of a punching bag was just one way to relieve stress. As well, on the far side of the Concourse was a cuddly massage area filled with pillows, exercise mats and wooden back rollers.

This area of the Concourse was definitely the place to be if you were highly stressed; you were able to relax and take a

minute out from thinking about your next midterm or paper.

Other activities included plastic sword fighting, a comedy corner and a step class at noon.

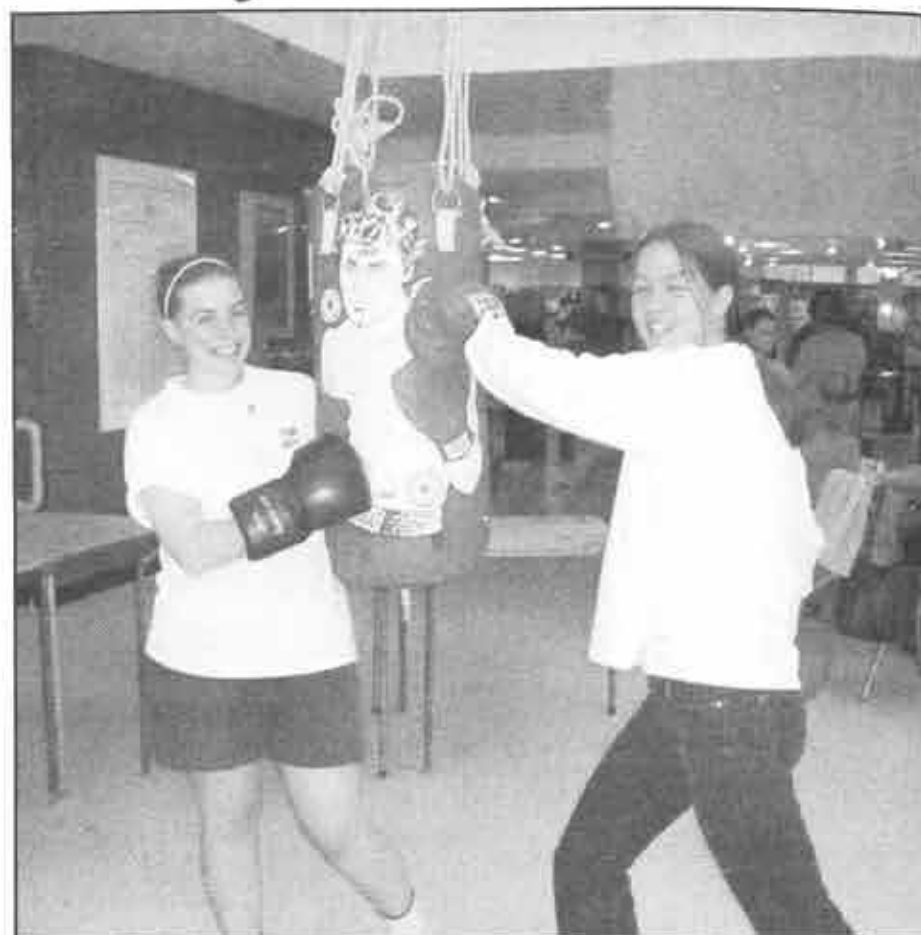
Overall the day was a success and energized students who checked to see what the Fair was all about. They were quite pleased to find out tips and take part in the activities mentioned.

After all was said and done, the energy in the Concourse seemed a lot more positive than earlier, even with those tedious take home essays due next week still looming.

Maintaining a healthy diet and staying hydrated is very important to reduce stress levels.

Five simple ways to reduce stress include:

- stay active
- walk, work and eat at a relaxed pace
- go outside at least once a day
- breathe deeply when you feel agitated
- avoid holding in feelings, and find a safe place to express and embrace them.



Stress relief made simple.

Matt Bonassi

Need another stress reliever? Write for Student Life. Meetings every Monday at 5:30pm in the Student Publications Office located on the 3rd floor of the FNCC.

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Restless ResNet residents

Students using ResNet face possible restrictions on downloadable material

Nathan McKinlay

For every university student a huge part of his or her existence revolves around the use of a computer and of course, the internet. For those living on-campus in Willison Hall, Macdonald House, Clara Conrad Hall, Waterloo College Hall and Bricker Residence, the use of the internet is facilitated through ResNet, a network outlet to allow students to access the WLU computer network and the internet.

Restrictions have yet to be given to those students using ResNet, although the possibility looms overhead. Mike Belanger, Head of Residential Services, claims that certain restrictions need to be made in order to ensure that student's internet connections run smoothly.

"It's basically a matter of economics," Belanger claims. He explained that censorship held no role in whatever restrictions were to be made. This is not an issue of morality which was the fear of many. Pornography fans are still free to gawk.

Belanger went on to say that students who download excessively are slowing the internet connection down for everyone. Movies and songs are being shared too frequently, and in turn, all of the bandwidth is being used up. Bandwidth is the amount of data that can be transferred over the lines. ResNet allows 1000 kilobits to be downloaded in a second. So

theoretically, if there was only one person on that network, that person could download 1000 kilobits per second. However, if there were 1000 people downloading at once, then each person would be downloading at one kilobit per second.

Last year, the entire university was on the same network. Faculty and students alike were subjected to an unreliable internet speed. Their solution was to restrict peer to peer file sharing (which includes programs similar to Kazaa, Imesh, and Grokster) during certain hours. Belanger has considered enforcing similar restrictions between the hours of 7 a.m. and 11 p.m. on weekdays. Outside of those hours, he says, students could do as they please. This is just a proposal, however, and has yet to be discussed with the Students Union.

Other schools have alternate ways of dealing with this situation. Belanger mentioned Western, and St. Jerome's at the University of Waterloo, for example. At Western, each student is allocated a certain amount of bandwidth per month. If they run out, they have to wait until the next month to receive more. St. Jerome's University charges its students extra if a student uses more than his/her share of bandwidth.

Willison resident, Adam Hunt, agrees that something needs to be done about the internet speed. He mentioned



Matt Benassi

Just one of the many ways students take out their frustrations with the ResNet issue.

that the internet takes forever to load and pondered the possibility of a private company providing the answer. He also suggested that if a floor bandwidth were given out, there might be less of a problem. Hunt provided a tip for Hotmail users. He said that if they were to link their Hotmail account to their Outlook account, their mail might just speed up.

"It's really not performing to our expectations," said Phil Cervoni, a Floor Representative at Willison Hall. Cervoni was told that his internet service was supposed to be high speed but from his perspective, that is hardly the case. Cervoni agrees with Hunt that an outside internet source may be the best course of action. He does not

think restrictions should be necessary in order to obtain the high speed internet he was promised. Cervoni mentioned that House Council has started a petition against ResNet's services, encouraging residents to report their troubles through e-mail.

Questions have also been raised about how dissatisfied customers would be able to lodge their complaints about ResNet's services.

A ResNet office is in the works where students should be able to receive an immediate response to their problems. However, with the strike, this service is currently inoperable. There has also been talk about whether or not students without computers should have to pay

the \$135 which covers the two terms. Belanger was quick to point out that students who fail to use the Athletic Complex or the Library still get billed for them.

Thus, he deems it appropriate to include the \$135 on the base fee. Belanger said that if he were to have to approach all these people on an individual basis, it would likely double or triple the costs. He encourages those students who don't have computers to use the school's other resources to make up for the cost.

In 2003 ResNet will expand to every residence, further embedding itself as an essential service on campus.



Food for thought



Mitesh Anjaria

Ennio's has it all, including a secluded patio, beautiful decor and the most important ingredient - outstanding food! What more could you want?

Ennio's has been a family owned restaurant in the K-W area for the last seven years. As one of two locations in the region, the manager says, "We hope to bring pleasure to any palette".

Overall, the restaurant possesses a soft feel with a homey ambience. There is plenty of seating available for large groups or intimate settings ideal for a romantic



Mitesh Anjaria

Now that's some good Pimenzinio platter.

evening. Service was very hospitable and prompt with an attentive and accommodating server, all working to create a comfortable mood even before our food was served. I like to call this 'Mood before food', as it is a must for any successful restaurant experience.

The menu contains quite a diverse selection and the staff takes pride in this. They also offer wheat-free pasta for those who are allergic. The lunch menu offers such things as sandwiches, a salad bar, and an array of affordable pasta dishes. Pasta dishes range from \$5.65 to \$9.95, including bread and salad.

Our experience started with a treat called a Pimenzinio Platter - \$12.99. The platter included strips of tender, juicy steak and breaded shrimp with bacon, all arranged nicely with a creamy dipping sauce. My counterpart's first words when she took a bite out of the steak were an enthusiastic "Oh, my God".

When our meals came out, promptly I might add, they were aesthetically pleasing. Another key ingredient when dining out, of course. We sampled three different meals, the Fusilli Primavera - \$12.99, Fusilli with Jumbo shrimp and vegetables - \$14.29 and the Mufalada Rustica - \$14.29,

with noodles made fresh everyday.

The Mufalada was scintillatingly good and has chicken breast within the alfredo-type sauce. The portion is huge, but the dish seemed to have little chicken in it. I would definitely recommend a trip to Ennio's just for this dish. Its overall freshness and rich sauce caused me to temporarily lose focus and I almost forgot I had to sample the other dishes.

The Fusilli with Jumbo shrimp came in a blush sauce, which is a blend of alfredo and tomato sauces. There were some leafy greens and zucchini that made a nice medley with the sauce. The shrimp were also juicy and large.

The vegetarian dish was average when compared with the two other meals. It was packed with broccoli and an array of veggies. I recommend it to anyone looking for an alternate to meat sauce dishes.

All in all, Ennio's is the place to go for any pasta connoisseur and anyone looking for an overall fine dining experience.



Mitesh Anjaria

Waterloo's own taste of Italy.

Ennio's
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Waterloo
893-0543

Cord's Rating:



Out of a possible Five Smiling Jenn's

Rascalz represent at Turret

Jonathan Corbin

The heavily promoted Frantic Flow Fridays got a major boost last Friday as a couple of special guests graced the Turret with their presence. Vancouver's The Rascalz performed as the headlining act, continuing their Canadian tour with Spek. The well-respected hip-hop crew drew a variety of people from the club cat, to the hip-hop heads. All were well entertained.

The night began with some true turntablism from Radio Laurier's DJ Teelo. Despite the short set, Teelo set the tone for the night with some skilled scratching and mixing. He was followed by the Turret's Friday night leading light, DJ Surreal. Spinning a mix of popular hip-hop, reggae and R&B, Surreal moved the crowd as the drinks started flowing.

With his drum machine in one hand and a drink in the other, opening act Spek took the stage

joined by a small band consisting of a vocalist, guitarist and bass player. They provided live instrumentation over electronic drums loop as Spek laid down his old school hip-hop vibes. With several apologies for how different his sound was, Spek flowed smoothly between songs which apparently had influences from The Beatles, Jimi Hendrix and Simon and Garfunkel. Spek did relate to the crowd, but at times it seemed like he was trying too hard. All in all, Spek's attempt to fuse hip-hop with the culture of the 70's seemed futile and those in attendance could sense it.

With growing anticipation of the main event, DJ Surreal took the stage for one more set. Although it took him a while to stir things up, the crowd was hyped and ready to go by the time the Rascalz took the stage. Known as one of the groups at the forefront of the Canadian hip-hop movement, the Rascalz continued the



Matt Benassi

What's he pointing at?

promotion of their new album Reloaded. The show began with head nodding tracks "Stop Drop" and "Filthy" from the new project. Emcees Red-1 and Misfit handled their mics with confidence and demonstrated a strong stage presence.

A demonstration of confidence is expected from a crew

that has been around since 1993. Following the success of their debut single "Really Livin'," the Rascalz released their first full length project, Cash Crop. The buzz created by that album added the crew into a group of emcees trying to bring respectability to the Canadian hip-hop game. The group included Kardinal Offishall, Choclaire and others who combined to create the 1998 smash hit "Northern Touch" - a song which earned the Rascalz their second Juno award in 1999. (This award was received after refusing the 1998 award given to them for Cash Crop.) Since then, the crew has continued to make waves with Global Warning (their second album) and Reloaded.

It was evident quite early on that this concert was in promotion of the new album. Of the fourteen songs on Reloaded, nine of them were performed in their hour-plus set. The Rascalz did pay homage to the old school fans by perform-

ing a medley of tracks from previous albums including "Northern Touch" and "Dreaded Fist." But the night was strictly for the new fans. A major criticism of Reloaded has been the dominance of Red-1 on most of the tracks. During the show however, both emcees had an equal sharing of the mic, with Misfit even cranking out a solid freestyle. The crowd was entertained with new songs like "One Shot," "Movie Star" and the big hit "Crazy World." While their performance was very consistent, it did not pack a power punch. Also, an unfortunate incident ended the night with an anticlimax. Towards the end of the show, Red-1 invited many of the ladies in the club up on stage. As everyone on stage grooved to the final song "Crazy World," the record carrying the track skipped, leaving the Rascalz to rhyme a cappella. It was an awkward ending to an otherwise tight show.

Reviews of the Week

Secretary

Brad Skelton



Steven Shainberg's *Secretary* takes as its subject one of the most bizarre romances I've seen in a movie, and the fact that the film is oddly engaging is a tribute to the skill of Shainberg and his actors. The story studies the relationship between a troubled young woman who appears to be a masochist and her domineering employer, and in less confident hands there are innumerable ways this material could have gone wrong but the filmmakers manage to find the perfect tone and stick with it. If the film had taken itself too seriously or, conversely, not seriously enough, then we would realize we were watching a movie and the illusion would be shattered. Surprisingly though, *Secretary* unfolds like a tightrope act that occasionally falters but never loses its footing and I was quietly stunned by how much I ended up caring for the characters.

A great deal of the credit for the film's success must go to Maggie Gyllenhaal, who plays Lee Holloway and occupies the screen for most of the movie. Lee is a woman with low self-esteem, a neurotic family (including a perpetually drunken father), and a penchant for self-mutilation. She likes giving herself small cuts because in some strange way it comforts her. As the movie opens Lee is being released from a psychiatric hospital where she spent the last couple of years after accidentally cutting herself badly; now she just wants to get on with her life. She has taken typing classes and goes looking for a job so that she'll have something to do with her time. She still cuts herself whenever she's upset. Gyllenhaal, the sister of Jake Gyllenhaal (from *Moonlight Mile* and *Donnie Darko*) proves that she is a young actress with a lot of talent, playing scenes that look as though they should be unplayable. She does not let Lee come across as a hopeless or pathetic character who's constantly unhappy, which is one direction the movie could have gone, but instead she plays the character as cheerful and likable, someone who'd like to fit in and seem normal if only she can figure out how to do that. Lee doesn't quite understand her own masochistic tendencies, but she knows she enjoys masochism as she tries to keep her behaviour private.

Lee's job search leads her to the law office of Mr. E. Edward Grey, who goes through secretaries so frequently that he has a sign outside his building that can be lit up to advertise the fact that he needs a new assistant. Mr. Grey (James Spader), from the first time we see him, seems even more

deeply troubled than Lee. He's obsessive-compulsive and browbeats his secretaries like a brutal taskmaster, but he comes across as a lonely person who wishes he could control his fixations. When he meets with Lee an unspoken understanding appears to pass between them and this connection inspires Mr. Grey to hire Lee. The relationship that ensues is almost perversely weird and provides some of the movie's best moments. I will not reveal the details of their strange courtship, except to say that the way Mr. Grey criticizes Lee's typos and other mistakes and the way she seems to enjoy this kind of attention is quite amusing. The behaviour they engage in is abnormal and may seem unhealthy but they take delight in it and know that it is only role-playing. There is a time during which Mr. Grey withdraws from this S&M role-playing because he is frightened by how much Lee enjoys it - and even more frightened by how much he enjoys it. This part of the film provides some of the biggest laughs as we observe Lee's frustration at her inability to get Mr. Grey's attention and receive "punishment". I like the way that Lee actually becomes the stronger of the two characters because she accepts her fetish and is confident and comfortable with it.

James Spader is perhaps the only actor who could have played Mr. Grey. He has created a niche for himself, playing characters who may be slimy and perverted but come across as sympathetic nonetheless. We are not given all the details as to why these two people are the way they are, but I prefer that the filmmakers don't try to explain everything and simply trust the audience to empathize with the characters. Spader and Gyllenhaal work very well together, creating interesting characters and, in their own weird way, a convincing couple.

Secretary isn't perfect (it contains some extraneous scenes and characters that could be removed), but by the final scenes I was satisfied because the film treats its subject matter with an appropriate amount of sincerity and reaches its happy ending in a completely unconventional manner. This movie is about behaviour rather than plot and situation, which is far more fascinating because we get the sense that the characters are determining the outcome of the story through the choices that they make. As Luis Bunuel seemed to bemusedly observe in many of his films, our desires, fetishes, obsessions and yearnings may seem absurd to others, and may indeed be arbitrary and beyond our understanding, but that is what makes human nature so funny. Our obsessions might not make any sense, but they are important to us because they are so resolutely our own.

Y tu mama tambien

Tito Goya



File Photo

All I heard about *Y Tu Mama Tambien*, even before I knew what it meant, (And your mother, too - definitely lost in the translation) was references to sex and drugs, as well as the occasional recommendation of "you gotta see it!" But it was precisely the symbiosis film-sex-drugs, so mercilessly exploited since the '60's, that convinced me to watch it. My excuse: curiosity. My mistake: false expectations.

Alfonso Cuaron (Great Expectations), director and screenwriter, although playing with similar controversies and themes, doesn't remind me in the least of the bleak and addictive *Trainspotting* or the tasteless PJ-party blockbuster *Cruel Intentions*. He has more in common with *Our Lady of the Assassins* or *Amores Perros*. In other words, sun-caressed deserts, the myth of remote beaches, violence and sex-drive as a manifestation of passion, all of which seem to have become the milestones of South-American cinematography, provide the backdrop of the film. And just like Mexico, *Y Tu Mama Tambien* is a film made of clashes starting with the avalanche of colors, music, landscapes and swear words - what you see is NOT what you get.

At first sight, Julio (Gael Garcia Bernal) and Tenoch (Diego Luna) give the impression of two spoiled brats from the right side of the tracks. They are self-declared "Charolastros" or Mexican space cowboys. Parts of their 10-point Manifesto read: "1.

Do whatever you like, 2. Pop beats poetry, 4. Get high at least once a day, and 9. Never marry a virgin." Their much riper companion Luisa (Maribel Verdu) is, as a woman's magazine quiz describes her, "a woman afraid of taking advantage of her freedom". Parts of Luisa's 10-point Manifesto read: "1. I will not f**k either one of you, 2. I pick the music, 5. You cook, and 10. You're not allowed to contradict me." Together they hope to find the paradise beach, Heaven's Mouth, a creation of their psychedelic junkie minds. But as the cliché goes, life is a journey and *Y Tu Mama Tambien* is a road movie - the perfect occasion for Alfonso Cuaron to rehabilitate the reputation of this used and overused frame, showing that the only thing *Thelma and Louise*, *Road Trip* and *Y Tu Mama Tambien* have in common is an automobile.

What brings his work closer to the beatnik pulse of "On the Road" is the car, named Betsabe and with a life of its own. Betsabe turns the Charolastros fart and masturbation stories, their sex training in the back seat and the promiscuity of their highly disturbed female companion into utter sensuality. Alfonso Cuaron turns everything upside down - the car, his characters, friendship, love and along with them his audience, all squeezed in the trunk. Luisa's insecurity is broken down by Tequila and weed only so she can break her ties to the past and ridicule the self-sufficient cowboy image Julio and Tenoch share. She then reveals her unsuspected beast-like attraction which will change everything and everyone irrevocably.

Y Tu Mama Tambien could have been a straightforward story about the loss of absolute truth, innocence, friendship and trust if it were not for the *Amelie*-like narrator in the background. We are continuously slapped in the face by this prophetic voice, who knows all about past and future, names and destinies, scams and secrets. It fills in the small gaps, leaving the large ones uncovered. More than that, Cuaron gives us a lesson on reading film. Inspired from the Brechtian detachment from characters and plot, Alfonso Cuaron doesn't want us to share a transcendental experience in dark, velvet seated cinema theaters. His Manifesto: a picturesque Mexico agitated by leftist demonstration, jamming cow herds, beggars in wedding dresses, brutalizing police forces, elections and, naturally, globalization.

However the most convincing argument in favor of *Y Tu Mama Tambien* is that it was never rated in the US and therefore will not be featured at Blockbuster.

ear candy



Tom Waits
Closing Time (1973)



Tom Waits was barely in his twenties when he recorded and released *Closing Time*, and he was already an accomplished singer and songwriter. There are very few albums that can so perfectly evoke a mood such as Tom Waits' debut. *Closing Time* feels like just that - the last set from a band in a smoky bar on a Sunday night.

One of the most remarkable things about Waits is his voice. At such a young age he has an enormously well developed voice. Not the gravelly rasp that you hear on more recent albums like *Bone Machine* or *Mule Variations*, this time Waits sings with a tender voice that gives the impression that this man has seen the world. Lyrically, the songs are mostly character sketches filled with sadness, regret and heartache, such

as the beautiful "I Hope That I Don't Fall in Love With You" and the heartbreaking "Martha". The lyrics are sentimental and sincere, but never cross the line into derivative or cliché.

As well as already being a great lyricist at such a young age, Waits brilliantly manages to combine many styles on to one album. From the jazzy instrumental title track to the folk of the aforementioned "I Hope That I Don't Fall in Love With You", to the country-ish "Rosie" and "Ol' 55" and the lounge-like "Little Trip to Heaven (on the Wings of Your Love)". Unlike the later albums *Swordfishtrombones* and *Rain Dogs*, which favour a sparse and open production, *Closing Time* has a very lush and full sound that benefits the material. The album's evocation of loneliness and melancholia is captivating and undeniably moving; *Closing Time* is a masterpiece.

-James Hrivnak



File Photo

Rollins Band

The Only Way To Know For Sure



As a rabble-rouser and self-described windbag, Henry Rollins has made a habit - not to mention a career - of pissing off all the wrong people. A blowhard he may be, but the former Black Flag singer and author-poet-standup-pitchman has nonetheless delivered over 20 years' worth of some provocative musical and written

works.

In recent years he's found a sympathetic outlet for his vitriol in Mother Superior, an intense L.A. trio that drives his points home with all the ferocity that a Rollins performance demands. Band and ringleader are in particularly fine form on this two-disc set recorded live in Chicago. It's vintage Rollins, the burly front man's tightly wound passion burning with its usual blowtorch intensity throughout the 28 songs. Mother Superior, meanwhile, play loose and loud,

their muscle driving home the maestro's message to the frenzied faithful.

-Ross Macdonald

Editor's note:

Look for more "Classic Reviews" by James Hrivnak in future editions of The Cord Weekly.

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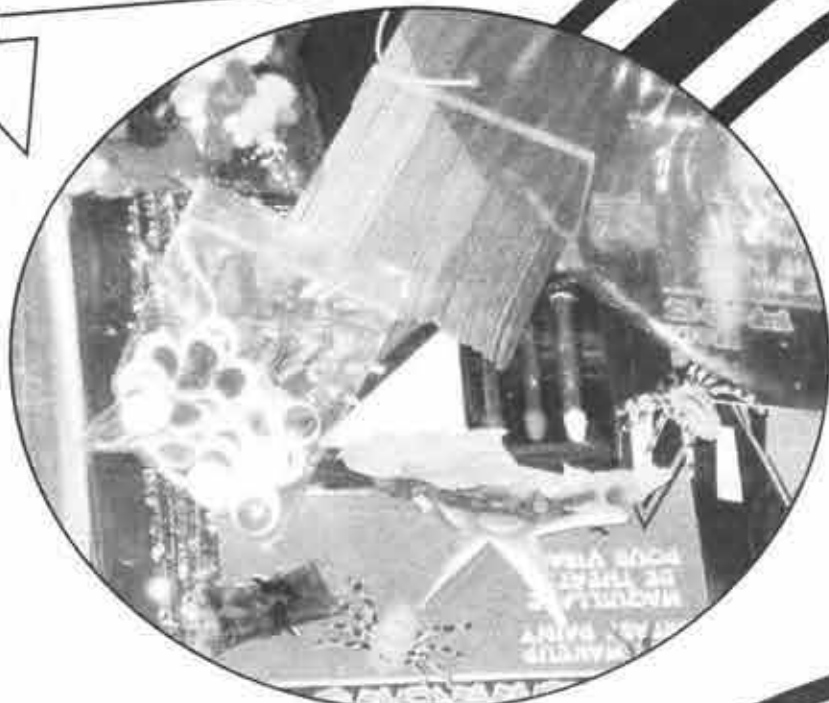
Thursday
Featuring Stone Prophets

Friday's
Steve & Chris

Art Attack!

The materials used for the Halloween Art Attack:

- * 2 masks
- * pipe cleaners
- * face emakeup
- * googly eyes (a favourite)
- * pom-poms
- * other various colourful items.



Starring Victim #1: Brandon. (Umm – typo: Volunteer #1) Also starring conniving accomplices Miranda and Ruth. (Yet another typo: Artists)



The stage is set; camera's rolling. But wait, wait, it seems we've forgotten the main ingredient: the specimen's costume. Ruth enhances the experiment



Miranda takes on Brandon after an unexpected encounter in the 24-hour lounge... Look at those skills!



at the corner of king and university

wednesday
hip hop



Two-time CIS Champs falter

Laurier men's soccer will not be vying for a three-peat National title in the 2002 - 2003 season

Colin Duffett

This is the season of upset in the OUA men's soccer league. Out of the eight playoff games that have taken place so far, only three of the home teams (the higher seeds) have come away with a victory. Out of the top four teams in the OUA this season, only Carleton has survived the underdog attack. Sadly, Wilfrid Laurier men's soccer was one of the teams that fell victim to this epidemic.

On Wednesday October 23 the Golden Hawks took to the field against the York Yeoman in the first round of playoff action. Despite many opportunities

Laurier 1, York 2

early on and late in the game, Laurier was unable to come out on top.

The superior team of the day, the Yeoman, played a solid game and came out of University Stadium with a 2 - 1 victory over the Hawks. The upset victory means that Laurier did not advance to

the quarterfinals, which were played on October 26 and 27. More importantly, Laurier will not be heading to Carleton University this year to defend their National Championship title.

The two-time defending National Champions will not be getting their chance for a three-peat.

The match against York started off rather slowly, as both teams tried to get a feel for the other squad. The deadlock would be broken at about the 12 minute mark, when Laurier's Kenny Nutt blasted a shot past York goalkeeper, Robert Colangelo. Colangelo would subsequently stand solid between the pipes for the remainder of the match.

York tied the score 15 minutes later, when a Yeomen tapped in a rebound that initially hit the post behind Laurier goalkeeper Allen Lourenco.

Going into half time, those in attendance (about 40 people at this point in the game) were confident that Laurier would step up their play and come out on top in the contest.

The Hawks did in fact play considerably better in the second half than in the first, but the squad was unable to deposit any soccer balls into the twine behind Colangelo.

At approximately the 30 minute mark, the



Matt Bonassi

Although the Hawks were unable to hold on to their CIS Championship title, Laurier goaltender Allen Lourenco holds on to this high York shot, while the other players watch.

Yeomen scored their second goal to get ahead and stay ahead in the match.

A York player sent a high ball across into the middle of the field. Allen Lourenco attempted to catch the Yeomen pass, only to have it slip out of his hands on contact and tapped into the net by an waiting York Yeoman.

Laurier tried extremely hard to tie up the match in the remaining 15 minutes of play, in what became

some very entertaining soccer.

The Hawks produced many scoring opportunities in the final minutes of the game, including hitting the crossbar, but unfortunately the defending CIS Champs were unable to capitalize on these close chances.

The men will now have to wait until next season, when they will attempt to make another bid for a National Championship.

Soccer surrenders

Bernard Dawson

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times." This famous quotation from Charles Dickens' *A Tale of Two Cities* can be used to sum up the playoff experience of the Laurier women's soccer team. After a tough victory at home last Wednesday over the Laurentian Voyageurs, the Hawks' playoff hopes went up in smoke with a road loss to York on Sunday.

One of the largest crowds of the season braved the cold on Wednesday to watch the Hawks host the Voyageurs in the first round of OUA Playoffs. The game began as a defensive struggle, with neither team able to control the play early.

Laurentian was able to push the Hawks back, but the firm Laurier defense held strong and the Voyageurs were unable to score.

As the first half progressed, the Hawks took the offensive. A great individual effort by Laura Petit resulted in the Hawks' first good scoring chance in the twentieth minute. Just a few minutes later Tammy Scurr scored for Laurier, however, the goal was called back for an offside.

The Hawks rebounded from the offside call, continuing to keep the pressure on the Voyageurs. Laurier had numerous chances, all of which seemed to just miss the goal by mere feet or even inches. The game went into half time as a competitive 0 - 0 contest.

The beginning of the second half saw many Laurier students arrive to add to the pro-Hawks crowd. Clouds also arrived to block out the sun and made the day even colder for players and fans alike.

The Hawks seemed unaffected by the cold autumn afternoon, opening the second half with an offensive fury. Despite the strong play by Laurier,

Laurier 1, Laurentian 0

however, the Hawks' efforts did not result in the game's first goal.

Midway through the second half, the game settled down into a tough midfield affair. The Hawks midfield unit took control of the contest, shutting



Wilfrid Laurier Athletics

Laurier midfielder Tammy Scurr (#9) takes it upon herself to challenge these two Laurentian players.

down every Laurentian offensive push.

The game's first goal was finally scored when Laurier's Leanne O'Ryan slipped the ball into the Voyageurs' goal, to give the Hawks a 1 - 0 lead in the seventy-ninth minute of play. The Laurier defensive unit held off the Voyageurs for the rest of the game, giving the Hawks a hard fought 1 - 0 victory.

Laurier 1, York 2

"Our midfield dominated and the defense was great," said Head Coach Barry MacLean. "We never gave up a good scoring chance."

The contest was a tough match with neither team willing to give in without a fight. As MacLean so aptly put it, "...every playoff game is a battle."

The Hawks went to war again on Saturday, this time traveling to York in the OUA quarterfinals. Laurier was defeated 2 - 1 after falling behind early, which has been a common pattern for the Hawks this season. This time, however, the Hawks were unable to claw their way back to snatch a victory.

The Golden Hawks had a very good season, finishing with a solid 5 - 2 - 3 record in the highly competitive OUA West Division.

Tennis loves fourth

Michelle Chan

After making it to the OUA playoffs for the first time in recent history, the Laurier women's tennis team ended a precedent-setting season and placed fourth overall in Ontario.

The playoffs were held at York University's centre court on Friday October 25 and Saturday October 26. The Hawks competed against OUA defending Champions the York Yeowomen on Friday night. Despite valiant efforts by the Hawks in skirts, the Yewomen overcame them in all seeds, 7 - 0.

Defeated, but not discouraged, Laurier met the University of Waterloo to play for the bronze medal on Saturday morning. The battle for the bronze requires two doubles wins and three singles wins, or four singles wins.

One highlight of Saturday's competition was the match in which Hawk partners Kim Foote and Anne Denure came back in their first-seeded doubles match. Foote and Denure came back from 6 - 1 to force a tiebreaker.

The Laurier women's tennis team ended a precedent-setting season and placed fourth overall in Ontario.

However, despite Laurier's persistence on the court, the Hawks were defeated.

Laurier third seed Zita Bogнар won the team a point in an easy 6 - 4 and 6 - 1 win,

against the Waterloo Warriors.

There is no medal and will be no trip to the Nationals in Vancouver B.C. for the Hawks this year. The Warriors defeated the Hawks with a final score of 4 - 1. Head Coach Dennis Huss, who has coached the team for 16 years, was not able to make the playoffs because he was taking a vacation to India. In his place, Coaches Nick Keller and Cam Murray escorted the team to York this year.

This is the first season that the women's tennis team has made it to the playoffs, making the year a successful one, especially for departing athletes Kim Foote, Lisa Morris, Kerri O'Neil, Denure and Hungarian exchange student Bogнар.

Foot, Denure, and rookie Kasia Poplowski will be heading for the individual event playoffs this weekend in Burlington.



Laurier Tennis

The women's tennis team takes to the court to wave their rackets and say "fromaggio".

Shaky start for volleyball

Rich Kawamoto

If Wednesday night's match was any indication of what the Hawks have in store for the rest of the season, then another long, arduous five months appears to be in order.

The Laurier Golden Hawks men's volleyball team came out flat in their season opener versus Guelph, losing three straight games in convincing fashion.

Although spirted by a zest for a pro-

perous season, the men were pounded by the Gryphons' fast tempo and tenacious defence. The first two sets saw the Hawks start off with small leads; however, in the end, fans witnessed a poor defensive display which lead to the straight set loss.

"We were losing our concentration during the match. It was not really flowing at all and it showed in our play. Confidence is what we're really looking to improve on. We really need to get that first win under our belts to boost our confidence, and then I would feel like we can be a national contender," noted

right side hitter Jordan Brennan on the lack of confidence exhibited by his comrades. Brennan, a fourth year Economics and Accounting student, also attributed the loss to the new system, which the team has yet to master. "We've just started using a new blocking tactic where we're matching our defence to their hitters. It's tough to adjust to right now but we're working hard at practice to perfect it. Once we get it down, then the effectiveness of it will surely pay off."

The Hawks looked scared throughout most of the match, constantly letting balls hit the floor. "There were definite nerves out on the court tonight," commented Brennan. "But we can use this game as a building block for our next match and hopefully we'll come out on top."

Outside of the uninspired aura throughout most of the match, was the promising play of second year middle hitter Bob Moulson and power hitter Luka Senk. Moulson kept the Hawks within striking distance early on in each game, with towering blocks and strong serving. He consistently stopped Guelph hitters from punishing the Hawks. Senk, a third year Kinesiology student, powered many

balls to the floor and came up big for the Hawks on defense.

With continued tinkering of the Hawks style of play, it looks as though there may be some huge strides being made that could see the men in the playoffs for the first time in four years. As for now, the saga continues to tell a sad, sad tale.

As if one loss was not bad enough, the WLU women suffered their first defeat in 20 regular season matches, dating back to last year's perfect campaign. After splitting the first two sets, the lady Gryphons proved to be too much for the Hawks, as they wore them down with the nitty-gritty style that Guelph is known

LAURIER 0, GUELPH 3

for. Having a roster filled with injuries, redshirts and indigible players, Head Coach Dave McIntyre was forced to use a lineup that he did not have in mind at the start of the season.

Both teams will be looking to make a stronger appearance and to get back on the winning saddle on October 30, when they head to the University of Windsor.

Hawks hockey hurrah

Kristen Lipscombe



Matt Bernassi

Golden Hawk left winger Lindsay Arbeau (#17) skates towards the Warriors' net in hopes of digging up another Laurier goal.

After defeating Western with a score of 6-2 in their home opener (October 16) and tying Brock 4-4 on the road (October 19), the Golden Hawks women's hockey team hit the ice for their third game of the season.

On Wednesday, October 23 the Lady Hawks hosted cross-town competitors the Waterloo Warriors at the Recreation Complex. Despite a lack luster performance by the Hawks, Laurier managed a 5-1 victory over the Warriors. This is Waterloo's inaugural season in the OUA.

The Hawks' next game in town is at 7:00 pm on November 2, at Albert McCormick Arena.

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yeah he looks nice
and friendly now.....
wait till you see him live!

Jim works at RIM

Jennifer Wilder

On Friday October 25 Jim Balsillie chairman and Co-CEO of the knowledge-based company Research in Motion came to Laurier to discuss the story of how he became successful in such a fast-paced society and to give advice on how we too could accomplish this feat.

RIM was established in 1984 by a group of students from Waterloo University and has since become one of the world leaders in the mobile communications market.

Currently RIM's major innovative product is the handheld, wireless BlackBerry. This product has been the recipient of such prestigious awards as the Technology Fast 50 Award, the Reader's Choice Awards, the Best New Gadget Award, the Best Solutions Award, the Best Mobile Communications Product Award, and many more.

Research in Motion has expanded by approximately 1000% in the past ten years, as the number of employees associated with this company has increased to over 2000, compared to the original 200 in 1992. Approximately 78.9 million shares of RIM are outstanding on both the NASDAQ Stock

Market and the Toronto Stock Exchange as of RIM's last fiscal year.

Balsillie, graduate of Harvard University, joined RIM in 1992 while looking for a challenging and unconventional field of business. Since that time he has become a high-ranking member of the company and credits his success to his well-developed managerial skills.

During the conference that took place last Friday in the newly constructed Schlegel Centre, Jim shared humorous stories about getting caught bringing his work home, and he discussed business strategies to a captivated audience of both students and entrepreneurs.

In an inquiry from a student as to what his major strategy or mindset entailed, Jim responded by saying that, "This is a game. It is a very important game and it is a very high stakes game, but recognize that in the end, it is still just a game." Jim recommends that future entrepreneurs concentrate on finding a playing field that is a bit unconventional or in need of improvement, and then work away at it until a new niche is created. Ten years ago fusing business and technology was considered an unusual venture however Jim kept his mind on the larger pic-

ture and decided that the risks involved were balanced out by the gains. This foresight resulted in big paybacks.

When asked how he would accomplish his goals in today's society, Jim responded that it was important to avoid competing against large corporations. The easiest way to get access to a large market was to break new ground, letting nothing stand in the way of these goals: "Persevere, don't overreact. Pick your battles and just go with it".

Jim Balsillie also claims that it is very important to know where one's strengths and weaknesses lie. Without a specific idea of what one wishes to accomplish in life, it will be impossible to know where to start in order to achieve it. Fly, when asked what the most important thing that he learned on his journey to success, Jim replied that one must "basically manage people by holding trust with them. It is imperative to commit to long term integrity relationships, however, do not assume that being a nice person is synonymous with being a good manager".

RIM currently has over 150 students employed and scouts for new members of the team at recruiting events held at different universities. In fact, RIM

JIM'S STORY



Jim cannot decide whether to confess that he brought his BlackBerry home again, or to suffer the embarrassment of pretending that he farted!

employee Robert Crow held a recruiting event at Laurier on September 26, 2002. The company is hoping to develop new products dealing with the leading-edge radio technology in the near future.

Representatives from RIM make regular appearances in

the Kitchener-Waterloo area, and these events are both informative and enlightening. For more information on the schedule of these events, or for more details on the BlackBerry product, visit the RIM website at <http://www.rim.net>.

Business Bytes

Canadian Dollar Hits 64 Cents

The Canadian dollar has reached US\$.64 as of last Monday. This is the highest level reached since September, and is due to economic forecasts that the US Federal Reserve Board will cut interest rates in the near future. If the interest gap between Canada and the United States grows larger it will wreak a bullish effect on the Canadian dollar. Already the yield on Canadian T-Bills is 1.15% higher than comparative rates in the United States. Slow economic growth in the past few months has caused interest rates to remain unchanged, however there is a possibility of inflation rising up to 4% if the United States attacks Iraq. The bank is planning on tightening their policy in the next six months, which will help the Canadian loonie.

Air Canada Reports Profit

Air Canada reported a 125-million dollar profit in the third quarter of this year, putting it ahead of all other major North American airline companies. Air Canada is definitely on rebound since the September 11 terrorist attacks, reporting a \$.91/share profit this year versus the \$7.51/share loss experienced last year at this time. In view of Air Canada's financial success this year, the company is planning on lending funding to support UAL Corp's United Airlines, as they need \$2 billion to avoid bankruptcy. The only immediate concern for Air Canada's future is the possibility of losses incurred if the United States goes to war against Iraq.

Nelvana Strives for Success

Corus Entertainment is contributing \$200 million in order to issue a complete reorganization of Nelvana Ltd. The chief executive officer resigned and TV production is to be cut by 40% next year, however the company is optimistic about the changes that will be taking place. The new CEO will be given the responsibility of overseeing the shift from production to marketing and sales within the company. US\$175 billion was reported in the year 2000 for consumer products based on television characters. Stunted economic growth in the current market may slow these revenue figures down, however it is still considered to be a large and profitable market.

Lethal Storms Brewing in Europe

Last week deadly gale-force winds pummeled the city of Vienna, killing up to 31 people and leaving thousands without electricity. Winds in excess of 160 km/hr were seen in Germany on Sunday, killing up to 8 people in storm-related accidents. In Britain 7 people were killed, 3 of which were children, due to powerful windstorms in the past week. The list goes on as Europe has undergone severe windstorms in the past 7 days. Severe storms apparently work on 3000 year cycles, becoming most fierce at the end of each cycle. The last time that the world has experienced this blow from Mother Nature was approximately 3000 years ago, and so forecasters are predicting heavy storms in the next year that will affect the whole world.



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MISCELLANEOUS

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PERSONALS

Jordanna,

You are the love of my life. Thank you for giving me the best year ever. You will always be my special roadie. hugs and sloppy kisses.

love: Ryan xoxo

TJ,

I hope your Phil's experience was a night to remember. Maybe we'll try mints next time? hehehe...

Kristen

Bryn,

Laurier really does have a tremendous amount of heart and soul.

Art Ensel

Reid,

You wanted to be in the Cord, so this is my feeble attempt at putting you in the paper. I promise we'll get a full body picture sometime in the next few months.

Caitlin

161 Kinger,

For every dirty pot, there is a dirty twat. Keep up the dirty work. Shouts out to the fake roommates, Cindy and Lisa. Kitty, are you coming home before 3:30am, because Arden want's to know.

C-dawg

Are you Jimmy Ray?

Who wants to know?

To Whom It May Concern,
My glock goes pop, pop, pop.
That is all.

Yung Tug

Laurier Students,

I am OMNIPRESENT. I know that you touch yourselves at night.

The One True Dog

Jerry Falwell,

You intolerant piece of human slime. I desire to see your condescending bigotry lead you down to Dante's 9th Ring of Hell. Want to get coffee sometime?

Bryn Boyce

Johnny The Squealer,

Mang, I'm Going To Cut You So Bad That You Gonna Wish I Never Cut You So Bad, Mang.

The Blade

GWB,

Keep up the good work! I believe that the world needs a strong, just and benevolent leader to guide the meek to a truly enlightened society. A free society, a just society.

Exploited Foreign Civilian

Most Exalted Critics,

Only your superior intellect and drive could thrust you into the WLU SP office so that no one would be deprived of your informed opinion. In the future, I'll consider writing my articles about less inferior shows from the 1980's. Seriously, why would you guys walk all the way up here to complain about Full House jokes? With all of your superior training in literary and media criticism, did they ever teach you how to identify irony, sarcasm, and generally not caring about a stupid joke? Normally I wouldn't waste my time reacting to something so lame, but since you put all that effort into making yourselves clear...

Stefan

How are you gentlemen,

Since news was finished so early this week, shout outs to Jen, Sarah, Brandon, my illness for slightly subsiding, Bryden have fun in Europe, Ryan, Sean and Will for pressuring me into drinking all the time, Jones-Happy Birthday, way to barf into your pitcher at Wilf's, Beth for the ride home, Neil and Bob, Jim for showing me "Season of the Witch", Donovan, Prince, Andy for making me feel welcome by centering me out during the BOD meeting, Mom and Pops for raising me

right, Paul for coming home, Pete for scaring me when I was two and giving me a classic Halloween memory, Dave Coulier, Tony Fernandez, Bryn for having no involvement in the news this week, and, of course, The Rolling Stones.

Stefan Joseph Vin Zoltar Sereda

Residence Students,

Congratulations to the winners of the residence competitions at WCH Euler/Leopold and Laurier Place.

Andy Pushalik

Art,

You sure know how to spray a can of cream. Can I play with your wooden spoon anytime soon? You can have my heart and my soul. I will be the lump of sugar in your tea. One lump or two?

Sugar xoxo

Bernard and Colin,

Thank you to my awesome writers for making the trek up to the Student Pubs office on production night and taking me down to Wilf's for a delectable pitcher of Rickard's Red. You guys kick some serious buttocks. P.S. Happy 20th Birthday B-man!

Your favourite Sports Editor

Stefan,

Thank you for thanking The Rolling Stones.

Kristen

Maneesh,

Where has young, brown bear gone? If you find him, please let me know.

Wil

Stefan,

Please stop pounding my space bar. I am very sensitive in that area.

Keyboard

Blue Eyes,

Where are you today?

Christine

Anna,

I'm sorry! You know I didn't mean it! Will you forgive me? I have nothing but love for you.

Wilbur

Daniel and Jamesy,

Where is my dinner that you promised? My arms still ache from last year.

Don Cherry

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