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own adventure" ... page 3



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Presidential ponderings

Welker's forum performance leaves
initially divided crowd cheering

APRIL CUNNINGHAM
News Editor

Potential WLUSU presidents battled for Laurier students' favour at the Elections Forum yesterday, and by the end, it was apparent that Steve Welker had won them over.

"You're not just electing the president of your student's council," he said, "you're voting for the president of a \$7 million corporation."

"I have made precise, measurable promises. And I will start working for you February 6."

Welker's public speaking skills and detail-oriented platform slowly drew the support of the crowd who initially appeared divided and unsure of who they should lend their support.

Amongst the candidates, Welker faced the easiest questions, however, as nobody challenged his personal shortcomings or his past.

Other candidates fielded controversial questions that kept them on their toes.

Several students challenged Connolly Aziz's platform and "intangible promises" such as increasing "the quality of student life."

In response to this, he clarified by stating he wants to increase safety by improving lighting off-campus, hiring more security guards

and installing more emergency poles on streets like Hazel. He says there are accessible funds designated for safety development from the Student Life Levy.

Jen Coulter's past was highlighted when a student asked her to explain why she left her position as Shinerama Co-ordinator last year.

"It was completely my choice, and my choice alone to leave the committee," she said. "I think it makes me a more well-rounded candidate."

Alun Evans caught off-guard when he was accused of displaying "a lack of professionalism and integrity." A student claimed he traded

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a beat-the-line Turret pass for a Foot Patrol shift. She also said he returned the OneCard of an underage student who had broken Turret underage rules too early.

"I don't think I was out of line," he said. "Any decision I made was backed by Dan Herman."

Ryan Duncan, a candidate from Laurier Brantford, presented a completely different perspective that did not appear to be taken too seriously by student questioners.



April Cunningham

The five presidential candidates fielded a wide array of questions at Tuesday's open forum.

Among his alternative stances were for WLUSU to "get involved in the buying and selling of real-estate."

"Why give up the residence experience?" he asked. He was also the only candidate opposed to holding the annual "Dean's Trip" for Management Committee members.

"If you don't have leadership skills now, you shouldn't be here."

In discussing the questionably large amount O-Week volunteers pay to give their time, Evans made a strong point.

"It's important for fees to be there for emergencies," he said regarding an O-Week surplus.

Welker added that it is

difficult to project student participation and therefore the revenue available to cover the week's costs.

But Duncan thinks the charge can be eliminated altogether. "The money can be found elsewhere," said Duncan. "It will be found. It's as simple as that," he assured.

When candidates were asked if they thought the changes in student funding presented in Paul Martin's recent throne speech were a step in the right direction, the potential presidents displayed little knowledge on the subject and danced around the question.

One of Welker's weakest answers related to acclaimed WLUSP President, Craig

Radcliffe's question regarding the future placement of the Student Publications office. He asked if any candidates would guarantee the office would remain on campus when the lease runs out in the near future.

Welker indirectly responded, "Opportunities on campus are absolutely vital. We need to promote the awareness of these opportunities and ensure they are accessible."

If, as elected president, his proposed 10% reduction in the WLUSU student fee does not go through, he confidently stated, "I would live with it, but I don't think this will happen. Because I've done my homework."

Exploding music hits round three

A close struggle for a victor's spot in
the last Music Explosion preliminary
sets up an interesting final contest

CHRIS CLEMENS
Entertainment Editor

The final preliminary round of Radiolaurier's much vaunted Music Explosion series landed in Wilf's as usual last Thursday, introducing an enthusiastic crowd to four new, eclectically talented bands. The winner of this event would go on to meet previous victors One Short and Live to Air in one final, desperate struggle for ultimate Laurier battle-band supremacy.

This incarnation of Music Explosion was set up exactly like the previous two events, and by now I'm tired of making cynical comments about the Brick beer advertising or mentioning that the show donated its profits to a good cause. It should suffice to say that things were a little behind schedule, the bar was

jammed and everyone was ready for good times. Now let's get to the music.

However, despite their shortcomings Shorty was my favourite act of the night simply because I loved their covers.

The first horse out of the gate was a solo white guy in a knitted sweater, whom I was surprised to find was also known as rap and beat-box act Thoughtbug. Apparently the rest of his crew had missed a bus and left him stranded to perform on his own. However, the

sole survivor of Thoughtbug stepped it up and put on an amusing show, dropping some pretty good original rhymes interjected with skillful beatboxing. While his flow was good, he kept referring to a binder of lyrics onstage which disrupted his performance somewhat. Beatboxing was his definite strength, particularly the pantomimed trumpet which was so convincing that I noticed several onlookers quickly scan the room for a brass section before realizing that the sound was indeed coming from this man's mouth. Despite the organizational difficulties, Thoughtbug showcased some obvious talent before spilling his beer on the stage floor and ducking out.

Emo-pop band Shorty quickly replaced him, perhaps becoming the first pop-punk band to play with the accompaniment of a break-dancer (courtesy of RadioLaurier staff). These guys were a mixed bag. On one hand, they played a fine



Tracy-lane Beckley

Winning band Lydian powers through their set, all the while eying the luscious pitcher of beer on the table in front of them

selection of covers from bands like Saves the Day that buzzed individuals such as myself could sing along with. On the other hand, Shorty's vocals were frequently murderous. An exception was the band's version of Taking Back Sunday's "You're So Last Summer" which featured female backup vocals that I found were charmingly

appropriate. Shorty's original songs were snappy but were largely unmemorable, perhaps because the band appeared to lack confidence when presenting their own material. However, despite their shortcomings Shorty was probably my favourite act of the night simply because I loved their covers.

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Students grill candidates

Accessibility, transparency and space major concerns at open forum

APRIL CUNNINGHAM
News Editor

"At an open forum, it's possible to talk a lot and say very little," said Jason Shim, an onlooker at yesterday's WLUSU election forum held in the Concourse.

An above-average turnout of students attended the forum to see what the candidates who could be representing students and running WLUSU next year really stood for.

Candidates addressed common questions such as tuition deregulation, transparency, and communication without much substance.

To begin, when the group of potential WLUSU Board of Directors members were asked if they had attended any meetings in the current year, only a few, including Jen Mitchell and Lyndsey Jones had.

But the remainder claimed they were informed enough of current issues by reading minutes and speaking to current board members.

"You don't have to go to board meetings to get your opinion across," said Kevin Spahich.

Former BOD member, Rishi Kumar asked if candidates had reviewed and were familiar with WLUSU's operating budget, since they had made many promises regarding fiscal responsibility. It was obvious that none of them had but they spouted some form of answer.

"We need to be spending money in ways students will see tangible results," said Spahich.

Laura Gray said that her interpretation was to stay on budget.

Fraser McKracken's willingness to respond to every question posed was noticed and cheers from spectators often followed his answers.

Tudor Costache caught the attention of the crowd with his rush to the mic and explosive one-minute intro.

"The BOD should not be locked behind closed doors, but have a strong relationship with the public," he said.

In regards to a question on the possibility of instituting a bicameral system (separating representational and corporate roles of WLUSU), and charging Orientation Week volunteers, candidates did not offer much variation in their responses. Most agreed that a bicameral system would be a good goal to work towards, and that O-Week fees should be reduced as long as there is a surplus.

"You don't have to go to board meetings to get your opinion across."

-Kevin Spahich, candidate for WLUSU BOD

When Mike Borrelli, former BOD member, asked how candidates had represented students in the past, Nick Murphy, a Laurier Brantford candidate, probably had the most impressive experience.

He started a petition for the implementation of an



April Cunningham

An attentive crowd listen on as Board of Directors candidates make their pitch to students.

elected student representative to replace the hired Campus Commissioner for Brantford Campus. Murphy brought a busload of concerned Brantford students to a BOD meeting earlier this school year.

"We came to show the board that we meant business," he said.

Another Brantford candidate had a simpler approach to representation.

"For the last two weeks, I've been informing over 100 people about what the BOD is and what it does," said Jodi Dam.

After two hours of hearing BOD candidates speak, the Concourse crowd lingered to see what candidates for VP: University Affairs had to say.

"It's time to inject new blood into the system," said Michael Conway, claiming his experience on the Senate and as "a regular university student" would make him the

best guy for the job.

Tricia Martin emphasized her experience as a Legal Resources executive member as being her greatest asset.

Anthony Piscitelli displayed his 25-page paper on growth in the university.

"The administration is continually exceeding their targets," he said. "It's a problem that is looming."

Rishi Kumar asked candidates if they were familiar with "The Dean's Trip" provided for members of WLUSU's Management Committee, and what they thought of the \$5000 cost, which is ultimately a direct charge to Laurier students.

Martin said she would ensure students get value from members who attend the trip, and that if the price could be cut, she would do her best to do so.

Piscitelli said there is probably a better way to connect with administration.

"I will eliminate this trip,

for myself at least."

By the end of the VP forum, students asking questions seemed to be attacking Conway. One student inquired why, if Conway is against tuition deregulation, did he "sit on the fence" during senate meetings.

"I have spoken against it, and I voted against it," he said. "I was sitting on the fence because I made an educated decision."

When asked why students should elect just an ordinary student, he replied, "I am who I am."

Before WLUSU Presidential candidates took the podium, Craig Radcliffe, acclaimed WLUSU President received few questions. He noted that to make up in substantial losses with Blueprint Magazine, he would consider eliminating glossy pages and insert it into *The Cord* to ensure advertising revenue.

Athletics policy changed

Motion passed by Board of Governors regarding alcohol and the code of conduct for Laurier student athletes

FRASER KING
Staff Writer

The Laurier Board of Governors has passed a motion that changes the Code of Conduct for Laurier University Student Athletes, which includes that there is to be no drinking when both coaches and athletes are present or at Ontario University Athletic events.

"I find it ironic that the board invited me to a luncheon with them where alcohol was served."

-Anthony Piscitelli, Student Governor

Student Governor, Anthony Piscitelli was ardent in his opposition to the passing of the motion, noting that "in essence, the board is making bad policy in order to move attention away from bad press" in reference to the recent high-profile events surrounding members from Laurier's football team.

Piscitelli was aggravated by the policy that has been put in place until the next board meeting, when a revised version of the policy

will be examined and possibly put in place.

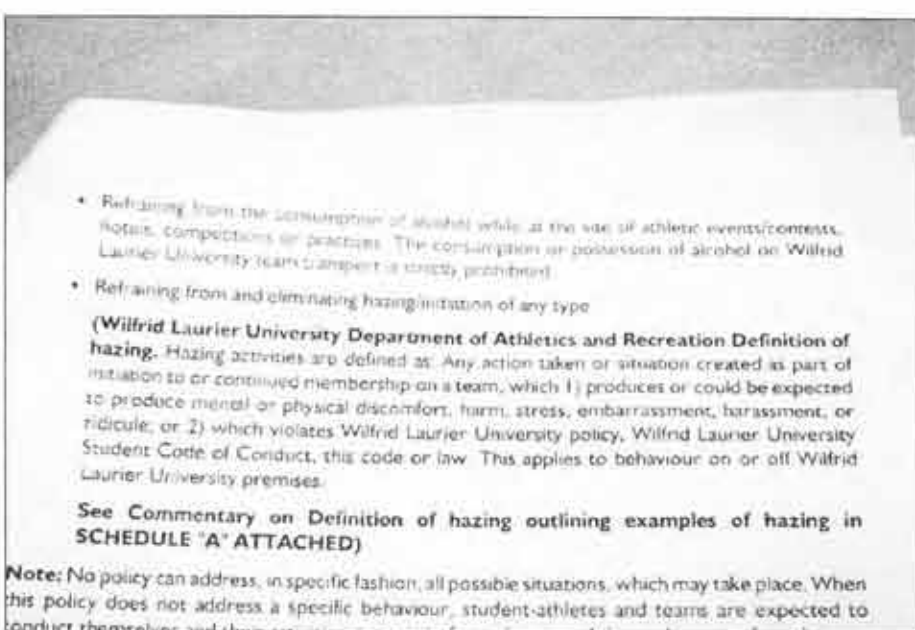
The interim policy greatly curtails the actions that student-athletes can take, particularly in regards to alcohol consumption. Piscitelli was annoyed with that aspect of the policy, saying, "I find it ironic that the board invited me to a luncheon with them where alcohol was served when the new policy prevents coaches and players from drinking together."

Another aspect of the interim policy that was con-

tested was the hearing and tribunal policy. Under the interim policy coaches would have the power to discipline a student before he or she goes before the tribunal or a hearing.

Additionally, Piscitelli was aggravated by the hearing system that he believed was geared against students, noting that "they allow students to have counsel, but the counsel is not allowed to speak. There are certain situations where a student might get angry or misspeak, but someone that is trained to handle the situations would better represent the student."

The interim is in effect now and may be revised at the next Board of Governors meeting.



Caitlin Howlett

Social work is moving

FRASER KING
Staff Writer

The Laurier Board of Governors has approved the motion to relocate the Faculty of Social Work to the downtown Kitchener Duke Street building of St. Jerome's High School.

The unanimous decision was made with little discussion by the board. The decision confirms a \$6.5 million dollar joint investment from the City of Kitchener in Laurier. Kitchener Mayor Carl Zehr said of the decision and investment, "This will bring numerous social and economic benefits including the preservation and restoration of one of the core's prominent historic buildings."

In addition to the \$6.5 million dollar donation from the City of Kitchener, WLU President Dr. Bob Rosehart, wants to initiate a fundraising program that will raise \$3 million to pay for furnishings and upkeep. Rosehart wants this money raised by the end of 2004.

The relocation of the faculty will mean the shifting of over 250 undergraduate and graduate students as well as 53 part-time and full-time faculty and staff. The new, larger space will allow for the faculty to grow and

evolve as well as be able to provide additional aid to the community.

Dean of Social Work Luke Fusco said, "The main thing we get out of this arrangement is an increase in space and all the programming benefits that the space allows." Additionally, Fusco noted that the relocation might allow for "the addition of one or two programs with an Aboriginal focus for, say, 30 mature students. We could never consider something like that with our current space restrictions."

"The main thing we get out of this arrangement is an increase in space."

-Dean Luke Fusco, Faculty of Social Work

One of the few things discussed was the possibility of renaming the building and campus. Rosehart mentioned that "it is common for business programs to be sponsored and renamed for a benefactor. I hope we can do this for St. Jerome's."

The Faculty of Social Work will complete the move to the former St. Jerome's building in September of 2006.

Damp Forecast: The campus terrain may be moist and mushy

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Variable cloudiness High -7°C Low -10°C P.O.P. 80%	Variable cloudiness High -2°C Low -14°C P.O.P. 40%	Rain or snow High 1°C Low -9°C P.O.P. 60%	A few flurries High -1°C Low -8°C P.O.P. 60%	Cloudy High -10°C Low -17°C P.O.P. 30%

CBC to profile campus Enrollment numbers up

New television program will take a look at Laurier

APRIL CUNNINGHAM
News Editor

The CBC will be filming its first episode of "The Campus Show" at Wilfrid Laurier University. The show, which will be taking an "entertaining and fun" perspective, is meant to reveal what life is truly like at WLU.

"We're going to get a look beyond the brochure," said Kim D'Eon, host of the new program. She is a former host of CBC's consumer show, Street Cents.

Filming will be taking place on February 16 and the entire week after Reading Week. This includes the evening of the Charity Ball and even the Turret afterward.

Since the show is a pilot, it is not yet known when it will be aired.

The producers of the show met with a small group of WLU students last week to discuss ideas and do some brainstorming.

"We're looking for unique things about the school," said D'Eon. "Although the Students' Union is wonderful and great, we don't want the



April Cunningham

CBC selected Laurier first to be profiled for "The Campus Show", a new program aimed at examining campuses across Canada.

whole show to be about it."

The producers plan to delve into the bar scene, parties, sports, residence and food along with the academic side of WLU.

So why did CBC choose Laurier of all Canadian universities to kick off the program?

"We mainly chose Laurier for logistical reasons," said D'Eon. Waterloo is close to Toronto, two of the producers had friends in town, the university is "a good size" and isn't too specific to any discipline.

"It also did well in the MacLean's rankings, and is a high-spirited school," said

Tim McAuliffe, producer.

Producers insisted that they did not want the program to be a billboard for the school and that it would be as realistic as possible, showing different perspectives of WLU.

When concerns were raised that the show may convey Laurier in a negative light D'Eon ensured that this would not happen either.

"We're not out to find scandals or be slanderous," she said.

Any ideas are welcomed by the crew and can be emailed to: tim_mcauliffe@cbc.ca.

BLAIR FORSYTH-STARK
Staff Writer

The newest figures from the Ontario Universities Application Centre (OUAC) show that enrollment has increased in Laurier's Faculty of Science and Laurier Brantford.

The information provided by OUAC indicates that enrollment was up 37% from Fall 2002 and Fall 2004 in the Faculty of Science. Figures from 2003 were not considered because of the large increase due to the double cohort.

Dr. Arthur Szabo, Dean of Science, said that the increased enrollment is due in part to the fact that the faculty of science "worked hard at it". In addition to increasing awareness of Laurier's science programs in high schools with "The Laurier Science Challenge", a quiz distributed to interested high school students, the Dean has also written a letter to all students who expressed interest either through their secondary school or at Laurier Day.

The faculty of science also added two new programs: Photonics and Financial Mathematics.

As well, the dedication and commitment of the faculty and staff at events such as the Ontario Universities Fair helped to increase the awareness of Laurier's science programs. "For instance, if a student approached the booth and was interested in psychology I was able [to direct him/her] to the chair," says Dr. Szabo about how many of the faculty were present at

the fair in order to answer student queries.

Laurier Brantford's recent surge in applications does not come as a surprise to Dr. Robert Rosehart, President and Vice-Chancellor of WLU and Dr. Leo Groarke, Dean of the Brantford Campus.

"The enrollment for Brantford has been steadily increasing in the past couple of years but with the addition of two new programs this year, it really made a difference," said Dr. Rosehart of the increase in numbers. The two new programs he is referring to are Criminology and Organizational Leadership.

"The numbers for Criminology were quite remarkable," says Dr. Groarke of the brand new program, which received approximately 315 applications alone.

"The enrollment for Brantford has been steadily increasing in the past couple of years."

-Dr. Bob Rosehart, President WLU

Dr. Groarke also predicts the numbers for Brantford overall will continue to rise because the campus is "gaining a reputation as innovative". Dr. Groarke says that he hopes Brantford will grow to 1500-2000 students within the next two or three years but that they will still be selecting only the highest calibre students.

News Bites

Jewellery theft

Four rings were stolen from a jewellery store in Uptown Waterloo January 30 at approximately 1:00 pm.

The male suspect was perusing the rings when he grabbed them and fled the scene on foot. The man ran with another man to a waiting red van, which then left on Erb St. and headed towards the Expressway.

"There are no updates on the situation as yet," reported Olaf Heinzl, representative of Waterloo Regional Police. "It's not surprising that just after 24 hours of the event that there hasn't

been an arrest," he continued. "This could change any minute though."

The suspect is in his mid-twenties to early thirties and is described as having an East Indian complexion, thin featured face, glasses with grey arms, a thin upper lip moustache. He is 5'8", weighs 140-150 lbs and was wearing a grey windbreaker.

Anyone with information should contact Division 3 Detectives at 653-7700 ext. 330 or call Crimestoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS.

Miss Universe Canada

Alas, a new Miss Universe

Canada 2004 was crowned this past weekend however it wasn't Laurier student Angela Derry as she didn't make it past the first round.

Derry, a third-year student studying Psychology, Religion and Sociology at WLU, participated in the event that took place last weekend at Casino Rama in Orillia as a regional representative.

The winner of the competition, Venessa Fisher, an 18-year-old from Waterdown will move on to represent Canada at the Miss Universe 2004 contest on June 1 in Quito, Ecuador. Fisher is also the proud winner of jewellery, clothing and a penthouse condo in downtown Toronto.

Compiled by Jennifer Asselin

Ontario Universities Application Centre



Welcome to The Cord's "Choose Your Own Adventure". Start here and follow the

instructions for each decision you make to discover your fate. Just look for the "Choose Your Own Adventure" logo on the corresponding page number.

Ready? Begin!

While walking through the halls of Laurier, you find yourself encountering two doors. By looking through the window of the one on the left, you see what might be a savannah while the one on the right sounds like something might be ticking. To pick the left door, go to the top of page 12. For the right, go to page 14.

Only one will win

This past week *The Cord* sat down with each of the five WLUSU Presidential candidates and discussed a number of election related issues with them



April Cunningham

Presidential candidate Alun Evans

Turret/Wilf's losing money

Steve Welker

Steve assesses the problem with Turret and Wilf's this year being with part-time labour. He wishes to make policy changes and has already instituted a labour sheet to monitor volunteers. He wants to keep using this labour sheet.

Jen Coulter

Jen believes the changing demographics the University has faced as a result of the double cohort are to blame for the drop in numbers at Turret and Wilf's. She wants to introduce more and better non-alcoholic events and also brought up the idea of having movie nights in The Turret. The idea of emphasizing The Turret as an after party spot for events such as Charity Ball, etc. was also mentioned.

Alun Evans

Being an assistant manager in The Turret Alun, too, saw the problem being part-time labour. He said there was a miscommunication involving the budgeting of wages for staff, causing the discrepancy that resulted in a loss for The Turret. Alun also wants to see The Turret take advantage of Friday nights and take some business away from Philthy McNasty's and The Revolution, the most popular Friday night clubs currently.

Ryan Duncan

Ryan believes an increased number of underagers is the problem with the on-campus bars. He wishes to encourage all-age nights even though he acknowledges they haven't worked in the past. Ryan wishes to "keep pushing them" to the first years through promotions.

Connolly Aziz

Connolly sees programming as the problem. He believes the A-Team haven't been programming to underage students and that this is largely because they are not used to having to cater to a younger crowd. Connolly wishes to use the joint programming committee to program and promote events to the frosh.

Charging volunteers for O-Week

Welker

Welker says "I don't have a problem with" charging volunteers. Welker emphasizes that volunteers aren't being charged to volunteer but, rather, are being charged for the costs associated with volunteering such as food, clothing and events. While he believes WLUSU can't get rid of the fee he wishes to implement a policy that waives the fee for students with financial need.

Coulter

While Coulter believes "we can't get rid of the fee completely", she does think "it can be lowered." To make up the difference Coulter wishes to cut from other areas of the Union, such as conferences.

Evans

Evans, too, believes the WLUSU fee is necessary but wants to strike a balance, citing the surplus O-Week ran last year. "We don't want to make a profit, especially from the volunteers." Because of that, Evans thinks "the fees of volunteers for O-Week should be reduced."

Duncan

Duncan thinks "there is no reason why [volunteers] should be charged", believing "it serves no purpose." He says that by charging people to volunteer their time, "You're not encouraging people to get involved."

Aziz

Aziz stated that rather than reduce the fees, he'd rather take the surplus money left in the O-Week budget and put it back directly to the volunteers throughout the year with different events. He gave the example of providing free Return to Frosh tickets for Icebreakers. Aziz emphasized the importance of making the volunteers aware of such events so that their money does not go wasted.

Housing/Transportation plans

Welker

Welker admittedly doesn't have specific plans to combat housing and transportation problems associated with

non-guaranteed residence but believes it's WLUSU's job to pressure the University to ensure students have someplace to live. Regarding the UPass- a proposed deal that would see all students granted a bus pass in exchange for a fee paid with tuition costs- Welker doesn't see his opinion as mattering; instead he believes "if students want it, Steve Welker wants it."

Coulter

Coulter says there is no shortage of housing available but, rather, the quality of housing is the problem. Coulter says she would work with the VP:UA and the University of Waterloo's Federation of Students to ensure municipalities enforce quality housing by-laws. Regarding the UPass, Coulter says she would support it only if students had an opportunity to opt-out since she says that, right now, "Laurier is not a commuter school." That said, Coulter remains "very mixed on the UPass."

Evans

Evans thinks the key is informing students of where they can find housing by using Laurier's housing website. His goal, he says, is to make the process as simple as possible because, "Being a first year is stressful enough without having to worry about a roof over your head." Evans would like to use supplemented funds to implement the UPass.

Duncan

Duncan believes WLUSU should get into buying and selling real estate, acting as a landlord in order to better serve students' housing needs while turning a profit. Duncan also recommends a shuttle bus to and from Brantford. He also thinks the UPass is "not a bad idea" and could help students.

Aziz

Aziz wants to see better online housing registries and would like to hire another staff member to conduct research into what other schools do in regards to housing. Aziz wants WLUSU to be a liaison between off-campus housing and the University. He also hopes to get funding from the municipality to aid in the implementation of the UPass.

Do you support WUSC?

Welker

"Yes. I think it's great." However, "It can't be imposed on students. Students have to want it."

Coulter

Coulter supports WUSC and says it is "value all-around".

Evans

Evans says he "would support ten refugee students" and notes that many people wouldn't notice the extra money and the opportunities it provides.

Duncan

Duncan says "I think we need that" and believes it will make us a more educated country.

Aziz

Aziz is "totally for it" because he believes it helps both the refugee and other students.

Governance

of Connolly Aziz

Brantford

Welker

Welker feels that there is a need for Brantford to have its own representation but that a lot of things need to be taken into consideration. Welker wants to continue research already completed to discover the best solution for Brantford students. "Whatever is in the Brantford students' interests is what I want," says Welker. However, Welker says there are a lot of things that need to be taken into consideration and doesn't believe Brantford is ready for its own Students' Union.

Coulter

Coulter wants to look at alternative options in case Brantford doesn't want a campus commissioner, their current position. She wants Brantford students to participate in the decision-making process and hopes to have a plan implemented by January 1, 2005.

Evans

Evans wants to work with the Brantford Activities Council to unify the Waterloo and Brantford campuses. Evans believes "they need resources" and hopes to give them those resources.

Duncan

Duncan wants Brantford to have a totally elected government in Brantford, with an elected campus commissioner who receives the same honourarium as a WLUSU vice president. Duncan essentially wants to treat the position like any other WLUSU VP.

Aziz

Aziz believes it's too difficult to manage Brantford campus without being there and, thus, would like to give Brantford more of its own representation and have each WLUSU VP's portfolio contain some responsibility to Brantford.

Connecting Brantford and Waterloo

Welker

Welker likes the idea of having an 800-number available for Brantford students, so that they would no longer have to dial long distance to contact main campus. Welker wants to do his best to sup-

port whatever initiatives Brantford takes but admits, "There are no easy answers."

Coulter

Coulter wants to hold bi-weekly office hours in Brantford and meet with Brantford city officials to discuss the continued growth of Brantford campus. Coulter critiques that there is currently not a visible WLUSU presence in Brantford and wants to improve that. She also suggested a shuttle bus between the two campuses and perhaps a drive-home program for Brantford students.

Evans

Evans says he will post BOD meeting minutes at Brantford and wants to promote BOD meetings as much as possible in order to generate interest on both campuses.

Duncan

Duncan admits "there have been communication errors" between the two campuses and wants to work to improve them. He'd also like to see a shuttle bus service that charges students for its use, either on a per-use basis or a monthly pass.

Aziz

Aziz wants to see two mandatory Brantford representatives sitting in the Board of Directors and have that number change as Brantford grows. He also wants to create a formal chain of communication between the two campuses and set aside a specific person to receive information from Brantford.

How many times have you been to Brantford campus?

Welker

Three times

Coulter

Five times

Evans

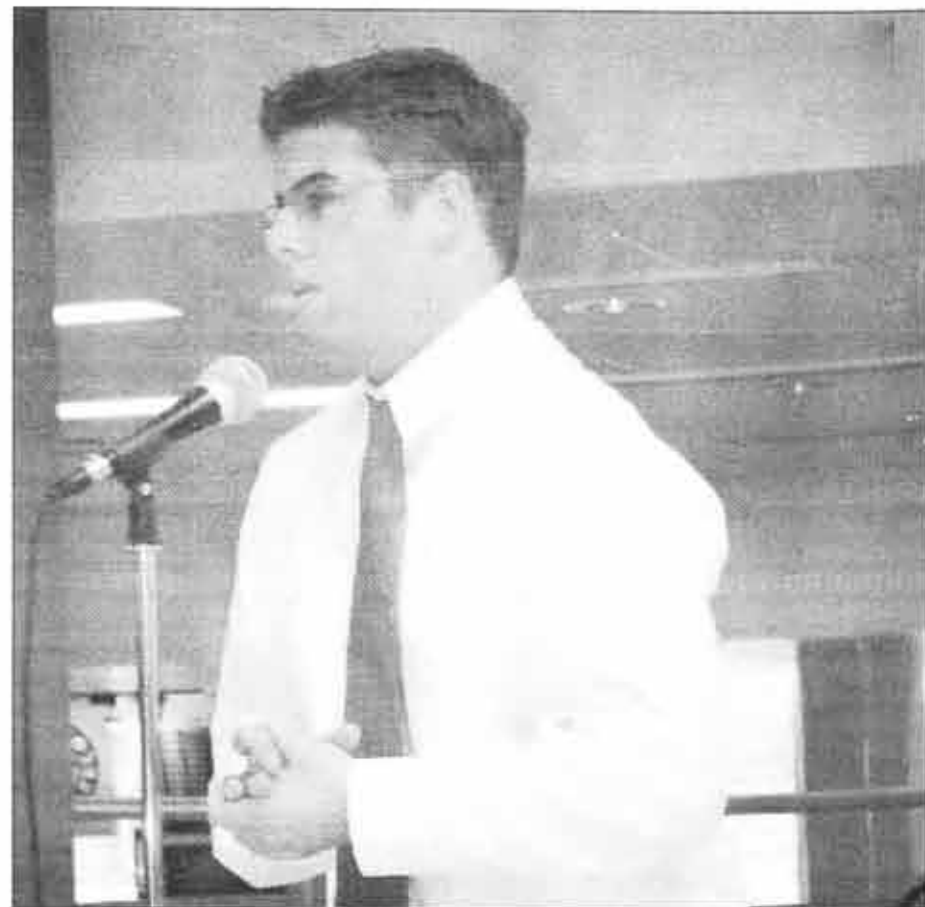
Four times

Aziz

Four times

Duncan

Comes to Waterloo campus three to four times per year



April Cunningham



April Cunningham

Presidential candidate Ryan Duncan:**Deregulation stance and top priority regarding deregulation**

Welker
Welker opposes deregulation and believes "increasing tuition without increasing quality is unacceptable". Welker says that student involvement in decisions of how the money is spent is top priority and doesn't "think [the administration] would be opposed to student input".

Coulter

Coulter opposes deregulation and believes the issue of accessibility is top priority. She wants to work with the administration to ensure accessibility. Coulter also wants to prepare students so that deregulation doesn't happen to other programs.

Evans

Evans opposes deregulation and says if deregulation does happen, students must have a say as to what happens next. Evans' number one priority is educating students as to how deregulation occurred and what it means. Evans hopes to lobby and fight against deregulation through WLU Senate and Board of Governors.

Aziz

Aziz wants to use "the business student representative body to represent concerns" of business students. He also wants to work with University administration to ensure students' needs are adequately met. "We can't let

the administration keep doing what they want without consulting students."

Duncan

Duncan's greatest concern would be "explaining to the students why this happened". Duncan opposes deregulation because "this is something that the students didn't want."

University overenrollment

Welker
Welker believes the Enrollment Management Committee needs more student representation and says "there's no excuse for overenrollment". Welker wants to take advantage of the relationship WLUSU has with the administration. He believes "the university needs to be embarrassed on this issue."

Coulter

Coulter wants to get more student representation on the Enrollment Management Committee and hopes to do so in the Operating Procedures Agreement. She also wishes to work with the VP:UA to "Let [the University] know this is not acceptable".

Evans

Evans wants to address the issue before it happens by working with University administration. He notes that Laurier is on the brink of being a medium sized school when we've thrived as a small school.

Aziz

Aziz wants to create a course of action and work with the administration beforehand to get the desired results. Aziz wants to "sit down with [the administration]" and "get real information". He says he will question people and not just accept what they say. "Don't be a puppy dog," says Aziz.

Duncan

Duncan wants to "encourage the University to cap the number of students at a certain level" and would try to bring on board everybody in the Students' Union to back this issue.

Positive/Negative of Dan Herman's performance

Welker
Positive: "I would remember everybody's name" like Dan

Negative: "I would understand everyone's roles." Welker states the importance of "balancing functionality with opportunities" and notes that the president "shouldn't be stepping on toes".

Coulter

Positive: "Dan had an open door policy" and "did a good job trying different things".

Negative: "Students won't tell you their concerns if they don't see you". Coulter would like to see better publicized open forums and use them to get feedback. She also wishes to communicate better through the use of the WLUSU website.

Evans

Positive: "He's a good manager and a good leader" and "his transition period was very short".

Negative: Evans would improve on managing the Management Committee, stating that it's imperative for a president to "be able to control and manage the MC".

Aziz

Positive: Herman has been very approachable, a necessary quality

Negative: "Everybody should know what Herman's vision is." Aziz says he doesn't believe the MC or the Board knew what Herman's vision was.

Duncan

Positive: Dan "comes down to Brantford often" and noted that his presence was important.

Negative: "The issue with the music students was a little weak." Duncan believes Herman's stance should have been more aggressive on that issue.

Who, besides you, would you vote for?

Welker
Alun Evans because of the "need to understand the corporation." Welker believes Evans is "the second most experienced candidate".

Coulter

Alun Evans because he has a diverse range of experience and a passion to represent students.

Evans

Steve Welker because of his "knowledge, experience and dedication" to WLUSU. Evans noted a concern that Welker doesn't always seem approachable, however.

Aziz

Jen Coulter because she demonstrates "achievement through integrity".

Duncan

Steve Welker because he appears confident and seems to have the best grasp of what's going on. Duncan also

noted that Welker "is a very good speaker".

Best/Worst decision of 2003/04**Welker**

Best: The new proxy policies for elections: won't be abused or promote uneducated voting

Worst: Dealing with War in Iraq outside of their scope; not worth the conflict

Coulter

Best: Opposing deregulation - represented students' interests

Worst: The way deregulation was handled; it should have been planned further in advance. Coulter says "waiting until the last Senate meeting is not really appropriate."

Evans

Best: Waiting to use the Student Life Levy money to renovate a floor in the library; also, hiring a full-time assistant manager for Wilf's and The Turret

most important issues.

Evans

Evans believes voters being informed about the issues is the most important.

Aziz

Aziz believes campus safety is the most important issue, stating it would bring the students and the Union together through a vision.

Duncan

Duncan believes transparency is the foremost concern in the election and believes WLUSU "needs the trust of students to govern with efficiency".

Why shouldn't students vote for you?**Welker**

Welker says students shouldn't vote for him because "I'm a part of the institution" and notes his traditional and conservative ways as perhaps putting off some voters.

Coulter

Coulter says students shouldn't vote for her because "I've



April Cunningham

Presidential candidate Steve Welker

Worst: Lack of representation and action during deregulation talks

Aziz

Best: Opposing deregulation knowing that students opposed it showed strong representation

Worst: Allowing two directors to resign - should have worked harder to keep them

Duncan

Best: Allocating money to improving special needs facilities

Worst: The conditions which led to two directors resigning. "You have to show the public a solid face."

Most important issue in election?**Welker**

Welker believes tuition deregulation and finding adequate bursary funding for students are the most important issues in this election. Welker wants to look into who is getting bursaries and whether they have adequate financial need. Welker also wants to check presented numbers "at least randomly, 1 in 50 or so" to deter those who lie on bursary forms.

Coulter

Coulter believes Brantford services, government and space along with the renegotiation of the OPA to guarantee quality services are the

not been in an elected position" and that "could be seen as a weakness".

Evans

Evans believes voters shouldn't vote for him if they want a leader who will only focus on his own vision and goals.

Aziz

Aziz's reasons for voting against himself are that he doesn't "have the MC knowledge" and doesn't "know every in and out" of the Management Committee.

Duncan

Duncan thinks students shouldn't vote for him because "I'm not from Waterloo [campus]"

WUSC Platform

World University Services of Canada (WUSC) is currently seeking the support of the student body to sponsor a second refugee student by raising the student refugee fee to two dollars. The fee was originally introduced in the late 1980's, and an increase is needed to cover the cost of sponsoring two refugee students. This sponsorship gives refugee students an opportunity to learn in a safe environment, increased freedom and security and resident status. The university will benefit with new perspective brought to the classroom, raise the national profile of Laurier, and will contribute to diversity on campus. Please vote YES.



April Cunningham

Presidential candidate Jen Coulter

Cord's 2004 election picks

Printed below are the election choices of members of *The Cord's* editorial board. None of the editors listed below have any formal affiliations with any of the candidates. Picks are based on information gathered by each editor throughout the campaign period. Take them for what they're worth. Disclosure: Anthony Piscitelli and Bernard Dawson are staff writers for *The Cord Weekly*.



Wilbur McLean
Cord Editor-in-Chief

President: Steve Welker

While he won't appease those looking for strong representation from their president, his thorough knowledge of the administrative and financial sides of WLUSU make him the best candidate. His excellent performance at the open forum should curb some fears that he's not a "people person" who would alienate his constituents.

VP: UA: Anthony Piscitelli

He's the only candidate with the know-how and drive to successfully fill this position and will do an excellent job.

WLUSU Board Top 5

1. Lyndsey Jones
The only incumbent will be necessary for this green board and her experience will help draw the board together.

2. Fraser McCracken
Impressively, after being at

Laurier for only one week he compiled a list of problems he solicited from others in his incomplete King Street residence and submitted them to Dan Herman.

3. Nick Murphy
Brantford needs a representative and he has the best knowledge of what's happening on both campuses.

4. Adria Cehovin
She's heavily involved in

environmental and women's issues and would provide a strong and knowledgeable voice in those areas.

5. Sanjay Ojjo
My sleeper pick, I don't think he's completely sure of what he's getting himself into but his curiosity, willingness to ask questions and concern for what students want will make him a good director.



Caitlin Howlett
Cord Production Manager

President: Steve Welker

Steve Welker demonstrates a commitment not to himself, but the student population with distinct plans to expand and improve the quality of campus life. His experience as VP of Finance enables him to start working for the students immediately, making him the most ready and competent of the presidential candidates.

UP: UA: Anthony Piscitelli

Anthony Piscitelli's three prong platform is a very direct approach to ensuring students have more representation.

WLUSU BOD Top 5

1. Lyndsey Jones' current success as Vice Chair of the Board this past year only improves my confidence in her for a second term.

2. Tudor Costache's commitment to improving discourse amongst students and student government would be a welcomed addition.

3. Jen Mitchell reminds students about the importance of quality teaching evaluations and representation for students, making her a solid choice for WLUSU BOD.

4. David Alexander is a

staunch supporter of BOD visibility, addressing the need for representation on both the Laurier and Brantford campuses.

5. Matthew Gouett stresses the importance of student rights as they pertain to off-campus housing, thus Gouett is someone the WLUSU BOD could benefit from.



Stefan Sereda
Cord Opinion Editor

President: Steve Welker

In a perfect world, money would grow on trees, all of the presidential candidates would have representational and financial skills, and birds would chirp Beatles' songs. Unfortunately, I feel that Steve Welker demonstrates the aforementioned skills to a higher degree than some candidates (only a slightly higher degree than Alun Evans), so I would advocate voting for his entrenched Union knowledge and experience.

VP:UA: Anthony Piscitelli

Anthony Piscitelli has demonstrated his knowledge, research skills, experience, backbone, dedication and overall passion for helping students at Laurier.

WLUSU BOD Top 5

1. The first box I'll check off on my Board of Directors' ballot will be Tudor Costache's, because he's extremely informed, honest, passionate, and dedicated to responsible representation... also I liked the creativity of

his art-house posters.

2. Lyndsey Jones is a highly-experienced director who deserves re-election based on the strength of her platform and performance during the open forum.

3. My darkhorse pick for the BOD is Fraser McCracken, who was definitely the most impressive candidate during the open forum due to his research and enthusiasm, which is also indicative that McCracken will be an asset to

the numerous BOD committees.

4. Jen Mitchell has a very strong platform with reasonable goals and also came across well in the open forum, so she would be a good student representative.

5. Speaking of representation, Nick Murphy is one of the more active students on the Brantford Campus and would make a great voice for these students on the BOD.



April Cunningham
Cord News Editor

President: Steve Welker

Steve Welker's visibly strong knowledge of the inner workings of WLUSU would ensure efficient leadership of the corporation. His promises are practical, and he is willing to put his own ideals aside to represent and work towards what students want.

VP:UA: Anthony Piscitelli

Piscitelli's knowledge gained while researching irrespon-

sible growth of WLU is impressive and his passion for fair policy issues would be a benefit to students.

WLUSU Bod Top 5

1. Lyndsey Jones - As a competent vice-chair of the BOD, Jones knows where further attention is necessary, and is "committed to the students."

2. Tudor Costache - Costache is not afraid of being differ-

ent and ensures that any BOD information will be public information.

3. Jen Mitchell - With Mitchell's work developing course evaluations with Arts Council, the BOD will represent substantial academic interests.

4. Fraser McCracken - McCracken seems prepared to act responsibly and

increase student awareness of BOD initiatives.

5. Bernard Dawson - Dawson is familiar with pertinent issues and would act in the best interest of students.



Bryn Boyce
Cord International Editor

President: Steve Welker

It's clear from both platform and campaign that no candidate is even in the same league as Welker. He has both the practical knowledge and drive necessary to effectively run WLUSU but should be watched to ensure non-administrative issues are properly addressed.

VP:UA: Anthony Piscitelli

It's a close call, but Anthony seems to have the experience

on BOD, BOG and Senate that Tricia lacks and will certainly help ground an administration-bent president with his focus on representation and social issues.

WLUSU BOD TOP 5

1. Lyndsey Jones - As the only incumbent candidate she has a unique perspective and hasn't lost her faith in Board's potential. Congrats!

2. Tudor Costache -

Extremely intelligent and critical candidate that will both command respect and provide leadership as Director or Chair of the Board.

3. Fraser McCracken - He's a strong candidate with motivation and a genuine non-rhetorical interest in improving student life.

4. Alysia Wyville - A progressively-minded candidate who

will likely underpin progressive change in the areas of social, environmental and equality issues.

5. Jen Mitchell - Her involvement in Arts council is an asset for continuing the network of inter-faculty representation begun by Laurier Student Caucus; also a frequenter of current Board meetings.



Chris Clemens
Cord Entertainment Editor

President: Steve Welker

Welker dominated the open forum with succinct, intelligent responses that were head and shoulders above the competition in coherence. With vague ideologue defining the platforms of the majority of the other candidates, the man with an actual plan can't help but be my logical choice.

VP:UA: Tricia Martin

Although closely tied with Piscitelli in terms of overall juiciness, Tricia's goals seem to be slightly more realistically attainable.

WLUSU BOD Top 5

1. Lyndsey Jones - Experience in the pit of vipers.

2. Alysia Wyville - Let's get someone with a different perspective of university life in

there for once, hmmm?

3. Tudor Costache - Between his insane rants and saucy Communist panache, there lies a B.O.D. member in Tudor with a heart of gold and a will for change.

4. David Alexander - Mutual extracurricular interests and a Weezer-esque appeal ensure adequate representation of me, personally.

5. Nicholas Murphy - Although he seems like the best bet for an effective Brantford representative, it was the prize-fighter picture that sold me.



Thomas Thompson
Cord Special Projects Editor

President: Steve Welker

Welker is very well informed and is aware of the issues and gives clear indication of supporting a bicameral system. Welker seemed to be the most informed about the different aspects of the Union.

VP:UA: Anthony Piscitelli
Piscitelli is the most experienced candidate running for

this position and has shown excellent involvement and leadership in WLUSU as a BOD member.

WLUSU BOD Top 5

1. Dave Alexander: Alexander has progressive ideas and shows great concern about WLUSU transparency.

2. Tudor Costache: Costache has been one of the most vocal candidates demanding change within WLUSU.

3. Nicholas Murphy: Apart from showing his ability as an excellent leader, Murphy managed to present himself well at the forum.

4. Bernard Dawson: Benard

through his work at *The Cord* and his involvement as a concerned student has made himself knowledgeable about the issues affecting this campus.

5. Fraser McCracken: McCracken is very aware and well informed in WLUSU matters, an excellent feat for a first year student.

NOTICE OF REFERENDUM

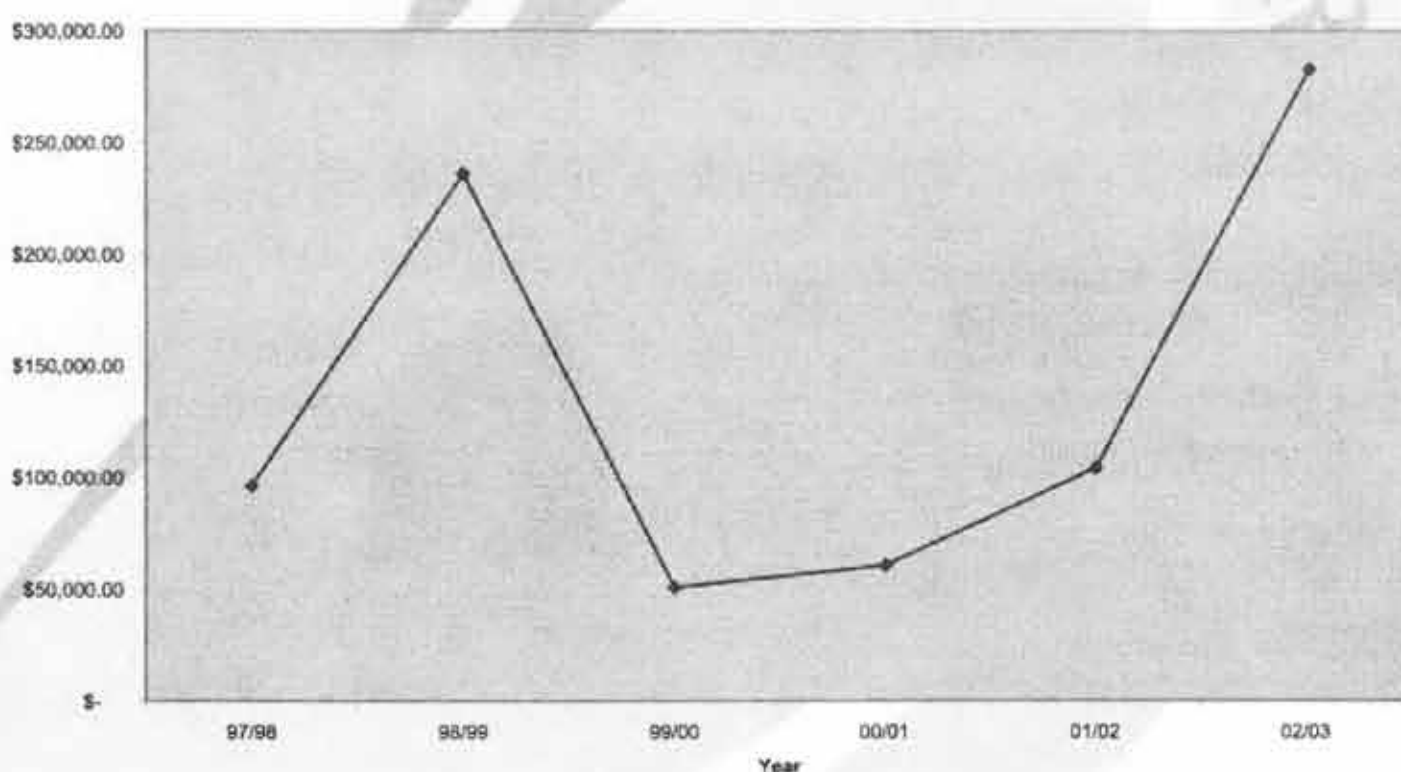
On February 5th, 2004, members of the Wilfrid Laurier University Students' Union will be asked the following referendum question on the election Ballot:

"Be it resolved that the 2002/2003 Wilfrid Laurier University Students' Union's audited financial statements be approved as presented."

Wilfrid Laurier University Students' Union Statement of Operations Year Ended April 30, 2003

	Building Maintenance Fund	Capital Fund	Van Maintenance Fund	Health Plan Fund	Environmental Services Fund	Operating Fund	Total 2003	Total 2002
Revenues	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 8,225	\$ 512,859	\$ 23,100	\$ 5,675,480	\$ 6,219,664	\$ 5,801,263
Expenses	0	0	9,836	336,141	16,610	5,147,729	5,510,316	5,285,965
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses before other expenses	0	0	(1,611)	176,718	6,490	524,751	709,348	515,298
Other Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	425,711	425,711	410,617
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses	\$0	\$ 0	\$(1,611)	\$176,718	\$6,490	\$102,040	\$283,637	\$104,681

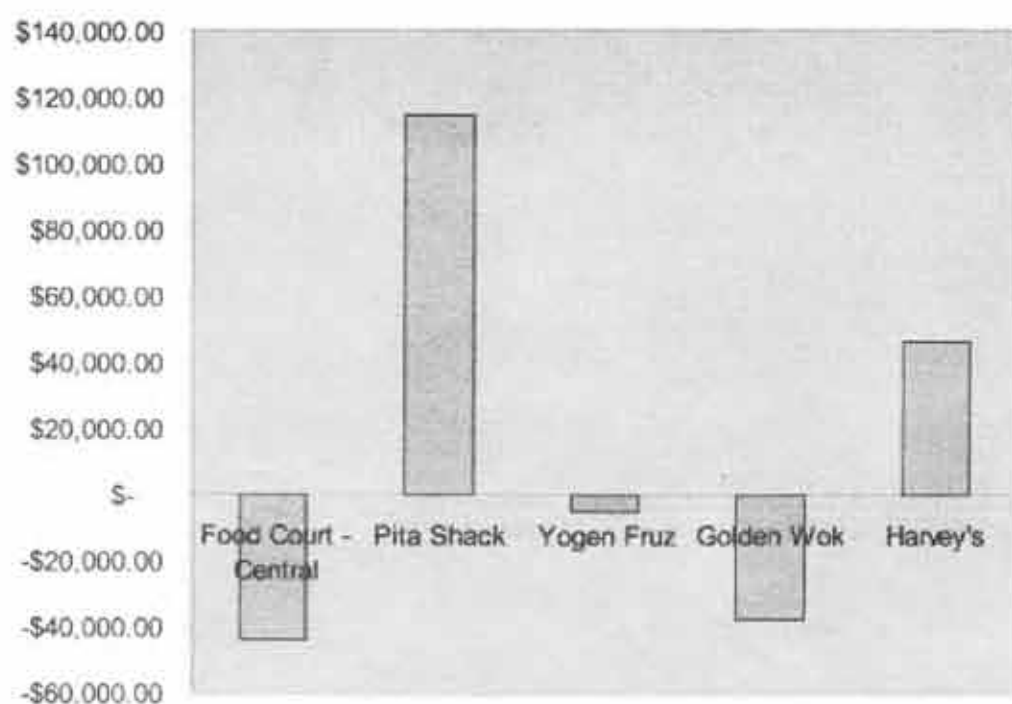
Annual Net Income



Net Income (Loss) by Department:

Central	\$ 978,043
President's Dept.	\$ (94,220)
Turret	\$ 46,804
Wilf's	\$ (6,761)
Catering	\$ 30,046
Centre Spot	\$ (1,097)
Food Court	\$ 74,201
University Affairs	\$ (67,907)
Student Activities Dept.	\$ (23,029)
Marketing Dept.	\$ (43,405)
Student Services Dept.	\$ (60,849)
Finance Dept.	\$ (222,653)
Human Resources	\$ (81,422)
Health Plan	\$ 176,718

Food Court: Summary by Operation



For more information in regards to the Wilfrid Laurier University Students' Union's audited financial statements, please contact Steve Welker at swelker@wlu.ca.

THE CORD WEEKLY

The tie that binds since 1926

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"What are those things that bears float on?"
- Stefan Sereda, in a moment of total idiocy, referring to icebergs... he didn't know that at the time

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Jen's trophy husband, chocolate covered almonds, big-ups to Senators fans who are nicer than Leafs fans, the Pacers for beating the Lakers, The Toronto Star, The Queen's Journal, all the people that Stefan didn't get to meet, Neil, Bob, Little Guy, Jen for signing, Gage, dip-dip, drunken yelling, Miley, Ariel, question mark, grape jolly, Ohs Residing's "Try a Little Tenderness," Beth if the Cord sucks now, you're a part of it, Happy Birthday Amanda, ladies, J&M's, 1 mile Jimmy too.

-SJS and some lovestruck ladies with Queen's obsessions

Thanks to Angela for bringing me a water during the open forum and also for buying me a donut and fruit punch because it's 9 am and I'm still here. Absolutely no thanks to the presidential candidate interviews. I hate you interviews. A huge no thanks to eight-line callouts and centred lard. Oh, and thanks to Ryan Duncan for resembling a 40-pound heavier Cumme. A big thank you to quitters who free up more space in the contributors. Also, no thank you to the HR department who wouldn't let me have any candy. No thanks to razor burn, my face is itchy. No thanks to Universal Music who haven't started sending us more CDs as they promised. -WM

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All letters to the editor must be signed and submitted with the author's name, student identification number, and telephone number. Letters must be received by noon Tuesday on disk, or via e-mail at letters@wlusp.com with the subject heading of "Cord letter". Letters must be typed or easily legible and may not exceed 350 words. The Cord reserves the right to edit any letter for brevity and clarity. Spelling and grammar will be corrected. The Cord reserves the right to reject any letter, in whole or in part.

The Cord reserves the right not to publish material that is deemed to be libelous or in contravention with the Cord's Code of Ethics or journalistic standards.

Opinions expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect those of the Editorial Board, The Cord, WLUSP, WLU or Hamilton Web Printing.

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Meandering mystique

Entertainment Editor Chris Clemens questions why celebrities would call attention to their sad, embarrassing lives



Consider the following excerpt: "Mick [Foley] is my all time favourite modern wrestler, and I am happy to see him fit and trim in anticipation of his return to a big match at Wrestlemania...go Mick!!"

While unabashed enthusiasm for a man who makes his living by injuring himself may be an indicator that this fabulous quote belongs to one of the internet's numerous no-name cretins, it stems from the mouth of Billy Corgan. Yes, Billy Corgan, the inventive lyricist who master-minded the Smashing Pumpkins' rise to glory and critical acclaim is a huge fan of professional wrestling. What's more, he makes it blazingly apparent on his personal website, billycorgan.com.

Although my faith in the man was shattered when he turned the Pumpkins into experimental garbage and threw them to the curb like trash, Corgan always commanded a fair amount of respect in the sphere of music. Despite achieving mainstream success, Corgan always managed to maintain a fan base of sorts amongst the hipsters, largely in part to his lyrical complexity and philosophizing nature.

Successful music icons have

always been enigmatically appealing in some way. Artists like Kurt Cobain and Jim Morrison are timeless figures in pop culture. This is not merely because of their musical achievements, but as a result of carefully guarded personalities that defined their role as mouthpieces for entire generations. These musicians had a mystique about them, an aura of implied vulnerability that led fans to rabidly search for anything that could unveil their secrets. Years after Cobain's suicide, enthusiasts are still trying to piece together who the man really was using personal journals and testimony.

"OMG, everything went so well tonight! This girl in the front was looking at me and she was hot...LOL!"

-Kurt Cobain's weblog, as imagined by Chris Clemens

In recent years many actors, music artists and other prominent cultural figures have turned to the internet as a means of revealing their true personality to fans. Like Corgan, many keep online journals of their sporadic thoughts and reflections. But is this a good thing?

Imagine reading Cobain's hastily typed reflections of a

I'm too brainwashed to read this article



Stop being creative and memorize information like a zombie. You have the exciting opportunity to become another faithful and productive peon of North American society. And try not to question anything irrational, that would probably offset your co-peons' productivity for several moments, perhaps provoking them into fits of jealousy as you witness their last IQ points committing suicide out of boredom and loneliness.

Ironically, living in a nation that is, and communities which are, liberal enough to allow for rational decision making without the extrinsic enforcement of dogmatic nonsense or oppressive governmental controls (to a certain extent anyways) doesn't seem to have the emancipating effect that one might surmise. Instead we place importance on behaving like people on television and buying into socially acceptable roles, frequently in order to acquire jobs that don't serve to expand one's horizons past the sphere of making money and procreating. Although both can be self-assuring, they are not the antiquated sources of life experience that promote inde-

pendent distinctiveness on anything more than a corporeal level. That particular kind of life is a happy, arrogant, belligerently resourceless product of societal primitivism. Furthermore, it represents an eclipse of reason with a distinct lack of interest in and for the negative effects organized and preordained behaviour have on cultural diversity, not to mention human development. Real life should not be so copied and narcissistic.

Conformity... should be fought as a form of child abuse.

This shell of modern culture must indeed be just that: a shell. There is no possible way that the image of what is incessantly characterized in the media can encompass the shape of humanity, save merely its shadow perhaps. Fantastically enough, this shadow apparently provides sufficient stimulation to keep its spell of hypnosis with a firm grasp on majority interest.

Under this grasp, the personas that many individuals elect to represent themselves are often different from their actual personalities, even from an early age. Many people seem to possess a crippling fear of marginalization, one that appears to convince them that it would detract from

Nirvana show were he alive today: "OMG, everything went so well tonight! This girl in the front was looking at me and she was hot...LOL! And then I looked at her and she looked away and then I sang Lithium SO GOOD! P.S. I totally nailed her after the show!!!! :)" I would hope that Kurt would be slightly more articulate than that, but you get the point. The Internet makes communicating so facile that over-enthusiasts can easily sound like a rambling teenage fan club if they aren't careful.

This is troubling. We don't need any more crappy LiveJournals floating around on the internet, even if they revolve around the lives of cultural somebody's. We, as fans, set personal standards for our favourite actors and musicians which are impossibly high, building them up as superbeings of insight and talent. When these artists offer us a poorly articulated rendition of how they lost their poor cat Mr. Pussums, it brings them crashing back down to Earth. The illusion shatters and fans are left with the image of just another idiot who happens to be able to play the guitar particularly well.

There are still artists today who maintain the mystique of the craft. For example, Tool's Maynard James Keenan makes a hobby out of tricking the media and overcurious fans for his own amusement. However, today's cultural icons need to maintain an image of integrity in cohesion with their accomplishments, treating the Internet as a tool fully capable of destroying their fame. Billy Corgan may like professional wrestling, but the fans pondering the depths of his lyricism sure don't want to hear about it.

their acceptability and credibility in current economic and social practices. How does conformity retain such a hold over the expression of self? Well, evidently through imitation and duplication; an organized collage of socially obedient horrendousness, altering people into pylons. Rigorous and stubborn conformity, like religious fundamentalism, should be fought as a form of child abuse, not praised for keeping kids grounded.

When people fail to understand something, it can then be typified as a threat, simultaneously coupled with the fact that any large change from normality is extremely difficult to accept. This is why there is hostility and resentment towards advocates of change. Take Madalyn Murray O'Hair for example, the woman responsible for removal of the coercing occult-ish ritual of reciting prayer from American public schools for a violation of the First Amendment. Her actions earned her the dubious distinction of becoming the most hated woman in America. The idea was not originally to become the most hated woman in America, but to remove the dangerous, misleading and co-opting effect that unquestioned devotion can have, particularly on young people. Interesting that what someone doesn't understand or want to understand, that person can make mean anything.

Crime! Drugs! Piercings! Phil's!!! Have a question?... **ASK LEN!** len@killtheinnocent.com

P.S. Not a real e-mail address

Shifty's TOP 10

campus personalities
and hotspots better
suited to their original
purpose than their
new one



10. All campus entranceways: These were safer before WLU went overenrollment-zealous; now it looks like Degobah.



9. Wilf's: Once a place of quiet beers with profs, now a haven for goons like D'Aloisio and Guy Smiley (see above photo)



8. This wall space: I prefer emptiness to the milk cartel's "Hmm... milk's sales are down, let's put ads in study space" mega-sign



7. This wall space: Isn't WLU a secular institution? Why are we letting cults recruit students? I guess they do own the building...



6. Taylor Landry: Landry served WLU better as the campus hero before he became the token Laurier Nickelback fan



5. The Hawk: I could stand it as a crest, but something about its iconic status as a deity bothers me



4. The Torque Room: Study space and socializing is fine by me... but easy on the styrofoam Second Cup!



3. The Concourse: I wouldn't be surprised if Staples bought out the space used by the Hub and HMV moved into the radio booth



2. The Turret: this once-proud danceclub was all about busting moves and random tongue-action on Thursday nights. Now it's collecting dust... and this guy



1. The AC: once a facility for working out and pumping up, the AC is now a meat market where young 'athletes' can make out and and pump each other

Letters to The Cord

letters@wlusp.com

Thanks for coming out

I am a first year student at Laurier Brantford writing in response to the "open forum" held yesterday at the Brantford Campus. This forum was supposed to be an opportunity for students here in Brantford to hear every candidate's platform and be able to ask questions in order to get a better grasp on who to vote for in the upcoming election. This forum also presented the perfect opportunity for candidates from the Waterloo Campus (which I refuse to call "main" campus due to the fact that it makes us here in Brantford feel inferior to our brothers and sisters in Waterloo) to persuade us to support them in their campaigns. Yet this forum did not give much of an opportunity for either students to gather information or for candidates to voice their concerns for the Brantford campus. Why? There were only thirteen out of twenty-six candidates that attended the forum. Not only was there only a fifty percent turnout, but two of those candidates are from the Brantford Campus, which means only eleven candidates took time out of their busy "Waterloo" campus schedules to grace us with their presence here in Brantford.

I could be holding a bit of a bias here, as being a member of Laurier Brantford means constantly being ignored by the almighty Waterloo Campus. But eleven students is a poor turnout, especially for individuals running for a position that involves representing ALL of WLU, not just the Waterloo campus. Moreover, there are

some serious issues here in Brantford that need to be addressed. For example, we lack a student centre and we need more funding for residences and classrooms, as there are two new programs which will bring over 200 students to Brantford next year. Not to mention that 600 high school graduates have already applied to the already popular Concurrent Education program. These issues are constantly ignored by the present Board of Directors.

After being here in Brantford for one semester, I can feel a sense of pride on this campus. Our esteem is lowered when we are insulted by only eleven students from Waterloo gracing us with their presence (one did make the effort to come to our Charity Hockey game against Mohawk college in which we won 10-5).

So in close, my opinion remains the same, as I chose to vote for the only two candidates from the Brantford Campus, Nicholas Murphy and Jodi Dam. I know that many Brantford Students feel the same way. After all, how can we vote for a candidate if they can't take a drive down here and tell us where they stand?

Jill Orpen

What's this cat's deal?

For all the America bashing we do, it really is a great country when you filter out the bullshit. So they're being jerks right now, whatever. My best friend is a jerk once in a while, but he is still my best friend. Maybe that's why I have a handful of super-

good friends and a million fast friends. If I can't turn to one super-good friend, well I turn to the rest of the group. Anyway, Canadian pride is still in me, no matter how much I try to truly believe I am a global citizen. A little epistemological dangler I will have to pick up.

Anyway, here's the evidence of my frayed end, thought you cats would get a kick out of it: I watched Jimmy call everyone cats when I went to Woodstock in front of my television box one day and I can't help but retreat to fantasy one instant in a while and I use 'cats' in THAT context. So for all you egalitarians, whether feminists, or a part of the anti-racism superhero squad or however you label yourself, I don't mean no offence.

This is part of the e-mail I wrote to my friend in Europe who I hope to catch up with over the break. Well, Hakuna Matada so enjoy:

"Remember I look American. I don't wanna get in trouble because someone else knows how ridiculous America is acting lately and they think it's my fault. In Canada, our beer commercials on tv are about some Canadian dude beating up some loud mouth American. If it is thought about just North of America, it must be thought about over there too. So let's go somewhere where people will think 'oh, but he might be Canadian.'"

Peace,

Secret agent double 'o' nothing

Mike Martino

Donate to refugees in WUSC referendum

Refugee student Madaka asks students to vote in favour of WUSC

Opinion Editorial

Peter Madaka

It is a rare and hallowed opportunity for me to write to you on the eve of what I consider an important referendum.

Friends, I have had a rare opportunity to experience life on both sides of the divide—once as one of the hopelessly dispossessed, and once as one of you: full of hope, exuberance and idealism. That is why I still believe that human beings are a tremendous force for good if they choose to be.

Today I speak to you in humble pursuit of a long and venerable tradition of generations past, steeped in the abiding faith that students like you are the one last reservoir of hope and idealism in the world. Students around the world still offer hope to the hopeless and return smiles to the forsaken—the dispossessed and the silenced everywhere. It is a world whose existence many prefer not to acknowledge.

After six years in this great institution and lots of English-speaking friends, it

is embarrassing for me to admit that I still lack vocabulary. Indulge me therefore, as I borrow from Anna Quindlen, an author I would never have known had it not been for the WUSC Local Committee that pulled me from the abyss that was once my home.

Quindlen spoke recently at a convocation my friend attended and I was lucky to get a copy of her speech. To my surprise, she did not speak about grand, groundbreaking theories; nor did she even hint at her best-selling Magnus opus. Instead, she spoke about the mundane banalities of life—a message I am tempted to re-echo to you today.

"Get a life in which you are generous. Realize that life is the best thing ever, and learn never to take it for granted. Care so deeply about its goodness that you want to spread it around. Take money you would have spent on beers and give it to charity; volunteer or even be a big brother or big sister... all of you want to do well. But if you do not do good too, then doing well will never be enough."

Friends, what you are about to do is not a dress rehearsal. It is a life-changing act; one that could either capture humanity's abiding faith in its own destiny or it

could undermine our precarious hold on what is otherwise a long and admired history of student idealism.

Here in Canada, we still laugh and smile as part of our everyday life. We do it so often and so effortlessly we believe it is a universal human act. The reality, however, is that half the world out there has long forgotten how to smile or laugh.

With the vote, you have a chance to dare one human being to dream, hope and even aspire for something better. You can help put a smile back where it once belonged.

Friends, I am not here to tell you how to live your lives. I am not here to make your burdens any heavier than they already are. I am really here for myself: to look back with you and through your idealistic eyes to the world that was once mine and hopefully to help renew my own faith in the world that could be.

Scholars say that the pursuit of knowledge is a perpetual search for the elusive panacea that could someday transform our world into a paradise. Yet as Quindlen exhorts us all, the paradise may never be good enough for us unless we expand the human tent and extend hopes, dreams and smiles where they have long ceased to exist. Here in Canada and at Laurier, we still have a chance to impact human life in ways we can't even begin to imagine.

My name is Prince. And I am funky. Cord Opinion. Yeh.

Someone should blacklist this pinko



Idealist at work

David Alexander

I hate to sound like a Laurier Ambassador (no offence), but there is a very strong sense of community here at Laurier. Don't get me wrong, when it comes to interacting with the K-W community most of us don't do anything more valuable than spending our money at The Huether Hotel. But within the Laurier bubble, we're pretty damned friendly. There are many opportunities for students (i.e. people) to interact with one another in ways that have a positive impact in and outside of the Laurier community.

Thanks to Laurier's climate of volunteerism and the proliferation of social and environmental justice clubs on campus, students are able to connect with each other and interact in real public discourse. Students can choose the nature of this interaction based upon their own personal values and beliefs. The unfortunate aside to this fact is that "public" discourse occurs within a private institution that is not accessible to the entire population (although thankfully it is open to most anyone who's capable of "renting"

space in the Concourse).

For a well-integrated senior student, Laurier is like a commune, a sort of public space within which there are no weird strangers. But just outside, a world waits where people view the world as a place to succeed rather than a thing to belong to.

There is no doubt that our society values individualism. Individualism, which is often contrasted with collectivism, refers to the tendency for people to think of themselves in isolation from the rest of society. Individualists withdraw from society, relinquishing their responsibility to all but their close family and friends. Individualists tend to believe that their future is under their control and that each person is responsible for their own fate.

...a world waits where people view the world as a place to succeed rather than a thing to belong to.

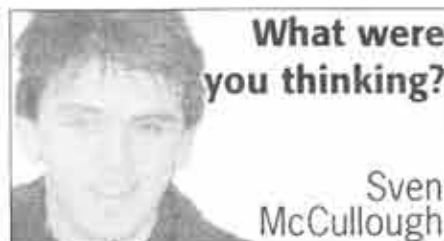
It's cool to love your family, but individualistic cultures like the United States, and Canada to a lesser extent, discourage personal involvement in communities and in the society as a whole. Laurier's student services

like Foot Patrol and Peer Help Line offer students valuable assistance with their lives, while groups like Laurier Students for Literacy and others offer valuable services to the community. In addition, groups like Laurier Students for a Public Interest Research Group and its affiliates advocate positive social change.

Why do so many of our decisions in life rest solely on our own personal goals? Rather than choosing to move into a nice house, move into a nice community with your friends or get involved with the community you are part of now. Rather than choosing to work at a high-paying job, choose to work in a manner that benefits your community and society. Rather than seeking personal entertainment, seek satisfaction through interaction with others. Rather than electing governments that make promises about a competitive economy in which some can prosper, elect those that would share wealth with the poorest in their society.

It is quite sad to imagine that so few of our interpersonal friendships will last after we graduate and move back to our hometowns (or, more hopefully, away from them). It is even sadder to imagine that the world we move out upon is one where we will be encouraged to isolate ourselves from our communities.

Empty bowl



What were you thinking?

Sven McCullough

It's Super Sunday but I don't see what's so "super" about it. Nothing good ever came out of Sunday. It's by far my most hated of all days and I don't even have church to depress me.

You see, what bothers me about the last day of my weekend more than anything is the NFL. I blame football for ruining my Sunday afternoons and primetime television hours. I don't think a single football game ever finished on time, and I'm therefore forced into hearing a few retired players overanalyze a slew of non-consequential plays. "Now let's look at that fumble again and again in case we missed it the first few times. And as always I'd like to thank Valvoline Motor Oil for the replays of the day. Because when I think about football I can't help but think about oil." Why do they torment me so? I'm so thankful that the football season is the shortest in professional sports.

The Super Bowl causes even more problems for someone like me who finds football as boring as curling but without as much yelling. It's just as bad as the rest of the games throughout the season but you have to suffer through a never ending pre-game show and a pointless half-time extravaganza. I want no part of it. Since the other stations won't play any good programming to compete with the Super Bowl, I'll do something I really hate, like reading. Well maybe I won't do something that

drastic, but I don't want to watch two teams that I don't give a shit about playing for a bowl that is no bowl at all. It's a freaking ball on a stand! At least the Stanley Cup is a big-ass cup, and what's better, it's Canadian.

I think the Super Bowl is over-hyped and usually a big let down. There is no best-of-seven series that you find in all other professional sports finals to add a dimension of rivalry between teams. Not that you'll find me complaining. The football season is drawn out to begin with as far as I'm concerned. One big game also creates a bunch of hopping-on-the-bandwagon fans. At the beginning of the season people may have a favourite but they will still be excited to watch some team they've never heard of win the Super Bowl. "Uh yeah, I've been a (insert team name of finalist with cheaper jersey here) all my life. Go team!" I'm not going to watch the game no matter who plays, because I hate all the teams equally.

Besides a stoppage in play every ten seconds or less, the Super Bowl has many other attractions. Where else can you hear witty banter between sports casters like "what is Carolina going to have to do tonight to win?" "They'll have to do what got them here: run the football into the end-zone more times than the other team." Damn, these guys are smart. How do they cut through the mysteries and come up with such wisdom? It's also when multi-million dollar commercials are premiered. I heard some people talking about seeing a preview for a MasterCard ad. Ads have previews?! Priceless.

The game will come and go and unless you bet on it, the outcome will be meaningless.

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Bunch judged based on rotten apples

Piscitelli questions how fair a dry athletics policy is to athletes and staff



**Opinion
Editorial**

Anthony
Piscitelli

After September 11 the Canadian government moved to curtail civil liberties within Canada. This was an attempt to send signals to America that Canada was not a safe-haven for terrorists. While it is arguable that these new policies were successful in comforting our neighbour, recent events are making it obvious that the policies also managed to curtail some of Canada's most fundamental freedoms, like freedom of the press.

**What happens
when the right
public message
comes at the
expense of our
student athletes?**

Recently Wilfrid Laurier University has acted in a similarly draconian manner. In an attempt to protect the University's image after recent high-profile events regarding Laurier football

players the school has come out with new strict policies for our student athletes. Just like after September 11, these policies to half-attentive audiences seem necessary; but just like the reaction to September 11 these actions demonstrate a body acting without thoroughly planning its course of action. In fact at the Board of Governors meeting where these policies were passed, one of the central arguments put forth by the administration was that these new policies were necessary to send the right signals to the public about Laurier Athletics.

But what happens when the right public message comes at the expense of the rights of our student athletes? The new policy put in place give a coach the freedom to "discipline" a student athlete without a hearing. The new policy allows for a hearing with council but it does not allow council to speak on behalf of the accused. It leaves the appeal process in the hands of only a few. It also allows for a team captain to be held responsible for events they may not even be present for. And the new policies even take away the rights of our student athletes to responsibly consume alcohol with their own coaching staff.

As a former member of the cross-country team I know

that student athletes have indeed shared drinks with their coaches. This has functioned as a bonding tool between coach and athlete. In the sport of rugby, it also serves as part of a long-standing tradition. After matches both teams sit down and share a pint, putting aside the tension in the recently fought match and creating a spirit of brotherhood and sportsmanship.

Yet when the Board of Governors met on Tuesday these issues were not of concern; instead there was a rush to send the right message to the community. Unfortunately the right message happened to be that Laurier student athletes and coaching staff were not responsible enough to share a drink with one another.

The policy's passing is particularly ironic, as I have spent time having dinner with my fellow governors. At these dinners I have even been given the opportunity to share drinks with both the Senior Administration and members of the Board of Governors. This occurred on what can only be described as the very eve of new policies restricting drinking between coaches and Laurier athletes. There is however a line of hope in all this mess: the Board of Governors will be reconsidering their position at the next meeting. Let's hope that with the need to send the 'right' message gone the Board can now create the right policy.

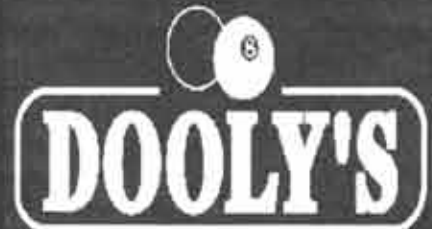


You've been foiled! Out of nowhere two ninja-dressed kittens pop out of a corner. They slice you to pieces with a haughty "meow" and a defiant "purr". You are dead. You lose. Thank you for playing.

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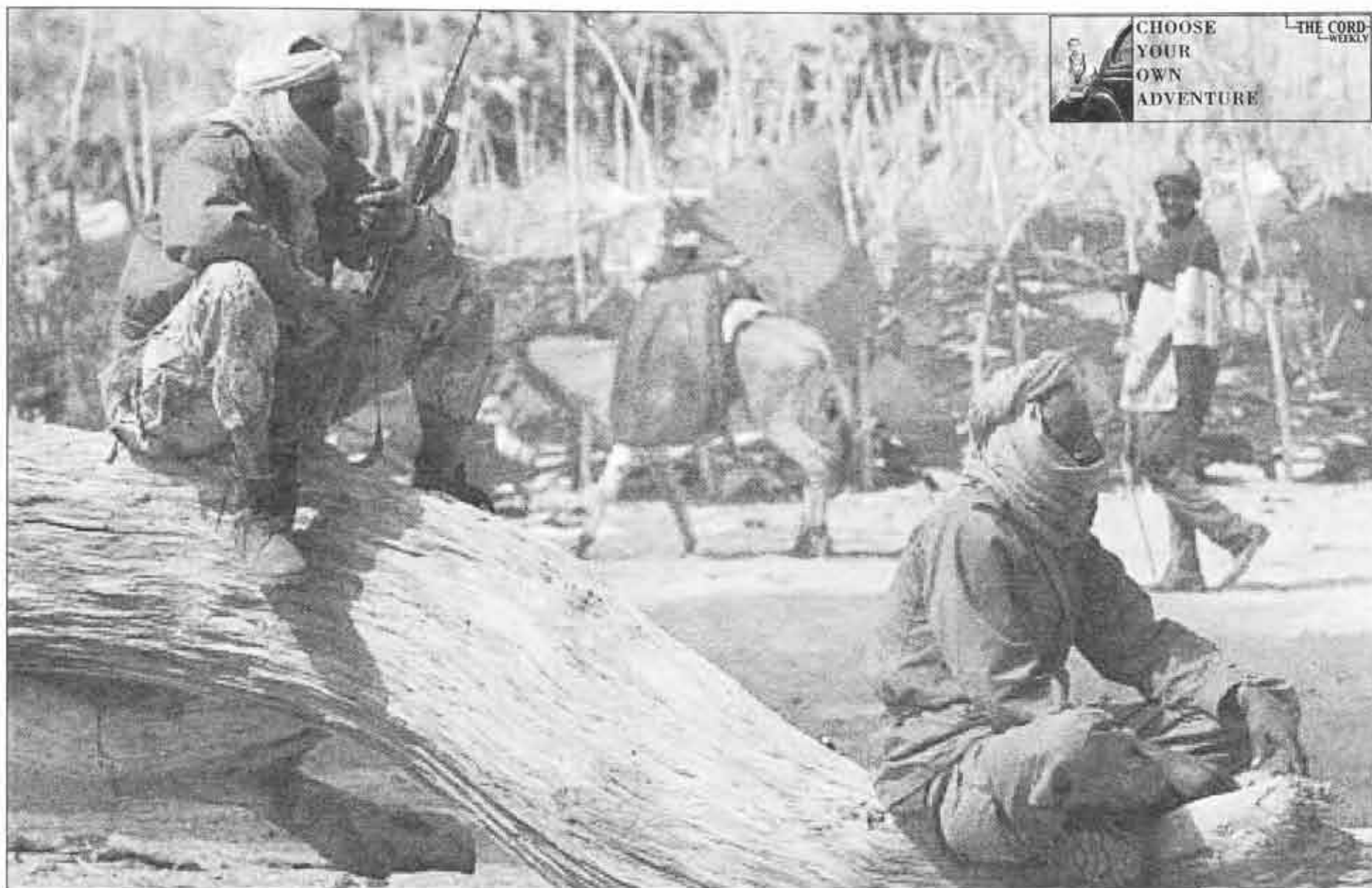
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You find yourself in wartorn West Africa. Some of the armed locals, in a language you don't speak, seem to motion at you to follow them. Beyond the locals, you can see a mule that you could run to, hop on the back of, and hope to escape to safety. To go with the locals, turn to page 23. To try and escape on the mule, turn to page 22.

West African peace hopes

Cameroon and Nigeria, models of Africa, come closer to resolving border

RUBEN GU-KONU
Staff Writer

The Nigerian and Cameroon heads of state have agreed on putting efforts forward to normalize their relations over border disputes that have been going on for over 40 years. President Paul Biya of Cameroon and Nigerian President Olusegun Obasanjo have agreed on the exchange of ambassadors, the conclusion of a non-aggression pact and significant efforts to demilitarize the oil-rich Peninsula of Bakassi.

The two leaders met under UN supervision and in the presence of UN secretary General Kofi Annan earlier last week. The Bakassi peninsula has been disputed by both Nigeria and Cameroon since their independence in the 1960's.

This meeting, the third of its kind, took place in light of a 2002 ruling by the International Court of Justice that awarded the peninsula to Cameroon. Following the

verdict both sides proceeded in heavily militarizing their borders in preparation for a possible conflict as Nigeria rejected the ICJ's decision.

Many clashes have taken place between troops on both sides over the years. The newly formed African Union leaders pressured both Nigeria and Cameroon to stand down over fears that militarized borders could turn to conflict, jeopardizing the lives of over 300,000 people on both sides as well as the stability in the region.

Both sides were urged to look for a peaceful way of resolving the crisis. South African President Thabo Mbeki and former South African leader and Nobel Peace laureate Nelson Mandela visited the two West African leaders in search of a peaceful agreement concerning the fate of the peninsula.

Following those visits, both sides kept their troops on the borders but without any serious encounters. The slow pace of progress cou-

pled with the 2003 elections in Nigeria caused some international observers to fear that the peace efforts were in vain. A change in power in Nigeria could have created a significant shift in the efforts by both nations to normalize the situation.

Obasanjo, first civilian head of state in Nigeria in decades, has been praised for his efforts throughout the continent in the promotion of peace and stability. He has participated in peace talks in war torn Sierra Leone and Democratic Republic of Congo, has taken part in discussing exile possibilities for Liberia's ex-President Charles Taylor and has also helped facilitate peace talks between the rebels and the government in the Ivory Coast.

Kofi Annan and the UN observers qualified the most recent talks between Nigeria and Cameroon as highly productive and promising.

The two heads of states agreed on the design of a roadmap to settle the dispute by the year 2005. They have also agreed to joint patrols by security forces along their 1600-km border. Nigeria has

resettled thousands of people along the Lake Chad and has gracefully handed over many villages. These efforts were seen as pivotal in the efforts to settle the border dispute.

Obasanjo after saluting the efforts of his Cameroon counterpart specified that the next step will be specific resolution of issues at the border between Lake Chad and Bakassi. Once these disputes are settled, the two countries could move to the issue of the peninsula itself.

Throughout Africa, the news of the labours between the two nations to stabilize their relations has been received as not only a positive step towards peace in the region but throughout the continent as well.

The moves show that African nations can indeed resolve both territorial and domestic issues among themselves rather than pursuing the path of war. Elections are set to take place in Cameroon sometime this year, but many in the international community are confident that the talks will move forward despite this possible change in leadership.

Axworthy on route to Africa

TYLER WILLIAMS
Staff Writer

One of the most eminent politicians in Canadian history, former Foreign Affairs minister Lloyd Axworthy, will serve as a special UN envoy to help mediate the long-running conflict between the African states of Eritrea and Ethiopia.

The appointment, which had been decided in December, ran into opposition from both the country of Eritrea, which wanted to discontinue any further talks, and the local UN mission. However, on Friday Axworthy's appointment was finalized and announced by UN spokesperson Marie Okabe.

Axworthy is tasked to implement the peace agreement that ended the two-year war between the impoverished African neighbours in 2000.

Lloyd Axworthy is best known for brokering the historic treaty that banned land mines in 1997. This was the capstone on an impressive career as the Canadian foreign affairs minister that lasted from 1996 to 2000. Currently he chairs the Liu Institute for Global Issues at the University of British Columbia. He also is the author of the best-selling book *Navigating a New World: Canada's Global Future* which advocates an larger Canadian world presence as a legitimizing 'middlepower'.

In December 2000 a peace pact was signed between the two countries, which agreed to defer to an independent panel in order to set up a new border between the two nations. Ethiopia bitterly contested the inclusion of the town of Badme in Eritrean territory in the panel's final report. Badme had much greater significance in May 1998 at the start of the war, when Ethiopia accused Eritrea of invading the town. The war cost 70,000 lives in horrific trench warfare.

The U.N. currently has stationed 4200 troops in a 25km wide buffer zone along the Ethiopian-Eritrean border to help maintain peace.

The disputes over the border lines were the main cause of the two-year war between the two nations. When asked how the presence of Axworthy would affect the progress of the peace negotiations, UN spokesperson Okabe was vague saying only that Axworthy would offer his "good services" to "help move the process forward".

-IT TAKES ALL TYPES TO MAKE A WORLD-

DigiBible ready to go

BRYN BOYCE
International Editor

In the beginning there was light... and it came from a solar powered electronic Bible.

In an ultra-competitive United Kingdom contest, nine new 'church products' and their designers will be doing battle to see which items will gain the adoration of Christ and which will be cast off like a fallen angel.

The Christian Resources Exhibition (CRE) is an event designed to showcase the latest in faith-based novelties.

Stephen Goddard, the organiser of the competition, stated that their mis-

sion is to "support new ways of approaching communication." It turns out that divine edicts are no longer as efficient as they were back in Abraham's days.

Although... if any 'Christian communicator' told me to kill my first born-son I'd tell him/her to shove it anyway.

I digress. This exhibition is slated to see an eternal showdown between the solar-powered electronic Bible and the JCUK (Jesus Christ, United King) T-Shirt. It's a clever play on FCUK but wanders dangerously close to the less flattering "JCUKS".

The contest sees designers and inventors of religious novelty items make three-and-a-half minute sales pitches in an effort to convince the panel of judges (likely all WASPs) that their respective gadgetry deserves the prestigious "My Church Needs One of Those (McNoot) Award".

Not exactly a Nobel Peace prize... but it'll all even out when JC comes back and saves the world.

Goddard claims that the new program aiming at innovation in the church (oxymoron) will stem the loss of new blood into the Sunday services.



To your dismay an angry squirrel waterskis across a previously unseen body of water and chews threw your chest until it eats your heart. This occurs while throngs of children laugh gleefully at your untimely death. You're dead. You lose. Thank you for playing.

Pope: AIDS not good Everyone plays the blame game



Paptacular

Andrew Sachs

Leave it to the Vatican. The fight against AIDS is no longer being led by national governments but by the Catholic Church.

The Papal message this year is somewhat an anomaly in Western countries; a focus on Africa and a pledge to fight the AIDS epidemic. Archbishop Paul Cordes spoke recently to deliver the Pope's message which condemned pharmaceutical companies for limiting AIDS medications to only those who can afford them for reasons of profit.

Underlining this as a "genocidal action" on the part of drug makers, the Vatican also called for "public pressure to convince drug companies to lower the prices of drugs to treat the victims of AIDS."

While the Catholic Church may not have a totally clean record itself, especially given its opposition to condom use, their current language provides a powerful impetus for involvement and leadership where there currently is none.

One might say, how about

the UN? It is forever pushing for more AIDS funding but how far can it really go when it's treated by its most powerful member countries like the Magic-card playing group in high school. They might as well be saying to them, "Wow this game is really engaging but you guys keep playing while I go over there and stare at girls' thongs".

It would be nice to have a leader emerge who could take AIDS by its ears and wrestle it to the ground but political will seems to have gone the way of Pogs. In Canada we have CEO Paul Martin making vague promises to procure more AIDS drugs for Africa but any realist would figure out that 'fiscal responsibility' (a key mandate of the Martin government) means items at the bottom of the list will never see the light of day.

It's our leaders' faults that the majority of Africans living with AIDS cannot get the life saving drugs that they need

In Washington, Bush has tabled his new budget; and yes George, it clearly is a budget, it has a lot of numbers in it, to reuse his own words. No surprises here, the

defense department will see a 7% increase bringing it up to \$401.7 billion with the Missile Defense Agency getting \$9.14 billion. Contrast all the military spending to the \$2.7 billion allotted to fight AIDS and the \$200 million for the United Nations-supported Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and suddenly the numbers seem slightly skewed.

The global superpower who many countries look to for guidance seems to be lacking in a certain area of leadership despite their president's assurance that, "on the continent of Africa, this great country is now committed to bringing the healing power of medicine to millions of men, and women, and children now suffering with AIDS."

Maybe the Vatican is right when it proclaims there is "a lack of social conscience" on the issue of AIDS. Is it our leaders' faults that the majority of 42 million people living with AIDS cannot get the life saving drugs they need despite their availability, or is it all just us who's most important task today is to find the video of Janet Jackson getting her top ripped off during the Super Bowl halftime show.

I'd like to think the Vatican is right in saying that "humanity cannot close its eyes in the face of so appalling a tragedy." To get this fight off the ground though, there needs to be a committed response from those with the means. That entails Western governments valuing health and education over military and defense. Canada could play that role.



You Get Extra Blame

Richard Togman

Survey says: it is all your fault. If you are going to blame anyone for the working conditions of the third world labourers who get paid nothing and placed in burlap bags and beaten with reeds, blame yourself.

I constantly hear rants and tirades about the evil corporations who exploit cheap labour in order to increase their profit margins so the CEO can buy another yacht, however no personal responsibility is ever taken. It is you who is responsible as you buy from the companies that employ these practices.

Corporations are not evil entities bent on world domination. They are simply profit-seeking organizations that are owned by shareholders (a.k.a. regular people, such as every teacher in Ontario through the Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan).

A corporation's purpose is to make money and it does this by giving customers what they want. If people want brand name merchandise at low, low prices then that is what they will get. If people want higher wages and standards for the workers of the world then that is what they will get.

It turns out that it's the average, everyday person who does not care that millions of workers are being

exploited. It is not only the rich fat cats that buy products from corporations but factory workers and farmers too; it is the poor, single, working mother who buys diapers at Wal-Mart instead of at the local store because they are cheaper at Wal-Mart. She aids and abets the proliferation of the sweatshops just as much as anyone. If people demanded better living and working conditions for labourers then change would happen.

Turns out, nobody really cares. Everyone is self-interested, even you. What have you done today to help further the cause of the oppressed and the poor? Did you spend that dollar on a new shirt, beer, coffee or on something else that you could have easily lived without?

And I am not talking about, "Oh, I just can't live without my morning coffee." I am talking about survival because sweatshop workers in Angola cannot survive on ten cents an hour. So before you shout your anti-corporate slogans at The Gap or Tommy Hilfiger, shout at yourself for a while and see what you have done to make a difference.

And for those of you who would claim to be part of the punk/thrift store movement I ask, have you made any real sacrifices? Or is it that you are trying so desperately to establish an identity for yourself that you will latch on to any group, whether it be pop culture or the anti-consumerist trend? Who are you doing this for and what have you done today?

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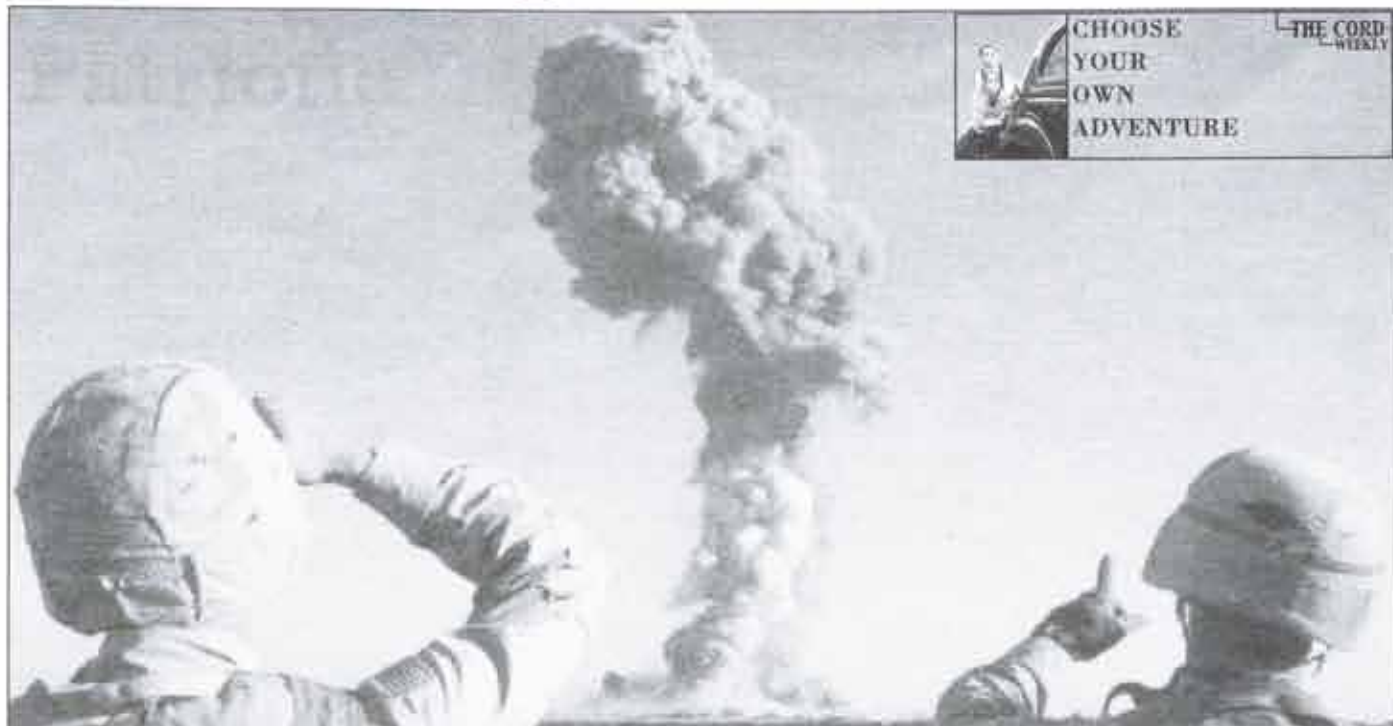
Kris Cote

"Intelligence gathered by this and other governments leaves no doubt that the Iraq regime continues to possess and conceal some of the most lethal weapons ever devised." George W. Bush in his address to the nation on March 17th, 2003.

Former US Weapons Inspector David Kay formally acknowledged what many have known for the past year: Iraq did not possess any weapons of mass destruction. While logically the arguments for the US invasion have been disproved, newspaper pundits are still asserting that the US invasion is justified. They are assuming legitimacy of the invasion on the basis of 'riding the world of a mass murderer.' This assumption carries with it a dangerous precedent.

This statement is, of course, completely hypocritical, as the US has supported (and continue to support) many violent regimes with questionable human rights issues. Human rights abuses have not dictated US foreign interventions in the past and despite whatever spin the Bush administration puts on the Iraq invasion, it was not a major motivating factor this time either.

During Bush's 2000 Presidential campaign, he spoke of limiting US military presence in foreign coun-



Contributed Photo

Uh-oh. Sadly, you're responsible for blowing up the entire city of Houston. And guess what? You're in Texas. Once you're caught you'll be swiftly executed. You lose. You are on death row. Sorry.

tries. That hardly gives the impression that international 'mass murderers' should be running for their spider holes.

When Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf successfully gained control of the country in his 1999 coup, US relations with the country were ice cold. Since 9/11 and Bush's War on Terror, the two leaders have grown remarkably close. Musharraf has vigorously pursued the ideals of the War on Terror and has been rewarded for his cooperation. In 2003 the US gave Pakistan a \$3 billion dollar aid package, half of which will go to the military. All this despite the fact that Musharraf rigged the country's 2002 elections, has been accused by Amnesty

International for 'disappearances' of high level political opposition and extra-judicial executions of journalists and children. Musharraf has also prevented human rights legislation from passing.

Another supporter of US policy has been Turkey. Although they eventually rejected a deal to allow US troops to be based in their country, Turkey still received nearly \$1 billion in US aid last year. Although the country has tried to clean up its image to get into the EU, the human rights abuses are well documented, especially against the Kurds. Amnesty condemns Turkey for its lack of women's rights and high levels of violence against women through torture and 'disappearances.'



Israel's use of US military equipment is open and unabashed and their relationship has become so close that Israel has become little more than a US satellite state. They can always be counted on to be one of (at most) a handful of countries to vote for US resolutions in the UN.

The US has never been concerned with human rights. They resisted UN deployment in Rwanda during the heat of battle that resulted in the slaughter of hundreds of thousands of civilians. While the world is indeed a better place with capture of Saddam, there are still many 'mass murderers' in power of US-supported countries. If human rights were the real reason for the Iraq invasion, many US allies had better prepare to be invaded. Sadly, these 'allies' will most likely remain in power unless they deny the US what they want. Iraq was used as a staging ground and an example to the world of US military might (and the oil didn't hurt either). Human rights is too often added as an afterthought.

The ulterior motivations



Dear Ruben

Ruben Gu-Konu

Many questions have been raised following the April 2002 coup d'état in Venezuela that saw President Hugo Chavez ousted from power for 48 hours before being reinstated. Heavy protest by the Venezuelan people who took up the streets to fight against another unwanted political change helped Chavez back into power.

What puzzles international observers is the quick changes that took place during the brief time President Chavez was out of power.

It has been made clear by the Bush administration that President Chavez's policies were not appreciated by Washington. Chavez refused to allow American spy planes to fly over Venezuelan airspace for its war in Columbia, he opposed the Free Trade Agreement of the Americas and since his inception to power in 1998, he has pushed for fairer prices in oil sales for poorer nations.

Most notably Chavez sold Venezuelan oil to Cuba in exchange for Medicare, something that is incredibly popular in the Central American nation.

After Chavez was ousted, his replacement Pedro Carmona Estanga a well-known corporate mogul in Venezuela, did not wait very long to make some changes that directly point toward Washington.

Within 48 hours he dis-

solved the parliament and the Supreme Court, dismissed all mayors, governors and other regional political figures, stopped the oil shipment to Cuba and most shockingly tried to privatize PDVSA, the state owned Petroleos de Venezuela.

The PDVSA is the root of more than half of Venezuela's revenue and the privatization move sought to turn its management over to a US-based company with links to President George Bush.

In order for the privatization of the PDVSA to happen it was necessary for Carmona Estanga and his allies to suspend the 1999 constitution and take advantage of the conflict situation in the country.

According to investigators, Carmona Estanga received instruction from former PDVSA's president Luis Giusti on how to turn the company around and privatize it. Giusti has close ties with the White House as an energy advisor to President Bush. Venezuelan corporatist, Gustavo Cisneros, a longtime friend of former President George Bush Sr. leads a corporate empire with profits all around the planet. DIRECTV, Venevisión, Coca Cola and Televisa are some of the companies forming Cisneros's empire.

The investigations involved important figures in American Intelligence overseas such as Otto J. Reich, a right-wing Cuban exile and former lobbyist for Mobil Oil, who is now the US assistant secretary of state for Latin America.

Reich has extensive ties with Venezuela. He had been appointed ambassador to Venezuela in 1986 and a con-

gressional inquiry into the Iran-contra scandal revealed that Reich reported directly to Reagan's National Security Aide, Colonel Oliver North, in the White House. North was convicted for his role in Iran-contra scandal and Reich was subsequently removed from Reagan's staff.

The London Guardian reported that in June 2003, American military attaches had held meetings with the Venezuelan military to discuss a military takeover of Hugo Chavez's government.

All these events point straight to the Bush administration and its pursuit to violate countries' sovereignty in exchange for their resources.

The Bush administration repeatedly defended itself against the arguments that the Iraqi campaign was for the acquisition through force of the countries' oil but following the assignment of all the oil refineries' contracts to American companies who directly or indirectly will endorse Mr. Bush's 2004 presidential campaign, one may ask how far this administration will go.

During the attempted coup in Venezuela, 17 people were killed including high officials of the Chavez government and over 100 were injured.

The events of September 11th 2001 were sad and tragic for the United States but also for humanity as a whole. If the Bush administration is ready to create mayhem and anarchy in other sovereign nations for the purpose of controlling their resources, the American public will be in constant danger of seeing many more acts of terrorism.

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Holiday massacre



Extra Value Spiel

Brendan Jones

This Monday began a three-day period of national mourning after two attacks rocked the offices of Kurdish political parties. Solemn Quranic verses, recited in bereavement, will drift through Iraq and lap at the fabric of the half-mast flags.

The attacks mark the bloodiest day in Iraq since a car bomb exploded killing 100 people late last August it will also go down as the first time assailants have used explosives wired to their bodies.

After initially estimating those lost at 56, American military officials have now lifted the total to 67. A minimum of 247 people were injured in the attacks. Only 10 minutes and several kilometers separated the attacks on the Kurdish parties using their offices in Irbil for the first day of Eid-al-Adha.

At the time of the explosions more than 200 people were in both party's reception halls paying their respects to Kurdish leaders and mingling in celebration. The Muslim holiday marks the biblical Abraham sacrificing his son Isaac and falls at the end of hajj, when devout Muslims travel to Mecca in Saudi Arabia.

The party leaders had gathered to receive visits from loyalists as well as returning Kurds. In sensitivity to religious observance, the US military had relaxed security. Guards were not performing security checks

at the entrances and gates due to the tradition of receiving guests, which allowed the goons to enter virtually unimpeded.

The perpetrators entered disguised as clerics and once amongst the large crowds waiting to shake hands with one of the leaders, detonated their crude death vests. As Kurdish political loyalty is traditionally handed down from father to son, many children were at the celebrations during the attack and counted among the dead.

The two rival Kurdish political parties had been making headway toward reaching a united voice for Kurdish autonomy.

The Kurdistan Democratic Party and the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan had been in discussions since last summer to merge their regional administrations and had reached an agreement in principle only several weeks ago. It will see the two parties share control of an autonomous parliament and militia for the northern region of Iraq, while ceding monetary, national defense and foreign policy spheres to the central Iraq government.

The timing of the attacks and the agreement between the parties saw immediate suspicion thrown upon the militant group, Ansar al Islam. However, no concrete evidence has been produced linking them to the explosions.

Hours after the blood had spilled on the floors of the reception halls, a testament to the callous and exploitive nature of the attacks remained. A green banner furled out over the entrance emblazoned with the words, "We welcome our respected guests."



WINDOWS To the World



America and George W. Bush aren't the only ones with their eyes on the prize. The Red Planet is being ogled up good by the European Space Agency who have similar designs for the new object of astral wonder. But before the ESA takes any serious steps toward Mars, they intend to land on the moon first. "We need to go back to the moon before we go to Mars. We need to walk before we run," stated Dr. Franco Ongaro head of ESA's Aurora program. By 2009 ESA will land ExoRover on the moon and in 2024 a manned mission there to test habitation equipment.

Amnesty International, along with several other seace groups, has called on the International Criminal Court (ICC) to begin looking into war crimes committed during Uganda's 18-year civil war. Despite these moves many groups including the Acholi Religious Leader's Peace Initiative (ARLPI) warn against saying it will thwart peace efforts in the ravaged nation. "The issuing of such international arrest warrants would practically close once and for all the path to peaceful negotiation." ARLPI has gained criticism for offering leaders immunity from prosecution in exchange for peace.

The International Monetary Fund recently announced that Nicaragua has been forgiven 80 percent of their current debt load or about \$6.5 billion. The relief came through the Highly Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) debt initiative. Nicaraguan President, Enrique Bolanos released a statement that stated that "the issue of debt pardon for Nicaragua was approved unanimously and is the best economic news in the last 25 years." The country was the second most highly indebted American country until this HIPC initiative relief.

Compiled by Bryn Boyce and Nicole Wilker

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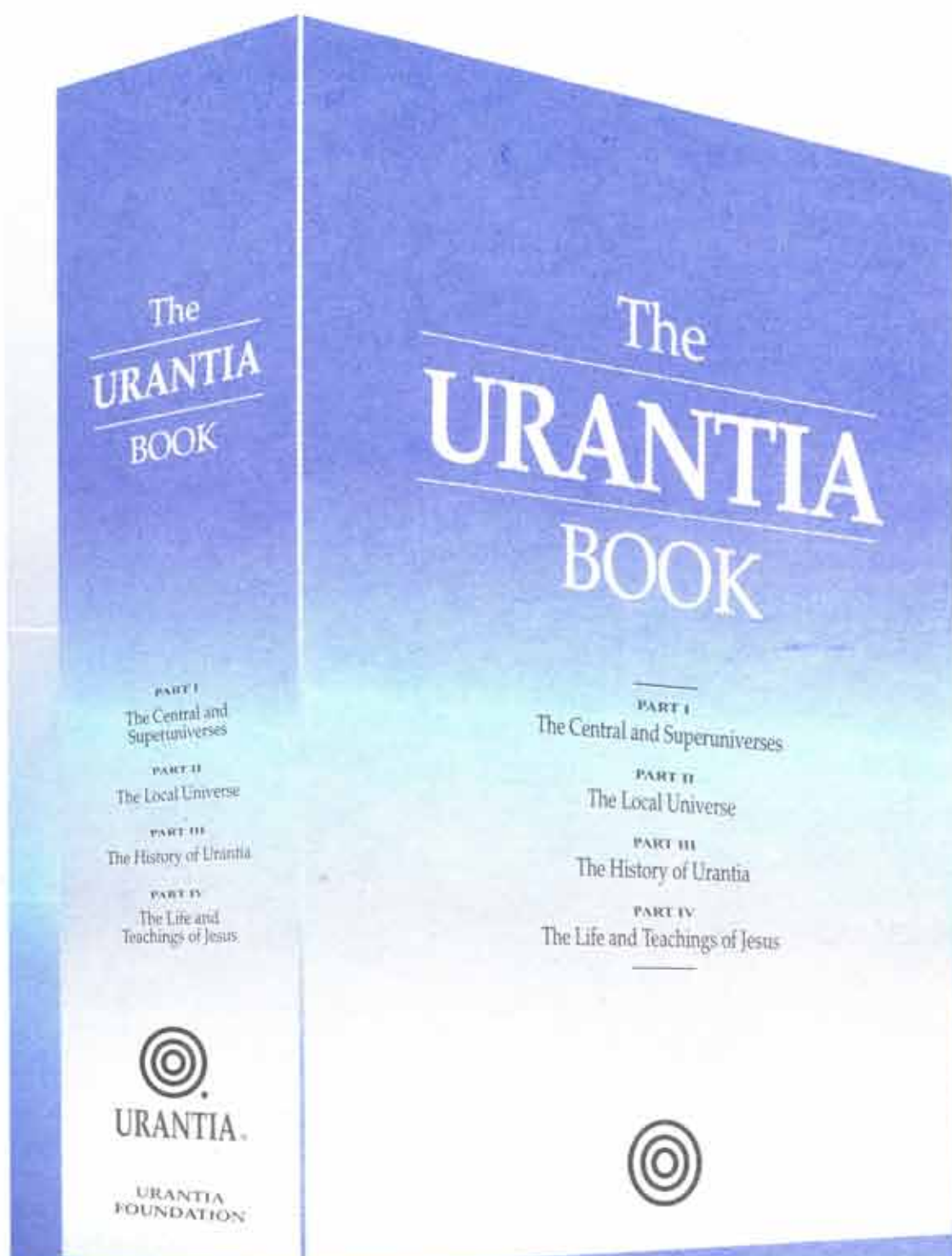
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Local Music

Hayden at the Starlight

Morris tells a tale of his relaxing and fun evening taking in the local band Hayden at the Starlight Lounge in Uptown Waterloo

MIKE MORRIS
Cord Feature

Last Saturday morning I found myself, like any sophisticated Laurier student, sipping on orange juice in Ethel's contemplating the ills of the world. On the wall there were posters from the 60s, 70s and 80s that advertised giants of the musical industry and their shows at the University of Waterloo and Laurier. I asked myself: where are the bands today?

The Wilf's lineup is never one to spark my interest, so fortunately I was able to see Hayden live last Wednesday at the Starlight Club. The show was remarkably casual, which I rather enjoyed. From what I could tell from my seat at a table, there was a healthy discourse between the cross-legged crowd and the talent.

The show was sold out yet I found the venue comfortable, as I was able to sit down. It seems the owners of the club decided to encourage

an enjoyable experience over mindless profit. The bottleneck at the bar made me somewhat uncomfortable, but even there the crowd was pleasant.

Hayden's set was short and effortless. The musical style was accented by an informal performance. The night reminded me of sitting in a basement and jamming with friends.

The stage was shared from 10:30 to 12:00 between Howie Beck, Hayden and brief appearances by Lindy. "The Hazards of Sitting Beneath Palm trees" required three attempts at a duet with Howie Beck. The two were giggling uncontrollably at each attempt, which was entertainment enough for the crowd. Hayden's guitar and harmonica inspired a cluster of smiles in the floor-seated audience for the hour that Hayden played alone.

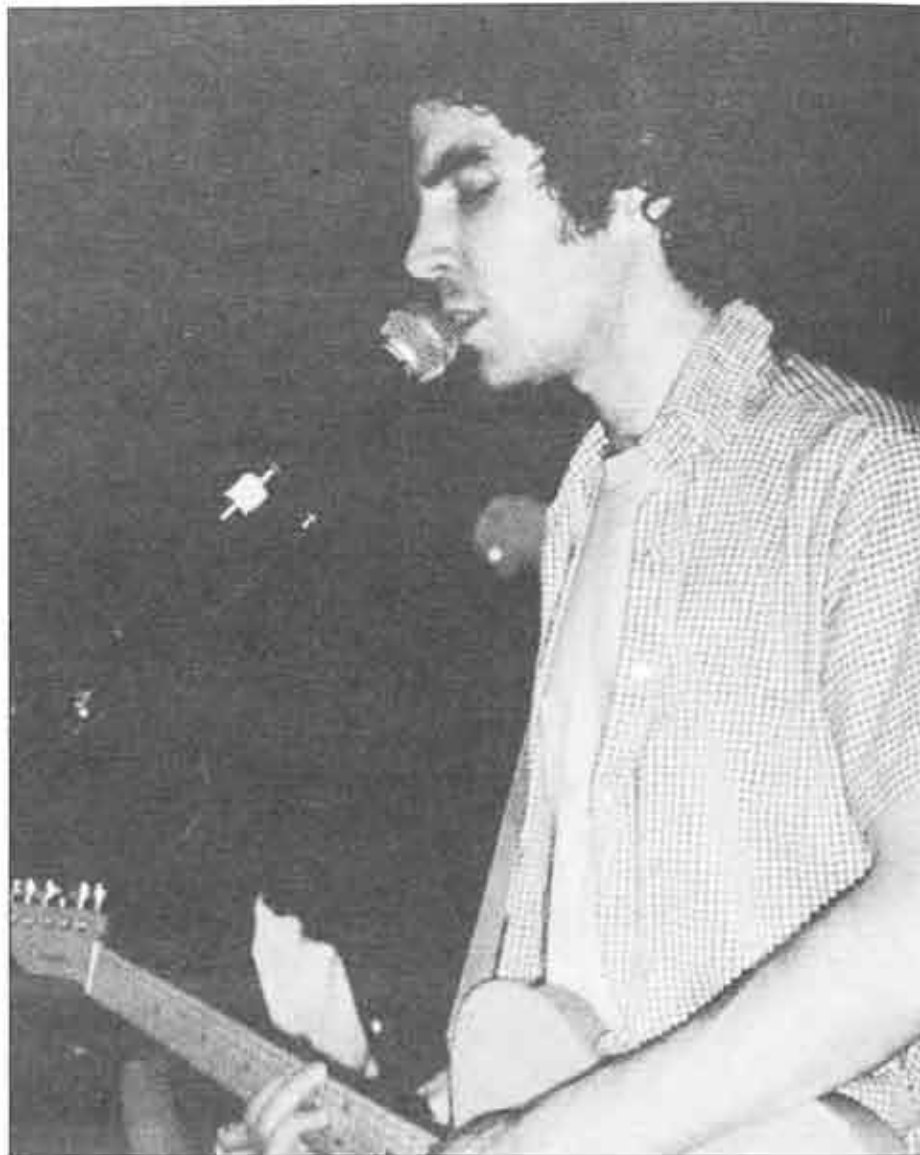
The show was fifteen dollars, typical of a Starlight performance and I felt satisfied with the evening

although it was casual. Hayden's performance was impressive enough to inspire me to look for a merchandise table but I was not appeased. I was surprised and exhilarated that an obvious cash-grab was left out.

Perhaps Hayden's CDs were forgotten, and if it weren't for Howie Beck there would have been nothing for sale at all. This made me feel important. I am not a pocket full of cash, I am a living part of the audience that can interact with the talent.

The show was loose but the experience was good. The ability to sit at a table and listen to the music that was quiet enough to allow conversation was refreshing.

The focus of the evening was not solely on the headliner but on the entire room. The Starlight's atmosphere and the performers' style came together to create a truly enjoyable musical experience.



D. Trott hip-hops in K-W

First-year Laurier student is to appear on Much Music in coming week

MICHELLE PINCHEV
Cord Feature

You might know him as Dave Trott, a first-year Communications major here at Wilfrid Laurier, but his alter ego, D. Trott, has been busy making a place for himself in the Toronto rap/hip-hop scene since the age of 14. Backed by Gold Canyon Group and Erballi Records, D. Trott has finally released a fierce CD, *I'm Here* and it looks like he's staying for a while.

After critical praise from prolific artists such as DJ Crawl/space, Damian and Raggedy Andy, D. Trott began to record original tracks and released *Purebred Tracks*, a short demo tape. He landed himself a record deal and came out with his anticipated debut last week.

His album shows a range of styles and influences from an underground 'gangsta' style to tracks like "Alter Ego" that have you nodding your head.

Trott rocked Laurier's airwaves last Monday and you can catch him on *Much Vibe* for a full half-hour episode next Friday and he will also soon appear on *Much Music*.

So who is D. Trott? The best way to find out who he is and what he's all about is to listen to his CD. The lyrics say it all, from an intense intro right down to "My Storm", the last track of which chronicles the

death of his best friend.

"My whole perspective on my life changed and so did my music," says Trott, on losing an influential emcee and inspiration in his life. "Not a day goes by when I don't think about it but that's life for you."

Trott has seen his share of struggle. When he first started battling at local venues, his presence was strong but not easily accepted. With maturity and experience, he's emerged as a confident and aggressive artist with razor-sharp lyrics against killer beats.

His album shows a range of styles and influences from an underground 'gangsta' style to tracks like "Alter Ego" that have you nodding your head.

Listening to "I'm here", you sort of get an *Afu Ra* vibe, especially in "Finally Here," a solid track that announces his arrival as a serious artist. Though the CD is infused with a range of styles backed by independent beats from all around the world, comparable to those of many big names, each track radiates with a unique intensity and innovation that accompanies his most intimate thoughts.

Although Trott has certainly paid his dues through his experiences and his resilience, his success needn't rely on this; his talent is undeniable. Trott has not only ventured into the world of hip-hop but he also sings and plays electric guitar.

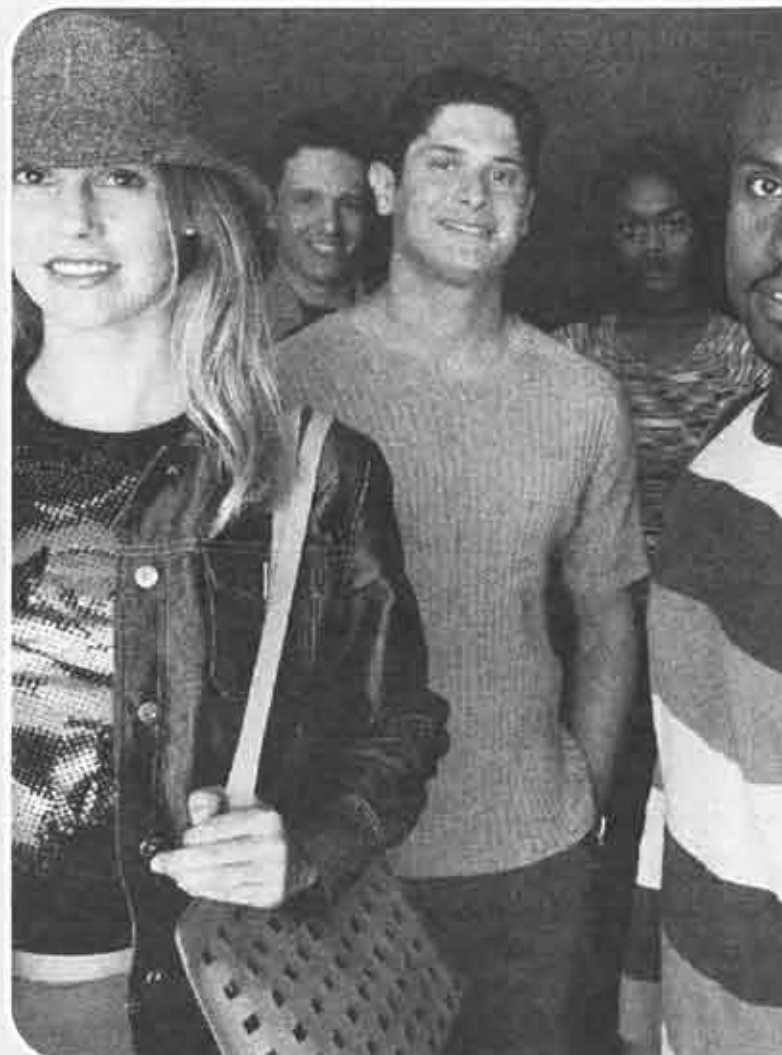
Maybe in the future we'll hear some more alternative sounds from this young man but Trott simply says, "I feel as an artist I enjoy anything musical but I love hip hop. That's it. I just have a love for this music."

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Craig Radcliffe

SPRINT RECORDS

Crony has recently been featured in the "Indie Music" section of the Kitchener Waterloo Record's *Nightlife* publication. A variety of its releases are available at Orange Monkey Records in Waterloo, and Encore Records in Kitchener. Crony Record's own Lazyeye and Bedbox play the Circus Room in Kitchener on Saturday, February 7th at 9 PM.



Fares shown are current seat sale fares as scheduled. S. charter flights. All fares shown include taxes and related transportation & service fees. Fares correct at time of printing. Eligibility: Full-time students (USC) & youth (NYC) under 25. Travel CUTS is owned and operated by the Canadian Federation of Students.

Sex and the city... just like us

If Carrie, Charlotte, Samantha and Miranda are your girls every Friday, then you can relate to this

SHANNON KOHLMEIER
Staff Writer

Since the advent of television people have felt connections to their favourite shows. Our parents loved 'I Love Lucy' and 'Dallas' and now shows like 'Seinfeld', 'Friends' and 'The OC' have become what we look to as somewhat realistic portrayals of life in the 21st century. But for me and many others here at Laurier and around the world, the most important show on television is 'Sex and the City'. Don't get me wrong, I do like these other shows but nothing hits home quite like Carrie and the girls.

Samantha and the girls don't shy away from the hush-hush topics. They've even dished on the taste of sperm.

For those of you who may be unfamiliar with Carrie, Miranda, Samantha and Charlotte let me briefly bring you up to speed. They are the four characters who make up the cast of 'Sex and the City', each with a very different personality. They all have individual strengths and weaknesses and between the four women, viewers are guaranteed to find someone who slightly reminds them of

themselves. Although the characters in the show are a good 10 to 20 years older than most university students (apart from Sam's newest conquest) this show depicts a world we can all relate to. Charlotte longs for marriage and stability, Samantha loves the finer things in life and always has fun. Miranda is a career minded lawyer who struggles to balance everything in her life and Carrie is a scatterbrain who can never make up her mind about anything from men to shoes.

One very important component to this show that has seeped into everyday life is style. Carrie, played by Sarah Jessica Parker, has become somewhat of a fashion icon. Everything from rhinestone studded horseshoe necklaces to wearing huge, colorful flowers in your ponytail to drinking a cosmopolitan have come from this show's style department. The women have also made vintage clothing super stylish, which is a plus for those of us crossing our fingers for an upcoming bursary. Of course, there is the flip side to their closets which most of us can only drool over including new Manolo's for every outfit and an excess of Chanel purses.

This show is not only for women and although some men are reluctant to admit it, they do watch the show. There is a lot to be learned from these characters, especially Samantha, who never



Contributed Photo

The cast of "Sex and the City" discuss and engage in a wide range of sexy and often taboo topics. Does the show relate to university life?

shies away from telling her thoughts on sex (or the taste of sperm). The situations dealt with in the show are not that different from what we as students deal with on a daily basis, whether we are male or female. Will our career satisfy us? Will we make enough money to live comfortably? Will we marry the right person? Will we get married at all?

Gay culture is also extremely important to this show, as is an overwhelming acceptance of every (safe) sexual choice. Rather than take the typical humorous approach to homosexuality

like 'Will & Grace', 'Sex and the City' deals with the reality of what it means to date and be in love if you are straight or gay. There have been lesbian characters but the recurring roles are often for gay men because as Carrie so succinctly says, "gay boyfriends are the loophole of monogamy".

I have heard many women criticize this show particularly for Samantha's rampant promiscuity but I feel this is merely an answer to the millions of womanizers we see on TV and never question. This show encourages female solidarity and the importance

of having the freedom to make decisions that are right for you.

I predict that this Friday may be a slow bar night (for girls anyway) as the final eight episodes of 'Sex and the City' will begin airing on BRAVO at 12pm. This will be the end of an era for many viewers as after only six seasons we are left without the advice and humour of these women who teach us that questioning ourselves is normal and that we are not defined by the relationships we are in, or out of.

I love this bar

Welcome to line-up ville- destination no fun. Have massive line-ups become the norm in Waterloo?

CHERYL HAINES
Staff Writer

Somehow, going to a bar at 8:30 pm seems kind of early. Time has come to forgo the pre-drinking madness; a cost-effective way to maximize your alcohol adventures in order not to spend your night lined up in the winter chill. If you decide to stay home with friends, preferring to arrive fashionably late, you'll find yourself out of luck. It doesn't take much to realize that Waterloo has become the virtual kingdom of bar line-ups. Paddy O'Flaherty's and Phil's on Thursdays, Philthy McNasty's on Fridays, Turret and Flying Dog on Saturdays, the Revolution on most Friday nights and the list goes on. I could be a brash fourth year student and begin to blame the double cohort for tripling the student capacity in Waterloo, yet somehow I don't think that would be the right way to reach the student readership. Is the only solution having existing bars construct larger carrying capacities, giving students a heavier workload, designating mandatory movie night to half the student body by process of random selection, so that only half of the total population can go out on a certain given night? Such examples are

stupid and hardly worthy of mention. Yet, I felt compelled.

By word of mouth, campus advertising, proximity and mainstream music preference, certain bars have attracted a loyal following. This year may seem worse than others because of the increase in the student population. New students should not be put to blame. If you feel so strongly, direct your insults to the Ontario government. The problem, as I see it, is the "Sheep factor". Students are like sheep, willing to go where the others flock, without questioning the pastures on the other side of the fence. They are happy to mingle amongst others, cute and naïve little creatures they are. What they fail to realize is what meets them on the other side of the hill, sheep of different shapes and colours, horses and little pigs. A green pasture that is different, not better, but new and exciting. Now, before I venture too far off into the world of barnyard animals, my argument should be clear. Waterloo is a small town with a relative amount of bars. For the reasons mentioned above, students will likely gather at the same bars. Solution: expand your choice in bars. Kitchener/Waterloo has an eclectic mix of bars, suited for all music tastes. It

may take some getting used to, going to bars further away or with an unusual group of people, but it may give you the chance to meet people outside of Laurier and listen to some new music.

I know some bars are hard to stay away from, guaranteed one day a week is always full of friends, and reliable music. But, the not-so popular bars have smaller line-ups and allow you to indulge in homemade beer and pre-bar cocktail parties before your night on the town.

So, next weekend check out some campus flyers, talk to people and find somewhere else to go. Heck, if time permits, take off to Toronto or Montreal for a weekend where the bars are more plentiful. As a fellow student (i.e. sheep) who enjoys a night out now and again, I have jumped over the fence at times and found some new, exciting pastures, err, bars to go to. I've met some great people and have expanded my musical interests because I've checked out new venues. You have nothing to lose on those mid-semester Thursday nights when the line-ups somehow don't seem very appealing. And yet, I won't brand myself against the Laurier bar scene. Sometimes tradition and mediocrity will triumph. On those random nights, I too will be in the frozen lineups waiting to get into my favourite, old hangout.

Ask Kate...



Can sex without strings really exist or is it a myth?

Dear Kate,

I am friends with this guy, not close friends, but we met through a mutual friend a long time ago and have always kept in touch. There has always been a strong physical attraction between us and we recently started sleeping together. It is straight up, non-committal sex, no strings attached whatsoever. However, he is a great guy and we get along well and despite knowing he isn't looking for relationship I am really scared I'm going to fall for him. Not only is he not looking for a girlfriend, but we have commented that if this got out it would cause serious havoc. Is there anyway to avoid the inevitable, girl falling for boy, boy not falling for girl?

Sincerely,
Sex without Strings

Dear Sex without Strings,

This kind of no strings attached is an urban sex myth. Some people may disagree but completely detaching yourself from someone that you are sleeping with is virtually impossible, unless the sex is terrible. In that case, what's the point of doing it anyway? What I mean is, if he cares enough or you care enough to please

the other person, then obviously feelings are involved on some level.

I am always confused when people repeatedly chase after prospects that are emotionally or physically unavailable. Clearly you have already begun to develop an attachment to this person, seeing that you are posing the question. And if you knew he would never want a relationship and that exposing your sexual relations would cause problems, what was your motivation? Honestly, avoid the drama and buy a vibrator if you are that sexually desperate.

Often in situations like this the attention is more appealing than the person is. You may be mistaking the physical fulfillment and intimacy of sex with devotion and commitment. Take a few weeks 'off' and see how you feel. If you are thinking about him as a person and not as a sexual object, then maybe there is substance to your feelings. But if you aren't thinking about him, but desiring sex, I suggest you refer to the previous paragraph.

Hope you find some answers.

Always,
Kate

Food for Thought

Restaurant: Boomers
Basement Bar and Restaurant
Location: 15 Scott Street
Phone: 519.579.2380
Type: Bar/Pub
Cord's Rating:

out of a possible 5 cords

Chicken Wing Rating...
Out of a possible 5 wings

Price...	5
Sauce...	4
Size...	5
Chicken-to-batter ratio...	4.5
Overall...	4.5

The second leg on my journey to find the best wing in the KW area took me out to the nether-regions of Kitchener and a little bar called Boomers. Many students will not have heard of this place because it is all the way out in Kitchener, but they won best wings in a local contest in 2001 and 2002 so I figured that they

deserved a shot. I went with one of my friends who had actually been to Boomers before which was a good thing because it is not the most visible place in the world. A small sign outside of a building directed us to three different unmarked doors, and after choosing the wrong one twice I got it right by process of elimination. Boomers makes no bones about the customers they are aimed at attracting, with pool

"They're saucy, they're bready, they're chickeny, they are Boomers."

tables, darts, a big screen, local cover bands who have weekly jam sessions and a décor that doesn't pretend to be something it is not. The one bartender came over and greeted us offering us drinks to start, but when we said that we wanted wings, it was a purely verbal menu from there. Boomers only features Brick beer on tap priced at

\$4.25 a pint, we chose the Brick Honey Red. Wings come in three different sizes, either one (\$6.95), two (\$10.95), or three pounds (\$14.95) and with prices like that, the wings scored huge in the price category because that is hard to beat unless you are getting the wing night price (Wed & Sun - 40 cent wing). I ordered my standard pound of honey garlic and a pound of medium while my friend ordered medium with a side of the hot sauce. We didn't have to wait too long until our baskets came out with piles of piping hot wings, and we got started. Right off the bat, they scored well on size as they lived up to the name 'jumbo wings' as they are self-proclaimed to be. Chicken-to-batter ratio was also good, with each wing having a nice breaded coating without feeling like you were eating a fried piece of bread with a small chicken centre. The sauce was almost done perfectly as well. Not only did the honey and medium taste great, there was just enough sauce on them to keep them saucy without



www.boomersbasementbar.ca

The Cameroonigerians loved Milkshake and want to buy you a drink of thanks. In the corner of the bar, however, you notice an old flame with a new lover. Do you a) punch your old flame's new lover in the face (page 11) or b) hug and kiss them both (page 25, left).

leaving them drenched. The hot sauce on the side was a great idea and I found myself going for it just as much as my friend did. If there was any downfall, it was the fact that there were no veggie sticks, which go so well with wings for whatever reason, although considering we were at the local dive it is a

bit easier to understand and overlook. Even though I thought they spoke for themselves, Boomers wings can be summed up by my friend's comment as we were leaving, stating that "They're saucy, they're bready, they're chickeny, they are Boomers". Well said, sorta.

Mr. Bricket
[The Homicidal Cricket]
Remitted

Wake up, a little Suzy, wake up
Wake up, a little Suzy, wake up

We've both been sound asleep
wake up, a little Suzy, and weep

Lyrics from "Wake Up Suzy" by Buddy Holly

How long had her Glowbug been
stuck in the ground. Sort of alive
and writhing around!

Still joy overcame her frightened thoughts
and she hugged so tight her little buggy that rore

The voice had delivered! Its
promises, true!
She would listen once more
and learn what to do

Weekly Bad Drawing

By Pete Cram

That annoying Tim Hartin's commercial Weekly Bad Drawing Style!

Dear Mom,
The business trip in Toronto is going great! So much to do in my spare time, and so much to see! I can't wait to get home and see you, Dad, and little Lisa. I'm not too enthused to get back and see the wife and kids though. You see on my trip here, I've met lots of great married people. This is because they see my AshleyMadison.com coffee mug. When they see it, they recognize I want to have consensual sexual intercourse with with married people, just like them. We usually go to a hotel downtown and perform the act of adultery. (Sometimes twice even!) This mug has been a life saver, or maybe just a way to have filthy, dirty relations and ruin people's lives; it sure is exciting though!! Anyways, because I need more than my marriage can offer, I'm going to do some love making with someone who is already in a relationship.

Miss you lots, Love Matt.

P.S. Can you have Dad pick me up at the Airport? Tell him to bring a double double and maybe some divorce papers.

Richard, that secret lover of a son we have sure is a sweetie pie!

Not Funny? See a therapist, or visit ashleymadison.com

Horoscope

WEEK OF FEBRUARY 4-11

Happy Birthday Aquarius



Don't get into mischief on your birthday and don't let someone talk you into doing something you normally wouldn't; only negative consequences will come out of it. If you decide to let loose make sure you have someone watching over you. Your devilish nature could get you into trouble.

Gemini

May 21 - June 21



After much waiting and turmoil with struggling with an issue your patients regarding this issue are going to pay off. Nothing you want to happen will, but the surprises coming to you over the next few weeks will be better than what you were expecting.

Luckiest day: February 6.

Virgo

August 23 - September 23



Expect things to start happening to you in threes. You must keep focused on your tasks. You are so close to finishing your problems but you have to get through what you are working on now before you can relax.

Luckiest day: February 8.

Sagittarius

November 22 - December 21



Take the time to enjoy the small pleasures in life. There is nothing wrong with rewarding yourself for completing a task. You need to spend more time on yourself and less time worrying about other people.

Luckiest day: February 5.

Pisces

February 20 - March 20



You are going to have lots of things be offered to you over the next while. Make sure you take the time to examine everything and look for what you really want to do. Don't be afraid to show off your special skills and talents.

Luckiest day: February 9.

Aries

March 21 - April 19



You are going to have to make some decisions regarding friends. The best way to proceed with any issues regarding friendship is to look at what each person has to offer you. Make sure you follow your instinct when dealing with matters of the heart.

Luckiest day: February 4.

Cancer

June 22 - July 22



Take the time to enjoy any luxuries you have right now. If you get any free time use it to rest and relax. Sometimes doing nothing is the healthiest thing to do as you need to rest. Someone may surprise you with a small gift.

Luckiest day: February 9.

Libra

September 24 - October 22



You are going to have to take a stand on an issue and stick with it. People are going to try and convince you to do things their way, but you know what is best for you. Don't be afraid to let people know what you think.

Luckiest day: February 8.

Capricorn

December 22 - January 19



Even though you may not be impressed with the way things are going right now everything is happening the way it's supposed to. You will be learning some unusual life lessons over the next while so make sure you're taking notice.

Luckiest day: February 10.

Taurus

April 20 - May 20



Any relationships you are in are going to be getting better. A new closeness is going to be formed over the next while between you and a partner. Friendships, in general, are going to be improving for you also.

Luckiest day: February 5.

Leo

July 23 - August 22



You have many skills and talents. If you want people to see how good you are at certain tasks you have to start showing off, but don't let your pride take over, stay humble. You have many people skills; use that to your advantage.

Luckiest day: February 10.

Scorpio

October 23 - November 21



You will soon be starting a new friendships or relationship. Make sure the person you are interested in is looking for the same things in life as you are. Don't hide who you really are. Disguising your true personality won't get you anywhere.

Luckiest day: February 10.

Aquarius

January 20 - February 19



Someone has some great ideas for you. As much as this person is trying to help make sure they are not dictating to you on how to go about your life, especially if it comes to finances. Don't let past problems influence the present.

Luckiest day: February 7.

Daniel Roth is a Journalism graduate of Conestoga College and is currently a Communication Studies student at Wilfrid Laurier. He has studied Astrology and other topics of that genre for almost ten years.

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**You've worked hard this week
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- ☒ Read Chapters 3 - 5
- ☒ Finish Essay
- ☒

**"Don't see what's happening,
be what's happening."**



**PLUS Letterman Stop Light
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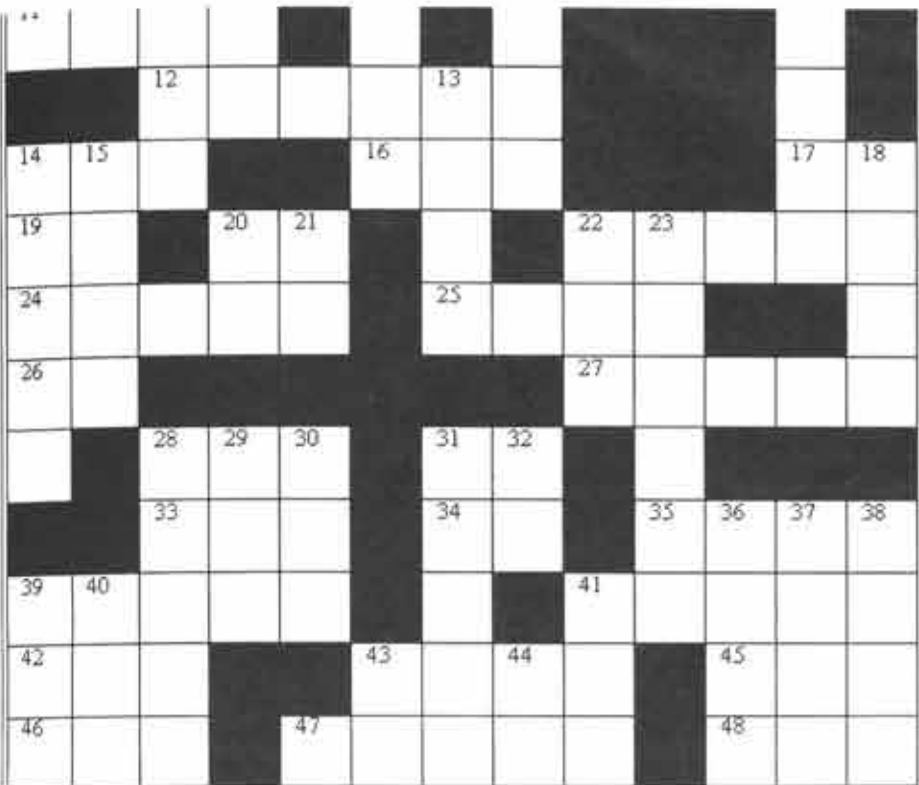
Blackwater Trio

Thursday Feb. 12th



Super-Amazing Crossword

By Fraser King



- Across:
- 1. Stitched
 - 5. Soccer org.
 - 9. Norway capital
 - 10. An uncommon object
 - 11. Color of the sea
 - 12. Snow white action
 - 14. Gravestone marking
 - 16. Command to a dog
 - 17. Present indicative of be
 - 19. Type of ammunition
 - 20. Greeting

- 22. Cheap bulk size
- 24. A testis or ovary
- 25. Firearms manufacturer
- 26. Edward shortform
- 27. Rail-bound locomotive
- 28. Tenth number
- 31. Non-possessive 'our'
- 33. Garden tool
- 34. Electronics company
- 35. More than similar
- 39. State of happiness
- 41. Term paper

- 47. To seize and hold
- 48. USA immigration service
- Down:
- 1. Cries
- 2. Language course in English
- 3. Laurier publication group
- 4. French for x-mas
- 5. Large pieces of ice
- 6. Condensed water vapor
- 7. Al-anon abbrev.
- 8. To pull, draw, or stretch tight
- 13. Type of tree
- 14. Fits of anger
- 15. Apple's mp3 player
- 18. Time drawing near
- 20. Periodic symbol for Hahnium
- 21. Instinctual piece of psyche
- 22. Ambulance crew
- 23. A gentle touch
- 28. Entity or idea
- 29. Goddess of the dawn
- 30. Nintendo console
- 31. Laurier student's union
- 32. *exempli gratia* abbrev.
- 36. win2000 service
- 37. Primary
- 38. Socketed sight organs
- 39. Auction action
- 40. Slang for Waterloo
- 41. Psychic ability
- 43. Direct object of verb
- 44. Emergency room abbrev.

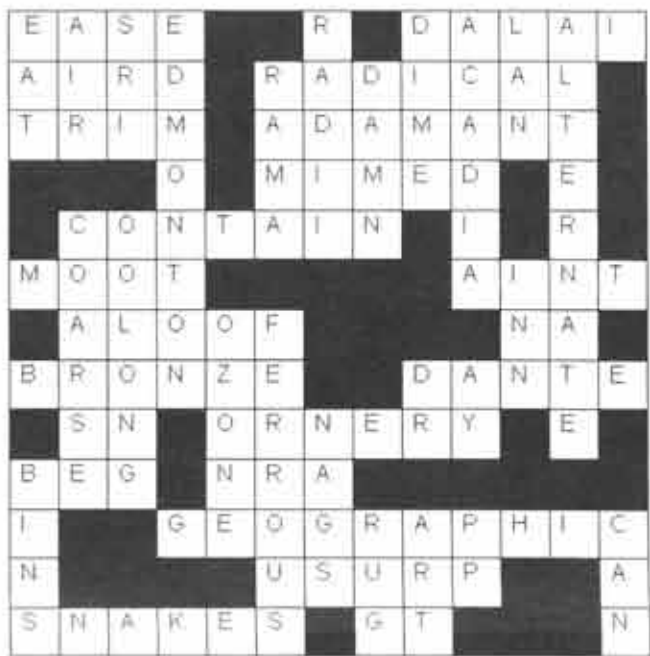
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Kate has the answers to all of your big problems like how to spend less time drinking and more time studying. All questions are confidential. askkate@wlusp.com

Crossword Answers

Last Week's



TECHNICALITIES By: Fraser King

Are your emotions normative, pair-bonded significant other?

No, my emotions at this moment are negative in nature.

The knowledge that your emotions are negative has caused me my emotions to also be negative.

Television advertising suggests that name-brand cola grants positive emotions. Let us consume this sugar based carbonated beverage.

While my caloric intake has gone up, my emotions remain negative.

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Lady Hawks get badgered

DANIEL WILSON
Staff Writer

In a matchup that featured two playoff bound teams, the Laurier Golden Hawks came up short 72-69 to the Brock Badgers last Wednesday night. The tough loss prevented the Hawks from moving into a second-place tie with their OUA west rivals from St. Catharines.

Playing on a cold and snowy night, the Badgers settled into the Hawk's Nest very comfortably from the opening tip. On the very first possession, Tara Poulin hit a deep three with the shot clock winding down to send a message that this team could shoot.

Brock would go on an 8-0 run to start the game while connecting on their first four shots. Combine this with three Laurier turnovers on their first three possessions and the result was a flying water bottle from the Hawk bench. By the time the first timeout was called, just under six minutes into the opening half, the Lady Badgers had built up a 19-7 lead.

For much of the opening eight minutes, the Lady Hawks were very ineffective inside. This changed dramatically with the spark that forward Dee Channer brought off the bench. She led by example, snaring rebounds and getting to the line. While Laurier continued to struggle with their jump shots, they started to exploit the smaller Brock team. The Badgers committed numerous turnovers and failed to establish a presence in the paint. Their streaky offense became ice cold and the Hawks made a run.

During the last five minutes of the opening half, Laurier completely dominated. Sarah Zagorski set up some nifty plays at the point and worked hard at the defensive end. Also on defense, Emily Conrad showed a very strong effort fighting hard for rebounds.

Instead of building more of a cushion, the Golden Hawks lacked the intensity that had gotten them back into the game.

Laurier picked up where they left off coming out of the break. They got second chance points from solid offensive rebounding and continued to show a better low post game. To go along with four quick points in 1:45 into the frame, Dee Channer's presence on the defensive end altered shots.

Even though they continued to struggle with their jumpers, the Brock Badgers were allowed to get back into the game. Instead of building more of a cushion, the Golden Hawks became complacent and lacked the intensity that had gotten them back into the game. This was more than evident on a Brock possession, in which the

Badgers got four offensive rebounds. Meaghan McGrath was nowhere to be found on the radar. She was not taking shots and was causing turnovers. Dee Channer picked up quick fouls, which caused her to watch much of the action from the bench.

Brock was led by two

highly potent scorers in this game. Just over six minutes into the second half, Cassie Tatham had quietly burned Laurier with 17 points.

However, her presence became much more visible in the Badger comeback. She made some excellent passes and showed hustle on both sides of the court. Once they reclaimed the lead, star player Jodie Ebeling started to heat up again. By the 10:30 mark of the second half, Ebeling had 21 points.

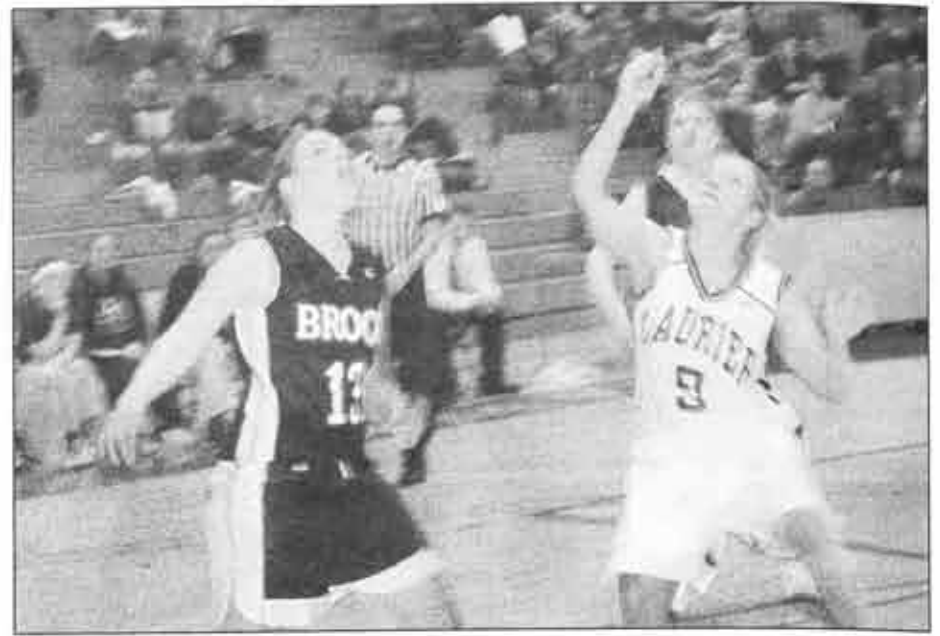
Thanks to wide open baskets and an endless stream of turnovers, Brock had taken a 62-55 lead with 8:54 to play. Following a time out, Laurier became refocused again.

Kerri Jilesen and Meaghan McGrath tightened up their play defensively and McGrath found ways to drive to the net, finishing with 18 points. Despite missing many of their jump shots, the Golden Hawks interior scoring allowed them to tie the game at 67 with three minutes left.

This seesaw affair would ultimately be determined by a number of questionable calls by the referees. With 1:31 left in the game, Jilesen was fouled on her way to the basket.

However, she wasn't granted a trip to the line, which infuriated the Laurier bench. At 1:06, Tara Poulin grabbed a huge offensive rebound and was fouled on the ensuing play. At the line, she sunk one of the two free throws to give Brock a 70-69 lead.

In the following Laurier possession, McGrath would be given an offensive foul on a debatable push off. Next, Jodie Ebeling would be called for an offensive foul. Deep in



Matt Benassi

The Hawks had an opportunity to move into second place with a victory against Brock but failed to accomplish what they needed.

Badger territory, Laurier momentarily lost control of the ball and a mad scramble followed with bodies sprawling everywhere. Finally, McGrath picked up the hot potato with 15 seconds left and dish it off to Sarah Zagorski.

The Laurier guard created a good look for Robin Roszell, who missed the shot. The ball landed in front of McGrath who also misfired on a good look, however arguably a foul should have been called on the floor. The Hawks were forced to foul Jodie Ebeling, who confidently sunk both foul shots to give Brock a 72-69 lead. With 2.1 seconds to go, McGrath raced down the court and heaved a desperation shot that was well off the mark, which concluded the frenzied finish.

Following the game, Laurier coach Stu Julius was very disappointed with the

inconsistency in his team's play. "In the second half, we became tentative. We kept looking up and just stopped scoring." In respect to the wild finish, Julius commented "We got two really good looks at the end. There should have been a foul on the play but that happens sometimes." Asked if his team was prepared for Jodie Ebeling who led Brock with a game high 26 points, Julius pointed out, "We were prepared for her, although we sure didn't look like it. She leads the league in scoring for a reason."

Despite the gut wrenching loss at home to Brock, Laurier bounced back in a big way on Saturday afternoon. In visiting their crosstown rivals, the Golden Hawks blew away Waterloo with an 88-51 shellacking.

Womens hockey get clipped

MIKE BROWN
Staff Writer

After a disastrous weekend, the Laurier women's hockey team has fallen a point behind Guelph in the battle for top spot in the OUA West division. Losing both Friday and Saturday by a combined score of 12-3, the Golden Hawks clearly didn't put forth the type of performance that has characterized their season to this point.

On Friday, Laurier played host to the Queens Golden Gaels, who were ranked sixth in CIS rankings entering the weekend and brought an impressive 12-3 record with them to Clarica arena. Although the Golden Hawks stayed with Queens for the first period, which ended with a 2-1 Queens lead, their prospects dimmed after an eight minute stretch in the second period that saw Queens net three goals. They never recovered, losing 7-2. Rookies Jen Heslin and Laurissa Kenworthy provided the offense in the loss.

The Golden Hawks women had little time to think about the loss, however, as the next night they travelled to St. Catharines for a meeting with the Brock Badgers. Despite a sub-par record on the season, Brock delivered another blow to the Golden Hawks first place bid with a surprising 5-1 thrashing. According to Laurier head coach Rick Osborne, his squad missed a lot of chances early and it seemed like

Brock was able to capitalize on every opportunity they had.

Undoubtedly, the absence of veterans Kristi Dobbie and Amanda Joseph could have accounted, in part, for Laurier's poor showing this weekend. Joseph is one of the team's biggest playmakers, but missed both games due to injury. Also, Dobbie's absence forced Coach Osborne to adjust his line up somewhat.

While acknowledging the unfortunate absence of some of his first line players, Coach Osborne felt the team simply didn't step up when they needed to. "We have to be better at goaltending, better at defense, better at offense, and better at coaching," claimed Osborne. "I think we're all going to share some responsibility for last weekend's breakdown and just go back to work this week."

Indeed, the women will need to put forth a much stronger performance this weekend. Laurier hopes to exact some revenge from Queens in Kingston on Friday night before traveling to Toronto to battle an undefeated U of T squad in what Coach Osborne acknowledges as the team's two toughest remaining games. Fortunately, the coach seemed optimistic that Joseph will be able to bring her offensive firepower back to the Golden Hawks line up in time for this weekend's games.

Men's hoops fall

SHAWN PARKER
Staff Writer

On January 29th the Men's Golden Hawk basketball team faced a pivotal moment in the season: a game against West Division rivals Brock, a team seated two places ahead of Laurier in the standings.

Laurier looked to capitalize on strong defense and hustle on the offensive end to build an early lead, but the remarkable shooting of the Badgers Morgan Fairweather and Scott Murray kept the game close.

The theme of this game, especially in the first half, was to keep the tempo down. Just when any Hawk player looked like he was about to open the game up and take over, as Rob Innes did when he scored six consecutive points, the player was taken out and replaced. This forced Coach Campbell to finally look down his bench and call upon Miles and Currie, who had sat out for more than ten minutes of the half.

The smaller, quicker guards immediately showed why they deserve to be in the game from the beginning by running the floor and causing the Badgers to turn the ball over again and again. Laurier was dominating the game on both ends of the floor, but the long range shooting of the Badgers and sloppy backdoor coverage of the Hawks kept the game close, and heading into half time the home side enjoyed a sparse 28-26 lead.

The second half was a much different game. The Hawks came out very flat, missing five of their first six

shots and the Badgers mounted an eight-to-two run.

Just when it looked as if Laurier was about to bow out to a hot shooting squad, Currie showed again why he deserves many more minutes than his coach allows. After two long three pointers by Currie, Brock sensed, and rightly so, that Currie was now the number one option on the floor for the Hawks; every time down the court the ball stopped in his hands and he either unleashed a shot or drove and looked to dish to his open forwards.

Miles was showing incredible hustle on both ends of the floor and with little over five minutes left, the Hawks erased the deficit and had the game tied at 55 points apiece. Again, why is it that these two didn't see the court until more than ten minutes had run off the clock?

Four Badgers scored in

double figures but there really was no time when any member of the visiting team looked to establish a formidable inside presence. But the stop-and-go philosophy of the Hawk coaching staff seemed like it stymied any chemistry or rhythm that Laurier seemed to have at various points in the game and the Badgers were able to pull out of Waterloo with a 69-63 victory.

Laurier would fall again to Waterloo on Saturday, 59-56, and sits two games back of the Windsor Lancers for five spot in the OUA West. The Hawks will have an enormous opportunity this week to creak some havoc in the standings with back to back games against a dreadful Lakehead Thunderbird squad, who are currently tied with Western for the worst record in the West.



www.laurierathletics.com

The mule leads you to a cult's hideout. There, the cult participates in strange rituals involving lifting their arms in unison while onlookers gaze. Eventually you become indoctrinated into the cult, and sacrifice everything in your life for the cult. You have no mind. You lose.

Womens v-ball eyes playoffs

RICH KAWAMOTO
Staff Writer

With only a few games remaining in the regular season, the women's volleyball team has one thing, and one thing only in their sights, a first place finish in the OUA West. The lady Hawks took their first steps toward that goal this past week with two big wins, upping their record to 11-5. This puts them into a three-way tie for first place in an extremely tight Western conference.

Wednesday evening was a match that was over right from the opening serve. The Hawks' counterparts, the Brock Badgers, put forth a weak effort against the Hawks as they took three easy sets in one of their quickest wins of the year. Fourth year middle hitter Cathy Ingalls and first year phenom, Danielle Walker once again led the way for the Hawks offense, each recording over 10 kills in the process.

Brock's defense was seen running all over the court - scrambling for every pass and looking like an extremely inferior team to the Hawks. Rookie left-side hitter Deanna Kaminsky's work from behind the service line had the Badger defense looking much like a practice squad as she had a service run of nine straight points in game three.

Saturday's tilt with the McMaster Marauders was bound to be a scrappy affair. Earlier this season, the Hawks eked out a five-set win in Hamilton, one that shouldn't have been close at all. So

they knew they had to come out aggressive and control the match from start to finish, sending out a message that they were the team to beat in the OUA West.

Game one saw the Marauders play nearly flawless volleyball. They served well, passed well and played tough defense.

The next three sets were a true testament to how much the Hawks have improved throughout the season. They played tough defense and blocked even better, preventing the McMaster offensive weapons from taking arms.

One of the biggest stars of the match was libero, Lisa Intini, who played an intense backcourt, starting many of the Golden Hawk kills. Her backcourt play was so stellar that the McMaster servers made a conscious effort to serve anywhere but in Intini's direction. Coach McIntyre had nothing but praise about his libero's strong performance.

The women's season has but two games remaining in their regular season, both being incredibly important to the placement in the OUA West. They could end up as high as first or as low as fourth. You won't find Coach McIntyre looking at things any differently though.

Intini shares the same ideas that McIntyre and the rest of the squad have about the preparation regime for the upcoming week. "We've learned to be constantly aggressive," Intini says. "And because of that, our preparation is consistent, and we're playing consistent too."

Hawks continue to fall

BERNARD DAWSON
Staff Writer

The men's hockey team suffered a large setback to their division championship ambitions last Saturday as OUA Mid-West rivals, the York Lions, overcame an early Golden Hawks advantage to capture a 3-2 victory. The loss put the third place Hawks even farther behind the division leading Lions as the OUA regular season begins to near its conclusion.

The second period was scoreless like the previous period. Both teams were unable to sustain any serious pressure on the opposition and just when it looked like the game's first goal was about to see the light of day, the standout goalies would step up and keep the match scoreless.

However, the second period would not be completely like the first. Laurier forward Pat McCoubrey made a good play behind the York

net and then stuffed the puck into the net of a textbook wrap-around to give the Hawks the game's first lead seven minutes into the fresh period.

Something must have happened to the Hawks during the intermission because the team that took the ice in the third period was not the same one as before. Day was forced to bail his team out a number of times but could only hold on for so long. The Lions took their first lead of the game when Daryl Bat knocked the puck into the Laurier goal during a scramble in front of the overworked Justin Day.

The Hawks still looked sluggish after the goal and only the excellent play of Day kept the Golden Hawks in the game. But the Lions just put too much pressure on the Hawks and York scored their third goal of the night on a power play midway through the third.

Once the Hawks had their

act together it seemed like only a matter of time before they tied the game at third. Laurier finally had taken control of the tempo, but just could not put the puck into the York net. A checking from behind penalty late in the game killed a lot of the Hawk's momentum and left them a man down with just over three minutes left in the game.

York was lucky to escape with a 3-2 victory, a win which gives them top spot in the OUA Mid-West division. Sitting in third place of the same division are the Golden Hawks, just five points behind the Lions. The Hawks have just five games left before the playoffs, including a season finale rematch against the division leading Lions.



The locals have taken you to a hockey arena. Turns out Cameroon and Nigeria have tried to solve their differences via a hockey game and Cameroon wants you to play. With ten seconds left and the game tied, you have a chance to score the game-winning goal. Do you score the goal? (page 11) or leave the game tied? (page 25 right)

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Buck 65: smooth like butter

Canada's very own hip hop genius, Buck 65, showcases his lyrical talent at the Starlight in Waterloo

MICHAEL MILLARD
Cord Entertainment

Buck 65 was late getting to the stage due to something medical that I won't mention, and the crowd at Starlight was getting restless. Most people (primarily dudes at a 3:1 ratio) didn't know what to make of the Duke Ellington record being played which seemed to set the tone for Tony Bennett, not Canada's hip hop genius. Things began to come together around 10:30 when an act calling themselves the Vaudevillains began to perform old-style magic tricks to warm up the audience, to the confusion of a crowd split down the middle - half hipsters and half doofuses.

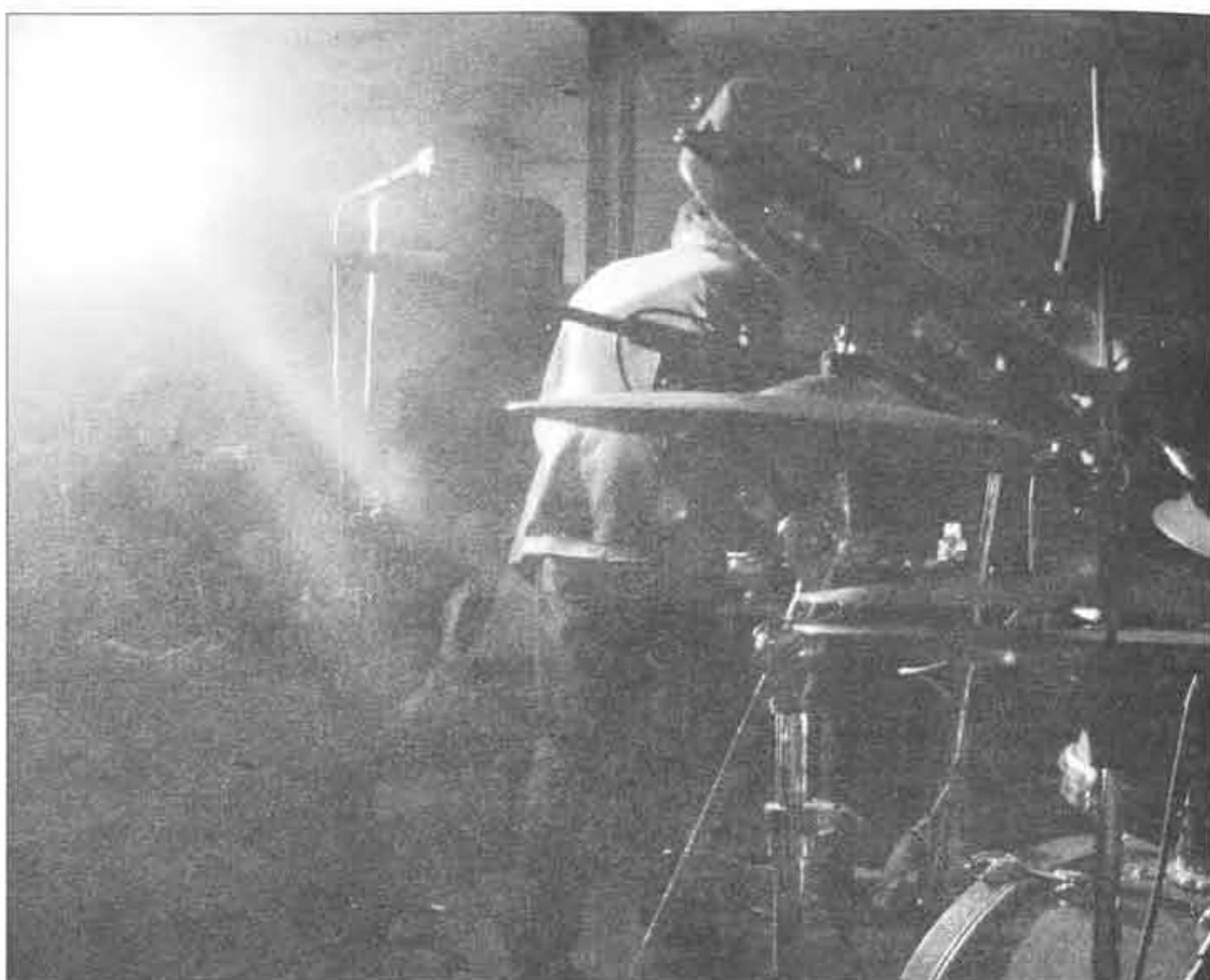
I've read Buck 65's music described as "hip hop for those who don't like hip hop", but that's a bit simplistic. The Vaudevillains were a perfect, eclectic Buck 65 opening act. They fit because Buck's music and live show are unique and powerful while being workmanlike and displaying real showmanship. It's serious music with tongue in cheek. With a trick he explained that he learned from his good friend Christina Aguilera, he started with 'the hit,' the radio-ready tune 'Wicked & Weird.' His setup was sparse - just a turntable and a microphone with the tunes coming from a CD. The only knock I'll have on this show is that this setup felt a bit karaoke-ish at

times, but the man writes and records everything by himself. What are you going to do? Buck also took to several bits of inspired scratching, a skill he's been practicing for something like 15 years.

Most of the songs were taken from his most recent album, October's *Talkin' Honky Blues* and 2001's *Square*. If you have some change in your pocket, you should pick up *THB*: in my opinion, the finest Canadian album of the year. Songs like "463", "Roses and Bluejays", and "Protest" will get stuck in your head for days.

If you've never heard Buck 65 rap over his tracks, it's something to behold. He tells stories more than sings verse-chorus-verse, with a lot of songs consisting solely of long verses with a repeated line at the end. He flows from point to point, saying what he wants, and usually it rhymes. When it doesn't rhyme it doesn't seem to matter as his songs fit together perfectly, his live voice sounding remarkably similar to the album version. He writes songs about baseball, his father, homeless people, heaven and the Turret crowd.

In-between tunes Buck treats the crowd to stories and impressions, all the while pulling on a voice that doesn't seem like it's capable of coming from such a small, non-descript individual. He did an impression of Mick Jagger, dealt with his heck-



Matt Benassi

Buck 65 may have had a case of diarrhea but he still played a mean show at the Starlight Lounge this past weekend.

lers (dumb kids) and let his Vaudevillian cohorts rouse the crowd three or four more times before the encore. The Vaudevillains performed a bit of 'beet juggling', literally meaning that one guy juggles red beets while another guy drums and Buck scratches.

Almost like he was giving

a career retrospective, the encore consisted of a medley of older Buck songs: from 'The Centaur' to 'the Food Song', and it went on for longer than one would suppose. A great showman, he played almost non-stop for a full two hours.

It was truly a noteworthy concert, an act that you

should definitely see given the chance. Thank you, Starlight, for booking worthwhile acts these days. It's nice to be able to see real talent without driving to Toronto or London.

By the way, he was late because he had "the runs".

I scream, you scream, Limp Bizkit screams

Collie takes a break from headbanging to comment on screaming's prominent role in much of today's music



Screaming Sensation

Chris Collie

As I write this piece of caffeine driven commentary, I also happen to be listening to the new Superjoint Ritual disc and what remains of the singer's blistering vocal chords as he busts out on top of this ensemble. All things considered, the dude's actually holding up quite well voice-wise. But without much hesitation on my part, I have to say that Superjoint Ritual is a band that the squeamish of ear might not find suitable to their tastes considering how prominent the torment-based screaming is. And yet I love it.

I know my screaming love affair isn't shared by everybody. Talk to many individuals over the age of 40 (especially those with kids) and they'll surely tell you how they "just don't get this screaming stuff". I've heard "How can that be music? It's just yelling!" bellowed on many occasions by perturbed adults. I can't help but understand their opinion on some basic level. But the reality of the matter is they've just never gotten it.

I've been forced to think about what I dig about

screaming vocals, and why there's been a wildly exponential increase in the sales for people who feel the same. Within the past decade, bands such as Korn, Limp Bizkit, Slipknot and Linkin Park have turned out absolutely gigantic financial tricks for the music industry, each band featuring significantly screaming-based vocals as one of their fortes. Bands like these currently signify what it means to be 'heavy' for a majority of the population, as compared to pre-90's non-screaming metal. Back then, they tended to rock the wildly high-pitched pincher-style vocals, such as the fine gentlemen from Iron Maiden (which in retrospect seem hard to quantify as heavy).

I've heard "How can that be music? It's just yelling!" bellowed on many occasions by perturbed adults.

But just how did this screaming vocal style take on such a strong signifying position for metal and why do people love it? It could be that it releases some wild variety of emotional meltdown for both vocalist and listener, hitting far deeper within the footholds of sadness and anger than tradi-

tional singing once did for metal. It seems logical, considering that in most life situations where you face great emotional turmoil, you'd really love to solve the problem by just screaming like a maniac.

Or was screaming vocals the natural progression of a genre that was looking to drive further into the realms of creativity and expression in the hopes of staying relevant? You don't see much of White Snake anymore.

Maybe it's just a trend that's randomly surfaced, and likewise with others of its kind, it'll witness a relegation back to the underground alongside such notables as industrial's distorted keyboard or swing's stand-up bass.

That'll be totally fine for me and all the other dyed-in-the-red screaming metal fans out there because ticket prices will get cheaper. And as a lesser aside, most of the fed-up parents out there will be able to grab themselves a bit of peace and silence from the 'non-music' they seem to so eminently despise.

Perhaps nobody knows why screaming really happened, but we do know that what musicians and listeners positively take away from it is what counts. Jumping around like a maniac to death metal while pretending you're in the band is always wicked-fun when smashed.

Music exploding ahhhhhhhhh

Continued from cover

Continuing the drastic musical genre swings that pervaded the night, hip hop group Bread and Water took the stage. As the two MCs cajoled people to the front of the stage, the band behind them broke into a catchy funk beat. The performance was quickly plagued with microphone problems and although the MCs covered a diverse level of lyrical content that included specific relevance to the university experience, the rhymes frequently felt disjointed from the backing music. Bread and Water played to the crowd well, and enthusiasts were right on top of some of the snappier verses. However, the band lacked a level of variance which might have brought more of the crowd at Wilf's into their performance (see: Live to Air). Bread and Water's final piece was fortunately their strongest and most obviously heartfelt, and the group concluded their set on a high note.

The final act of the night was Lydian, a three piece straight-up rock band that immediately began pounding out hard-hitting tunes. The guitar player disturbingly reminded me of a grown-up version of Telly from the movie *Kids* - assuming Telly had given up his nefarious practice of devirginizing young girls and taken up the axe instead. Telly or not, this guy could play and play well

- in fact, the entire band demonstrated a degree of musical competence worthy of respect. The crowd was solidly behind Lydian as they pounded out their set. Vocals were rough and raw but they were an asset to the over-the-top sound of the band rather than a point of weakness. At points they were almost deafeningly loud, perhaps because the mic was turned up way too bloody high. Regardless, aural forcefulness was a key selling point for Lydian as their set came to a thunderous close.

Unlike previous Music Explosions, the winner of the event was not immediately obvious.

Unlike previous Music Explosions, the winner of the event was not immediately obvious - indeed, the final vote tally came down to a mere few separating points. In the end Lydian snatched the victory and came back onto the stage to roar through a series of classic rock covers. This sets up an interesting contest for Laurier's ultimate music act - will it be jam band Live to Air, punk rock One Short or classic rock Lydian? Insert ominous conflict music here.

Something doesn't give



Congratulations! You find yourself on an island with your old flame AND the new lover wearing only white clothing. You've achieved enlightenment and will live happily ever after! Thanks for playing.

Film: Something's Gotta Give
Released: Dec. 12, 2003
Starring: Jack Nicholson, Diane Keaton, Keanu Reeves
Nutshell: Fadingly funny
Cord's Rating:



out of a possible 5 cords

ERIC CHOW
 Staff Writer

Harry Sanborn (Nicholson) is an owner of the world's second largest hip hop studio, Drive By Records. He has everything a man could want in life: three personal assistants, money up the wazoo, a large studio apartment, the ability to mingle with beautiful celebrities and a lot of trophy girlfriends. Although he realizes this fact, during a visit to his current trophy wife's house he suffers a heart attack. It is at this time that he begins to wonder what is missing in his life. Shortly, he begins to compete with his doctor (Reeves) for the affection of Erica (Keaton).

Academic Value

The eighth wonder of the world... the mystery that is the mid-life crisis. What is it that drives men to search for the younger 'ego'? Is it their ever shrinking libido? What is with the big sports cars, the younger trophy girlfriend, and the desire to gain the missing piece of the puzzle? It is probably the riddle that will plague humankind indefinitely. Throughout the film, Nicholson attempts to prove that he is the master of his universe and that he is in command of every aspect of his life, for he attempts to prove that his massive ego is indeed up to par with his phallus. But in the end, he shows that his phallus is a bit lacking and attempts to offset the short-coming (no pun intended) by getting the younger and bustier eye-

candy trophy and the bigger, longer luxury vehicles and the more extensive use of Viagra. The film attempts to demonstrate to the viewer that there is nothing wrong with realizing that there can be an incompleteness in the most affluent of individuals, but materialism is not necessarily the best solution.

Who you should see it with?

The cougar that you keep 'accidentally' bumping into at Phil's.

My Take

This film certainly has its funny moments. However, I feel what really killed a lot of the humour is the fact that this film's most humorous moments were prominently displayed in its trailers, thereby ruining a lot of its potential. Although the film still generated a lot of laughter, the comedy plot ran right into a wall once Harry (Nicholson) and Erica (Keaton) stopped their childish fighting. Once the bickering ended, the plot became very cheesy very quickly. It was very hard to believe that this potentially funny film would be so sappy. But I am not going to lie to you: when the film's humorous parts arrive, the laughter that is created is of the side-splitting variety. A good example of this is the Viagra scene at the hospital. Also, the character development is above average. One gets a better understanding of the characters and begins to connect with certain personalities. On a side note, it's surprising to actually comprehend that there was a point in time when Keanu Reeves' films were avoided like the plague but now are sought after the way Santa Claus chases chocolate chip cookies.

Cheeky Fact

Did you know that Diane Keaton believes that the only reason a radio works is because there are tiny people who live inside the box and make the broadcasts?



"a tired man they see no longer cares
 the old man then prepares
 to die regretfully
 that old man here is me"

Do you know these mercilessly metal lyrics? Sing them in the shower perhaps? Be the first to send an email with the song and artist name to wluentertainment@yahoo.ca and I'll put your name in the next issue, plus you'll get a free CD that the nice record labels haven't been giving to me!

Last week:

The contest hit an emotionally high milestone this week as regular entrants Sam Wattie and Laura Walsh finally won, guessing that last week's lyrics were from Thursday's "Dying in New Brunswick." It was, indeed, 'about time' for these music trivia circuit hipsters of doom.

- Chris, Entertainment Editor

Funkification Project: A sign of things to come

DAVID GREISMAN
 Cord Entertainment

On Tuesday, January 27th the Funkification Project arrived with a bang in Kitchener-Waterloo, and it was going to take more than a snowstorm to stand in its way.

Despite the inclement weather and the closing of schools, the Starlight Lounge was rammed for a quality hip hop jam that looks to be the first of many similar events to expect in the K-W area in the very near future.

The Funkification Project is a movement dedicated to showcasing all the positive aspects of hip hop and urban culture and that, according to their literature, "looks to provide communities with the tools to initiate movements of their own taste." With its origins in the hip hop hotbed of Toronto, the Funkification Project has now branched out to include K-W in the movement, with its first stop being at Starlight Lounge.

The popularity of hip hop and diversity in general has skyrocketed as of late within the WLU community

Featuring Toronto's DJ MENSA as well as local talent from WLU DJs SHEM and T-LO, the crowd was treated to a wide array of blazin' hip hop music ranging from old school to golden age to current joints, to gangsta to conscious rap. All acts incorporated tight production and superior lyricism, as well as DJs who cut and mixed so well that they kept the crowd bouncing all night.

Although not yet considered a WLU hotspot, the



Impressed by your diplomatic abilities, the locals of the new united Cameroonigeria take you to a discotheque. There, they wish to see your DJing skills and ask you to spin the most overplayed tune you know. Do you shake it like a polaroid picture with "Hey Ya" (p12 bottom)? or bring the boys to the yard with "Milkshake" (page 19)?

Starlight Lounge was a very suitable venue for the Funkification Project and has established a reputation of its own for showcasing quality musical acts while providing a stylish atmosphere and intimate environment.

The popularity of hip hop, urban culture and diversity in general has skyrocketed as of late within the WLU community. Examples of this include recent shows by widely respected artists such as The Rascalz, Brassmunk and Buck 65, all of which were well attended. Additionally this year saw the formation of FLAVUH (Finding Laurier's Assertive Voice in Underground Hip Hop), WLU's first ever hip hop club, and the concurrent success of club president ProJekSion's radio show, GROUND BREAKER.

Based on the turnout at Starlight last Tuesday as well as the popularity of other recent events, all indications suggest that a significant movement is underway.

But what does a movement entail? According to Funkification Project pro-

ducer JC, the K-W community can expect to see new alternatives popping up in the very near future. "I'd like to funkify people's lives. Allow them to totally let loose, dress their own style, dance their own way without fear of fitting in and to encourage people to be conscious of what they read, hear from their student bodies and peers." JC says that ultimately the goal is to "develop an atmosphere that's comfortable, stylish, intellectual and intimate." This is surely a sign of good things to come.

For those that would like to find out more about the movement, or any artists and locations associated with it, be sure to check out the following:

K-W Resources

funkificationproject.com
flavuh.com
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 ProJekSion Mondays 10-11:30 pm
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PERSONALS

Carly,
Rogers webmail was down. Sorry. **PM**

Caitlin,
From one wing woman to another, you are fantastic. Love you. **J-Ass**

Belated Birthdays,
Birthday wishes to both Chrystal and Ben. Better late than never. **Jenn**

Stefan,
Despite your criticisms, and the whole Jefferson Airplane thing, Starship was a good rock band... after all, they built that city on Rock and Roll. **CH**

Susie,
Simply put - I only wish I could be as cool as you. FF forever! **J-Rock**



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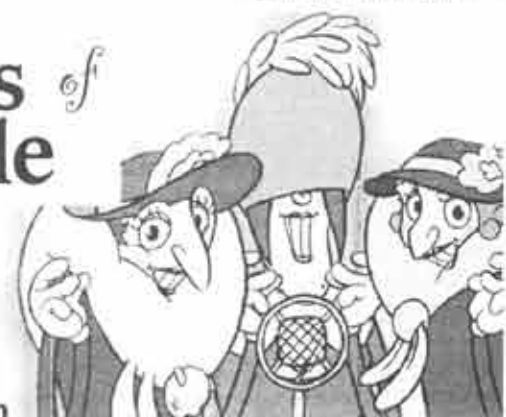
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Prelude to poetry contest depths of dream

Danza Stanza
Jeremy Crumpton

WHO IS THE BOSS? TONY DANZA.
WHO IS THE BOSS? TONY DANZA.
WHO IS THE BOSS? TONY DANZA.
WHO IS THE BOSS? THE GNOME PRINCE.



The sadness I've ignored has once again returned
And yet again it feels as though I've been burned
Once again, as usual, my anger's been spurned
My idea of care has once again been turned.

You're good to me yes, I know that it's true
But for some reason I can't help but feel blue
Tears dampen my face like crystal drops of dew
"Please help me" they cry... they're calling to you.

The Fantastical Myth of Man
Nick Czekurlon

The roots have turned rotten for most have forgotten
That we are just a creature of no higher form than nature

We are just a species with fantastic capabilities
To form complex fantasies of something bigger than this

"All life is akin" - David Suzuki, *The Sacred Balance*

The Connection
Jon Booren

Hello? Mister English?
!!! FRANCE !!! RENAULT !!! YVES MONTAND !!!
Bonjour? Monsieur English?

CALLING
Stephanie Butcher

Beyond poetry,
I find myself by...

THOMAS THOMPSON
Special Projects Editor

The darkness surrounded me, nothing seemed real yet there was something very unsettlingly familiar with this place. I couldn't see anything; there wasn't one sliver of light in this place. I could feel the cold cobblestones pressing up against my body; they poked into my ribs and their dampness made me shudder. I knew that I was in a cell of some kind but I was left with many questions. How did I come to be in this place? Was it even real or was I trapped in some dream, rather, a nightmare?

My only company
was a bucket of
water in one corner
and empty bucket
opposite to it.

I slowly got up and tried to rise to my feet. I could feel the ache of each joint and soreness of my muscles with each contraction. I wondered if I could have been lying there that long. Needless to say my surroundings were small, I could reach out and touch each wall by stretching out my arms. My only company was a bucket of water in one corner and empty bucket opposite to it. There was no bed, no blanket and no food. Not even a car or insects to keep me company here.

I slumped back down.

Maybe I should exercise to regain some strength in my body but I found it hard to have any motivation to do so. Instead my consciousness retreated into my mind. Slowly the images of my youth resurfaced. I was with friends that I had long forgotten and I talked to relatives that had passed away years ago. I visited haunts and hangouts I hadn't seen in decades and I relived camping trips and vacations from an all too distant adolescence. I don't know how long I visited these memories; whether it was just a single moment or whether it was for hours. It is so hard to tell the time here. My mind slowly came back from its delirium and the euphoria of it was gone.

I had to ask myself what went wrong? What led me from that tranquil paradise to here in this cold lonely place? All I could ask was where did I fail and what went wrong? Perhaps the answer to that, is many people often believe that in order to belong and to be a part of society we must give up a piece of ourselves and a piece of our soul to conform. I had compromised myself too much and I ended up here in my own mental prison.

A door opens, and I am blinded by the intensity of the light that comes through. I somehow manage to get up again and walk through that door. I find myself in my bed, a pool of cold sweat covers my body. The morning sun is shining through the window and onto my face. I wake to face another day but I am left wondering when, will I truly be free?

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Committing Thoughtcrimez

Art show Thoughtcrimez brings original ideas and new approaches to Kitchener art gallery... pretty freaky stuff

FRASER KING
Staff Writer

The Thoughtcrimez art collective has brought an art collection to Kitchener that is being hosted by the local gallery, Zero to One.

The art of Thoughtcrimez artists is something truly wonderful; originating from a group of art students disgusted with the design school system. The art they produce is provocative and non-traditional. Based primarily on the internet, organizer Luke Canning wrote that his goal was "to get six people to submit one piece of art or design on a weekly basis, just for the sake of creating."

The name Thoughtcrimez was born out of the same aversion to the design school system; Canning noted that "just like the book 1984 by George Orwell, it seemed like coming up with an original idea or a new approach wasn't just wrong, but committing the ultimate crime - a thought crime!" It is no surprise, with an ideology like that, that Thoughtcrimez artists produce some of the most interesting and provoking art in the world.

Thoughtcrimez originated in Toronto, created by and for

local artists; however, it has since grown to incorporate many other artists from around the world. While usually restricting their activity and art to the internet, this art show, one of two planned,

"Just like the book 1984 by George Orwell, it seemed like coming up with an original idea... was committing the ultimate crime..."

shows some Thoughtcrimez art offline, "for the viewer to experience away from a computer monitor and the hum of a hard drive," noted Thoughtcrimez organizer James McLean.

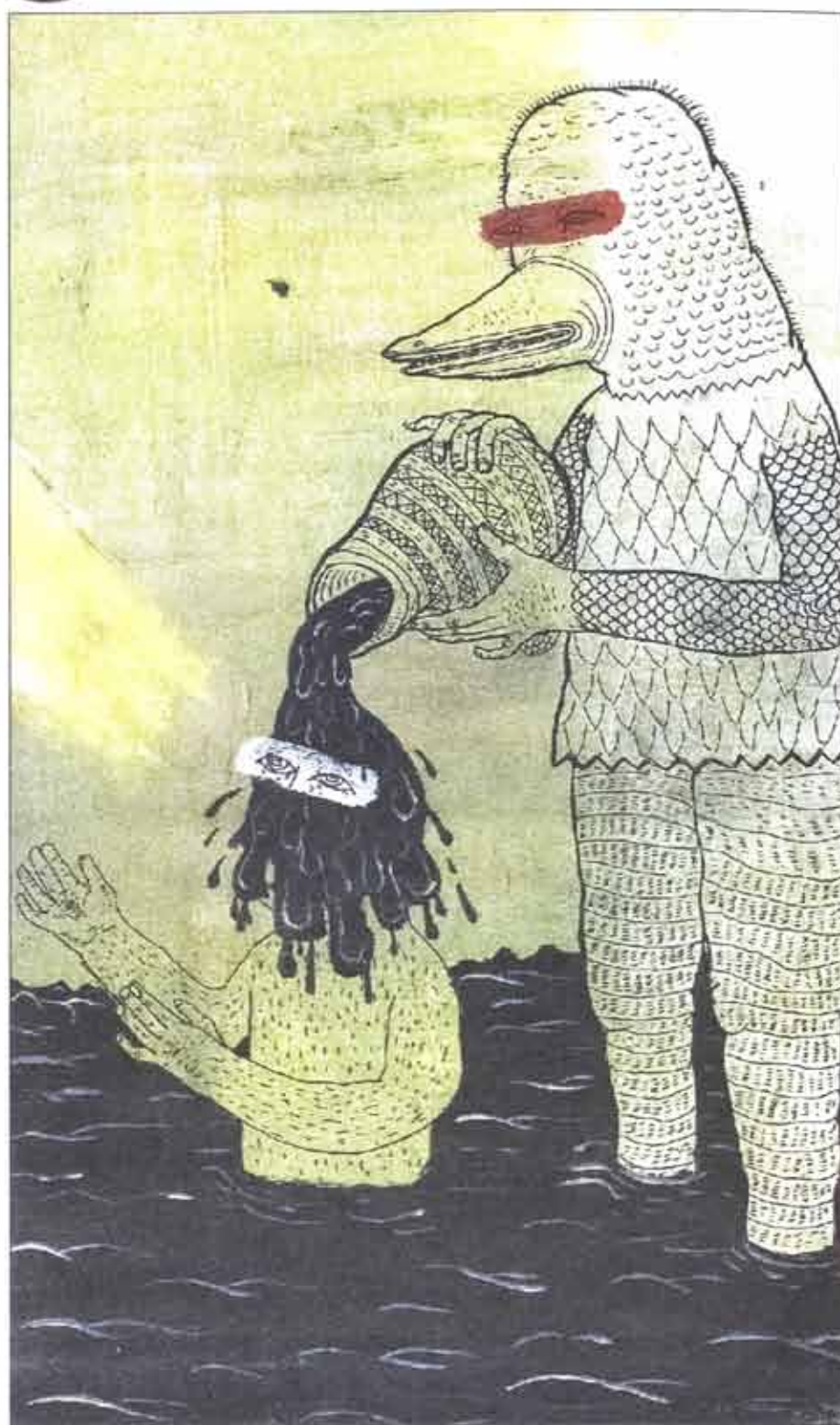
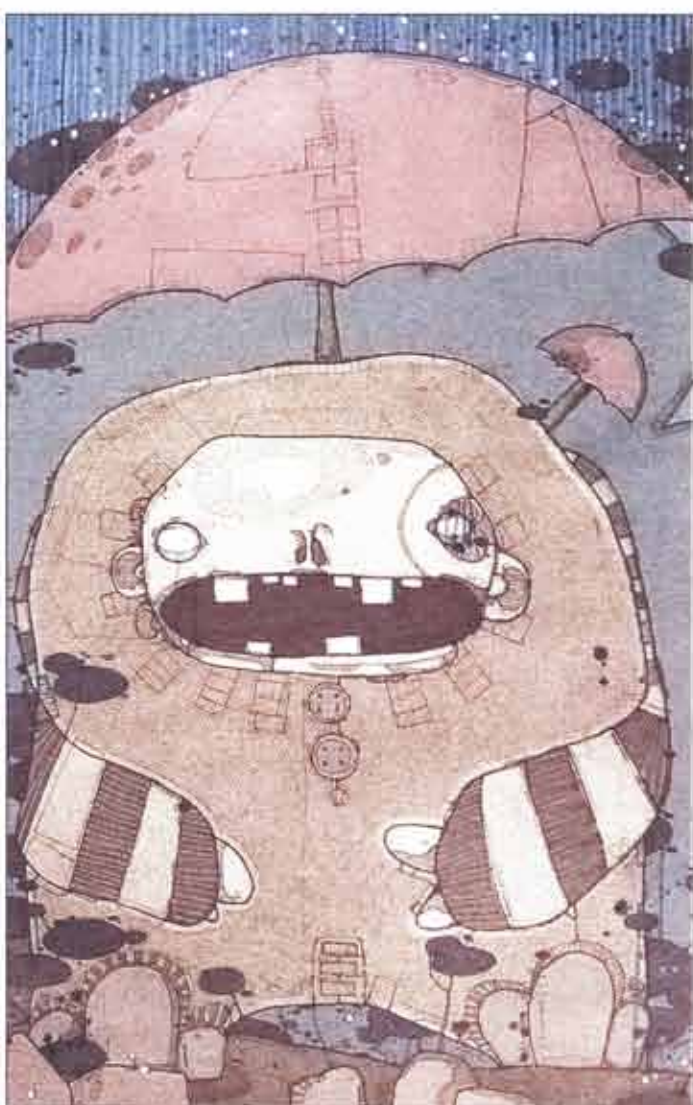
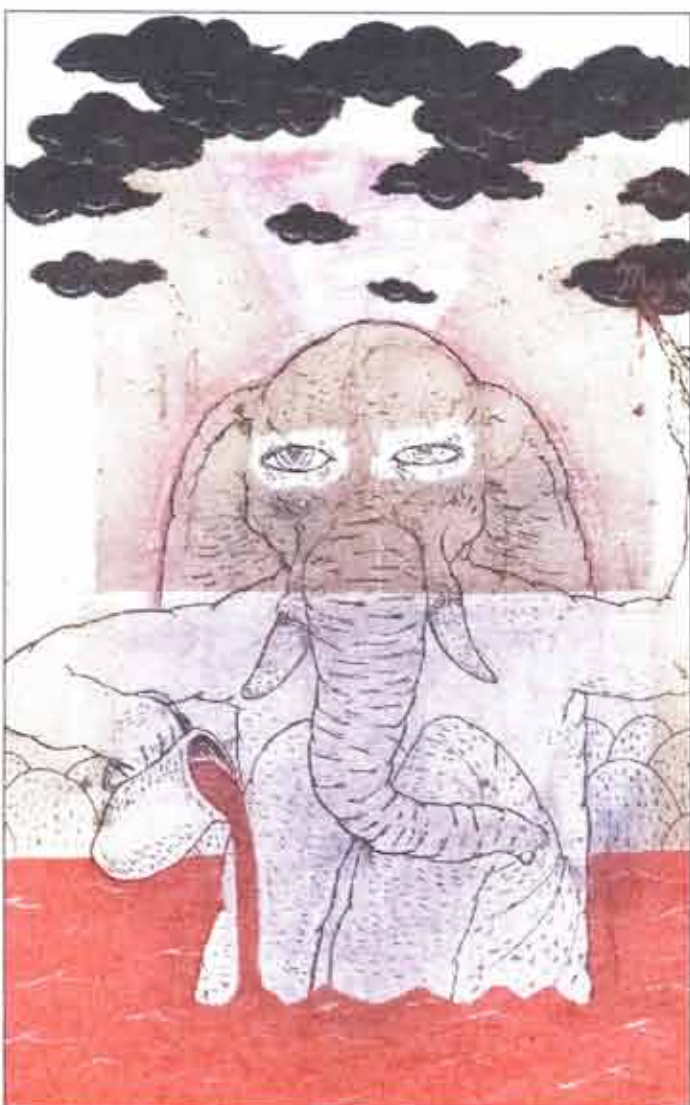
While the primary reason of the Thoughtcrimez art was to show this distinct art beyond a computer screen, Canning was also hoping to generate some attention, particular in Canada. As Canning noted, "Thoughtcrimez has managed to become better known on the other side of the globe in Australia, yet still manages

to go relatively undiscovered in its own backyard of Toronto."

Although the show's featured artists come from a variety of different nations and backgrounds, there is one unifying force behind all of their work; that is, it is unique and different from everything else. While some artists, such as Graham Roumieu, showed bitterly humorous and sardonic cartoons done with ink and paper, others, such as Calyton Hammer, showed vast canvases that provoked thought with their brutality and simplicity.

At the show's opening, in addition to art connoisseurs, gallery staff and Thoughtcrimez organizer James McLean, former city councilor nominee David Wellhauser was at the show. While Wellhauser enjoyed the show, he told *The Cord Weekly* that "some of this is just too intense. I may need to sit down for a little while."

The Thoughtcrimez art show kicked off January 30, runs until February 13 and is being hosted at the downtown Kitchener art gallery, Zero to One Studios. Check out some of the amazing Thoughtcrimez art at www.thoughtcrimez.com.



Jazzing it up

Laurier's Jazz Choir and Jazz Ensemble rocked the house on Saturday night... were you there?

JOHN MEDDICK
Cord Arts

Have you ever had one of those daydreams where you're sitting somewhere, only to be attacked by a group of pirates whom you must fight off with brave heroic tactics? To be honest I had a similar one today, only with ninjas and set to a Jazz soundtrack.

I was at the WLU Jazz Choir and Ensemble performance this past Saturday, at the Maureen Forrester Recital Hall. I was a little apprehensive about attending my first University musical performance. Sure, we had plenty of them back in high school, but I always used them as a break to jump in a van with some chums and head to the Tim Horton's down the street. This time, however, I felt the circumstances were a little different - seeing as how I was supposed to write an article about the show, I concluded it might be best if I were to attend this time.

Jazz choir director Jane Gingerich opened the performance with pieces *I've Got the World on a String* by Harold Arlen, and *Georgia On My Mind* by Hoagy Carmichael. Anyone who enjoyed the 1965 classic film *Sandpiper*, starring

Elizabeth Taylor would have gotten a kick out of hearing the performance of *The Shadow of Your Smile*.

After a brief intermission (and a quick adventure to the facilities), the second half of the performance began. Jazz Ensemble director, Ron Schirm, approached the stage and introduced the rest of the ensemble after an initial performance of St. Louis Blues, a piece by the self-proclaimed "Father of Jazz," W.C. Handy. The show boomed with further pieces including David Springfield's *No More Mr. Nice Guy* and *500 Miles High*, a work by the jazz legend, Chick Corea.

As mentioned earlier I'm not too familiar with jazz, so I had no idea what to expect. The girls at the coat check were really nice and I got a paper cut when I was handed a program all part of the theatre experience I suppose. As for the show I was generally impressed. The pieces were well rehearsed, which resulted in a quality performance by some of WLU's music students.

The next performance of the WLU Jazz Ensemble and Jazz Choir is coming up on March 21 at the Recital Hall on campus.