

THE CORD WEEKLY

The tie that binds since 1926



Running alongside women's basketball... Page 28

What's the Da Vinci Code got to do with Mona Lisa? ... Page 14

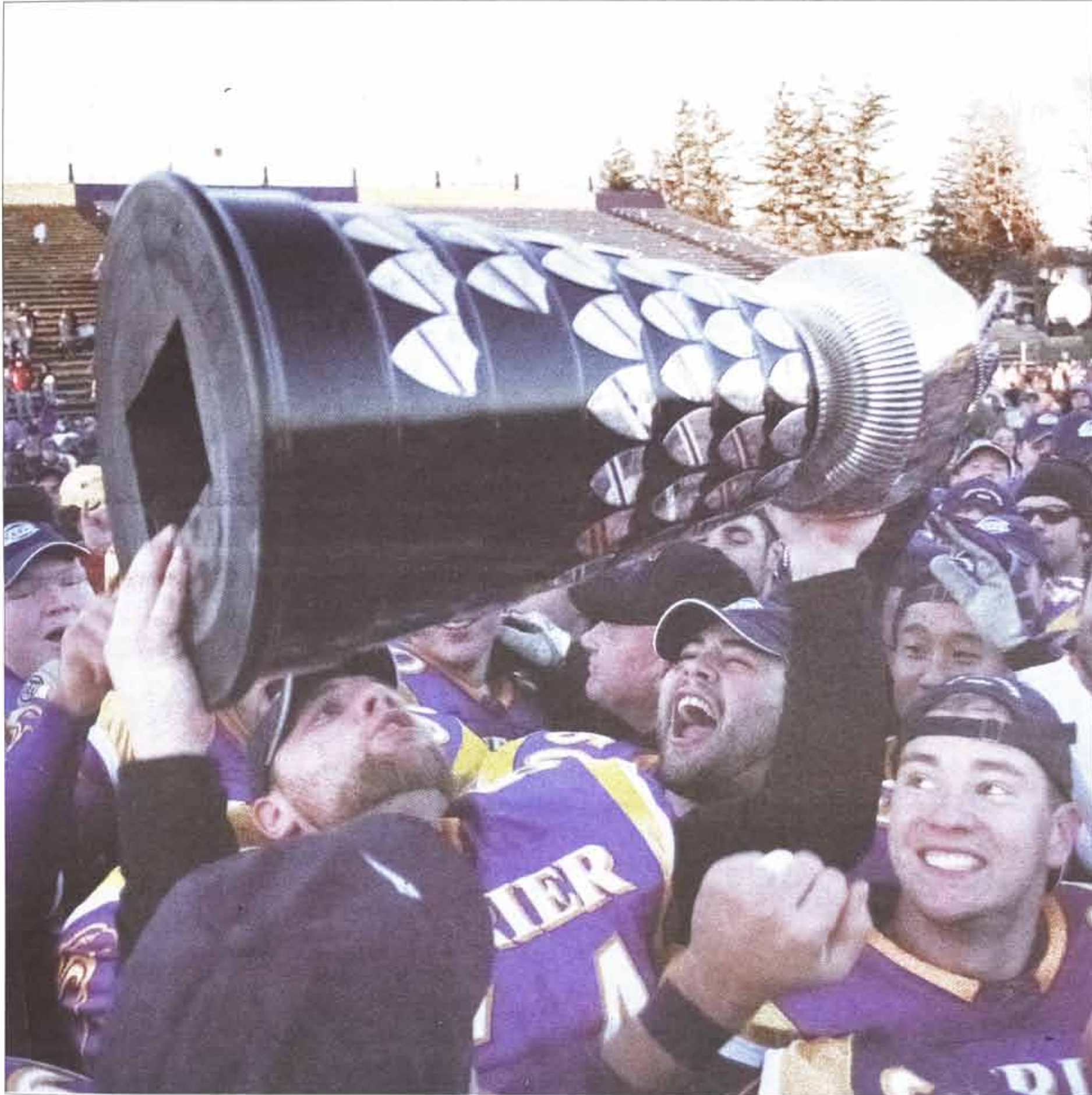


Volume 45 Issue 13

Wednesday November 17, 2004

www.clublaurier.ca

Yates Cup champions



Andrew Zimcik

Linebacker Bryan Sloot hoists the Yates Cup celebrating the Golden Hawks 31 - 19 victory over the University of McMaster. The Hawks travel to Quebec to take on the Laval Rouge et Or in the Uteck Bowl this Saturday. The winner will advance to the Desjardins Vanier Cup on November 27 to play the winner between St. Mary's University and the University of Saskatchewan at Ivor Wynne Stadium, Hamilton.



BRYAN SHINN
Sports Editor

A lot changed on November 13, most notably the history of university football in Ontario. Introducing your Wilfrid Laurier University Golden Hawks, Yates Cup Champions. On Saturday afternoon, in front of the 8,175 fans assembled at University Stadium, the Hawks beat McMaster Marauders 31 - 19 to stake claim to the title of Ontario champion for the first

time since 1991.

When the final whistle blew, some 3,000 supporters poured onto the field to celebrate the end of Mac's four straight Yates Cup victories, with their heroic student athletes.

Hawks, champions. "There's something special about this team," said Lee Maggiacomo, who was playing his last game at University Stadium. Yes, these Hawks had once again found a way to win, as Saturday's victory was certainly reminiscent of their play all season long: slow start, clutch defence and a dynamic fourth quarter.

- Please see **Yates**, page 26

Concordia lobbies for organic tampons

MISHA WARBANSKI
The Link (Concordia University)

MONTREAL (CUP) — Taking the health of female students into her own hands, Concordia University student Anastasia Voutou is out to make some changes to bathroom vending machines.

"What I want to do is try and get all the tampons and the pads out of the vending machines on all the campus bathrooms and replace them with organic, all-

cotton products," said Voutou, an art education student.

Voutou said she is surprised nobody has lobbied to get the products in the dispensers changed, especially at a university as progressively minded as Concordia.

"Personally I feel it is inexcusable that these products are in there. Women's health should come first."

- Please see **Tampon**, page 16

International Feature Report...

Civil strife in the Ivory Coast explained

France should fear the strength of an oppressed people

Ruben Gu-Konu



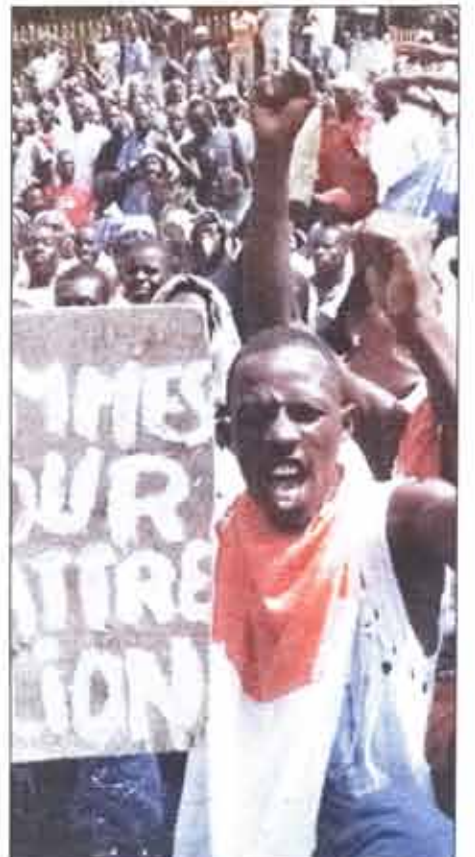
Ivory Coast Correspondant

From the late 1970s to the early 1990s, the Ivory Coast was the largest global producer of coffee and cocoa. Known as "the pearl of West Africa" because of its skyscrapers, fancy cars and booming tourism, the Ivory Coast was the most successful country in western Africa.

As the economy improved, immigration also boomed. People from neighbouring countries rushed to the borders and, by 1997, 18% of the country's population was foreign. But in the midst of all this, the political realm was struggling.

The French settled in the Ivory Coast in the 1880s. They established their control on the western coast, and they developed that area more than the rest of the country. They introduced Christianity to the southern region, but paid less attention to the Muslim-dominated north.

- Please see **Coast** page 13



Contributed Photo

Thousands of Ivorians have taken to the streets to demonstrate against French intervention.

No compost in sight

Other schools compost but not realistic for Wilfrid Laurier

APRIL CUNNINGHAM
News Editor

Tonnes of food waste is shipped to local landfill sites from the WLU campus that could be composted. For Laurier, the composting option just does not seem realistic.

That's the conclusion that Michael Morris, president of Laurier's Environment Club, has come to in his experience of promoting environmentally friendly practices on campus.

"[Composting] would be great on campus... it's just the amount of work and the commitment is more than any group would be willing to put in," he says.

Morris says the only way composting would be possible is if a policy were created and a group was responsible for enforcing it.

"The [Eco-Hawks] should have a sub-committee and they would take care of it," he says.

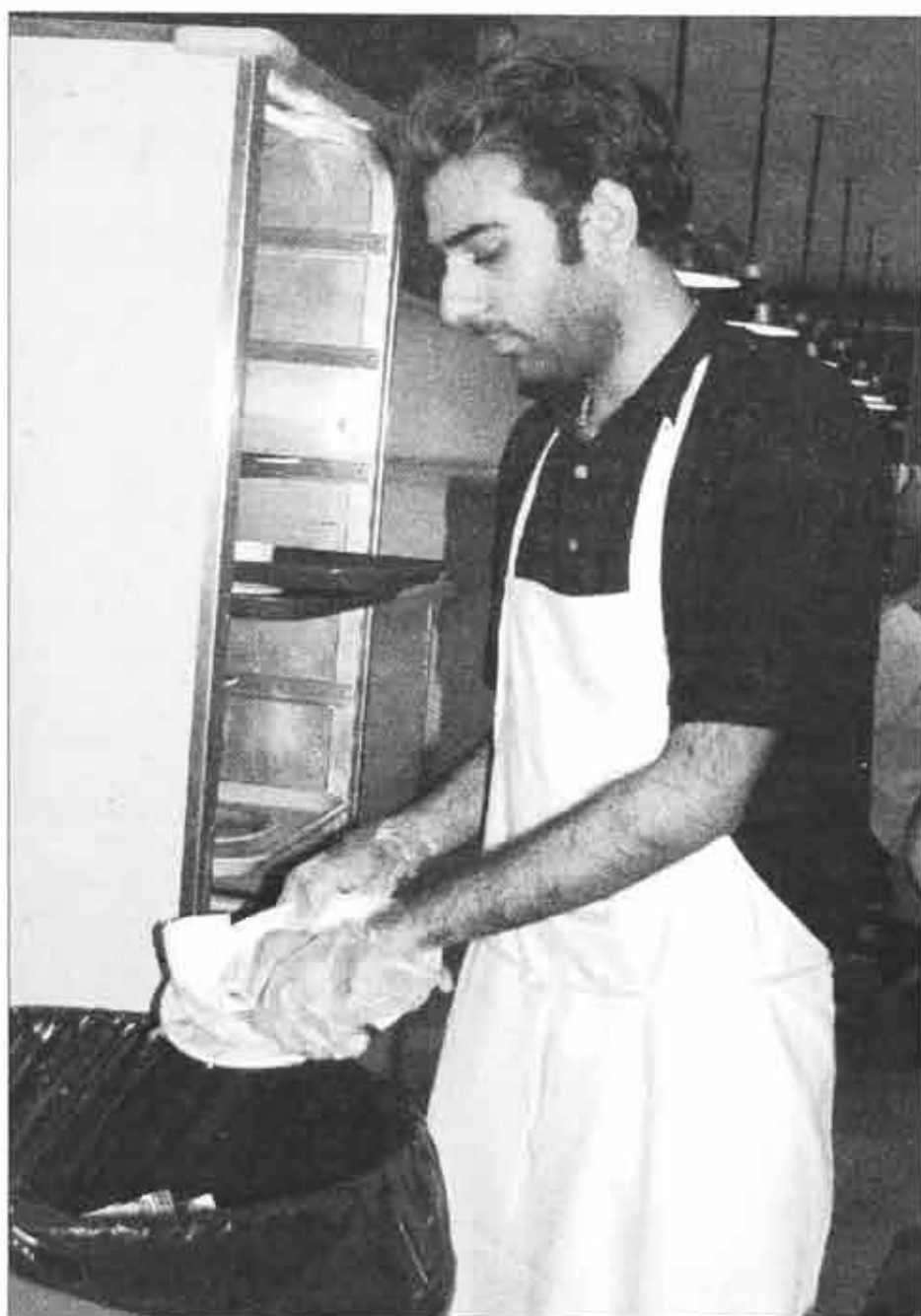
"But they would have to go and hound the Pita Shack and the Dining Hall for all their organic waste."

"It's like a false sense of comfort."

- Michael Morris, President, WLU Environment Club

He also noted that there just isn't enough room on campus to facilitate a program.

Another element that is challenging is that composting causes more work for employees at food service outlets. Morris says that in 2001 there was a composter



April Cunningham

A Food Services employee scrapes leftovers into the garbage can in the Dining Hall. Most of what is scraped can be composted but isn't.

outside the back of the FNCC, but he supposes the process was eliminated since it was "just another responsibility."

But the university's lack of composting methods are quickly becoming outdated as more and more post-secondary communities make substantial efforts to become more waste conscious.

The University of Victoria has been composting since April of 2004. They estimate that 130 to 150 tonnes of trash will be saved from making it to the landfill site by the end of the program's first year. Additionally, campus estab-

lishments are seeing the benefits as they are able to plan food cost savings based on the amount of waste that goes to the compost bin.

Other schools such as the University of Waterloo, York and McGill have been fostering composting programs for years. York even runs a "green box" program both on-campus and in the surrounding community, paying for the service as incentive for business participation.

But even Laurier's current recycling program is ineffective, says Morris, calling it "terrible."

According to Morris, if any garbage is mixed in with the recycling, the contents of the entire bin is sent to the dump - which isn't uncommon.

"It's like a false sense of comfort," he says.

"I think the problem is a cultural problem. People just don't see the connection... We don't have to face living in a dump because of the way urban planning is in Southern Ontario." Students don't seem to care enough to go the extra mile with their trash disposal.

Despite Morris' pessimistic view on the state of recycling and composting standards at Laurier, he says there is a place to start.

"Right now it would be too much to ask if we said, 'Don't eat at Harvey's,'" he notes, referring to the excess of packaging that accompanies the typical take-out meal. "Just be conscious of what goes in and what goes out... Just think about it."

With files from Canadian University Press: "Compost bins cut waste in Toronto, universities." By Amy Chung and Craig Finnigan; "UVic cafeterias reduce waste," by Ford Walker.

\$50,000 pot for best business plan

Venture Competition solicits all students and community to participate

APRIL CUNNINGHAM
News Editor

A new venture creation competition initiated by the Laurier School of Business and Economics with the University of Waterloo will be "kindling for fireworks," says student Alim Maherali, a director for the project.

The Math-Business double degree student is adamantly promoting the competition along with a series of workshops and presentations which lead up to "LaunchPad \$50K" in May of 2004.

"It's your chance to start and develop a real business."

- Alim Maherali, director, \$50K Launch

At that final competition, \$50,000 in prize money will be shared among the top three teams.

"It's your chance to start and develop a real business," says Maherali, who has recently started his own consulting business.

He says he became involved in the project because he has the first hand knowledge of what it's like to be an entrepreneur. "I've seen the potential, but I've also seen the gaps."

An individual fully trained in business often does not have the technical or practical skills to get their idea off the ground, he says. LaunchPad could fill this gap

since its whole purpose is to bring people of different educational and practical backgrounds to one place.

LaunchPad solicits anyone in the community to participate. The only requirement is that each team consists of at least one Laurier and one University of Waterloo student.

The students involved do not necessarily need to be from a business program.

"It's not just a business initiative," says Maherali. "I want to find those hidden gems in Arts and Science."

"It's going to be the next RIM or the next Open Text."

- Alim Maherali

Maherali noted that the success rate of businesses founded by entrepreneurs with a multidisciplinary background is about 75 percent while those founded by people with a narrow background only have a 30 percent chance of succeeding. LaunchPad, it seems, allows an opportunity for that variety of backgrounds to get together.

"We're harnessing the potential," says Maherali. "It's going to be the next RIM or the next Open Text."

"Basically what we want is more businesses founded in the community... and this is your chance to present your business plan to a panel of experts," he says.

The next free workshop will be focused on selling one's business idea to investors on November 25 at university of Waterloo. "Ignition \$1K" on January 13, 2005 will feature a \$1000 prize to the team who can most effectively pitch their business idea.

More information can be found online at www.launchpad50k.ca.

1965 Page Two Girl



Cord File Photo

Appearing in the sixties issues of the Cord were The Girls. Check out next week's premiere of The Boys of the Cord.



April Cunningham

Alim Maherali is a Double Degree student who is organizing the "Launch \$50K" venture competition.

THE CORD WEEKLY'S...

5 DAY ACTION NEWS WEATHER FORECAST



Today		Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Afternoon:	Evening:				
Light Rain 10°C 60% POP	Cloudy with snowflakes 8°C 60% POP	Variable Clouds High 11°C Low 5°C 20% POP	Variable Clouds High 10°C Low 4°C 20% POP	Light Rain High 9°C Low 5°C 80% POP	Light rain High 12°C - Low 8°C 90% POP

Smokers may be outcast by York too

York University initiates "Pink Lungs Project" in attempt to help

FRANÇOIS VILLENEUVE
Excalibur (York University)

TORONTO (CUP) — Smokers at York University — even those used to smoking in sheltered areas, including out-of-the-way stairwells — may find themselves out in the cold if the school continues

with plans to make the campus smoke-free.

The university has come under fire in the past year for not doing enough to stop people from smoking indoors.

Last winter, smoking in inappropriate places was brought to a student issues roundtable, where different approaches were considered, from bringing in public health officers to introducing a smoking cessation program.

"The security thinks they're doing a good job keeping the colonnades clear of smoke. I think I would disagree with that," said Susan Gapka, a public policy and administration student.

Gapka said smokers should understand their cigarettes endanger the health of people around them.

"I understand people need to smoke, but sometimes, it annoys me that I

have to share it with them while I am walking by," said Gapka.

The university, for its part, is looking far beyond its colonnade. President Lorna Marsden is overseeing the Pink Lungs Project exploring the possibility of making the campus a non-smoking zone by 2009, in time for York's 50th anniversary.

"I understand people need to smoke, but sometimes it annoys me that I have to share the smoke with them."

- Susan Gapka, York Student

Joe Levy, a health policy and management professor at the university, cited the Ontario government's intention of banning smoking in public places as the initial justification for the planned ban.

However, Levy said the university should be more pro-active on the issue.

"At York, we should be leaders, we should not be beaten into following the law," said Levy, adding: "We don't want to bring police on campus to police us; we want to deal with this on our own. We want to make a program to deal with this."

Not all smokers think a smoking cessation program would help.

"If I was looking to quit, I would quit on my own terms. If more of my tuition is going to go

towards (a smoking cessation) program, I would say no," said Ann Brazao, a humanities student.

Levy said a committee is looking at what resources are available, the possibility of hosting forums about the issue and initiating health education programs to help smokers who would like to quit.

Gapka disagrees with the implementation of a smoking ban on campus.

"Just like students will drink, whether you tell them to or not, students will smoke nicotine, cigarettes, whether you tell them to or not," said Gapka.

She suggested a total ban on smoking would actually bring smokers to expose themselves to other risks.

"Those students who do smoke and do not or cannot stop will simply smoke in other locations where they can't be seen or caught. They will do it in out of the way locations, such as stairwells or parking lots," said Gapka.

She favours the creation of designated smoking areas rather than an all-out ban, along with information for students who want to stop smoking.

"You cannot (legislate) abstinence. It failed through history, either with drugs, sex or alcohol," said Gapka.

Levy sees a ban on smoking on university grounds as inevitable, but said he does think the university will have to show some flexibility.



This week at... University of Waterloo

What's the deal with sports bras?

Women's volleyball coaches and players are coming under fire as they defy a conference rule. The Ontario University Athletics conference prohibits any player from showing his or her undergarments during the warm-up or play periods; however, the UW women's volleyball team commonly changes from their warm-up to game uniforms along the sidelines of the court.

The rule was not previously enforced, until, as the *Imprint* reports, the *National Post* ran a story about the University of Alberta team being deducted a point for the rule violation. The controversy over the breaking of the rule seems set to continue as coaches and university administrators have widely differing opinions about the validity of the rule.

Compiled by Fraser King

WLU-affiliated archaeologist takes all

FRASER KING
News Editor

Angry drunken emails may soon become as serious as angry drunken threats.

A prehistoric archeologist affiliated with Laurier was awarded \$125,000 in damages in one of Canada's first 'cyberlibel' suits, reported the *Globe and Mail* on November 15.

A native Canadian man circulated a defamatory email that

contained instructions to forward it to as many people as possible.

The email contained false allegations that the archeologist was amongst other things, a 'grave-robber.'

The amount awarded was approximately equivalent to the total assets of the defendant — everything that he has.

The defendant did not appear at trial to defend himself.

The decision is being considered a precedent in what is being

called the new legal realm of 'internet libel.'

Only one previous case of internet libel has been recorded in Canada, where a homeless man was ordered to pay money to a company for posting things on an internet website.

See the Editorial Board's reaction on the unique case of cyberlibel on page 6.

HR embraces gender minorities

Adjustment to hiring practices

FRASER KING
News Editor

Laurier aims to be open-minded and accepting as it implements a new hiring equity policy. The new policy is an additional category of minority people, adding "persons in a sexual and/or gender minority," to the list that already comprises women, visible minorities, persons with disabilities and aboriginal persons.

Laurier's Board of Governors recently amended the existing

policy in a move that made Laurier one of the few universities in Canada that recognizes sexual or gender minorities.

In a Laurier press release, Marilyn Jacobs, the university secretary and harassment/discrimination coordinator noted that, "this is a statement of inclusion of people who have been marginalized. We want them to know that Laurier is a place that welcomes all people."

The new policy changes the current application forms, which now ask if the person identifies as male, female, or transgender, as well as asking if the person is a member of a minority sexual ori-

entation group.

In addition to the employment equity policy changes, the new policies that the Board of Governors enabled also allow for the creation of a sexual diversity committee.

The committee, while only freshly created, is working on a number of projects such as: the creation of a positive-space program, an online method for reporting instances of homophobia, a speaker series and a placement for a student in community psychology who would work on diversity issues.

Around this time in Laurier History

NO STRANGER TO VICTORY November 16, 1972

Wilfrid Laurier University's Hawks win OUAA championship after defeating Western Ontario's Mustang's 38-22. The win also earned them the right to represent the OUAA in the Atlantic Bowl against the University of St. Mary's Huskies.

LAURIER DEMOTED November 14, 2001

Wilfrid Laurier University dropped two spots from fifth to seventh in the *Maclean's* rankings for primarily undergraduate schools. The slip was attributed, in part, to the class size and operating budget rankings. Laurier placed fifth in "Leaders of Tomorrow" sub-category and third in "Most Innovative," and "Highest Quality." Dr. Rosehart, at the time, said "we need to work on library funding."

MARRIED... ON CAMPUS November 19, 1965

The newest club on Campus in November of 1965 was the 'Married Couples Club.' The club was scheduled to have guest speakers talk about the virtues of being married and in school. All married couples at WLU were invited to join.

NO READING WEEK? November 13, 1980

WLU planned on a referendum to mass student against the abolishment of reading week that was proposed by the WLU Senate. The motivation behind the abolishment was that it no longer served an academic purpose as most classes were only one term long and only weighted as one half of one credit. The senate was unanimously in favour of the abolishment. *Editor's note: obviously, the idea of abolishing reading week wasn't carried through with.*

Compiled by Robert Bennett and Fraser King

THE CORD WEEKLY



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Bag O' CRIME

ASSAULT
Monday November 8
Security received a report from a resident at Laurier Place that she had been struck in the head by her room mate during an argument. Residence staff are dealing with the situation.

ASSAULT
10:15pm Tuesday November 9
A WLU student reported that while walking along King St the occupants of a passing vehicle threw eggs at her. Regional Police were notified.

THEFT OF MOTOR VEHICLE
8:10pm Wednesday November 10
A WLU student reported that her car had been stolen from the lower section of lot 13. Regional Police were notified.

BREAK & ENTER
8:50pm Wednesday November 10
Person unknown broke into an office in the Arts E Wing and stole a projector.

FIRE DEPT RESPONSE
5:02am Thursday November 11
Waterloo Fire Dept responded to an alarm at Heidelberg House. A faulty detector was the cause of the alarm.

THEFT UNDER \$5000
Thursday November 11
Printing Services reported that someone forced open a photocopier on the 3rd floor of the Aird Building and removed all the paper.

THEFT UNDER \$5000
Thursday November 11/
A WLU student reported his knapsack stolen from the 5th floor of the Woods Building.

HARASSING TELEPHONE CALLS
10:15am Friday November 12
A faculty member reported receiving nuisance calls from a former student regarding his academic standing. The individual was contacted and warned.

DRUGS
8:50pm Friday November 12
Officers responded to University Place after receiving a report from residence staff of a strong odour of marijuana coming from one of the apartments.

The occupants were spoken to but no drugs were found. Three guests of one of the occupants were evicted from the residence and issued with trespass notices. Residence staff are dealing with the occupant of the apartment.

MISCHIEF
November 12 - 13
Person(s) unknown broke the glass in one of the doors leading from the Nichols Centre to the Concourse.

POSSESSION STOLEN PROPERTY
4:30pm Saturday November 13
Officers observed a student carrying a large Pizza Pizza sign that the student claimed he found on the ground on his way home from the football game. It was determined that the sign came from the stadium and the student was made to return the sign there.

MISCHIEF
3:19am Sunday November 14
While on patrol an officer found that a thermostat on the second floor of the Nichols Centre had been pulled off the wall.

CRIME OF THE WEEK: HE SHOULD HAVE JUST SAID PLEASE

TRESPASS
Saturday November 13
A non WLU male was evicted from Bricker Residence after being obnoxious to residence staff.

ASSAULT
3:15pm Saturday November 13
A WLU student was evicted from University Stadium after it was reported that he was throwing things at fans and the McMaster cheerleaders. The matter will be sent to the Judicial Affairs Council.

During this time period, one provincial offence notice was issued for a liquor act violation.

Comments? Questions? Outrage? Discuss this article online at www.clublaurier.ca

CORD clippings

NATIONAL PM Martin Visits Haiti

Canadian Prime Minister Paul Martin visited the re-building nation of Haiti on Sunday, preaching unity and co-operation to its divided leaders.

The Prime Minister spoke at a luncheon attended by the interim president, civil and economic leaders, jurists and other members of the political elite.

"The international community has made considerable efforts to come to Haiti's aid, but it will not be able to accomplish these commitments without the existence of a national reconciliation of all Haitians," said Martin.

Canada, which has a significant Haitian population in Quebec, has already committed \$180-million to assist the struggling country, which has been recently devastated by natural disasters and civil unrest.

PROVINCIAL Fitness Chain Investigation

An investigation has been launched to examine the business practices of the Premier Fitness company.

The large Ontario fitness chain, which includes the Mademoiselle Fitness and Day Spa, Curzons Fitness, The Women's Club, and Regency Fitness and Racquets Club branches, has been the target of hundreds of consumer complaints and dozens of legal actions in the past five years.

Allegations have been made claiming that the company has been improperly withdrawing money through their customers pre-authorized payment plans.

"[Improper activity with members' accounts] is not happening, has never happened and it will not happen," says Neil Procter, Premier's chief financial officer.

Between 1998 and 2003, there have been more than 700 complaints and inquiries made to the Ontario government's consumer ministry regarding the Premier Fitness company.

LOCAL Entrepreneurship competition

CNWTelbec reports that a Waterloo high school student has won the Southwestern Ontario division of the Ontario Secondary School Business Plan Competition Awards.

Johnny Bell finished first in the regional competition and was a runner-up in the provincial competition.

The prize that Bell won is \$2,000 in bursaries. The awards are part of the provincial government's programs to encourage youth entrepreneurship. Over 20,000 students participated in the competition.

"The McGuinty government is working hard to make Ontario a place where entrepreneurs flourish by investing in the skills our economy needs," said Dave Levac, M.P.P for Brant.

The provincial government is looking to support independent businesses as a way to prevent future unemployment.

Compiled by Adrian Ma

SPONGE MEETS WORLD

ALBUM FEATURES NEW SONGS BY THE FLAMING LIPS - WILCO - THE SHINS PLUS SPONGEBOB THEME SONG PERFORMED BY ARIEL LAVIGNE AND MORE!

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SUBJECT TO CLASSIFICATION

SpongeBobMovie.com

ONLY IN THEATRES NOVEMBER 19

Turret Thursday
with DJ MERCENARY

Surreal Saturdays

Millenium scholarships under attack by CFS

Canadian Federation of Students call for abolishment

FRASER KING
News Editor

Apparently the Millenium Scholarship system is good enough for everyone. The Canadian Federation of Students, a national lobby group with many university-members, is calling for the abolishment of the Millenium Scholarship Foundation.

Jesse Greener, the Ontario Chairperson of the CFS, noted

that the foundation is just a public relations gimmick and that the foundation should be wound-down in favour of a national need-based grant system.

An external review of the foundation, conducted in 2003, concluded that the foundation was not improving access to post-secondary institutions.

"Canadians would be well-served if this dismal failure was converted to a program that actually helps students," said Greener in a CFS press release.

While WLUSU is not a member of CFS, the Laurier Graduate association is a member of the lobby group.

Comments? Questions? Outrage? Discuss this article online at www.clublaurier.ca



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If you are graduating in 2005 you need to act NOW. Sign up for November/December is online at clublaurier.ca

The photo shoot in January is reserved **ONLY** for co-op students so don't wait until then. Tell your friends to sign up now to avoid any disappointments.




HAVING TROUBLE FINDING CHEAP DATES FOR THE HOLIDAYS?



CHRISTMAS FLIGHTS		CHRISTMAS FLIGHTS	
VANCOUVER		CALGARY	
Dept DEC 17 - Rtn DEC 30 \$356	Dept DEC 17 - Rtn JAN 3 \$375	Dept DEC 21 - Rtn DEC 30 \$334	Dept DEC 18 - Rtn DEC 30 \$349
Dept DEC 19/20 - Rtn JAN 3 \$386	Dept DEC 18 - Rtn JAN 2 \$399	Dept DEC 18/21 - Rtn JAN 2 \$388	Dept DEC 22 - Rtn JAN 3 \$388
Dept DEC 20 - Rtn JAN 1 \$399	Dept DEC 18 - Rtn JAN 1 \$419	ST JOHNS NF	
HALIFAX		Dept DEC 19-21 - Rtn JAN 4 \$348	Dept DEC 17/18 - Rtn JAN 3 \$418
Dept DEC 21 - Rtn JAN 3 \$199	Dept DEC 21 - Rtn JAN 2 \$288	Ask us for other dates or cities!!!	

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*Printed quote required.



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THE CORD WEEKLY

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Mark Hopkins	Tony Ferguson	Jamie Hilsinger
Andrew Zimcik	Richard Tozman	Erin Black
Graham Folkema	Kyle Boulden	Juanna La Fleur
Narges Bayani	Yusuf Faqih	Mika Carr
Robert Bennett	Tyler Williams	Brian J. D'Souza
Adrian Ma	Chris Clemens	
Ashley Rose	Marcon Moldes	CLP Contributors
Suzie Ziegler	Fraser MacDonald	Misha Warbanski
Dan Roth	Wilbur McLean	Zalina Ahi
Laurie Sadowski	Andrew Smith	Francine Villeneuve

Quote Of The Week

"Why am I always attracted to vocal cord girls?"
- Brandon Currie, Production Manager

Next Issue: November 24th

WLUFA's foolscap

It's that meaningless time of year again! The seasons are undeniably in a state of change while the Faculty Association only displays the appearance of change.

The first bleached 'n' blue Teaching Evaluations have begun hitting classrooms this week. Ideally they're meant to be our one institutionalized opportunity to placate or praise our professor's efforts but really it just grants students the chance to arrive 10 minutes late without having to endure that embarrassing mid-class interruption.

The most token of token gestures, the Faculty Association (WLUFA) has engineered a solid Collective Bargaining Agreement with the University that effectively shields themselves from student opinion and evaluation. It's been like this for years and they're not showing any signs of budging.

The most telling of the all the evaluation's 10 questions is, "Overall, the instructor is an effective university teacher." Interestingly, this last question, which is preceded by nine generally ineffectual and ambiguous indicators of teaching quality, is the only one that cannot be directly attached to an individual Professor's Official File.

Officially speaking: "Although student opinions provide important information about teaching performance, such opinions do not in themselves constitute an evaluation of teaching performance..." and may not "rely exclusively or primarily on student opinions."

What Accountability! Student opinion is "important" but it is functionally irrelevant in decid-



The Editors' View

ing if a professor is good, bad or in between and whether they should be promoted or disciplined.

While there is certainly some weight behind the fear that a professor teaching a low-average course may see their ratings drop because of 'retaliation evaluations,' that is no reason to dismiss student opinion so broadly.

Few departments have been taking the initiative to ask their students to fill out separate, department-specific evaluations that, ideally, would allow students to express themselves outside of the "scan-tron" limits and provide specific comments that might actually serve a purpose.

While certainly many professors take their teaching very seriously and are very engaging, many others are uninspiring researchers that lack 'the art of effective teaching.' These people are the intended targets of any form of teaching evaluation and they should be held accountable.

WLUFA and WLU should reform the agreement to give honest weight to the opinions of students. Consulting the students, the departments and the Deans with the goal of publishing periodic reports on the state of teaching at Laurier will only help improve the student experience and give professors the feedback that they need to improve.

Cyberlibel is still libel

Is your freedom of speech in jeopardy, is the last bastion of saying whatever you want, gone? Are your intoxicated nights of angrily emailing ex-girlfriend/boyfriends going to get you in trouble with Johnny Law?

It may seem terrifying that the Internet, the one place where 'shitcock' can pass as a word, is now a place where you can be sued.

The *Globe and Mail* ran an article about a Laurier affiliated archeologist winning what is being referred to as one of Canada's first 'cyberlibel' cases. The libel was carried out via a chain email that was sent to her colleagues and employers.

consciously made false claims, he didn't just send an irate email to this archeologist, what he did was designed to harm her. It seems scary to a casual reader. It seems like self-righteous legal-types are out to monitor your emails, but it is just the legal system catching up with technology.

The email was not harmless, it was meant to cause disturbance, is that something that is so bad to control?

The precedent that was set was the way that the libeler went about libeling - it is a good precedent, there is not a threat to your freedom of speech on the fuckyou.com forums, there is a threat to actual criminals committing crimes using the internet.



No More Band-aids, Bob.

The common grounds

Bryan Shinn



Sports Editor

Losing our collective minds at a football game builds community

What happens when a university, nationally recognized for its excessive school spirit, wins the biggest game in Ontario university football? Well, apparently we lose our collective mind and turn downright chaotic.

On Saturday afternoon, Laurier's football team continued their undefeated season with a victory over the prolific McMaster Marauders to claim the title of Ontario champion. And when a Hawks defender knocked down an Adam Archibald pass on the last play of the game, Laurier students stayed true to their reputation.

Security guards were kindly asked to move to the side, as my fellow students, drunk and jovial, jumped the bleachers to rush the field. Some pointed a single finger in the air; others hugged the nearest pulse; most just cheered incoherently as the stadium turf was converted into a collage of purple, gold and bliss. It was emotional pandemonium, or more appropriately, a shit show.

These were fans whose own connection with the team was minimal at best; students who wouldn't recognize Ryan Pyear if he tossed a pigskin in their pea soup. But Pyear, along with his fellow Hawks, held the destiny of an entire school, and somehow

offered perspective on a rather symbolic November afternoon.

I watched as a crowd, eight-thousand strong, celebrated much more than the success of 60 or so athletes who tallied 12 more points than their opponents. This was a University's collective jubilation. It was a beautiful thing.

This was a university's collective jubilation. It was a beautiful thing.

So maybe it was the setting sun clouding my vision or my suddenly-present school spirit distorting my brain but when the Yates Cup was handed to the Hawks' captains I saw an entire school collectively raise the hardware. We cheered as we would for anyone representing our school on national television who spent a half decade inhabiting a collection of buildings contained by University, Albert, Bricker and King (except the pop group VIP who actually went to Laurier and sucked pretty bad).

Football may have been the reason why nearly half the school flocked to University Stadium, but it was a celebration of our institution that took place. It was

an occasion that had very little to do with the game itself, and more about the often mentioned Laurier community as living proof, for the first time I can remember.

We might never have a class with defensive back Ian Logan, or discuss the joys of an older woman with wide receiver Andy Baechler but a bond exists. Buried beneath the differences (and there are many) exists a common ground that every Laurier student walks on (or around). It just took a big win for me to realize it.

I may never understand how a Frosh leader finds so much passion motivating first year students, and by the same token, some people may never understand my argument as anything except "sappy, sports bullshit." But I guarantee each of us will one day meet a co-worker who called this university home and establish an immediate connection with them.

We'll bring up the convent of Conrad, the Science Building's roof, how Wilf's is slow, Phil's is dirty, and the seventh floor of the library is a great place for lovin'. After all of that, some of us will mention the 2004 Yates as a symbol of old WLU.

SEND LETTERS TO THE CORD!

cord@wluwp.com



Anti-climactic RealTV

Chris Clemens



Last-Year's Entertainment



We watched, fascinated, as the old man leaned unsteadily against a post. A sliding glass door and a curtain were all that stood between him and a gaggle of teenaged frosh girls. Behind the dilapidated bum, a hand quickly appeared to lock the door before vanishing post-haste.

"He's drunk as fuck," I said, as we watched him stumble around the building to peer through the side door. Perhaps he had been celebrating Laurier's Yates Cup win with a little too much gusto. "Do you think we should call someone?"

But by then he had wandered off out of sight. Just as we had lost interest, our bum swung open the side door, which we could now see was made of solid wood, and staggered out. Meegan's concern: "How was he looking through that door earlier if there's no window?" We didn't know. Somehow this odd fellow had weaseled his way inside and was probably in the process of escaping with a large number of women's panties.

The old perv walked briskly down to the sidewalk and instantly became a university student. Technically he had been a university student all along, but his stumbling-elderly bit was extremely convincing. Unphased by insignificant details, our mystery continued to unfold. Creepy-morphing-student-guy took fifteen steps, pulled a sharp U-turn at the neighbors and bee-lined

back through the same door.

"Holy shit." We waited bemusedly for the next development in what had become our own engaging soap opera. Would he be thrown out of the bay window? Would he emerge onto the second floor balcony, covered in blood, before cryptically vanishing back inside? Were the frosh girls giving him a charity makeover?

We wanted to know. I was wrapped into this storyline, suddenly intrigued by its proceedings. It had grabbed me, much in the same way that certain images make you pause while flipping through TV channels. I was hungry for a concluding chapter to the mythical adventures of Ridiculously Drunken Elderly Peeper.

I waited and waited, refusing to believe that life would tantalize us without offering a suitably dramatic ending.

I waited and waited, refusing to believe that life would tantalize us without offering a suitably dramatic ending. However, life was being a bastard that day and our protagonist failed to emerge for his final number. It hardly seemed fair.

Later, I wondered about my disappointment. Realistically, I

couldn't expect things to go exactly as I wanted. I had no right to expect a coherent story to appear out of five minutes of complete randomness. So why did I feel that life had messed up the plot?

Simply put: pop culture. Hollywood films and mainstream television are starting to crack our consciousness. For decades we have fed on sitcoms and pulp flicks that wrap up neatly after an hour of inconsequential entertainment. Everything we see appears with a shined-up, tidy resolution before the credits roll. Rollicking explosions and touching family moments are our cues, and when these packaged finales don't appear in everyday life it feels wrong somehow.

Add to this our incredible urges for control. Personal computing and other luxury technologies have supered up our abilities. We have a limitless range of information at our fingertips through the Internet, and we can steal music, trade images, and publish our opinions (even if most of them are garbage). Because of these tech-nerd breakthroughs, we exercise fistfuls of power - we select everything.

Caught between formulaic pop culture and a powered-up sense of autonomy, is it any wonder that I wanted to take the reins and rewrite life? I wonder if God is hiring.

Sexcapades and the annoying taboos

Talking openly about sex opens up a whole spectrum of desires

Marcos Moldes



My So-Called Queer Life

It amazes me at how nervous people get around the topic of sex. When it comes up in conversation everyone seems to tense up and look at the floor rather than into each others eyes. Nervous laughter fills the room as everyone regrettably remembers their own sexcapades. It seems that people are just as embarrassed about having sex as they are when they fart in public.

Sex is probably the single biggest experience that we all have in common, with the exception of priests, computer science students and nuns. We're either having it, wanting it, wanting to get more of it, or, if you're really lucky, chafing from the amount you're getting. Sex can be complicated, frustrating and for some, intensely satisfying.

Rather than trying to turn sex into this perfect and sterilized activity, people should just get really comfortable and enjoy the experience. Why would someone just stick with clean, polite sex when you could get down and really enjoy it? Why stick with smooth peanut butter when crunchy peanut butter is just screaming to be sampled?

Everyone has sex. OK not everyone is doing the physical act of intercourse, but in my opinion fucking is just one of the options that fall under the canopy of sex. We all have different preferences when it comes to "doing the

nasty": top, bottom, left, right, and some that require an advanced yoga class (the posture of downward facing dog, I've come to nickname the 'grateful boyfriend.') I've met gay couples who don't engage in anal sex, straight couples who engage in S&M, a lesbian couple who is only happy when a strap on is in play.

In short, I've met all sorts of couples and people who have completely different ideas about sex and sexual expression: nobody is the same and everyone has different tastes. It's kind of like your morning coffee, some like it black, some are regular and others are double, double.

Sex means a lot of things to different people, for some it's the act of lovemaking, a physical expression of love between two partners. For others its just fucking, an embodiment of lust, a passing moment between two individuals that is fleeting. Is one better than the other? That depends on your views and values regarding sexuality and sexual expression; for some the idea of casual sex is repugnant and for others, it's a part of life. For some sex isn't even an option before marriage, others blur the line between sex as intercourse and other manifestations of sexual expression.

But unless we are willing to talk about sex, until we are honest and open about our sexuality and sexual needs it will remain dirty and unmentionable. So open up, admit that fetish or sexual fantasy, don't be scared of your sexual self. Sex is what you make of it, the rest is just lube.

Letters to the Editor

cord@wlusp.com



Dick-tator of Ezra

Moving away from home is always exciting and scary. Of course, in first year university most students live in residence where they feel independent, but never really learn how to run their own households. Then December hits and it's a rush to get the best house with the biggest rooms that's as close as possible to campus so that one can make it to part of their 11:00 am class when they wake up at 11:30 am

I got a "great" house on Ezra Ave (just a block away from campus). It costs \$450.00 per month plus utilities. I thought this wasn't such a bad price considering it's so close and looks so nice. What a crock!

A few weeks after moving into my sensational house, I realized something... appearances can be deceiving. There was an inch wide gap above our back door (probably due to the whole house being on a slant) and you could see the great outdoors around the front door. The door bell fell off in multiple pieces the first time someone tried to use it. Our back door wouldn't lock and when my roommate charred one of her cooking creations, we discovered that our smoke detectors don't work. I felt so safe! However, the worst problem of all was our landlord, who seemed to be more of a ghost than a helpful renter.

The owner of Studenthouses.ca makes a lot of money off of the 18 houses (with multiple units) and apartment building he owns just on Ezra Ave. Yes, the man owns Ezra Ave and runs a pretty tight business. He ropes in young, naive students,

like me, and appears to be a caring and helpful landlord. Then, when these ignorant students move in, he takes off... never to be seen again, except when rent checks bounce at the beginning of the month. Repeated phone calls and emails to get a hold of him do not work either because Mr. Studenthouses.ca doesn't get back to you or he's too inept to understand what you are clearly asking of him. Is it not logical to expect prompt repair service when the smoke detectors are not functioning?

So, here's my advice to all of you first years hoping to step out into the real world:

- 1) Start early and take your time looking for your "great" place.
- 2) It's better to live a little farther away from school if you get a good price and good service.
- 3) Check the place thoroughly for cracks, holes, damages. That means check windows, doors, floors, appliances, etc.
- 4) Talk to people who have lived there before about the landlord and what the place is like.
- 5) Most of all... Stay away from the Dick-tator of Ezra!

Jamie Hilsinger

Nasty Nudies

I am writing this letter to express my disgust over the advertisement that has plagued the back cover of the Cord for at least two weeks now. I am referring to the full-page picture of two naked female porn stars staring seductively at the reader promoting the "Exotic Entertainment Awards."

I am disgusted because I assumed

that The Cord was a newspaper that represented the entire student body and sought some level of professionalism. This full-page degradation of women instantly excludes approximately half of the student population with its message (taking into account the ratio of guys to girls at WLU, and including those women who are not heterosexual). Thus it turns the all-important back page spread into something that does not represent the Laurier student body as a whole and makes many feel uncomfortable, both men and women. This large, full colour advertisement is the largest available in "our" school's newspaper, and once again reinforces the stereotype of women being no more than sex objects for men's pleasure.

I thought that a school newspaper would think twice before placing an ad at a university that encourages the pursuit of knowledge and has campus clubs that promote feminism and equality for all people.

Perhaps it was put in because the event paid a pretty penny. Maybe it was put in for shock value, to be on the leading edge, to be avant-garde. Definitely The Cord editors should stop and consider before printing an ad that makes some girls feel pressured to conform to its depiction of women and makes many girls feel not good enough. I believe that we first have a responsibility to the welfare of our students, and a far second to the profitability of specific advertisers. Why don't we all try to act like adults and maintain some professionalism in our student publications as opposed to appearing like a bunch of hormonally raged perverts?

Joanna La Fleur

Too much Duff Beer

"One fined Samaritan," in which Colin Duffett whines about an \$18 ticket he was issued for "NOT drinking and driving," among other things, was laughable. Violating a well-known and highly visible by-law by parking overnight outside of Phil's is clearly not the "responsible thing to do."

Taking a cab home after a night of drinking or simply refraining from drinking for one night in order to provide a safe ride home for himself and his friends are two responsible options Duffett might have exercised instead.

As for Duffett having to remove a reclining chair and a pylon from his yard as per City by-law, it is more than likely that his neighbours prefer to maintain the value of their homes and the appearance of the neighbourhood by not allowing students like Duffett to accumulate junk outside. Perhaps Duffett's \$18 will go toward recovering the costs of the road and construction equipment, presumably stolen from the City, that sits in his living room.

Erin Black

Respect Your Students, One Card!

I am writing in response to the article which was published in last week's Cord entitled "Mr. Sub, Union Market hungry for dues unpaid," as it answered all my speculations of the

week. It all started on a usual Monday with an 8:30am Geography class, followed by a trip to the dining hall for a quick breakfast. Upon swiping my OneCard for my meal I realized that my balance seemed unusually low, which begged me to ask myself where all that money had gone.

After a trip to the OneCard website, I realized that fifty dollars was taken from my prime account and placed in my alternative, which was then taken off my card to the terminal of the OneCard Office. Still questioning why it was done, I began to ask my fellow students if it had happened to them, but it was not until I read Fraser King's article that I understood the reasoning behind this missing money.

Upon reading the article I realized that the money had been taken off my card to pay for purchases that I had made eight months ago. Not only did I find it absurd that they were going to start collecting this money now but questioned why it had taken them so long to figure out. Personally, I felt lucky that I had money left from first year on my OneCard which could pay for these past purchases, but at the same time felt badly for those who are in Tomljenovic's list of "ones we can't charge" who might be charged at a later date.

The problem I see in this collection method is that all the people who made purchases made them thinking they were actually paying for their products, but now due to the OneCard's mistakes, students are going to have to reach further into their already small bank accounts to

- Please see Letters, page 8

Letters, from page 7

pay for the OneCard's lost transactions.

It is not that I had a problem paying these dues that I actually owed, it is the fact that the OneCard office had not only failed to email me to inform me or apologize for the confusion, but had also neglected to post this information on the Laurier Website.

Mike Carr

Editor's Note: The Cord reported that the Mr. Sub/Union Market billing problems were due to a failure of WLUSU software and not that of the OneCard office at all.

Peace and love isn't always the answer, Krista

I am writing in response to Krista Shackleford's article, "To remember is to work for peace and non-violence." I always enjoy Ms Shackleford's opinion pieces and I respect her right to pacifism and admire her idealism for doing so. However, I disagree with her assertion that active non-violence has any real power as a means of conflict resolution.

Active non-violence was pursued and exhausted against Hitler. It was called appeasement, one of the greatest foreign policy blunders of modern history. In actively trying to prevent war by encouraging mutual understanding, the pacifists inadvertently empowered Hitler to steamroll over Europe.

From the French Revolution in 1789 to the end of WWII in 1945, historians estimate there was only 13 years of peace in which there were no bilateral wars. Thus, the last 50 years of Western European history have been exceptional. Why?

To be frank, it's because the Allies not just defeated Germany, but annihilated it, finally stabilizing the European balance of power. Similarly, in Japan, the dropping of the atomic bomb created an atmosphere of peace and prosperity not seen in hundreds of years.

It's paradoxical that only total destruction and the worst of atrocities of war can prevent it in the future but it's tough to refute.

The reason history focuses so much on war is because we're always at war. Sadly, war is the norm, and peace the aberration. Instead of trying to understand why war breaks out, it is perhaps more pertinent to ask why peace breaks out, as it is the rarer condition. This is why, as Ms. Shackleford wrote, peace is such incredibly hard work.

Yes, violence can be cyclical but violence can also combat violence to a peaceful end. It is Ms Shackleford's right to be a pacifist but thanks to pragmatists, we still have the right to disagree with each other.

Ali Zamani

Put more Remembrance Day coverage in *The Cord*

I was underwhelmed by *The Cord's* response to November 11. There was a definite lack of coverage, most of which did not give balance to the issues surrounding the two World Wars or the international conflicts that followed.

This summer, I attended the 60th anniversary of D-Day in Ottawa. There were massed veterans, and perhaps it was a good time to celebrate.

The ranks of the survivors of World War II will be decimated naturally by age within a few years. As they paraded past the crowd, one man (adorned with several medals) broke from their stiff march to turn, wave, and smile at us. We, the onlookers cheered loudly at his display. As a Spitfire flanked by two CF-18's flew over our heads, and we were awed by the painstaking effort and energy that was put into commemorating all of the war veterans.

Remembrance Day is not an over-used cliché. A traditional piece dwelling on the massive casualties and high price of the war would not have been out of place. Neither would any other sort of "thank you" addressed towards those involved in the various wars.

On a side note, I have serious issues with Krista Shackleford's assumption that non-violence or pacifism could have potentially worked to liberate Europe in her article, "To Remember is to Work For Peace and Non-Violence". Some people are reasonable and open to negotiation and/or diplomacy. With others, "violence and only violence" will succeed in dislodging them from power. Neville Chamberlain tried to work with Hitler, and his efforts are a solid reminder of what happens when we make concessions to evil.

Brian J. D'Souza

At least show a minute of respect!

I would just like to say that I appreciated all the attention *The Cord* gave to Remembrance Day last week. However, I was horrified when, in one my Master of Social Work classes last week, we neglected to acknowledge the minute of silence. Actually, to correct myself, we acknowledged the minute of silence but the class chose not to do it! Our professor opened class by stating that there had been some dialogue by some students in the Faculty that Remembrance Day was nothing but a glorification of war. The professor gave us the option of whether or not we wanted to take the minute of silence at 11:11am, but besides myself, no one in the class expressed interest.

I'm saddened to think that Remembrance Day has been over-analyzed to the point that we neglect to recognize, respect and appreciate the sacrifices made by soldiers for the freedoms we enjoy and take for granted. Remembrance Day has special meanings for me personally as my grandfather hid Jews from the Gestapo in the Netherlands during the Second World War. I would hate to think that his efforts go unappreciated today. I guess I hope that the people in my class, who did not join in my defence of the acknowledgement of the minute of silence, were just lazy and didn't feel like speaking up and that they don't actually these freedoms for granted.

Erin Klein-Horsman

Letters:

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 12pm Tuesday on disk, or via e-mail at cord@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.

For in that sleep of death...

Trivializing death with 'solemn' MSN names and very distanced, numbed interests masks the issue

Dana Krook



Kick the bucket. Meet your maker. Bite the dust. Pass away. All fancy expressions that say the same thing: death. We can make up phrases all we want to avoid saying "it," but we can't avoid its reality. Or can we? Perhaps the more obvious question of why we don't like to think about dying and death (it's scary as hell—no pun intended) should be replaced with a pondering of how we manage to avoid thinking about it.

Looking around, death is mentioned at every corner. You've got the news, with their daily death tolls in fires, floods and car crashes. There's always a good flick full of gory deaths and dismemberments playing at the movie theatre and there's never any shortage of television ads for wills, life insurance and charities that need your money to prevent another death at the hands of cancer. With so much focus on the topic, how do we manage to convince our brains not to think about it?

Just recently I learned that an acquaintance from high school committed suicide. Although everyone I talked to seemed to agree he was a victim of tragedy, before too long he became, more powerfully, a victim of gossip. But I suppose that is to be expect-

ed, as it's more or less our prime source of community news.

However, a more perturbing revelation came from the scattering of MSN names adding an "R.I.P.-we'll miss you" phrase to their nick, when the day before it contained something to the effect of "man, I got so shit-faced last night... LOL." A person's suicide and that oh-so hilarious night of intoxication placed on the same level did much to trivialize the person's death by making it seem like just another meaningless topic of MSN conversation.

I'm sure their MSN names were only their way of avoiding any internalization of the situation, tucking it in the closet and deadbolting it shut.

I'm sure no harm was meant and that it was only their way of avoiding seriously internalizing the situation. They tucked it neatly into the closet, quietly shut the door and dead bolted it. By passing the news subtly on to their friends, they did their part to encourage others to reach out (to their keyboards) and to personally express their love and sympathy

(via the internet) to those grieving the loss. Choosing the original and meaningful phrase "Rest In Peace" that carries with it so many heartwarming connotations, they made others feel almost guilty for not participating in such a public display of 'genuine' concern. Almost.

By downplaying the nearness of death, we can make it too simple and too insignificant to have any role in our lives or even in our trains of thought — until the bomb hits a target too close to ignore or it's a loved one that's lost. But by that time we have probably already shielded ourselves from death too strongly to actually be capable of dealing with its baggage.

The cliché "R.I.P." was a clear indication that the gesture was all an act. But this is how we're able to steer clear of actually thinking about it. We distance ourselves completely to avoid the frightening notion that death is also a part of life. A part we have an obligation to consider.

A serious matter calls for serious deliberation and I think we owe it to ourselves (and to our dearly departed) to realize that, while some people may die for glory, for fame or for a good cause, nobody ever dies hoping for a place in the MSN hall of fame.

Campus Pictorial

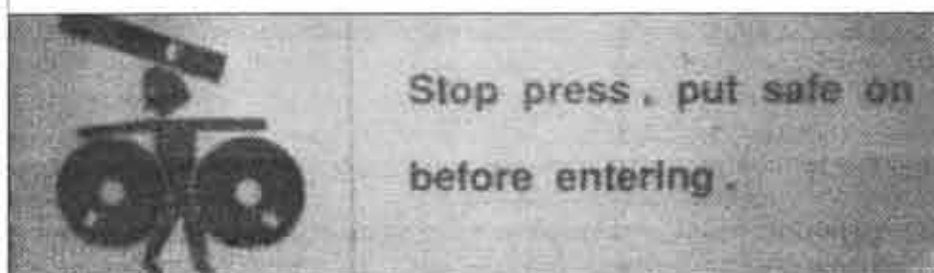


Bryn Boyce

Sell, Sell, Sell: The Yates Cup has only been in the Hawks' talons a mere five days and already it has been co-opted for a greater purpose than pride: marketing. No Hall of Fame pedestal, no trophy case in the Hawks Lounge just a straight up marketing ploy. Are the successes of the Golden Hawks meant to improve school spirit or spurious LaurierWear?

Cord Opinion Is Looking For:

- Cartoonists
- Guest Columnists



email brynboyce@yahoo.ca

Celebration before loss

Caitlin Howlett



Editor-in-Chief

We will all lose loved ones in our lives. But what if you lost everyone... at the same time.

Marc Woerlen was that man. In one fatal blaze, he lost his wife, his seven children and his unborn child.

A row of eight white coffins lay before him this past weekend at the mass funeral, all different sizes – the smallest belonging to his 19-month old daughter Debora Lynn, and the largest to his beloved wife, Monika.

His faith is what reports say is keeping him from simply perishing himself. Marc's mother, said according to *The Toronto Star*, "He has really been broken, but he believes in God. His faith is his rock."

That's a big rock, but I don't know much about faith or God. I've never really been to church, I've never read the bible, let alone a small passage. But I wonder if I should, if not for me, for

Woerlen tragedy reminds us to appreciate life before it's gone

Marc Woerlen. If something so catastrophic can be calmed by a devout faith and loyalty to a belief system, maybe this is something more deserved of attention.

We always celebrate life too late... when it's gone. Don't wait until you are forced to remember without someone.

It seems unfair that a family who loved being a family would suddenly be taken from all but one. And while we know they didn't suffer too much since the eight members died primarily of smoke inhalation, how long will Marc suffer knowing he can no longer hold his wife, or play with his children. Yet he remains confident that faith will envelop him and carry him wherever he must go.

Reveling in the memories, Marc said at the funeral, "We see as never before how short this time is and how precious our time is together."

An event like this usually makes people stop and think – and reiterate Marc's very sentiments – that life is precious and we take so much for granted. Marc will remember every single day, but as time passes, most will only remember like we remembered last week, once a year, on a marked anniversary.

We always celebrate life too late... when it's gone. Celebrate now, your friends, your family, your religion, your faith. And right now, remember Marc. Remember Marc and his seven children, remember Marc and his wife with their unborn child. Remember what Marc lost and think what you have not yet lost. Don't wait until you are forced to remember without someone.

An end to bandaid solutions

Bryn Boyce



Opinion Editor

Reviews, reviews, reviews. Everyone loves to review, categorize, label and compare. Then, after they're done. Do it again. And again. And finally! They come out with a set of recommendations... or sometimes not.

Every report, every ranking system and ever student group pundit likes to advocate big changes passing them off as logical simplifications but it's never cut and dry and worse, few recommendations ever get implemented seriously.

Many believe that since students directly benefit from their education, they should bear some of the cost but others point out that an educated work force 'raises all boats' and tuition should be covered by the public benefactors.

"Our biggest problem is this, our biggest problem is that." The whole debate is a real mess and wading through it has become treacherous for newcomers (and even the vets).

The problem that most young Canadians face right now when looking at the University system is a complete lack of accessible and authoritative ranking or inquiry into the Post-Secondary Education (PSE) system.

After all, who'd think to thumb through the national archives for a document that lays out what's missing in the system using a very technical array of terms? The reports are generally considered to be a superb alternative to prescription sedatives anyway...

So, who do these people turn

to? *The Globe And Mail* and *Maclean's* Rankings. Easy to read and focussed on the 'issues' that people want to read. Class sizes, school spirit, tuition.

The problem is that these rankings really do very little to point out the underlying problems in the education system and often play into the hands of university public relation junkies. Great! The class sizes are lower at Laurier... but are they going to still be low in four years? Good! The school leads the way in research grants, but does that mean the profs can teach?

Too often the universities react to the rankings in one of two ways, either they boast their great results or they attack the methodology and validity of the rankings – whichever better serves their needs.

Education is "on the edge of choice between steady decline and great improvement."

- Bob Rae,
WLU Chancellor

What's really needed now is an easy-to-read, impartial look at the Ontario PSE system which our own Chancellor and former Ontario Premier Bob Rae has described as being "on the edge of the choice between steady decline and great improvement." On top of this, we need a genuine commitment to change on the part of the Liberals.

Rae, the architect of the famed Rae Days, is making a concerted effort, as Advisor to the Premier and the Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities, to engage a broad range of stakeholders – students,

faculty, community groups and industry – and get a clear sense of the situation.

The problems and criticisms so far seem to be from student groups that have identified a possible bias in Rae's attitude, especially toward tuition. Groups like the Canadian Federation of Students suspect that Rae will recommend that tuition levels is a lesser issue because, comparatively, they are lower than many schools in the UK and especially America.

It's critical that Rae presents recommendations to Dalton McGuinty that not only address what is needed now but also what must be done in the future. PSE is an outrageously complex issue and the Rae Review focuses on so many 'big' issues in education that the worry becomes: "Is this review too broad to actually be effective at all?"

The report raises issues of funding philosophies and how they interact with accessibility and quality. It looks into the structural design of universities and colleges and how they interact (or don't) and attempts to decide how integrated the two should become. Hardly what you'd call cut and dry stuff.

This coming January, our very own Chancellor will be making his final recommendations to the Ontario legislature on the future of post-secondary education in Ontario. His ambitious report, another in a long line of reports, has been lauded as the be all and end all of reports and will set the course of PSE for years to come. Because the last thing that this province needs is a half-hearted set of recommendations and reforms that amount to being just another bandaid solution.

From civil rights to 'civil whites'

Wilbur McLean



Max Results, Minimum Effort

He really was quite a nice guy. It's difficult to believe a middle-aged white man referring to me as a "young Negro fellow" could actually make my day.

He sure was happy that day at my part-time job at The Home Depot. After calling around to about a half-dozen other Home Depots I was able to find him that one box of hardwood floor he needed to finish his living room. He had come in on his lunch from work and returned after work, harried.

"Oh, man, I'm so glad I found you. Thank you so much for getting me that flooring. I came back in to talk to you and couldn't remember your name, all I could remember was you were a young Negro fellow and I was asking all the other employees 'where's that young Negro fellow?'"

Black people no longer need to get offended. The 'Civil Whites' do it for us.

The excitement and genuineness with which he said it made it seem like he hadn't even said it at all. But once he'd repeated himself, it was clear he'd just called me a Negro.

Once he left, I laughed. And laughed and laughed.

Turns out I was the only one.

When told of the incident, my white girlfriend stopped dead in her tracks, apologizing profusely on behalf of her race.

A friend exclaimed "Oh my God!" before asking if I was

alright with what happened, implying that I may be upset.

Other reactions ranged from shock to disgust.

White people everywhere were in disarray over one man's comment and all I could do was laugh.

When thinking about it, his comment was harmless. He intended no racism. He merely holds an outdated term of reference for black people. His intentions in referring to me as such weren't hateful or discriminatory and, thus, he deserves no sort of negative backlash because of the comment.

Yet every white person I've told reacted sharply.

Apparently the after-school specials of the past twenty-five years have been successful in stopping racism, only problem being that white people now have a knee-jerk reaction to the slightest maybe-just-possibly tidbit of racism.

Black people no longer need to get offended. White people do it for us.

Civil Rights have evolved into Civil Whites.

While such a world is infinitely preferable to the one where white people incited racism, the irony of the current situation amongst today's young adults is humorous from the perspective of a liberal-minded young black man.

Did you hear about the group of white people who administered a beating to the black guy who referred to his friend as his "nigga," in protest of the defamatory phrase being used maliciously towards a black person? I haven't either, but the Civil Whites movement may soon demand it.

And me? I'll be the young negro fellow helping a white guy find his floor.

PostsecondaryReview

Higher Expectations for Higher Education

We want to hear from you

Former Ontario Premier, the Honourable Bob Rae is leading a review of the design and funding of the province's postsecondary education system.

Please attend the Review's upcoming Town Hall meetings:

November 24 – Guelph
7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
Rozanski Hall, Room 104
University of Guelph Campus
50 Stone Road East

November 25 – Kitchener-Waterloo
7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Recreation Centre, Gymnasium
Conestoga College, Doon Campus
299 Doon Valley Drive

For more information or to register, visit the Review's website at www.raereview.on.ca or call toll-free at 1-866-392-1261.

The Review's discussion paper is available at www.raereview.on.ca. Comments on the discussion paper can be submitted through the website, by fax at 416-323-6895 or by mail to 2 Bloor Street W., Suite 700, Toronto, Ontario M4W 3R1.



WILFRID LAURIER UNIVERSITY AMBIGUOUS TEACHING EVALUATION!

Mark Reflex® by NCS MM85623-2 854 ED06

- USE HB PENCIL ONLY. (NO QUILLS)
- DO NOT USE INK OR BALLPOINT PEN.
- FILL IN THE CIRCLES COMPLETELY.
- MAKE NO STRAY MARKS ON THIS FORM. ESPECIALLY NOT COMMENTS.



CORRECT MARK



INCORRECT MARKS



INSTRUCTOR'S NAME

Dr. Right

DEPARTMENT

Business

COURSE NUMBER/SECTION

BU312

YEAR

2004

TERM

Fall

This questionnaire is intended to measure your views about the quality/effectiveness of teaching in this course. The spurious results of this survey will not be taken seriously or used toward improving the actual quality of teaching since these nine questions cannot really probe the issue. If you run out of toilet paper, consider this evaluation a gift from WLUFU to you.

Mark 0 (INAPPLICABLE) only if this statement does not apply to the course

0. INAPPLICABLE

1. STRONGLY DISAGREE

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7. STRONGLY AGREE

- | | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. This course contributed to my learning and didn't make me stupider | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| 2. The content of this course is consistent with the course outline and calender description. (that is, the class is indeed the class you thought it was when you registered... great teaching indicator...) | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| 3. The instructor is well-prepared for each class meeting. Often takes little more than reading poorly constructed PowerPoint slides verbatim! | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| 4. The instructor gives clear explanations (clear like this question...) | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| 5. The instructor stimulates my interest in the subject matter of the course. HEY! Finally a reasonable question to ask! | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| 6. The instructor assists students in dealing with the subject matter of the course. (Even in a class of 250 students?) | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| 7. The instructor speaks clearly and audibly. That is, the instructor can in fact earn their \$100,000 and communicate with students | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| 8. The instructor gives a clear idea of requirements in this course. This question is basically #4 again, but hey, clarity is clearly a clear indicator of quality teaching. Maybe even the clearest... | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| 9. The instructor displays/feigns an interest in and concern for students. | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |

- Overall, the instructor is an ~~effective~~ university teacher. 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 0

NOTE: This last question will only be used by the University for assessing student responses within the institution as a whole, and will not be part of the record of the teaching evaluation of an individual Faculty Member. This affords those professors that have neither the skill nor interest in teaching, a shield against genuine accountability to the student body. It's even in scan-tron form to avoid any real student comments.

Graphic Alteration By Bryn Boyce

Teaching Evaluation: Are They Useful or Just A Coarser Type Of One-Ply Toilet Paper?



HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT YOUR CAMPUS PUB?

- Was it worth the \$550,000 to renovate?
- What do you think of the entertainment?
- If you don't ever go, what keeps you away?
- What does it need to improve on?

email cord@wlusp.com with your praise, complaints and recommendations!

Report reveals South Korea lied about nukes

An IAEA report has revealed that South Korea secretly enriched uranium and plutonium

TYLER WILLIAMS
Staff Writer

An International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) report has indicated that the South Korean nuclear program was much larger and more advanced than reported, and that South Korean nuclear materials could very nearly be used in the production of nuclear weapons.

This report was met with assurances by South Korea that the country has no plans to fully develop a nuclear weapons program. However, the IAEA issued a skeptical response to the South Korean assurances. Director General of the IAEA, Mohamed Elbaradei, reportedly said that the agency regards these new developments as a matter of grave concern.

The IAEA report comes at an inopportune time for South Korea and their principal ally, the United States, as they attempt to use diplomatic pressure to end the North Korean nuclear program. Meanwhile, the North Korean government has used the

report to redirect criticism of its nuclear activities and to deflect calls for it to enter multi-national talks regarding its nuclear weapons program.

The South Korean government has admitted to conducting tests without authorization in 1982 and 2000, in an effort to extract plutonium and uranium. Both materials are vital in the creation of atomic weaponry. However, the government has downplayed the importance of these tests, emphasizing that the tests were conducted on too small of a scale to be significant.

South Korean credibility has been destroyed and it can no longer push North Korea to dismantle its nuclear program.

Yet experts contend that the concealment of these tests represents a serious violation of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation



Contributed Photo

Mohamed Elbaradei expressed concern over the report that discovered South Korea had had a secret enrichment program.

Treaty, and they believe that the deception could be severe enough to warrant referral to the UN

Security Council.

The recently released IAEA report states, "Although the

quantities of nuclear material involved have not been significant, the nature of the activities - uranium enrichment and plutonium separation - and the failures by [South Korea] to report these activities in a timely manner... is a matter of serious concern." The report adds that "the agency is continuing the process of verifying the correctness and completeness of [Seoul's] declarations."

The report further states that the South Korean nuclear scientists were able to enrich a small amount of uranium to 77 percent Uranium-235, which is very close to the quantity required for a nuclear weapon. The IAEA has acknowledged that, despite the troubling nature of these tests, the South Korean government has been very cooperative with its investigative team.

South Korea sought to deflect criticism by embracing the report. Song Young-Wan, a senior South Korean foreign ministry official, told reporters that "our initial response is that all-in-all we are satisfied with an impartial and objective report." He added that "the report does not talk about violations, it talks about reporting failures."

Award winning Indonesian activist-lawyer murdered

TONY FERGUSON
Staff Writer

Dutch forensic investigators have revealed that a prominent human rights lawyer in Indonesia, who was originally thought to have died from a heart attack, was in fact poisoned after an autopsy revealed high levels of arsenic in his body.

Munir, a 38-year-old lawyer, was a leader in the Commission for 'Disappeared' Persons and Victims of Violence (Kontras), an organization that helped dismantle the dictatorship of Indonesia's former president, Suharto.

As an anti-Suharto activist, Munir had made many enemies. In previous interviews, he revealed that he had received enough death threats to make him 'lose count' of the total number received. In the final days of the Suharto regime, Munir drew international attention to a number of human rights workers who had been 'disappeared.'

His death was initially ascribed as a heart attack, which occurred on a flight to Amsterdam in September, where he planned to study for a master's degree. He became violently ill mid-flight. He died before the plane could make an emergency landing.

While the autopsy points to foulplay, Dutch investigators do not have jurisdiction over the case. They handed the file over to Indonesian police, who said that they would launch an inquiry to determine if Munir had been deliberately poisoned.

In a tearful statement, Munir's widow, Suciwati, told reporters that she plans to "go after whoever is guilty of this crime." She



Contributed Photo

Munir was a well-respected, and well-hated, human rights lawyer and activist who had been the target of attacks in the past.

added that "they must be prosecuted even if they are military generals."

Sidney Jones, the Southeast Asia head of Brussels-based International Crisis Group, says that it is not unusual for human rights workers in Indonesia to be threatened. Jones had worked with Munir for many years and she accredits the group he founded with changing the political climate in Indonesia. She remembers him as "this absolutely fearless, very funny, very determined, very committed individual who single-handedly put together what was at the time the most important human rights organization in Jakarta."

Since the collapse of the Suharto regime, Munir had sought to bring justice to perpetrators of the violence which marked the Suharto period. He led a campaign to try the forces behind the kidnapping and torture of several anti-Suharto activists in 1998, and he also spearheaded a campaign against the Indonesian military special-forces units which had targeted

rights workers.

Munir received a number of awards throughout his career. In 1998 he was named 'Man of the Year' by an Indonesian magazine, *Daily UMMAT Karachi*, and in 2000 *Asia Weekly* named him 'Young Leader for the Millennium.' He also received a 'Right Livelihood Award' in 2000, which is touted as an alternative to the Nobel Peace Prize.

Munir had survived a number of recent attacks which included the fire bombing of his house. In the recent past, his office in Jakarta had been targeted by grenade attacks.

International attention is focused on Munir's death, with a London-based Indonesian human rights group called Tapol pressuring the Indonesian government to "bring criminal charges against the suspects without delay." Human Rights Watch deputy program director Joe Saunders lamented that "Munir was in a class by himself," adding that his death is a "tremendous loss for the human rights movement."

Fallujah rocked by U.S.

Authorities have reported that 38 American soldiers have died as well as 1,200 insurgents. There are still no figures on civilians.



Contributed Photo

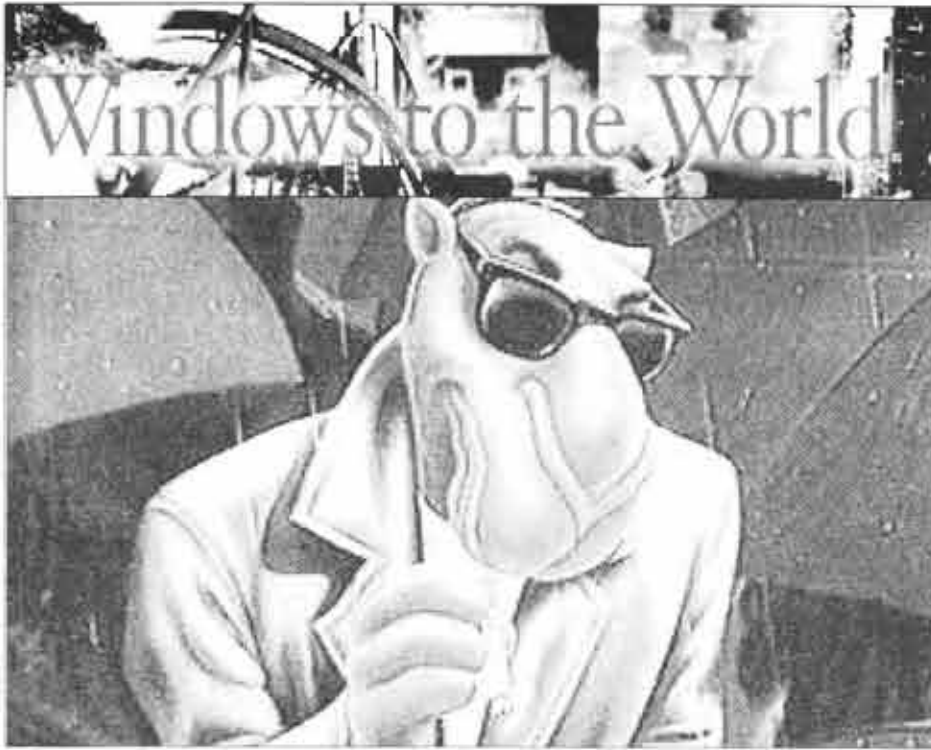
"When we go in, we go all the way through. We had the green light this time and we went all the way."

-Marine Maj. Gen. Richard Natonski.



Contributed Photo

Above: Men bury civilian casualties in Fallujah
U.S. Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld believes "there aren't going to be large numbers of civilians killed and certainly not by U.S. forces." Interim Prime Minister Iyad Allawi has insisted no civilians have been killed.



Bhutan takes a page from Laurier

The Himalayan kingdom of Bhutan, nestled between the mountains of India and China, has become the first nation in the world to enforce an outright ban on smoking.

The Mahayana Buddhist nation of 734,000 is promoting a policy of "gross national happiness." Jigme Thinley, a Bhutanese minister, issued a

statement on behalf of the government defending the ban and arguing that "we want no pollution and good health for our citizens."

Earlier in the year, the government imposed a 100 percent tax on tobacco. Foreign diplomats, tourists and NGOs are excluded from the ban.

Those caught smoking will face a \$225 (USD) fine, which, considering the average Bhutan income is \$16 a month, represents a considerable amount.



Iran halts nuclear enrichment, satisfies IAEA

In response to mounting criticism, Iran has announced that it will stop enriching uranium as of November 22, and will allow full access for UN monitoring.

The International Atomic Energy Association is satisfied by the agreement, which was negotiated by Iran and key members of the EU. In return for halting its enrichment program, the EU has vowed to help Iran develop its nuclear energy program.

However, Iran still argues

that it has the right to develop an autonomous nuclear fuel cycle, and that in the future it will resume enrichment activities. European diplomats believe another agreement can be reached before this becomes a reality.

American diplomats and the Bush administration still contend that Iran is secretly developing nuclear weapons, and that the latest agreement was an attempt to buy time before their case was to be deferred to the UN Security Council.



Saving Free Speech

While the Russian government has enacted legislation to censor violence from TV and movies, last week American broadcasters censored themselves when 66 ABC affiliate stations refused to air the film Saving Private Ryan on Remembrance Day.

The Russian bill aims to eliminate violence from TV between 7 am and 10 pm. Liberal Democratic party leader, Vladimir Zhirinovskiy contends that "We cannot make the televi-

sion sterile but we can at least keep some cruelty off the prime-time screen."

Meanwhile in the U.S., broadcasters contend that they were afraid the film would irk the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), which has been increasingly strict since the "Nipplegate" affair of last year's Superbowl. Ironically, nearly one third of the population of a nation at war were not able to witness a film which depicts the realities of war.

Looters protest Italian decline

KYLE BOULDEN
Staff Writer

In light of the soaring cost of living in Italy and government cutbacks to social programs, 200 protesters looted stores in Rome on November 6.

Calling themselves "The Disobedients," they descended on a huge supermarket and bookstore, looting items and handing them out to a crowd assembled outside. The "Proletariat Shoppers" carried banners that read "Everything Costs Too Much" and entered the store wearing balaclavas, bandanas and carnival masks, shouting out "free shopping for all."

The protesters originally attempted to negotiate a 70 percent discount, but were rebuffed by the manager. They proceeded to fill their carts with food, drinks and household goods and forced their way out of the store to distribute the goods to passersbys among the crowd assembled outside.

Later in the day the group per-

formed a similar stunt at a bookstore in downtown Rome where they handed out books to students gathered outside the store.

Police declined to intervene in the incidents, but claim to have identified 87 members of "The Disobedients" involved. Included among the group were several prominent activists as well as a Rome city councillor, Nunzio D'Erme. If convicted of the crime of "looting," those guilty could face up to ten years in prison. However, the Italian Interior Ministry stated soon after that the activists would be prosecuted as "ordinary thieves," which would hold a maximum sentence of three years in prison.

The incident was timed to coincide with a major rally that day, staged by over 10,000 workers complaining of rising costs of living, job insecurity, cuts in government social programs and overspending on the war in Iraq.

The Italian government is under increasing pressure to deal with rising poverty levels, especially among the elderly and the

young. The cost of living in Italy has risen rapidly since the Euro replaced the Lira as currency in 2002. The economy has stagnated as wages have not kept up with rising prices, while unemployment has risen to 8.4 percent.

Carrying banners that read "Everything Costs Too Much," looters struck a grocery and book store.

A report last month by a leading Catholic charity in Italy, Caritas, warned of increasing social discontent as poverty levels increase, especially among the old and the young. The report stated that seven million young and old people, dubbed "the new poor," live below the poverty level in Italy. This accounts for 12 percent of the population of Italy, the seventh richest industrial economy in the world.

Huntington might just be right

Richard Togman



Staff Writer

Samuel Huntington may just be the prophet of the 21st century. His groundbreaking work "Clash of Civilizations" which has risen from an obscure academic novelty to full blown celebrity is being acted out in front of our very eyes. Huntington describes a world where cultural identity becomes paramount over ideas such as the nation-state and clashes would occur on the fault lines of civilization.

This very phenomenon has been proliferating across the globe since the end of the Cold War with Islamic forces leading the clash as they push against the confines of the places they inhabit. The process seems to have been sparked by the Afghani Wars against the Soviets in the eighties that ignited the cause of religious wars fought against the established power. The war in Afghanistan united the religious fundamentalists and gave them a focal point around which to rally and organize. Afterwards, battle hardened jihadists dispersed across the globe to fight in the name of Allah.

The next generation of clashes focused around Islam and its emergence as a power that would challenge the established order. This did not occur in an organized and planned manner yet it occurred nonetheless. War broke out in the Balkans between Islamic and Christian forces. The Palestinian Intifada pitted the Palestinian Muslims against the Israeli Jews. Chinese authorities began a crackdown of Muslims in the province of Xinjiang and began to encourage ethnic Chinese immigration to dilute their power. The war in Chechnya was sparked anew, leading to a severe crackdown on the Muslim population, followed by retaliatory bombings and the recent massacre at Beslan.

North America was directly affected through the attacks on



U.S. embassies and 9/11. In retaliation, war was launched against Afghanistan and Iraq, and terrorists responded by striking nightclubs in Indonesia and Spanish commuter trains. The most recent acts of violence occurred in Thailand where over a hundred people have been killed in clashes between the Buddhist authorities and the Muslim minority. As well, the recent murder of Dutch filmmaker Van Gogh over his criticism of Islamic treatment of women has sparked revenge bombings of mosques.

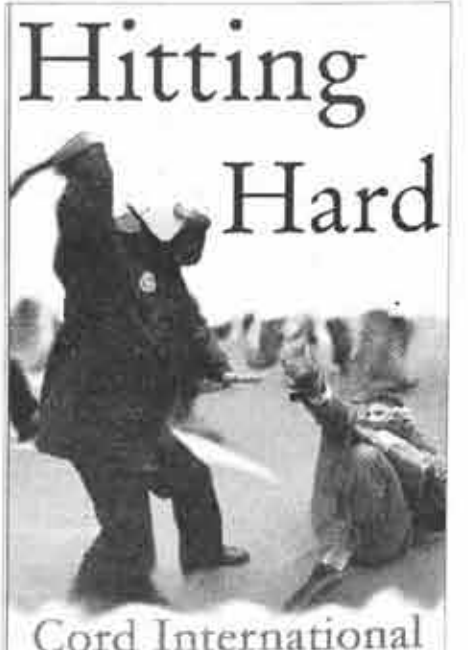
The clash of civilizations is playing out in front of us.

Europe itself is becoming a fault line as significant Muslim populations have formed sizeable minorities. Backlashes have followed which have involved the banning of the Muslim headscarf from all public offices in France and much of Germany. Ultra-nationalist and anti-immigrant parties are growing in popularity as seen by the second place finish of the National Front Party in France.

The great challenge for the next century is how to deal with the resurgence of a militant strain of religion that is bent on challenging the world order. As well, how do we define the nation-state as it is being replaced by culture as the source of personal identification? Any attempt at an ethnic/religious state identity is deemed to be racist, yet there are

inherent clashes in the ideologies and attitudes of many Muslim and Christian peoples, especially in their attitudes towards women. If Europe wishes to retain its secular, pluralist orientation, it may have to curtail the flood of immigrants who retain their allegiance to their religious and often restrictive beliefs and outlooks.

Most Muslims do not support the "Islamic" cause taken up by the jihadists, however the underlying tensions that are emerging as a worldwide phenomenon are expressing themselves in religious/cultural terms. These terms are not exclusively Muslim. The conflict was played out in the recent U.S. election as George W. Bush has risen to power on an essentially religious and Christian cultural ticket. Such groups are emerging worldwide, especially in Europe where ethnic and cultural tensions are beginning to clash, and it is this tension that must be addressed in the coming years.



Drop the rhetoric, Darfur needs real help

Yusuf Faqiri



Staff Writer

You would think that after the massacre of 50,000 people, the world would care. Sadly this has not been so. Many people in the Western world do not even know where Sudan is, let alone the region of Darfur. The lack of effort on the part of the Western world to stop the tragedy in process is disgusting and appalling.

I guess countries like the United States are too busy looking for weapons of mass destruction that do not even exist. The Darfur situation could very well turn into a tragedy like Rwanda where 800,000 people perished in the course of five weeks in 1994. Many parts of the world only decided to heed the warnings after it was too late.

So why does the world not care about Sudan? Why does it not get enough media coverage? I do not have a simple answer to this, only speculation. It boggles my mind at times that the Western states are knowingly turning a left cheek on this human disaster. One reason to explain this is that Sudan does not give Western states enough self-interest to intervene. Although this is a very cold statement, it just shows that states would not help one another if they did not have any incentive to do this.

Are some lives worth more than others? I personally do not think so, but many Western governments certainly do. Although I am not down playing the 8,000 people that died in Bosnia-Herzegovina in the early 1990s, the Western world delivered massive peacekeeping troops to stop that tragedy. But when you look

in the case of Rwanda, the world watched as hundreds upon thousands of Rwandans were led to their deaths. Last week, UN and African Union officials watched as refugees were beaten and tear-gassed by Sudanese police.

The Janjaweed militias have been used by the Sudanese government to lead the attacks, although Sudan's Air Force has also been involved in attacks against civilians. The Janjaweed are nomadic, Arab tribesmen and it is awfully interesting to note that most of the Janjaweed militia received military training in the 1980s under Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi.

Current estimates pin the death toll near at least 70,000 people killed, while 400 villages have been destroyed and more than 1.5 million people displaced. The assaults have included summary executions, the razing of entire villages and the raping and pillaging of women.

The killings have become a daily aspect of life in Darfur. The crisis in this region can certainly be classified as genocide. After all, the term genocide means the systematic execution of people. This is certainly ethnic cleansing.

The west needs to look itself and find a way in trying to unfold this issue. Throughout history numerous genocides have been committed because of ethnic differences. Have we not progressed? I mean after all this is the 21st century. The west claims to lead the modern world but our inaction calls our level of development into question. If only the rhetoric that has been espoused by Western leaders was transferred into action, the crisis could be averted. The Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin perhaps said it best; "a single death is a tragedy, a million deaths is a statistic."

- Coast, from cover

When the country gained independence, a Southerner was appointed as leader. Felix Houphouet Boigny, a close ally of the French, became the country's first president in 1960. He reigned for 33 years, until his death at age 88.

Most of the political power was concentrated in the south. Throughout the decades, the northern inhabitants, mostly Muslims, fought for a political voice as they dominated the economy.

Transportation, real estate and commerce were widely controlled by the north. But France kept a strong military base in the country, and supported the south. Over 300,000 nationals remained in the country and investments are estimated to be in the billions of dollars.

In 1995, Alassane Ouattara, a Northern native, was banned from the presidential race on a technicality because his parents were not born Ivorians. This heightened the animosity between Muslims and Christians to a degree that could not be ignored.

On December 24, 1999, armed troops stormed the presidential palace and overthrew President Henri Konan Bedie, who had succeeded Houphouet in 1993. The military government remained in power until the 2000 elections, which brought Houphouet's rival, Laurent Gbagbo, into power. Gbagbo was not a member of Houphouet's party, but was viewed by the north as another Southerner who would not support their cause.

In September 2002, a group of heavily armed troops stormed the city of Bouake in the central part of the country. Weeks into the fighting, France deployed soldiers to the affected areas and created an imaginary line, cutting the country into two. Hundreds of people died in the clashes.

The UN and other African nations had pleaded for negotiations between the government and the rebels. Accords were signed, but both sides blamed the other for not respecting the clauses.

The recent clashes between French forces and the Ivorian government occurred after the rebels decided to step down from the broad coalition government. The French, once trusted mediators between the government and the rebels, have been rebuked by the Ivorian people.

Animosity and unequal development between the North and South have perpetuated the conflict.

The people have suffered the most during the civil conflict, and they believe that French forces are exasperating the situation. The price of basic necessities, including gas and food, has risen dramatically. When tens of thousands of protesters recently

flooded the streets of Abidjan, they were telling the French to leave and stop meddling in Ivorian affairs.

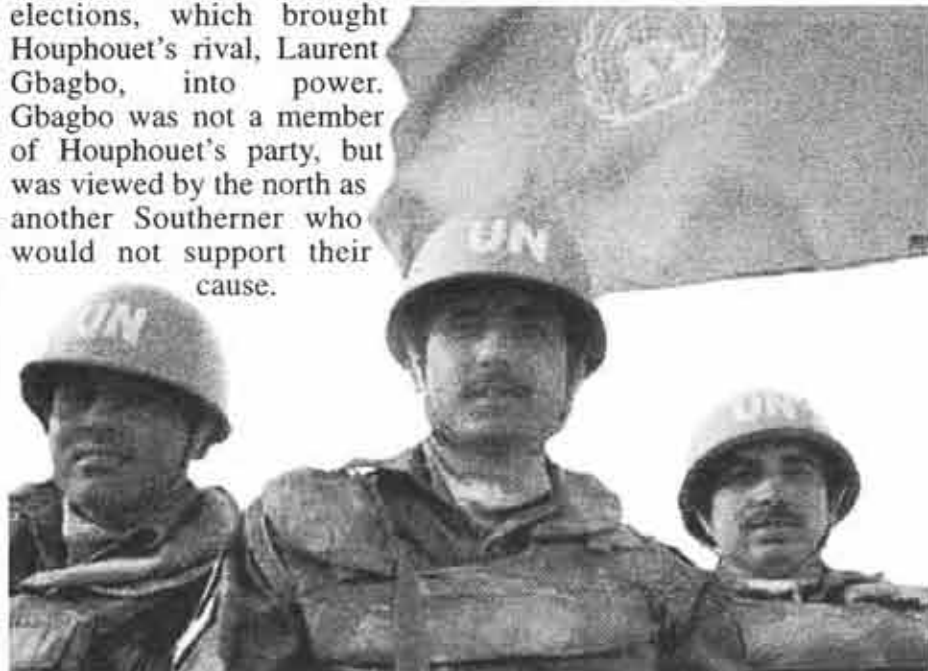
There are reports from various intelligence sources that weapons have been sent to the rebels from Muslim sources outside of the Ivory Coast. Money has also been sent from sources in North Africa and countries in the Middle East, claiming to support the Muslim cause. With weapons and money sustaining the rebels and with the French providing military, monetary and logistical assistance to the government, the Ivory Coast has the potential to turn into a long, brutal and ugly conflict.

It is critical that peacekeeping troops are deployed immediately while talks are being held. The peacekeeping forces will restrain both sides and discourage money and weapons from coming in. The talks will require UN supervision. International pressure from world powers, such as the U.S., would help by compelling both sides to cooperate.

But France must cease meddling in this conflict. The Ivory Coast became an independent nation in 1960 and should be treated as such. They should not have a foreign army patrolling its streets. The French need to withdraw and allow the Ivorians to take their country's destiny in hand.

Already crowded with refugees from Liberia, Guinea and Sierra Leone, a war in the Ivory Coast will mean millions of people will become homeless, with no hope of a future.

In the recent past, there have been numerous wars in Africa where the international community failed to respond to pleas for help. The resulting situations killed millions of civilians, created large groups of orphans and left men, women and children disfigured and traumatized. The Ivory Coast provides the international community with the opportunity to make up for its past mistakes, and help the Ivory Coast avoid violent conflict.



THE CORD WEEKLY'S GENERAL MEETING

THURSDAY, NOV. 18
2:30PM IN THE WLUSP OFFICE
(BASEMENT OF MAC HOUSE RESIDENCE)

Everyone's welcome to come and discuss your student newspaper. Angry at scantily clad girls in ads? Too much opinion? News? Sports? Tell us about it.

Popular Irish pub bought out by pasta and seafood restaurant

Last call

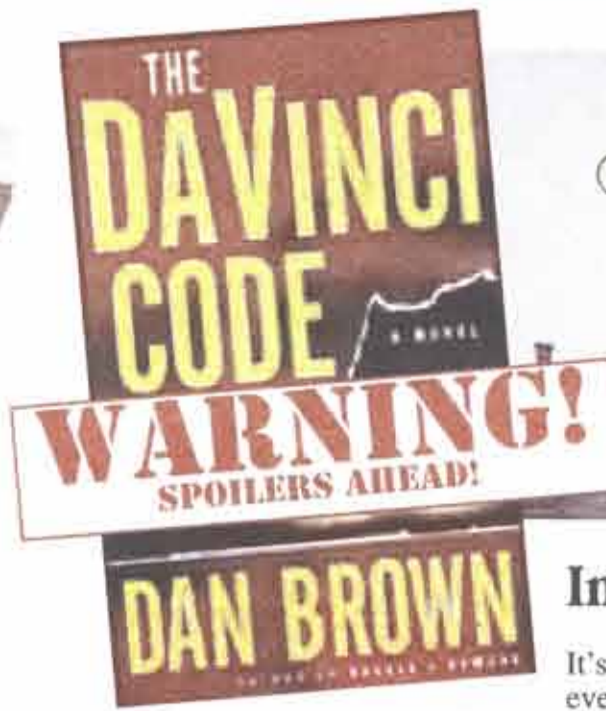
It's closing time...

Mr. Sub, Union Market hungry for dues unpaid

Sing us a song, lol!

Obsessed Completely

Cord Features explores the culture and trends of The O.C. ... Page 14



Secrets of The Da Vinci Code revealed!

By Michelle Pincher

Introduction:

It's on everyone's "to-do-list." It may be our last priority but everyone has at least one annoying friend who won't shut up about it. *The Da Vinci Code* by Dan Brown may be a work of fiction but most of the people, places and historical "facts" from this ground-breaking best-seller are indeed not fictional at all. Whether or not you've read the book, are "getting around to it" or never plan on picking it up at all, some of the facts are hard to ignore. Be warned, this feature contains "spoilers," so if you're planning to read the book soon, reading this may ruin some of the surprises for you.



Symbols in The Da Vinci Code



Pentagram and Cinquefoil

The pentagram is an ancient and historically significant symbol relevant to almost every ancient culture. Later, it was linked to black magick and devil worship. The true meaning of this symbol actually has nothing to do with "evil." It is the symbol of the sacred feminine. Only those who historically meant to destroy women and matriarchal religions associated this symbol with Satan. According to Pythagoras (the Greek mathematician), five was the number of man because of the fivefold division of the body. He said each point of the star represents a different element (fire, water, air, earth and spirit or psyche). In *The Da Vinci Code*, this sign is said to be a symbol of the secret goddess, hidden throughout Christian history. There's proof too. The small, five pedaled flowers found in many gothic cathedrals are actually secret pentagrams: the same symbol that is the alleged sign of the Devil.



"Cinquefoil" (from the French, "five-part") appears in many places throughout the story. Langdon, the protagonist, explains that the five pedaled rose has ties to goddess worship, femininity, the compass rose and certain "feminine parts." Enough said. Often found atop Gothic arches it's thought to represent the womb of Mary.

Fleur de Lis: The Lily of France



A symbol of Mary and the Holy Trinity, this sign, resembling a lily, was eventually adopted as the emblem of France. The Lily denotes Mary's purity and, in the book, is the symbol of the "Priory of Sion." Some think it represents the secret family line, a symbol of the blood of Christ carried by Merovingian Kings



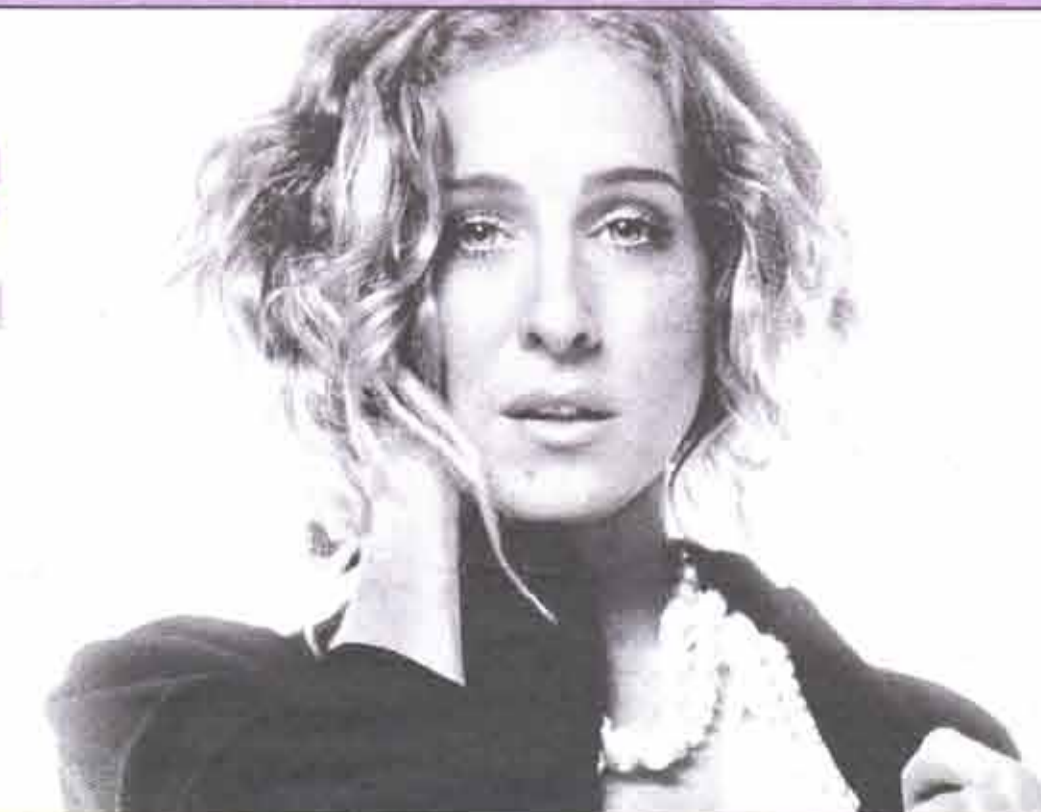
The Chalice and The Blade

At a glance, the symbol above is the Seal of Solomon and the symbol of Judaism. The *Da Vinci Code* asks you to take another look. When you dismantle the star it breaks down to two triangles, one pointing up and one pointing down. The inverted triangle is the "chalice," and the upright triangle is the "blade." These also denote the sexual parts of males (the blade) and females (the cup)- must I point out the obvious?

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Places from The Da Vinci Code

Opus Dei

To the surprise of many, this place actually exists, right in Manhattan, New York. Known currently as the most controversial group in the Catholic Church, the Opus Dei Bishop in the novel is one of the many forces trying to obtain and conceal one of the greatest secrets of all time: the location of and the truth behind Sangreal (also known as the Holy Grail!). To many, it is a powerful and dangerous cult-like organization.

Saint Sulpice, Paris

This classical style church is where an Opus Dei member (in the novel) came looking for the hidden treasure that is at the root of the "code," where "The Keystone" was falsely presumed to be hidden. Inside this classical style church, to the right of the altar, a brass meridian marker and rose line are present just as described in the book. The line leads to an obelisk and the whole thing is said to have worked like a sundial, using light from a church window to determine the date of the March equinox.

The Louvre

The Louvre, located in Paris, France, holds some of the world's most famous pieces of artwork. Brown points out in his novel that this magnificent building is the length of three Eiffel Towers laid sideways. Among these famous paintings are Da Vinci's "Vitruvian Man," "The Last Supper" and of course, the lovely "Mona Lisa." In *The Da Vinci Code*, the mystery begins here with a murder and a mysterious code. The grand gallery is where the scene of the crime takes place and where the story begins.

Roslin Chapel

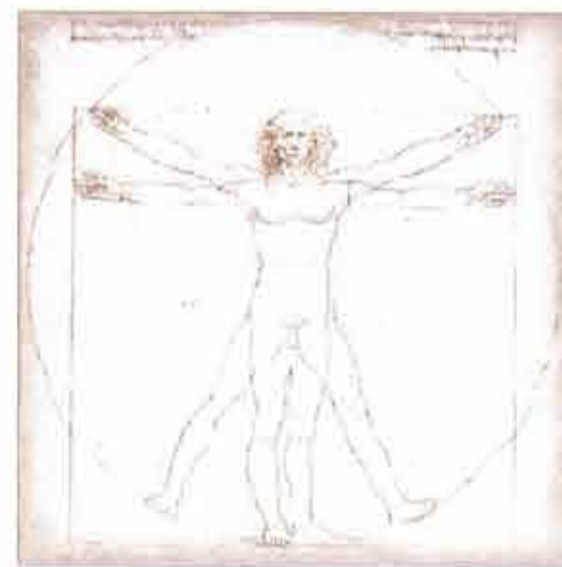
Also known as Rosslyn, the name comes from "rose line." But what makes this 15th century Scottish church so interesting? The architects and actual inspiration behind Roslin were the famed warriors, The Knights Templar, who according to Brown were formed to protect "treasures and knowledge." It is believed by many that the Chapel, modeled after the Temple of Jerusalem, contains the greatest treasure of all- The Holy Grail.

Da Vinci's Notebook:

"From the roots of his hair to the bottom of his chin is a tenth of a man's height; from the bottom of the chin to the top of the head is one eighth of his height; from the top of the breast to the roots of the hair will be the seventh part of the whole man. From the nipples to the top of the head will be the fourth part of man. The greatest width of the shoulders contains in itself the fourth part of man. From the elbow to the tip of the hand will be the fifth part of a man; and from the elbow to the angle of the armpit will be the eighth part of man. The whole hand will be the tenth part of the man. The distance from the bottom of the chin to the nose and from the roots of the hair to the eyebrows is, in each case the same, and like the ear, a third of the face."

The Holy Grail

In *The Da Vinci Code*, Brown makes the shocking allegation that Mary Magdalene was the beloved disciple and wife of Jesus Christ. The book claims that Jesus was a great man, but a man nonetheless, and that there has been a global conspiracy to hide His living descendants. With frightening evidence to back up his claims, the author maintains that Mary Magdalene's body and secret documents removed from the bible actually make up the mysterious hidden treasure that is The Holy Grail. The chalice holding the blood of Christ may just refer to the continuing bloodline of Jesus: the actual treasure.



PHI: The Divine Proportion

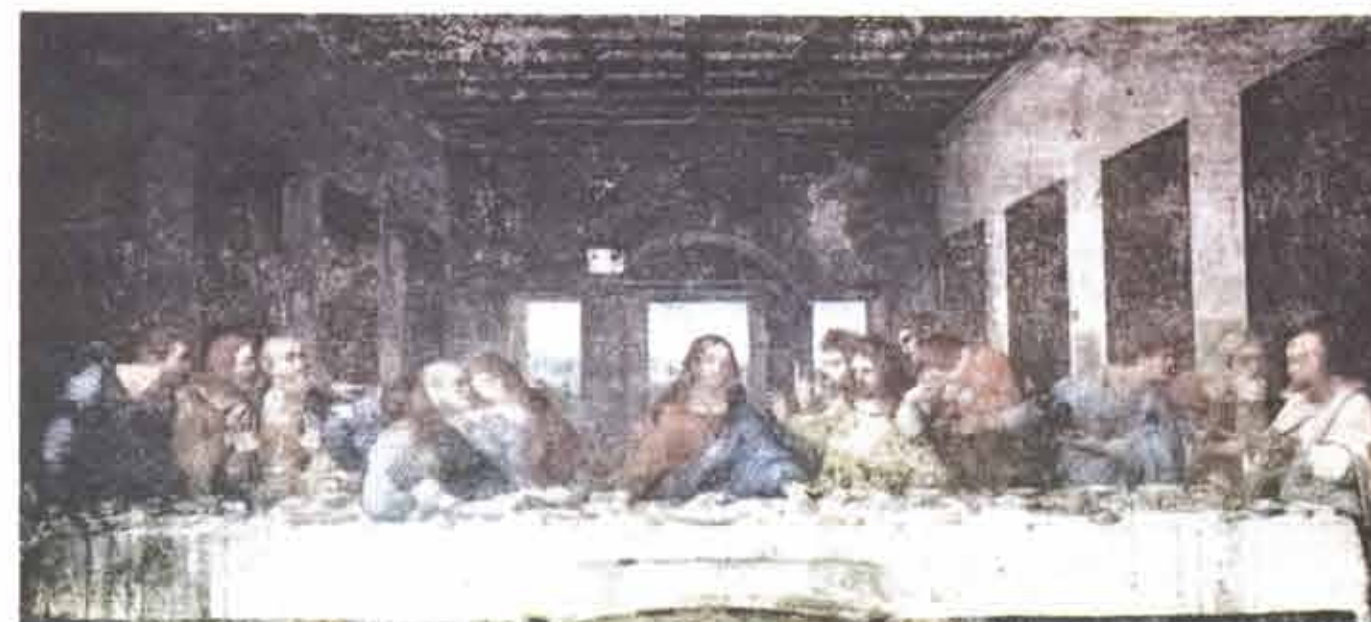
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What is so special about this number?

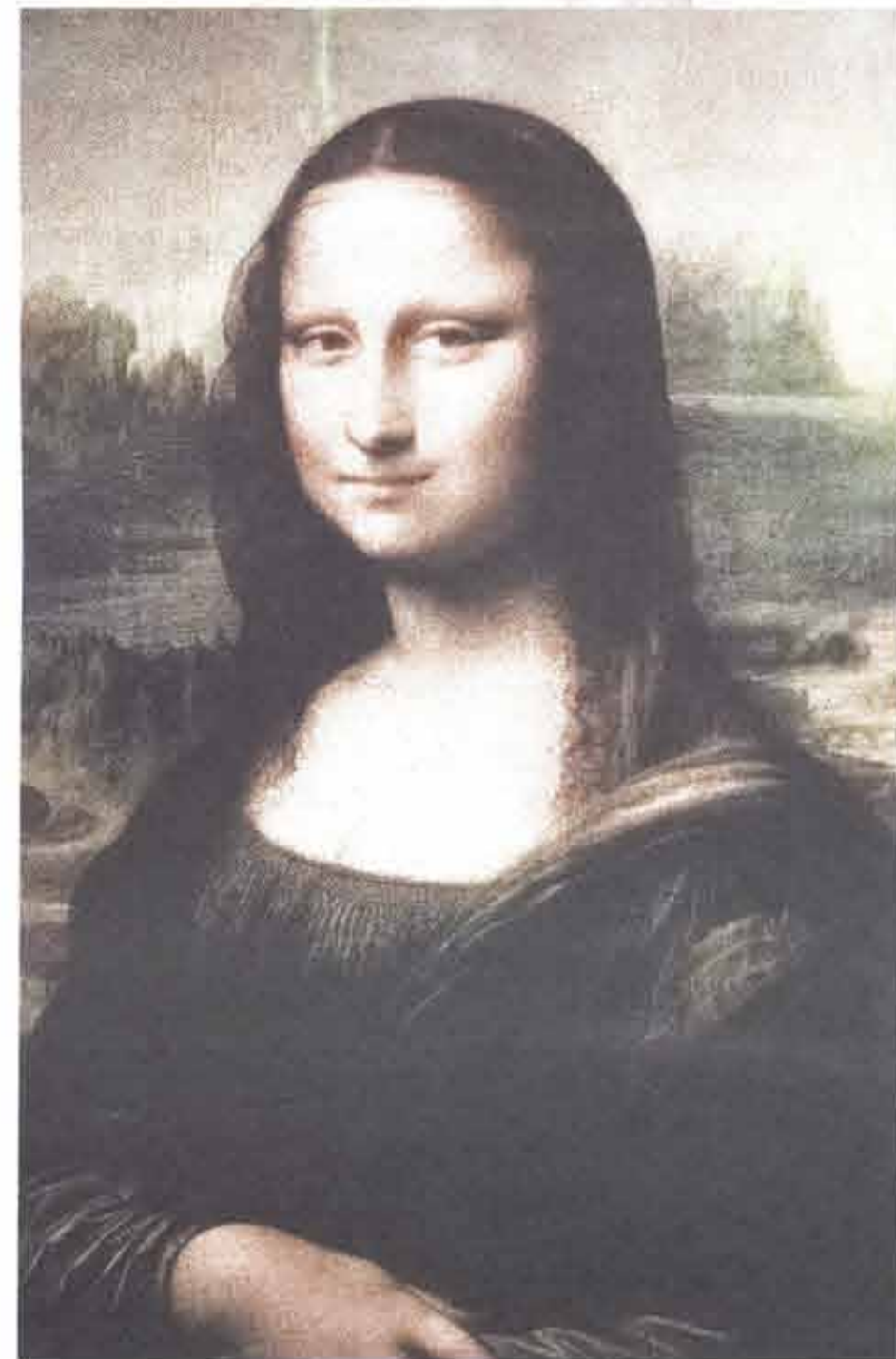
It is called the Divine Proportion because it is believed to be "hand of God" existing in all aspects of life and nature. It is found in the human body, proportions of other animals, plants, DNA, the solar system, music, art (very prominently in Da Vinci's spirals, the Bible and even the stock market! The *Da Vinci Code* protagonist, Langdon, gives a few great examples in a lecture his Harvard class.

The Last Supper

The Last Supper depicts the moment that Jesus Christ announced that someone at the table, one of his 12 disciples, would eventually betray him. The book makes the shocking allegation that one of the "disciples" in the painting, the person directly to the right of Jesus, is actually Mary Magdalene. There is also a mysterious "extra hand" (seemingly belonging to no one) in the painting, and even more creepy, that hand is holding a knife.



Da Vinci's paintings: the ultimate code



Mona Lisa

Of all the beautiful paintings that have ever been painted, what is so damn special about the Mona Lisa. She isn't the most beautiful girl. In fact, many have noted that she looks rather "mannish." To some, it is her secretive smile and haunting eyes. She looks like she knows something we don't... maybe she does. So, what's her secret?

Mona Lisa is really a hermaphrodite - she is the perfect union of two polarities. The theory is that the name itself is an anagram. One belief is that it is Sol Amina rearranged. Sol refers to the sun and Amina refers to the moon. The book proposes that Mona Lisa is actually formed from two words, "Amon" and "Isis". Amon is the god of masculine fertility and Isis (a.k.a. "Lisa") is the goddess of female fertility.

An interesting fact: Da Vinci was also a homosexual.

Habitat for Humanity

Laurier students work together to help build homes for those in need of a little hammer and nail action



Heather Gardhouse

Many volunteer opportunities can be found within the Laurier chapter of Habitat for Humanity. Although the cold weather has put a momentary pause on builds, more work is planned for the future.

ASHLEY ROSE
Cord Student Life

Despite the varying weather conditions, the Laurier chapter of Habitat for Humanity spends weekends stepping out into the Kitchener-Waterloo community to lend a helping hand.

Most Laurier students consider themselves a part of the "Laurier bubble" and within Laurier's small community, it isn't hard to forget that there is a larger world out there with bigger problems than that English paper you have due next class. It is for these reasons that it is very rare for students to actually venture into the community.

"At my first small build I remember the initial feeling as we pulled up to a partially constructed set of houses that would eventually become a home for these families. It was a feeling of involvement and caring, as peo-

ple all came out to band together and build something for people they probably never knew, but will never forget," says Jen Gordon, Laurier Habitat for Humanity co-president.

"At my first small build I remember the initial feeling... It was a feeling of involvement and caring."

- Jen Gordon, Laurier Habitat for Humanity co-president

Part of the deal with Habitat is that volunteers who are receiving the houses are required to work on their own house and then in the months to follow, the houses of other families. But you would never know that some of the volunteers were doing it out of requirement rather than pleasure.

From the simplest to the most difficult of tasks, Habitat provides a hand up, not a hand out by building houses to perfection, for families that deserve nothing but that. The same level of consideration does not go into the construction of a "big name" house according to Habitat.

With such a high level of involvement, the participants in the Habitat projects are able to leave each day with a heightened sense of community. With hard hats and steel toed boots, the time seems to pass quickly as people laugh over paint brushes and hammers.

Now, as the seasons begin to change and the ground starts to slowly freeze, the building must cease. However, the members of Habitat for Humanity will not end their efforts as construction will pick up again once warm weather approaches.

Enviro-friendly menstrual products

- **Tampon**, from cover

Though it happens rarely, commercial chemical-based products have been linked to the potentially fatal toxic shock syndrome and a wealth of other health risks.

In production, fibres are bleached to increase absorbency. This process creates dioxins — a combination of chlorides and organic matter — as a byproduct, which can impair reproduction, the immune system and may cause cancer, said Voutou.

Dioxin is one of the deadliest substances created by humans, she added. The United States Food and Drug Administration has stated no level of dioxin exposure is safe.

Most tampon manufacturers claim to be dioxin-free and, in the U.S., the FDA has strict controls over the bleaching process. But Voutou maintains there are still risks.

Although the bleaching process may be elementally chlo-

rine-free, it can still theoretically generate dioxins at low levels, she said.

Unbleached all-cotton tampons, according to Voutou, offer a dioxin-free, toxic shock syndrome-safe option. And organic cotton product is pesticide free.

But with estimates that the average North American woman uses somewhere between 10,000 and 17,000 tampons or pads in a lifetime — all ending up in landfill sites and sewage systems — Voutou says more must be done than offer healthier alternatives.

"Since that's not exactly the most sustainable option for the environment, it also... goes hand in hand with an education campaign," she said.

With support from the Sustainable Concordia Project and Blood Sisters and other interested groups and students, Voutou hopes to launch an information campaign that would include postering and tabling.

"Right next to all the vending

machines we'd be postering information about menstrual politics, about why this is being done, why this choice is being made for the student body, what the problems are, what the health risks are," she said.

She hopes more people will take an interest in alternative menstrual products such as reusable cups like the Keeper or cloth pads. These, she says, are both healthier and more economical.

While the project is still in its beginnings, Voutou is hopeful changes will be made. She said the university's custodial services have been responsive to the idea as long as packaging size and shape requirements are met and a product with a comparable price can be found.

Editors Note: Be sure to catch Student Life's investigation into the possible use of organic materials at Laurier in next weeks issue.

Vocal Cord

November doesn't have any holidays where we get one or more days off class. If you could make a holiday for this month, what would it be and why?



NATHAN ELLIS
FIRST YEAR
HISTORY

"Something that promotes values and appreciates what other people do for you instead of what they give you."

"Pierre Elliot Trudeau Day"



JEN MITCHELL
THIRD YEAR
POLITICAL SCIENCE



MATTHEW PARK
FIRST YEAR
POLITICAL SCIENCE

"Making Remembrance Day a national holiday."

"First term is so long and we should get a break. We should have a reading week in November."



HEATHER COULTER
SECOND YEAR
ENGLISH



MARK SKOROPSKI
FIRST YEAR
UNDECLARED

"We should have hangover days."

"Century club day."



STEVEN BALABAN
FOURTH YEAR
BUSINESS AND MATH

Horoscopes

Happy Birthday Scorpio! (Nov. 17-23)

You are going to have a lot of new and interesting things to do over the next while. So make sure you stay on top of all your projects, otherwise you'll fall behind. Going out for a few drinks with friends is a good idea, but don't go overboard.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

A new friendship or relationship is most likely over the next while. If you are looking for someone new, you're going to have to look in new places for this person. The same old places are not going to work.
Luckiest day: November 21

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

You are going to have to take one step at a time over the next while. Make sure you are finishing one task before moving onto the next one; otherwise you're going to weigh yourself down. Keep looking towards the result for motivation.
Luckiest day: November 19

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Stop holding onto the past, previous circumstances are not relevant in the present. You are going to have to look at ever situation in a new way. Be sure to listen to any advice from friends. They may know more about you than you think.
Luckiest day: November 19

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Don't go on any spending sprees for the next while. You are doing a good job of keeping everything balanced financially. Better days are ahead, but you are going to have to really watch your budget closely.
Luckiest day: November 19

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Any extra effort you're putting into your work will be noticed. You are going to be surprised by someone in the next while, and you're not going to ever suspect what he or she has in store for you. Stop over-analysing things.
Luckiest day: November 17

Pisces (Feb. 19-Mar. 20)

Make sure you keep track of your spending. You don't want things getting out of hand. If you are having trouble keeping a budget, have a friend assist you. Staying on top of finances is better than trying to make ends meet.
Luckiest day: November 18

Aries (Mar. 21-Apr. 19)

A new friendship could be just what you need to spice up your life. If you are really looking for a certain type of person, chances are he or she is right under your nose and will make all the effort to start a friendship with you.
Luckiest day: November 19

Taurus (Apr. 20-May 20)

Someone will be offering advice to you, and if you are looking to succeed with whatever you are working on you may want to listen to what is being told to you. Set your stubbornness aside and accept what others are telling you.
Luckiest day: November 22

Gemini (May 21-June 21)

You are going to have to keep working on your all your little projects. Either school related or not, things are going to be getting much busier over the next while. Surprising news from someone will brighten your day.
Luckiest day: November 19

Cancer (June 22-July 22)

You will be able to celebrate all of your achievements, as soon as you finish them. Any extra effort you put into projects or work will pay off huge. Try to do something a little more creative and you'll be surprised by the results.
Luckiest day: November 21

Leo (July 23-August 22)

A good friend will be around to pull you through any rough times you seem to be stuck in. Be sure to write down any goals you'd like to achieve in the next while, there's a lot of change occurring and now is the best time to re-focus.
Luckiest day: November 17

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Be sure to analyse any problems logically. Don't do anything on a whim. You want to be sure about any decisions you're making in the next while. Don't hesitate to ask for advice, something someone may say could inspire you.
Luckiest day: November 20

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.

Luminera lights up campus



Jennifer Asselin

Charity Ball volunteers put together the 5th Annual Luminera event placing candles which students purchased, around the Quad this past Monday. A total of 501 candles were purchased and dedicated to others, raising a total of \$1,002 to be donated to the Canadian Mental Health Association Waterloo chapter. This year's Charity Ball will take place Saturday March, 5th 2005. Tickets go on sale in February.

Volunteering gives warm fuzzies

Students get involved in and around K-W

SUSIE ZIEGLER
Cord Student Life

Finding the right place to volunteer is tiring. Whether you're trying to meet a course requirement or fulfill a time commitment, the overwhelming amount of opportunity is hard to siphon through.

"In the midst of stress and demand of academics of university, giving back to the community can be a source of relaxation and fulfillment. Volunteering keeps you grounded [in the fact] that there is more to university life than stress and ridiculously self-indulgent nights of partying," says Tara Souch, Laurier's CVAC (Community Volunteer Action Committee) Co-ordinator.

CVAC is essentially Laurier's on campus link to volunteer opportunities in the K-W area. Students are encouraged to use the services provided by CVAC to find volunteer opportunities to match their specific needs. They can help narrow the search through hundreds of organizations to the one that best suits your purpose and time restraints.

A few of the organizations CVAC helps their volunteers connect with include The Canadian Heart and Stroke Foundation and Meals on Wheels. Souch hopes to spread awareness about the services CVAC provides and "significantly increase the amount of Laurier voluntarism in the K-W area."

In the effort to inform the



Contributed Photo

These two girls are getting very excited as they anticipate the plethora of volunteer opportunities coming their way.

masses of Laurier, they are holding group volunteer projects from time to time to encourage even those who can't commit to long term volunteering to lend a hand.

"I think there is a personal sense of satisfaction knowing you have helped people."

- Katherine Plant, CHMA distress centre co-ordinator

CVAC also partners with other organizations in the Laurier community such as LUCK (Laurier University Charity Council) and its meal exchange.

One of the many non-profit organizations in our community that students can also volunteer with is the Canadian Mental Health Association. CHMA offers a few different volunteer

opportunities such as the friends program, the crisis line and administration work.

"Students gain experience in a variety of areas including mental health, crisis intervention, communication skills and community resources," explains Katherine Plant, the distress center co-ordinator. The mental health association requires a year commitment and the opportunity to gain experience in order to fulfill a course requirement.

"Besides gaining volunteer experience for references and/or grad school students can benefit a variety of ways. I think there is a personal sense of satisfaction knowing you have helped people whether that be by just providing an ear or connecting them with needed services," says Plant.

He Said / She Said

Hi there,
Since you guys are so much older, I was hoping you could give a first-year some advice.

I'm having trouble coping with all of the things that are due in the next while. I work really hard on everything but I don't know if I'll be able to get everything done. Then exams are right after all my projects. I'm finding this all a little overwhelming.

How do you guys handle everything? You must have some kind of secret trick.

Thanks,
Busy-bee

He Said...
DAN ROTH

Are you for real? Because when I came to university I knew it would be more of an exercise in time management than actual academics.

Here's my advice. At the beginning of next semester when the professor is going on and on about the "syllabus" you might want to pay closer attention to when he or she has scheduled due dates and compare it with other professor's projects. If more than one instructor has things due in the same week chances are you're going to be busy that month and

your focus should be on school.

As for exams coming up, you should have taken notes in class and paid attention. This complex series of tasks is often referred to as "learning." If you "learned" during the year exams will be easy.

She Said...
LAURIE VANDENHOFF

You know what they say, "When the going gets tough..." But seriously, I know things are crazy right now but somehow university students find a way to get it all done. It may mean giving up some of your time with friends or family for the next few weeks but it will be over before you know it. And being super busy with school makes the last few weeks of the semester fly by.

Time management is the key. I've said it before, planners can be your best friend. Writing things down will help you decide what you have time for and when. Also reward yourself with breaks from studying, everyone needs a little breather once in awhile.

Then when it's all done, you can relax for a couple weeks before it starts all over again! Welcome to university kid - get used to it.

Food for Thought

LAURIE SADOWSKI
Food Critic

As you make your way back to your hometown for Christmas break, a few things might cross your mind: your grandma's home-made stuffing, opening that much-awaited Christmas gift and maybe seeing "Marc," that guy you hooked up with one hot night in July. But then you step on the scale in the bathroom and realize that in the first four months of school, you've added a little too much around the edges. What to do!?

Well, exercise might be the first option, but that requires time, something a lot of university students don't have.

You have probably begun to realize that having every breakfast in the dining hall, a quick Chai latte from Second Cup on your break, lunch in the terrace, and ordering Swiss Chalet for dinner might not be the smartest choices. In this case, here are some options to stay healthy on a student meal plan.

The Terrace
Harvey's
Basic Choice
Original Combo with Cheese - 936 calories and 41 grams of fat.

Healthy Choice
Grilled chicken combo (substitute fries for a salad with light Italian dressing and a water) - 450 calories and 7.7 grams of fat.

Mr. Sub
Basic Choice
Regular Assorted Sub, with 1 strip of cheese, mayonnaise, sub sauce and regular Coke - 1029 calories and 39.9 grams of fat.

Healthy Choice
Regular Turkey breast sub with mustard and water - 470 calories and 5.2 grams of fat.

The Dining Hall

Deli: Skip the butter, mayo and cheese. Add flavour with a variety of mustards, salt and pepper. Opt for the turkey or ham selection over salami.

Comfort Zone: If you must choose from this area, stock up on the veggies, cut the fat and skin off of the meat and avoid the gravy.

Pasta bar: Check this out on the days with a marinara sauce - avoid creams and excess parmesan cheese.

Grill: Chicken burgers are the best option in this section of the marche.

Salad bar: A wise choice, but can easily be overloaded with calories. Try not to pack in the pre-made salads that are loaded with mayo, and use dressings to a minimum - they can overload your meal with 200+ calories.

Miscellaneous: Grabbing a coffee or quick treat is an easy buzz but some choices are better than others.

Tim Horton's is probably the most popular and convenient destination.

Coffee (1 cream, 1 sugar) vs. French vanilla cappuccino - 78 vs. 250 calories

Iced Capp with 2% milk vs. Iced Capp normally (with cream) - 150 vs. 230 calories

Honey dip donut vs. Chocolate chip muffin - 200 vs. 440 calories

So, you have three options: be overweight, "Keep fit and have fun" or be like DJ Tanner in that one episode where she starves herself because she feels she's too fat to go to her friend's pool party and then passes out on the Stairmaster - wait, don't be DJ, she made the worst choice.



Sugar-in-Chief Howlett discovers why the Mountain is so great

CAITLIN HOWLETT
Sugar-in-Chief

Sandwiched in the middle of University Plaza, Sugar Mountain has the selection and the prices to satisfy the average consumer and even the candy connoisseur.

Jason Hoffman, who has worked the Mountain since January, was quite helpful pointing out the more popular items and some of the rare items the candy store carries. Harry Potter candy including Dragon Eggs (three for \$1.00) are quite popular Hoffman said, along with some of their imported candy, including the Galaxy milk chocolate bar from Britain.

One of the hidden gems of this candy store is the bulk section. While it may appear to be a normal bulk section full of colourful candies and chocolate, every item is the exact same price at a \$1.69/100 gram. This means you can mix any kind of candy you please in just one bag. No more filling out each individual bar code like you must at Zehrs, nor do you have to explain that you've got chocolate covered peanuts not raisins, at Sugar Mountain, it's all one nice price.

Better yet, Sugar Mountain has the cheapest Jelly Belly bulk price in Canada, again at a \$1.69 per 100 grams – and yes, you can mix it with the other bulk candies and chocolates.

The range of candy and chocolates at Sugar Mountain gives new meaning to feeling like a kid in a candy store. Pixie stix, pop rocks, milk duds, tootsie rolls, pez, there's even giant Pez that dispense the packages of pez for the small pez. The most popular item however, is the chocolate

covered cookie dough which Hoffman let me sample – simply delicious; it's like eating batter out of the bowl. For vegans, there are even two chocolate options imported from Britain: Fry's Peppermint Cream and Fry's Orange Cream.

Stuck for a present, the staff at Sugar Mountain can help you create something or there is the option of pre-made lootbags for just \$7.99, perfect for birthday parties or a just because present. Discounts on larger orders for parties are also available.

Sugar Mountain also sells a variety of non-edible items including retro-posters and similar type lunch boxes. One of their more popular items is the dashboard Jesus.

Hoffman, who is in his third year of Urban Planning at the University of Waterloo, was also quick to point out that Sugar Mountain takes the Laurier OneCard (convenience account)

making it easy for students to make purchases.

I couldn't leave empty handed, so I brought back to the office a sampling of some of the more popular items for some of my staff to try. I turned around to the sound of pop rocks crackling in Bryn's mouth – he grinned that childish grin and said with a twinkle in his eyes, "this stuff's awesome." Minutes later Brandon, our production manager, tossed a few pop rocks back; "it reminds me of my childhood," he said laughing while the party continued in his mouth. The Harry Potter Dragon Eggs were not as popular, but the Jelly Bellies and chocolate covered cookie dough balls were devoured within minutes.

If you haven't discovered Sugar Mountain, I suggest going in the afternoon, when you're in need of a sugar fix because you are sure to find something you like. And you'll surely find something worthy of purchasing for a friend that's reminiscent of childhood or absolutely ridiculous like a pez that dispenses pez.



Caitlin Howlett

Popular treats from Sugar Mountain (from left to right): Jelly Bellies, Happy Bunny mints (top), Harry Potter Dragon Eggs (bottom), chocolate covered cookie dough balls and Pop Rocks. The store is located at 140 University Ave. Visit www.sugarmountain.net.

A slice of student life

Beat the flu, get the shot

Free influenza shots are being offered by Laurier Health Services.

Dates still left to get the shot are November 22, 1pm-6pm, November 24, 1pm-6pm and December 3, 11am-4pm.

The clinics take place in The Student Health and Development Centre in the lower level of the Student Services building across

from the dining hall.

Students must bring their provincial health card or their UHIP form in order to obtain the shot.

The flu, or the influenza virus, is a contagious respiratory disease. Although most people recover from the flu, their is potential for the illness to become life threatening.

Jennifer Asselin



Pop your collar. Write Student Life. All the cool kids are doing it. cord@wlushp.com

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Postgraduate

Wednesday, November 24th

Wilf's Pub at 6.30pm

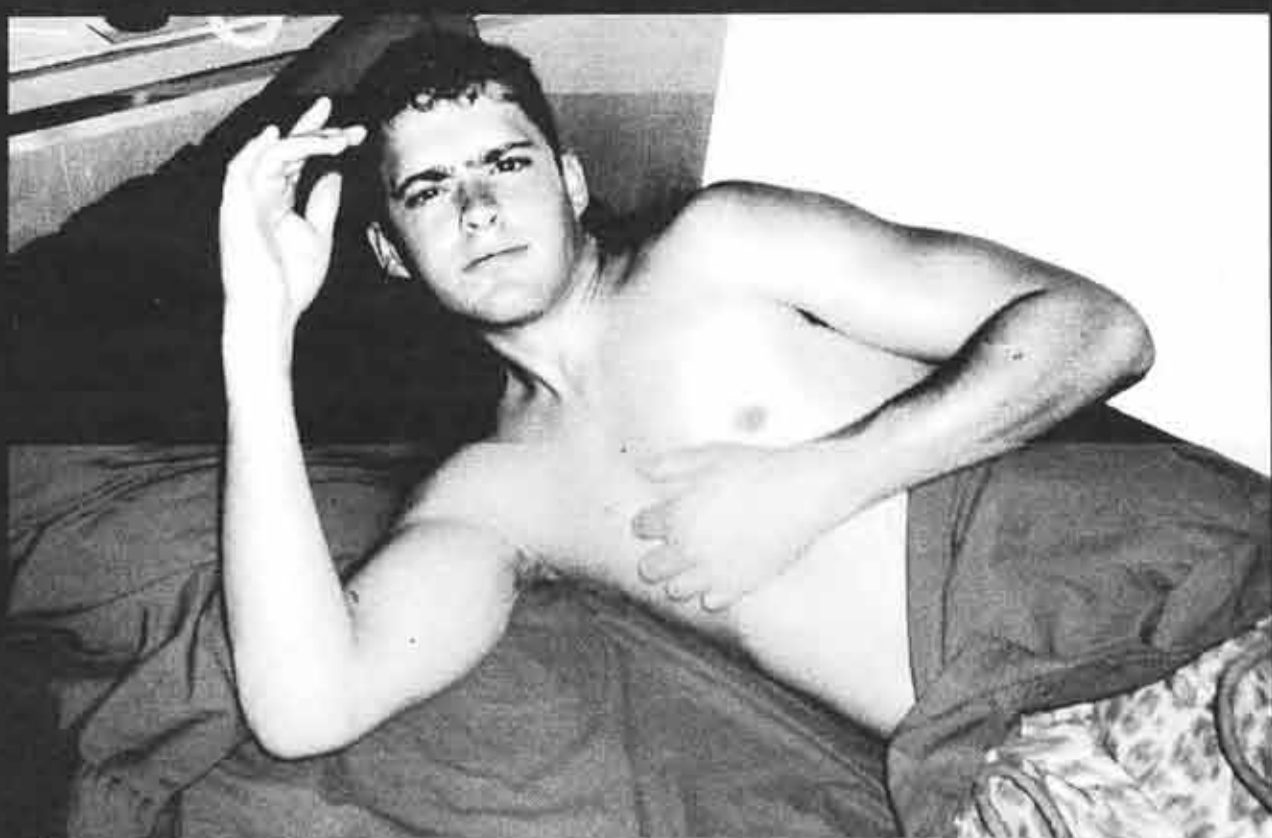


A Night at the Oscars
Ninth Annual
Charity Auction
for the Canadian Cancer Society

Contact Amy Mallett for information at mall9000@wlu.ca

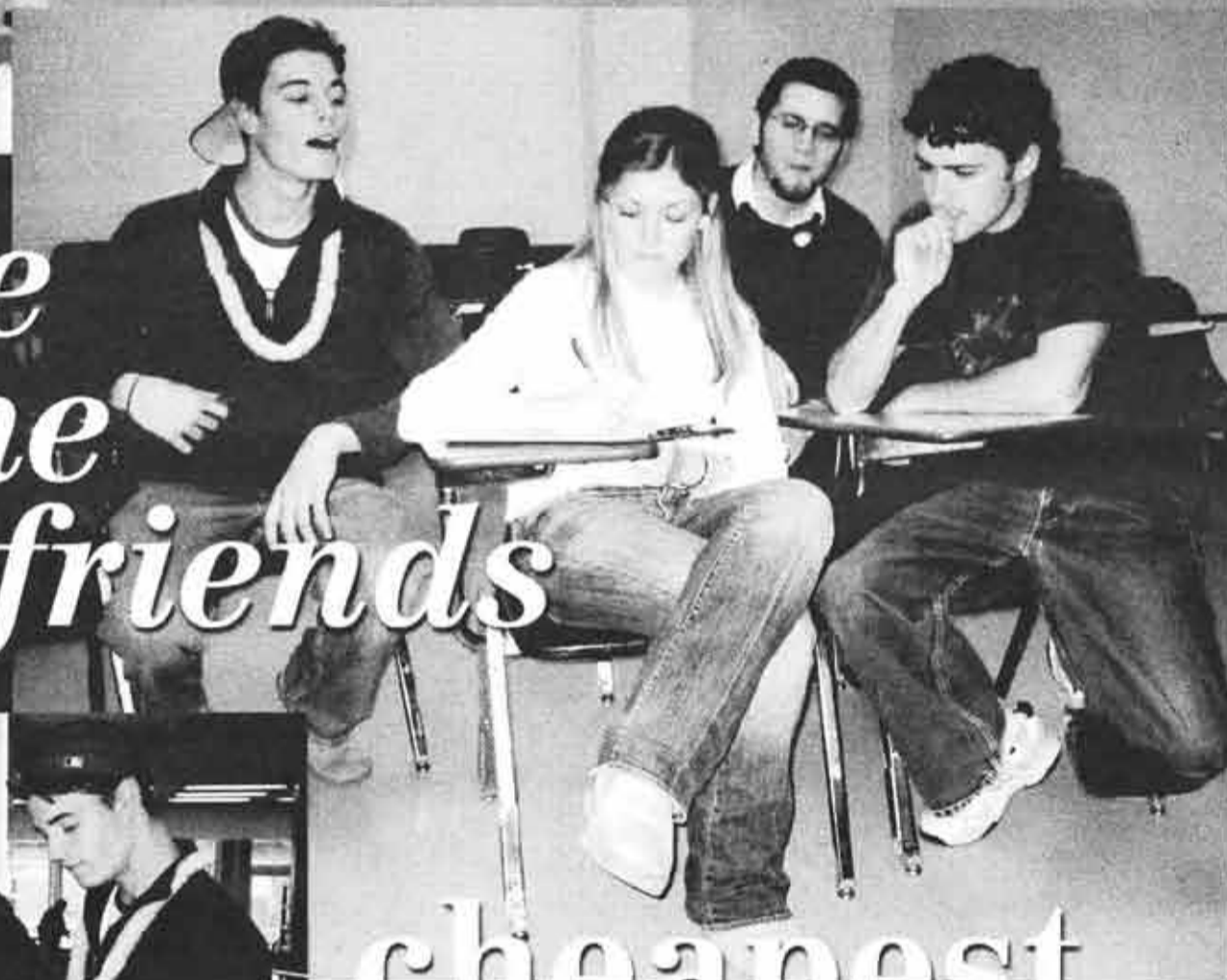


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Taking Back Sunday takes over T.O.

Taking Back Sunday



5 out of a possible 5 happy faces

Opening: Funeral for a Friend, Atreyu

Date: November 13, 2004

AMANDA BRANCH
Cord Entertainment

As I walked into the Kool Haus on Saturday November 13, the first day of Taking Back Sunday's 2-day takeover, I was prepared for the show of a lifetime. I was definitely not disappointed.

Starting off the evening were the adorable guys from the U.K. based punk-rock band, Funeral for a Friend. They launched into a very energetic set, getting the crowd excited and involved as they played some of their better-known songs like "Red is the New Black" and "The Art of American Football".

Half-way through their set, singer Matt Davies admitted that the faint "47" on the back of his shirt was a tribute to Harry Potter, and that sometimes, when he had his glasses on, and his hair fell a certain way, he had a remarkable resemblance to Harry Potter. Matt then went on to encourage audience participation by requesting the audience start a circle pit, then qualified the request by saying "Look out for each other. If someone falls, pick them up. If I see anyone out there getting hurt, I'm going down there to do some serious fucking spanking." There's something just too cute about hearing boys with accents swearing.



Contributed Photo

Taking Back Sunday played two shows with Funeral for a Friend and Atreyu at Toronto's Kool House over the weekend.

A short time after playing crowd favourite "Escape Artists Never Die", Funeral for a Friend thanked the crowd for their support and this awesome set came to an end.

In between sets, the audience had the pleasure of listening to a strange assortment of songs, most of which went ignored until 50 Cent was heard blaring over the speakers. This was greeted with a loud chorus of boos and heckles from the audience, who, for the most part, seemed to be offended by this song selection. However, there was one guy standing beside us who seemed thrilled by Fifty, and immediately launched into a strange interpretive dance - a combination of the robot, the moonwalk and some random hand/arm flicking movement. Unfortunately this dance didn't

stop with the end of the song. The guy carried on, oblivious to any change in rhythm, and we were stuck avoiding his erratic movements until we were saved by the beginning of Atreyu's set, and he was distracted from his sexy moves.

As they burst on to stage to huge cheers from the crowd, Atreyu launched into a fiery performance that never let up. After playing crowd pleasers like "Lip Gloss and Black" and "This Flesh is a Tomb", Atreyu slowed things down a bit with "The Remembrance Ballad". They also took the liberty of offering up some words of advice, telling the audience, "This next song is about falling in love... don't do it." Atreyu carried the intense emotion and hardcore sound until the end of their set, stopping only

once more to encourage the crowd to "Fuck shit up... in a safe, positive way," once again reinforcing safety as the theme of the evening.

Around 9:30 pm, Taking Back Sunday finally arrived on stage and the crowd went wild upon seeing them and hearing their opening song "Set Phasers to Stun". Taking Back Sunday had every song dripping with raw emotion and intensity that never quit. Each song was even better than the last, with the crowd jumping and creating mosh pits all over the place. Taking Back Sunday was mind-blowingly good, rocking out with popular songs from their latest album *Where You Want To Be* like "One-Eighty by Summer", "This Photograph is Proof [I know you know]" and "Number Five With a Bullet". The crowd could not be

contained; the energy in the room was overwhelming and you couldn't help but scream along at the top of your lungs with everyone else.

TBS then took things down a notch, playing some of the slower songs from their first album, *Tell All Your Friends*, such as "Ghost Man on Third", "You're So Last Summer" and "Great Romances of the 20th Century". After a solid hour, TBS drew the evening to a close with an unbelievable performance of their latest single "A Decade Under the Influence". They then thanked Toronto for their continued support, claiming it was their favourite place to play because the crowds always rocked the hardest, and then left the stage.

A few minutes later, they returned and blew everyone away with an emotional performance of "New American Classic" that had the entire crowd covered in goosebumps and begging for one more song. "If you guys have it in you to hear one more song, we've got it in us to play you one," promised lead singer Adam Lazzara. To the great pleasure of everyone in the audience, Taking Back Sunday launched into a high energy version of "Cute Without the E [Cut From the Team]" which brought their incredible set to a close.

This is the second time I've seen Taking Back Sunday in concert, and just when I thought it wasn't possible for them to get better, they went and proved me wrong with Saturday night's unreal show. Taking Back Sunday can go nowhere but up from here and the next time they come to Toronto I will definitely be there again.

Christian rock questions

Chris Collie



On another note...

Apparently I'm a huge fan of Christian rock. This is because I listen to it all the time. If I didn't listen to it all the time, I guess I wouldn't be a huge fan. But come to think of it, tons of people I know are big fans of Christian rock too, as it's cranked regularly while we're on a drinking binge together, simultaneously using profanity in our speech. I wonder if the music minds that we act in ways inherently un-Christian while it blasts in the background. Hope I never offended it... maybe we should tone it down a bit.

It would seem like this combination of musical taste and personal attitude doesn't make sense, but in the current musical climate I'd argue that such combinations happen all the time. Christian rock is everywhere nowadays, represented by bands you would not necessarily know are overtly religious. Let's look at a few examples: Switchfoot, Chevelle, P.O.D, and Dead Poetic, all busting out under the Christian pretense. And while tonnes of people listen to these bands, very few likely pay attention to the spiritual undertones that happen to come along with them.

A track by Tooth and Nail Records band Underoath caused me to think heavily about all of this, one in which the vocalist quietly says "Jesus" a few times, with highly noticeable articulation. Even though their name is a blaring reference to religion and a large percentage of their lyrics work to present Christian spiritual beliefs, it was possible to ignore all of that until the name Jesus came pushing through the vocal track. In hearing this, I was ultimately hit with a contradiction: here I was listening to straight-up Christian rock, yet I wouldn't classify myself as a religious person to anyone who asked.

I wonder if the music minds that we act in ways inherently un-Christian while it blasts in the background?

But a resolution in response to this problem occurred to me rather quickly: who cares? I couldn't care if a band I dig takes a Muslim or Buddhist standpoint in their lyrics - even though I know almost nothing of these religions. It doesn't make a bit of difference to me, as long as it's solid music, as I'm sure many of you would agree. I've listened to metal where it becomes a ques-

tion of whether a different and 'darker' lord is being serenaded, but that didn't stop me. It might freak me out if I'm listening to it alone at 3 am, soliciting terrible dreams involving fire and brimstone - but if it's good music I'm prepared to take the heat, so to speak.

I can't ignore a few questions that stem from this however - the first of which being why artists feel the need to infuse their tracks with spiritual reference. Would it not be fine to just write good music, singing about everyday issues and leaving the religion on the sidelines for personal use? I'm sure many other artists out there have strong religious beliefs too, but choose to keep that aspect of their lives separate from lyrical content for many reasons (yes, business being one). But considering I'm looking at this from a non-religious viewpoint, maybe I'll never understand the common desire among those of organized religion to allow its influence to permeate all aspects of their lives - apparently including the lyrics of songwriters.

Meh, I don't think I'm going to figure this one out, so let's end our discussion with one simple statement - as long as acts who choose to spread the Christian word within their lyrics keep busting out huge, I'll be there as a fan of the music, but not necessarily what they have to say.

X-Men: Legends misses the mark



X-Men: Legends



3.5 out of a possible 5 superhero logos

System: Nintendo Gamecube

Release Date: Sept. 21, 2004

JILLIAN PANCOTT
Copy Editor

Released near the end of September 2004, *X-Men Legends* looked promising on the video store shelf, it looked promising in ads, but it didn't look promising where it counts. As I sat down to play the game I looked forward to the old days, the days of Saturday morning X-Men cartoons, but unfortunately,

the game fell short.

Graphics: Considering the capabilities of the Gamecube, Legends presented lacklustre graphics. With bold outlining, poor detail and boxy images, it made me question if my Gamecube had been replaced with my old Super NES.

Controls: The game was simple and easy in controls. Basic A and B combinations resulted in punches, swipes and tosses making it easy to master or button-mash (personal choice). Combination moves with two characters became more common as the game play proceeded, although how they occurred is questionable. As well, level ups led to more moves and abilities.

Game Play: Originally simple with direct routes plotted out and no way to make a wrong turn, the game eventually becomes maze-like and confusing with the same scenery shots everywhere. The steep, bird's eye view camera angles were horrible and frustrating, and I had to stop myself from moving my head to try to see into the corners of my TV. The C-stick

"Inside he was a big teddy bear"

Ol' Dirty Bastard
1968-2004

BRANDON CURRIE
Production Manager

Return to the 36 Chambers: The Dirty Version was the first Gangsta Rap album I ever listened to, and remains still one of the very best.

Alas its creator, The Ol' Dirty Bastard, aka Osirus, Joe Bannanas, Dirt Dog, Unique Ason, Big Baby Jesus and Dirt McGirt has died.

Russell Tyrone Jones, most commonly known as the Ol' Dirty Bastard of New York City's Wu-Tang Clan, collapsed in the Clan's recording studio on Saturday afternoon and was pronounced dead shortly thereafter, two days short of his 36th birthday. ODB is survived by his mother Cherry Jones, wife Icelene Jones and 13 children.

In passing, ODB leaves behind one of the strangest and saddest legacies in the history of hip-hop's fallen MCs.

Growing up in the "Brooklyn Zoo" on government assistance, Jones escaped poverty and teenage fatherhood by visiting his cousins and fellow clansmen RZA and GZA on Staten Island, where the three watched old Kung Fu films that infused them with their trademark martial arts idolatry.

"I've always been Jesus. I don't know what the big secret's been all these years."

- Ol' Dirty Bastard, on why he changed his name to Big Baby Jesus

In 1993, the trio added six more members, assumed pseudonyms and formed the Wu-Tang Clan, soon releasing their groundbreaking debut, *Enter the 36 Chambers*, arguably the most influential rap album of the 1990s. Jones christened himself the Ol' Dirty Bastard, as his flow was so scat-ridden and original he deemed it repugnant and fatherless.



He went on to release a handful of solo albums over the next decade as well as bringing memorable doses of bastard to mainstream hits such as Mariah Carey's "Fantasy" and Pras' "Ghetto Superstar."

While he always lacked the lyrical and rhythmic prowess of his fellow Wu-Tang members, Dirty's gasping, visceral style and penchant for off-stage antics made him a lightning rod for media attention and legal troubles. A laundry list of drug-induced blunders in the late 90s transformed Jones from Wu-Tang's resident drunken-monk into hip-hop's clown prince.

First, he rushed the stage at the 1998 Grammy Awards to proclaim that "Wu-Tang are for the children." This also marked the year when he revealed himself to be the Messiah, or 'Big Baby Jesus' during an MTV interview in which he wondered what all the fuss was about: "I've always been Jesus. I don't know what the big secret's been all these years."

Then, while running from the law in November 2000, ODB publicly performed with the rest of Wu-Tang in New York City, proclaiming to screaming fans and officers alike that "I can't stay on stage too long tonight, the cops is after me." After escaping that close encounter he was later apprehended in Philadelphia while signing autographs at McDonald's.

In the ensuing four years, a

smattering of Dirty's exploits have made news; asking a female district attorney "do I make you horny?" before falling asleep on the witness stand, trying to create a line of children's underwear named Ol' Dirty Drawers and, worst of all, a failed 2004 bid for the White House "to get pussy."

However, underneath the bizarre image there was a man that desperately needed help to conquer multiple substance addictions and failed to get it from the U.S. justice system. Both cousin RZA and mother Cherry Jones raised concerns over ODB's incarceration in one of New York's toughest jails where he suffered beatings in which he suffered multiple broken bones and irreparable psychological damage.

When he emerged from behind bars, ODB was much larger in size but in reality a hollow shell of his former self. Sadly, it wasn't until his release in 2003 that he gave up drugs, which appears to have been too late for his body to recover.

Those close to Dirty had kind words for the fallen MC. "He was the kindest, most generous soul on earth," remarked his mother, while his manager eulogized "inside he was a big teddy bear." The Neptunes' Pharrell Williams said what ODB would likely have wanted: "He went against the grain, he was a rebel... just like Jesus was."

Weekly Lyrics... I like pleasure spiked with pain
It's a crack, I'm back, yeah standing out on the
Weekly Lyrics
I started out clean but I'm just phoning
The strangest of the strange ...Weekly Lyrics

she flew in like calm breeze
tall brown skin her weave
like palm trees
i went coconuts
dipped my dunkin' between
your donut

Do you recognize these lyrics? If so, e-mail the song title and artist to wluentertainment@yahoo.ca and you could win a fabulous prize. Of course, I'll have no way of knowing if you Google it, but you'll have to live with the guilty conscience of a dirty cheater. Last week Karen Ramsahai knew that the name of the song was "(This is) The Dream of Evan and Chan." She guessed that it was by Death Cab for Cutie, when in fact it is by dntel, featuring Ben Gibbard from Death Cab. But since it was Kazaa's fault for lying to her, she wins anyway.

X-Men disappoints

- X-Men, from page 20

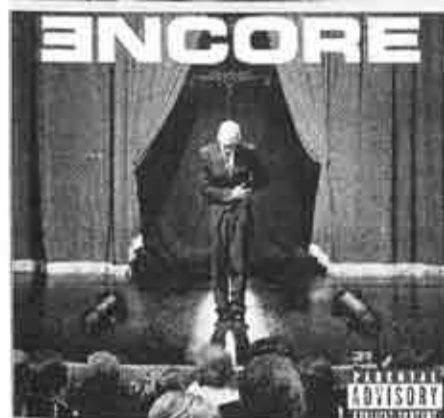
couldn't help much either, leaving me quite frustrated.

Overall: Even though Legends is a multi-player game, you have to wait through the first level to unlock the extra characters, leaving other people waiting or sharing the control. The storyline is simple enough, with an objectives checklist to help you on your way. What starts out exciting becomes boring during the "explore the X-Mansion" level, and then repetitive after the mansion.

The game has many flaws and glitches, making me wonder how quickly they sent it to market after production without a thorough play through. The characters can disappear into walls, random health bars appear and players get caught on invisible ledges

and can't move until the rest of the party comes and assists. The invisible boundaries and walls also get frustrating, as well as the AI characters falling into chasms and killing themselves, leaving your party short a character or two. Adding gained skill points requires a tedious switching through menus and assignment of points, which I never bothered to do. The menu system is flawed in that some of the time only one player can control it, and other times anyone can control the options.

In the end, the game can be used to pass the time, but patience will be needed as some moments get frustrating and tedious. The small characters are easily mistaken for one another, as Cyclops and Jean Grey, for example, are very similar in appearance from a distance.



Two and a half years after *The Eminem Show*, Marshall Mathers presents to us his *Encore*. Judging from the album cover, which closely resembles *The Eminem Show*, it may look like this album would be a progression or extension of the previous album, but that isn't the case.

Nothing much has happened to Eminem since his third album release in 2002, except for his beef with Ja Rule and Ray

Eminem

3.5 out of a possible 5 M&Ms

Title: Encore
Label: Aftermath/Interscope/Shady
Release Date: Nov. 12, 2004

"Benzino" Scott and winning an Oscar for his inspirational hit "Lose Yourself". He was also compared to Hitler, after a 16-year-old tape of him advising listeners to "never date a black chick" was discovered. This lack of drama in Eminem's life leaves him exposed to his greatest career threat... relative peace and quiet.

Eminem's lyrics have always been fueled by controversy and drama in his life, and due to the shortage of both of these ele-

ments in the last couple of years, Eminem has resorted to making bodily function jokes, picking on pop culture celebrities and talking about his family again.

On the opening track, "Evil Deeds", Eminem once again complains about his parents' child-rearing methods, leading to the emergence of the Slim Shady persona we all know and love. This opening track pales in comparison to his previous albums' openers, "Kill You" and "White America", as "Evil Deeds" fails to capture the audience's attention right from the beginning. We also get the usual song about his wife Kim on "Puke", in which Eminem simply states that Kim makes him sick to his stomach. At least he doesn't want to kill her this time around...

With all his family problems aside, we all know Eminem loves his daughter Hallie, as it is reassured on "Mockingbird", one

of the more genuine songs on the album. The song sounds like Marshall singing a bedtime story to his daughter.

However, there are three songs on the album that show how good Eminem can be when he has something to react against.

On the whole, this album is easily Eminem's weakest to date.

"Yellow Brick Road" addresses the "racist" mix-tape, offering Eminem's ability to be reasonable. When depicting the racially divided Detroit to justify his place within the rap pantheon, he is at his most creative, mixing autobiography with hip-hop history, finally leading to his apology for the controversial mix-tape. On "Like Toy Soldiers", Eminem attends to his beef with Ja Rule and Benzino. Set to the album's one authentically fantastic backing track, involving a military drumbeat

and a sample from Martika's 1980's hit "Toy Soldiers", Em weaves a cautionary warning about the violent consequences of once-innocent battle rhymes. Finally the current single "Mosh" proclaims his hatred for the re-elected U.S. President George Bush, in which Em raps, "Let the president answer a higher anarchy/Strap him with an AK47/Let him go fight his own war/let him impress daddy that way."

On the whole, this album is easily Eminem's weakest to date. With that said, this is still a good album on its own as it offers the extremes of Marshall Mathers' two alter egos, the mature Eminem and the immature Slim Shady. The album's production was handled mainly by Dr. Dre and Eminem, which surprisingly resulted in a rather bland sound throughout the album, but if you are an Eminem fan, it's his lyrics that matter more than anything. I know that is the case for me.

-Leo Yu

Romance, rebellion, *Rosenstrasse*

Holocaust period piece remembers that some German citizens tried to help Jews, making for strong subject matter and intense drama

Rosenstrasse



3.5 out of a possible 5 fudgicles

Actors: Katja Riemann, Maria Schrader

Synopsis: Aryan women fight for their Jewish husbands

ANDREW SMITH
Cord Arts

The Holocaust has been a provocative subject for film makers over the years. From *Life is Beautiful* to *Schindler's List*, *The Pianist* to *Sophie's Choice*, these films take us back to one of modern history's darkest times. The sheer insanity of the whole situation is what makes it such a powerful subject, and these films act as a way for us to imagine the unimaginable. *Rosenstrasse* is the latest film dealing with the Holocaust, and although not as memorable or powerful as the films mentioned above, it is a film worth seeing.

What makes this film interesting is not the solid acting, good dialogue, or even the well done set pieces, but rather the subject matter. Acclaimed German director Margarethe von Trotta has delved deep into the history books to bring to life one of the small and forgotten pieces of

human decency to come out of the big mess that was WWII.

First, a quick history lesson: The Nazi regime, in its aim to end European Jewry, passed the Nuremberg Laws of 1935 in an effort to make clear the distinction between German Jews and Aryans. Under these laws, if a Jew was married to a true Aryan they were considered Aryan through marriage. However, towards the end of the war, as Germany began to taste its first major defeats, the laws were revised and all Jews in Germany were outlawed completely. *Rosenstrasse* is set upon this backdrop. Director von Trotta centres on a group of Aryan women who assembled in 1943 on a small street called Rosenstrasse to protest the arrest of their Jewish husbands.

Rosenstrasse is a beautiful example of forgotten history brought to life.

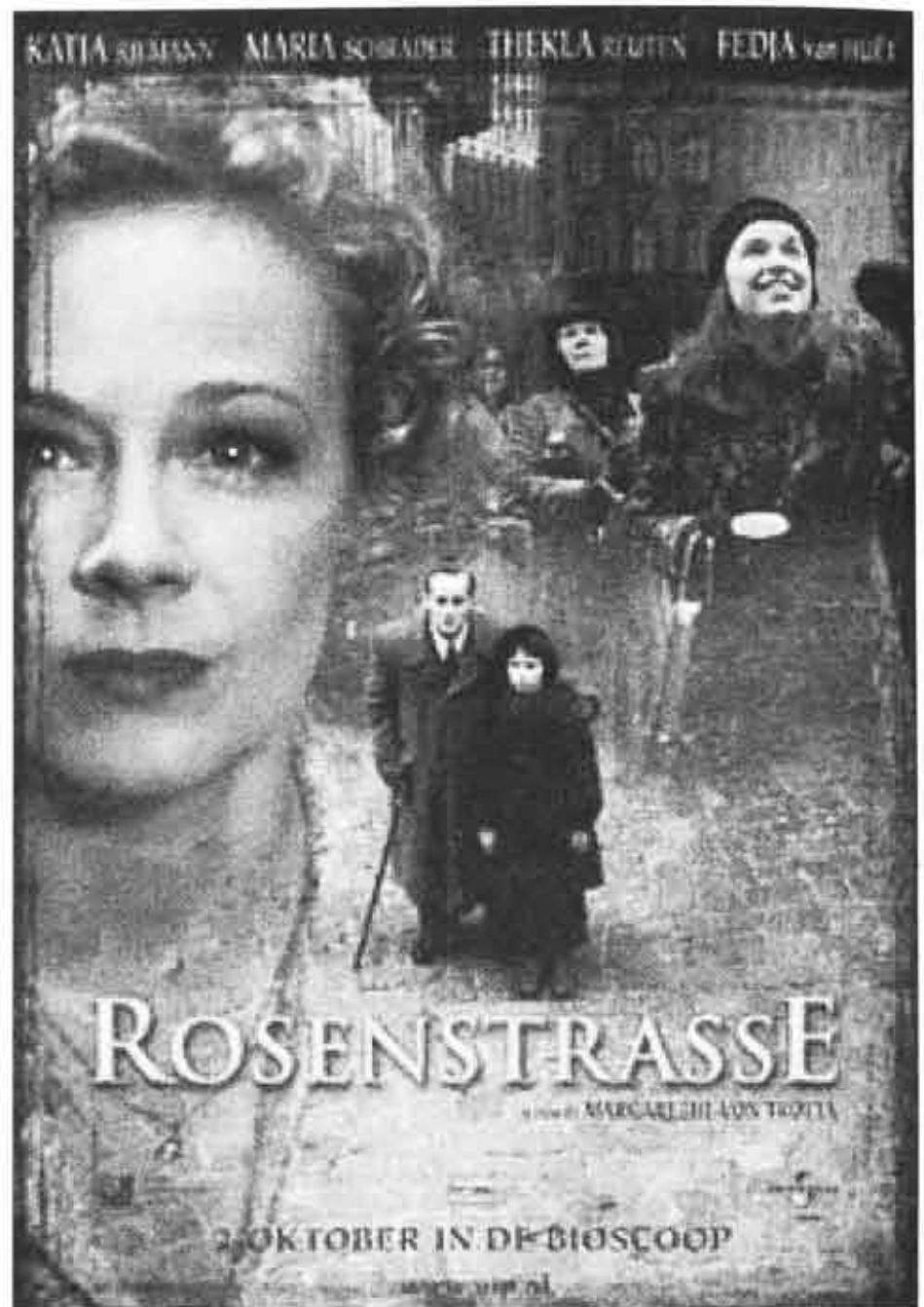
Because the arrested men are married to non-Jews, their wives deem the arrest unjust and demand their husbands released from the building where they are being held prisoner. The women remain outside day and night for nine days, facing an intense standoff with the SS, eventually winning their husbands back and

proving what courage can accomplish against tyranny.

With such dramatic material to work with, you would think that *Rosenstrasse* would have been a highly emotional and moving film, but unfortunately something goes a little wrong. One of the main issues is the attempt to tell two stories in one movie, which is never an easy thing to do well. So instead of just the action of the wives in 1943, we also get the story of Hannah, a modern day American who travels to Berlin in order to unearth her native German mother's role in the *Rosenstrasse* protest. The two stories are told sixty years apart and they never quite meld together effectively. This is disappointing, especially since the war-time story is more than strong enough to carry the movie by itself.

Ultimately, *Rosenstrasse*, although flawed, is a film that is important and stimulating to watch. Its strongest point is its revisionist theme, showing that not all German citizens sat idly by during the Nazi years and that some actively opposed it. But perhaps the most intriguing question asked by von Trotta is this: if a group of a hundred or so Germans were able to stand up for Jews and actually make a difference, what would have happened if thousands or even millions had done the same?

Rosenstrasse may not be the



Contributed Photo

German poster for *Rosenstrasse*.

best film that examines the Holocaust, but it is far from being the worst. It's a beautiful example of forgotten history brought to life and its telling of the story from the German perspective is

refreshing to see. But most of all, it is a film depicting the power of the human will against what seem like insurmountable odds. As I said earlier, it is a movie worth seeing.

50,000 words and counting

If you can't write a novel by Nov. 30, there's always next year to isolate yourself and work

ZALINA ALVI
Excalibur (York University)

TORONTO (CUP) -- This November is National Novel Writing Month. For most of you, this means absolutely nothing, but for all you aspiring novelists out there, this means it is time to log off MSN, put your Blockbuster card aside, put up a threatening sign on your door, and get to work.

For 30 days, you can put things on hold and finally get that book you have been concocting down on paper - well, in your computer, in any case.

You may not end up writing the great Canadian novel, but at least you will be working those slumbering literary minds of yours.

The goal is to write a 175-page, 50,000-word novel by midnight, Nov. 30. But fear not, it is not expected you type out 50,000 words of pure artistry and intellect.

Instead, those who wish to partake in the stress-inducing fun

are just encouraged to get the words out in a flurry of uncontrolled creativity. You may not end up writing the great Canadian novel, but at least you will be working those slumbering literary minds of yours, and that is the whole point. There is no need to worry about tweaking and perfecting along the way. This is a process of risk-taking.

By December, you will not only have something to show off and be mighty proud of, but you may also have a starting point from which you can edit and mould your novel into something possibly worth publishing.

The National Novel Writing Month website, www.nanowrimo.org, provides a place for writers to meet, discuss and support each other's efforts online. You can share your work, read what other people have written, give and receive criticism, and share in the woes of the ever-infuriating writer's block. There are also occasional meetings at local events, where you may emerge from hibernation for a break and meet your fellow novelists in person. Then, when the month is over, and the overlords at Nanowrimo calculate the final word counts, the celebration lasts

through Boxing Day.

Think you can't possibly do it? Have too much studying to do? Not a good enough writer? People from all over the world, from every possible profession and writing background participate. There were over 25,000 participants last year (and there's no shame in not finishing - only 3,500 people reached the 50,000-word goal in 2003). All those people had normal, busy lives too, but sometimes the need to create overpowers all else and perhaps you need to give yourself a chance to see what you can really do.



Contributed Photo

When Salman Rushdie released *The Satanic Verses*, a bounty, or fatwa, was placed on his head. To get yourself a bounty, write a novel this November.

Cliffnotes: Arts events from the edge... of K-W

New Music Concert

The Maureen Forrester Recital Hall is the venue for a Laurier New Music Concert on November 17 at 8 pm. The question is, will they play "Love in an Elevator"?

Poetry you won't hear from the mouths of Good Charlotte

Remember Mike Myers' poem in *So I Married an Axe Murderer*: "She stole my heart and my cat." There could be readings just as brilliant at the WLU English Club's Poetry Reading in the Grad Pub on November 18 at 8 pm. All in attendance are welcome to bring poems.

Any time an 'x' sounds like a 'z', you know the word is cool
The anthropology department will be screening *Xala*, by

Senegalese author director Sembene Ousmane. The screenings take place November 18 and November 24 from 9 to 11:15 pm in Room 2C4.

Wayson Choy to visit Laurier

Author Wayson Choy will give a reading and a talk on his award winning novel, *The Jade Peony*, and its sequel, *All That Matters*, on November 19 from 10:30 to 11:30 am in BA 201. Choy will also be available for autographs before the lecture at 10 am in BA 201.

Symphony Orchestra Concert to rock harder than Sabbath

The WLU Symphony Orchestra will perform in the Maureen Forrester Recital Hall on Sunday, November 21 at 3 pm. Paul Pulford will direct the orchestra.

Cord Arts:

Because money isn't the only thing that talks on this campus.

AC/DC on the subject of money talking:

"Come on, come on, love me for the money,
Come on, come on, listen to the money talk"

Unreasonably snooping in Bridget's diary

Blimey! *Bridget Jones: The Edge of Reason* a bloody disappointment after success of first movie

Bridget Jones: Deuce



Actors: Renee Zellweger, Colin Firth, Hugh Grant
Synopsis: Zellweger packs on the pounds and cries over men

Caitlin Howlett



Editor-in-Chief

predecessor.

In *The Edge of Reason*, Bridget (Zellweger) continues as a journalist for *Stand Up Britain*, a tabloid-style news show. Concerned about one of Mark's newest work associates, Rebecca (Jacinda Barrett), Bridget, heeding advice from her group of outrageous friends (Shazzer, Jude and Tom), asks Mark outright if he's having an affair. Setting the stage for one of Bridget's self-deprecating spinster stunts, she is unexpectedly reunited with old flame and former boss, Daniel (Grant). Anyone who has read the book(s) or seen *Bridget Jones' Diary*, knows that Bridget undoubtedly gets herself into a whole heap of misunderstandings in an attempt to get back Mark and fend off the disgusting Daniel Cleaver. Leave it to her very important human rights lawyer to save the day, but not before beating the crap out of Daniel in what is easily one of the most memorable parts of the movie.

Perhaps one of the movie's funniest moments is when Bridget eats mushrooms of the magic variety in Thailand - obviously not realizing until it's too late. This scene was indicative of the real Bridget Jones, the one readers are accustomed to.

The entertaining cast, including Sally Phillips (Shazzer), Jim

Broadbent (Bridget's dad), Gemma Jones (Bridget's mom), Shirley Henderson (Jude) and James Callis (Tom), is memorable as well.

The Edge of Reason falters in its reliance on the first movie instead of the book, and this is easily attributed to the switch in director, Beeban Kidron (*Used People*). Zellweger still delivers a comedic performance with one of the best-fake British accents out there and keeps up with the hilarity provided by Grant and Firth, but still the film leaves you wondering what else you could have done with your two hours.

Kidron has altered Bridget's



Contributed Photo

Jones tries to iron the unreasonable thoughts out of her brain.

character into a 30-something who is slightly more pathetic than the original calorie-counting, cigarette-smoking spinster. No longer are you laughing at Bridget's misfortune, but feeling sorry for her idiotic approach to daily life.

Overall, *The Edge of Reason*

will make a half-decent night out with the girlfriends, or even a date movie, but it probably won't make it home to my DVD collection. Perhaps Kidron should have gone back to the book before going back to the studio.

Have you met Miss Jones? If you have, then you might be disappointed to meet her the second time around.

The cute, blubbery, slightly over-weight Bridget Jones (Renee Zellweger), created by British author Helen Fielding, is back. Jones is no longer a spinster, but dating Mr. Mark Darcy, the "very important human rights lawyer" she spent the first book falling helplessly in love with.

Unfortunately, *The Edge of Reason* is not nearly as funny as *Bridget Jones' Diary*. Despite a comedic cast including the return of Hugh Grant as the likeable but slimy sleaze-ball, Daniel Cleaver, and Colin Firth as the uptight but loveable Darcy, the sequel fails to deliver the romantic hilarity of its

Cord Arts Poetry Contest!

Have your poetry arbitrarily judged by people at Student Publications and win a prize that our budget can afford!

Top five submissions printed in *The Cord*!

One submission per person!

Send submissions to:
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Deadline for submissions is November 24, 2004!



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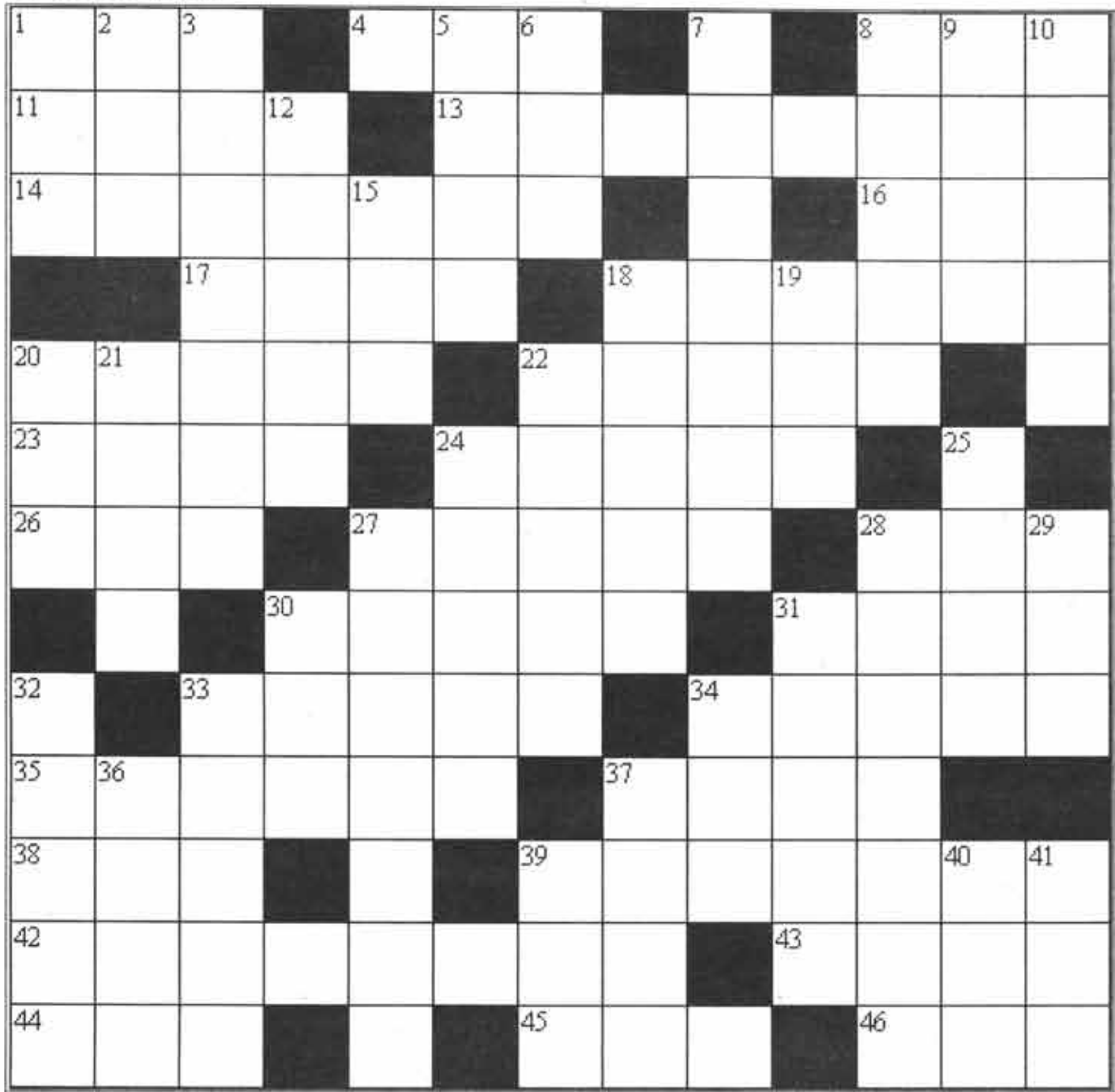
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Today's Difficult Crossword

By Fraser King



This Week's

C
L
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S



- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>Across:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Like a line, but has start 4. Israeli 9mm SMG 8. Arm-grasping embrace 11. Garden of _____, re: Bible 13. Bad Cusack horror movie 14. T.O. 16. Roofing sludge 17. Needle case 18. Dance [two words] 20. African catlike carnivore 22. Sandy coastline 23. Direction of the mouth 24. Character from Baldur's Gate II 26. No, en Francais 27. Between, by Shakespeare 28. Tree blood 30. What you cry 31. To steal 33. What crying makes you 34. Pied-_____ 35. Made from old Coke bottles 37. Arctic mammal 38. Another word for Sesame 39. What the bourgeois do to the masses 42. What royalty is called 43. Continent east of Europe 44. Mythical huge bird 45. Ancient axe 46. What James Bond is | <p>Down:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To revert in speech, thought, or practice. 2. Bustle; fuss; trouble; bother 3. Capital city of Armenia 6. Artificial language 7. To enslave 8. Trader part 9. South-western state 10. Spiral movement 12. Brief explanation 15. A crazy 18. Goddess of Agriculture 19. One, in a deck of cards 20. Convict abbr 21. Ferrous metal 22. Of or like beer 24. Ad _____, anti-spyware 25. Cod-like fish 27. Person who teaches 28. without sap 29. peffervid abbr. 30. Golf accessory 31. Small crown 32. opposite of before 33. Directed toward a goal 34. Vigor 36. Stretched car, luxurious 37. Went to fast 39. Edible Andes tuber 40. To drink slowly 41. To speak |
|---|--|

SCRAMBLOR. Lord of all Jumbles: OI' Dirty Bastard Songs

Unscramble the five scrambled words and use the circled letters to answer the question to the right.

K E S S A N



R I T O G D D



G E E M A D



Y D N A B O Y



What is OI' Dirty Bastard now?



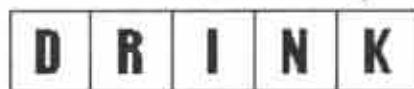
Last Week's Solution



Last Week's Solution



What is a popular way of dealing with stress?



SADISTIC GAMER By Andrew Craig



Weekly Bad Drawing By Pete Cram



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PERSONALS

Production salutes:
My P'duction staff that was clutch this week, Anathan for the great work on the graphic yet again, Sydney and Sarah for a stellar Page O Fun, Janet for always doing needed things without me telling her, Miranda for the Ron Artistic pictures and necessitating a special helper in her Stud Life photo, Rames for tackling another gruelling feature without complaint, Bryan for putting up with my unreasonable production scrutiny yet again and coming through with another stellar section, Bryn for making the sometimes depressing end of the night arbitrarily hilarious and pulling off another flagship section, Fraser and Greg for the help with the fade, Jenn for coming through despite being the beleaguered editor of the week and 'Pril for laughing at my jokes more than anyone else. Moreover, old misogynist Cord practices ("The Girls?"), Sam Mitchell basketball, Elise "I see you Brandon Currie!" Walsh for being better than Helper and Juice combined, Josh for buying an assload of juice and helper-based on my persistent requests, Leo for being addicted to GTA, Hamburger Helper's cheese-based line: Cheesy Shells, Three Cheese Manicotti, Cheeseburger Macaroni, Beef Romanoff, and Cheesy Italian, McCain's Punch-based line: Grape, Fruit, and Orange (fuck you, tropical and berry). And finally, to the late, great ODB, we'll miss your alcohol and narcotic-related musings, "we're all together now in the hood"...I'm out!

Mercis from Caitlin
April for ordering and picking up the sports photos, Fraser for chasing stories that have to wait until next week, Pinchy for spoiling the Code, Cote for suggesting Ruben on the cover, Bryan for loving sports so much he's going to Laval, Jennifer for a great collar and letting me discover Sugar Mountain, Stefan for getting the pizza and making good use of CUP, Colin for yet another good sports special project, Brandon for dealing with the feature, Bryn for being here bloody late again, Erin for pictures as usual, production crew, copy editors got to go home early (that proly won't happen again), Angela for cookies again, Ari for hooking Bryan up, Vicstar for a

good catchup at Wilf's, Folkema for pics yet again, Nick, Richard, Tanya, Theresa, Allison, Bee, Sarah, Kelly who loves me, Mac and Dan Herman (tequila eh?), the Yates Cup and fans storming the field, bill for the greatest prank idea, marn and myles for taking it so well... thanks to everyone who makes this paper so much fun to put together even at 5:00am... xoxo and high fives. CH

Thanks,
To my profs for piling on work when I'm at my most vulnerable. To my pops for the great canoe trip despite sub-zero temperature. Black Label reigns. Cybots for marching on to another convincing win. Slack for being there in spirit, Greg for sporting the mohawk, The Rager for his essay on Rage Against The Machine and always neatly doing his dishes. Riz for the shirt and saying that Greg is the only one with 'style'... to my face. Down Down for well doing her thing and still rinsing the house out. Dana

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for the article, sorry Fraser I didn't have time to fix the article. Brando and Cait for horse-whipping me and still putting up with me. Wil for agreeing to fix my ish while in France, Brando for Cayley for ditching the workout regime. Another week closer... to the end of my indentured servitude.
Boyce, Bryn "Overworked, not paid at all," from The Journal of Gripes and Melodrama Vol. 3 No. 2 (Waterloo: 2004) pp. 25

To the Dynamic Duo...

The Cord did not ask Wendy and Ramona's permission to use their photos in last weeks back page ad of the newspaper. The Cord regrets this error and have included this photo they surely did not give permission for either. We do not regret this.



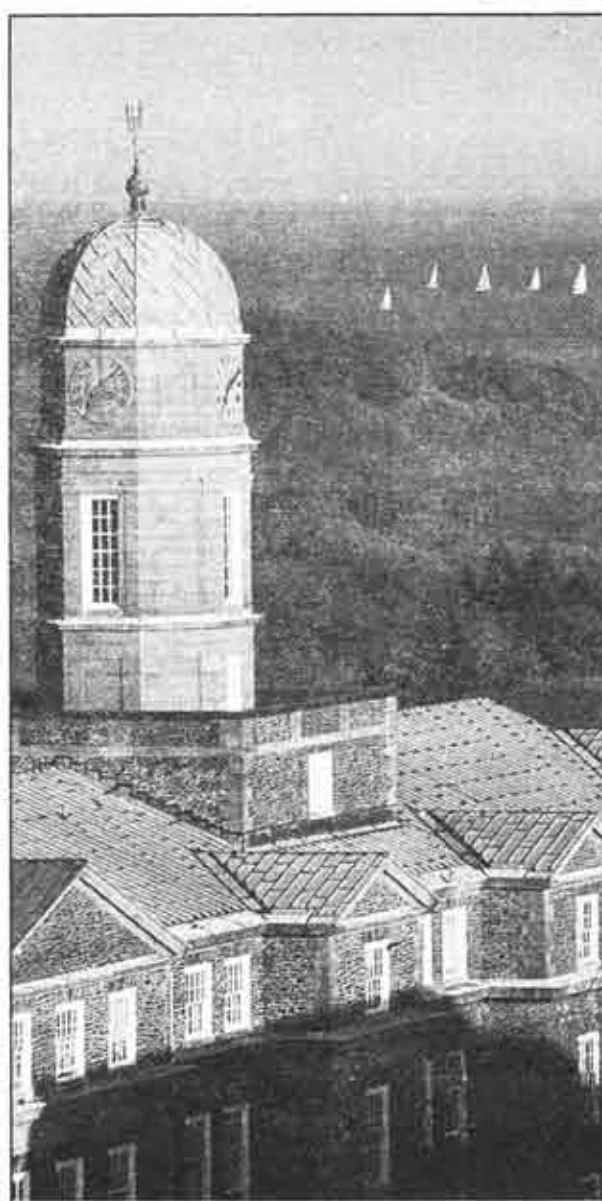
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BLACKWATER TRIO NOVEMBER 25



Hawks take Yates!

In front of record crowd, Hawks win first Yates Cup in 13 years; will play Laval this weekend

- Yates, from cover

Down 19 - 11 with less than a quarter of play left, the Hawks faithful had been forced into sobriety until Andrew Baechler changed the mood. With a touchdown already under his belt, a 40-yarder midway through the second quarter, Baechler returned a punt 30 yards to the Mac 35 after a solid defensive stop.

"We knew we were going to come back, so eventually we got it going," said a nonchalant Andrew Baechler after the game, information that the Hawks fans might have wanted to be privy to.

Two plays later, Ryan Pyear caught fire as he found Joel Wright streaking down the far side for a 30-yard touchdown. An unsuccessful two-point convert had the Hawks down by two with 11:33 remaining.

With new found momentum, it was the defence that only again stepped up with a big stop deep in Mac territory. Defensive end Brandon Keks shut down a first-down run, which was followed by a huge Maggiasco sack which set up third and 20. By forcing Mac to punt after a two-and-out, the defence had put the offence in a position to take the lead.

"To win [the Yates Cup] with this many people here is crazy."

- Ian Logan, defensive back

At their own 50-yard line, with less than 10 minutes left, Pyear lobbed a deep pass to a thoroughly covered Andrew Agro. Somehow, Agro dove amongst two defenders to make a spectacular and game changing, 39-yard reception.

On the following play, Pyear



Graham Folkema

After their 31 - 19 triumph over Mac, the Hawks pose for the rather common "trophy shot."

avoided the dramatics by again finding Joel Wight in the endzone for the Hawks' first lead of the game at 24 - 19. "Once we get points on the board we start rolling," Joel Wright noted. To no one's surprise, the team didn't look back.

The Hawks would add a rushing touchdown when Nick Cameron found the endzone with under a minute remaining, clinching the school's fifth Yates Cup dating back to 1972.

"To finally bring the Yates back and end Mac's four Yates Cup streak is huge for us," said Pyear surrounded by a horde of journalists.

But it was the fanatical crowd that the players were talking about: "You put your hands in the air, and they cheered; there's no better feeling as an athlete," said Maggiasco regarding the 8,175 present.

"To win it, with this many people here is crazy," said Ian Logan, who was crucial to Hawks' secondary all season long.

"Laval's got the craziest fans in Canada...there will be 18,000 fans at least, throwing beer bottles at us."

- Ryan Pyear, quarterback

The Hawks were quick to dismiss that their victory was a direct result of a Lumsden-less Mac offence. "It was a bonus that Lumsden didn't play, but I don't think it was a deciding factor," said Pyear.

Baechler was equally complimentary: "You have to give the

defence props. Even without Lumsden that's a good offensive unit."

With the victory, the Hawks will advance to the UTECK bowl this weekend at Peps Stade just outside of Quebec City against the defending Vanier Cup Champions, the Laval Rouge et Or.

For those not boarding the six hour bus ride, the game will be shown at noon on TSN.

"Laval's got the craziest fans in Canada, that's for sure. They'll be 18,000 fans at least, throwing beer bottles at us. Even though there will be cheering against us, we're going to take some energy from that too," said Pyear. Adding: "We know our defence is going to shut down their offence, so we just have to come out on offence and play our best game."

Two Huskies advance to Mitchell

BRYAN SHINN
Sports Editor

Eight teams remained when the day began and four were left as the Canadian university world was equally split: success on one side, failure on the other.

The Yates, Dunsmore, Hardy and Jewett trophies were all handed out last Saturday on a day that saw division rivals settled and national battles established.

In the East, identical 5 - 3 records clashed as last year's Vanier Cup finalists, the Saint Mary Huskies met the Acadia Axeman in an uncharacteristic Halifax snowbowl. Although Acadia struck first, the seven early points were all the Axeman could muster as SMU managed a touchdown in each of the final three quarters to win 24 - 7. The Huskies offensive was led by running back Al Gaicalone who amassed 301 yards on 31 carries.

On the Pacific it was the fifth ranked Alberta Golden Bears hosting the sixth ranked Saskatchewan Huskies at Foote Field in Edmonton. With the Huskies short their star quarterback, Steve Bilan, and the Bears minus running back Jarred Winkle it was a war of the wounded. Despite being down late in the third, backup quarterback Mark Feader tossed two touchdowns in the final 15, as the Huskies ran to a 21 - 20 victory.

The Saskatchewan and Saint Mary's victories set up an all Huskies Mitchell Bowl on this Saturday at 2:00 pm.

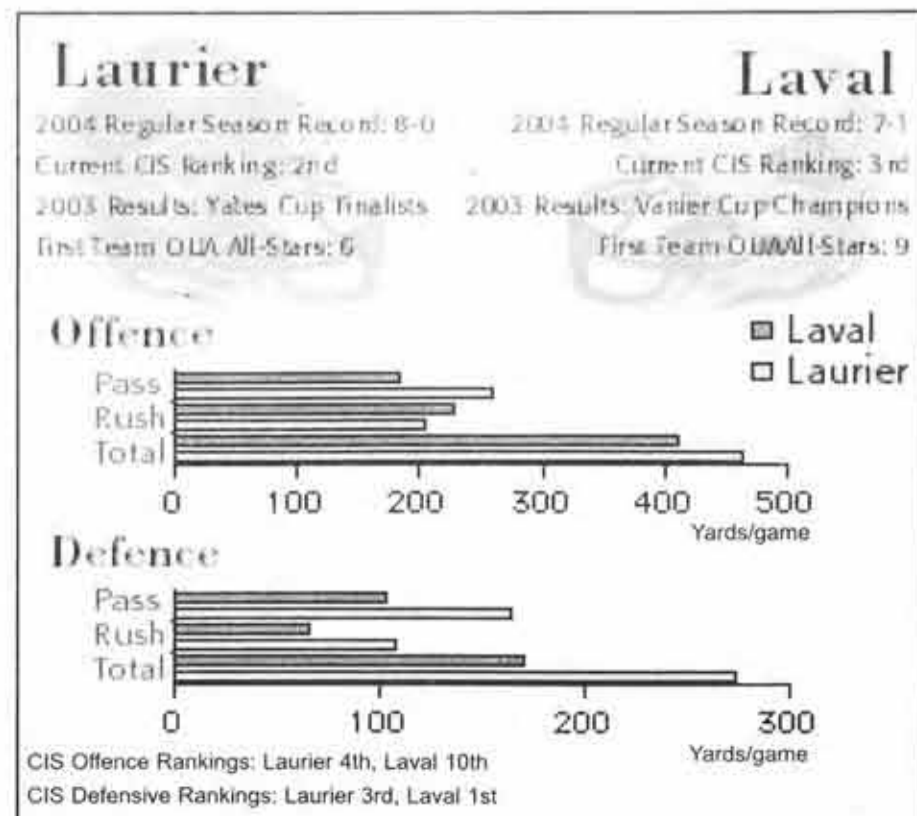
In Montreal, the first-ranked Carabins had their season, and an undefeated record put to an end when the Laval Rouge et Or avenged a regular season loss. Laval stayed true to their formula of a strong running game and unrelenting defence, as they won easy 30 - 12.

Laval will, of course, host Laurier's Golden Hawks this weekend at Peps Stade near Quebec City.

The winner will advance to the Vanier Cup at Ivor Wynne Stadium in Hamilton to play either Saskatchewan or Saint Mary's on November 27 for the national championship.



Andrew Zimcik



Ananthan Sundaesan Graphic

Ladies prevail, still undefeated

MIKE BROWN
Staff Writer

Latecomers to Clarica Arena last Saturday did not miss much. In fact, the brunt of the excitement in Laurier's 2 - 1 overtime victory against the visiting Windsor Lancers came within the last five minutes of the third period and the extra frame.

Windsor 1 - Laurier 2

The first two periods were dominated by Laurier, but yielded very few chances. At one point, the Golden Hawks peppered Windsor net-minder Katie Clubb with a string of 15 unanswered shots, but mustered only a few scoring threats. Clubb turned aside a host of long shots and was quick to smother the rebounds, leaving zeros on the scoreboard after two.

Though she saw much less action, Laurier goalie Cindy Eadie turned aside all seven shots directed her way through two periods, including a beautiful sliding pad save midway through the second to preserve the deadlock.

Finally, with less than five minutes remaining in regulation, Windsor ended the stalemate on a power play prompted by a Jessica

Singh elbowing minor. Coming down the left wing, Windsor forward Kelly Strauss let go a seemingly harmless shot, which handcuffed Eadie and bounced over her shoulder for an uncharacteristically weak goal.

The goal seemed to energize the lackadaisical Hawks' attack. They increased pressure and after calling a timeout and pulling the goalie, were able to notch the equalizer with just 51.3 seconds remaining when veteran Amanda Joseph potted one of the few rebounds allowed by Clubb all evening.

The quickened pace continued throughout the overtime period and the game looked poised to end as a draw until Laurier rookie defender Andrea Bevan intercepted a sloppy Windsor pass at the blue line and found herself on a breakaway.

"I just kept thinking, 'go in with speed, go in with speed,'" reflected Bevan after the game, who didn't want to allow Clubb time to react. Showing great patience, she waited until Clubb committed before pulling the puck to her right and sliding it into the empty cage for a 2 - 1 win.

Though obviously happy to earn the two points, Coach Rick Osborne was not too pleased with

the performance on the whole. "It looked like an energy level issue for a couple of periods," he noted. "We looked tired, and that concerns me a little bit because our conditioning is usually our strength."

Pretty or not, though, the win was a crucial one. With Guelph's subsequent loss to Windsor on Sunday, Laurier now sits as one of only two undefeated teams in the OUA, along with Brock.

"We looked tired, and that concerns me a little bit..."

- Rick Osborne, Head Coach

The Hawks were forced to play without their team captain, Ashley Stephenson, who is "having a slower than usual recovery from her knee and ankle injury," noted Osborne. "We just want to get her healthy rather than risk it at this point in the season."

Laurier will be without Stephenson again this Saturday as they host Guelph at Albert McCormick Arena in Waterloo with first place in the OUA West on the line. The teams battled to a 2 - 2 draw in their first match of the season. Game time is 7:30.



Hey Ron Artiste, Can You Give Me a Break?

Dan Polischuk



Staff Writer

Well, here's another twist to add to the soap opera that is the NBA. Indiana Pacers all-star forward Ron Artest decided to bail on his team just four games into the 2004 - 2005 season to, (surprise, surprise), create a rap album. Interestingly enough though, he has not decided to change his name yet to Ron Artiste.

Obviously being a bad boy on the court wasn't enough.

Aside from this, the question that comes to mind is, 'What is he thinking?' Obviously, being a bad boy on the court wasn't enough. He needed to prove that through his rhyming lyrics he is tough even off the court. YEA, BOI! (Note the sarcasm).

Now, it's not that I'm against players trying something different-while in reality this isn't something new at all. Past flops in the record business have included Chris Webber, Shaquille O'Neal, and Kobe Bryant. The thing that is quite bothersome is how a player of Artest's stature can be so greedy when he already has so much, an example being his multi-million dollar contract.

The cause of Artest's fallout was a 30-point loss to the Los Angeles Clippers. Making the defeat tougher to swallow was the fact that the Pacers' are supposed to be contending for a championship this year. Coach Randy Carlisle voiced his displeasure with Artest after the game by telling reporters that at the moment "he is a detriment to the team." Artest's response: "I don't even know what that means."

After having it reworded in a nice, easy sentence, Artest voiced

his own opinion; "if I need to take time off to relax, I should be able to." Earth to Ron! You just had three months paid vacation!

The NBA, just starting to recover from a lockout about a decade ago, is definitely not improving its image with clowns like this playing in the league. With neither the league, nor the Pacers organization willing to take disciplinary action with Artest, the sport of professional basketball has become a mockery.

It's not enough that league officials look foolish. They need their players to dumb down the game as well. It does not help that more and more immature teenagers are being accepted into the league through its yearly draft (Artest, coincidentally, is one of those teenagers of the past).

Artest's disappearing act goes far deeper than not reaching an appropriate maturity. Yet the NBA owes it to itself and especially its fans to guarantee the best product every game night. Otherwise, old Ronnie Artiste is going to be looking for his salary elsewhere. And this time though, he'll be singing the blues.



WOMEN SPIKE 'STANGS

The Laurier women's volleyball team continued their winning ways this past Saturday at the Athletic Complex as they defeated Western by a score of 3 - 1. The Hawks dropped the first set of the game, but a strong team effort allowed the team to take the following three. The win marks the eighth in a row for the ladies to begin their season and leaves them in first place, as the only undefeated team in the OUA West.

HOCKEY TEAM DOWNED

The men's hockey team was unable to plough their way back into the win column this weekend, as they dropped a 6 - 2 decision to Western. The game was tied 2 - 2 heading into the final

frame, but four unanswered goals by the Mustangs gave them the two points. Chris Di Ubaldo had both goals in the losing effort. After jumping out to a 4 - 0 record to commence the season, the Hawks have lost three in a row to sit at third place in their four team division with a record of 4 - 3.

G-HAWKS TRAVEL TO BUSH-LAND

The men's basketball team traveled south of the border to battle three different American college teams last week. Unfortunately for Laurier, they dropped all three of their games to Daemen College, Point Park College, and Clarion University. However, the team has shown potential that will serve them well against their upcoming Canadian com-

petition. The Hawks will play their second game of the regular season on Friday against RMC as they look for their first victory.

WESTERN WINS

After winning the opening game of the season, the men's volleyball team has dropped their last five matches. The latest setback came against the powerful Western Mustangs squad on Saturday afternoon. Laurier managed to win the first set, but lost the next three to fall by a score of 3 - 1. The Golden Hawks sit in ninth place in the OUA.

-Compiled by Mark Hopkins

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Narges Bayani

Hans-Peter Wigger gets air, while the front three (inset) do their best impressions of girly-men.

GOLDEN HAWK UPDATE

Week of to November 15-19, 2004

LAST WEEK'S RESULTS YATES CUP CHAMPIONS

- 11/10/04
W Volleyball 3, Windsor 1
M Volleyball 1, Windsor 3
- 11/12/04
W Basketball 79, Carleton 67
M Hockey 2, Western 6
- 11/13/04
YATES CUP
M Football 31, McMaster 19

- W Hockey 2, Windsor 1
- W Volleyball 3, Western 1
- M Volleyball 1, Western 3

UPCOMING HOME GAMES

- 11/17/04
M & W Volleyball vs. Guelph
6:00 & 8:00 PM, Athletic Complex
- 11/19/04
M Hockey vs. Concordia
7:30 PM, Rec Complex
- 11/20/04
M Hockey vs. UQTR
7:00 PM, Rec Complex
- W Hockey vs. Guelph
7:30 PM, Albert McCormick

November 20:

- UTECK BOWL
CIS Semi-Final
- M Football @ Laval
12:00 PM, LIVE ON TSN
and on 570 NEWS

www.laurierathletics.com



Stu's Angels on a trek of their own

Special Projects Editor, Colin Duffett's first look at the season long profile of Women's Basketball

The WLU Women's Basketball team happens to be the only team to have gone to back-to-back CIS championships from the OUA. As a judge of success, that is quite an accomplishment for Head Coach Stu Julius and his squad of ladies. Julius came to WLU in 1999 after a number of series of years coaching at Lakehead University. Since his inaugural season, Julius has turned a faltering program into one of the most successful programs in Ontario, one that is driven towards completing another prosperous season and returning to the Nationals for another chance.

"We should be at a point now where we should be trying to win the Ontario championships and

trying to win a game at the Nationals," said Julius, commenting on where he thinks the team should be at this point in the program.

This Golden Hawks squad is remarkably different than the one from the previous season. Julius believes that this year's squad is "more athletic... a lot more physical than last year and were definitely quicker."

The team boasts five first year players, Elise Carruthers, Christine Gibson, Dana Poder-O'Born, Jillian Ritsma and Jenna Wulff and returning player Maire Guiney who played on the team during the 2002-2003 campaign.

"[Guiney] brings experience. She's not necessarily a rookie but she's going to help us a lot."

Coach Julius does admit, though, that he does have some concerns regarding the upcoming season. Some of his main concerns included the lack of depth in the post and the team's commitment to defence. Julius' concerns at the forward position stem from the fact that post player Heather Sutherland is out until late December with an injury. Sutherland along with Forward Dee Channer are responsible for the majority of the work underneath the basket.

"It [Sutherland's injury] bothers me because what if Dee gets into foul trouble. I think we are going to have a lot of difficulty with teams who are really inside oriented."

Head Coach Julius also

admitted that one of his biggest concerns in the upcoming season was on the defensive side of the ball. While he admits that he is happy with the offensive output of the team, averaging almost 65 points a game, good enough for fifth most in the OUA, they also gave up an average of 60 points a contest, which left them in ninth position in that particular category.

"We should be at a point now where we should be trying to win the Ontario championships."

- Stu Julius, Head Coach, Women's Basketball

Despite Coach Julius' concerns about his team coming into the season, there is a bright light

at the end of the tunnel. This team is led by a core group of veterans that have provided the spark for this team in the past and have played in key situations before. Players such as Sarah Zagorski, Meaghan McGrath and Channer will be looked to perform on the court while second year player Laura Taylor continues to improve upon her rookie season, putting up an impressive 19 points and four rebounds in the team's season opener against Windsor.

In a tight division, Laurier will have to be on top of their game more often than not. There are a number of quality teams that will hover around the .500 mark, and if Laurier isn't careful they could find themselves out in the cold. But if the past is any indication of the future, this team has the skill to make another run at the OUA championship.



Position: Guard/Forward
Height: 5'10"
Hometown: Antigonish, NS

On playing in her first season: "It's definitely a step up. It's a lot more intense but I like that. I feel like I'm adjusting."



Position: Guard/Forward
Height: 5'8"
Hometown: Sudbury, ON

On winning against Windsor: "We played really well against Windsor. I think we played together."



Position: Forward
Height: 6'2"
Hometown: Port Carling, ON

On starting the season with an injury: "You see your role in a different aspect. Now, its more to encourage the team."



Position: Guard
Height: 5'9"
Hometown: Pickering, ON

Stu on the addition of Wulff : "Jenna was a walk-on and a pleasant surprise. She's athletic and going to play a role for us."



Position: Head Coach
All-time record 363 - 309
Two time OUA Coach of the Year

On his expectations of his players: "My expectations of every kid is high. If it isn't then we are just selling the program short."

Ladies split weekend home games



Ottawa's Kristen Moyle has Laurier's Maire Guiney on her heels as she guards the talented Ottawa player. Guiney is averaging 12 points and 4 rebounds a game including 16 points against Carleton.

COLIN DUFFETT
Special Projects Editor

The setting for the WLU Women's Basketball team could not have been more fitting. Laurier hosted the Ottawa Gee Gee's on Friday night in what was a rematch of last season's OUA Championship game. Unfortunately for the Hawks not much changed this time around with Laurier falling short 77 - 71 against their rivals from the capital city.

Early on, both teams traded baskets running the score to 17 - 17 at one point in the first half. Unfortunately, Laurier was unable to capitalize on a lot of opportunities underneath the basket. Forwards Dee Channer and Kerri Jilesen shot 3/12 and 5/12 from the floor respectively, including a trio of missed lay-ups by Jilesen within the first minutes

of the game.

Commenting after the game, Head Coach Stu Julius said, "We got the ball down low but we didn't finish. We have to finish. Dee had lots of opportunities but she missed way too many and Kerri missed some easy ones."

Laurier was continually beat underneath the glass at both ends of the court. Laurier was out-rebounded 35 - 26 by the Gee Gee's, including an impressive 26 defensive rebounds by the Ottawa squad.

The Lady Hawks played a much better second half that saw the team crawl within five points of the Gee Gees with only 2:45 left to play in the game after being down at various times in the half by as much as 11 points.

Laurier outscored Ottawa in the second half of play. Credit should be given to the commitment of team defence that saw

Ottawa turn over the ball 23 times in the game, including a team high four steals by Guard Sarah Zagorski, who also netted 12 points.

First year player Dana Poder-O'Born said, "We did outscore them in the second but our minds weren't there, we weren't focused. We didn't play hard, we didn't play smart and we didn't play together."

Saturday saw Laurier play a much stronger game against Carleton University. Laurier improved on its shooting going 26 of 56 from the field including four three-pointers, three of which came from the sweet shooting Meaghan McGrath who finished the weekend series with a solid 27 points, including 11 in Laurier's 79 - 67 victory over the Ravens. Laurier's next games will be on the road against Queen's, RMC and Lakehead.