



Debate over support for part-timers

BOD passes two of three motions in support of part-time faculty



APRIL CUNNINGHAM
News Editor

The WLUSU Board of Directors passed a two-part motion last Wednesday to support Laurier's part-time faculty and librarians, but not without some debate.

Director Dave Alexander had originally hoped that all three motions he brought forth would pass with the consideration of fellow board members.

"My expectations were that people would consider the motions for themselves and people would be open to the fact that this issue affects students in an extensive kind of way," he says. "But it is a complicated issue."

"It's a feeling of insecurity that eats at you over the summer months."

- Michelle Kramer, part-time prof

The first motion expressed support towards part-time faculty under current working conditions. The second part would lobby administration to "increase the amount of institutional and financial support available to part-time faculty," while the third narrowed in on the issue of more adequate teaching evaluations and smaller class sizes.

"I think everyone agrees that part-time faculty have a difficult job," says Alexander. In a briefing memo he presented to the board, he noted that part-time faculty are paid \$5121 per course. If they choose to instruct to the limit of three courses per term, the maximum amount of money they can make per year is \$45,000. The average student-teacher ratio is 45:1 which far outweighs the overall average of 23:1.

The board passed the first and last motions.

During the meeting, Vice-Chair Matt Gouett noted, "I don't think you can compare what a teacher makes to the quality of student life." Other directors argued that an increase in salary would end in increased tuition.

Director Fraser McCracken is pleased with how things turned out. "I didn't think it was the job of the Students' Union to pass judgment on the union's labour negotiations," he says. He notes that the motion that passed addresses "key priorities that students have expressed a desire to improve."

Michelle Kramer, a part-time professor in the English department is pleased that students are expressing an interest and support for part-timers. She says that the Contract Academic Staff (CAS) are looking for students' "visual support."

"Even wearing those stupid yellow buttons," she says.

Kramer is a part of the negotiation team that has been working since the end of August to come up with an agreement that would be acceptable to both the Wilfrid Laurier University Faculty Association (WLUFA) and the university administration. She says negotiations are going "smoothly."

"I don't see any reason why they won't go well," she says.

However, there are what Kramer calls "radical" changes that the CAS would like to make.

Kramer says that a primary issue for part-time faculty is job security. "At the end of April we're basically let go and we have no way of knowing what's going to happen to us," she says. "It's a feeling of insecurity that eats at you over the summer months."

To alleviate the pressure, CAS would like to establish a guarantee for continuing appointment.

Other major issues on the bargaining table are salary and benefits.

Currently, part-time faculty are paid a lower amount than full-time faculty for what some argue is the same amount of work. Kramer notes that some full-timers at the bottom end of the salary range are making double the compensation of part-time faculty.

- Please see **WLUFA** page 3



www.laurierathletics.com

Hawks drown in red sea

Perfect season and Vanier Cup hopes end in Laval



BRYAN SHINN
Sports Editor

On Saturday afternoon, in front of an electric Quebec City crowd of 18,275, the Rouge et Or added more truth to the claim that they are the best team in Canada.

Laval's proof was Laurier's disaster, as the Hawks fell 30 - 11, thus putting an end to an impressive perfect season and a championship drive.

With the best defence in

Canada, and a superb running back from Mexico, Laval was simply too much for the Hawks who appeared unfocused and overwhelmed throughout the game. Ryan Pyear tossed three picks and Nick Cameron ran for a scant 63 yards while the Hawks defence was walked all over for 414 all-purpose yards.

"A lot of things didn't go as we expected," said a visibly upset Lee Maggiamo after the game. "We just didn't play our best game today."

In many ways it was the inability of the Hawks defence to contain the rush that was the difference. Laval's studded backfield anchored by Jeronimo Huerta-Flores collected 189 all-

purpose yards and was appropriately honoured as the player of the game.

With the score already 4 - 1 in favour of the home team after an uneventful first quarter, Huertas-Flores collected two TDs in the second frame to lead his team to a 18 - 1 advantage at the half.

For the Hawks offensive, it may have been the crowd's volume that contributed to an errant-filled afternoon. "I couldn't hear blitz calls from my receivers, and my offensive line couldn't hear audibles which made it very difficult to execute on offence," said Pyear.

- Please see **UTECK**, page 18



File Photo

ERT celebrates (guess what?), yes that's right, their 10th anniversary in the Concourse.

Copps explains "Why Canada Works"

Former Heritage Minister gives talk about Canada's Government

ADRIAN MA
Staff Writer

This past Thursday, prominent Canadian political figure Sheila Copps was on campus to headline the 2nd Annual Laurier Lecture in Canadian Studies. The annual event provides an opportunity for the university committee and others to lecture about Canada. This year's guest speaker holds many distinctions, being a former multi-term member of parliament as well as a former Heritage Minister and Deputy Prime Minister.

Copps opened her speech, entitled "Why Canada Works", by honouring Wilfrid Laurier, who she called a "world citizen" and "a man who truly defined our country."

"[He] is a great model of liberalism, [and] saw politics as a vehicle for social empowerment and not an end in itself."

The lecture touched on a variety of topics, but always related back to a question that Copps posed early on: "Why is it that 90% of the world would give everything they had and more to come to Canada?"

To Copps, the answer can be found in Canada's cultural diversity and collectivism, ideals espoused by Laurier himself.

"I think some people describe [Canadians] as polite. I'd like to think that the reason we're polite is not because we're afraid or unimaginative, but rather it is because we started a country with the premise that the majority

should not trump the minority."

She went on to discuss Canada's relationship with the United States, and the obstacles that Canada faces in fighting to maintain an individual identity.

"If we can resist the pull to have economic and political integration with the United States, I think we can continue to exercise a unique role in the world."

"I think we can continue to exercise a unique role in the world."

- Sheila Copps, former Heritage Minister

About America's controversial missile defense plan, Copps had this to say: "Nuclear missile shields will not protect us. Building walls around America will not save us. What will save us is building bridges."

While she recognized the many achievements and formidable growth of Canada since the time of Laurier, Copps also noted the particular challenges hindering this country.

"[The] West fights [the] East, everyone fights Quebec, and more Canadians are thinking about 'me' than thinking about 'we', I think of Canada as a work in progress, [and] each region must do their part to reapply the glue that keeps us together."

The former deputy Prime Minister's lecture resounded with both conviction and optimism,



Narges Bayani

Former Heritage Minister and Deputy Prime Minister Sheila Copps delivers a talk about "Why Canada Works" to students and staff alike at Laurier.

and, though her speech largely centred around Canada's past and present, she did have something to say to the future of the country, the Canadian youth.

"There's a huge degree of activism, and there's a lot more exposure to just so much that you have the potential to be incredi-

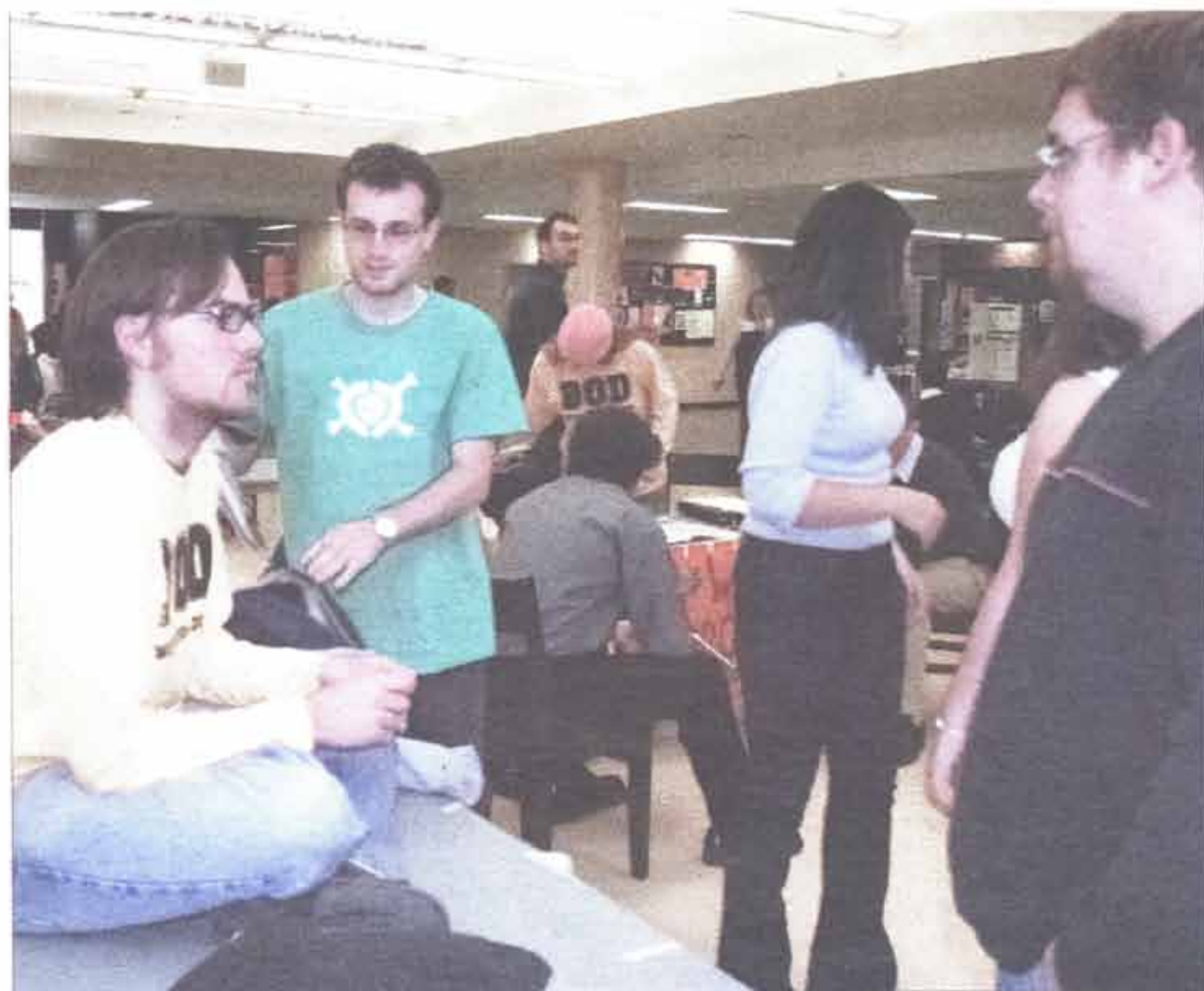
bly active or incredibly cynical.

When I wrote [my] book, I called it "Worth Fighting For" because I want people to understand that you have to be there to change things, and I think the youth need to be inspired to get out there and get involved. I was happy to see the number of peo-

ple coming out, for example, to the WTO demonstrations."

After witnessing her strong message at the 2nd Annual Laurier Lecture, it is apparent that, although Sheila Copps has left elected politics in Canada, she will never leave the country she has spent her life serving.

Concourse turns yellow



Erin Moore

The WLUSU Board of Directors held an Open Forum in the Concourse last Wednesday. Turn out was poor although the Board used a different method of holding the forum, using a round table format. Speculation was that students were not aware they were welcome to bring concerns to directors as it looked like a series of meetings, or that there just isn't anything controversial happening on campus right now.

**THE CORD WEEKLY'S...
5 DAY ACTION NEWS
WEATHER FORECAST**



Today		Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Afternoon:	Evening:				
Rain 3°C 90% POP	Heavy Rain 3°C 100% POP	Rain or Snow High 1°C Low 1°C 60% POP	Rain or Snow High 3°C Low -4°C 40% POP	Cloudy w/ Showers High 7°C Low -1°C 70% POP	Wet Snow High 4°C Low 1°C 90% POP

**CORD
clippings**

**NATIONAL
Chretien honoured by gays**

A Philadelphia-based Equality Forum will be honouring Jean Chretien next year for his push to legalize same-sex marriage in Canada, reported *The Edmonton Sun*. It was recently announced that the former Prime Minister would receive the award for 2005 "International Role Model."

Forum members respect Chretien as a model of all international leaders, especially since he went against his "devout" Catholic beliefs in the pursuit of human rights. There is still some debate on whether the Canadian Supreme Court will follow through with the legalization of gay marriage.

**PROVINCIAL
Asthma sufferers want drugs**

A group of individuals who suffer from asthma presented a petition to the Ontario government Monday to lift a ban on histamine-based drugs. Canada.com reported that the group said it was criminal of the government to prevent the relief they felt after consuming the drug.

Sufferers claim histamine helps to alleviate extremely painful sinus headaches and fainting spells. It was banned after a doctor regularly prescribed the drug to his patient, although an allergist had claimed that it did not have therapeutic value.

**LOCAL
Michael Jackson threatened**

A Kitchener man has pleaded guilty Monday to uttering death threats to Michael Jackson. Adrian Poffley had written an email on August 16 to a Santa Maria courthouse stating, "Jackson will not make it to his car. This is a promise. By the way, bulletproof vests are weakest under the arm." Santa Barbara police took the note seriously, traced it to Kitchener and laid formal charges on the sender.

Poffley will not be able to use email for the next year, and will serve a year of parole.

Compiled by April Cunningham

Do you really need to buy?

Buy Nothing Day challenges people to question purchases

FRASER KING
News Editor

November 26 is the busiest shopping day in the year — "we suggest you buy nothing." That is the bold challenge that *Adbusters*, a Vancouver-based magazine, is making this year.

Friday, November 26 is "Buy Nothing Day," a worldwide event started by the magazine 13 years ago that is coming to Laurier again. "It's a day to raise awareness and question the consumption that we are encouraged to participate in," said Nicole Barker, the Buy Nothing Day coordinator for Laurier Students for a Public Interest Research Group.

The all-day event is taking place in the Concourse and is going to feature many events and displays including a number of

speakers, "It is exciting; we have professors from economics, sociology and psychology," said Barker.

Barker also noted, "We're looking to have a drum circle and jam session, so people can feel free to bring their acoustic

guitars, bongos or whatever."

To help students avoid buying anything, food and fair-trade coffee is going to be provided free of charge. "We will also have information," said Barker.

While the day is centered around a serious issue, Barker is not being vindictive: "We're not trying to guilt anyone or point fingers and blame

tal, social, and all sorts of things that we don't consider."

"We booked the entire Concourse, so we are hoping that we won't have anyone infringing on our space," said Barker, in reference to the "Buy Everything Day" that was organized as an antithesis to Buy Nothing Day. "Last year we let [Buy Everything Day] stay as a way to have open discourse, but it wasn't very respectful discourse," noted Barker.

Buy Nothing Day events are scheduled to happen all over the world and all across Canada. "It is going to be good times," said Barker, noting that everyone is welcome to come and listen to the speakers or peruse the displays. If you would like to find more information about Buy Nothing Day, adbusters.org has a plethora of information and materials available.



anyone." She also noted, "it is just a way of raising awareness of the repercussions of our actions, environmen-

ing to have a drum circle and jam session, so people can feel free to bring their acoustic

This week in Laurier History

SERVICE SLOWED AT WILF'S
Nov. 22, 1995

Laurier recently added Wilf's to the meal card options. Al MacNevin, Committee Chairman, commented, "I think it's absurd that [the meal card instalment] took so long in the first place." There was debate as to who was responsible for the delay. Ancillary Services Director Cliff Bilyea blamed Wilf's, but others felt he was also responsible. The meal card system was put in place at 3:00pm Friday, November 10. The meal card system attracted first year students who tend to eat in large groups. The kitchen and servers struggled to keep up with the large crowd. Many students are impatient with the long wait.

WLU: WITHOUT LIBRARY USE
Nov. 26, 1987

Cutbacks at the library led to the cancellation of 250 subscriptions to journals and periodicals due to the school going over the previous year's budget. Department heads had to choose what journals were essential for their departments. In response to the cutbacks, WLU, UW and UoG made an agreement to allow students from each school to use each other's libraries. The deal included an online system that accessed all three schools. This meant students had to go to Guelph personally and pick up the books, which few students had the time or money to do. WLU's percentage of operating budget that went to the library seemed to be decreasing yearly.

Taking responsibility

New Brunswick University takes Laurier's example

MICHELLE PETLEY
The Baron (University of New Brunswick, Saint John)

SAINT JOHN, N.B. (CUP) — What began as a class project has turned into a policy-making initiative at the University of New Brunswick at Saint John.

"I think the university was ready and our timing was right," said student Alison Gayton, speaking about the Take Responsibility Initiative, which aims to create a policy to end the sale of sweatshop-produced goods on campus.

The Take Responsibility Initiative is a group of political science and international studies students at the university who are proposing the administration sign a "no sweat" policy.

Gayton has already been involved in meetings with the administration and said, in prac-

tice, the university has already taken great strides.

"We have a visionary and supportive university administration," said Gayton.

The policy will include a code of conduct outlining employment standards for the factories to ensure people who work there are paid enough to live on, and treated fairly.

This code of conduct will be unique to the University of New Brunswick but will be aligned with other universities that also promote sweatshop-free purchasing.

Once the policy is adopted, the school will be the third university in Atlantic Canada to have an active policy in place.

The other universities are Dalhousie and St. Mary's.

The first step in turning the university's purchasing practices into policy will most likely take three years and will start with the formation of a committee made up of members of the student body and different layers of the administration.

1965 Page Three Boy



Cord File Photo



Contributed Photo

Above are people sewing in poor working conditions. New Brunswick is trying to enforce a "no sweat" policy, as is Laurier.



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Wilfrid Laurier University Student Publications
75 University Avenue West
Waterloo, Ontario N2L 3C5
(519) 864-1970 ext. 3564
Fax: (519) 865-0873
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www.wlusp.com
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Student campaigns for Juvenile Diabetes

Student victim is driven by her disease to raise awareness on campus

VERONICA HUGHES
Staff Writer

Rebecca Grant had just turned 20 and was wrapping up another hectic November with the usual plethora of assignments. Except something wasn't quite right. She was sleeping all the time, had constant chest pains and was very depressed, and this wasn't from the stress of school.

By the time Grant is 80, she will have taken a total of 109,500 needles.

Just after this, Rebecca was then diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes, a genetic disorder that causes the body to produce abnormally high amounts of blood sugar. To keep this stable at least five shots of insulin a day are required. By the time Grant is 80 she will have taken a total of 109,500 needles.

November is Juvenile, or Type 1 Diabetes Month, a disease that despite the name, can affect anyone at any age. Being an extremely motivated individual, Grant is running the campaign at Laurier by herself, even though November is debatably the busiest time of the term.

"I wanted to do something to help raise money to find a cure as soon as possible. Knowing how tough it is to live with this disease, it breaks my heart when I see young children going through the torture of needles and finger pokes," says Grant.

A typical day involves pricking herself at least five times to check her blood sugar and then she injects herself with the appropriate level of insulin. Blood sugar fluctuates for a lot of different reasons: stress, food, emotions, exercise and alcohol are just a few of them. High blood sugar can cause organ damage, while low levels can cause a coma. Neither is desired, so frequent checks of blood sugar are necessary.

When she was diagnosed it was not enough that she had to come to grips with the possible side effects of the disease such as heart attacks, the thought of giving herself at least five needles a day was all too overwhelming. "I remember the doctor saying to me after I couldn't manage to



April Cunningham

Students who choose to donate \$2 at the Laurier Bookstore towards the campaign for Juvenile Diabetes will have a shoe posted at The Hub.

give myself a practice shot in front of her, 'Rebecca if you don't take this needle, you will die.'"

For her, the support from the Laurier community has been tremendous.

Her main goal throughout this campaign has been to raise awareness about the disease and for her the support from the Laurier community has been tremendous. "I think it has helped people understand a little bit

more about the disease and about me, although I'm hoping people don't think of me as sick because that's not who I am. I have the disease but the disease is not me."

If you would still like to donate, converse shoe cut-outs can be bought at the Book Store for \$2 and put up at The Hub for the rest of the month.

Know someone working for a cure?

Email: cord@wluwp.com

or

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

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Bag O' CRIME

THEFT UNDER \$5000

3:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Monday November 15

A resident at Bricker Residence reported that person(s) unknown stole a video game system and some games from his apartment. Investigation revealed that the door was possibly not locked.

CAUSE DISTURBANCE

5:52pm Monday November 15
An officer responded to the area between Euler and Bricker Residences after receiving a report of a fight in progress. On arrival two groups of males were seen talking but no fight was in progress. They were spoken to and went their separate ways.

BREAK, ENTER & THEFT

November 15 - 16
Person(s) unknown broke into an office in the Arts C Wing and stole a data projector. Regional Police Forensic Identification Unit was called in to gather evidence.

FIRE DEPT RESPONSE

10:38pm Tuesday November 16
Waterloo Fire Dept responded to an alarm at Conrad Hall. It was determined that the alarm was set off by smoke from cooking in one of the kitchens.

BREAK & ENTER

November 16 - 17
Person(s) unknown broke into an office on the fourth floor of the Bricker Academic Building. Nothing appears to have been taken. Six other offices on the

fourth floor had damage to the door handles but it is believed entry was not successful.

TRESPASS BY NIGHT

1:00am Tuesday November 16
Occupants of one of the apartments at Heidelberg House reported seeing an unidentified male standing behind a tree outside their unit and appeared to be looking at their apartment. When the male saw them he fled from the area. Regional Police were notified.

CRIME OF THE WEEK: LET'S GET CRUNKY

UTTERING THREATS

Thursday November 18
An off campus student reported that one of her roommates had threatened to beat her up. The complainant requested that the matter be dealt with by way of a warning at this time. Investigation continues.

NOISE COMPLAINT

10:56pm Wednesday November 17
Officers attended to lot 35 in response to a complaint that a group of students were listening to loud music coming from a vehicle. Officers found no one in the area.

BREAK, ENTER & THEFT

November 17 - 18
One office in the Science Research Building and three offices in the Science Building

were broken into and computers taken. Attempts were also made to gain entry to three other offices without success. Regional Police Forensic Identification Unit was called in to gather evidence.

NOISE COMPLAINT

5:00pm Thursday November 18
Officers attended at the area between the Athletic Complex and Conrad Hall after receiving a complaint that two youths were setting off firecrackers. The youths were spoken to and warned.

THEFT UNDER \$5000

Friday November 19
A student reported the theft of her bike from the bike rack outside the Peters Building.

MISCHIEF

November 19 - 20
A non-WLU male reported that person(s) unknown spray painted some graffiti on the roof of his vehicle while it had been parked in lot 19.

FALSE FIRE ALARM

7:05pm Saturday November 20
Person(s) unknown caused a fire alarm at the Athletic Complex by activating a pull station. There was no sign of smoke or fire.

CAUSE DISTURBANCE

2:20am Sunday November 21
An officer responded to a report of a fight at the corner of University Ave & Hazel St. Regional Police also responded. On seeing the Security vehicle the group dispersed.

During this time period, one warning was issued for a liquor act violation.

JOIN US IN HONOURING OUR CHAMPIONSHIP TEAMS



Wednesday, December 1, 2004

At half-time of the Men's game during the Basketball Double Header vs. Guelph Men at 6:00 PM, Women at 8:00 PM

CONGRATULATIONS HAWKS!

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Residence Space Available January 2005 - April 2005

There are a limited number of residence beds available for any registered full-time WLU student, including first-year, senior and possible graduate students.

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Spaces are limited. Applications are available in the Residential Services Office, located at 200 King St. N., 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. & 1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Mon. - Fri.

Part time concerns

- From **WLUF**, cover

However, Kramer sees the other side of the coin. "Obviously [the university] needs to balance the budget," she says.

Although the Students' Union has made moves to show their support, Kramer does not think students should be too concerned with negotiations.

"I don't know if it should be the student's worry of whether we make a fair buck or not," she says. "What should be a student's concern is the quality of their own education."

Alexander is still convinced that students are affected by part-time faculty's working conditions.

For example, office space is often limited for CAS. "Having appointments is difficult when there are other people in your office," says Alexander.

The workload of part-time faculty who are also working on a doctorate degree can affect classes.

Also, with what he believes is in inadequate financial compensation in the face of high OSAP debt, "feeling stressed about financial situations adds stress to teachers' lives," he says.

But Alexander is content with what passed. "It's good that WLUSU did something at a time when these concerns can be made into real commitments."



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THE NEWS, WE DO IT FOR IT.

CALL FOR COMMENTS Committee for the Dean of the Faculty of Science



Dr. Arthur Szabo's term as Dean of the Faculty of Science ends on June 30, 2005. The Executive and Governance committee, on behalf of the Board of Governors, approved that senior academic administrators could be considered for an appointment for up to two years, post age 65, subject to a successful review, for strategic or transition reasons.

The committee is recommending an evaluation of the work of the incumbent and a review of the position description with a view to making a recommendation regarding renewal.

Submissions are invited from the University community on issues that should be considered during the evaluation process. A copy of the position description as it was in June 1999 can be obtained by contacting Debbie Thayer, Secretary to the Committee, at ext. 3727 or at dthayer@wlu.ca. Signed submissions (in writing or by e-mail) should be sent to the Secretary to the Committee by **4:30 p.m., Tuesday, November 30, 2004**. All submissions considered by the Committee will be regarded as confidential. You may request to remain anonymous to the members of the Committee, however, all comments must be signed. The Secretary will delete names of those who wish to be anonymous before the comments reach the Committee.

Evaluation Committee Members:

- Sue Horton, Vice-President: Academic and Chair
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because April
and Fraser
could use a
break

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 Chris Giffin
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Quote Of The Week
 "In America, women can vote but horse cannot! It is the other way around in my country."
 - Barat, Kazakhstan Journalist

Last Issue of the Year: Dec. 1

Is there substance?

It is only a matter of time before the fate is decided for Laurier's part time faculty and librarians. As negotiations between WLUFU and WLU approach their conclusion, the WLUSU Board of Directors has shown its support by passing a motion that is, at best, better than nothing.



The Editors' View

It is somewhat effective for the student body of representatives to formally show their support towards the part-time faculty. They have also made a tangible move by asking negotiators to take more comprehensive teaching evaluations and smaller class sizes into consideration.

But the BOD took the safe route by avoiding the endorsement of the motion which would lobby WLU to "increase the amount of institutional and financial support." By doing this they are essentially sitting on the fence, which does little good for the students or part time professors.

Steve Welker, President and CEO of WLUSU questioned whether it was beyond the scope of both the board and the Students' Union to be meddling in the affairs of the university administration.

In addition, Fraser McCracken, WLUSU director believes that there is a defined line between what is in students' interests, and what factors affecting part-time faculty also affect students.

But that line is just not so easily drawn. The compensation of

part time faculty is painfully less than that of full timers. They will often teach just as many classes, and if they would like to be considered for tenure (or guaranteed job security), they must continually work on research projects and articles for journals and periodicals. All of this is done without compensation by the university, so they will often work another teaching or professional job on the side.

There is no way that the overwhelming work load that sits on the shoulders of our part-time faculty does not affect the quality of education we receive.

Class sizes are often two times the size of full time professors' which increase the workload even more.

Decreased accessibility to students occurs as a result of professors who are unable to hold regular office hours due to other employment commitments. Shared office space makes teacher student meetings difficult as well.

The WLUSU BOD has taken a step in the right direction, but is this single step enough to actually cause some change or has the issue just been given a positive spin with no real substance?

You're golden, Hawks

Golden Hawk or Golden Hater, one couldn't help but feel the disappointment for the boys in purple on Saturday.

They didn't win. Everyone hoped to see the purple and gold celebrate another come from behind victory, and then in one week's time, take the field at Ivor Wynne.

But they won't. They didn't win on the scoreboard, they didn't win in yards or punts or interceptions. They lost almost every statistical comparison against Laval, but they didn't lose everything.

They didn't lose the respect. The respect not only of a campus and their fans, but of an entire country who recognizes sport as an important part of university life for many. For a team that lost more than just games in 2003,

they put the stereotypes and their harshest critics behind them and did just what they were supposed to do - play football - and played it they did.

The players didn't do it alone, and credit has to be given to Head Coach Jeffries who is correct in saying that no one can take their great season away from them. He commands the respect of each individual player and his coaching staff, and he led a team from its darkest days to some of its most brilliant triumphs. Yates Cup Champions, a flawless regular season, 13 OUA all-stars, Coach of the Year and most likely some All-Canadians in the next week - a great season indeed.

If you played any sport, remember the cheer for the other team despite winning or losing... Hip hip hooray, hip hip hooray, hip hip hooray.



Geoff McCallum

Brantford autonomy

Fraser King



News Editor

The dual Union roles in Brantford and Waterloo is bad for both

It's not that I do not like colonialism, I'm as big a fan of imperial domination as anyone but when it comes to my student government trying to govern two campuses at once and managing neither well, it makes me frustrated.

When I think of WLUSU representing both the Brantford and Waterloo campuses it makes my brain hurt. I find the entire situation to be such an obvious lapse in reason that I cannot comprehend it. It seems like WLUSU is treating the satellite as if it were an extension of the Waterloo Campus and not the different campus in a different city that it is.

I try to imagine how ridiculous it would be to have an MPP elected in Waterloo represent the people of Edmonton. The people in Edmonton are not going to be properly represented by the MPP from Waterloo and the people in Waterloo are going to be upset that the person that they elected is representing someone else.

Before there was the Brantford Campus, WLUSU was fully dedicated to issues that affected Laurier, not Laurier and Brantford. The inability of the WLUSU Board of Directors to quickly and decisively take care of student-centric issues is due to Brantford's con-

cerns being addressed in place of the concerns of Waterloo students.

If our Union did not have to take care of Brantford's student buildings, issues such as underage student's status at the Turret or ResNet and peer-to-peer networks would not have taken five weeks each to be resolved. It seems that as the population of the school has gone up, the number of representatives has gone down.

If independent student government is a goal for Brantford, then give it to them.

I am not saying that the Union is doing a bad job, in fact, given that they are doing the work that should be spread over two different unions, they seem to be doing very well. That being the case, I may have made it a little easy to assume that I think Brantford needs its own Union.

Brantford has recently elected a 'campus council,' which they have nicknamed 'the Bouncil,' however, like a dog that has had its teeth smashed away with a hammer, the Brantford Campus Council doesn't seem to be able to do much aside from tell the

Union what it wants.

I am uncertain if the toothless Brantford Campus Council was designed to prevent WLUSU from losing power over the satellite like an aging Imperial power granting some kind of token sovereignty to a colony or if the students of Brantford or Board of Directors merely wants to create some kind of camaraderie between the two campuses. Certainly either of those alternatives is not preferable to a Union that functions well for at least one campus.

Now I am almost certain that someone would mention, if I don't do it here, that the Brantford Campus Council is a stepping stone to an independent student government for the Brantford Campus. I hate to be a mean person and say that I think that's silly, but it's not like we are dealing with billions of dollars or people's lives.

If independent student government is a goal for Brantford, then give it to them. If granting independent government is not WLUSU's to give, then Brantford students: make your own government, you are not being represented properly by WLUSU and you are causing them to do a poor job of representing the Waterloo Campus.

SEND LETTERS TO THE CORD!

cord@wlusp.com



The tenth Klein

Krista Shackelford



Unshackled

By the time you read this, a provincial election in Alberta will have come and gone.

On the surface, this election wasn't anything to get terribly excited about. The Conservatives have ruled Alberta for nine straight mandates. It's no surprise that Albertans just elected the party for a tenth.

However, while the popularity of Conservatives remains strong, there is evidence that support for premier Ralph Klein is dwindling.

Since becoming premier in 1993, Klein has cut health care and education funding. He cut welfare payments. He tried to deregulate electricity.

He's huffed and puffed about Western alienation. He's insisted that the Kyoto Protocol is a silly idea that would cost thousands of Canadians their jobs. He's threatened to use the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedom's notwithstanding clause against Albertan gays and lesbians looking to get married. He successfully used it to avoid paying reparations to women who were sterilized in Albertan institutions in the 1950's. This last move caused such a furor that Ralph was forced to retract the decision.

Despite all this, Ralph Klein remained the most popular premier in Alberta. As of 2000, he had an approval rating of over 70 percent amongst Albertans.

In December 2001 Ralph Klein had a bit too much to drink. This in itself wasn't unusual. Stories about Ralph



Klein drinking too much are common in Alberta. But this night was different. Instead of going home to sleep it off like an intelligent drunken premier, Ralph decided to visit a men's hostel. He entered the hostel, tossed coins at men in the lobby and told them to "go get a job."

This caused quite an uproar in Alberta. Even a popular guy like Klein can't toss drunken insults at homeless people without a really good reason.

And so Ralph Klein gave Albertans a really good reason! "I've come to realize that I have a drinking problem," Ralph announced to a packed press gallery two days later. "Thanks to my experience two nights ago, I have realized that I need to get help."

It was a brilliant move. Suddenly the media coverage changed from "Klein - what a jerk!" to "Klein - what a courageous individual!"

But Ralph's newfound sobriety has not transformed him into a bastion of tact and courtesy, however. He continues to make insensitive, erroneous comments - regardless of whether or not he's under the influence of alcohol.

Since going off the sauce, Klein has likened publicly run insurance programs to "communism." He has said that Pinochet was "forced" to mount a coup in Chile because of "socialist" policies. He defended this comment by saying that he wrote a paper on socialism that earned him a 77 percent (apparently this mark confirmed his mastery of the

nuances of Chilean politics.) After making this comment he read part of his term paper at a press conference... leading to the discovery that parts of the paper had been plagiarized. Oops.

Ralph recently complained about the "yipping" of AISH recipients, a fund for people with severe disabilities. According to Ralph, the people who complained "didn't look severely handicapped... they had cigarettes dangling from their mouths and cowboy hats!" It's ironic that a man with an "invisible illness" of alcoholism would expect disabilities to be visually obvious.

These misadventures have affected Klein's popularity and affected the current election. Alberta Members of the Legislative Assembly are no longer riding on the coattails of Klein. In fact, our MLAs are no longer talking about him at all. At the beginning of this election race, Conservative campaign signs featured a big picture of Klein's face. Less than a week later, these signs were replaced by more sedated blue signs. Klein's persona is no longer a guaranteed election winner.

The latest polls suggest that 44 percent of Albertans are still solidly supporting Ralph Klein. They think that Ralph is a good guy. Not brilliant, perhaps. But folksy. Unpretentious. The kind of guy you could invite to your home for supper.

But would you really want to invite Ralph Klein to your home for supper? And more importantly, would you really want Ralph Klein running your province?

Give part-time your full attention

Heather Sweeney



Neither Funk Nor Wagnalls

Students of Laurier, we have the power to influence the future of the post-secondary education system. The power has always been within us and now it must be realized. The contract negotiations for the part-time faculty and librarians are currently underway and our time of action has arrived.

Many of the wonderful professors who enrich the learning experience at this fine institution are currently working without a contract. They lack job security because they are only given work four months at a time. Many of these professors, however, have been teaching at this University for years and the departments have come to depend on them for their expertise and specializations. The situation is similar for many of the library staff who work without full-time contracts though we depend upon them.

The faculty and staff are also denied benefits. Part-time professors often have to teach more classes than full-time faculty in order to earn a living wage. Many of these professors were once like us, living it up student-style while accumulating debt. Without sufficient income, it is difficult to meet life-expenses in addition to dept payments without job security or benefits.

Part-time faculty members are also unable to do paid research, something which allows full-time profs to teach fewer classes and

therefore mark fewer papers. This is problematic since many of the part-time faculty are working on the research necessary for doctoral degrees on their own time.

The part-time faculty share small, cramped offices with one another. They have no place to sit and meditate upon our wonderful, brilliant essays and assignments that we spend so much time composing. These professors do not have the freedom to choose their class times and have to mark papers on their own time, without an office.

Teaching a class without a full-time contract also curbs a professor's freedom to express controversial viewpoints in the classroom. For many profs, this means maintaining the good ol' status quo. The academic as well as political stances of the part-time profs are inadvertently censored.

These faculty and staff members do not work part-time because of a part-time interest in education and the function of this institution. So step-up and represent our wonderful staff and faculty. Write a letter to Joyce and/or Doug Lorimer expressing your appreciation of the part-time faculty and staff and or speak with them personally. Their office is located on the fourth floor of the DAWB.

Many of your professors may be part-time staff as well, and would like to talk with you about the current negotiations and their implications. Fellow students, let us rise up in aid of our beloved part-time faculty and staff members because, after all, they do give full value.

Letters to the Editor

cord@wlsup.com



Wilf's Bartenders are falling like flies

WLUSU has been the subject of many complaints especially by the student employees themselves on the practices of the management committee. In every bar in the world, including Wilf's and the Turret before the arrival of Steve Welker, employees take advantage of a guest list policy. They work hard and see this policy as a reward for their hard work. In Wilf's and the Turret, when an employee has worked on a Saturday, he or she is eligible to skip the line of Wilf's or the Turret. It was as a gesture by the management of the establishment to show their appreciation.

Upon his arrival, Steve Welker, who has never worked in any of the profit centers, has decided to take that privilege away from the employees and has cancelled the guest list altogether. He states that all students should benefit from the same perks and that no one should receive special treatment. Yet, Mr. Welker, along with his guests, refuse to wait in line and often come in the Turret and Wilf's through the back doors to skip the line.

Apart from Mr. Welker's hypocritical actions, Wilf's is heading in a direction that worries many students within the organization. In the space of two weeks, four bartenders have resigned citing the wide differences between reality and the way the establishment is run. These resignations have set an uncertain future for the restaurant.

This year the emphasis has been on attracting more patrons into the establishment, but promotions have

been neglected. As a result, some of the anticipated busy nights have seen a significant decline in attendance. The management committee has failed to examine solutions to increase promotion and restore high attendance volumes.

It is also important to note that many very crucial decisions are made by the management committee of WLUSU who has no previous experience in working, not managing, a restaurant. These decisions directly affect the productivity and customer service delivery making it difficult for Wilf's to be competitive after 9 pm.

It is necessary that employees are consulted on these issues before decisions are made - not just by individuals with no knowledge of the establishment or the restaurant business. It is also important that the student body, the ultimate owner of this profit centre, get involved and voices their opinions on how things can be done better. After spending half a million dollars on renovations, it is crucial that Wilf's brings in a profit for the first time in five years.

Anonymous

Live for today by having faith in God and Jesus

I am writing this letter in response to the article written by Caitlin Howlett: Celebration before loss. I would like to thank *The Cord* for writing this article; thank you so much for asking those questions. Too often in a world where conformity is such a way of life, where fitting into an environment is necessary, the questions of life are

forgotten. I almost want to scream out sometimes to people. There is more than living for grades, for money and for yourself. Marc Woerlen has got something doesn't he? How can he deal with this loss? The Cord has asked the right question! How can this be? A man loses everything, and yet does not die himself? Marc says it's because of Faith? Faith in what? Or rather Who?

You're absolutely right, we should not wait to ask these questions about what life is all about until we are in Marc's shoes. We should ask these questions now and not let another second or minute pass without honestly thinking about what Faith is, what the point to life is and what we are living for.

I am a Christian. I was touched by this article because you asked the question I did last year. I chose to seek an answer and I became a believer in Jesus Christ. I can't tell you I lost my whole family or have experienced the kind of pain Marc has, but I can tell you my life has changed because of God.

I have lost nothing and have gained everything. I live for a purpose now and not just for myself. I see the pain in this world and instead of wanting to ignore it, I want to give my life over to God so that He can show me where to go and how I can contribute to fixing it. Articles like yours help my faith; stories like Marc's harden and strengthen my trust in Jesus Christ... Thank you for hearing my thoughts.

The right questions have been asked... now see if you can find some answers.

"See what no one else sees. See

what everyone else chooses not to see, out of fear, conformity, or laziness. See the world anew each day." (Patch Adams)

Stewart Dunbar

Artest isn't an example of immaturity in the NBA

Just thought Mr. Polischuk would like to know that Ron Artest's coach is Rick Carlisle, not Randy. As well Ron Artest was drafted in 1999 at the age of 20 after two years at St. Johns University, meeting the age limit that Commissioner David Stern wishes to implement during the next contract negotiations to root out those immature teenagers.

As well, Ron Artest was tired after having promoted an album of a group that he produced and wished to have a couple of games off so he could rest up instead of playing tired and being a detriment to his team. The final mistake was saying "With neither the league, nor the Pacers organization willing to take disciplinary action with Artest."

This is incorrect as Artest was forced to sit out two games including the 30-point loss to the Los Angeles Clippers where Indiana was forced to play with only 8 players for most of the game. I agree that Ron Artest was letting his team down, however he cannot be used as an example in the argument that immature teenagers are ruining the NBA. Especially when the author of the article appears to know little about basketball and is using a rare occurrence to stereotype "straight out of high school" NBA players as immature morons.

Dale Hawker

MSN a legitimate way to express emotions

I respect Dana Krook's opinion about "trivializing" death by putting "RIP" as part of an MSN name; however, I disagree with her.

I too know someone who has recently committed suicide and the day after my friends and I found out I was not shocked to find my MSN list adorned with "RIP... We'll Miss You... You'll Always Be Remembered... etc..." I do not find this the least bit demeaning or disrespectful to the dead for many reasons.

MSN plays a large part in the average university student's life and at least in my circle of friends, MSN names are also very important. For my friends and I, our MSN names include lyrics that have moved us, a brief commentary on society, an inside joke or a quick description of our mood. At a quick glance I can tell which friends are depressed, which are happy and which are hung-over. I can easily tell what my friends' thoughts are.

Seeing as they only have 129 characters to say their piece, they are forced to sum up a day's worth of emotions in only a few words, thereby making each character extremely valuable. Because of this, I think that sacrificing the precious 20 or so characters to recognize the death of a loved one is far more touching and respectful than trivializing.

- Please see **Letters**, page 8

Letters cont.

After all, a poppy is a trivial flower, but one cannot deny the amount of meaning such a simple flower represents. Sometimes the simplest things make the biggest difference.

Alex Kowalchuk

I challenge you to poop in the toilet and flush it!

After spending more time studying on campus, I have become frustrated with people's inability to clean up their own messes. We eat, we drink and we study – all of which produce garbage, yet we can't seem to get that garbage into the garbage can. Just as a reminder, garbage cans are those large, usually cylindrical containers with a bag in them located everywhere on campus.

We are supposedly intelligent human beings in the pursuit of knowledge at an institute of higher learning. Throwing out my garbage was something I learned in kindergarten. When I see the obscene amount of trash lying around, I question people's motives. Is it laziness? Indifference? I'm not sure what makes a person think he/she is important enough to have someone clean up after him/her. Laurier's staff does a wonderful job of keeping our campus clean but all we do is create unnecessary work for them. A perfect example of this is the dining hall.

After our meal, we walk out, surrounded by garbage cans and recycling bins. Toss your trash while walking by! It's impossible to leave the dining hall without encountering a garbage can. Who the hell are you to leave your garbage lying around? You are not two years old – you know you should do it, so just friggin' do it!

I was also infuriated to read in the November 3 issue of *The Cord's* Bag 'O' Crime that on three separate occasions people smeared feces on the walls of a library washroom. Again, you are not two years old. If you need a lesson in pooping, wiping and flushing, then ask your mother. I prefer to spend my time on a clean campus rather than wade through a war-zone of your garbage and excrement. I challenge you to poop in the toilet and flush it! I encourage you to get down off your high horse and realize that you are a jerk if you make others clean up after you!

Cheryl McBride

Emancipate Your Mind

I sat in absolute shock, dismay and utter silence after I read Wilbur McLean's from "Civil rights to 'civil Whites'" article in last week's *Cord*. I could not believe that such atrocious statements representing Black people and society at large could be made.

Your civil rights turned "civil Whites" argument is a direct insult to Martin Luther King Jr., Malcolm X, Jesse Jackson, Rosa Parks, Harriet Tubman and many other Civil Rights leaders. The successes of these individuals did not solely rest on their own perseverance and dedication, but quite often if not always on the assistance of liberal-minded Whites, with Abraham Lincoln and John F. Kennedy being two of the more prominent leaders. Nonetheless, this did not before and does not now imply that we have "been successful in stopping racism." Our society has progressed primarily in reducing overt, distinct acts of racial discrimination but covert, systemic racism is still existent. This is evident by your customer who knowingly or ignorantly called you a name that has arguably been used as a derogatory term towards Blacks by all races, including Blacks themselves. You cannot erase 550+ years of history with "twenty-five years" of any form of education.

I personally disagree with your sense of apathy in not addressing this customer and enlightening him on what simply could have been an "out-

dated term." As much as I understand your perspective that some White people are very cautious and sympathetic to your situation, I feel insulted that you have indirectly invited the acceptance of the word "Negro" on behalf of many Blacks, primarily on the Laurier campus. You may be a "liberal-minded young Black man" in understanding that progress in society has been made, but I believe some naivety has blinded you from the big picture. Racism still exists but the struggle is no longer being led by Dr. King or any other specific leader, but by Black people in everyday lives and everyday situations such as yours. Emancipate your mind my brother... and next time, please help the struggle and do not comically accept being "the young Negro fellow helping a White guy find his floor."

David Green

Ignoring the part-time faculty is shameful

This is a letter to express my disappointment over the lack luster motion passed by the WLUSU Board of Directors last week concerning part-time faculty. The BOD's "revised" motion did nothing. Honestly, it really angers me to know that as a Students' Union we (and I say we because the people in that board room represent all of us) couldn't formally state that the working conditions suffered by part-time faculty are "challenging" at best and that we appreciate them and their attempts at negotiation.

Clearly the part-time faculty (across all disciplines) are underpaid, over-worked and crammed into horrible communal cubbyholes. Standing up for the part-time faculty in a time of negotiation sends the message that students recognize this overt problem and want it to change. We need to insist on change.

Great professors leave this school because it doesn't offer many full-time positions and they cannot afford to stay working under the current part-time conditions.

We have lost (in the English department alone) professors like Dr. James Allard and Dr. Adam Sol (two of the finest teachers I've ever had) and I worry from year to year that I am going to return in September and profs like Michelle Kramer and Dr. Jason Haslam will be gone as well.

I don't think anyone can argue that supporting the part-timers will hurt the students more than it will help them; the bigger question is how can we not support them since this issue directly affects students.

The bottom line is that conditions must improve, period. To me university means education – it's what I'm paying for. If I don't have quality professors who are involved in the Laurier community and available for personal consultation then why should I be paying to attend this institution?

For once I would like to see the students stand up for something. This is a perfect opportunity. Stand up and let the administration know that you don't like being ripped off and that you are here to ensure you're getting the education you came for. Support the part-timers who give full-value. Write a letter! Send it to the BOD, the administration, and *The Cord*. Show that you're not entirely ignorant of your own self-interests! Please. Do it today.

Sherry-Lynn McKeever

Letter Policy:

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@wlu.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.

Pirate audiophiles

Brendan Jones



Extra-value spiel

Ok, so you've made it out of Laurier and you managed to find a job. After a couple of months you're wondering where your pay cheque is, so you ask the boss. "You're doing a great job but it is just easier for the company to take your work without paying you for it," they tell you, "so get back to your cubicle because we want those 17 other reports by Christmas." You'd probably be pretty pissed, wouldn't you? This is essentially what is being done to recording artists, but I suspect not many of you have had an angry Ice Cube show up at your door to punch you in the nose.

Downloading mp3s is something that we all do. From the comfort of our home, we electronically reach out and steal a candy bar free from the guilt of having to run out of our house afterwards while our dad chases after us yelling, "come back here you stupid kid!" I personally have a sizeable collection of electronic candy bars, but it is not a phenomenon unique to young adults or kids.

Classical, country, jazz and opera music are all swiped online too. In one foul swoop mp3s allow us to go from a consumer culture to a freeloader culture where not even Pavarotti is safe



from its wrath.

We rationalize this behavior in a number of ways, but it essentially boils down to the argument that it hurts the recording label's profits, not the artist. This Robin Hood mentality has its appeal, but what about the minstrels that follow his band of merry men through the streets?

When we plunder the internet for all its musical spoils, directly or indirectly we are hurting the artists. Artists get paid every time a song is played on the radio; if we can just burn a CD there is little point in having radio stations.

We are slowly reducing artists to a never-ending world tour, as

MP3s allow us to go from a consumer culture to a freeloader culture where not even Pavarotti is safe.

ticket and merchandise sales become increasingly important to the majority of artists' income. Once this becomes the norm, I for one won't be surprised if they just don't bother to record albums anymore. This could have residual effects as well.

It is quite possible that television could fall by the wayside.

You can already go online and download the latest episode of *The Apprentice*, sometimes even without commercials.

Commercials are where television networks make the money that enables them to produce such high-quality entertainment as *Da Ali G Show*. When the internet becomes our major source for television shows, as it has for music. Don't expect there to be such a fervor over creating another Canadian production that is actually as successful as *The Corner Gas* or even another *Seinfeld* for that matter.

There is a reason nobody parks in the handicap spot when there's a cop camped out across the street. By this same logic, it's pretty naïve to think that we will stop downloading until it is accompanied by a fine.

Like many of you I'm going to keep downloading from my own home but if you live in residence perhaps you should have to wait. We may have photocopiers in the library, since what is in the library is meant to further our education, but to ask universities to be the getaway driver as we come running out of the residence with hundreds of electronic candy bars is absurd. And I'm sure the Dean doesn't want Ice Cube to punch him in the nose.

Bryn Boyce's **Campus Pictorial**

Bryn Boyce's Campus Pictorial does not necessarily reflect the views or opinions of the *The Cord Weekly's* Editorial Board, its volunteers, or WLU Student Publications. Any readers who would like to comment on the Campus Pictorial may submit a letter to letters@wlu.com, and must adhere to the letters policy of *The Cord Weekly*.

Photograph by Erin Moore

The Flying Irish: The traditionally peaceful Irish have lost a safe haven to the seafaring fascist "Musselini." Once considered the most exorbitantly priced student bar, Paddy's was "disappeared" by the Blackshirts. It's not clear whether or not the ingestion of castor oil played a role in Musselini's take over. Is the Silver Spur now planning to shorten their name to "The SS" and break ties with its Western theme?

Cord Opinion Is Looking For:

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THE BAR SCENE

Wilf's Renewed and Reviewed

Bryn Boyce



Opinion Editor

Wilf's may be gleaming after its summer makeover story, but it seems to be turning toward the adage that starts, "all that glitters..."

The bar is sleek, it's organized and food service has even begun to beat down the horror stories floating around about bad food and long waits. The aesthetics of the bar are an undeniable improvement but where are all the students?

Last year, when the Union's Wilf's Renewal Project was still a wee nugget yearning to make a mark on the pub scene, then Vice President: Finance and Administration, Steve Welker, pointed to four major areas of need in Wilf's. Namely, a "well trained staff offering excellent service, effective programming, a diverse menu offering high quality food and a visually appealing space."

A lot of these areas have seen marked improvement but promotion seems to be struggling to keep up. No doubt promotions is the single most important aspect of creating a worthwhile campus pub scene. If you can't get people to your bar, then no matter how big your new TVs are or how fast your service is, you'll still always be the diamond in the rough - even right in the middle of campus.

There's a growing number of employees in Wilf's that are bursting at the seams with ideas for improvement. They work the bars, they make and serve the food and they know the people who roll up to the FNCC to eat drink and be merry. So why are these staff feeling more alienated than a underaged first year in the

campus bar?

Simply put, the Union senior management and student executives just aren't giving staff perspectives the weight they deserve. When an employee talks about dropping appetizer prices on certain nights to spur attendance, hear them out. When they say that using Wilf's as a holding tank for Turret is workable and will make financial sense, then sit down and consider it.

A profitable Wilf's will raise all boats. The staff will enjoy increased tips, the Union will see a new array of programming options from the extra cash and the students will have a bar that they can actually say they like going to.

Cheap Date Night promotions at the Turret show how dropping beer prices to \$2.50 will attract students in droves.

Laurier students will spend their money at bars no matter which one it is. If Wilf's can be made to be a truly popular nighttime choice for them then it will keep this money inside the Union to further benefit students. For instance, a profitable bar will mean better programming options for Phil Champagne, manager of Programming and Promotions, more leverage in terms of costlier food specials that need to be subsidized to work and it will offer the Union more options for expansion of services in the Union.

The focus has to shift away from Wilf's as a break-even proposition (which it has been struggling to do) and toward a profit-making centre that can inject money back into the bar and the Union.

Cheap drink nights are in fact an option, although a generally unpopular one inside WLUSU since it involves an element of risk to the insurance policy. However, if WLUSU is committed to allowing "risky" undergrads into the bar then it's clear that such risks can be managed.

The past success of Cheap Date Nights promotions at the Turret show how dropping beer prices to \$2.50 attracts students in droves. WLUSU General Manager Mike McMahon pointed out that these types of promotions are ones that have been met with the highest response from students and which he considers to have been "extremely successful."

"You don't often see a promotion that has that effect," he explains. Cheap Date Nights "continued to be a winner with students," when they were a programming mainstay in past years.

So why not transfer this to Wilf's? If it works in the Turret, it can work in Wilf's.

The promotions don't begin and end with cheap alcohol either. The BP All Stars put on a show earlier this month when Wilf's showed off its new menu with a cheap \$0.25 appetizer deal promotion. Ambiguous advertising led many to believe that the deal was better than it was, but from 2 pm to 5 pm Tuesday to Friday that week, Wilf's was jammed with people. The success, at least in terms of student interest, shows that food deals strike a chord. Imagine if these deals were put on during a bar night...

If the Wilf's Renewal Project was truly meant to improve the students' campus pub, then a renewed interest in the promotion and profitability of the bar needs to come hand-in-hand. If you build it up, they will come.



Photograph by Erika Ivanic

Try it again, for the first time

Megan MacLean



Guest Columnist

For anyone who has frequented Wilf's in the past few months, the aesthetic changes couldn't have gone unnoticed. From the fancy new floor and bar to the respectably large television screens, it can be said with confidence that the bar finally does look great. Like a real restaurant outside of Laurier's bubble.

In fact, that was what the management team had in mind with the decision to renovate. Also, as Wilf's General Manager, Mike Carroll, pointed out, the screens and new stage area assist Wilf's in attracting conferences and meetings to rent out the space.

The significantly improved general atmosphere also gives students a chance to dine in a relatively pleasant restaurant that's never too far away. Plus, name a better place to bring a fellow student on a little date where things can be kept casual, you don't need to borrow your roommate's car and you can still pay on OneCard.

Another improvement that the Promotions Committee and the Wilf's Management Team have attempted is to cater to a wider audience. The different types of entertainment that Wilf's now showcases on a weekly basis is aimed at reaching out to a more diverse crowd of students. This includes the Monday night "Jam Night" with its open-mic concept, the Tuesday Acoustic Duo, the Top-40 All Request Wednesdays and the live bands on Thursdays.

Riding on the popularity of the acoustic bar performer theme, Tuesday has apparently become the new Saturday by posting the highest attendance numbers. The other nights have their regulars showing up, especially on

Mondays, with attendance at about 100-150 each week. But the problem remains; apart from these loyal Monday customers, who else has heard of "Jam Night"? Am I the only one who wanders around campus oblivious to any attempt at marketing our Campus bar?

According to Phil Champagne, the Programming & Promotions Manager, WLUSU lacks the manpower and avenues to properly promote these events. The Wilf's website, which remains largely unheard of in the student circle, could be one opportunity to get the word out but has not been updated since September. The general WLUSU website, which sees about as many updates as the Wilf's one, could also be used much more effectively.

It should be the focus of the Management Teams of all WLUSU profit centres to give the students what they desire. These businesses are owned by the student body after all.

Some things that might go over well with students, which Wilf's should consider, would be a cheap wing night, which draws students en masse to similar pubs like Morty's. Or a football night where the new screens could be put to use. Or perhaps, earlier in the evenings, have nights where geeks like me could come to catch popular shows like the OC and The Amazing Race with friends, drink and decent food.

This could all help Wilf's draw a more varied crowd and allow those underage students who sometimes miss out to participate in more aspects of campus life. While WLUSU is very reluctant to reduce the price of alcohol, most tend to realize that the prices aren't that high, even for a student. So, with a few gimmicks and promo up its sleeve, the pretty new Wilf's could potentially be packed every night of the week.



Photograph by Erika Ivanic

Consistency, please

Jennifer Asselin



Student Life Editor

Do you think if we just left, that they would even notice?" asked my friend while waiting for our server to clear our table and present us with our bill.

My roommate, not realizing the bad reputation Wilf's service has had in the past, wondered just how long it would take our server, who did not check on our table once throughout our meal, to get back to our table. The funny thing is, we didn't even see our waitress around Wilf's.

Another funny thing though, is that this waitress, just like those other servers who kept passing us by seeing our empty plates and wandering eyes, had endured five intense days of training before they had all began working there.

Under Wilf's new Server Training policies implemented this year, all servers must achieve a 90% score on four server tests as well participate in 16 different learning seminars before they are able to work a regular shift at the restaurant.

What isn't covered by these tests however, is common sense etiquette, which should be shown in equal doses to customers coming in to be served. The reason for this, obviously, is because it's common sense. For example, customer comes in, seat them quickly. Customer asks a ques-

tion you do your best to find the answer. Customer offers witty banter, offer a smile and engage in brief small talk – it's really quite basic.

I'm not saying that Wilf's is any different from any other restaurant found around the campus perimeter but instead, because there are so many specific service complaints directed at and joked around Wilf's, that extra measures should be taken in order to ensure fast and friendly service.

The use of comment cards would be a large benefit to customers who want to voice their opinions anonymously

Where some students benefit in the restaurant setting by being served by a friend at Wilf's, other students suffer. Socializing and preferential treatment is a substantial difference among this student run business and your typical family restaurant. There is a fine balance to be obtained by employees who sit and socialize with friends while their other tables look longingly at the food on the tables next to them.

Although I'm not entirely sure if this kind of multi-tasking is teachable, my proposed solution to this problem would be an interpersonal training session for servers. Here, servers would be taught ice breaking techniques and how to give off a friendly and

approachable demeanor without socializing for large amounts of time, allowing servers to get their work done and serve customers as quickly as possible.

Another way to monitor service would be a "secret shopper" approach where customers would unknowingly be planted throughout the term to monitor servers' behavior and techniques. Afterwards the server could sit down with the planted customer and go over the areas of improvement.

Lastly, the use of comment cards, which the restaurant is currently looking into, would be a large benefit to customers who not only have complaints but also may wish to commend a particular server. As it stands now, if a customer has a complaint or critique, they are asked to talk to management, which, for some, can be intimidating. Comment cards allow for anonymity and for students to speak openly and honestly.

Of course it's easy for students like myself to remember the bad things about the service at Wilf's, it's because they can't improve on the good. Although I'm focusing on the negative experiences I've had, it's because it's from these experiences that I am able to seek improvements.

Yes I've had pleasant service, yes I've had fast service, but it's not consistent and it's consistency and excellence in service that I want in my campus restaurant. After all, that's what'll get you the tips.



Be It Resolved That:

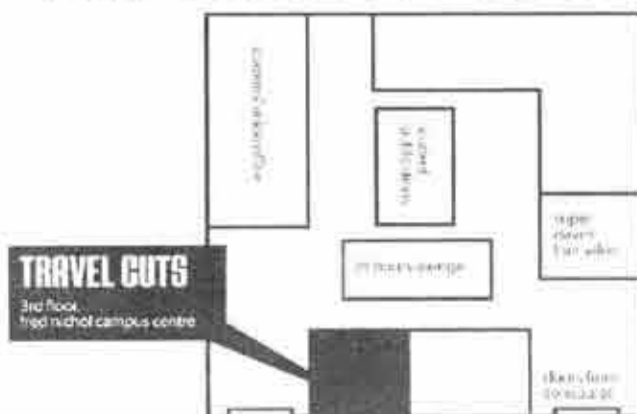
1. Wilf's should be used as a holding tank on Turret Thursdays and Saturdays. There's no point in making students wait in line when they can be in a bar.
2. Students need to actually hear about Wilf's promotions. Work on improving advertising on Radio Laurier, in The Cord, online, through posters and most of all through good promotions that fuel the best kind of advertising – word of mouth.
3. Wilf's should seek wide student and employee input through comment cards and "secret shopper" feed back.
4. Offer cheap drink nights.
5. Change the focus of Wilf's from a break-even venture into a student-benefiting profit center. Keep Laurier beer money in the Union and use it to improve promotions and programming.
6. Offer cheap appetizer nights and daily food specials to realistically compete with the Dining Hall and local restaurants. Pizza and Pitcher Wednesdays is a start.

These recommendations are compiled from the Wilf's Review Opinion Feature and do not necessarily represent the opinions of The Cord Weekly or WLUSP. Comments? Send letters to cord@wlusp.com

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Severe crop shortages loom in Africa

Poor rains in parts of Africa have further exasperated an already dire situation

TONY FERGUSON
Staff Writer

In West Africa, swarms of locusts have devastated countless crops, showing no mercy as they move from farm to farm. Combined with poor rains, the annual grain harvest in some areas have been slashed by up to 90 percent.

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) has said that farmers in Mauritania as well as other West African provinces such as Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Niger and Senegal are in dire need of seeds in order to replace their locust-ravaged crops.

The Northern provinces of Burkina Faso have been hard-hit by the combination of bad rains and locust plagues. The province of Oudalan has lost 90 percent of its harvest, while the provinces of Seno and Soum have lost 78 and 74 percent of their respective crops.

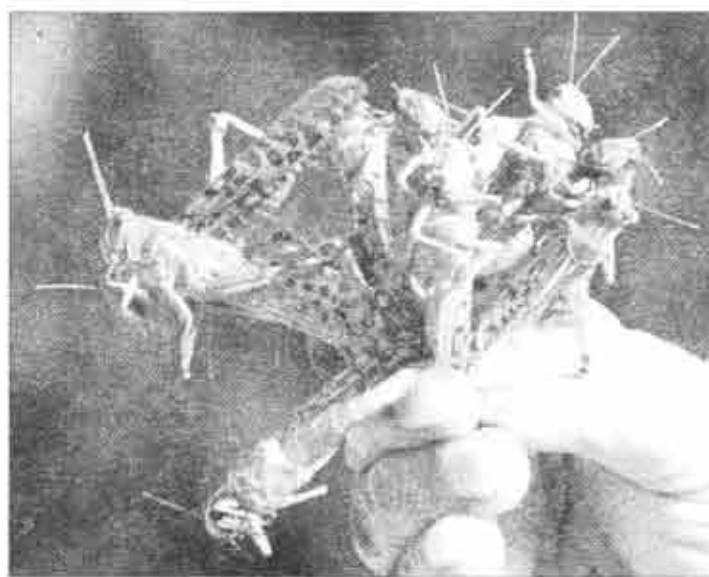
The ravenous insects have affected herders, who have been forced to move their livestock more frequently, but are strug-

gling to find any grazing land left. This has forced some livestock owners to sell off their animals and has had the greater effect of driving down the cost of livestock.

At the same time, the shortage of food has driven up prices. In July 2004, 100 kilograms of corn cost \$15 (US), while, by early November, the same bag of corn cost \$24. The government has promised to deliver 500,000 tonnes of food to the Northern provinces but experts warn that this won't be sufficient.

While people in West Africa are dealing with the destruction, the locusts have moved on into Egypt, being carried by northeasterly winds. Saudi Arabia and Southern Israel have also been hit.

Christian Pantenius, who is the program coordinator of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), told reporters that he didn't think the locusts would move any farther down the Nile Valley and that it was the first time that the insects had been so large in number



Contributed Photos

Swarms of locusts, which destroyed everything in their path in West Africa, have been moving as far east as Egypt, where the clouds of locusts blocked out the skyline.

around the Cairo region since the 1950s.

Pantenius told the Associated Press that: "People are very afraid that [the locust swarm] may cause damage to agricultural production, but to what extent the agricultural sector could be damaged is difficult to say."

Some farmers who find themselves without any pesticides to defend their crops are starting tire fires and making loud noises with machinery and firearms, hoping to divert the swarms.

Locusts can travel anywhere from 120 to 200 kilometres per day and in the same time can consume their weight (about two

grams) of food. When multiplied by the size of their swarms which can sometimes number in the billions, the result is a destructive force of biblical proportion. The FAO described the roves of insects as "a medium density swarm of locusts numbering several million, if not a billion."

"It seems like an all-out war, no less," a senior researcher at the Locust Research Institute, Abdel-Azim El-Gammal, told reporters at *Al-Ahram Weekly*.

Locust control units are working tirelessly to contain the plague, but some are beginning to show signs of fatigue. Gah-El-

Rassoul, a member of one of the control units, says he has not slept for days. His team will remain on alert for the next two weeks while answering up to 100 complaints per day about locust infestations.

The insects remain in parts of West Africa but many have moved to the northern region, which includes Morocco and Algeria, in search of food. Agriculture Minister Ahmed El-Leithy told reporters that the locust eradication teams are working in cooperation with the FAO in all Egyptian provinces to bring the situation under control.

UN report targets Afghani opium trade

RUBEN GU-KONU
Staff Writer

A new report from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) has reported that Afghanistan's poppy cultivation has increased by two thirds in the past 13 months since the fall of the Taliban.

Today, Afghanistan's opium production accounts for more than 85 percent of the world's opium production. Afghan farmers produce opium that is sold for some \$2.3 billion (US), according to United Nations estimates. During the reign of the Taliban, only six of Afghanistan's 32 provinces cultivated poppies. Today, poppies are grown in 28 provinces.

The production has little benefit for the farmers who grow the crop, as they see less than one percent of the revenues. The rest ends up in the hands of local militias and drug warlords. Over 60 percent of the opium produced is sent to Europe in the form of heroin.

UNODC Executive Director, Antonio Maria Costa, has warned of the implications of opium production.

"Fighting narcotics is equivalent to fighting terrorism," he believes. Costa fears that the money generated through opium production may be used to bring the Taliban back to power.

Southeast Asia was the world's largest producer of opium and according to the report, production in the region has decreased by 74 percent. Hamid Karzai, the newly elected Afghan president, campaigned on the priority to fight opium production, but has refused to use crop dusters, like those used in Colombia, because of possible side effects to the health of villagers.

A private development organ-



Contributed Photo

Afghan farmers who cultivate opium poppies receive less than one percent of their value.

ization, Spirit Aid, has elaborated a plan to replace Afghan opium production with industrial hemp. Hemp, unlike opium, is a legal cash crop. One of the important appeals of hemp is that it can be easily used for heating and cooking fuel. Hemp can produce quantities of wood equivalent to four times that of trees over a parallel period of time.

Afghanistan now produces 85 percent of the world's opium, and the trade is worth 2.3bn (US) annually.

- UN Office of Drugs and Crime

The benefits that hemp cultivation provide, such as cheap heating, shelter and food, but most importantly a legal alternative source of revenue for the

farmers, would alleviate the suffering of the Afghani people. Hemp production would increase revenue for the farmers as it is a legal cash crop, limit the amount of trees being cut down for the purpose of heating, reduce deforestation, and simply overall bettering the life of the Afghan people.

Costa is appealing to American and NATO forces in Afghanistan to seriously engage in a strong offensive against drug operations. As the coalition continues to decrease, drug lords are able to operate more freely.

The United States had vowed to deliver a better life for the people of Afghanistan, but few signs of a better life have yet been reached. Afghanistan remains one of the poorest places on earth and it is important that the Coalition effort be fully completed as promised. The production of drugs will allow the country to once again slip back into chaos.

Human rights with a Canadian twist

KRIS COTE
International Editor

Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe's indiscretions have been growing in the past years, and so has opposition, both internal and external, to his increasingly violent authoritarian regime.

Last year, a group of Canadian and Zimbabwean lawyers and activists presented then Justice Minister and Attorney General Martin Cauchen with a draft indictment to charge Mugabe under the Crimes Against Humanity and War Crimes Act (CAHWCA).

Last week, Gabriel Shumba, an exiled Zimbabwean lawyer, and Amir Attaran, a law professor at the University of Ottawa, presented the current Minister of Justice and Attorney General, Irwin Cotler, with a new indictment.

Canada's Crimes Against Humanity and War Crimes Act was signed on June 24, 2000, and stems from Canada's involvement in the International Criminal Court (ICC). It is an extension of the Rome Statute, which Canada signed on July 9, 2000.

The CAHWCA has yet to be tested in Canadian courts, and issues of jurisdiction have yet to be confirmed. Officially, anyone in Canada can be tried under the act, as can Canadian citizens abroad. When presented with the brief last year, Cauchen concluded that the case against Mugabe could be accepted if evidence of abuse against Canadian nationals, or Canadian involvement, could be found.

When Cotler was appointed Minister of Justice and Attorney

General by Prime Minister Paul Martin, those working on the brief were enthused. Cotler is a former international human rights lawyer, who has previously expressed his disgust for Mugabe. "President Robert Mugabe is responsible for the perpetration of crimes against humanity, including state-orchestrated murder, torture and massive sexual violence," said Cotler, at the presentation of the draft indictment one year ago.

Since then, a small group of Zimbabweans, working with the organization Accountability Commission Zimbabwe, have set out to document cases of torture and abuse. They have collected sworn statements from 100 individuals, along with medical records and photos, of abuse and torture perpetrated by Mugabe's regime. They have also discovered that Mugabe uses his 'youth militias' to terrorize political opponents and suspected opposition supporters. His regime also denies food aid to people who don't have membership in Mugabe's ZANU-PF party.

Zimbabwe is set to hold general elections in March 2005, but the main opposition party, the Movement for Democratic Change (MDF), led by Morgan Tsvangirai, is calling for a boycott of the election.

Evidence of widespread human rights abuse has been collected and collaborated by countries worldwide, including the U.S., but there is still lacking a clear Canadian connection. But the largest stumbling block for the case still remains the issue of jurisdiction.

- Please see **Mugabe**, page 12

Keep the governments hands off my clone

Richard Togman



Libertarian

The United Nations is currently in the final procedures of debate over the issue of cloning and stem cell related research. The debate is generally split with the United States sponsoring a Costa Rican proposal which would ban all cloning for reproductive or research purposes (which includes stem cell research) and the British and Belgians proposing a ban only on reproductive cloning while allowing cloning for research purposes (including stem cell research).

The debate has taken a moralistic tone concerning the concept of life and when life begins. The issue is not unlike that of abortion in that the conservatives claim that by cloning stem cells and then destroying them in research, a potential life is destroyed. Liberals contend that a stem cell is not a life and that the potential benefits of the research far outweigh the costs associated. No serious proposal has yet to include the allowance of cloning for reproductive purposes.

The final resolution that is expected to be adopted will be a non-binding resolution with language that is ambiguous and essentially meaningless. It proposes a ban on reproductive cloning with no real guidance on the controversial issues. As usual,



the UN proves itself to be meaningless and a frivolous waste of time. Toothless, non-binding resolutions and a failure to meaningfully address contentious issues are deteriorating the UN's status as a body capable of achieving anything. However, this article is not meant to address the worth of the UN.

The real issue at hand is cloning and government's insistence on projecting its version of morality onto everyone. Firstly, by attempting to initiate a worldwide ban through the United Nations, one would stifle scientific discovery and dampen the hopes of millions who could benefit from research done utilizing stem cell research. Stem cell research has the potential to aid those suffering from cancer, diabetes, Alzheimer's, Parkinson's and more. The suffocation and suppression of science and discovery is not only medieval, but also dangerous because we would be letting religious views enter the political spectrum and determine policy.

Secondly, the proposal to ban reproductive cloning, which is sponsored by most nations, is also wrong. It is not government's business to determine which methods of reproduction should be employed, once safety

is assured. If a person wishes to clone oneself then what right does government have to interfere with one's personal decision and method of procreation. Government's insistence on enforcing its views of right and wrong onto the populace with little to no regard for the cause of personal liberty is reckless and irresponsible. If one chooses to do something which is essentially personal and causes no harm to others, then what right does government have to intervene.

The issue of cloning is, for some reason, controversial even though it involves no one but the willing and competent participants with no externalities imposed on others. Individual nations are still grappling with these issues and the attempt to involve the United Nations in the debate is intrinsically wrong.

This issue is not even within the jurisdiction of national governments let alone the international community. Moreover, nation-states should take upon themselves the cause of liberty and freedom and allow cloning for any and all purposes. The progress and evolution of science and knowledge should not be bound by moralistic crusading or religious zealotry.

Martin's foreign policy of hypocrisy

Kris Cote



International Editor

Paul Martin has embarked on a whirl-wind global tour to promote Canadian values, stopping at several 'problem' nations along the way. Not willing to back up his moralizing with sufficient force to enact change, Martin's tour is little more than a tour of hypocrisy.

The events which unfolded in Haiti earlier this year, where elected president Jean-Baptiste Aristide was ousted by thugs in favour of Gerard Latorture, was sparsely covered in the Canadian media. Reports continue to emerge, along with Aristide's insistence, that the president was 'removed' from power by U.S. forces, and Canadians actively participated in this process. Since Latorture has come to power, Canada has pledged more than \$200 million in aid and development funds, and has sent troops and police officers to help stabilize the country.

Paul Martin recently visited Haiti on a one-day 'fact-finding' mission, where he spoke of the need for the government to uphold democracy. It seems strange, even hypocritical, that Martin preached democracy to a government that he helped to install in power.

What is even more disturbing is that reports continue to emerge, although rarely in the Canadian media, about political repression. Aristide supporters are targeted by police forces, which Canada has helped train and equip, and many are languishing in jail or turning up in morgues. Amnesty International has confirmed and condemned this situation, and *The Observer* reports that in one prison, out of 1,000 inmates, only 21 have been charged with any crime.

Even more disturbing are the reports of summary executions that have been taking place. On October 26, 2004, police burst into a house and killed seven people, including three children. The next day in the slum of Bel Air, police executed four young men in the street during broad daylight. In the Fort National slum, another twelve men were killed in a similar fashion.

While there are no reports that indicate Canadian police officers have been involved in the killings, they have been running

training programs for the Haitian officers responsible for the killings and, at the very least, they are aware of the situation. Martin failed to touch on these facts while he was in Haiti, rather, he opted for photo-op appearances at orphanages.

But this is just one case in Martin's growing policy of human rights ignorance. On November 25, Martin will visit the Sudan where he will discuss the issue of genocide in Darfur. However, he will be discussing this with the Sudanese government which armed the Janjaweed militia and ordered the genocide. The government continues to bomb civilian villages and support the forces which rape and kill the growing refugee population.

It seems strange, even hypocritical, that Martin preached democracy to a government that he helped to install in power.

What Martin expects to accomplish in Sudan is beyond me. The world has unsuccessfully lobbied Khartoum to end the violence in Darfur. Does Martin have any prospects for achieving peace? If he was serious, he would offer a Canadian peace keeping team. Instead, Martin will make the pilgrimage to Darfur, speak of the atrocities which surround him and use the event as a photo-op to demonstrate his compassion.

Finally, in December, Martin will end his tour with a stop in Libya to meet with Colonel Muammar Gaddafi. Gaddafi is a terrorist-cum-American ally who was responsible for the Lockerbie bombing in Scotland as well as the bombing of a German nightclub. Gaddafi's Arabization of Northern Africa has also contributed to the situation in Darfur. Libya is still a major human rights violator, and torture is still a prevalent practice used by the government.

Yet it is unlikely that Martin will highlight any of these things during his stop in Libya. As a convert to the American 'war on terror,' Libya's past indiscretions will be ignored. Instead, Martin will use the visit to demonstrate his allegiance to America and the 'war on terror.'

International Picture of the week

The alleged poisoning of Viktor Yushchenko has left his face scarred and disfigured. He has blamed his rival Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich, for poisoning him, but Yanukovich claims Yushchenko ate "bad sushi."

Doctors have been unable to diagnose his condition, but they suspect biological agents are the cause.

Allegations of fraud have wrought the election, and a large number of protests have gathered in the streets of Kiev to demonstrate against the election results.



Yushchenko before, right, and after, left, his poisoning. Contributed Photo

- **Mugabe**, from page 11

A similar indictment was brought against Mugabe last year in the British courts, but was dismissed because Mugabe is a sitting head of state.

However, the CAHWCA does not offer the same protection as the British statute, and Attaran remains optimistic that the indictment will be accepted in Canada. "We in Canada have a law that classifies such things as torture and forced starvation... as crimes against humanity," Attaran told reporters, adding that "this is a chance for Canada to lead."

While those working on the

briefs realize that the chances of Mugabe appearing in a Canadian court are slim to none, they hope to follow in the precedent set by Sierra Leone in 2003 against Charles Taylor, former President of Liberia. In that situation, the Special Court of Sierra Leone indicted Taylor for war crimes. When travelling to Ghana, he was detained and forced to accept exile over trial. Although he was not brought to justice, Liberia was liberated from his authoritarian rule.

Citing the example of Sierra Leone, Attaran has remarked that "How much better of a precedent could we have?" Attaran contends that "if tiny little Sierra Leone could do it, my God, don't



Amir Attaran, right, along with human right lawyers and activists, is trying to indict Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe, left, in Canada under the Crimes Against Humanity and War Crimes Act.

tell me Canada can't."

The case has gained little media exposure in Canada, where strong support by the media and

citizens would no doubt enhance the viability of the case. But with the upcoming visit by U.S. President George W. Bush, and

the calls to use CAHWCA to indict him on charges of War Crimes, is likely to overshadow the Mugabe indictment.



Contributed Photo



Boldly going where only a few men have gone before

While not as historical as Neil Armstrong's "One small step..." speech, David Southwood, director of science at the European Space Agency, announced last week that "Europe has arrived at the moon."

Completing a 13 month journey, which involved 332 orbits of the earth, the paper-copier sized Smart-1 probe began to orbit the moon. The Smart-1, which uses low-powered thrusters

described as 'Star-Trek style,' will not land on the moon; rather it will explore the moon's polar regions as it orbits.

Describing the ion drive engine of the Smart-1, Manuel Grande, an Oxford scientist, describes it as "very different from an old-fashioned rocket where you light the blue touchpaper and it goes bang or whoosh or whatever. It's more like a sailing ship." Scientists hope that the fuel-efficient ion engines will one day allow people to reach distant planets.



Peace through paper

In an attempt to end the violence in Thailand's Southern provinces, Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra has tried everything from martial law to mass arrests. He hopes that his new initiative will be more successful.

Shinawatra has turned to origami as an unusual peace initiative which he hopes will end the violence and bring about reconciliation. Everyone from

schoolchildren to soldiers have begun to fold small birds, sometimes out of money, which will be used to 'bomb' the Southern Muslim provinces on December 5.

But the Muslims targeted by the origami peace birds do not believe the goodwill gesture will suffice. They contend that they are still treated as second-class citizens, and that the government must address issues of state prejudice and religious discrimination.



Neo-fascist renewal in Italy

Lauded in Europe for his neo-conservatism, Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi has again upset many by appointing a neo-fascist as Italy's Foreign Minister.

Gianfranco Fini is the leader of the National Alliance party, which is rooted in fascism and dates back to Benito Mussolini. Edouard Ballaman, an MP with the Northern League, worries that with the appointment, "it will be extremely difficult to hold talks with a significant

part of the world where, wittingly or unwittingly, [people] will see them as the heirs of fascism."

But defenders of Fini point out that he has reformed his stance in previous years. He has condemned Mussolini and fascism as "absolute evil" and has taken-up a pro-Jewish stance.

However, as John Hooper of the *Guardian Unlimited* points out, "Mr. Fini remains a hardline conservative and his outlook is likely to win him friends in George Bush's new administration."

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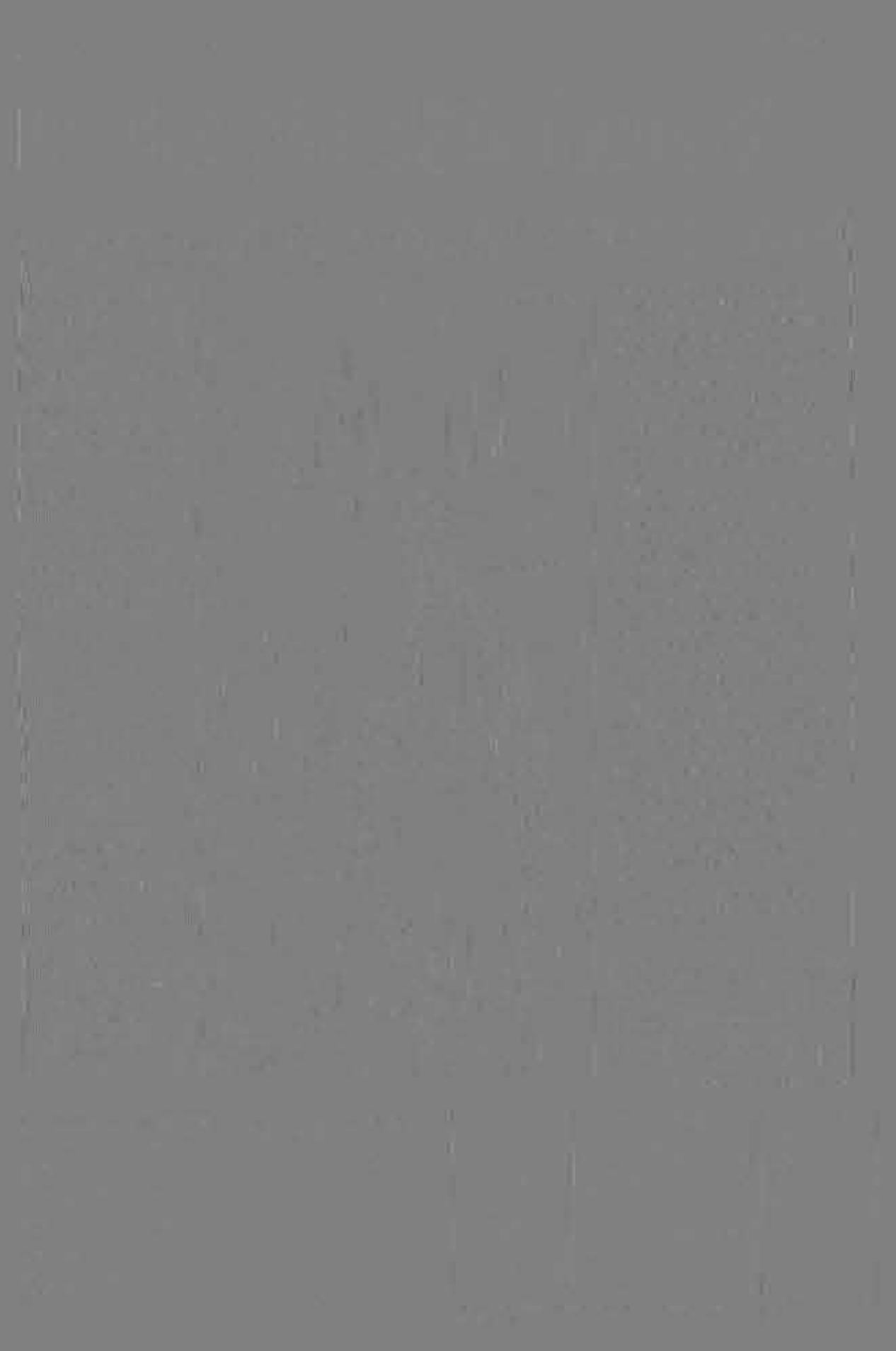
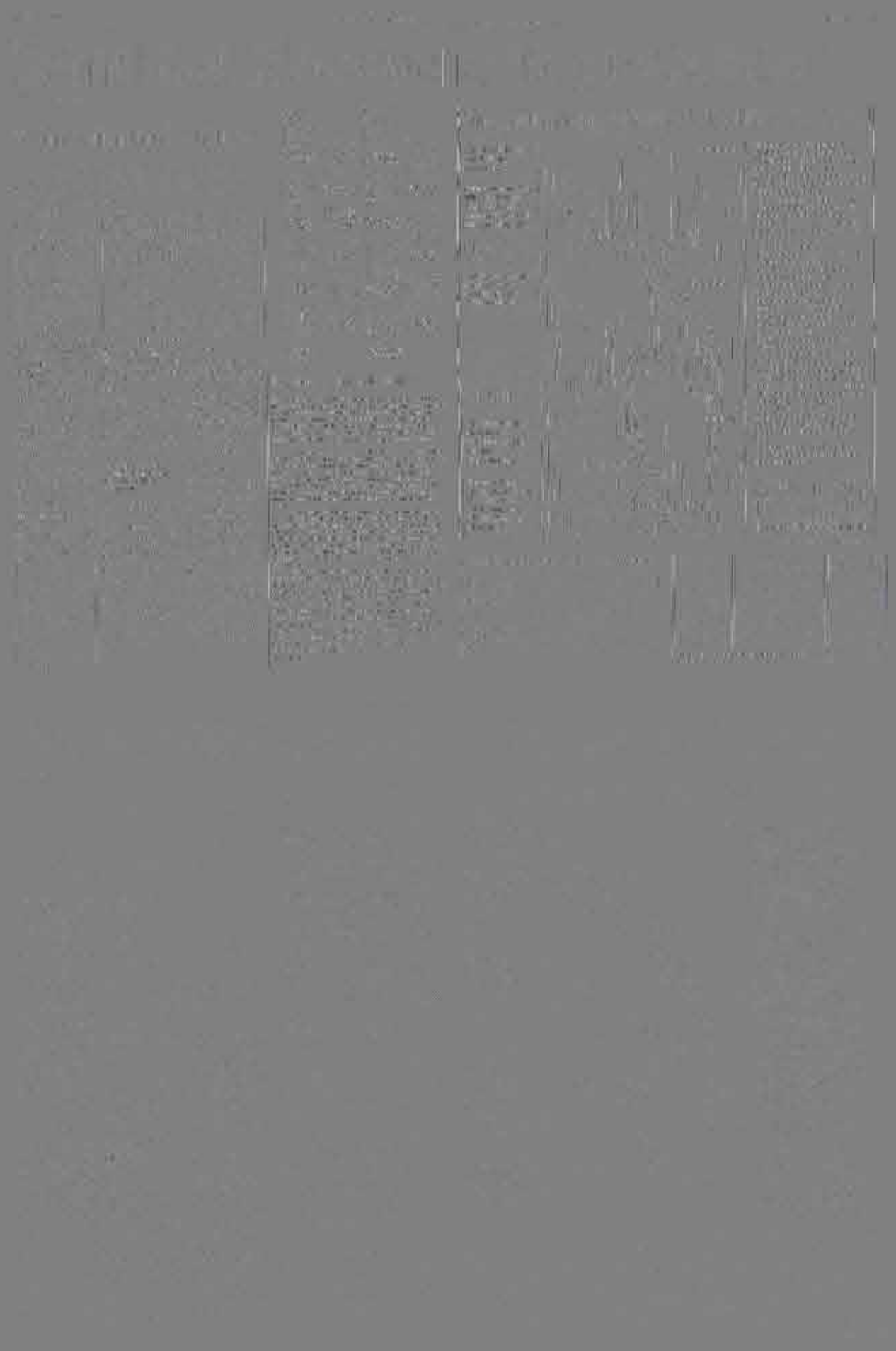
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15 years later

The gunman's trail of death



Laurier Idol contestants take the stage

Final four sing their hearts out to see who takes home the crown

ASHLEY ROSE
Staff Writer

As the hip hop beat began to fade and the master of ceremonies stepped onto the stage, the level of tension in the room began to rise. However, it wasn't any of the four finalists who were sitting anxiously, but their friends and families as they sat in anticipation of the night to come. Somebody was going to leave with the title of being the next Laurier Idol as well as recording time to make a demo with Big Cass, and the rest were going to leave knowing that they had at least made it this far.

With her witty repertoire, MC Peta Wellington, broke the tension by introducing the contestants first for the acapella portion of the evening followed by those songs with musical accompani-

ment.

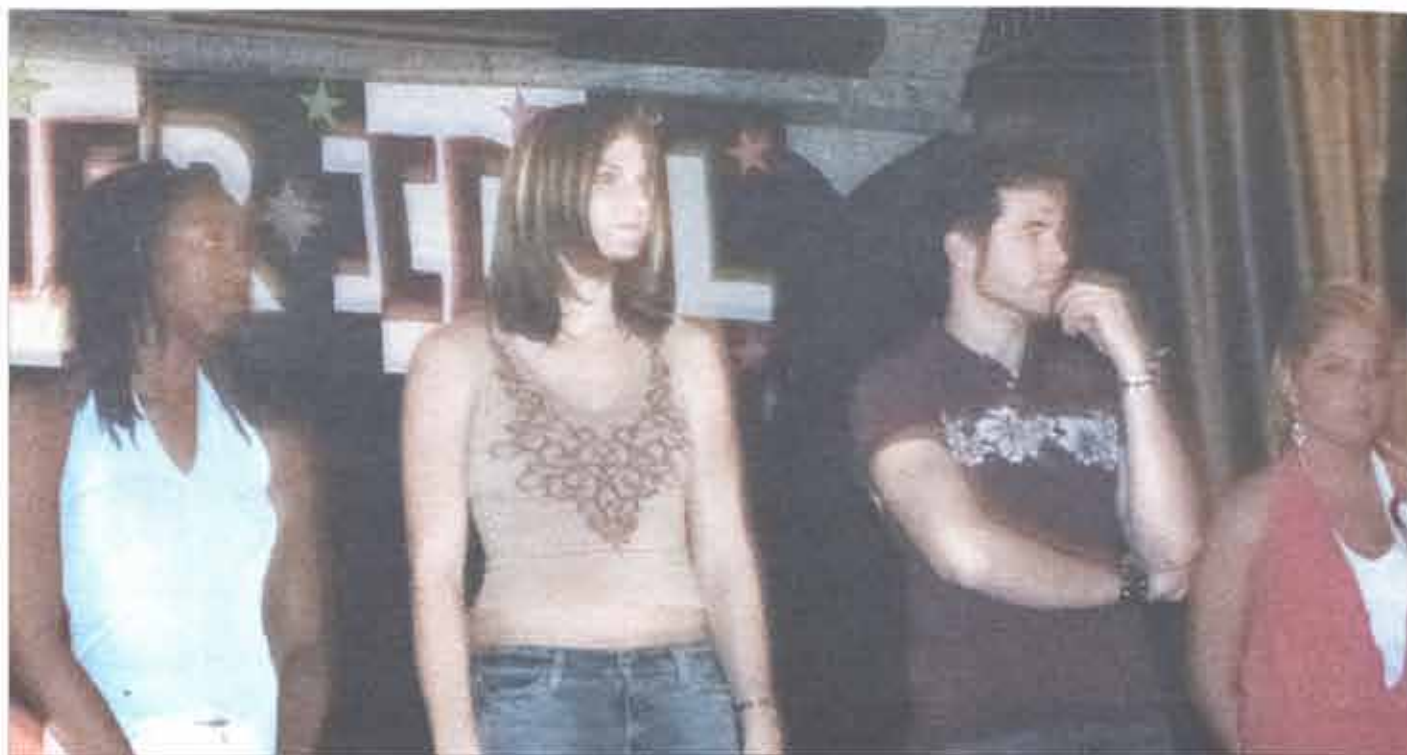
Stepping onto the stage with grace that only one comfortable in such a position can have, Candace Moore sang Deborah Cox's "Nobody's Supposed to be Here."

It became apparent as she hit her high notes and caressed the low, that all her years of musical experience had gone a long way.

"I have been performing since I was nine years old, singing, playing piano and steel pan in various national competitions as well as concerts in various styles of music," she said.

It almost seemed effortless for Moore as she later sang "The Greatest Love of All" while tickling the ivories.

With a proud confidence, Kristian Uguccione brought his punk influenced voice to the stage, singing "Leaving on a Jet



Narges Bayani

The four finalists of Laurier Idol, Candace Moore, Erika Mohle, Kristian Uguccione and Colleen Lepore, wait anxiously for the judges to announce the results of the competition last Friday in the Turret.

Plane."

"He reminds me of the guy from Nickelback," commented Jenn Gordon, a Laurier student attending the event on Friday night.

It is no wonder with his background of jumping from one rock band to another, that he has been able to acquire a voice for the music and a presence on the stage.

When asked what he would do if he won, Uguccione replied with charismatic humour, "I'll probably do what most idol winners do, go on tour, sign an unsuccessful recording contract, then try to cure cancer, bring peace to the world and feed the hungry. Actually I'll probably just go on being my crazy self."

Despite a small technical glitch at the start of his second song, Uguccione began without a hitch, bringing the audience into his song, "Joy to the World" by Three Dog Night, as they clapped along while he danced across the stage; clearly a performer from birth.

Finishing as the runner up,

Erika Mohle showed her friends, who filled out one whole side of the audience, that they had helped her make good song choices. "Top of the World" by the Dixie Chicks appropriately accompanied her voice previously molded by her extensive experience singing for her church.

"I'll keep on rockin' in the free world."

- Kristian Uguccione, Idol contestant

With her excellent sense of rhythm, she danced across the stage to Shakira's "Whenever, Wherever."

Appearing to be comfortable up on stage, Mohle's confidence showed the audience why she had made it as far as she had.

As her family and friends watched from the front few rows with smiles on their faces Colleen Lepore took a couple of seconds to speak with the audience before singing "One Last Cry" by Brian McKnight, in order to point out that she was once more donning

her trademark stilettos, this time in a vibrant aqua.

Making the stage her home, it didn't come as a surprise that she had so much previous experience.

"I am used to performing and actually feel more comfortable on stage than I do walking around campus," she said.

This summer Lepore was given the opportunity to sing at a concert at Freedom Hill in Detroit that included such acts as Boyz-II-Men, Patti Labelle and BB King. She is also working with Dough Factory Records and has a CD coming out in the spring.

Also experiencing some technical issues as her song began mid way, Lepore kept her cool and began making jokes with the audience even throwing in a comical "wicca-wicca."

Leaving with the Laurier Idol title, Lepore stepped off the stage to sing "Midnight Train to Georgia" and as for the rest, Uguccione said it perfectly, "I'll keep on rockin' in the free world."



Narges Bayani

Idol winner Colleen Lepore, accepts the title along with flowers, from David Green, president of the Association of Black Students.



Erin Moore

Take time out to discover the Perimeter Institute of Physics

SUSIE ZIEGLER
Staff Writer

At first glance, the Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics could be mistaken for the home of forward thinking and extra-terrestrials.

The four story building has three bridges connecting various sections with a large reflecting pool lining the north side. The interior does not fall short of innovative and inviting, where more than 80 researchers, 25 administrative staff and 20 graduate students take part in research. Tucked into the edge of Waterloo Park, the design by Saucier and Perrotte Architects of Montreal is highly creative and demands attention all on its own.

The institute itself was the undergraduate dream of Mike Lazaridis, which came true shortly after the success of Research In Motion (RIM).

In October of 2000, the institute was made official with the help of several organizations. The uniqueness of the research establishment has even caught the attention of Jean Chretien.

Amidst the architectural wonders, there are bigger things in the

works. Perhaps the most interesting aspect of this institute is its public involvement. Countless scientifically geared activities and events are at the communities disposal.

Richard Epp, the Outreach Program coordinator, speaks of the public events series as "bringing in some of the best thinkers in the world" and he stresses the fact that "you don't have to be an expert; even if you failed high school physics you can still attend and get something out of it."

Public speakers aren't the only voices resounding in the modern building, there are also what is called Black Hole sessions that are held on the first Saturday of every month. During this time the community is welcome to explore physics in an interactive discussion.

Week-long workshops and other programs are also offered for teachers.

For those of us not mathematically inclined and not desiring to discuss the issues of physics, the amount of espresso and quality of the architectural structure are reason enough to visit.

Organic tampon use at Laurier

After Concordia brings up possibility of environmentally friendly products, The Cord looks into their use at Laurier

JOANNE SPANNINGA
Staff Writer

In response to Concordia's lobbying to implement the use of organic tampons on campus, Laurier seems to be unopposed to changing the products used in their bathroom vending machines.

Taking into consideration the possible detrimental health and environmental effects of bleached tampons, it is up to the women in the school to take a stand.

Karen Ostrander, Registered Nurse and manager of Health Services, has seen the issue come up before. Though not entirely convinced that organic tampons will reduce women's health risks, not having seen studies to back up the claims, Ostrander believes that there "is nothing to say that as a medical service we need to back it."

She does believe, however, that as far as methods of production and the nature of the chemicals used go, "we need to be more aware of environmental issues." If organic tampons are in fact better for the environment and more appealing to women for various reasons, she thinks that "people should have access to the types of products that they feel comfortable with."

Michael McMahon, General Manager for the Students' Union, is in full support of the idea.

If the students show an interest in having organic products available to them McMahon considers supplying what is desired in an effort to offer the best services possible.

He hopes that the service they provide is a direct reflection of the students' expectations and so "what women would choose to use is what we would like to provide."

Concordia University student Anastasia Voutou's effort to change tampons and pads in bathroom vending machines to organ-

ic versions is simply a campaign to change a product.

As long as the current dispensers are capable of being stocked with organic products without modification, the only cost difference would be in the initial price of the products.

Since providing pads and tampons is a cost recovery system, the people who would need to be convinced are the students. If Laurier students are prepared to take a stand on the issue, and in the future perhaps pay a higher price for the organic versions, they are available.

Voutou has set out to try to make female students aware of the benefits of organic products and it seems that, at Laurier, what is offered in bathroom vending machines can be determined or changed depending only on what women want.



Contributed Photo

Pictured above is the organic tampon Laurier could implement in their women's washrooms as an environmentally friendly alternative.

Warm smiles beat the cold weather

Sarah Topple



A day in the life....

This week's story starts like almost every other day starts - me walking to school. I'd just finished the grueling process of listening long enough to the radio while sticking my hands out of my bedroom to see if it was mitten and scarf weather or not, and that it was. Holy flying cows, was it ever scarf weather.

I could have easily passed for a 300 pound grizzly bear with all the layers I had on by the time I left my apartment. Traversing the Arctic tundra that is University Avenue, I found myself behind four chatty, female Laurier students.

Not wishing to eavesdrop and indeed lacking the capacity to what with my ears wrapped up in scarves and all, I stayed a few healthy paces behind them. That was when I noticed their attire: besides unhealthy amounts of Laurier gear, they were dressed in flimsy little jogging pants rolled-up to the calf, baggy hoodies, I think I saw a puffy vest in there and, wait for it, flip flops.

Now, I may not be as accustomed to the climate since, coming from Nova Scotia, I'm used to having an ocean to regulate the temperature. It's not freakishly cold there in November, just really damp. But, adapted to the Ontarian wilderness or not, I still know when it's too cold for flip flops.

The girls were all huddled



together against the bitter gusts of wind and I was reminded of penguins, ruffling their plumage against the cold. They all walked into the Aird building, stamping their feet against the cold and blowing warm air on their fingers. The one in the puffy vest was rubbing warmth back into her arms, and they all walked into the dining hall.

I grabbed a quick snack and went to the library, spending a reasonable amount of time being unproductive before remembering that humans need food to survive, so I headed to the cafeteria.

During my trek across the frozen campus... I noticed several other girls wearing the "it's summer in November" look.

During my trek across the frozen campus to obtain food, I noticed several other girls sporting the "it's summer in November" look, huddled together in their little heat clusters. Burrowing deeper into my woolen layers, I began to ponder the phenomenon of university-girl heat generation and preservation, arriving at the conclusion that I wanted a brownie and some fries (I insulate myself by eating large amounts of unhealthy food).

I mean, I had just finished a pack of Winegums in under ten minutes.

I eventually collected my sustenance and joined the food line, vaguely aware of what was happening in front of me. I heard feet stamping, arm rubbing and cold complaining when I realized that I'd been staring at four pairs of flip flops in front of me, occupied by puffy-vest wearing females, each carrying a bottle of water and a low fat bagel.

Feeling very out of place, I took a seat at a vacant table and I regarded the chatty, health food eating, vest wearing girls and downed something chocolate and reclined into my layers. I was going to write this meal off as a complete seclusion-fest when I spotted some students that I share "major" interests with and they joined me for "second dessert." A few hours later (literally), we all went our separate ways and I was almost out of the Dining Hall when I realized that I had forgotten to put my coat on, or that I had even taken it off.

I smiled, figuring that perhaps familiar faces in the Dining Hall on a bleak Saturday keep you warm. Why not? If laughter can ease stomach aches and shopping can cure PMS, why can't friendship stave off the cold? Think about it, and if I'm wrong, well, grab a puffy vest, eight layers of socks and enjoy winter in the frozen Ontarian wilderness.

Vocal Cord

What are you doing to cope with the end of semester stress?



DUSTIN BURSEY
SECOND YEAR
BUSINESS

"Lots of early morning workouts."



JON LEYLAND
FOURTH YEAR
GEOGRAPHY

"Playing intramurals, watching movies and taking multiple naps everyday."



MIKE RADOSLAV
FIFTH YEAR
ENGLISH/ PSYCHOLOGY

"Maximizing downtime by sleeping in front of the TV as much as possible."



BIGGS
FIRST YEAR
ENGLISH

"Getting drunk after many hours of tedious studies, a Willison Hall tradition."



ANDREA KENNEDY
SECOND YEAR
SOCIOLOGY

"Wait till last minute and then I cry myself to sleep. And then I contemplate."



ROWENA GARCIA
SECOND YEAR
POLIT SCI/GLOBAL STUDIES

"I study hard and stay on the ball."

Horoscopes

Happy Birthday Scorpio! (Nov. 24-30)

You are really going to have to do your best to try and balance everything going on in your life right now. You are going to be very busy and perhaps it would be best to put a hold on any large birthday celebrations until things calm down a bit.

Aries (Mar. 21-Apr. 19)

Don't be pushed around by anyone this week. You know what is best for you and you are going to have to stand your ground on a lot of issues. Make sure you explain any thoughts or ideas to others well.
Luckiest day: November 30

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

You are going to have to look carefully at both sides of any situation you are dealing with over the next while. Don't hesitate to change certain aspects of your life. Now is the best time to break old habits. Start a list of goals.
Luckiest day: November 25

Taurus (Apr. 20-May 20)

Something going on around you will cause you to have a much-needed burst of energy. Use this extra energy wisely and make sure you are productive over the next while. Make sure any unfinished business is taken care of.
Luckiest day: November 26

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Someone whom has been causing you trouble over the past while may try and start something again. This person is only in the mood to argue and trying to deal with him or her is going to be impossible. Try to ignore them.
Luckiest day: November 26

Gemini (May 21-June 21)

You are now starting to take control of your life again. Things may have thrown you off in the last little while, but all that is over and things are going to start going your way for the next while. Don't look in the past, just towards the future.
Luckiest day: November 25

Sagittarius (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)

All of your hard work is going to pay off. Make sure you write down a list of goals and aspirations. Keeping your mind focused on what you want will help you to achieve the success you deserve. Don't let anyone bother you.
Luckiest day: November 30

Cancer (June 22-July 22)

If you are having troubles figuring something out don't hesitate to seek the advice of a peer. A good friend or close family member may be able to see something you are overlooking. You must be willing to accept change.
Luckiest day: November 24

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

If you are having trouble with a situation try going to a friend for advice. You may not like what they have to say but it may be your best option. Change is happening to a lot of people and you are not excluded. Embrace new things.
Luckiest day: November 26

Leo (July 23-August 22)

You are going to have to make some important decisions this week. Make sure you evaluate all of the options. Be sure to look at what you want and not what other people think you should do. Don't rush into anything.
Luckiest day: November 25

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Friends or family whom are quarrelling may try and get you involved in there mess. Try your best to avoid any confrontations in the next while. Focus on what you have to do and nothing else. Don't let yourself become distracted.
Luckiest day: November 24

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

All of your hard work is going to pay off. Be sure not to overlook the small details of anything you are working on. Your attention to detail is what sets you apart from the rest. Something new and exciting is about to happen.
Luckiest day: November 28

Pisces (Feb. 19-Mar. 20)

You are going to have to look at a situation carefully. Don't jump into anything new until you have examined all of your options. If some kind of legal or business matters arise be sure you go to the proper people for assistance.
Luckiest day: November 24

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.

Hawks bid adieu to season in Q-City

Injuries, poor start and superior Laval opponent contribute to end of Hawks' dream season

- From **UTECK**, cover

On the first drive of the second half, Pyear looked poised to ignite another trademark comeback. After two first-down receptions by Joel Wright, an offensive standout for the Hawks on Saturday, Pyear connected with Mike Maurice to cut the deficit to 18 - 8 with over 25 minutes left on the clock.

"You can bet your butt we'll be back to get another shot at it."

- Gary Jeffries, Head Coach

After a defensive stop, the Hawks' offence took the reigns deep in their own end. On first down, Pyear avoided the Laval blitz by scrambling left and throwing on the run, only to find hands of the red and gold for an interception.

One play later, Rouge et Or quarterback William Leclerc, whose performance from the pocket was less than impressive for most of the game, redeemed himself by finding Matthew Leblanc for a 51-yard reception and a 25 - 8 lead. It was a series of events that Pyear considered a "real momentum killer."

Visibly deflated, the Hawks

were only able to muster a field goal in the final minutes, eventually dropping the game 30 - 11.

"Laval is a great team. I don't know who they're playing in the Vanier, but they're going to win," said captain Maggiacomo.

After five years with the Hawks, Maggiacomo is one of five players including Steven Frake, Brian Sloat, Stephen Braun and OUA lineman of the year Ryan Jeffrey, who will not return for the 2005 campaign.

After the game, Coach Gary Jeffries put the experience of playing such a game into perspective: "No one will take away what this [team] has accomplished. The experience of playing in a game like this is really important." He added, "You can bet your butt we'll be back to get another shot at it."

Coach Jeffries can rest assured that his number one gun will be back next fall. "I have one year left and know if I don't come back I'll regret it forever," said Pyear, while being offered well wishes by a mob of Laval fans, the same fans he jokingly told national media would throw beer bottles at his team.

Laval will battle the Saskatchewan Huskies for Vanier Cup this weekend at Hamilton's Ivor Wynne Stadium. The Huskies beat Saint Mary's 31 - 16 last weekend.



www.laurierathletics.com

Defensive lineman Brandon Keks takes a stiff arm as he tries unsuccessfully to tackle Laval's William Leclerc. For the Hawks and their fans, Saturday's game was very much just out of reach.

Ladies edge Guelph



Rowena Garcia

MIKE BROWN
Staff Writer

The Wilfrid Laurier Golden Hawks hold the distinction of being the OUA's only undefeated women's hockey team after this weekend's action saw Brock fall to Toronto in overtime, 3 - 2, while the Hawks held off a tough Guelph club for a 1 - 0 win. The victory improved Laurier's record to 6 - 0 - 1, while Guelph fell back in the OUA West divisional race with a record of 6 - 2 - 1.

Laurier 1 - Guelph 0

Laurier got on the board early when Fiona Aiston took a pass from Laurissa Kenworthy from behind the net and beat Guelph keeper Aleisha Lusk. The goal came at 4:21 of the first period and would be the only scoring of the game, as Laurier goaltender Cindy Eadie came up big in net for her third shutout in seven games this season.

The game continued at a very quick pace throughout, with the

second period getting quite physical. The Hawks had to kill a host of penalties in the frame, prompted by a five minute major and game misconduct handed to rookie defender Diana Cicchillo. According to the referee, explained Coach Rick Osborne, "It was an intentional body check after the whistle, and he just thought it was hard enough to merit a game misconduct." The coach added simply, "I find it questionable."

Fortunately for Osborne, his team showed a lot of grit in killing off not only Cicchillo's major, but also a couple of subsequent two-minute infringements. "We outworked them in the second period, even though we were shorthanded, and that's huge," remarked Eadie.

The defensive-minded Hawks continued to frustrate Guelph's offence in the third period, allowing few chances. "I really wanted to clog up the neutral zone in the middle," noted Osborne of his strategic approach to the game,

- Please see **Edge**, page 29

Men's hockey gets split up

DAN POLISCHUK
Staff Writer

One period was all it took to create a disappointing end to the weekend for the Laurier men's hockey team, losing 2 - 1 to the tenth ranked UQTR Patriotes on Saturday night at Clarica Arena.

After a gritty 4 - 3 win over Concordia on Friday night, the Hawks got off on the wrong foot early on.

Laurier 4 - Concordia 1 Laurier 2 - UQTR 1

Matt Grennier's high sticking penalty midway point of the first period, enabled the Patriotes to open the scoring on the ensuing power play. Controlling the puck behind the Laurier goal, Louis Mandeville fed a pass to centre Jean Morin for a quick one timer, three feet in front of goalie Justin Day, for a 1 - 0 lead.

A minute later, pinching defenceman Jonathan Lessard let off a hard one-timer from the high slot, which blew past Day's catching hand, to make it 2 - 0.

While not showing much offensive flair for the period, the Hawks did continue to use the body - evident through the 26 minutes in penalties it gained and highlighted by two 20 minute misconduct's. UQTR matched the physical play, adding 24 PIMs themselves in the first.

In the second, Laurier began to claw back with a goal from Nick Gibson. The play was built around a neat wraparound pass by right winger Nick Balasescu from the side of the net. The backhand cross-crease pass found the tape of Gibson's stick and

wound up in the open net to make it 2 - 1.

That was to be all the scoring, as the two goaltenders took centre stage with solid play between the pipes. After surrendering two early goals, both of which he didn't have a chance of stopping, Justin Day made some acrobatic saves to at least give his team a chance.

After the game, Coach Steve Martell pointed out that the "extremely flat" first period really did the team in.

"So far this season, we have competed on most nights. We bounced back in the second and

third period, but we didn't come and play a full game tonight," said Martell.

While disappointed with the result, the play of Day and the strong puck control of the power-play units encouraged Martell. As for their rough style of play...It's who we are. We are an energy team that is fundamental and hard working," commented Martell. "It's just unfortunate more people don't see that these kids don't quit," he added.

The Hawks now find themselves at 5 - 4 - 0 - 1.



www.laurierathletics.com

Justin Day kicks away a save earlier this season. Day made several such saves last weekend against UQTR in a losing effort.

Wake up TO

After winning Grey Cup, Argos deserve some respect in Toronto

Chris Van Vliet



Cord Sports

For the Toronto Argonauts this past Sunday's Grey Cup Championship capped their Cinderella story year, coming from the brink of bankruptcy to being crowned the CFL champions.

A hard fought and entertaining 27-19 victory over the BC Lions in front of a sold out crowd at Frank Clair Stadium should have been enough to win over Toronto fans, but alas it was not. Instead, the Grey Cup celebration that took to the streets immediately following the game in Toronto was pathetic at best, where the police outnumbered the fans. In Waterloo,

there were no car horns honking, no flags being waved, no type of recognition at all of the Grey Cup victory.

When the Leafs, for example, won the first round of playoffs last season it was everyone's cue, hardcore fans and bandwagon jumpers alike, to empty out to the streets in celebration of the home team win. However, the Argos did not receive this same type of excitement and they were a team who actually won the championship.

One would think that the Argos support would be at a peak right now, considering the non-existent state of the NHL and the typically mediocre play of the Raptors. Wouldn't Toronto fans want to support a winning franchise for once?

Of the "Big 4" sports franchises in Toronto, the Maple Leafs seemingly have the greatest fan base but for no good reason. The team hasn't brought in a championship since back when there were only five other teams, 37 years ago. The support for the Blue Jays was huge in the early nineties when they won back-to-back World Series Championships, but has since fallen off due to sub-par performances and a league wide strike in 1994. And barely a decade old,

the Raptors have done very little to even remind us of their existence.

Yet the team that has accomplished the most - becoming the most successful team in recent Toronto sports memory - has been overlooked. Sunday's championship win over the B.C Lions gave the Argos their 15th Grey Cup championship, with four of those coming in the last 13 years.

What happened to the days of backing up a winning team? The sad thing is that amidst the Argos championship game on Sunday, more Toronto residents were probably tuned into the 11th week of NFL action.

Of the major sports franchises in Toronto, the Argos are the oldest with 130 years of history behind them, yet a huge lack of fan support as of late. Their home opener is a

good example of this where they barely filled half of the Skydome. This lack of support translated to a lack of interest that almost prevented the team from being in the CFL this season. It was the charismatic leadership of head coach Mike "Pinball" Clemons and the financial support of the team's local owners that kept the Argos in the picture.

In any case, against all odds and with limited backing from fans, the Argos played a tremendous season and rallied to have an even better playoff bringing them back into championship glory again after seven years.

It seems that the Toronto Argonauts could win the Grey Cup the next five years in a row and Toronto fans still wouldn't bat an eyelash. For the Argos, gaining fan support in a self-proclaimed "hockey town," even when hockey is not around, will continue to be an uphill battle no matter how good the franchise is or how many championships they win.

Congratulations to the 2004 Toronto Argonauts, but hopefully the Grey Cup will be won next year in a city that will actually appreciate the efforts and hard work of its championship team.

Hawks still undefeated

- From **Edge**, page 18

which was meant to limit Guelph's open ice attack.

The Hawks had a lot to be pleased about after Saturday's tight victory. Their energy level was much improved, after a sluggish performance against Windsor had caused a little concern. Eadie explained this by saying, "Guelph is a good team, so we know we have to bring our best every time we play them, and that just brings our energy up."

Laurier also received an unex-

pected boost when Captain Ashley Stephenson returned early from her knee and ankle injury to play a very inspired game. "It's feeling a lot better," said Stephenson after the game. "Not 100 percent, but a lot better, and we have a good rivalry with this team, so I didn't want to sit out."

This week will be a big one for the ladies, as their schedule intensifies with games against Western, Brock and Toronto.

Don't hate the player, hate the game

Bryan Shinn



Sports Editor



Two days after one of the most chaotic altercations between fans and players ever, the NBA, with their hands dripping with blame, abandoned Ron Artest.

They told us that Artest is a bad seed in a great system, an inhumane savage that cannot control his animal nature. That, when a Detroit stranger pelted him with a plastic beer cup, he should have acted like Ghandi.

Commissioner David Stern would love for you to believe that Artest is still a man of the ghetto - a man with violent tendencies, and a menacing character. They would rather you not suggest that sports at large are turning into an arena that breeds and normalizes the behaviour of the rabid fan, and that Artest is a scapegoat for a problem much more systemic.

Stern said the actions were shocking. He must not get out much.

Artest does his job in front of 20,000 people - a job he does better than most people on earth. But Ron is hated. Hated by people who know the name of his

wife, his kids and his mother. They know every mistake he's ever made, and they use it against him, because they can, from minute one until minute 48. They say things that would be grounds for verbal assault charges in any other workplace, and no one blinks.

The game has turned into an arena that breeds and normalizes the actions of these fans.

Then one night, things get out of control. After spending an entire evening being taunted and personally attacked during every trip down the court, with his emotions surely preceding him, a flying object hits Artest. Call it adrenaline, human nature or simply, 'reacting as any normal person would,' but Artest snapped.

But he's a professional and should know better. Artest knows how to hit a 15-foot jumper and play man-on-man defence better than most in the league. The

NBA doesn't train these players on emotional control or how to step into a Zen-like state in a chaotic environment.

But he makes \$5 million a year. The notion that money should act as a rationalisation for deplorable treatment is simply absurd. No one would ever suggest that the poor deserve better treatment than everyone else; why would we assume the opposite to be true?

But what about the children? We are talking about a player being personally attacked. It goes beyond proper behaviour, because when an entire stadium looks ready to attack, the last thing you're thinking about are the kids. At some point, and maybe Artest's was premature, your body just goes into defence mode.

Stern called the actions repulsive. I call the way the NBA, led by Stern, have glorified these players on the largest of scales without recognizing its inherent danger, a joke. It's impossible to raise the stakes, raise the prices and encourage fans to engage in the sport as if they were the 13th player without events such as this happening.

Athletes have become public property; they are treated as if they are outside of the realm of proper human treatment. This was a sad day for sports fans, but also a reminder of just how dangerous our sports culture has become.

Artest needs to use some self-control

Star players need to show some semblance of professionalism

Mark Hopkins



Staff Writer

Ron Artest is a top ten player in the NBA. He is absolutely thriving as the best defender in the Association and is also an outstanding offensive player. His season averages entering Friday's game in Detroit were 25 points, 6 rebounds and 3 assists. However, at the end of that game, I will add one brainless act of irresponsibility to those numbers.

What transpired was one of the most irresponsible, selfish acts in recent memory.

Artest once again demonstrated his blatant lack of control as he plowed into the crowd during the final minute of Friday night's game. Was Ben Wallace wrong in pushing Artest in the face? Probably, but that was inside the context of the game itself. Everything that escalated afterward was a consequence of Ron Artest.

Artest was asking for something to happen when he lied down on the scorer's table and put on a nearby commentator's headset. Soon after, some idiot from the crowd tossed a cup at him. Obviously, no fan has the right to engage with the athletes in any way during or after a game, but Ron has to start using

that thing between his ears.

I can't blame Artest for reacting in a mode of defence after being pegged, but what transpired was one of the most irresponsible, selfish acts in recent memory. If he had simply tossed something or yelled something, I would not be writing about him in my column. Simply put, a line needs to be drawn. He didn't even punch the correct person.

A lot of people will mention something like, "If I was hit by a beer, I'd do the same!" Hey, I'd be pretty pissed off too if that happened to me. However, I am not a professional athlete that is on national TV and I am not presented as a role model for thousands of people across the world.

Whether he wants to accept it or not, a lot of people look up to him. After all, he is one of the best basketball players in the world. After seeing the little kid in the Pacers jersey balling his eyes out during the incident, I felt like any sense of fun and innocence had been sucked out of the poor kid that wanted to enjoy a basketball game with his dad.

Artest's stupidity has not only brought on a massive 73 game suspension, but has hurt a lot more people than just Ron Artest. He has embarrassed not only himself, but also the Indiana Pacers and the National Basketball Association.

Maybe he can now compose his rap album that he recently requested time off to create... at least until he goes ballistic on his producer.

GOLDEN HAWK UPDATE

Week of to November 22-26, 2004

LAST WEEK'S RESULTS

11/17/04

W Volleyball 3, Guelph 0
M Volleyball 2, Guelph 3

11/19/04

M Hockey 4, Concordia 3
W Basketball 91, RMC 35
M Basketball 66, RMC 63

11/20/04

UTECK BOWL

M Football 11, Laval 30
W Hockey 1, Guelph 0
M Hockey 1, UQTR 2
W Basketball 70, Queen's 63
M Basketball 56, Queen's 62
M Volleyball 0, Guelph 3

UPCOMING HOME GAMES

11/26/04

M Volleyball vs. Toronto
7:00 PM, Athletic Complex

11/27/04

W Volleyball vs. Toronto
2:00 PM, Athletic Complex

11/28/04

W Hockey vs. Toronto
7:30 PM, Rec Complex

December 1:

Honoring Our Championship Teams during

M & W Basketball vs. Guelph
6:00 & 8:00 PM, Athletic Complex

www.laurierathletics.com

Glorious explosion of music at Wilf's

CARLY BEATH
Entertainment Editor

The second installment of Radio Laurier's Music Explosion took place Thursday night at Wilf's, and this one was even better than the first. With less reliance on cover tunes this time around, the audience truly got a taste of the musical talent that exists at Laurier.

Difference of Nothing had the unenviable task of starting off the night. The crowd was still fairly small at this point, and the ratio of hecklers to appreciative listeners seemed unfavourable. Nonetheless the band, taking a page from the likes of the The Hives, The Arcade Fire and the White Stripes with their co-ordinated outfits (suits or dress shirts), tried their best to win over the crowd and thanked them numerous times.

The first couple of songs were catchy and centred around distorted power chords. The drumming was a standout, especially during the first song. The third song switched to a pop-like, more melodic guitar sound, while another gave way to classic-rock influenced, showing the versatility of the band.

The stage presence of the band was fairly low, as they stayed relatively stationary on stage, which may have had something to do with the small audience and the lack of enthusiasm

from the people who were there. Their songs were good, with the lead guitar parts and aforementioned drumming being especially noteworthy. Judging from the familiar black X's and wrist band on at least one band member, Difference of Nothing have plenty of time ahead of them to hone their sound.

Next up was Something Useless, who were in actuality anything but useless.

The most impressive thing about this band was the dynamics of their songs. They were able to jump very effectively between loud, aggressive and distorted, and clean, quiet guitar sounds within single songs. Similarly, their singer was equally adept at melodic singing and full-out screaming. The screaming contrasted with the picked guitar parts made me think of a mashing together of Alexisonfire and Billy Talent (note: this is a compliment because despite popular opinion, I quite enjoy the guitar in Billy Talent songs).

At one point the singer announced that their bass player had been with them only three weeks. This was definitely a testament to the bassist's skills, as well as the entire band's, as his heavy, rattling bass lines, somewhat reminiscent of those of Fieldy from Korn, fit right in.

The band had good stage presence, and one fan in the audience was finally able to convince



Chris Clemens

Music Explosion winners Glory Fades will be opening for Not By Choice tonight at Wax in Kitchener.

many of the people standing closest to the front to move up to the stage and get into the music. The band never lost momentum, barreling through song after song without letting up.

"This shit ain't free, I gotta go."

- The Cowbell Guy

The lead singer introduced their last song by announcing that it was called "The Best is Yet to Come," which in hindsight seems to be an almost prophetic comment on the competition itself.

After Something Useless came The Mercenary Saints, who with five members (including three guitarists), were the largest band of the night. This was definitely apparent in their sound. Three guitars in one band has the potential for sloppiness, but there was none of that here. All three guitars, along with the bass and drums, worked together to create the biggest, most complex and tightest sound of the evening.

From the minute they came on stage it was apparent the band had stage presence. Their set began with one of the guitarist/vocalists yelling, "We're gonna play some rock and roll, so

let's fucking do it!" This guy definitely had some rock star confidence. He interacted with the crowd, climbed all over the stage and generally looked like he was meant to be doing what he's doing.

One song found the band playing the same part over and over, but faster each time, showcasing their excellent technical skills.

The last band of the night was Glory Fades. They had the usual guitar, bass and drums, but stepped it up a notch by adding a keyboard player. Their first song proved that, of all the bands, they had the best grasp of melody. They were able to find the middle ground between melody and distortion, making them a crowd-pleaser. Glory Fades was definitely the most radio-friendly act of the night as well. This is not to say they didn't rock - they did - but that they had the most polished and catchiest songs. "Anesthetic", the title track off of their new CD was definitely a standout, but the most fun part of the night came during the next song.

After the band started to play what was to be a cover of a '97 boy band song, someone jumped on stage proclaiming that Glory Fades needed more cowbell. The band restarted the song and the

guy began smashing away on the cowbell for a few seconds before telling everyone "This shit ain't free, I gotta go," and walking off the stage. After starting the song yet again, the band played a full rendition of Nsync's "Bye Bye Bye."

This had a couple of effects. First, it led a few drunken revelers to think they were at Louie's, and thus they began to grind accordingly. It was quite entertaining to watch. The second effect was that it left audience members grateful to Glory Fades for making it acceptable for them to rock out to such a song. As their lead singer said, "Everyone has an inner boy band."

Almost everyone, that is. One audience member remarked, "That's where they blew it, right there." Luckily for Glory Fades, he was in a minority with his opinion. When the emcees came on stage to announce the winner, it was indeed Glory Fades. The band took the stage one last time for another crowd-pleasing cover, this time "Video Killed the Radio Star."

Each band brought something different to this round of Music Explosion. With the amount of talent found at each event so far, the final Music Explosion showdown is shaping up to be one hell of a competition.

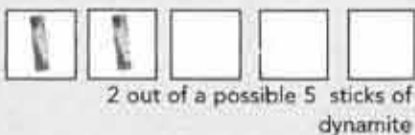


Chris Clemens

Glory Fades played both original songs and crowd-pleasing pop covers.

Napoleon Dynamite a little too over the top

Napoleon Dynamite



Actors: Jon Heder, Jon Gries, Aaron Ruell, Efen Ramirez
Synopsis: A collection of odd-balls

BRAD SKELTON
Movie Critic

To call *Napoleon Dynamite* odd wouldn't even begin to capture the almost perverse desperation this film exudes in its attempts to be offbeat. There are just some movies that rub you the wrong way, even if they stick to their guns and remain consistent in trying to express their own wacky vision, and this is definitely one

of those movies.

The only way to adequately describe the film would be to call it a wannabe John Hughes mid-80s highschool comedy, except without any characters who are even remotely palatable. Hughes loved teenagers who were socially maladjusted but smart and articulate; *Napoleon Dynamite*, on the other hand, is filled with unredeemable losers who don't have the first clue about anything and are likely to remain clueless their whole lives.

Napoleon himself is one of those kids you instinctively wanted to beat up in high school, no matter how nice a person you usually were. It's not just that he's a pathetic moron, he's also extremely hostile towards almost everybody (probably a result of always being treated like a pathetic moron). He wears the

sort of winter boots you might have owned when you were seven, and with his unkempt curly hair, thick glasses, bad posture, heavy breathing and apparent inability to close his mouth, he is the stereotypical nerd. We've all known someone like this, and despite your best efforts, it was never very easy to feel sorry for them.

Many of the people in Napoleon's life are no better off than he is, including his 32 year old brother, Kip, who spends his days in Internet chat rooms and still lives with Napoleon and their grandma, Uncle Rico (who remembers his days as a high-school football player a little too fondly) and Napoleon's best friend Pedro, the new kid from Mexico. The one compliment I can give the film is that it pos-



Contributed Photo

Jon Heder as the title character in the film *Napoleon Dynamite*.

sesses an almost documentary quality since these people do not look like actors at all. One wonders where writer/director Jared Hess found his performers.

Still, Hess undermines any intrinsic documentary realism because he is unable to temper

- Please see **Napoleon**, page 23

Digital Radio - the saviour of modern music?

Chris Collie



On Another Note...

I never listen to the radio anymore. Well, certainly not mainstream radio. This is because every time I tune into a mainstream station my demographic is supposed to enjoy, such as Toronto's Edge 102, it's never worth it. The station just plays the same few tracks over and over again, and it sucks.

Repeat, repeat, repeat - no room to take a risk, so let's just stick to the hits - music that is easily identifiable, smooth to consume and widely available at Wal-Mart stores across the globe. I feel for those DJs, taking the playlist that parent company ClearChannel Entertainment lashes upon them, and following its instructional commands without much hope of deviation.

A nice analogy can be utilized here - the station DJs as slaves to the corporate dictator, just as citizens of an authoritarian regime are slaves to a political dictator. In both cases control is used to pursue an agenda: in one example to keep the population enslaved so the political status-quo can be perpetuated, and in the other so

that the largest common denominator of listeners can be reached and subjected to advertising.

For the controllers of the modern FM radio station, sales charts and opinion surveys serve as the barometer for what's "playable" on their station - hence why new rock stations such as The Edge constantly play Eminem, who is in fact a hip-hop artist. Corporate masters will not allow a punk-faced DJ to ignore an artist whose sales have exploded.

FM radio's corporate masters will not allow a punk-faced DJ to ignore an artist whose sales have exploded.

But listen here, there may be hope - hope that has already materialized south of the border to much success. Enter satellite radio, where applications are currently sitting before the CRTC to license the broadcasting method in Canada. The skinny of such a development would be subscription packages available to those with an enabled receiver, and a whole new dimension of stations playing not just the big stuff but

also niche genres and more than five artists.

One application from CHUM Ltd. states that its service will have up to 100 stations of digital quality music, largely advertising-free, that will highlight music rarely ever heard over the FM airwaves - music, that from conversations I've had, people would love to hear because they're bored too.

In essence, what we have here is a different business model than FM operates on - one that will now focus on narrowcasting and choice, not standardization and blanket programming. But of course the hitch is that you'll have to pay for it, since advertising will make a run for the hills at first. With so many channels providing niche content, advertisers won't know which one properly represents their target demographic, and this scares them.

The future will be full of content fees anyways, so suck it up and make it happen. This will be a sick service that allows for people to actually dig the radio again, which is totally worth the projected \$5 a month. Just wait until they build a digital receiver into the iPod; that'll tickle your fancy, huh?

Mario Power Tennis: it's all love

Good graphics and fun game play make this game a winner

easier than the controls in tennis. A and B is all you need to hit the ball, power shots require the R button. Be careful during game play, and try to stay in the middle of the court because the lunge button, L, can be temperamental if you tap it repeatedly.



Game Play: This game is so fun to play that you can't put it down, even at 3 am. The computer is very easy to play against; on your first time you can start at 'Expert,' only one level away from 'Pro.' Playing against friends is the best part of the game and makes for an entertaining evening. The wacky courts add a fun twist to the game with tiles that shift, ghosts that attack and alligators that chase. Tournament play is single player, and fairly easy to get through. With each trophy won, you also unlock various items to be used later. The characters all have different attributes, such as power, speed and technique, that add to the variety in game play. One of the funniest parts is the attitudes of the characters really shining through, such as Daisy's remarks on the calls: "whatever."

Mario Power Tennis



System: Nintendo Gamecube
Release Date: Oct. 20, 2004

Colours and images are vibrant and beautiful, especially in the wacky courts... very smooth-flowing, the graphics leave little to be desired.

JILLIAN PANCOTT
Copy Editor

Nintendo brings back an oldie but goodie with the newest tennis series on Gamecube. While not very different from the 64 version, this game is a lot of fun to play. With wacky courts, tournament play and the all-important multi-player exhibition mode, there are countless hours of play time available. The perfect way to procrastinate for finals.

Graphics: Old favourites on the newest system look alive and real. Colours and images are vibrant and beautiful, especially in the wacky courts in settings like Donkey Kong's Jungle. Typical of all Mario graphics, the characters are refined. Very smooth-flowing and imaginative, the graphics leave little to be desired.

Controls: You can't get much

Overall: You have to love this game. People with short attention spans may grow tired of game play and find it repetitive, but variety can be added. The power moves make it fun and add a twist—it's funny to watch Mini Boos chase down your opponent, or see Bowser's flaming ball of doom hurtling toward you. At times you wish you were in the game so you could argue with the referee about some of the calls. However, nothing is better than the fact that you can still smash the ball into your opponent's face. So play it a little or play it a lot, this game is fun for everyone.

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Top 5 songs that are Pixies-related

5. *Cool as Kim Deal*
The Dandy Warhols
4. *Debaser*
The Pixies
3. *Where Is My Mind?*
The Pixies
2. *Cannonball*
The Breeders
1. *Gigantic*
The Pixies

-Carly Beath

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New releases this week from Nirvana and NIN

Multi-disc sets packed with rarities should appease die-hard fans of these two influential bands

CARLY BEATH
Entertainment Editor

It seems that this is the week to celebrate ten year anniversaries - for alternative rock at least.

Fans of Nirvana and Nine Inch Nails got a treat this week as multi-disc sets by both bands hit shelves. 2004 marks ten years since Nirvana front-man Kurt Cobain's death, and the re-release of Nine Inch Nails' classic album, *The Downward Spiral*.



The cover of Nirvana's new box-set, *With The Lights Out*.

The Nirvana release is a three CD, one DVD box-set entitled *With The Lights Out*. The majority of the tracks are previously unreleased, although some of these are alternate versions of already released songs. The set contains b-sides, acoustic re-makes, live performances, demos and alternate mixes, including the original mix of the hugely famous "Smells Like Teen Spirit".

The DVD includes footage of a 1988 concert at the home of

bassist Krist Novoselic's mother and other live performances, as well as the music video for "In Bloom".

Cover songs on the set include Led Zeppelin's "Immigrant Song" and Shocking Blue's "Love Buzz" (the original 7" single of which is a much sought-after collector's item).

The original *The Downward Spiral* by Nine Inch Nails was a massive success, selling over four million copies. It has been re-released in two forms: a deluxe edition hybrid SACD/CD double-disc set, and a single CD DualDisc version. The SACD (Super Audio CD) layer will play only on special SACD players and comes with the benefit of 5.1 surround sound. Normal CD players will play the regular layer of the CD, which features digital re-mastering. The DualDisc contains audio on one side and a DVD on the other; the DVD side features music videos for "Closer", "Hurt" and "March of the Pigs."

The first disc on the SACD version is the same as the original *The Downward Spiral* album. The second disc is made up of



Contributed Photo

Nine Inch Nails mastermind Trent Reznor.

rarities, b-sides and re-mixes, including the song "Burn", previously found on the *Natural Born Killers* soundtrack, and demos and re-mixes of "Closer", "Piggy" and "Hurt".

The re-release should serve to tide fans over until the new NIN

album comes out. In true Trent Reznor fashion, it's been five years since *The Fragile*, the last album of all new material. Reznor is promising NIN's forthcoming album, to be called *With Teeth*, in early 2005.

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

welcome to this world of
fools of pink champagne and
swimming pools
well all you have to lose is
your virginity

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 Andy Owens was the first to know that the lyrics were a tribute to the late Ol' Dirty Bastard, as they were from ODB's song "Dog Shit."

Ear
CANDY



Stars

★★★★☆
4.5 out of a possible 5 stars

Title: Set Yourself on Fire
Label: Arts and Crafts
Release Date: Oct. 18, 2004

It seems as though someone over at the Stars' record label has gone into my brain and pulled out the definition of my dream album.

This album is a laundry list of my favourite musical elements.

Successful mixing of live instruments and electronic sounds is one of these - it's why I love Le Tigre, it's why I love Sahara Hotnights and it's why I love The Smashing Pumpkins' last albums. Lucky for me, it's all over this album, and not in that cheesy, uber-hip, 80s revivalist trend way, either. At times, the guitars, strings, synths and drums meld together to produce a gorgeous wall of sound; at others one or two are singled out for a minimalist approach, only to be punctuated by a brief burst of sound.

I also love female vocalists, and Amy Millan is among the best. Her voice is almost too good to be true - it's sweet, polished

and perfect.

And when an amazing vocalist is singing beautifully bitter-sweet lyrics, all the better. I'm a sucker for sadness in music, so how could I not love lines like "It starts with her back, 'cause that's what he sees as she's breaking his heart."

The dynamics on this album are also amazing. "One More Night" starts off as a quiet lament, and builds to a majestic mountain of noise by the end. "What I'm Trying To Say," on the other hand, is upbeat and fun, making this the perfect album for people falling both in and out of love.

If you love pop melodies with depth, *Set Yourself on Fire* is the album for you.

-Carly Beath

Wilf's

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Big Breakfast
Sundays

Napoleon and friends are losers

- **Napoleon**, from page 20
his material sufficiently: he needn't sentimentalize or show affection for his characters, but he also shouldn't be so eager to wring laughs out of every instance of Napoleon's banal, unwitting stupidity. Hess consistently mocks these characters, and indeed it's pretty much impossible to like them, but by the end of the film everything has turned out alright for Napoleon and his friends, which is absurd. To force a happy

ending into this story is a cop-out. Maybe it's just me, but I can't stand movies like this, where everyone is such an oddball that you wonder how so many weirdos could exist in one place. The only way this collection of nutty people could come together is in a screenplay, and so the artifice of the project is immediately apparent. It reminds me of one of the lesser Coen Brothers' comedies (not that they've had many good ones), so if you enjoyed

something like *Raising Arizona* then maybe *Napoleon Dynamite* will tickle your fancy. The film Hess should have aspired to, however, is Todd Solondz's *Welcome to the Dollhouse*, which was also about a young social outcast but was intelligent and bitterly satirical, whereas *Napoleon Dynamite* gives us only broad caricatures.



"Itsa me, the Hamburger Helper man, and I'mma all a stretched outa inna frickin' gondola"
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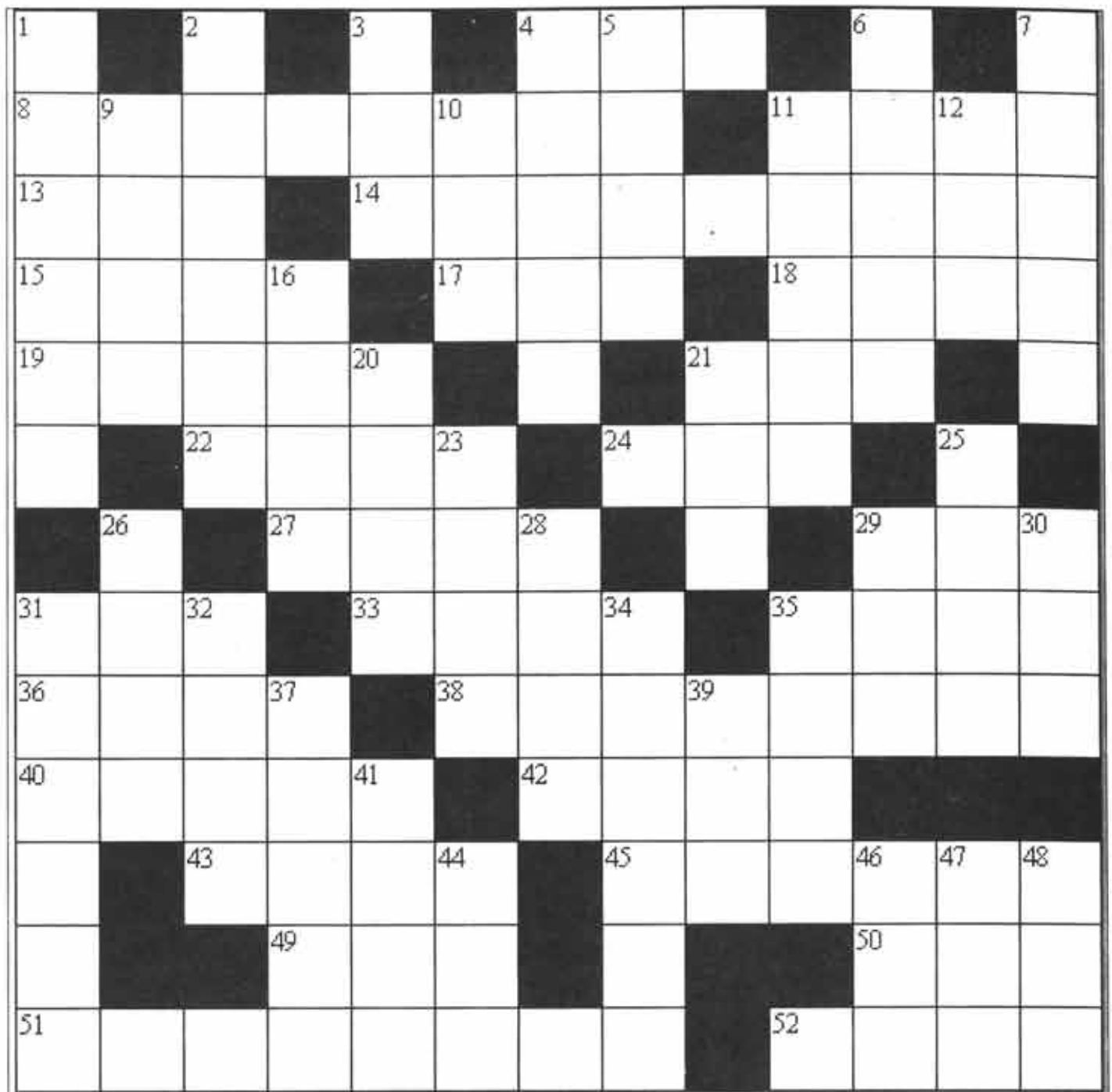
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Crossword

BY FRASER KING

- Down:**
- Not harder
 - Not shorter
 - World Wide _____
 - Willison _____
 - Vehicle of the frontier
 - 80s show or WLUSU team
 - ___ on me
 - Taxi synonym
 - Relating to the vagus nerve
 - ___ Stallone
 - Bad _____
 - 365 days
 - slang for cop
 - Type O Negative song 'Everything _____'
 - Break a rule in basketball
 - Nike's swoosh is a corporate _____
 - ___ factor
 - Vancouver punk band
 - Golf accessory
 - Mobile Suit _____
 - ___ for the poor
 - To take care of a bird
 - Of or relating to the Isle of Man
 - Popular search engine
 - Life, en Francais
 - Boring, staid
 - here, by Shakespeare
 - Brewed beverage
 - Came before the chicken
 - Fish eggs
- Across:**
- Federal Bureau of Investigation
 - Technical term for baldness
 - Wide, big, open
 - 1/2 cent, in Japan
 - White-headed bird
 - Othello's villain
 - Makes honey
 - Spanish painter
 - Cobra is GI Joe's _____
 - What you fry things in
 - Swamp plant
 - Tropical plant
 - Naive variant
 - Past tense of get
 - Tibetan gazelle
 - Coral _____
 - A grimace, a pout
 - opposite of pretty
 - That which can be saved
 - Non-sedentary
 - ___ deer
 - Footwear
 - Located on right side
 - ___ Lady Peace
 - Goes with Id and Superego
 - Marty McSorley's nickname
 - magic-user



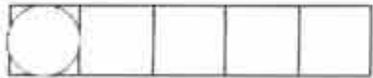
SCRAMBLOR, Lord of all Jumbles: Violent People

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

STINOPS



SNOTY



IDMO



TSEART



Where can you find the most violent people?



Weekly Bad Drawing

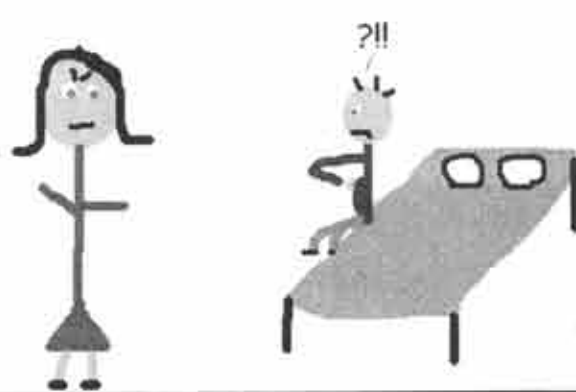
By Pete Cram

The Story of the 4 Haikus and the Evil Lobster Heiress

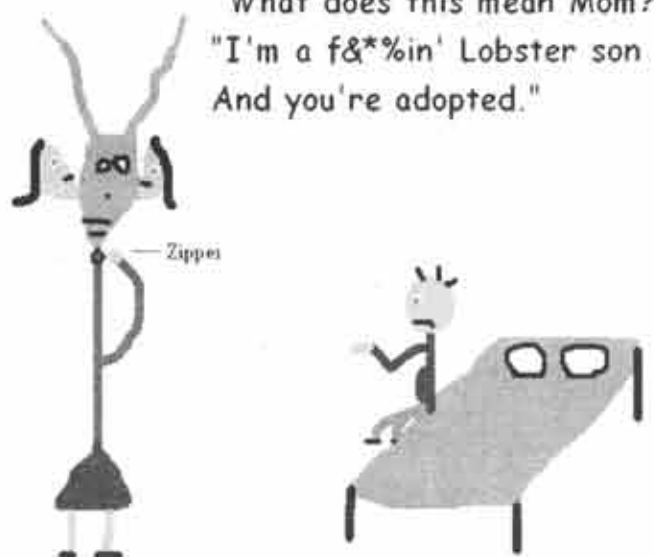
"I pick that one Mom
The big one with the whiskers
Cook it, I'm hungry"



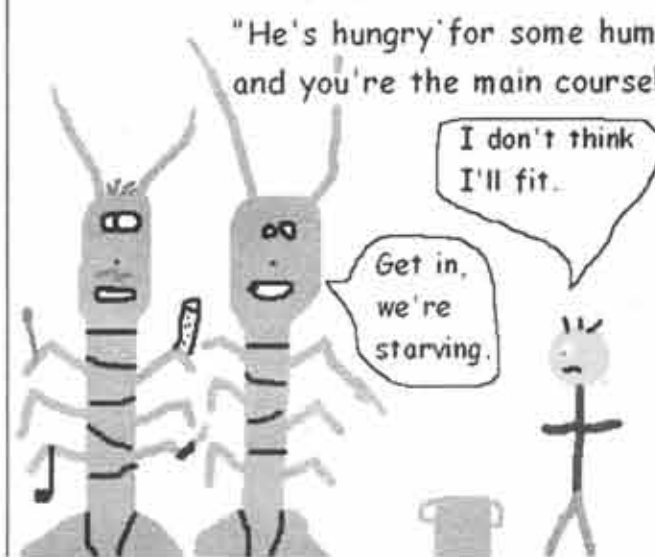
"My Tummy Hurts Mom"
"Didn't know you're allergic?"
Well, I did, Bastard!"



"What does this mean Mom?"
"I'm a f&*%in' Lobster son
And you're adopted."



"What about Dad Mom?"
"He's hungry for some human
and you're the main course!"



Last Week's Answers

SNAKES
DIRT DOG
DAMAGE
ANYBODY

What is Of Dirty Bastard now?



DEAD



B-Shinn...
take as long as
you want.

You went to Laval!

VOLUNTEER

Mental Health Volunteers Needed
Volunteering could be as easy as going out for coffee or other activities that interest you. Minimal commitment of 1-4 hours a week. Donate your time, learn more about your community, meet new people with similar interests and help others out! Training begins soon. To find out more information about The Welcome Home Initiative, contact Amy Rogers at rogersa@self-help.ca or 570-4595.

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208,
The party's better in your room, especially when Belle Gueule is involved. The bag made it back ok, as did my new found love of French-Canadians and Lost in Translation. 325.

Production Creds:
Janet and Sydney, for being the brave souls that actually came in this week. Caitlin for doing the dreaded poetry layout, Bryn for descending from his Ivory Tower to mingle with the commonfolk and giving me infographic blue balls, Bryan for a great Cord 'guy talk' and being a badass Bill Murray, Dan for the tireless info graphic work, all the contestants in the Great Hamburger Helper/Amazing Race Party/Contest. Wilbur for his magnanimous 7 cheese (count 'em) winning recipe. Elise and Carly for pushing the boundaries of Helper in the vegetarian market. Karl and Leo for a valiant if over-spiced entry. Josh for a mean 'Hungarian' Man's Helper, Benito Mussolini, Queens of the Stone Age, Leo for giving me more help with p'duction than most assistants, Mike for the useless Chinese ashtray, Phil Keoghan for being a great host and having a mysterious accent, FC Barcelona for lambasting Real Madrid and making me miss Spain, my boy Ronaldinho for being the 'Samba King' and looking like Jar-Jar Binks while being the best damn footballer alive and oh, Happy Birthday Mel...I'm Out!

Thanks,

To Frazer for dealing with the door... twice. Brit and Wee Nugget for dealing with Weiss. Everyone who spoke to me about Wilf's even if under the veil of anonymity, I couldn't have gotten it done without you. Megan for running those interviews, like a seasoned pro! Dan for working hard... but to no avail. Info graphics forthcoming! Brando for making an insane production a laughing occasion and ripping my every attempt at font choice. Helvetica sucks. It's over.

- Bryn

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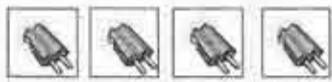
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A Pro-Vera Drake movie experience

Mike Leigh's film about abortion in 1950s Britain, where it was prohibited, examines an abortionist and her patients through a sympathetic lens

Vera Drake



out of a possible 5 fudgies

Actors: Imelda Staunton, Richard Graham, Eddie Marsan
Nutshell: A woman goes on trial for giving abortions

BRITTANY LAVERY
Staff Writer

I have discovered that having to pee halfway through a Mike Leigh film is a decidedly unfortunate situation. Leigh, the director of *Secrets and Lies*, is a British filmmaker who takes the British working class as the subject matter for his movies. His latest achievement, *Vera Drake*, opened at the Princess Cinema this past weekend.

Vera Drake is the story of an older woman who, while caring for her household and family, as well as working as a cleaning lady to supplement her husband's income, performs illegal abortions for young girls who have nowhere else to turn. While I'm not going to get into the touchy pro-life vs. pro-choice debate, I can't help but point out that the film makes it very difficult to condemn either Vera or the girls

she is helping. The film does not come right out and say, "pro-choice is right," but rather demonstrates this viewpoint with compassion and insight. As such, I thought the film was rather unassumingly and unobtrusively political.

Set in the year 1950, when abortions were still illegal in Britain under the Offenses Against the Person Act, *Vera Drake* paints a startlingly clear portrait of blue-collar life in England. The first half of the film is concerned with demonstrating the ways in which Vera helps those around her; indeed, how she puts herself second or third to the needs of others. Vera herself is not living in grand conditions: she, her husband, and their two adult children live in a tiny, cramped, two or three bedroom flat.

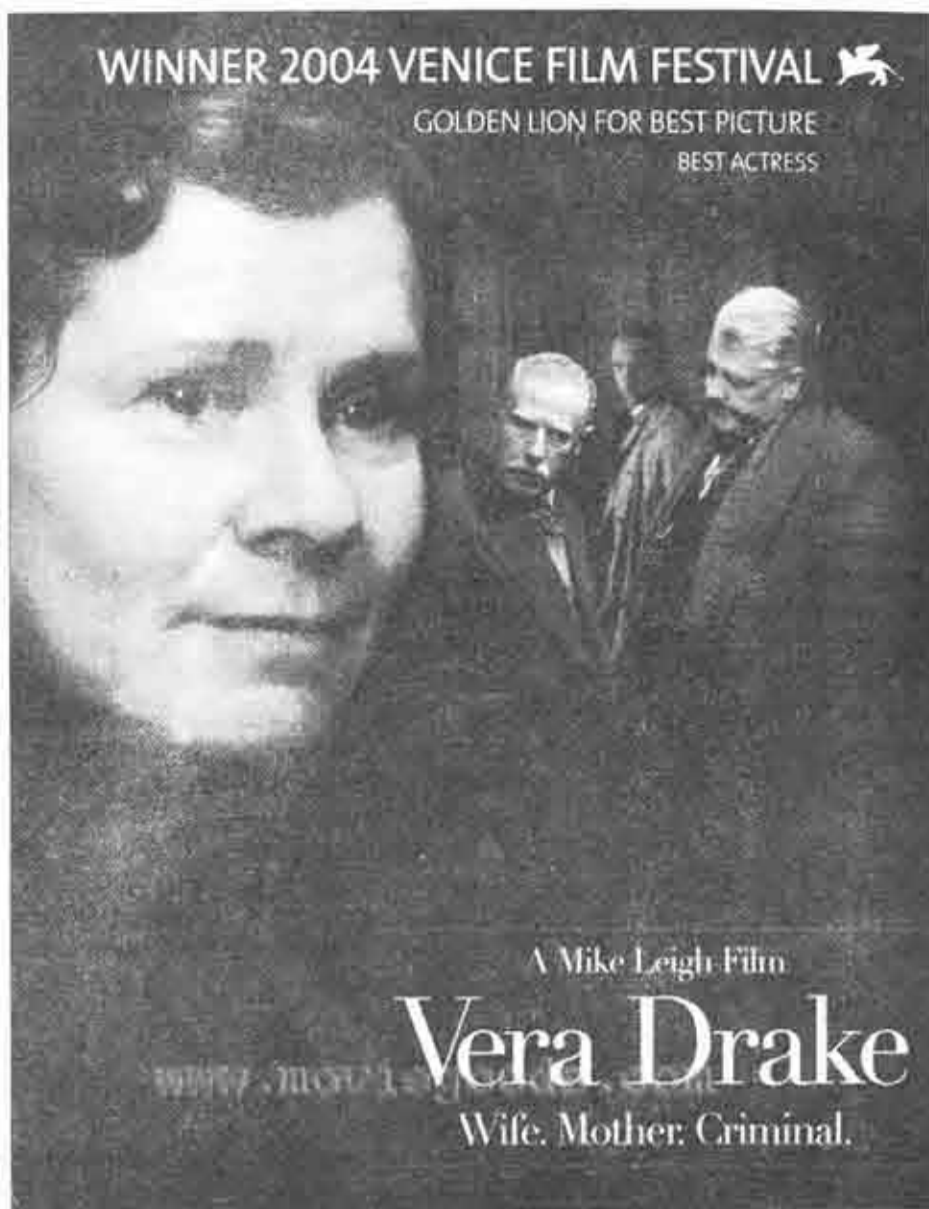
Even so, Vera and her family still take in those who have less and share what meagre resources they have. The purpose of spending a good portion of the film outlining this was, I think, Leigh's way of showing that everything Vera ever did was out of kindness for others. This portrayal makes it evident even, I venture, for those of the staunchly pro-life persuasion, that Vera is not a criminal even though she is acting against the law. A brilliant move on Leigh's part, because

when Vera is eventually found out by the law, we as the audience can't help but feel anything but pathos for this poor woman. She is taking the blame for breaking a rule that she (and countless other women) ignored only out of pure compassion for young girls who find themselves "in trouble".

The sympathy that the viewers feel for Vera is augmented by the spectacular performance by Imelda Staunton, who plays the protagonist. By the end, I just wanted to give her a big hug. It was like watching my grandmother on trial.

The only unflattering thing I could say about the film on the whole was that it dragged, just a wee bit, in parts. Leigh's trademark seems to be the high emotional intensity that is present throughout the entire film and never really seems to let up, and this is furthered by the lack of background music. This lacking causes a number of awkward silences, which actually serve to implicate the audience, or at least make them feel guilty and uncomfortable.

Comic relief is clearly not Leigh's forte. And while there is really nothing comic about the situation, I thought the film could have done with something to maybe de-stress the audience a little so that they could sit through the film without looking



Contributed Photo

Vera Drake movie poster. With that mustache, that one guy must mean business. But is that other guy giving respect?

at the clock. On the other hand, though, perhaps it is good that the audience is made to squirm. No one should feel complacent about this issue. I'll say this, though: the constant intensity and awkwardness made it a very inopportune time to have to use the loo.

On the whole, though, I found this to be a very moving film, one in which it is impossible not to get emotionally involved. It treats a hotly contested issue with sensitivity and compassion. Go and see it, everyone. Just make sure you use the washroom first.

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

Opera Series

On November 26 and 27, WLU's Faculty of Music will host its Opera Series in the Theatre Auditorium. Both performances start at 8 pm and will feature opera excerpts. Adam Sandler is not expected to be in attendance.

Horn dogs

The WLU Horn Ensemble will perform in the Maureen Forrester Recital Hall on Sunday, November 28 at 3 pm. Admission is free.

My brain: it's my second-

favourite organ

Organist Dr. James Kibbie will perform at the First United Church on the corner of King and William Streets. The concert starts at 3 pm, so you'll have to decide between this and the horn ensemble concert. Or choose neither: stay at home where it's warm and play Hungry Hungry Hippos, if you so desire. But if you want to attend the organ concert, call 885-4472 for tickets.

Book on violence outside the ring

Boxer Dave Hilton Jr.'s daughters reveal the truth about their abusive teen years in memoir

MELANIE PORCO
The Link (Concordia University)

MONTRÉAL (CUP) -- Anne Marie and Jeannie Hilton have publicly revealed the ordeal that was their adolescence in a new book, *Le Coeur au Beurre Noir* (*The Heart With a Black Eye*). The daughters of former World Boxing Council super-middleweight champion Dave Hilton Jr. spare no details about how their father mentally, physically and sexually abused them.

Their father, 40, is now serving a seven-year sentence for sexually assaulting his daughters. Despite his 2001 conviction, Hilton continues to deny his crime and accuses his daughters of conspiracy.

Le Coeur au Beurre Noir details the sexual abuse of the Hilton sisters from 1995 to 1998. It is divided into two sections-- Our Family, and Our Childhood and Adolescence-- with every chapter written in two parts, one by each sister. Both recount their own side of the story, but each coincides with the other, leaving for much repetition in the 149-page book.

Dave Hilton's love of alcohol and prostitutes, ties to notorious Montréal mafia organizations, non-stop gambling, boxing skills,

lying and manipulations are just some of the ways his daughters describe him.

"My father is human garbage, a criminal of the worst kind because he knew that he was behaving badly in assaulting us. He was never drunk when he violated us. He could not say it wasn't him because he was in a drunken state," Anne Marie writes.

Their father's boxing was not confined to the ring. His decisive punches continuously found their way to his daughters' and wife's faces.

"I couldn't say the number of times my father beat me. Five hundred times, a thousand times, who knows? He always told me I deserved it. It was non-stop. I was thrown against the walls, kicked and punched. Even when I thought I'd done something good, my father found a reason to beat me," recounts Anne Marie.

The boxer did not stop at assaulting his daughters' external aspects either, but forced himself into their inner ones as well.

"While I was semi-conscious after a beating, he took all the time to completely enter me. I fought the best I could, but he had a fixed goal and nothing was going to stop him from attaining

it, I felt like my vagina was being ripped with a knife. That's how I lost my virginity," writes Jeannie, whose cries that day had been covered by the sounds of her mother, Anna Maria Gatti, vacuuming in the next room.

Anna Maria-- her brother Arturo Gatti also a celebrated boxer-- worked multiple jobs to keep her family financially afloat while her husband drank and gambled their money away; she was exhausted. Dave Hilton constantly beat and humiliated his wife, leaving her numb and oblivious to what he was doing to their daughters.

Hilton's possessive nature is evident in each word of this book. Jeannie asked her father why he abused her. His response: "Because you are mine. I made you, so you belong to me. It's logical, no?"

A court-ordered publication ban shielded the sisters' identity during the trial, and Dave Hilton sought another one to stop the release of the book but failed.

Two young women, who simply wish to make their story of suffering public, wrote *Le Coeur au Beurre Noir* in hopes of empowering other victims to take a stand and make their voices heard. It reads more like a diary that covers their entire lives until the end of their father's trial. It is a must-read in order to understand the unimaginable tragedy that became the adolescent years of Jeannie and Anne Marie Hilton.

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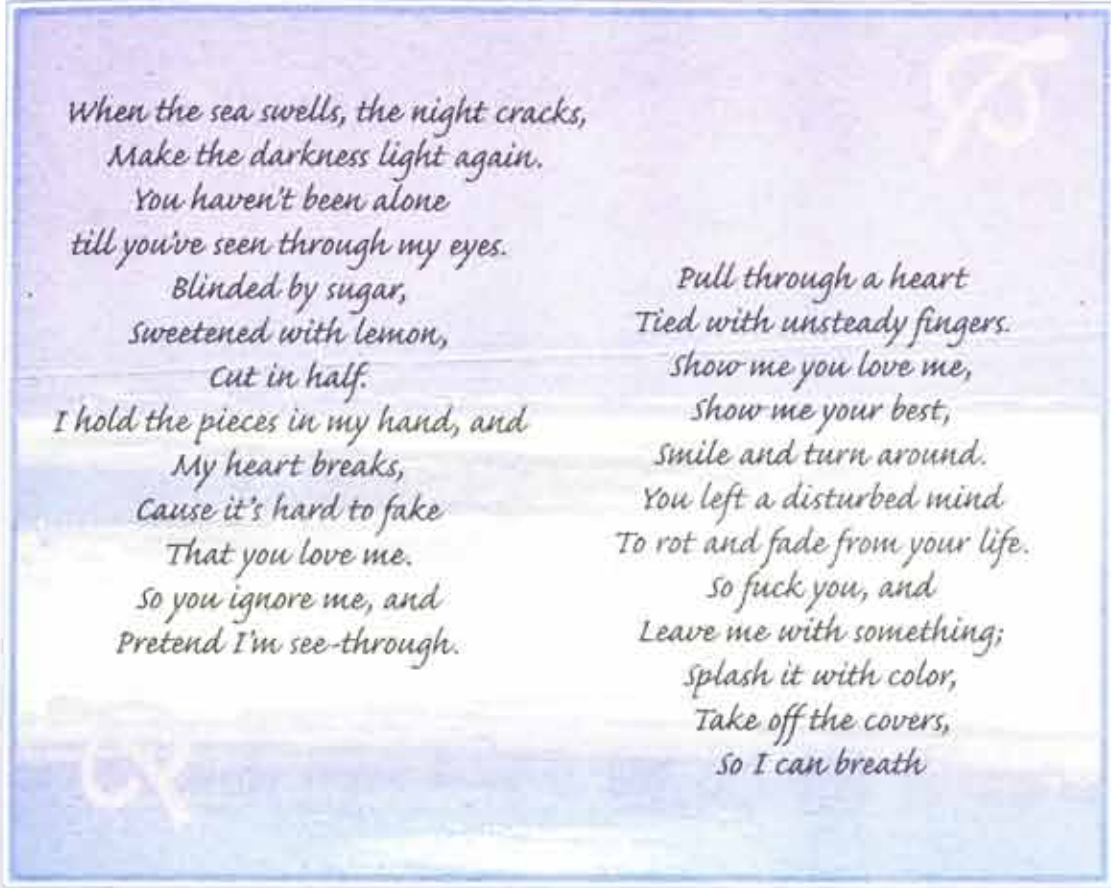


Kitty-cat's deal:
Kitty-cat is actually a robot

Cord Arts: Because beards are coming back, in a big way. I don't know what that means.

Poetry contest preview

Lianne MacDowall
Water Colors



When the sea swells, the night cracks,
Make the darkness light again.
You haven't been alone
till you've seen through my eyes.
Blinded by sugar,
Sweetened with lemon,
Cut in half.
I hold the pieces in my hand, and
My heart breaks,
Cause it's hard to fake
That you love me.
So you ignore me, and
Pretend I'm see-through.

Pull through a heart
Tied with unsteady fingers.
Show me you love me,
show me your best,
Smile and turn around.
You left a disturbed mind
To rot and fade from your life.
So fuck you, and
Leave me with something;
splash it with color,
Take off the covers,
so I can breath

Poetry reading reviews

Cord Arts Review

BRITTANY LAVERY
Staff Writer

If you missed the poetry reading at the Grad Pub on Thursday, November 18, shame on you. You should have paid more attention and marked your calendar. Such readings seem to be few and far between, even at such an artistic institution (I'm sure) as Laurier.

Hosted by the WLU English Club (which you should all join, dammit), the poetry reading was held at 8:00 pm and was open to everyone from English to Pysch majors, from Laurier students to non-Laurier people. The turnout, surprisingly, was quite decent. Normally, one would think that most Laurier students (who I'm sure are wildly interested in all things artsy) would have much better things to do on a Thursday night in the middle of "all my term papers are due at once" season.

Such gatherings are usually operated by way of open mic-style; that is, if you want to read something, write your name down, and the mic is yours for however long your poetic little heart desires. While this event seemed to be limited to performances of poetry, short prose and/or prose poetry (with the exception of a few political plugs), what was immediately evident was the variety of work that poets at Laurier are creating. People were getting up and sharing everything from free verse to villanelle to strict rhyming forms to short, haiku-esque poems. I found the atmosphere overwhelming in that if you are a poet at Laurier, you no longer need to feel alone. It turns out there are many others at this school who are doing what you are doing. Truly, in the words of Anne Shirley, it was a gathering of kindred spirits.

The other cool thing about the reading was the diversity of people who attended the reading. Many different academic disciplines were represented, as well as people who were not students at all. Also, everyone from first year to fourth year and even a prof or two showed up to read. I was impressed at the professors who came out; it's always nice to see profs who are willing to interact with students on a social and creative level.

I usually find audiences at poetry readings to be pretty receptive, and this occasion was no different. Some people who got up to read had never read formally in front of an audience before, and the crowd was supportive. Everyone got several

showers of applause, with only a little heckling.

Also, it was interesting to hear some readers perform works that were not their own. Not only did people present their own poems that they had been working on, but they also performed pieces by other poets or authors, famous or infamous, well-known or not. A highlight was the performance of a short piece of prose, "Babycakes," by writer Neil Gaiman.

On the whole, the poetry reading was very refreshing. If you missed it, do not despair. The Drama Club is hosting a coffeehouse on the 30th of November, which will include a variety of artistic, dramatic, and poetic performances. Oh, and come to the English Club. 3:30pm on Fridays in the 24 Hour Lounge.

Cord Arts Review

SARAH GRAVES
Cord Arts

As it turns out, people are very reluctant to read the first poem. This leaves organizer types like Dave Alexander standing at the front with the microphone. Luckily, his antics will eventually prompt someone to go up there and share some wordlovin' with the crowd. And so they did, and a very successful poetry reading began. The turnout was quite good, with poetry regulars and interested first years bolstered by some Stitch'n'bitchers from the Torque Room.

Topics ranged from the emotionally to politically relevant. Bernard Dawson told the audience he "fucking hated them (well, not them, but the poem's undisclosed subject). Katelynd Franken shared her thoughts on the war in Iraq and Ryan Leandres shared some humorous musings about the blackout enjoyed by all the summer before last.

Dr. J (for Jewinski) donated several books and anthologies for a draw, which was sort of a draw for people. As much of a draw as Norton's Anthologies, Austen's *Emma* and an MLA Style Guide can be. The fine Dr. J read some of his own poetry to the crowd, including a touching poem about his father who had just recently passed away.

Much of the poetry was quite well received by the crowd (with clapping and pauses in the knitting) and the atmosphere was relaxed and friendly. This Stitch'n'bitcher had a good time anyway, and once things got rolling the reading was quite inviting for people, watching and participating alike.



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