

## SEX, SEX, SEX

Get your Scooner or Rebecca in shape for Valentine's ... **PAGE 12-13**

## JOB SHUFFLE AT LINT

Three positions in jeopardy with Laurier International shake-up ... **PAGE 6**

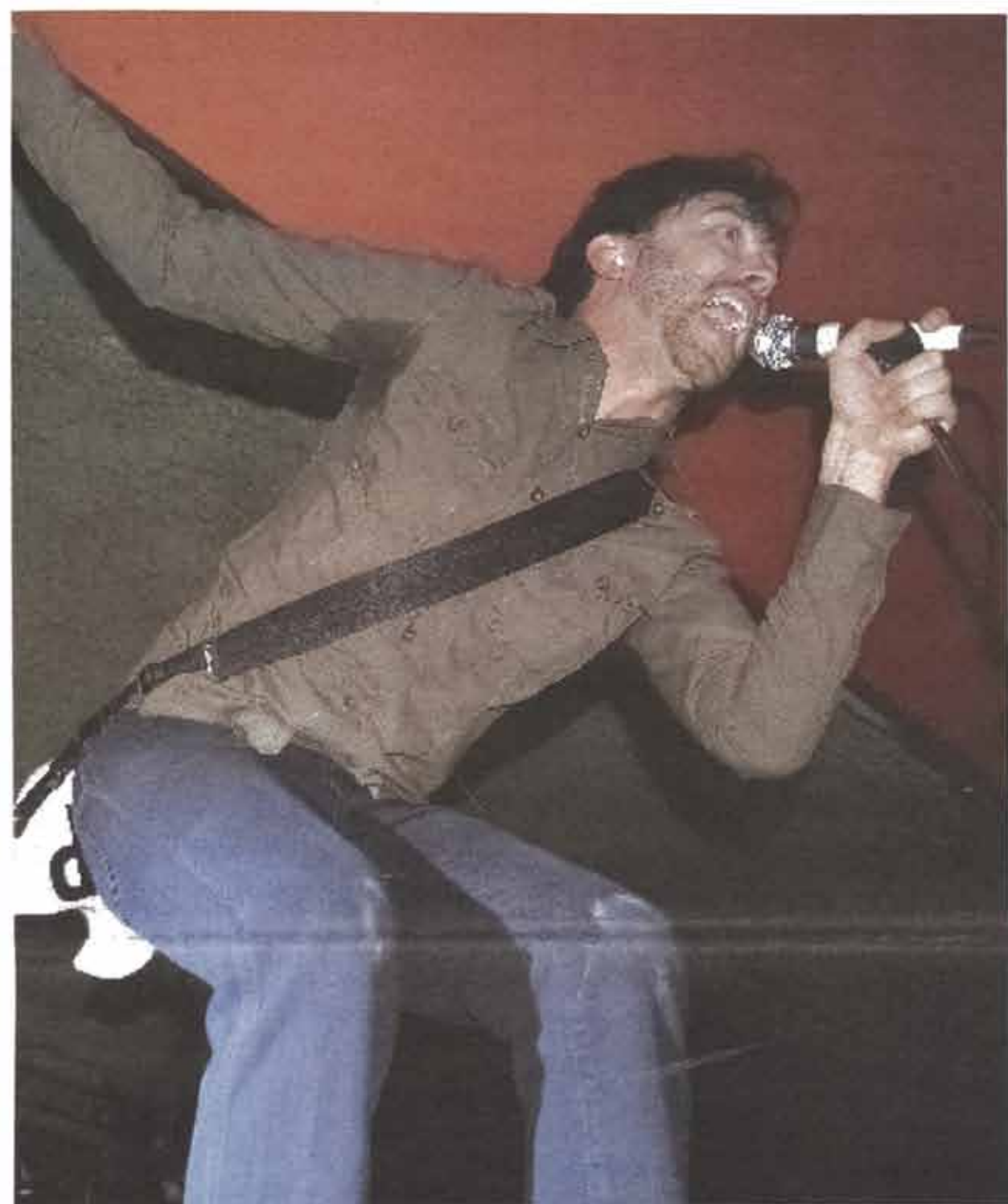
## BREAKING THE SILENCE

What some Laurier students are doing to celebrate Black History ... **PAGE 8**

Volume 47 Issue 22

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 14, 2007

www.cordweekly.com



Jon Kit

## Rise Against rocks

REAL ROCK CROWD MOSHED IN THE TURRET TO TUNES OF WAR-RESISTING BAND - SEE PAGE 14

## Powderpuff tuff stuff

Women's winter football tournament much more than just a charity event



DAN POLISCHUK  
SPORTS EDITOR

With the final whistle blown, allowing one team to start cheering and the other to mope back to their coaches, there was no doubt that another classic football match up between McMaster and Laurier had just taken place ... with a slight twist.

"Man, that felt like throwing up and having diarrhea at the same time!"

While not have been the most eloquent comparison ever uttered, somehow it just seemed like the

right thing to say after such an intense game that was not short of insult and injury.

"And you can go ahead and print that too," stated Dan McBride - with a wry smile coming across his face.

The difference with the aforementioned match was that the recently graduated member of the football team was, instead, an observer rather than a player this time around.

Being on the field with him at the time of his revelation, we had just concluded officiating one of the many Powder Puff football games this past weekend.

Having volunteered for the role, I really didn't give it another thought. I'd been in some pretty tough spots in recent past having presided over

games of organized fast pitch and basketball games. I can honestly say that this event offered me the most unique and entertaining experience yet.

Even while combining possibly two of the largest male obsessions - women and football - can often leave a grin on a lot of guys' faces, it was the intensity these females showed throughout the weekend that sparked a reaction in me similar to McBride's.

Knowing about some of the pain that is dealt out - having a few friends take part in past tournaments and nursing wounds afterwards - it's not until you have a girl

## Stadium to cost \$5M

Crumbling complex needs upgrade, say officials

ASHLEY JANG  
STAFF WRITER

With final approvals completed on Monday, the university is beginning its plans for \$5 million renovations at University Stadium.

Originally purchased by WLU in the 1950s, the stadium is not quite what it used to be. "My own personal view is that the facility is very old and tired and when somebody goes over there and takes a look at it, it doesn't look very impressive," said Ron Dupuis, assistant VP: physical resources.

The renovations will focus on four components: the stadium building, the stands, the turf and the track.

The stadium building, with an estimated cost of \$3.3 million, is the biggest and hardest part. Of primary concern is the air circulation within the building.

"The indoor air quality in the building became an issue because there's no air circulation. When you have a lot of humidity from the showers you get mold," said Dr. Rosehart, president of WLU.

The stands are also a primary concern because they are starting to rust. "To strip and repaint the stands is estimated at about \$300,000," said Jim Butler, VP: finance and administration.

Next, the artificial turf on the field needs to be replaced, which will cost approximately \$1.1 million. "The field is a collection of carpets that are stitched together and that carpet was guaranteed for 8 years but it's been down there for 12 or 13 years," said Dr. Rosehart.

Dr. Rosehart also explained the



CURRENT FIELD A 'COLLECTION OF CARPETS': ROSEHART

safety concerns with an old turf that is no longer stitched together properly. "What would happen is people would trip and get hurt and if somebody actually got hurt by that, since we knew about it, the university would be liable."

Finally the university is planning to renovate the track around the field for about \$300,000. "The track we want to rubberize so that it is there for jogging and timed running and possibly also intramural track meets," said Peter Baxter, director of athletics and recreation.

With all four projects, the complete renovations are expected to total approximately \$5 million.

Funding for this project will be coming from a number of sources. Primary funding will be coming from WLUSU and the university who will be providing \$1.5 million each towards the renovations. The rest of the cost will be covered by surcharges on rent to external users, unrestricted campus donations and money from fundraising.

One of the main goals that the university hopes to get out of this project is to make the university

- SEE STADIUM, PAGE 2



Courtesy Scott Hayter

THE NEW DIGS? - Artist's interpretation of the renovated stadium.

- SEE POWDER, PAGE 18



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Waterloo, Ontario  
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WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 14, 2007  
VOLUME 47 ISSUE 22  
Next Issue: February 21

**QUOTE OF THE WEEK**  
"I just got my scholarship cheque. And I'm going to get drunk."  
- Alex Hundert, disillusioned Blueprint editor in the early afternoon

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The Cord Weekly is the official student newspaper of  
the Wilfrid Laurier University community.

Started in 1920 as the College Cord, The Cord Weekly is an editorially independent newspaper published by Wilfrid Laurier University Student Publications, Waterloo, a corporation without share capital. WLUSP is governed by its board of directors.

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Student Publications

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The Cord is created using Macintosh computers running OS X.2 using Adobe Creative Suite 2 (InDesign, Photoshop, Acrobat, Distiller and Illustrator) and Quark Xpress 6.1. Canon Rebel XT 8.0 megapixel digital cameras are used for principal photography.

The Cord Weekly is a proud member of the Ontario Press Council since 2006. Any unsatisfied complaints can be sent to the Council at info@onpress.com.

The Cord's circulation for a normal Wednesday issue is 7,000 copies and enjoys a readership of over 10,000.

Cord subscription rates are \$20.00 per term for addresses within Canada.

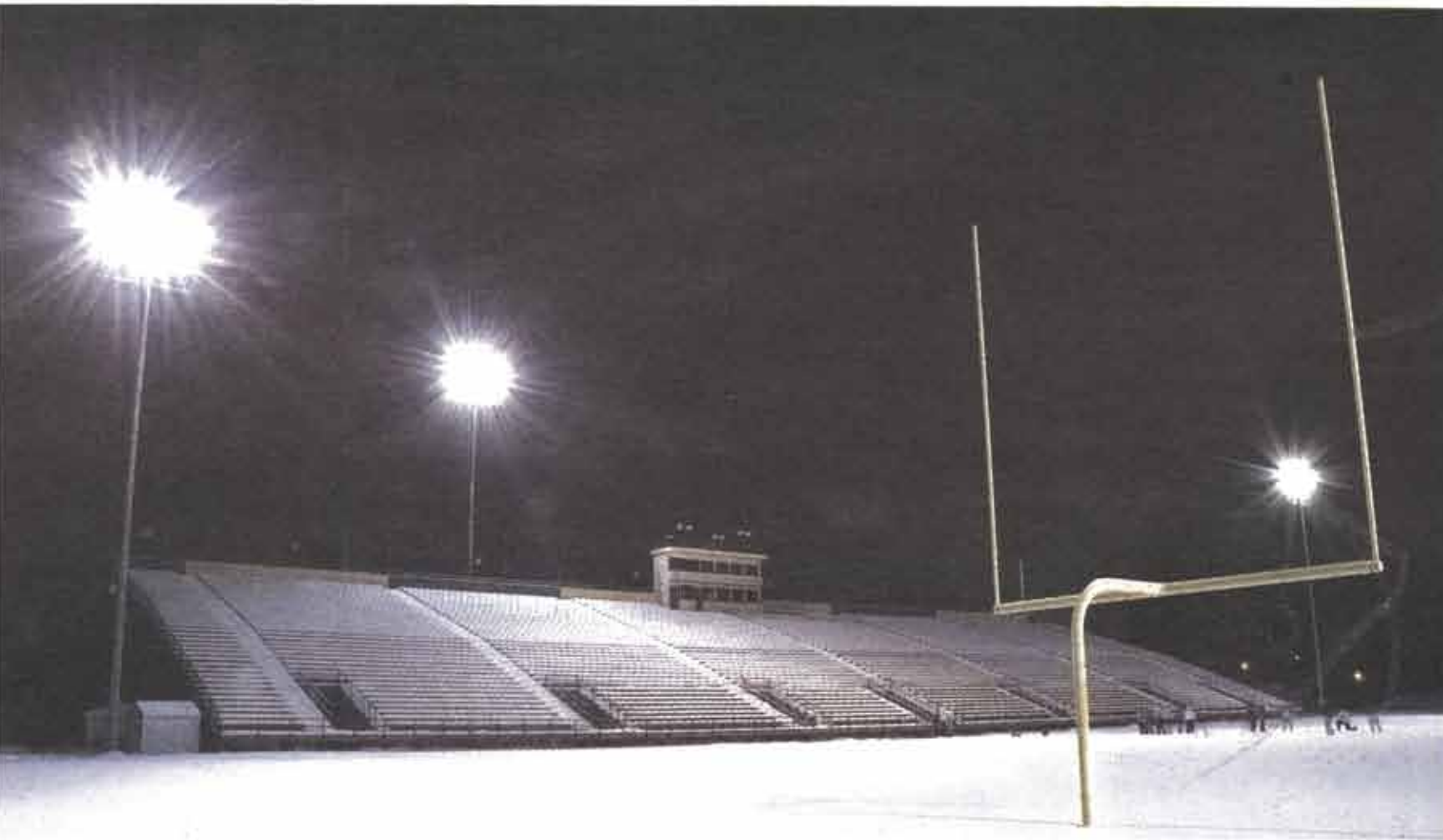
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The Cord will keep faith with its readers by presenting news and expressions of opinions comprehensively, accurately and fairly.  
The Cord believes in a balanced and impartial presentation of all relevant facts in a news report, and of all substantial opinions in a matter of controversy.  
The staff of The Cord shall uphold all commonly held ethical conventions of journalism. When an error of omission or of commission has occurred, that error shall be acknowledged promptly.  
When statements are made that are critical of an individual, or an organization, we shall give those affected the opportunity to reply at the earliest time possible.  
Ethical journalism requires impartiality, and consequently conflicts of interest and the appearance of conflicts of interest will be avoided by all staff.  
The only limits of any newspaper are those of the world around it, and so The Cord will attempt to cover its world with a special focus on Wilfrid Laurier University, and the community of Kitchener-Waterloo, and with a special ear to the concerns of the students of Wilfrid Laurier University. Ultimately, The Cord will be bound by neither philosophy, nor geography in its mandate.  
The Cord has an obligation to foster freedom of the press and freedom of speech. This obligation is best fulfilled when debate and dissent are encouraged, both in the internal workings of the paper, and through The Cord's contact with the student body.  
The Cord will always attempt to do what is right, with fear of neither repercussions, nor retaliation. The purpose of the student press is to act as an agent of social awareness, and so shall conduct the affairs of our newspaper.

# Stadium makeover

After renovations, the stadium will be gender-friendly and will allow for more recreational use



Shane Porter

**STADIUM UPDATION** - From the rusty bleachers to the field turf having to be sewn together, University Stadium is well overdue for an overhaul.

## - FROM STADIUM, COVER

stadium facilities more geared towards women. "The stadium is way overweighed in facilities for men so one of the things we're going to be able to do is make the building more gender-friendly," said Dr. Rosehart.

The renovations will allow stu-

dents to have more time and space to have some fun. "This is one piece of the puzzle that we don't have - casual recreation time," said Baxter. "It will also address a lot of our instructional users, the majority of which are women, to be able to program more classes."

The university plans to begin renovations as soon as possible,

but because of final exams it may be delayed until the end of April. "We can't really do anything until exams are done unless we can figure out a way of relocating some of the exams," said Dr. Rosehart.

If all goes as planned, the stadium renovations should be complete by the beginning of September, just in time for a new school

year. Many other schools, including U of T and McMaster, have renovated or are in the process of renovating their stadiums. "It's not going to be a new stadium but it will make it renewed and will make us competitive again," said Dr. Rosehart.

See PAGE 20 for editorial reaction to this story

# Reaction to student dishonesty stats

Results of Maclean's article on cheating doesn't apply to Laurier says VP: Academic Sue Horton

**LAUREN MILLET**  
STAFF WRITER

More university students are cheating, says Maclean's magazine. But according to Laurier officials, it's not a problem here.

"I think it's an issue universities should take very seriously," stated Laurier's vice-president of academics Dr. Sue Horton. "Magazines always hype it up, but we shouldn't be dismissing the importance of this particular issue."

"Universities, apparently not convinced that cheating has reached crisis proportions, offer little but token anti-plagiarism policies and ineffective ethics campaigns to assuage critics," states the Maclean's article.

According to a survey of 5300 US graduate students, "business students, at 56 percent, were the worst offenders," while "engineering students are, at 54 percent, close behind".

Horton raises questions about the authenticity and level of accuracy of the data presented by Maclean's. "The data they use is almost exclusively from the United States, and the data that is from

Canada is only from the University of Toronto. It says that the number of cases of cheating has increased over the past decade," she says. "Well, yes, but the number of students at the university has also doubled in that time."

According to Mark Baetz, professor of business and chair of the Academic Integrity Committee, Laurier is one step ahead of many universities in the prevention of academic misconduct.

"We are the leading edge in our proactive education strategies," said Baetz.

The first step in prevention is to educate students in an attempt to prevent cases of cheating from taking place.

"We have to teach students that, one: they just don't have to cheat and people do look down on it; two: if they are feeling stressed and finding themselves short of time, we have support systems such as learning services to help you better allocate your time; and three: we will catch you," explains JD Muir, vice-president: university affairs for the WLU students' union.

This education must start early. "It's what you teach students as

far back as elementary school, and what you teach parents to teach them," described Muir about when students should begin to learn the ways of academic misconduct.

All first-year students go through academic integrity sessions during O-Week in order to instruct them on the seriousness of the issue at hand.

Professors should also feel comfortable catching students who cheat and Laurier is making the process much more appealing to them. "We are clarifying the processes, re-writing the forms and minimizing the professor's roles. This way they don't have to feel so overwhelmed by the whole process," furthered Muir.

By using methods of cheating in university - and getting away with it - students may think they can behave this way and not be penalized.

"Students are being sent out into the workforce who are falsely qualified, lacking certain morals and who have a history of cutting corners and taking the easy way out," explained Muir.

The current technology also gives students an easier alternative to learning the material. "There are so many ways to cheat, and so many types of cheating, that's part of the problem," said Muir. "To-

day's technology is remarkable. Things such as cell phone cameras and text messaging, it's almost too easy for students."

This is why Laurier is intensifying the guidelines for penalizing students caught in any form of academic misconduct. Baetz states that, "We're drawing a penalty guideline from the University of Guelph that spells out specific terms of the penalties. We are going to include them in our sessions for first-years and so students will know exactly what will happen to them."

"Ignorance is no excuse. They can't say, 'I didn't know' or 'I didn't mean it.' With all the education we're putting out there for them, that can no longer be an excuse," explained Baetz.

The penalties are simple. "The first time you will get a warning. The second time, no. You should have learned the first time," stated Muir. "It's immature and ignorant and it reflects who you are as a person."

The severity of the second offence is determined using new preset guidelines and penalties are not taken lightly. They can range from a zero grade on a paper to a failed course to expulsion from the school.



## &gt; VOCAL CORD

How big of a problem do you think cheating is at WLU?



"It's wrong, but students do it because they are desperate."

- Nova Starr  
Second-year Mathematics/Spanish



"It's not cheating until you get caught."

- Jen Hart  
Fourth-year Psychology



"It's bad but 'everybody' does it."

- Iain McCauley  
Second-year Global Studies



"I don't think it's that much of a problem. I don't see it that much."

- Alan Kan  
Fourth-year History



"We get asked a lot of questions about it in class but I don't know if we get punished for it often."

- Tenisha Hibbert  
Second-year Biology

Compiled by Kelly Moore, photos by Riley Taylor

# Directors' role shifts

MIKE BROWN  
NEWS EDITOR

When the WLUSU board of directors (BOD) adjourned from their atypically brief weekly Monday night meeting, their governance system had changed dramatically.

After a two-week implementation period, the board has transitioned from their former governance manual to a policy governance system that will, in the words of director Jon Champagne, "completely change the way the corporation governs itself."

The focus of individual directors will shift from very specific, everyday tasks to much broader, higher discourse, explains Matt Park, chair of the board. The BOD will take on a more visionary role, he says.

"You won't be able to look back and say, 'I changed the menu at Wilf's,'" says director Josh Smyth. "But you will be able to look back and say, 'I changed the values of the organization.'"

According to Asif Bacchus, chair of the standing committee on con-

stitutional and operational development (COD), policy governance allows directors to set a direction and then gives management a lot more creative freedom in achieving those ends.

But some directors are concerned that this will diminish the role of directors and the representational aspect of the board could become lost in the shuffle.

Director Bryn Ossington says the model essentially prioritizes long-term goals for board members – which he thinks reduces relevance to students who vote them in.

"If they elect me today to get something done four years down the road, most of the people that elected me won't be here. I won't be here," he says.

He likens WLUSU to a municipal government, and notes that it is almost unheard of for such representational bodies to use the policy governance model.

"[That's] what makes me nervous," adds Smyth. "That being said, there is, I think, a strong possibility that whatever emerges out

of the process in the next couple of months is going to be pretty significantly adapted to whatever WLUSU needs out of it."

Those next couple months mark a sort of trial period for policy governance, the culmination of a lengthy process that dates back a couple years, according to Cayenne. This year's board spent much of their term debating the new system's merits, with a number of directors vocally reluctant to make such a monumental change.

Then, two weeks ago, the board formed a 10-person implementation committee, with five members each from both current and incoming boards, to phase in the new model.

Bacchus, one of the directors that was displeased with the process, sees this as an opportunity for a test drive.

"My question still is why [switch]," he openly admits. "Now the why can sort of surface on its own – the why or why not."

He ultimately hopes WLUSU can adopt an appropriate hybrid of the

two models, to create something particular to their needs.

But Ossington doesn't think the board's motives are entirely pure.

"I think that people do want something tangible," he says. "They want something to say, 'this is ours; we got this done.' Because if we didn't get it done, what did we do all year?"

"There's that pressure that this needs to go forward," agrees Champagne. "Ultimately, if you look all around, there's so much been invested in it that to not go forth and at least try it out would be a loss."

Park assures that this move has been the will of the board, and that a reactive element will absolutely be retained to deal with everyday concerns. The board will still have a say in the direction management takes, he says.

A recommendation will be presented to the new board by May 1 regarding whether or not to continue with the policy governance model.

See PAGE 20 for editorial reaction to this story

## Laurier prepares for flu pandemic

National flu pandemic to cause 58,000 deaths; 'a significant impact' expected at Laurier

ASHLEY JANG  
STAFF WRITER

People around the world are starting to worry as the World Health Organization predicts an influenza pandemic that could possibly hit in the next few years.

This pandemic would be caused by a virus that differs significantly from seasonal influenza, which is common every year from early October through to late April. The pandemic would be caused by a new virus that can hit at any time and does not currently have a vaccine.

"When we're looking at a pandemic we're looking at an illness that crosses international boundaries and would affect large numbers of people," said Karen Ostrander, manager of Health Services at WLU.

Historically there have been three pandemics per century, and according to Doug Witmer, executive director of academic projects, "It's been about 38 or 39 years since we had the last one and if you go three per century, we're due, some people say overdue."

Health organizations are monitoring new viruses very closely and have noted that avian influenza, a virus found primarily in Hong Kong, could potentially be the cause of an outbreak. "At this point, even though it's really widespread in other parts of the world, it's still quite limited," said Ostrander.

The Public Health Agency of Canada is predicting that there will be up to 58,000 deaths in Canada, 138,000 hospitalizations, and anywhere from two to five million patients requiring outpatient

care as a result of an influenza pandemic.

With respect to the Waterloo region, there could be up to 127,000 individuals requiring outpatient care, up to 2,400 people requiring hospitalizations, and anywhere from 200-700 deaths as a result of this influenza pandemic. "So you transfer that back to Laurier and there could be a significant impact," said Witmer.

In order to prepare for the event of a pandemic, Laurier has begun to take the proper precautions to make things as easy and safe as possible for students and staff.

"What we've tried to do from Wilfrid Laurier's perspective is interpret what level of preparation we need to do to make sure

that we minimize the impact on both the operations of the university and the people involved," said Dan Dawson, director of student services.

Laurier has developed a working group that is moving towards the creation of a pandemic plan. "We will try to develop some measures that will prevent the rapid spread of the pandemic here at the university to the extent we can," said Witmer. "Obviously, we can't stop it totally but there are health measures that we can take to help stop the virus."

Universities across the country have started to develop pandemic plans. The University of Waterloo has developed what they call business continuity planning, which is their proposal for what to do in the event of a pandemic.

"Waterloo started to develop this planning cycle and we got

on board very soon after and developed a working group that is very representative of our campus community," said David McMurray, dean of students.

For now, Laurier's working group is beginning to think about raising awareness for students and staff.

"What we're talking about doing, probably more in line with next fall, is developing an education program," said Dawson. This program would help students understand the impact of a pandemic and teach them how to avoid being infected with a virus.

"I think the overall message is that we don't know exactly what is going to happen or how severe it's going to be but we certainly are trying to take steps now so that we can be prepared to deal with the crisis," said Ostrander.



Sydney Heiland

**ENOUGH ROOM?** - If the pandemic strikes, waiting rooms in hospitals and clinics will see a dramatic increase in patient numbers. Two to five million people are expected to require outpatient care.



# Green party leader grows on crowd

LAURA CARLSON  
STAFF WRITER

With the recent presence of environmental issues in the limelight of Canadian politics, one voice has long advocated a solution to the detrimental effects of global warming. This voice belongs to Elizabeth May, leader of Canada's Green Party. May hosted a public lecture entitled "Why Green? Why now?" for the Waterloo community at the Adult Recreation Centre on Sunday night.

After some friendly chatting with her supporters, the recently-elected May took the stage to address an enthusiastic crowd. Armed only with a few scribbled notes and an incredible sense of humour, the political leader set out to convince spectators why the Green Party needs to be recognized as a "serious, credible voice."

The Green Party advocates that the key to maintaining the well-being of our environment is through a carbon tax and mandatory regulations.

"The number one solution is to maximize the energy we use," says May. She recognizes that there is no one replacement for carbon,

and this means we need to take advantage of the numerous energy-saving devices already in existence, she says.

"What makes it difficult [to currently use energy saving devices] is the design of our economic system. All these things work against the individual that wants to do everything right, so you end up paying more yourself."

This brought May to addressing the notion of an "economic collapse," which has been suggested concerning Kyoto and other energy saving strategies. May feels that economic repercussions don't need to be a result of conserving energy. Instead, simple restructuring is the answer.

The Green Party claims to be neither left nor right wing, but aims to be a government that delivers proportional representation. Aside from advocating for environmental issues, Green Policy aims to restore a foreign policy independent of American influence, eliminate poverty and protect the health care system.

Despite being denied the opportunity to participate in previous elections' televised debates, May remains hopeful. "What we really

want to do is create a more vibrant democracy where issues and solutions are respectfully discussed and debated and illuminated." Recent polls show that 77 percent of Canadians support presence of the Green Party in the debate.

May feels that a minority government and a strong Green Party contingent in the House of Commons is the only way to ensure the best future for our country. With a grin on her face, May told the audience that voting Green is an ethical decision for us all to make.

"I don't want to be in a position of telling people how to vote. I want to tell them what the Green Party stands for. I want them to see our policy. I want them to see our programs. I want them to understand the political landscape and then say, 'vote with your conscience.' If you can vote and feel hopeful with a smile on your face, at the end, I know you've voted Green."



Shane Porter

**CARBON NEUTRAL** - Elizabeth May claims she simply wants to make sure they know the Green Party's message before they vote.

## NEWSINBRIEF

### New student fee for SBE

Today, students in the School of Business and Economics (SBE) will vote on a new student life levy. The proposed levy, organized by the SBE Student Council (SBESC), would increase funding for SBE student clubs. Currently, the SBE is the largest faculty at WLU without a student life levy, and one of few Canadian business schools not to have one.

The SBESC has found that students in SBE clubs lack the funding that other business schools make available for their students. "We looked within the SBE and we looked at the current funding of our student activities, and we realized right away how severely under-funded our student initiatives were," said SBESC co-president Darren Quinton.

The SBESC hopes that the pro-

posed levy will enable students to attend more events and competitions, thus raising the profile of the school and its degrees. "[With] other schools that have initiated levies at their business schools, the profile of the business school has jumped ten-fold. Students are coming out with much more valuable degrees," said SBESC co-president Terrence Teixeira.

If the levy carries through, it will begin in September '07, at a cost of \$15 a term per SBE student. With a projected student count of approximately 2800, the student club's budget is expected to receive a boost of roughly \$84,000.

The levy will require 51 percent approval of those who vote in order to pass. SBE students can cast their vote in the KPMG Atrium of the Schlegel Building. Students who are currently out of the country can cast their votes via electronic ballot.

- Mark Adamson



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**INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS** - LINT's Ewa Dabrowska has represented Laurier since 2003, building partnerships with several overseas institutions.

## Laurier International staff victim to review

**ARLA LATTO-HALL**  
INTERNATIONAL EDITOR

The results of Laurier International's review are in – and not everybody is happy.

Three of Laurier International's (LINT) four full-time staff positions have been made redundant as part of its "internationalizing" plan. Three new positions will be created in their place, with new job descriptions that may preclude re-hiring the present staff. Only Peter Donahue, LINT's relatively new director, will retain his position.

The ripples of change will touch more than just LINT's staff and students who use their services. "I think it has broad, reaching implications not only for this office but for other departments on campus," said Bethany Ankucza, LINT's international resource and exchange coordinator.

Partnerships with other institutions will be affected as well, as International Relations Coordinator Ewa Dobrowska points out. "This is international relations, not just on the campus."

"We're basically deconstructing an existing program to make a new one," Donahue said.

Although the staff know that their jobs have been made redundant – HR-speak for changing over 10 percent of their job description – a replacement job description has yet to be submitted to the HR department, and there have been no outside promotions for the positions so far.

"I don't know how you make a position redundant when there's nothing technically to replace it with at this point," said Ankucza, who manages outgoing students.

The decision should have been made six months ago, Donahue said, but was postponed because of a promise he had made to Ankucza. She was on maternity leave when

Donahue took the reins at LINT in September 2005. "I made a promise that her job wouldn't be made redundant" while she was away, he said.

"I do appreciate the fact that he did wait until I came back from maternity leave before implementing the changes," Ankucza said yesterday. "I was prepared mentally for that [restructuring], but I didn't realize how substantial the changes would be, that the positions would be reposted."

"We are experts in the field," said a teary Ewa Dobrowska, LINT's international relations coordinator, visibly upset with the impending changes. "All our jobs are considered staff positions, but we are all professionals with a university degree required for our positions ... we would like to continue working here."

These are "not decisions made based on people's performance," Donahue said. LINT's staff were given eight to eleven weeks' notice and have opted to stay at work instead of leaving with eight to eleven weeks' pay, which demonstrates that there was "an understanding that changes were coming," he added, citing efforts at transparency of the review process.

A summary report of the LINT review committee's advice is available online, and notes that short-term strategies to support Laurier's plan to internationalize "will require a significant redefinition of job descriptions for staff positions within Laurier International as the office is reconfigured to meet new challenges and opportunities." The report is a result of three days of one-on-one interviews with stakeholders and informants, including administration, the deans of each faculty, students who have used LINT, LINT's staff and Donahue, among others.

Each of LINT's employees was

consulted for only one hour, submitting a detailed job description, says Ankucza. She estimated her description at near 60 pages in length, and recognizes that Donahue is familiar with what they do. "I wish I'd had a little more input into the review of the office than I did," said Ankucza.

"At this point I need to be keeping my options open because I'm not sure what's going to happen. I would hope that I've been a valuable employee," said Ankucza. "Change is always a hard thing, it's a stressful thing, and I think it's hard for everybody because nobody really knows what can happen."

Bojena Kelmendi did not want to comment on the changes.

The three current positions will be condensed into two, while other offices at Laurier, like the Office of the Registrar, will take on some responsibilities, such as assessing transfer credits. The new position, Manager of Programs and Services, will be staffed by a person with a background in international education, have "intercultural competencies" and will be charged with developing and evaluating programs such as pre-departure orientation.

"I hope it improves the services for students," Ankucza said. "The concern would be with two coordinators doing the work previously done by three coordinators."

"It's a busy job," said Dobrowska. There will be no disruption of services during the transition, Donahue said in an interview on Thursday.

The changes are the result of the Century Plan, which outlines Laurier's ambitions to reach by 2011, its centenary year. The plan includes a strategy to increase international students to five percent of the total student population, a three percent increase from Laurier's current international population, pegged at approximately 200 students.

## 'Behind border' issues solved by harmony: Goff

Voluntary limits to international trade are often found in treaties, says WLU prof

**MARY ERSKINE**  
STAFF WRITER

It isn't every day that international organizations spark the kind of controversy that has come to personify the World Trade Organization. However, as Laurier Associate Political Science Professor Patricia Goff outlined in her talk last Wednesday, the frustrations surrounding the WTO have recently been fuelling efforts which are reshaping the way in which international lawmaking is perceived by the international community.

As part of Canadian Research Chair and Laurier Professor Rhoda Howard Hassman's Human Rights Speaker Series, Goff spoke to an audience of about thirty people in the Paul Martin Centre last week. The lecture was entitled "First Among Equals? The World Trade Organization in International Law."

Formed in 1995 to replace the General Agreement of Tariffs and Trade (GATT), the WTO has quickly established a framework of trade rules for the international community as well as a set of enforcement mechanisms for these rules. This change also marked a paradigm shift, Goff suggested, away from removing barriers to trade such as tariffs and towards "behind the border issues," or issues which in the past were considered to be domestic but are now gaining more and more international concern.

While particular criticism is directed towards the WTO's relationship on the international stage, Dr. Goff's talk focused on the recent creation of international treaties which appear to challenge the autonomy and overarching control of the WTO. In particular, the Kimberley Process, the Convention on Cultural Diversity, the Tobacco Convention and the Cartagena (Biodiversity) Protocol were examined.

"Navigating the intersection between global and domestic" is a fundamental part of these emerging agreements, said Goff.

In an age where key actors such as the US can "forum shop" amongst existing trade agreements, there is a growing shift away "from negative prescription to positive rule-making," as Goff stated, quoting scholars Bill Diamond and Michael Hardt.

Goff then made use of the case of Canada versus the US regarding the protection of cultural industries in light of free trade agreements such as the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). While NAFTA excludes all "culture industries" so as to

allow practices such as CanCon requirements and ownership to favour Canadians, the WTO agreement only protects "audio-visual industries." The result was a sidestepping of NAFTA by the US regarding Canadian magazine policies, which are included under cultural industries but not under audio-visual industries.

This, says Goff, is a perfect example of a "behind the border issue"—no longer are we dealing with tariffs, but rather with policy harmonization. In this case, Canada complied with the WTO ruling in favour of the US, but also initiated a movement to create a treaty that is both outside of the jurisdiction of the WTO, but still recognized as legal in the eyes of the WTO.

The result is the UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (or simply known, Convention on Cultural Diversity), which goes into effect on March 18, 2007. Its primary purpose is to safeguard a national government's ability to protect culture. As Goff noted, it is an example of an "explicit attempt to limit trading regime by raising the ability to participate in the creation of international law."

Additional examples of treaties which aim to create additional limits on the current goals of international trade are the Cartagena Protocol, which allows governments to have the authority to implement restrictions regarding Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) even without scientific proof of harm, the Kimberley Process which developed a certification process in order to stem the flow of conflict or blood diamonds out of Africa, and the Tobacco Convention which emerged from the recognition of the global level response needed to curb the negative effects of tobacco. While these processes are very much separate from the mandate of the WTO itself, they are helping to redefine the international trading regime and the organization's place within it.

Goff ended her talk by recognizing that the WTO is only one of many organizations at this level, and that it can't be treated in isolation from other actors. In addition, she noted that "we still have some way to go" in terms of fully understanding the treaties which circumscribe the WTO, and the social and discursive powers which will them into action.

While all four of these examples have been acknowledged as legitimate by the WTO, only the Kimberley Process has been rati-



# It won't always be this cold

ASHLEY DOODNAUTH  
STAFF WRITER

The first volume of reports from the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has confirmed, to 90 percent certainty, that humans are the cause of global warming.

It's also the responsibility of humans to reverse trends in climate change, says a Laurier professor.

"Mitigating the effects of climate change on an individual level and on a societal and government level is important," says Dr. Derek Armitage, assistant professor of geography and environmental studies.

"On an individual basis, we may think, sure we're a limited impact, but we have to think about the cumulative effects of everyone doing the same thing."

The UN News Center confirms it is "very likely that humanity's emissions of carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide and other greenhouse gases have caused most of the global temperature rise observed since

the mid-twentieth century."

Global warming has recently made headlines, as it has become apparent that human activity has affected the world in an adverse way. This six-year study includes contributions from over 800 authors and will include climate change, adaptation and vulnerability, mitigation of climate change and finally the synthesis report.

The IPCC report includes estimates of climatic changes that will take place in the years to come, the most disconcerting of which is the possible temperature rise between 1.8C and 4C by the end of this century. In addition to this change there is an increased likelihood of heat waves and intensity of tropical storms in various parts of the world.

These projections of climate change, however, are being exhibited right now. Recent flooding in Jakarta has made thousands homeless, while warmer-than-usual temperatures in China have the population facing a water shortage.



Contributed Photo

**I'M MELTING** - This glacier on the Arctic Peninsula will also fall victim to the CO<sub>2</sub>.

The melting icecaps off the coast of Greenland have also been an ongoing concern.

Recently, China has pledged to improve energy efficiency and reduce carbon dioxide and other emissions 20 percent in the next five years. Sir Richard Branson, owner of Virgin Group, has offered \$25 million as prize money to any-

one who is able to find a method to remove at least one billion tons of carbon dioxide per year from the atmosphere.

Countries and individuals alike are trying to repair and prevent damage to our slowly diminishing world. But it may be too late to repair, says BBC News.

The Canadian government has

recently pledged \$1.3 billion into a green fund that will be available to all provinces equitably.

Laurier is currently involved in cold regions research in high latitude northern parts of Canada, deciphering the climate changes and the effects on local communities and surrounding areas.

## We're full of it: Suzuki

ANDREW KURJATA  
OVER THE EDGE (UNBC)

PRINCE GEORGE, B.C. (CUP) -- A prominent scientist talking about a "super species" growing at such a fantastic rate it threatens the future of the globe is usually reserved for science fiction and video games.

But that's exactly the message environmentalist and scientist David Suzuki delivered to an audience of over 600 at the third annual Bob Ewert lecture held at the Prince George Civic Centre on January 27.

Suzuki launched an hour-long attack on the way in which developed societies are treating the environment.

"Foresight, I believe, is the very essence of what it is to be human," he said, attributing the success of the species to its ability to conceptualize the future and act accordingly. He explained that today there are more people in the world than any other mammal and our impact is without comparison, making us the very first "super species." However, he also noted that over the course of human history we seem to have lost sight of our priorities.

He singled out U.S. President George W. Bush's comment that Americans should "go out and shop" in the wake of 9-11 as a particularly strong indication that "we have become unbelievable consumers."

Suzuki asked Canadians to assess their values, asking whether all our material gains have really made us happier. For example, he cited the fact that the average Canadian family has decreased by 50 per cent and the average family home has doubled in size, giving every per-

son their own bathroom.

"I guess today we're so full of it," he joked, "we need more bathrooms to get rid of it."

Though Suzuki hasn't been completely happy with any Canadian government's environmental record, he said he was very proud when Jean Chrétien ratified the Kyoto Protocol in 2002. He called Harper and his peers "international bandits" for not even attempting to meet the standards Kyoto set.

"For over 40 years the leading scientists in the world have been telling us we're going down a dangerous path," he said. He brought out a 1992 document entitled "World Scientists Warning to Humanity," which was signed by 1,700 of the world's top scientists, including over half of the world's living Nobel Laureates in the sciences. The document warned that current human activity poses a grave threat to its future survival on the planet earth.

"No more than one or a few decades remain before the chance to avert the threats we now confront will be lost, and the prospect for humanity immeasurably diminished," Suzuki read from the document.

## Correction

In the article "Shapiro wins top award" in the Feb. 7, 2007 issue of the *Cord*, we wrongly stated that Dr. Faydra Shapiro is married to a non-Jew. Her husband is, indeed Jewish. Also, Shapiro was not born in a Jewish Orthodox home. The *Cord* apologizes for the errors.

He described the response to this document "terrifying," as it was deemed not newsworthy by major media outlets across North America.

"Half of all Nobel Prize winners telling us we could have as little 10 years to avoid catastrophe, and this is not newsworthy?" he asked incredulously.

"Do you remember a guy named OJ Simpson? Do you remember Princess Diana? Do you remember Bill and Monica? Do you remember Martha Stewart, Michael Jackson, Brad and Angelina?"

"I can guarantee you that in future generations those people and their shenanigans will be of absolutely no significance in human history."

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# February is Black History Month

Leaders and historians stress that the purpose is to promote social and cultural history through the experiences of African-Americans

**CHELSEA GASKO**  
STAFF WRITER

February is Black History Month, and it's a better time than ever for reflecting on the past and celebrating the present. While many people may tend to regard the past as irrelevant, there is no better way to understand the present than to look to history.

Struggles in our society today are rooted in the past, and seeing the progress societies have made lends hope for the future.

Such struggles include the disproportionately high drop-out rates in Canadian high schools among African-Canadian students. This is one issue being addressed by Laurier's Association of Black Students (ABS) this month.

The campus club is holding the second annual "Beating the Odds" conference for grade 9 and 10 students. The conference includes workshops both to inspire them to continue with their studies and to educate them about the resources and scholarships available to them, so that finishing high school and attending university becomes more realistic.

"We want to be able to reach as many students as we can at a younger age to address these issues before it's too late," says Kenisha Bynoe, vice-president of the ABS.

Another way the ABS is reaching out to students is through their publication of student submissions addressing their experiences with issues regarding race. Students are encouraged to "write what you feel;

write what you think," says Bynoe.

According to Bynoe, Black History Month is important because it motivates people's discussions about the past and ways that we can move forward in the future.

"For me personally, being a young Black female, [Black History Month] gives me the opportunity to learn more about myself and about my history," says Jamessa Johnson, an ABS executive. "It's sad that it's focused on only in that one month, but at least we do get the time to do that."

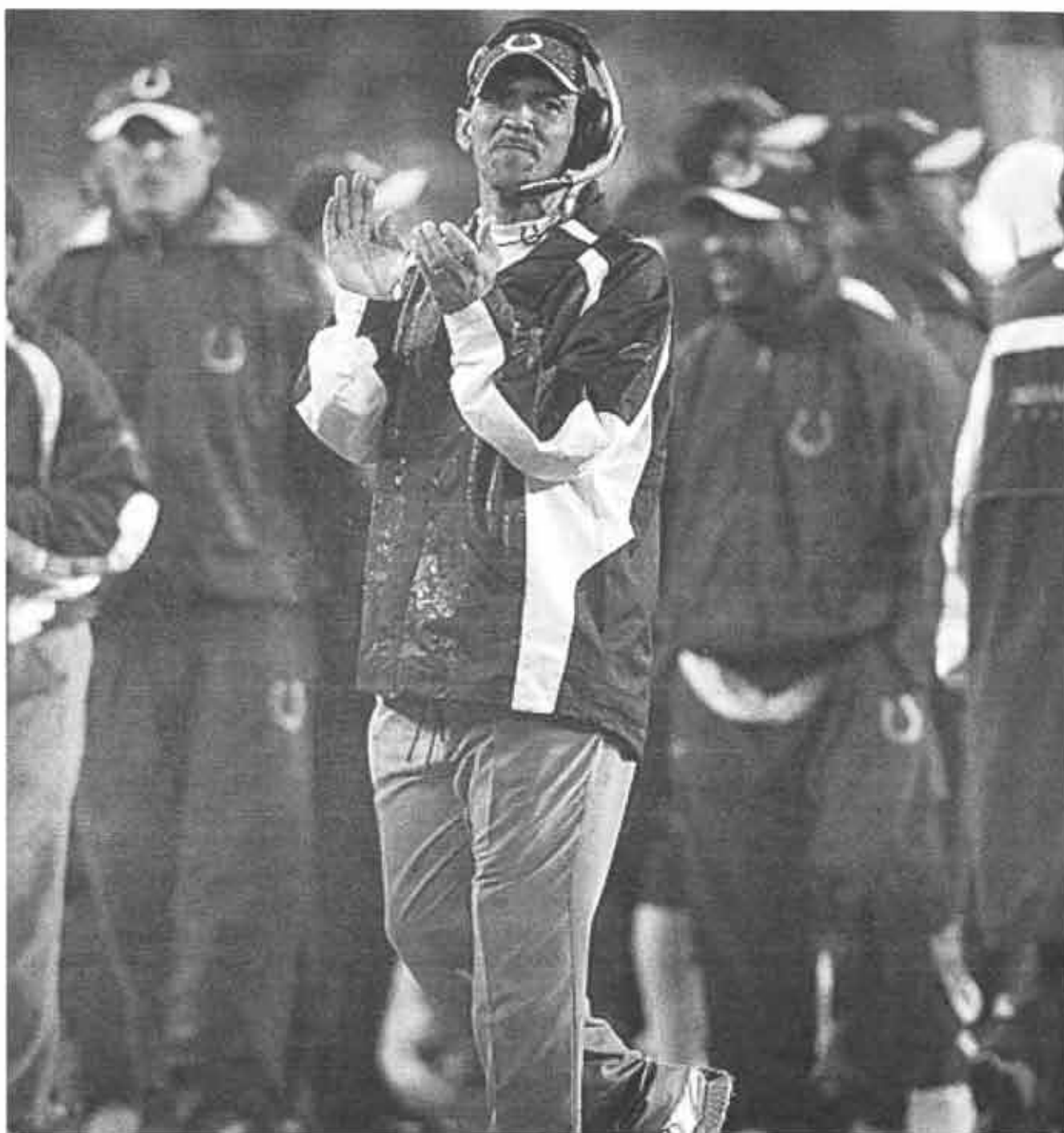
Having a designated month for reflection is important considering the fact that most students do not learn about their own history in high school courses.

The few key figures who are mentioned in schools act as symbols for Black history as a whole.

"We're here to break the silence," says Michelle Lawrence, an executive of the ABS. "Black history isn't just about Rosa Parks and Martin Luther King Junior ... there's so much more to it that isn't known."

"Black history really is something that has been overlooked by the curriculum," agrees fellow ABS executive Sarah Beech. "It's something that we as a community have had to take upon ourselves to ensure that we're acknowledged and to prove that this is a salient issue."

As for the Laurier curriculum, general survey history courses often focus on the history of the white male. However, there are several social history courses offered which focus on "minority" groups such as women, Natives



Contributed Photo

**DUNGY MAKES HISTORY** - Tony Dungy, of the Indianapolis Colts, became the first African-American head coach to guide his team to a Super Bowl championship on February 4.

and African-Americans.

For Dr. Nelson Joannette, professor of Laurier's twentieth-century African-American history course, minority history is an important discipline. "You can't understand the present unless you look at the past," he says. "So to understand to-

day how Blacks are still ghettoized or how they were treated in New Orleans, you need to understand their history."

Learning about Black history benefits everyone, stresses Dr. Joannette. "These courses apply to everyone ... they are actually cours-

es about human nature."

In the same vein, Jamessa Johnson says, "It's not just Black history, it's everybody's history. Learning about Black history is beneficial and relevant to everybody, not just Black people alone."

## V-Day Dinner: Pasta for Four

**ADRIA CEHOVIN-BROWN**  
FOOD CRITIC

This is broken down for a dinner for four. Simply multiply for larger parties.

### A) Pasta

Your favourite store-bought fresh or dry. Follow the directions for the pasta of your choice. Add salt to the water to make it boil faster.  
(Cook time approximately 8 minutes).

### B) Sauce

One can of tomatoes (do not drain)  
Handful of basil (reserve a few pieces for garnish)  
One clove garlic  
Half cup of olive oil  
Pinch of salt  
(Cook time 5-7 minutes).

First pour the canned tomatoes into a small kitchen pot. Next, mince the garlic into very small pieces (you don't want to bite down on a large chunk of garlic).

Following this, wash and tear or chop up the basil. Mix all of the sauce ingredients together and cook on a medium to low setting.

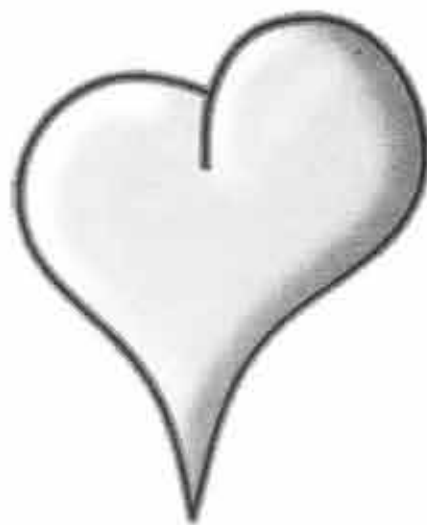
When it boils, turn down heat and cover, checking often.

Pour sauce over drained pasta and garnish with reserved basil.

### C) Dessert

If you did not have time to buy a proper V-day cake, buy a small regular cake and cut it into a shape of a heart.

Apply red or pink icing to all surfaces. You can also buy tubes of icing and write a message on the cake.



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# Valentine's Day: a sham?

With most of *Stud Life* in an anti-"Love Day" mood, it begs the question of who is going to buy love bears this year

**APRIL ROBINSON**  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

For a person who appreciates romance, I really don't think much of Valentine's Day. In fact, I'd prefer to forget it altogether.

I've been with my man for over seven years. Why do we need to go out of our way and spend our hard-earned money on meaningless material goods just to show we love each other? I don't need a date on the calendar to prove my love. If that were the case, we'd be in a pretty sad relationship.

I think Valentine's Day puts particular pressure on men. Spend any amount of time watching television commercials this week and you hear that men should buy Dairy Queen ice cream cakes, diamond earrings or \$60-a-dozen roses.

These ads play on our partners' guilt and take advantage of emotional impulses so they buy into the idea of Valentine's. Forgot her birthday? Buy a singing Hallmark card. Feel bad for spending too much time watching sports? Some Lindor chocolate will bring that smile back to her face.

To be honest, I think we all have better things to do than worry about meeting social and commercial standards. If you want to recognize Valentine's Day, why not try it product-free? Cook up a candle-light dinner. Get out the glue stick and make a pop-up card. Better yet, write a poem and profess your feelings.

And who knows, taking the meaningful route may win you a romp in the covers, where you can practice what you learn from our Cord-a-sutra on pages 12-13.

**VERONICA HUGHES**  
STUDENT LIFE EDITOR

Valentine's Day has never meant a great deal to me. As a child, it was fun making mailboxes and giving your classmates Jem and the Holograms Valentines, but now it's just another holiday cash-grab.

Whatever meaning that was once instilled on St. Valentine's Day has been lost by our new patron saint: Western consumerism.

Essentially, we are educating our youth and ourselves that you can buy love with shiny new products. I try to steer clear of such messages.

Even in the bustle of "Love Sea-

son," I am in no way compelled to head to the mall and drop money on gifts that in no way show the people I care about that I truly love and appreciate them.

How is a bear that says "I love you" more sincere than when it comes from you personally? How is Hallmark's latest V-Day gift going to portray complex feelings and emotions to your significant other?

This is coupled with the fact that when you decide to purchase a gift for someone, you fret over what to buy, how much to spend, and if it in any way reflects your relationship.

The only healthy and sane way to deal with Valentine's is to adopt

a non-consumerist mantra that can be applied to all holidays. Time off from work and school, as well as special occasions, should be focused on spending time with family and friends, not buying their love.

Historically, holidays including Christmas, Easter and Valentine's Day were meant to be spent reflecting on ourselves and the people around us. We've lost that focus; we're constantly distracted by promises of love through consumer goods.

This V-day, focus on spending time with the people you care about, not buying them off.

- SEE V-DAY, PAGE 11

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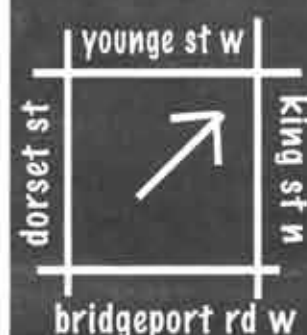
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Mallory O'Brien

## V-Day has gone commercial

CHRISTINE SUIZA  
STAFF WRITER

As soon as January approached, the malls were already decked out in Valentine's Day gear: Valentine cards and stuffed animals saying, "I love you." It's ironic to see how this holiday has been commercialized over the years.

Originally this day commemorated St. Valentine, who was seen as a love matchmaker and brought happiness to many people. Although he should be remembered for his efforts, this day in modern society has become an overrated commercialized holiday.

Countless advertisements emphasize telling the one you love just how much you love them on Valentine's Day by purchasing gifts.

So, people believe in buying gifts as a symbolic token of love which leads them to have certain expectations for this holiday.

However, it's important to get past the ads and realize that Valentine's Day shouldn't be the only day to let a loved one know how much you love them, nor is it restricted to couples.

Instead, it should be a day to reflect upon how much your loved ones mean to you.

Moreover, remember that every day should be treated like it's Valentine's Day. You should consistently show all the people that are important to you how much you love them.

MARJOLEIN WIJBENGA  
STAFF WRITER

Valentine's Day is just like any other day, except it is cold in February and people decide to show each other their love and warmth. Valentine's Day flourished in the Middle Ages with the concept of courtly love, but now stores use it as an excuse to sell overly-expensive chocolate. The media also makes us feel like we are forced to buy people we love a card or gift, and people use it as an excuse to become all mushy.

Roses and chocolates seem to be the obligatory gift in North America, but has nobody thought of the fact that flowers die within about two weeks and that chocolates are great as long as they last, which is normally not longer than a minute.

If you are in a relationship, you can't get away with not doing anything for Valentine's Day, except when you explicitly discuss it. If you are not in a relationship, Valentine's Day seems to be an amazing excuse to tell yourself once again how lonely you are.

Then there is the point of showing your love anonymously. Why on February 14th? Because someone in the Middle Ages said so? I would say if you want to use Valentine's Day as an excuse, at least tell the person who the Valentine is from.

If someone actually wants to surprise me with chocolate or a gift, I probably would appreciate it more on a random day.

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# Corded & sutra

Eight exotic and erotic sex positions for Wilfrid Laurier's wild lovedogs to try out, courtesy of the *Cord*

**HARRY COCK\***  
SEXY-TIME EXPERT

## The Lazy Girl

Want to turn your loved one into a fully cushioned love seat? And get laid at the same time? For the Lazy-Girl position, the man balances on his shoulders and brings his legs forward, presenting a sybian "seat" for the woman. The woman then sits on the "seat," and proceeds to bounce up and down like an epileptic thrown into a strobe-light factory on fire.



## The Driller

For the construction worker in all of us. On her back, the woman clasps her legs around the man's ribs while he thrusts into her. Have no mercy as you pummel your partner into submission with this crotch-pounding monster.



## The Neck Breaker

If done poorly, this might end in two dead fuckers and an embarrassing scene for police investigators. The woman makes a pyramid-shape with her whole body by resting on her feet and head. The man then enters her from behind, upside-down with both legs in the air, resting his weight on his head and her body. Again, I can't stress this enough: this move might kill you.



## The Italian Chandelier

Man lies on his back with woman flat on top, with her back to the man. Named after the infamous European fine furniture, the "chandelier" will agree with women looking to burn more calories than most other sex positions.



## The Pile Driver

The most punishing sexual position known to humankind, and the favourite of most professional wrestlers, the Pile Driver lets guys use their genitalia like lethal weapon. Give the woman all the "gun-ishment" she desires by penetrating her as she rests on her shoulders with her legs up in the air.



## The Bridge

This position requires balance, stability, and, most of all, horniness. Both people make a "bridge" by resting all weight on their hands, and joining genitalia in the middle. For extra fun, invite a friend or acquaintance to do the limbo underneath you.



## The Spinner

Guys and girls can take turns being the spinner in this classic "twist" on the spinning firecracker. Simply replace the word "firecracker" with "cock," and you've just about got it. Simply have one partner lie flat with the other on top of them, face to face. The person on top can then rotate 360 degrees, using their hands as propellers.



## The Horse Whisperer

In this position, the man lies on his back then raises his knees to his chest, making a V-shaped saddle with his penis in the middle. The woman sits on the home-made saddle, and rides. For a more demanding position, bend over and whisper sweet nothings into your partner's ear. Cowgirl hat is mandatory.



Graphic by Ennie Joslin

**ALEX HAYTER**  
FEATURES EDITOR

### On condom use

"Some of our recent research on condom use errors and problems shows that a lot of couples use [pulling out] as a [less than effective] method. It provides no protection against STDs and really iffy protection against pregnancy."

"What is interesting to me is that often it is women who have the issues with condom use — saying that they decrease intimacy. There are lots of things you can do to eroticize condom use. Put a few drops of water-based lube inside the tip and the condom will slide a little on the head of the penis, increasing sensation and decreasing condom breakage. And with all the colours, flavours, shapes and sizes condoms come in these days, condom use can be fun!"

### On birth control

"The pill, when taken every day at close to the same time, is highly, highly effective (almost 98 percent)."

"I question those word-of-mouth reports [that suggest women can get pregnant even when on the pill]. Many university women have a hard time taking the pill that regularly with their busy lives."

"I recommend women talk to their doctors about the Nuva Ring, a monthly ring worn internally for three weeks at a time. You only have to remember to put it in once, therefore making it more effective than the pill because there is far less human error. The birth control patch is also a good option for women who want something easier than a daily pill."

### On promiscuous women being called "sluts"

"My fourth-year students and I debate this issue constantly. Although both men and women say they prefer a partner with fewer sexual partners (suggesting a single standard for sexual behaviour for both genders), it still seems to be more acceptable for men to have more experience. A man can still have a lot of sex and be evaluated positively and that happens less often for women."

"I wish we lived in a world where all people could engage in non-exploitive, respectful, passionate and for-pleasure sexual activity without recrimination but we're not there yet."

### On keeping a leash on WLU's high female pop.

"Yikes — I don't really like your

"keep a leash on them" comment! I think, especially in bars, men are still the ones who typically make the bolder advances. Many universities today have the same imbalance, however. From a strictly numbers perspective, yes, men have the advantage."

### On anal sex

"Anal sex can be very pleasurable. The anal region is rife with erogenous tissue."

"However, mental readiness is extremely important. Being really comfortable with your partner and relaxed is essential. And water-based lube is also a necessity."

"Anal stimulation can be really pleasurable for both genders. I recommend starting with manual penetration before anything bigger."

### On long-distance and long-term relationships

"Long-distance relationships are often even spicier than the relationships where couples see each other day in and day out. Coming back together after a big absence can be really exciting."

"However, sex in long-term relationships of any sort can get to be routine."

"Anal sex can be very pleasurable. The anal region is rife with erogenous tissue."

— Robin Millhausen, sexual educator

It can be really easy to rely on the same old moves which have been pleasurable in the past. You have to consciously remind yourself to try something different, to make an effort, to be creative, or you can get into a rut in any relationship."

### On promiscuity

"I don't think there is anything wrong with sex between two people who are open and honest about their intentions and motivations and who protect themselves from pregnancy and disease. Sex is pleasurable and it can be so exciting, fulfilling, and passionate when two people connect in this way. However, not everyone agrees with this philosophy — so having what appears to be a permissive sexual lifestyle may have consequences."

### On sex toys

"I always recommend the vibrating egg — it can be used for stimulating the clitoris, under the testicles, can be put in a condom and inserted vaginally and anally — all this for under 15 bucks! You don't need the



Contributed photo

**SEXY LADY** — Guelph graduate and sex researcher Robin Milhausen co-hosting "Sex, Toys and Chocolate", the popular adult TV show.

most expensive sex toy with all the bells and whistles — sometimes simpler is better."

### On foreplay

"[Foreplay] is of the utmost importance! Especially for women — we just don't get up to peak arousal as quickly as men. Men can masturbate to orgasm in less than two minutes — that is not the case for most women. So in heterosexual relationships, it can be extremely important to spend time so that the woman can be fully aroused and really enjoy sex."

"Interestingly, a study on desired amounts of foreplay found that undergraduate men and women both reported an ideal length of 18 minutes. And there are tons of things to do if oral sex isn't for you. Manual stimulation, massage, sex toy play, etc. But the time is worth the investment."

"On university virgins  
"I have a lot of respect for individuals who choose to navigate the pressure-filled years of high school and university while not having sex. "Waiting for someone to share that special part of yourself is a worthwhile goal."

### On university virgins

"Although most men and women think positively about their first time, there is nothing at all wrong with wanting that first time to occur with a spouse or long-term partner."

"Sex is that big deal! And when, where, and how it should happen is

an individual decision."

### On sexual identity

"A master's student in our department is beginning a research project on this issue. Men and women who do not identify as heterosexual often come to understanding their sexual identity as a part of a longer process. They tend to know themselves better, have a better idea of their sexual likes and dislikes, than heterosexual individuals who just sort of fall into their sexual identity with little thought."

"When I teach sexuality at Guelph, one of my biggest goals is to encourage all of my students to reflect on their sexual values, preferences and identities. I want them to learn about their sexual selves, their bodies and how to experience sexual pleasure. But I think this is a lifelong journey for all of us."

*Sexual educator Robin Milhausen has had a busy career. She has been a faculty member at Guelph University's Department of Family Relations and Applied Nutrition since July 2006.*

*Milhausen has both undergraduate and master's degrees from Guelph and a PhD from the Kinsey Institute of Indiana.*

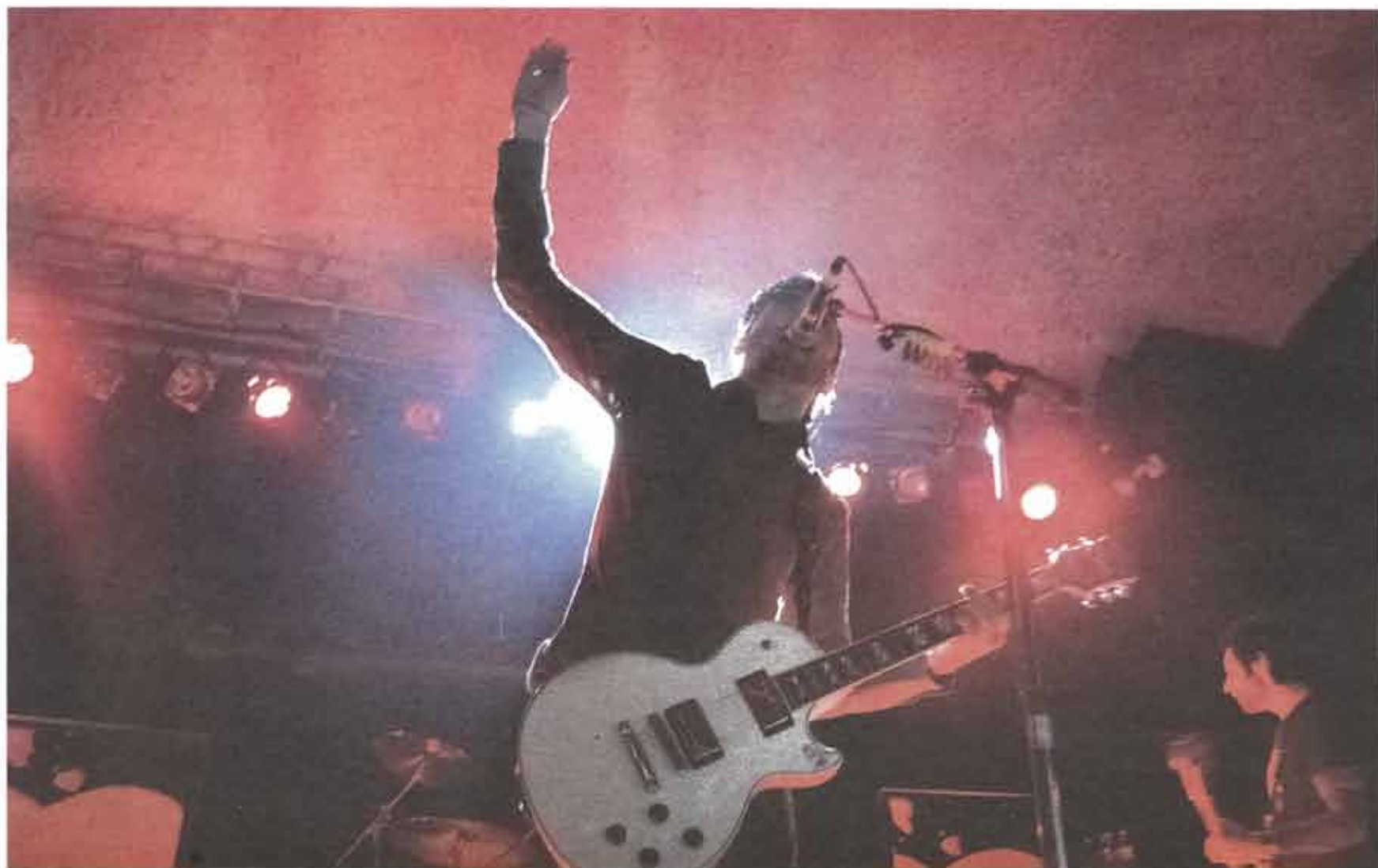
*She is currently conducting a research program focusing on sexual arousal and gender differences in sexual attitudes in behaviour. Most famously, she is a co-host of Sex, Toys and Chocolate on the Life Network and Discovery Health. Milhausen is married and has an 10-month-old son named Noel.*

DISCLAIMER: Use these moves at your own risk, and try not to involve small children or animals. For ease of explanation, all positions are described with male and female actors; positions can, however, be adopted by most sexual partners. Always practice safe sex to prevent unwanted pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases.

\* Alex Hayter



# Rise Against security



**SEEING RED** - Rise Against frontman Tim McIlrath strikes an iconic pose as the band brings a raucous atmosphere to Laurier's stage.

## Chicago-based band brings real punk rock to the Turret - with a purpose

**MATTHEW GIVEN**  
STAFF WRITER

Rise Against came back to Waterloo with Anti-Flag and Fucked Up last Wednesday to play for 600 excited students at the Turret Nightclub.

A much smaller venue than the large 10,000 and 16,000 capacity stadiums where the band has played recently, the band eagerly awaited the intimate vibe that was expected to be produced by our students.

"We love the little shows," said Rise Against's guitarist Chris Chasse. And from the reaction of the crowd it appeared that Laurier loves them too.

Rise Against completely secured the attention of Laurier students, offering an extended, aggressive set that covered material largely from their last two albums.

Tim McIlrath, the lead singer and main spokesman for Rise Against, put himself face to face with the Laurier crowd for the song "Give It All," closing the gap between the stage and the Turret security barrier.

The students in attendance were ecstatic; particularly the women who were as equally aggressive in the mosh pit area as the band was on stage. Rise Against, a melodic fast-paced "skate-punk" band are used to this energy, especially when the band crosses the border to play in Canada.

"I don't know what it is about Canadians," said Chasse, "but they absolutely love this band. Every time we come here it is freaking amazing; it always sells out."

Chasse had nothing but exceptional remarks towards the band's major label, Geffen Records, known globally for producing

Guns N' Roses and Nirvana. Contrary to the general rule of major labels dictating the direction of their bands with whips, chains and megaphone speakers, Chasse insists that not only is Geffen good, but also it is "the most supportive label we have ever worked with."

"I don't know what it is about Canadians, but they absolutely love this band. Every time we come here it is freaking amazing; it always sells out."

**- Chris Chasse, Rise Against guitarist**

The lead guitar player also assured that Geffen Records treats Rise Against with a staple punk-rock attitude, allowing them absolute control over the music they choose to release and, more importantly, the freedom to be forward with social justice agendas.

Rise Against has been just as active in the political community as one should expect given the name they chose to represent their band.

The band's social justice roots are made clear in the song "God Bless Amerika." The intentional misspelling of America represents an argument that the nation is moving towards fascism, while the song's content comments on whether God would bless America

if He sat down and empirically sorted through fact from fiction. Lead singer McIlrath also hopes that the band's listeners will spend some time learning about war-

time contradictions and national myths.

When asked if his lyrics fall on deaf ears, Tim responded that, "[It does] at times, it's a reality that you have to deal with by being in a band. A lot of people consider us only as entertainment. It's unfortunate that this population doesn't really look any further than that, into any sort of real lyrical content."

Geffen, RCA and Jada Tree re-

cords contributed major players to perform at the Turret and helped our own A-Team to create a bill that was both entertaining and politically oriented. With bands of arguably equal success and fan base, it appeared that half of the audience specifically came for Anti-Flag while the other half came for Rise Against.

However, uncontrolled circumstances would disappoint fans of Anti-Flag. The band found out two hours prior to the scheduled concert that a family member of the band had died. In response the band reportedly chose to fly home to Pittsburgh, cancelling the following stadium concert with Billy Talent the next night in London, Ontario.

The opening band of the night received a mixed reaction from Laurier's students. A traditional hardcore act much less popular than the headliners Anti-Flag and Rise Against, Fucked Up is instead critically acclaimed, capturing the attention of successful and confident national magazines such as NME, Vice, Thrasher and Maximum Rock N' Roll.

*With files from Joe Turcotte*



**LOOK OUT BELOW!** - Crowd-surfers and mosh-pitters strike fear into the Rise Against crowd at the Turret.



Sydney Heiland

**PRINT THE RAVEN** - Ryan Price finds inspiration in classic poem.

## Poe art, no problems

Langen Gallery hosts art inspired by *Raven*

**BEN MCNEIL**  
CORD A&E

Edgar Allen Poe's beautiful and disturbing *The Raven* is one of the most powerful and haunting literary works in the English canon. Delving deep into the human psyche, the piece draws out an array of emotional responses from the reader, which have been re-interpreted in many different media, by various artists, since it was first published.

Currently on display at the Robert Langen Gallery is a series of haunting and beautiful prints. Created by local Guelph printmaker and illustrator Ryan Price, these works illustrate Poe's classic tale of lost love and madness.

Price's sepia-tones, rich blacks and feathery crosshatched lines create a shadowy art, depicting a vision of *The Raven* that not only haunts, but also has the power to bring Poe's work to life.

The various perspectives, obtuse and unconventional angles enhance the sense of insanity, capturing the viewer. The drypoint printmaking style employed lends itself beautifully to the project, as the process requires the images to be scratched out of metal creating burrs. As the print is made these burrs cause the ink to form erratic lines, helping to create the sense of anxiety and insanity captured in Poe's original work.

Price's emphasis on narrative beautifully communicates *The Raven's* grim and unsettling story of lost love.

"One of the greatest challenges was to not force the interpretation. You read the poem over and over again, it's really long, lots of text, but nothing really happens. My interpretation stems from attempting to create a back-story, and attempting to get away from the more traditional images of the narrator simply brooding," says Price.

Delving into the hidden horrors of the human psyche, the images evoke the brooding guilt, terror, grief and love embedded in the original text. The images themselves leave the viewer with a sense of awe and anxiety. Price is able to capture the essence of the devilish raven, the madness of the narrator and mystery of Lenore without overwhelming or forcing too foregone of a narrative onto the work.





**NOT PRIZE-WORTHY** - Heavily favoured emo-group Prize Fighter loses to Tyler Schwende Band at the third round of A-Team's Last Band Standing.

# Schwende Band moves on

**BEN MCNEIL**  
CORD A&E

The latest installment of the A-team's Last Band Standing was an emo-heavy night, with the established band Prize Fighter and the Tyler Schwende Band battling in a clash of the Waterloo-area independents.

Even before the night got underway, Matt Lee's Band retracted their position in the competition, and instead the night opened up with two acoustic acts. This new format allowed the crowd to loosen up and get into the evening before the actual competition took place. However, with a relatively large and inebriated crowd not fully interested in the sounds offered by these "primer acts", the brave openers seemed as though they had been thrown to the wolves.

Once the night finally got underway the crowd was serenaded by the sadly atypical cookie cutter emo-pop-punk-rock bands Prize Fighter and the Tyler Schwende

Band. Both bands were prototypical MySpace bands: a generation of musical talent propelled to stardom by 17-year-old girls and depressed teenagers.

Both Prize Fighter and the Tyler Schwende Band didn't stray far from the musical path blazed for them by bands such as Billy Tallent, Dashboard Confessional, Manic Street Preachers or Yellowcard.

Although it could have been refreshing to have somewhat established bands with a level of funding, CDs, press photos and swag competing in the competition, it seemed odd and somewhat surreal to have a concession set up to the right of the stage with T-shirts and buttons.

Another surprise was finding out that both the Tyler Schwende band

and Prize Fighter had few if any Laurier students in either band. In the Tyler Schwende band, only Tyler Schwende himself is a Laurier student. Prize Fighter consisted of a few more university students but the majority were not.

It was also disappointing to have two acts with such similar styles performing on the same night. It is understandable that the two established bands should compete head to head on the same night. But a selection of different genres competing against one another can make for a stronger and more interesting competition.

It should be considered somewhat of a travesty to believe that two established performing and touring bands are admitted into what was

touted as an amateur competition. Also, having won last year's competition, under the name Glory Fades, Prize Fighter should possibly have been invited as a special guest, or been challenged by the eventual winner of this year's competition. To have them compete in the competition once again is somewhat peculiar.

The night wrapped up with the Tyler Schwende Band winning a berth in the finals, and will be competing against Will Currie and the Country French and The Unibrows.

## Chicks win big

### Grammy 2007 Recap

**PAUL ALVIZ**  
STAFF WRITER

This year North America's biggest pop music awards show, the 49th Grammy Awards, was not without its fair share of spectacles. The biggest winners of last Sunday night's show, and some might say most surprising, were the Dixie Chicks, taking home five awards - including Best Country Music Album, Record of the Year and Album of the Year.

Watching the event, you could tell the Dixie Chicks really weren't expecting the wins, as they fumbled their acceptance speeches and managed to thank only their husbands and Rick Rubin (music producer behind more than a few wins).

The group members were so lost for words that it was the first time in history a speech wasn't cut off by the music, but actually welcomed it.

Other big winners of the night included Red Hot Chili Peppers for a well-deserved Best Rock

- SEE MARY J, PAGE 16

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&gt; Media Matters: A column on media, culture and technology

# It's context, baby

Comedians continue to straddle the line between acceptable and offensive

JOE TURCOTTE  
A&E EDITOR

It's Black History Month and race is in the entertainment news again. Just a few months since Michael Richards went crazy in a Los Angeles comedy club, shouting the N-word in an angry rage, another comedian has been caught in the crossfire created when race and humour are mixed.

Fresh off of his Academy Award nominated performance in *Dreamgirls*, Eddie Murphy has gone back to his comedic roots for his latest film *Norbit*. In the film, Murphy plays many roles, much in the same way he did for the *Nutty Professor* franchise, but the one that has created the stir is his portrayal of Rasputia. For this part, Murphy throws on a "fat suit" and turns into a loud, off-colour character.

In response to Rasputia, many critics, including the *Toronto Star's* Peter Howell, accuse Murphy of presenting "so many offensive racial stereotypes ... it's almost as if he's going out of his way to convince Academy voters that it would be foolish to honour him for *Dreamgirls*."

Parodying and lampooning are cornerstones of the comedic landscape, but when race enters the mix, more than a few feathers are usually ruffled. Comedians from Richard Pryor, to George Carlin, to Eddie Murphy, to Chris Rock and Dave Chappelle have all pushed the boundaries of acceptability in order to try and squeeze a laugh out of the audience.

In fact, many of the skits that Chappelle produced for *Chappelle's Show* made the comic afraid that his work had become just another media outlet profiting from the exploitation and perpetuation of negativity, and Chappelle abandoned his show and left many fans in limbo.

So, it seems that *Norbit* is just continuing in this grand tradition of straddling the line between comedy and offensiveness. But to many, it seems that Murphy's playing upon racial stereotypes has gone too far, by being degrading to Black women in general, and large Black women in particular.

Since there is never an easy way to deal with race, context is the key to understanding comedy of this type. In fact, context is important when dealing with racial jokes in general. After a lengthy career in Hollywood, it seems illogical to assume that Eddie Murphy was being malicious or ignorant when he created the Rasputia character. However, while *Norbit* may not attempt to be offensive, to many viewers it is. Racial stereotypes perpetuate the absurd notion that a person can

be defined by any one of his or her physical characteristics.

It doesn't matter whether these stereotypes are perceived to be good, bad or harmless (such as the "athletic Blacks", the "bad Asian driver", or that "White guys can't dance"), they are all just as ridiculous and unfounded as the degrading types. All races are made up of different people with various qualities and personal characteristics. To insinuate that a person can be defined by his or her physical make-up overlooks the inevitability of people differing from their race's perceived norms.

But too often this is what our media outlets do. It's much easier to present a one-dimensional char-

acter on TV, in film or in music. To develop complexity is hard work, and in our culture where we want everything cheap and quick, this kind of quality is often forgotten. Instead of complex characters, like the ones portrayed by Denzel Washington or Tom Hanks, we are given an abundance of characters like those found in *Norbit* or a Pauly Shore film.

While there's no excuse for this kind of behaviour - ignorant and hurtful remarks need to be pointed out and challenged by those who are offended - films like *Norbit* need to be looked at in the context in which they are created: cheap, disposable filler that is devoid of any meaningful social worth.

Mary J. Blige has triumphant night at Grammys

- FROM CHICKS, PAGE 15

Album, Mary J. Blige with her first win for Best R&B, John Mayer for Best Pop, Bob Dylan for Best Folk, and Ludacris for Best Rap Album.

One thing that makes the Grammys special is the impressive gathering of world-known entertainers, making for some interesting collaborative performances. Opening the show were the Police, who alluded to an official reunion with Sting shouting "We're back!"

After spending more than 20 years apart with no new material, one can't help but speculate the economic motivations behind such decisions; especially since the band just announced a reunion tour.

One of the best performances of the night came out of the miniature blonde Christina Aguilera paying a worthy tribute to the late, great godfather of soul,

James Brown. At first it seemed like an ironic choice to have a woman cover Brown's song "Man's World." But dear Lord that girl can croon something fierce, doing Brown sweet justice as she got down on the stage in an emotional climax, with a video of Brown dancing played in the background.

Meanwhile, Justin Timberlake proved that white guys really can dance when he sang "My Love" along with a contest winner who was voted to sing along with him.

Some great awkward moments of the night include but are not limited to: Al Gore presenting alongside Queen Latifah, Scarlett Johansson announcing she's making a record, Quentin Tarantino being himself and James Blunt singing his song "Beautiful", which is about how he is a giant creepy stalker: really, read the lyrics.

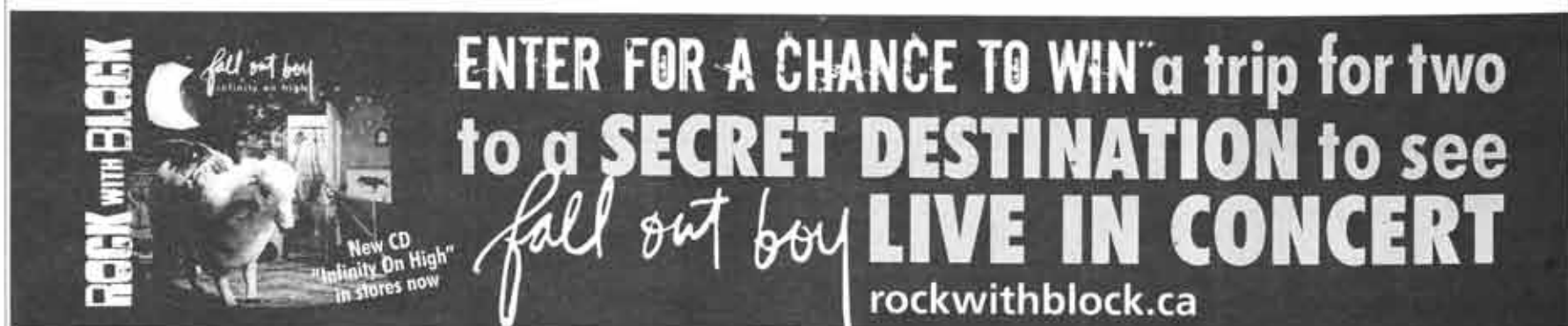


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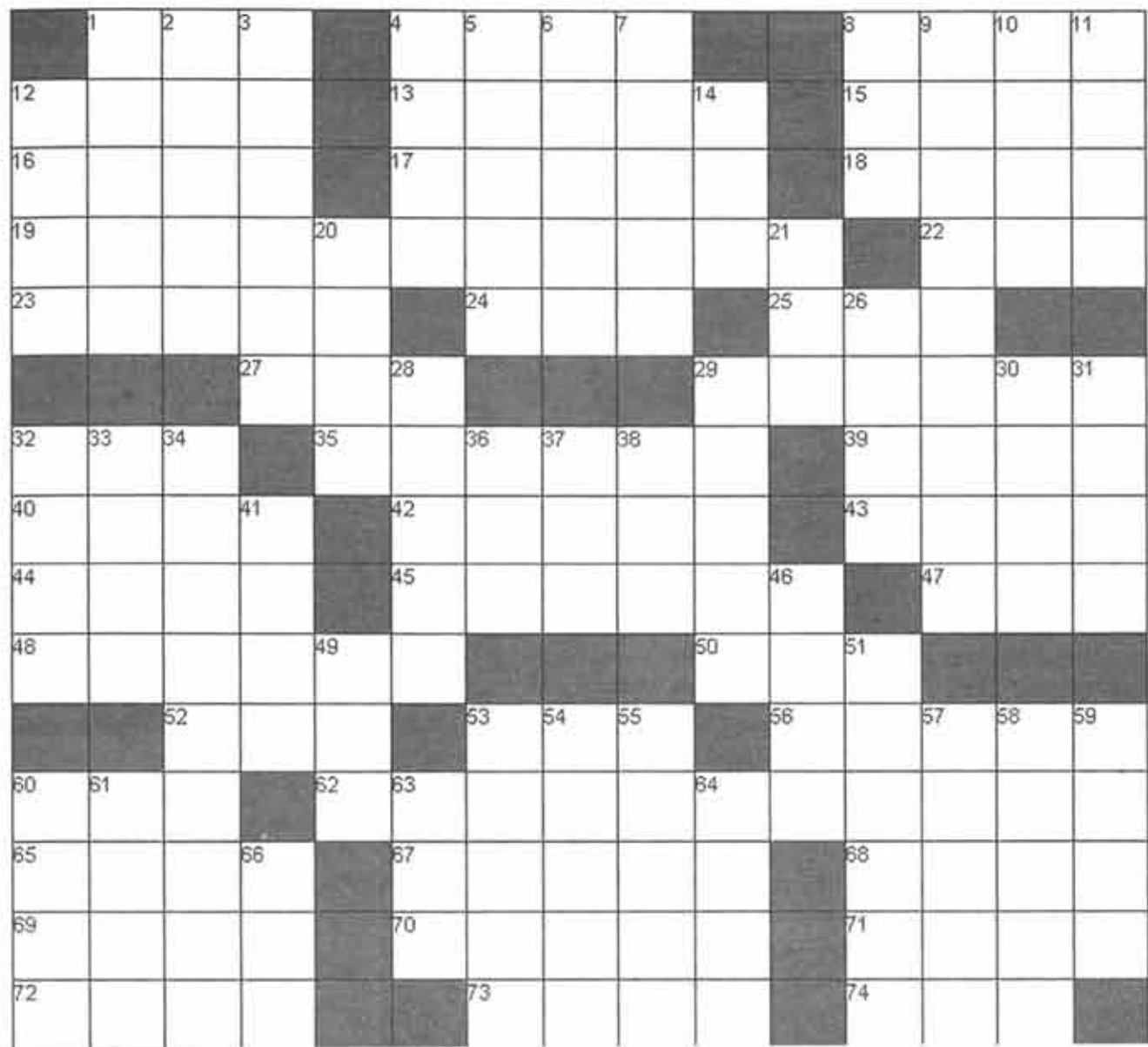
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CROSSWORD by Krystian Imgrum (The Ontario, U of Guelph)



- Across
1. \_\_\_\_ 'n cheese

4. Toasty

8. Light fog

12. Nothing

13. Of a place

15. Feed the kitty

16. Cake's womb?

17. Manuscript sheet

18. Milton setting

19. Dispositions OR Bureaucratic divisions

22. Downs' partner

23. Doorway

24. Sated hunger

25. Stricken

27. Dist. Units OR Evergreen shrub

29. Puzzle

32. Jacques' friend

35. \_\_\_\_ Leone

39. Plateau OR Food serving

40. Loafer adornment

42. Besmirch

43. Henry VIII wife

44. Plateau OR Food serving

45. Rainy day feature

47. Palmer's prop

48. Music pieces

50. Dist. Units OR Evergreen shrub
52. Was in politics

53. From left field

56. Liquorice herb

60. Orwell antagonist

62. Dispositions OR Bureaucratic divisions

65. Poet's verses

67. Contradict

68. Very much (2 wds.)

69. Diner's list

70. Sell pups

71. Barbie's man, and others

72. Meat spread

73. Does math

74. Farm enclosure
- Down
1. Connoisseur

2. Proficient

3. Mine bird

4. Drift

5. Olfactory stimulus

6. Lease, again

7. Portland's state

8. Actress West

9. Permissive OR Rebel

10. Dance move

11. Macdonald bills

12. Interest
14. Land unit

20. Cereal grains

21. Eve's crime

26. Peru's capital

28. Traces

29. Like some birds

30. Horse feature

31. Sheltered OR Pinnacle

32. Sheltered OR Pinnacle

33. Encounter

34. Permissive OR Rebel

36. Tall bird

37. Scarlet OR Cool (sl.)

38. Scarlet OR Cool (sl.)

41. Behold (hyph.)

46. Dutch cheese

49. Story's last word

51. Creeps

53. Phantom of the \_\_\_\_

54. Parceled out

55. Baked

57. Buy

58. Cold-hearted

59. Approximates: (abbr.)

60. Splendor

61. Concept

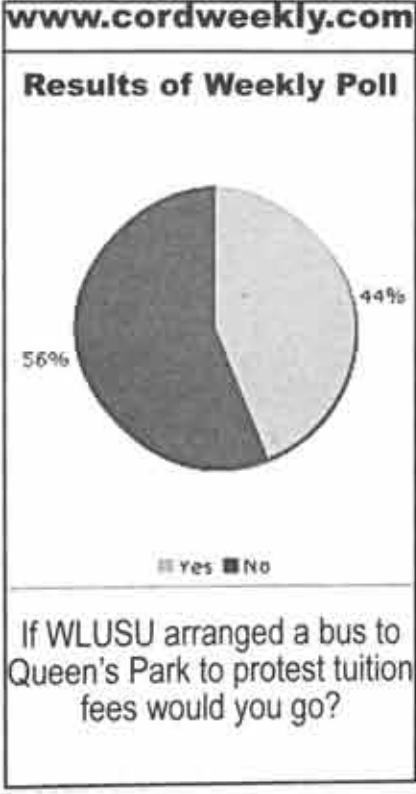
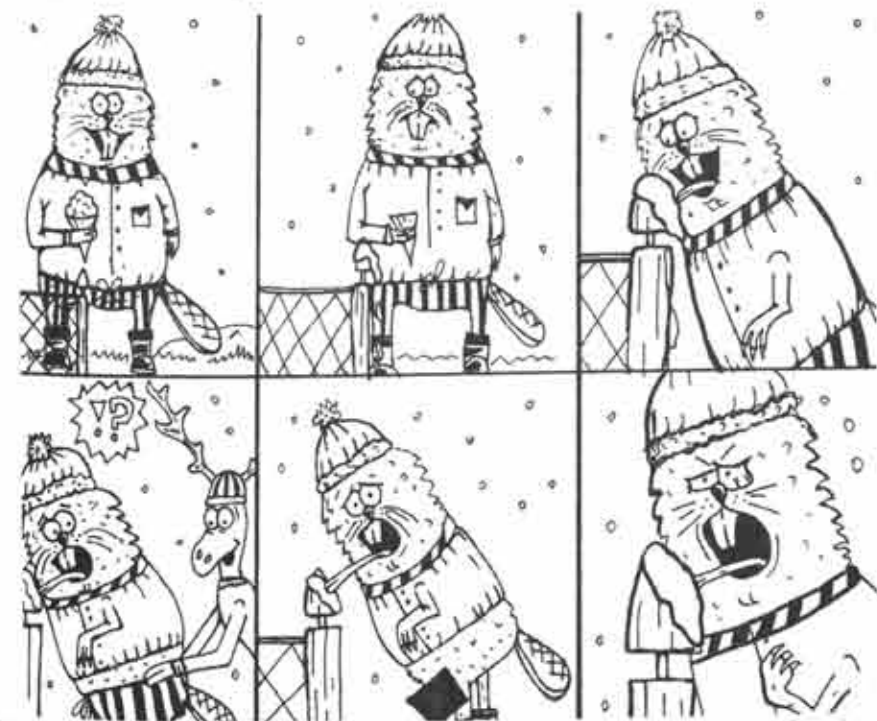
63. Recede

64. Koppel and Kennedy

66. Actress Sarandon, to friends

Crossword Instructions: Accidentally, some pairs of clues in this crossword were mixed up. Select the right clue from the options given and find out which clue goes with which number. The mixed up clues are: Across: 19&62 ; 27&50 ; 39&44 Down: 9&34 ; 31&32 ; 37&38

The Screaming Beaver by Sarah Bradfield



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- AR

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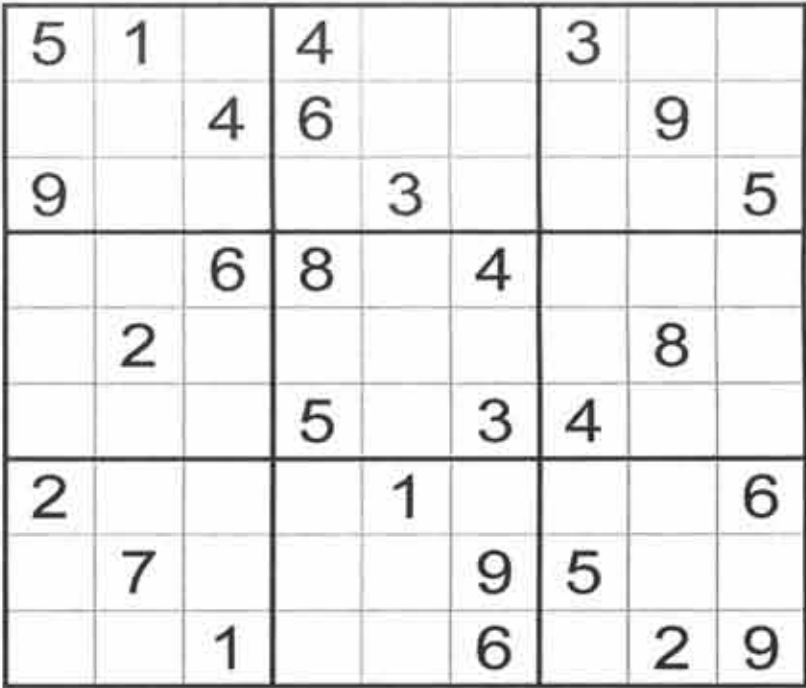
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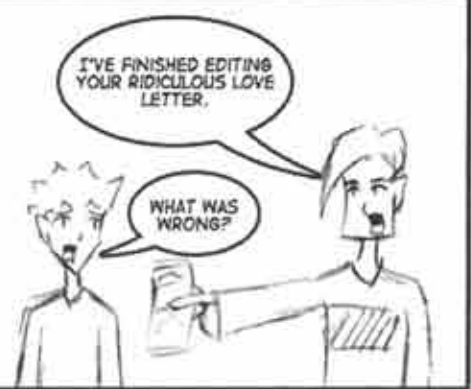


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# Eyes on the prize

Laurier's bench boss, Kelly Nobes, talks about his first year in Waterloo

**JAMIE NEUGEBAUER**  
STAFF WRITER

With two more victories in the span of three days this past weekend, the men's hockey team completed the best season in the varsity team's history. Now ranked third in the country, the Hawks have gotten a first round playoff bye.

In the meantime, the *Cord* sat down with the man behind the huge surge of success - Head Coach Kelly Nobes.

*The Cord:* Did you realistically expect to be holding such a high ranking nationally at this point in the season?

*Coach Nobes:* I'd seen the team play in the regular season last year once, and twice at the National Championship and you know, there were certainly some key ingredients here last year and we're seeing them this year.

Guys like [Mark] Voakes, and [Rob] Dmytruk, Riley Moher, [Matt]

Grennier. But in general I saw good team speed, some good skills ... certainly a lack of discipline and you know, a lot to be worked with.

*The Cord:* When you looked at the Golden Hawk roster as the Coach of RMC, what excited you specifically about this club? Who stood out as the key players of the team when you initially got here?

*Coach Nobes:* Well a lot of them - we've got a lot of real special players.

I think when you start in the nets, I thought Jeff MacDougald was going to be a key guy for us, and he has been. I think that Rob Dmytruk and Riley Moher were going to be key guys for us. You know up front, [Matt] Grennier, [Mark] Voakes, and Nick Vergeer down the middle ... I thought those guys were going to be strong for us.

Chris Di Ubaldo, having not played for a year but knowing and having seen him two or three years previous and knowing his background, I knew that he was going to be able to help us.

*The Cord:* In what ways, in a more holistic sense, have you found it different to coach here at Laurier?



Laurier Athletics

**SIGHTS ARE SET** - The men's hockey team appear focused on going on a huge run provincially and nationally.

*Coach Nobes:* Well to me the one thing here is that there is a winning attitude and the winning attitude is from the top down. I mean the president is at games and that permeates down to the student athlete and that's one of the things that stand out to me - that winning attitude ...

They're at a much more professional level here than at RMC. The athletes themselves are able to focus on two things, rather than three or four or five.

At RMC the focus is on academics, military, French or English as a second language and athletics. Here, their priorities are just athletics and academics. They have to do well academically but they can focus on their sport at the same time. They don't have to spread themselves as thin and what that translates to is better practices and a little bit more energy both physi-

cally and mentally to put to their sport.

*The Cord:* So what makes this team special compared to previous Laurier teams?

*Coach Nobes:* I think we've got a real special group of guys. We're hardworking and committed. We have great team leadership, we're a cohesive group, and we've real good depth from top to bottom and we have a winning attitude.

*The Cord:* Looking forward to the OUA playoffs now, to the here and now; what team do you see as the biggest challenge to get to the national championship?

*Coach Nobes:* Well, I think that one of the beauties of the OUA in the west right is the parity that you see with the six teams that you see in

the playoffs vying for that spot.

It's tough to say that I'd rather play this team or that team - each of the teams have their uniqueness and the ability to win.

## GOLDEN HAWK UPDATE

Week of  
Feb 14 - 20, 2007  
[www.laurierathletics.com](http://www.laurierathletics.com)

### RECENT SCORES

02.07.07  
W Basketball 51 - Brock 80  
M Basketball 71 - Brock 85

02.08.07  
M Hockey 3 - Guelph 2

02.09.07  
W Volleyball 3 - Waterloo 2  
M Volleyball 3 - Waterloo 1

02.10.07  
W Basketball 64 - McMaster 82  
M Hockey 7 - York 3  
M Basketball 89 - McMaster 82

02.11.07  
W Hockey 3 - Western 1

### UPCOMING HOME GAMES

02.18.07  
W Hockey vs Waterloo  
Waterloo Rec Complex, 7:30pm

### OUT-OF-TOWN PLAYOFFS

02.16.07  
W Volleyball vs Western  
Alumni Hall, London, 7:00pm

### LAURIER BOOKSTORE ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

Andrew Pennycook  
Men's Basketball  
Whitney Rich  
Swimming

[www.laurierathletics.com](http://www.laurierathletics.com)

## They came with only one goal: win



Alex Bailey

**SNOWPLOW!** - A sample of some of the tough play at Powder Puff '07.

- FROM POWDER, COVER

clutching her possibly-sprained wrist that the desire to win, above all else, comes through.

Sure, physical contact was in no way condoned, but when it did happen I certainly was glad my 6'4" frame had nothing to do with it.

With 22 teams holding 40-45 players each, there ended up being many repetitions of that Saturday morning match, in which one of the 11 Laurier squads came out on top. That, in itself, was worth sacrificing the time needed to put on three layers of clothing for the Thursday to Saturday charity event - which saw initial proceeds go to the women's lacrosse team, ROOF program, a charity that gives shelter to local homeless youth, KCI high school and St. Matthew's elementary school.

Aside from the teams supplied by WLU, led by the defending

champion Diesel squad, the tournament saw five groups come from McMaster (two of which would play against each other in the final), three from the University of Waterloo and some even representing Queen's University and a college in Sault Ste. Marie.

But no matter how far they had to travel, the clichéd goal remained the same: win. And damn the person who came in the way of that objective - especially yours truly; who was not immune to barrages of "f-bombs" supporting comments questioning my intelligence level on numerous calls.

But aside from the emotional scars, that may or may not still remain, ahem, the tournament seemed to be a resounding success, which leaves no doubt in my mind that the program will continue to grow to new heights next year.



# Canadian teams could go south

University newspapers across the country investigate the chances of schools looking to the US for their collegiate competition

**DAN PLOUFFE**  
CUP SPORTS BUREAU CHIEF  
CANADIAN UNIVERSITY PRESS

## OTTAWA (CUP)

Last month, the first step was taken on a path that could wind up completely changing the dynamics of university sport in this country. On January 8, the NCAA announced that it would allow Canadian schools to apply to be members of the giant US college sports organization. A 10-year pilot program would allow up to three international institutions to join the highly popular, financially lucrative NCAA.

The possibility that current members of Canadian Interuniversity Sport head south has countless potential ramifications, but the national head office says that it isn't at all concerned about the impact the decision could have.

"We would be very surprised to see many schools leave for the NCAA," the CIS's chief executive officer, Marg McGregor, told the *Concordian* recently, although she cautioned, "we're in a period of great uncertainty."

How is that uncertainty affecting individual CIS member institutions? Here's what a number of schools from coast-to-coast interviewed by Canadian University Press had to say about the subject.

## CANADA WEST

### UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

It's no secret that UBC is the front-runner to make the leap to the NCAA, with Thunderbirds athletic director Bob Philip expressing no doubt that "the [NCAA's] decision was certainly initiated by our interaction with them."

The idea of moving its teams south has been on the UBC agenda for several years, although Philip says that a campus-wide engagement is still needed to make sure the whole university community would be comfortable with the

switch. Some of the issues to be addressed include what kind of student fees would have to be paid towards athletics, academic standards and generating a lot of support for scholarships in order to attract the best Canadian athletes.

"We're happy that the doors have been opened," Philip says. "Now once we hear what that means we'll have that debate and see where we go."

- Boris Kolby, *the Ubysey*

I don't think it will be a major issue. If they want to go, and they think they need to go, and they think they can compete, why not?

- Dan McNally, Acadia Athletic Director

### UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Paired together, the University of Alberta and UBC own 34 percent of the CIS national championship banners over the past 10 years, and are the top two schools in academic All-Canadians over the same period. They are unquestionably the top sports schools in the country and often face competition that isn't very challenging.

U of A athletic director Dale Schulha hasn't been shy about spreading his NCAA intentions to local media. His plan would be for the Golden Bears and Pandas to join the NCAA as a Division II school, but play Division I in hockey and volleyball in a smaller conference, with eyes on having other sports move to that level after a few developmental years.

Some coaches expressed a range of concerns about joining the NCAA while Schulha himself is worried about cutting all ties with the CIS since it's only a 10-year pilot project. Alberta has yet to begin an application process.

- Paul Owen, *the Gateway*

### ONTARIO ATHLETICS

### UNIVERSITY

#### WILFRID LAURIER UNIVERSITY

With an athletic budget just under \$2 million -- peanuts compared to that of their counterparts on the West Coast -- Athletic Director Peter Baxter doesn't see Laurier joining the NCAA anytime soon, expressing his optimism that the profile of the CIS will only get bigger and bigger in future years.

"If you even take a look at our own history in the last few years," says Baxter, whose school has been one of the OUA's most consistent representatives at national championships, "I think Canadian university sport is something we want to concentrate on."

Baxter says "God bless 'em" to schools who want to apply to the NCAA, noting that UBC may even save on travel costs by driving to the northern US instead of flying over mountains.

"To be honest though, right now are they competitive with the Division I?" he asks. "I haven't seen them at the Vanier Cup lately."

- Dan Polischuk, *The Cord Weekly*

### QUEBEC STUDENT SPORTS FEDERATION

#### MCGILL UNIVERSITY

Athletic director Derek Drummond calls it a "far-fetched idea for us at the moment" to have McGill apply for NCAA membership.

"It would be disastrous here in Quebec if McGill or Concordia decided to go and compete in the United States and turn their backs on all the university systems," says

Drummond, noting that most QSSF leagues only have a small handful of teams entered in them.

He thinks that even the dominant Laval Rouge et Or football program would have trouble leaving for the NCAA because of its loyalties to the Université de Montréal and Université de Sherbrooke.

Drummond notes that the NCAA's decision raises many "huge questions," such as whether schools who become NCAA members would be allowed to remain in select CIS sports or funding issues for carded athletes at the national level.

Although he likes playing exhibitions against American schools, joining the NCAA just doesn't make sense to him.

"We'd be hated for it," he says. "We're a bunch of snobs now, what would we be then?"

- Dan Plouffe, *CUP Sports Bureau Chief*

### ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY SPORT

#### ACADIA UNIVERSITY

On the east coast, the NCAA's decision isn't having much of an effect. Overall, the sentiment at Acadia is that there will not be a mass exodus of programs to the NCAA and there is no fear that the CIS will suffer at all.

"It wouldn't be the first time that a Canadian university has competed in the US," says athletic director Dan McNally, who notes that Acadia has no plans of seeking NCAA membership. "I don't think it will be a major issue. If they want to go, and think they need to go, and think they can compete, why not?"

Football coach Jeff Cummins hints that those who leave for the NCAA may come back to the CIS like Simon Fraser University did after all its teams played in the NAIA (a smaller US organization) for a few years.

- Lucas Timmons, *the Athenaeum*

### UNIVERSITY OF NEW

### BRUNSWICK

The University of New Brunswick, like most Canadian schools, could certainly benefit from some things that would go with NCAA membership -- an increase in attendance at games and the revenue that would create. However, UNB is far from a powerhouse on the CIS stage, and the university's low recruiting and training budgets often shoulder the blame.

"The greatest challenge for most Canadian schools will be investing the amount of resources required to operate a successful NCAA program," says men's basketball coach Thom Gillespie, whose team is currently at the bottom of the AUS standings at 4-10.

"This may be out of reach for many schools given the financial challenges facing academic institutions in Canada, which in turn impact their athletic programs."

- Sheah Gaston, *the Brunswickian*

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## Stadium upgrade should work for all

Plans for the renovation of the stadium have been approved and the improvements are set to begin... finally. The \$5 million project will see changes made to the structure of the stadium building, a stripping and repainting of the stands and a replacement of the turf on the field.

As Rosehart indicated, the turf that is currently in the stadium is about four or five years past its prime and is no longer stitched together properly. If "people would trip and get hurt... since we knew about it, the university would be liable." Luckily our stellar football team doesn't actually use the field to practice or challenge other teams, right? Oh wait, they do. And for the safety of all of our athletes, the state of the turf should've been addressed when the eight-year guarantee was over, but Laurier's hardly known for its timely renovations.

Another change set to come about from the renovations will be the creation of a rubberized track around the field. This is an excellent initiative as the small gravel path that currently encircles the track would hardly be considered worthy of runners.

The most important thing that should be considered during the impending stadium renovations is to keep the average student in mind. Like last year's renovations to Willison Field, it's important to consider ol' Joe Undergrad while facilities for Laurier athletes are improved. The stadium, with its updated track and field, should be accessible to students who want to make use of the school's resources that they help fund. The current stadium with its barbed wire fences and lack of general student use time seems hardly inviting to the average WLU student.

If the planned renovations are completed on time and on budget, and the facilities are accessible to the entire student population, then these upgrades will definitely be a success, although one that is slightly overdue.

## Policy governance doesn't represent voice of students

With this week's implementation of policy governance in WLUSU's board of directors, students will see a lot less of one thing: representation. The new model will see BOD members taking on more of a visionary role, leaving any tangible goals behind. As Josh Smyth, current BOD member, puts it, directors "won't be able to look back and say, 'I changed the menu at Wilf's,' but [they] will be able to look back and say, 'I changed the values of the organization.'"

The most obvious and most important concern that arises from this change in the organization's structure is that of student representation. BOD directors, who are elected by the student body, are elected based on the issues they promise to push in the boardroom. With the new policy governance model, directors will only be able to suggest their vision for the end product, with the management committee, most of which is hired,

deciding on how the plan will be implemented.

This move should be of huge concern to students as it diminishes the role of their largest representatives. Should this model be implemented as is, the only elected official with the power to really accomplish anything tangible will be the president of WLUSU.

Some current BOD members have expressed their concerns about this new model, and rightfully so. The next two months are crucial. If this test period shows sacrifices to any of the representative elements, they need to take firm steps to ensure student representatives remain just that, rather than putting more power into the hands of non-student full-time employees. The employees could essentially "meet student needs" in whatever way benefits their organization the most, with no regard to students' concerns. And that, Laurier, is a truly scary thought.

*These unsigned editorials were agreed upon by at least two-thirds of The Cord's editorial board and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Cord's volunteers, staff or WLUSU.*



Emilie Joslin

## We're all brats

Admit you're spoiled, blame your parents and get over it



Greetings, Generation Y. Yes, you - born after 1982, twenty-something years of age, addicted to the Internet, and most likely the son or daughter of a proud "Helicopter Parent."

"Helicopter" or "Snow Plough Parent" - take your pick. Our Baby Boomer moms and dads have cleared the paths for our future success, hovering over our every move since elementary school so that we may have what they never did - and more.

Good-natured intentions, no doubt; but in my experience, these privileges have spawned a great number of personal difficulties to which I'm sure many of you can relate.

The obvious difficulty resulting from this type of parenting is a false sense of autonomy. Think about it - take a home stocked full with more than you need, throw in some smothering and constant praise, add a pinch of mommy cleaning your room, and what do you get?

Brats? Sure, in many cases, but I think it's safer to say that overly-involved parenting styles lead to needy children. In their efforts to steer us around making mistakes, these parents have in fact bred disadvantaged children who can't survive without them.

Needy children come in all

shapes and sizes - you may be a needy child and not even know it yet.

I only recently discovered that I am a needy child when I lost my dad three years ago. I quickly became overwhelmed by the slew of new responsibilities that came down on my shoulders. (Who knew you had to renew your license plate sticker, anyways?)

Find it hard to relate to my story? Look at how many friends (or friends of friends) you know of who dropped out of university after first year.

Don't worry, just turn on *The Hills* and you'll feel better about yourself.

An undergraduate education has become an extension of high school, and as a result it can be said that the value of such a degree has gone down.

For many of us, it is no longer a privilege to go to university - it is just expected. However, while Helicopter Parents may get their children into university, they can't really do much to keep them there.

That's where our spoiled pasts come back to kick us in the ass. Without much experience making mistakes, how can you be expected to know what to do when you fail your first exam?

Don't worry, just turn on *The Hills* and you'll feel better about yourself.

Parents who prevent their kids from making their own decisions and messing up once in a while are also preventing them from developing into self-sufficient, responsible adults. *Chatelaine* magazine's Wendy Dennis seems to agree - well, for the most part.

In her February column "Awe-

some shmawesome," Dennis speaks of how our generation has been raised in comfort, and that this privileged upbringing has yielded some emotional handicaps like a fear of failure and a "know-it-all-ness" prevalent in many of our peers. On that much we are in agreement.

However, Dennis argues that our special upbringing has inflated Generation Y's self-esteem. And this is where Dennis and I would disagree. While I definitely understand that many Millennials are arrogant, I wouldn't say that we

have too much self-esteem. That would imply that we actually have a sense of self.

"Sense of self"

in this case means any identity separate from our parents. How can you know what you're capable of if you call in reinforcements every time you screw up?

I think the real issue Generation Y must deal with is our lack of confidence in our selves and our compromised ability to bounce back after failure. These are qualities that come from life experience outside of our comfort zones, and away from our all-too-accommodating parents.

So take my advice: First, admit that you're a spoiled brat. Next, blame your parents. But after you've briefly acknowledged these developmental obstacles, the most important thing to do is to get over it. It's not our parents' responsibility to de-spoil us, we've got to be brave enough to rip off our waterwings and plough the rest of the way alone.

letters@cordweekly.com



# Census fails to include all religions

Canadian statistics report fails to include the diverse Chinese religions as well as many New Age and Scientological movements



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The 2001 Canadian census reported that Roman Catholic and Protestant Christian groups made up about 72 percent of the Canadian population. The next largest group, clocking in at 16 percent or 4.8 million people, was the strangely labeled "no religion" group.

Who are these people? Are they atheists? Agnostics? Pastafarians? There are several reasons for why I believe that this mysterious "no religion" category should be expanded

to include specific belief systems. This category has increased from one percent in 1971 to 16 percent in 2001. At first glance, it seems that Canadians are quickly becoming atheists. Although this category certainly contains individuals with little or no religious affiliation, at present it is a highly exaggerated number.

One of the main reasons for expanding the "no religion" category is the Chinese community, which has one million members in Canada. The Canadian and academic communities seem to think they know what religion the Chinese practice. In fact, they do not. Most are not Buddhist and most (or all) will ask you to clarify what it means

to be a Daoist or a Confucianist. On the 2001 census, 58.6 percent of Chinese scanned the list of religions and chose "no religion." A full 580,000 Chinese did not feel they were adequately represented by any of the religions on the census. 26 percent of Chinese checked the Christian box and 14 percent checked the Buddhist box. It seems likely that both of these figures will drop significantly if something like "Chinese religion," or some other relevant category, were included on the next census.

Another reason that these statistics are misleading is the rise of the new age religions and new religious movements. Rastafarians, native spiritualists, scientologists

and others have no box to check on the Canadian census except "no religion" or "pagan." Most scholars are in agreement that these groups have been on the rise in the last few decades.

All other religions are also on the rise. From 1991 to 2001, the Muslim community has doubled and there have been over 80 percent increases in Hindus, Sikhs and Buddhists. These numbers will likely continue to increase and we need to start understanding various denominations, such as Sunni, Shia and Sufi. In other words, the census needs to incorporate the same minute differentiation within other traditions that it has developed for Christian groups. Christians are divided on

the census down to Anglicans, United Church, Presbyterian, Greek Orthodox, Mennonite, Adventist, and a host of other denominations. The census, as it stands, is enormously useful for understanding the Christian population in Canada. However, it needs a little tweaking when it comes to understanding the specific spiritual life of 16 percent of Canadians as well as the denominational breakdown of other religions, which are beginning to play a greater role in Canadian society.

*Amarnath Amarasingam is a graduate student in the Department of Religion and Culture.*

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## Letters to the Editor

### LETTER OF THE WEEK:

### WHITE MALE NOT DEFACTO RACIST

I am a typical middle class white male. When I am asked about my ancestry, I do not get offended and I usually tell people that my last name is Scottish although I have ancestors from numerous western European countries. When I read an article such as the one regarding the Cord's roundtable discussion on racism, I can't help but feel under attack. I know that each reference to "people", the "majority" or

a "privileged white male" – who are somehow racially insensitive – is referring directly to me. Somehow, my lack of "colour" makes me a defacto racist. This upsets me, because I have never once in my life thought of myself as a racist.

I want to make it clear that racism and racist actions disgust me. I find the instances of a guidance counsellor telling a child their future is limited due to their race absolutely

repugnant. I find students in a class making a joke about the high infection rate of AIDS in Africa in no way funny.

My first problem with the opinions in the aforementioned article is that many of the respondents said that they feel out of place or singled out, but give no instances where people actively made them feel this way. Why wouldn't you speak in class if you have some-

thing relevant to say? Why do you feel like a "token"? Why do the respondents think that I or any other "white" person in the class would feel any malice towards them? Why do you assume I am racist because I was born white?

I have had the pleasure of speaking with Adam Lawrence [WLU's diversity coordinator] on numerous occasions and my experience with him has always been a positive

one. Making a judgment that he is a "privileged white male" who will not be a good representative for diversity at Laurier is prejudice. Why do you assume that a Caucasian man can't address the issue of diversity at Wilfrid Laurier simply based on the colour of his skin? That is prejudice. That is racism. And that – and anyone who could hold such an opinion – disgusts me.  
-Jeremy Carnegie

### Upset alumni

I don't question the fact that I am likely not the first student, alumni or faculty member to have written to the Cord with their opinion on the latest Winter Carnival nightmare regarding the Waterbuffaloes' Team Jamaica. And, if by chance I am, then what is going on at WLU?

I graduated in 2001 and while I was there I did the ice-breaker thing, the resident life staff thing, I'll even admit I was in Fashion N' Motion and I also participated in a few Winter Carnivals – I get the idea – it's supposed to be fun. But after seeing pictures of Team Jamaica forwarded by other disappointed alumni, I cannot understand how this happened. Is the Waterbuffalo club not a sanctioned WLU club with an executive? Surely at some point, someone on this executive (these are people who met the school's acceptance credentials right?) would have thought it would perhaps be offensive to name their Winter Carnival team, Team Jamaica and paint their faces for the duration of the week? Apparently not. And, where was the Winter Carnival committee through all of this? You can say something, you know! You could've made the call to shut that down as soon as you saw it. Is the Laurier bubble really that small and ignorant?

I currently work in public relations, consulting clients on a variety of issues and when I saw this, I immediately thought how horribly this reflects Wilfrid Laurier's status. A world class school? Nah. I don't think so. Where does something like this fit into Maclean's annual university ranking criteria?

At the time of writing this, I don't know the campus's reaction. I don't know if Team Jamaica was shut down before Winter Carnival was over, and I don't know what actions were taken against the Waterbuffaloes, but I expect that something should be said and done. I understand that there is a bigger problem here – something that a metaphorical slap on the wrist won't solve. This isn't about people not being able to take a joke. This should be taken very seriously.

- Jennifer Alsop-Lee  
Class of 2001

### Visibly the same

I am writing in response to the article entitled "Shades of Grey" that was in this past week's Cord. I was outraged by some of the statements made in this article. I am a student here at Laurier that is of another race. I am Negro. My background is Guyanese. Guyana is in South America. I am, in your words, "visibly different."

The first thing to offend me in this article was the statement that "For those who happen to be visibly different, adjusting to university life can be a lot more challenging." Tell us, how does the colour of one's skin challenge one's pursuit of higher education? I also did not like that choice of words, "visibly different." Mr. Hayter and Mr. Ferguson's particular choice of words were unfortunate. I am offended by the words "visibly different."

I have been at Laurier for three years now, and in no way did I find it challenging to adjust to university life.

When I first came to Waterloo, I felt out of place, like Kareem Larcher from St. Lucia mentioned in your article did, because I thought that I too stood out. I was born in Canada and am from the Greater Toronto Area, making me much more used to vibrant multiculturalism.

I have come across some ignorance in Waterloo and at Laurier, especially when the question of my background is raised. Most people assume that I'm Jamaican and I have to correct them. I am Guyanese. A person may not openly say they've assumed I'm Jamaican based on my skin colour, but I know deep down that this is the reason for their assumption. I would appreciate it if people just asked me about my background instead of making assumptions.

I appreciated this article, because these types of issues should be talked about more often, but I did not like some statements that were made in the article.

Also mentioned in the article was the Winter Carnival incident, someone at the roundtable discussion suggested that there be a sensitivity training program implemented in the university. How can people be taught to be sensitive to people of other cultures?

-Keshia Wilson

### No racism here

As a visible minority on campus, I was really upset with the Cord last week. I think the article on racism was way out of line. As a half Black, half Caucasian student on campus, I have never experienced, directly or indirectly, any form of serious racism. People at this school

are friendly, understanding and very accepting, and I have yet to feel discriminated against. I have friends from all different backgrounds and nationalities. I don't get offended or feel put out by questions like "Where are you from?" or "What's your background?" because I'll tell you that I'm a Canadian with an African background.

The colour of my skin has never defined me. My actions define me, my experiences define me, my friends and family help define me, but most of all, I define me. I believe that a lot of the "racism" that some students may feel on campus is in fact racism that they've created for themselves. If I was to go into every situation always thinking "I'm a visible minority" or "people might see me differently," then yes, I'm going to find things that I can and probably will view as discrimination. But I don't. I go into every situation with an open mind, and I've noticed that there are many other factors that contribute to the events in my life.

Racism at Laurier will only continue to be an issue as long as we continue to make it one. Until the day that somebody comes up to me and seriously tells me to pick their cotton while I shine their shoes and sing them "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot," I'm going to keep making my own opportunities, indifferent to the fact that my skin just happens to be a different colour.

-Laurel Tubman

### Speak to profs

If you feel a professor is portraying a place you know of or are from incor-

rectly, speak out or hold your peace. If someone says something racist/sexist/homophobic and it offends you, speak up, everyone has the right to freedom of speech and the people who say offensive and mean things are just showing how ignorant they are.

One's social surroundings affect their self awareness and presentation in ways that the majority is not always consciously aware. This is not always discrimination (unless all are guilty). I am obviously going to be more aware of being Caucasian when I have four Asian roommates and more aware of being male when I am in a seminar that is overwhelmingly female.

There are definitely some racist people attending Laurier as well as people who are ignorant about other cultures to varying degrees. The school and community take the issue of racism both inside and outside of the classroom very seriously. As to if Laurier is a racist school I would answer no we are not.

-Neil McKay

### Letters 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 12:00pm Monday via email to [letters@cordweekly.com](mailto:letters@cordweekly.com) or through our website at [www.cordweekly.com](http://www.cordweekly.com). Letters must 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 to not publish material that is deemed to be libelous or in contravention with the Cord's Code of Ethics or journalistic standards.



# Business benefits social change

Corporations have the resources and ethical responsibility to foster sustainable capitalism



JC MCLAREN  
LIFE AS A SOUNDTRACK

Some would say it's the major corporations of the West – those promoting the spread of globalization – that are the cause of much of the unsustainable use of resources, the corruption of government initiatives and the reduction of environmental, social and humanitarian standards. I would agree with them.

This is not to say things will never change; things can always change. After attending a launch party for Social Inc., a new student initiative at Laurier, I've recently discovered there are movements toward change right here at WLU.

You may be asking yourself: why should businesses be the ones trying to create social change? Some may say that this is the job of the government – and I'd agree.

Unfortunately, today the nation-state has only so much power; this was one of the many issues brought up by Dr. Sanjay Sharma, the guest speaker at the launch party, while speaking about corporate sustainability.

Particular groups and institu-

tions have dominated power and influence since the beginning of civilization: the empires of old, the church in medieval times and the nation-state after the renaissance.

In the past couple of years, though, it has become businesses that hold all the keys to all the doors. The global economy has begun to transcend the influence and power of the nation-state.

When it is no longer religion or government that guides us, it is now more than ever before the responsibility of business to lead us morally and ethically.

Sharma went on to explain that because these global issues transcend national borders – global warming, depleted resources, etc – the nation-state no longer has autonomous control over these issues because governments do not have mandate beyond borders.

As a result of the lack of jurisdiction, international regimes aimed at addressing environmental and social issues have too much difficulty implementing their agendas. Sharma went on to say that NGOs are not much help because of their "micro-focus" and the fact that "they are not addressing the big issues."

It is business – it seems, only business – that has the resources, technology, global reach and mo-

tivation to address these global issues.

The traditional way of thinking is that businesses should focus on one thing only: profit. Profit creates jobs for employees, boosts and maintains the economy and makes tax revenues for our beloved government.

Spending time and resources on social change affects these goals. But we are no longer in the industrial revolution and it will take hundreds of years to rectify the dam-

**If businesses move towards more sustainable means, they prevent loss of profit to impoverished customers, depleted resources and political instability.**

age created by the current levels of reckless consumption.

The time has come to change the conventional business state of mind because social change will benefit business in the long run. If businesses move towards more sustainable means, they prevent loss of profit to impoverished customers, depleted resources and political instability.

On top of this, "one dollar in revenue is not really one dollar after

costs are deducted. One dollar in cost-reduction is equal to one dollar in profit," explained Sharma. This is why innovation in efficiency and sustainability is essential, not only to society but the future of business itself.

The trouble is there are really not many positions for managerial specialization in sustainability. That is why, according to Sharma, corporate sustainability and social change through business is about one thing: "transforming business from the inside."

According to Humera Javed, fourth-year business and global studies major and founder of Social Inc., "we need to promote and develop a new wave

of socially progressive students.

Business students [at Laurier] do not have the chance to be exposed to other things happening around the world or to find their role and position in the larger global context."

This is why initiatives such as Social Inc. are so important to the local and global communities.

They work to incorporate social change into everyday decision-making for business managers.



Contributed Photo

**SMART PROF** - Dr. Sanjay Sharma spoke at the launch of Social Inc.

Javed's conviction rings loud and clear: "Capitalism can be used for good if we want it to be. I really hope that Social Inc. can help us move forward towards creating a just and sustainable world."

Things can always change as long as there are people willing to make that change.

Being one of the largest and most prominent business schools in Canada, we are in a position to work towards a better future than the one we were left with.

I will leave you with a quote – offered by Humera – by author David Quinn, in hopes to inspire the uninspired: "If the world is saved, it will be saved by people with a changed mind and a new vision." Let's make that vision our own.

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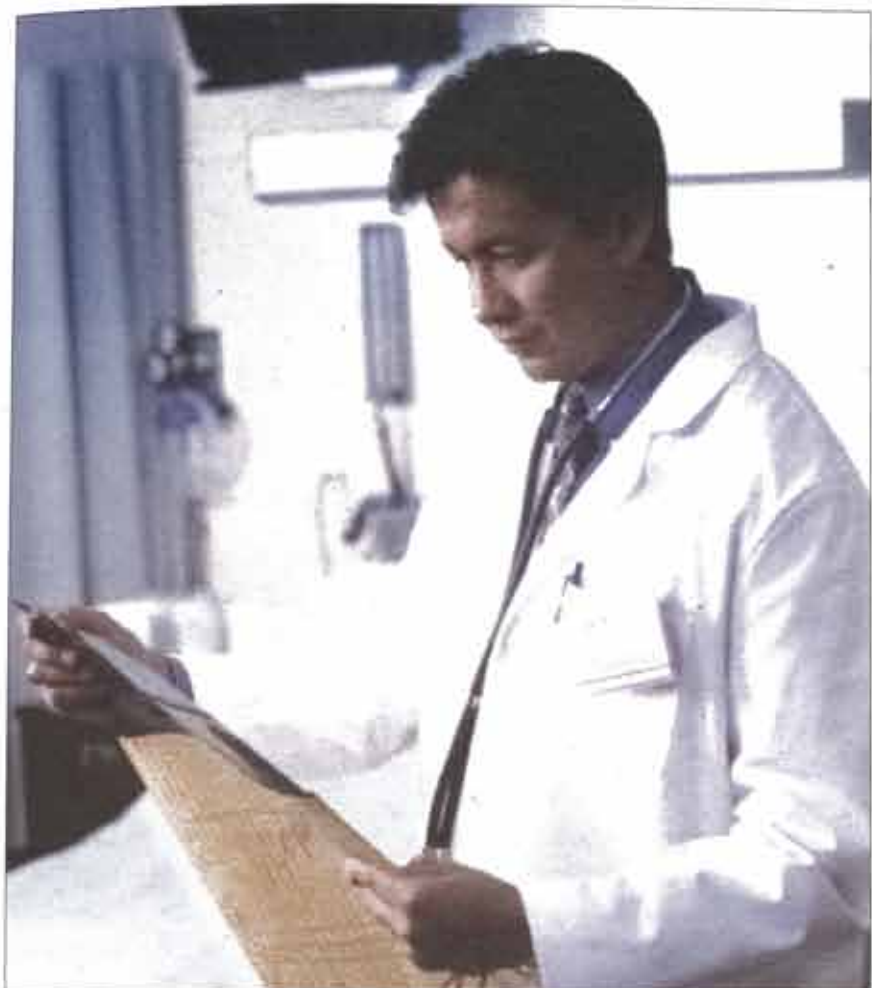
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**DOCTOR DOCTOR** - Many immigrants' medical skills go unused because of legislative difficulties.

# Doctor gap easy fix

Allowing skilled immigrants to practice medicine seems obvious solution



DAVID SHORE  
NO RELATION TO PAULY

For a long time, Canadians have seen our country as a prosperous and welcoming place for immigrants. We have also long been proud of our universal health care system. These two things, and possibly hockey, constitute the Canadian identity more than anything else.

However, these national prides have been becoming increasingly false. On one hand, with horrible waiting times in emergency rooms and difficulty for many Canadians to find family physicians, our

healthcare system is looking less and less universal. On the other hand, evidence and statistics are emerging that show Canada is hardly the land of opportunity it is worked up to be. Ironically, these two problems seem to present an obvious remedy to each other.

Many immigrants residing in Canada have untapped professional skills. The number of immigrants with degrees has been on the rise ever since 1993, when immigration standards were changed to add emphasis on marketable skills. But at the same time, immigrants' wages have been on the decline. According to Stats Canada, immigrant wages were 3.2 times lower than those of Canadian-born citizens in 2004. In 2000, 41 percent of immigrants spent at least four of their

first five years in Canada below the poverty line.

Especially for Canadian immigrants with medical degrees, statistics like these are unacceptable. In a country where as of 2003 roughly 15 percent of the population did not have a regular doctor, there should not be residents with medical degrees driving taxis.

This problem is not just bad for the people lacking a doctor. Those with doctors are finding it harder to make appointments and get treatments on time, and waits for hospital beds in emergency rooms can take days. One step needed towards solving our inefficient healthcare system, and our underemployment of immigrants, seems frustratingly simple. Why then, are our foreign-trained doctors not practicing in Canada?

The immediate problem that comes to mind is language. Some immigrants, though proficient in basic English or French, are still not fluent enough to provide medical service. Fine. But many of these people are more than capable of practicing medicine in Canada. The deeper problem lies in the unreasonable standards for foreigners to get a medical licence. Not only is the amount of re-education required far too time consuming, but the cost is most always unaffordable.

Rather than addressing these problems and filling the doctor gap with people inside our borders, the government is attacking this issue entirely from the wrong angle. Provincial governments, most notably Saskatchewan and BC, have been luring doctors in developing countries to come practice in Canada. This is nothing but an ill-advised and short-term solution to our human resources crisis. Moreover, it is creating a diplomatic nightmare with countries such as South Africa that are losing medical staff to Canada. But most importantly, this tactic does nothing to help the many doctors already residing in Canada that are unable to practice.

Instead of using these short term solutions, Canada needs to take greater steps to make long-term improvements to our healthcare system. In 1991, the government made a policy to cut back medical school admissions by 10 percent, something that has definitely contributed to our lack of doctors. Decisions like these need to be reversed to allow for long-term growth. But there is an even easier answer sitting right under our noses.

In place of spending money on attracting doctors from developing nations, money should be spent on improving the language skills of immigrants, and making education and recertification for immigrant professionals accessible. This will certainly not make every problem within our healthcare system disappear, but it's a step in the right direction. With such a clear solution right in front of us, it's time we see it happen.



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