



# THE CORD WEEKLY

The tie that binds since 1926

## ANTARCTIC VOYAGE

A Laurier master's student describes his excursion to Antarctica ... **PAGE 7**

## HOCKEY HOSTILITY

A **Cord Sports** point-counterpoint debate on the merits of fighting on the ice ... **PAGE 9**

## LOCAL FARE

Why Laurier should support local organic food options ... **PAGE 17**

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## Women at WLU

In a three-part series for International Women's Week **The Cord** examines the role of women on campus since they began enrolling at the university in 1929. This first installment will reflect back on the previous status of women at WLU and chronicle important events that have led to the current status of females on campus today. See **Special Project**, pages 12-13

### INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S WEEK COVERAGE IN THIS ISSUE

For information on this year's International Women's Week events, SEE **IWW**, PAGE 3  
**The Cord** Editorial Board's opinion on the importance of IWW, SEE **WOMEN**, PAGE 16  
Robert Langen Art Gallery exhibit addresses women's perceptions of themselves, SEE **MEASURING**, BACK COVER

### CORDWEEKLY.COM

View a historic photogallery of women at WLU  
Nominate an inspirational woman you feel should be profiled in **The Cord** for Part Three of the series  
On Friday visit cordweekly.com for an online-exclusive interview with Dr. Helen Ramirez, Laurier women's studies professor

## Turret closed on Fridays

Retro Rewind will be put on hold for the rest of term due to the nightclub's low attendance

**LINDA GIVETASH**  
STAFF WRITER

The Students' Union announced during the last week of February that the Turret Nightclub will be closed on Fridays for the remainder of this semester. Mike McMahon, Wilfrid Laurier University Students' Union (WLUSU) general manager, explained he was responsible for the decision to close due to poor business.

Friday nights have experienced an incredibly low turnout rate at the Turret this semester. On several occasions, the club had to close early with no customers present.

Although only announced last week, the possibility of closure has been an ongoing discussion all semester.

As it costs \$2,500 to open the Turret for one night, the decision to open on Fridays was "pouring student dollars out the door" according to McMahon.

"There were maybe fifty or sixty students there," said Jayne Thompson, fifth-year communications

and political science student, regarding the attendance she saw on February 13. Having only gone the Turret because she discovered Wilf's was closed for the evening, Thompson was incredibly disappointed.

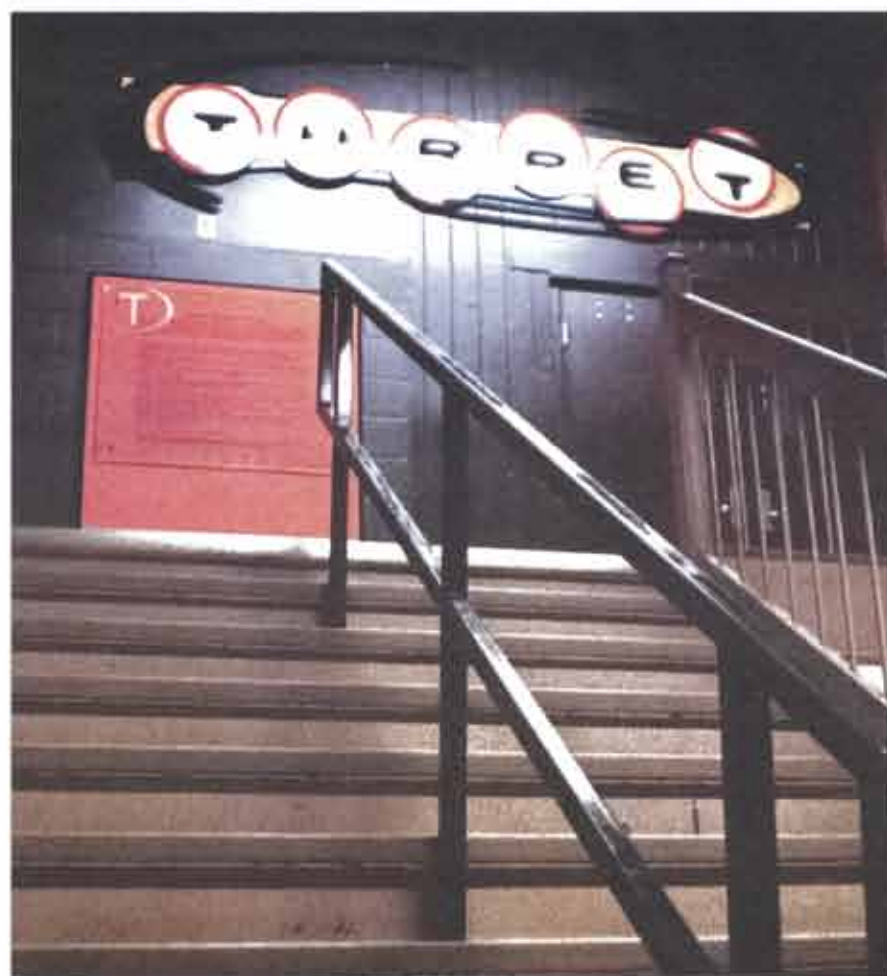
It is not believed that the low turnout is related to the decision to exclude under-agers. Last year, there were only a few nights on which the maximum capacity of 80 under-agers was reached.

There were, however, 73 incidents of under-agers being caught with alcohol, putting the entire business at risk.

Under-aged student Gina MacDonald is outraged that Retro Fridays have been cancelled. Having considered herself a regular last year, she has already been disappointed by the exclusion of under-aged students this year.

"It was the music, and I think the atmosphere was different for Retro," which was what brought MacDonald to the Turret on Fridays.

The reason for the poor turnout remains speculative. McMahon



RYAN STEWART

**NO RETRO** - The Turret will remain open on Saturday nights.

offered another possibility, that, "maybe two nights is totally not feasible and we should be planning to attract other business too on the second night."

Students' expectations for going out and their spending habits are items that McMahon feels will help explain the problem. "Maybe we're fighting against the market that's shrunk."

For the remainder of the semester, WLUSU plans to put its energy into focusing on the already successful Saturday nights at the Tur-

ret, as well as Wilf's, to continue to ensure the quality of service and experience; the Students' Union will also engage in strategic planning to see if Retro Fridays can be changed at all to make it more profitable and increase attendance.

The Turret will not have closed doors on the remaining Fridays entirely. Retro Prom is still scheduled for March 27, and other special events may be booked in the venue in hopes of regaining funds lost earlier this year.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

**RICO** - VGL host Tommy Tallarico.

## Game orchestra to geek up Kitchener

Host Tommy Tallarico introduces Video Games Live, the new musical phenomenon

**ALEX HAYTER**  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Tommy Tallarico, age 41, has been performing live video game music concerts since he was ten years old. In his family's TV room. With a broomstick.

Charging friends a nickel to serve as his special audience, Tallarico would throw on a tape cassette with recordings of music from the local arcade, stick a game cartridge in his Commodore 64 console and then grab the broomstick as his guitar.

"Everyone laughed and thought it was hilarious," laughed Tallarico from his LA office. "And who knew, thirty years later I'd be doing it with 150 musicians from the LA Phil behind me at the Hollywood Bowl in front of 20,000 people?" Quite the change of scenery for Tallarico, a man who has spent over twenty years in the gaming industry as a composer, critic and self-described "class clown."

Video Games Live (VGL) is the performance-art phenomenon that has been creating hysteria around the world since its founding in 2005. Since then, it has gone from performing three shows globally to over 60 planned dates this year. Just last week, the show wowed over 100,000 fans in Taiwan, complimented by a fireworks display and mass sing-a-long.

- SEE **VIDEO GAMES**, PAGE 22







## VOCAL CORD

How do you feel about the Turret closing on Friday nights?



"I didn't even know it wasn't open. I've never been."

— **Cara Welk**  
First-year business



"I've only ever heard of one event there. Maybe the Turret wasn't advertised well enough."

— **Bethany MacMillan**  
Second-year communication studies



"I haven't been there in some time but it might be detrimental to some students who like to spend their time there."

— **Len Ball**  
Grad student



"I live too far away to go. But last year I went weekly .... It's bad. Retro was great."

— **Rob Carss**  
Third-year history



"It's a night club, but it's not open on a Friday night?"

— **Brendan Thomas**  
Second-year archaeology

Compiled by Jennifer Rae,  
Photos by Mara Silvestri.

# Celebrating women

International Women's Week takes place from March 2 to 8

**REBECCA VASLUIANU**  
NEWS EDITOR

Laurier will kick off International Women's Day on Sunday, March 8 with four days of events beginning this Thursday.

The events will be hosted by the WLU business department in conjunction with the faculty of arts.

The first of the events will be a talk on Thursday entitled "Great Women, Great Stories" at the Paul Martin Centre around 5:30 p.m.

Cindy Ross Pederson, entrepreneur in residence and co-organizer of the event, explained that three speakers will share their stories regarding challenges and problems they have faced.

"It's about sharing those stories so that maybe one of those people in the audience can get a bit of inspiration," Pederson explained.

An event called "Celebrating the Greatness Within" will follow on Thursday to explore staff, faculty, alumni and student views at the university in a panel discussion.

"Because we all have questions about what we want to do with ourselves seeing what these women have done is a good way to imagine how our own lives might develop," stated Helen Ramirez, assistant professor of women's studies and one of the organizers of the week.

"It's not a straight and narrow

path. It takes many twists and turns. And it's knowing what those twists and turns might be and learning not to get discouraged when we face them."

There will also be a workshop on Sunday oriented towards understanding the different forms of gendered violence and assessing routes for change and improvement.

"Hopefully, we can come out of it thinking about what actions we can take on a personal level, and on a community level and on a global level," said Ramirez.

She also noted the Imagyn Film Festival, which will feature student-made short films about gendered violence.

Pederson is extremely excited to see that both faculties have come together to organize the event.

"What was really very cool this year is that SBE and Arts came together to bring all our events under a single banner," she said.

While the WLU Women's Centre usually plays a large role in the event, Coordinator Kate Klein explains they will not be doing so this year.

"I'll admit it was a little bit of a dropped ball on our behalf," she said. "It just kind of came up that this group of people really wanted to plan the event so we just kind of stepped back."

She notes that although the

focus was slightly different from what the Women's Centre would have imagined – featuring more grand success stories rather than smaller individual success stories – Klein is extremely confident that the event will be a great success.

"This year's International Women's Week will be very successful in reaching out to women who have not necessarily always been reflected in the past, people who don't necessarily think about feminism on a day to day basis."

Although the group is not directly participating in the organization of the event, Ramirez explains that the Women's Centre is crucial.

"The Women's Centre is at the heart of all of this," said Ramirez. "What the Women's Centre has been so good about doing is just embracing all kinds of ideas on campus."

She continued to explain that, having seen numerous International Women's Day celebrations over the last few years, she is excited that the events seem to take a unique shape each year.

"Every year the ideas about how to celebrate it are different," she explained.

"What I also really like about this year is not only do we celebrate women, but we also attend to issues at the same time."

## CORD/ONLINE

> [cordweekly.com](http://cordweekly.com)  
> News

### Fire damage

Jeremy Tremblay follows up on the February 10 fire in the Science building. Charges have been laid against a 28-year-old Hamilton man.

### Laurie named ombudsperson

Jennifer Laurie speaks with Morgan Alan about her new role as university ombudsperson.

### State of the city address

Waterloo Mayor Brenda Halloran presented a year's successes and future plans for the city last Friday. Devon Butler summarizes the highlights.

### Breaking news

Follow *The Cord* online for breaking news:  
[www.twitter.com/cordnews](http://www.twitter.com/cordnews)

# Upholding academic integrity: a faculty perspective

**JEREMY TREMBLAY**  
NEWS EDITOR

"I had two huge instances of academic misconduct on an individual case assignment," explains Laura Allan, a professor in Laurier's school of business.

Each incident, Allan explained, involved large numbers of students – into the hundreds – and unauthorized collaboration.

"It takes a strip off of me. It takes a lot of time" to investigate and deal with situations of academic misconduct, she added.

Despite the time and effort it takes to investigate misconduct, Allan believes it is worthwhile to enforce academic integrity.

"Every institution has to be concerned about academic integrity," says VP: Academic Leo Groake. "It's how we maintain our credibility and it's how we maintain ourselves as a moral [and] ethical institution."

It comes down to students performing on a level playing field, according to Dr. Mark Baetz, chair of Laurier's Academic Integrity committee.

He explains that his work regarding the issue has shown him

that students are very concerned about fairness and appreciate professors' efforts to ensure academic integrity.

Three current Laurier students and a WLU alumnus who had all committed some form of academic misconduct explained that at least part of their decision was guided by the knowledge they wouldn't get caught.

Allan felt strongly that pressure is a bigger factor that pushes students to commit misconduct.

"I don't think that there's a large number of students that think [they can cheat because they won't get caught] at all. I think they get under pressure [and] they make mistakes," she explained.

## Turnitin.com

According to both Allan and Baetz, Turnitin is a valuable tool that has a significant role to play in detecting academic misconduct.

Baetz says that Turnitin helps to save time tracing the sources of content which a professor may suspect is plagiarized. Otherwise, faculty would have to manually search for the original source.

"We need a tool like Turnitin

if we're going to take academic misconduct seriously," says Allan, pointing out that misconduct would otherwise become virtually impossible to detect. She coordinates 1,700 students and 40 teaching assistants in BU 111 and BU 121.

She explains that Turnitin makes it clear to students that academic misconduct is taken seriously.

Turnitin advertises in its promotional literature that over 50 percent of plagiarism it catches comes from other student papers. The system archives all papers submitted to it in a database, which instructors can use to compare papers submitted for their class.

## Designing courses

A major role instructors play in the fight against academic misconduct is course design.

"You've got to be careful that you don't set [courses] up so that the temptation to cheat is high," Baetz explains.

Faculty must clearly outline what is acceptable and what isn't from students and to what degree collaboration is permitted.

Faculty have to become increas-

ingly aware of it, says Baetz.

"It's all changed: the level of ability of students to communicate to each other about all courses and all faculty and what's going on in each course. There's a whole network, a whole information base out there that faculty may not even know exists."

"I think that faculty have a real obligation to make sure that the assignments are set so that there isn't an opportunity, so it doesn't leave the perception that we're ok with you cheating," explains Allan.

She makes sure that students are provided with clear expectations, and requires students to sign a code of conduct to ensure they understand their obligations. She and the teaching assistants also have codes of conduct by which to abide; copies of each of the three codes are available in the front of students' lab manuals.

Student reactions to the extensive measures taken in Allan's class are positive, she says.

"If you raise the bar for [students] I never hear anybody saying 'I didn't pay for this. I wanted to cheat through [university]'. Nobody says that."





GRAPHIC BY JULIE MARION



Angela Olano



Mike Morrice



Jessica West



Greg Overholt



Deborah DeJong



Dr. Quincy Almeida



Cathy Anderson

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

# Success under 40

*The Cord* features seven of 14 Laurier graduates and faculty to make regional top "40 under 40" list

## REBECCA VASLUIANU NEWS EDITOR

*The Cord* decided to profile seven of the "40 under 40" honourees listed in February 25's print edition of *The Record*.

Featured on the list were 14 individuals affiliated with WLU, of which *The Cord* interviewed seven:

### Cathy Anderson

**Occupation:** Section Cellist at the K.W. Symphony Orchestra

After graduating with an undergraduate degree from the WLU Faculty of Music, Anderson attended Yale University for her master's program.

"She joined the K.W. orchestra a year and a half ago, playing roughly one show a week ever since."

Anderson also plays with the Bremen quartet, which also includes two other Laurier students she plays with in the orchestra.

After a professor went on sabbatical, Anderson was asked to fill in as a professor at Laurier last semester.

"It was really neat to kind of come full circle," said Anderson.

"I prefer playing though," she laughed.

Anderson notes her reaction to making it onto the list as a "surprise," but she explains that she is glad to see there is still appreciation for achievements in the arts.

### Dr. Quincy Almeida

**Occupation:** Associate Professor and Director of the Movement Disorders Research and Rehabilitation Centre at Laurier

Over the last few years, Almeida's research in the Kinesiology department has furthered knowledge on treatment for those with Parkinson's.

Developing the Laurier Movement Disorders Research and Rehabilitation Centre, Almeida studies brain function with regards to the disease and tries to develop rehabilitation methods that will help treat the disorder.

"We're also kind of the approval centre for Canada in terms of rehabilitation ... which means that we evaluate different sorts of programs."

Almeida explains that he finds it extremely humbling that he has been awarded with the honour, considering the amount of other promising individuals in the region.

"I can say I'm just honestly flattered to be on the list with some of these other people who are doing such great things."

### Deborah DeJong

**Occupation:** K.W. Counselling Services Director of Family & Community Solutions

DeJong completed her masters of social work at Laurier in 1992 before the Kitchener campus was built.

While she has travelled to a variety of places for work, including Walkerton and London, she was eager to return to the region because she hopes to one day return as a faculty member.

At counselling services, DeJong specializes in prevention, explaining that her job entails the cre-

ation of "educational programs to build strong families and strong communities."

DeJong is also an author and a TV host, using a variety of mediums to convey her main message: "the formation of good and healthy decisions."

### Mike Morrice

**Occupation:** Executive Director of Sustainable Waterloo

A former Laurier student of business and computing/computer science, Morrice has left a legacy both inside and outside of the university.

Having helped form the Campus Environmental Coalition (CEC) which recently succeeded in passing a referendum mandating the creation of an environmental sustainability office, Morrice went on to continue his work with the environment, creating an organization called Sustainability Waterloo.

The relatively new group is designed to work with local companies and organizations to create plans to help them reduce their carbon emissions.

"Our mission is really around facilitating collaboration between industry, local government, academia and other NGOs to unite organizations under the common goal of achieving more environmentally sustainable business operations."

Morrice noted his content with the actions being made at Laurier, especially by the CEC, stating "it's an incredibly exciting time."

### Angela Olano

**Occupation:** Marketing Manager at the Waterloo Regional Children's Museum

A Laurier graduate of communications and business, Olano explains that her experience at the university has been instrumental in her work.

"The business option gave me the background. But the communications degree helped round that out and appreciate the not-for-profit sector which is what I like."

Olano works at the children's museum promoting events; however, she also sits on the Kitchener Business Association which works to try and revitalize the Kitchener-downtown with new businesses.

"I live downtown and I work downtown so it's nice to be able to contribute to where I live."

Olano has worked with such projects as Jane Goodall's appearance at the museum, as well as the current Warhol exhibit.

### Greg Overholt

**Occupation:** Executive Director of Students Offering Support

A celebrity at Laurier, Overholt is a graduate of the business and computer science joint program.

Forming what has become a national charity called Students Offering Support (SOS), Overholt is now executive director of the organization which oversees operations at 11 universities as well as several high schools.

The five-year-old organization is designed to help students study for

their courses with two-hour-and-a-half sessions costing approximately \$15 each.

With the proceeds students involved get to go on a year-end trip to Belize to construct a school.

"It creates the last piece of the puzzle, the full circle of volunteerism."

Overholt explained that he spent his time doing his degree learning about creating a business.

"I wanted to really test and use the resources Laurier had to offer. I loved the school when I got there."

### Jessica West

**Occupation:** Manager of the Space Security Index project

After graduating with a gold medal in political science at Laurier, West went on to work within the space security program at Project Ploughshares.

"Space security is looking at the long-term security of outer space as an environment," stated West.

At her job, West often makes presentations to the United Nations and the U.S. Air Force Space Command.

Throughout her experiences, West has learned not to underestimate the not-for-profit sector as a source for work, stating "there are great opportunities in the not-for-profit sector particularly to pursue careers that combine interests in foreign affairs or security."

**Look to next Wednesday's issue to see more Laurier individuals on the "40 under 40" list featured.**



# New grad spaces funded at Laurier

JEREMY TREMBLAY  
NEWS EDITOR

The past week has been a good one for graduate studies at Wilfrid Laurier: both the federal and provincial governments have announced new funding for graduate students.

The Ontario government announced that it will fund 68 new graduate spots – 20 at the doctorate level and 48 at the master's level – beginning in 2009-2010.

According to Dean of Graduate Studies Joan Norris, these places can be in any of the about 40 graduate programs that Laurier offers. Funding for doctorate positions cannot be transferred to master's nor the other way around.

By 2011, Laurier is expected to have graduate enrollment of 117 full-time-equivalent doctorate students and 726 full-time-equivalent master's students.

"We'll have no trouble doing that," explains Norris, adding that those numbers will most likely be reached this fall.

New funding may also be available to Laurier students as part of \$17.5 million in new scholarships for "business-related degrees" from the federal government through the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC).

This funding has received a great deal of criticism nationally, with thousands of students and professors joining a Facebook group protesting the direction of funding and suggesting that Ottawa is trying to control the direction of research.

In response, Norris cautioned against the immediate protest of this new funding. "This allocation appears to be new money for graduate students and I would never object to that," she said, adding that targeted funding had been used before.

"If the government has in mind that, in this economy or, looking globally, that Canada could use a bit of a kick-start in the business and entrepreneurship end and that's what they have in mind in funding these students then we may see a lot of value added because of these additional scholarships."

Rosemary Springett, a scholarships and records officer in the Faculty of Graduate Studies, pointed out that eligibility requirements for this new funding have not yet been released.

She added that a special call for applications from faculty researching in the management area occurred in 2007.

A 2007-2008 SSHRC publication says the council will be focusing

on developing a strategy for funding business, management, and finance.

Both Norris and Springett suggested that a focus on disciplines outside of the arts may have contributed to some of the upset.

"The government has said they have a science and technology [focus]," Springett explained.

"All levels of government," Norris said, "have focused on the STEM disciplines ... science, technology, engineering and mathematics. There's a real focus on a knowledge economy and high-tech knowledge."

However, research funding outside of the Canada Graduate Scholarships is facing a rocky future.

SSHRC, the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council and Canadian Institutes of Health Research must cut their budgets by a total of \$148 million over the next three years.

*The Globe and Mail* reports that the Canadian Medical Association Journal, the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research and the French Canadian Association for the Advancement of Science are only a few of the groups complaining that cuts to federal research funding will have dire consequences to research and innovation in Canada.

## BAG O' CRIME

SUSPICIOUS PERSON  
Reported: Feb 23 @ 02:34

Special Constables attended the 24-Hour Lounge after a naked male had been reported in the female washrooms. On arrival the male, a WLU student, was spoken to and appeared to be suffering from a case of sleep deprivation, as he hadn't slept in a few days. He was coherent and co-operative with officers but kept falling asleep. He was conveyed home by officers.

STOLEN GOODS  
Reported: Feb 23

As a follow-up investigation into the suspicious person, it was discovered that stolen property had been dumped in the washroom at the Paul Martin Centre. The property belonged to the Athletics Complex and consisted of sliders for floor exercises, a headset and intercom and personal papers. A case for the intercom was found around the suspicious person's neck, but at the time it was believed it was his property. It had been removed by officers as a safety issue.

ASSIST CITIZEN  
Reported: Feb 24 @ 11:44

A special constable attended the Science Building as staff had received a letter that they were suspicious about. The package was

opened and contained a letter and application form for an animal defence society. It was destroyed.

PROPERTY DAMAGE  
Reported: Feb 28 @ 02:20

Two students were seen playing swords with two florescent light tubes. The lights were taken from the ceiling in the FNCC. The students ran off when approached. No identities known.

INTOXICATED PERSON  
Reported: March 1 @ 01:06

Special constables attended a residence at the request of Residence Life. A student was intoxicated and abusive and at one stage urinated on a special constable. As he was approached by the special constable, he fell and injured his face. He was arrested by the officer and Waterloo Regional Police were requested. Due to the police having an extremely busy night and their cells being full, the student was charged with by-law offences and released into the custody of a friend.

*If you have any information regarding these or any other incidents please call Community Safety & Security at 519-885-3333 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS. You can also report a crime electronically through the Community Safety & Security website. The Bag O' Crime is submitted by Community Safety and Security.*

# THE CORD WEEKLY IS HIRING!

*The Cord Weekly is hiring the following editorial board positions for the 2009-2010 academic year.*

## The following positions are available:

- News Editor (salaried)
- Lead Reporter
- Local and National Editor
- International Editor
- Opinion Editor
- Sports Editor
- In-Depth Editor
- Life Editor
- Features Writer
- Arts Editor
- Web Editor
- Graphics Editor

All positions outside of News Editor are honorarium based. Applications can be picked up from the WLUSP office in the basement of Macdonald House residence. Applications are due Thursday March 12 at noon. Please direct all questions to [lcarlson@cordweekly.com](mailto:lcarlson@cordweekly.com)





# Iranian-US relations

Dr. Ramin Jahanbegloo talked to *The Cord* about the international community's need for dialogue between the US government and Iran

MELISSA CUPOVIC  
CORD INTERNATIONAL

Last Friday, the Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI) hosted a lecture entitled "Iran's Challenge, the International Community and the New US Administration."

The lecture focused primarily on improving and establishing new relations between Iran and the US through dialogue. The possibility of such talks is the direct result of the recent change in US Administration.

According to Dr. Ramin Jahanbegloo, a Canadian-Iranian academic, the Bush administration halted dialogue between the two nations and only increased hostility, as it was arrogant and attempted to isolate Iran as much as possible.

The Obama administration, however, is marked by humility; it accepts that America has made mistakes and will try to correct them. This newfound humility, along with a proactive approach, brings hope of diplomacy and an improved relationship between the two countries.

The lecture couldn't have come at a better time, as reports have recently come to light about the capacity of Iran's nuclear agenda and have incited fear within the international community about the possibility of an Iranian nuclear bomb.

The Obama administration is now pressing for dialogue with Iran amidst international pressure to shut down the country's nuclear program. Although Iran claims that its nuclear program is exclusively peaceful, the international community fears that it may be used for military purposes.

According to the BBC, nearly two months ago President Barack Obama had made calls for "tough but direct diplomacy" and had given Iran the option of either accepting economic incentives to shut down its nuclear program or accept being faced with more severe sanctions. Iran has since deemed this ultimatum unacceptable.

According to a report issued by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) more than two weeks ago, Iran has enough nuclear material to construct a bomb. The BBC reported that since this information surfaced, Obama has made clear his intentions to engage in diplomacy with the Iranian government in order to ensure it does not assemble nuclear weaponry.

On Friday, Jahanbegloo stressed the importance of dialogue, as it enables both nations to resolve issues such as that of Iran's nuclear program, while realizing common interests such as stability in the Middle East. Iran and the US, for example, are both in favour of stability in Iraq and Afghanistan.

According to Jahanbegloo, Iran can play one of two roles in the current situation facing these two countries. It may take on the role of a constructive actor towards them or it may pose great difficulty to advancement in the region. He claimed that this is one of many reasons that the US should strive to engage in talks with the Iranian government. Iran has also placed a high priority on having a role in defeating Al Qaeda and the Taliban, whom they view as anti-Shia, making Iran an asset in America's plight against those organizations.

According to Jahanbegloo, one of the primary obstacles that Iran and the US must overcome in their efforts to engage in dialogue is their long and complex history, which has resulted in decades of mistrust and hostility.

This includes America's involvement in the coup of 1953 that brought down the democratically elected government of Prime Minister Muhammad Mossadeq and the 1979 hostage situation at a US embassy in Tehran, both of which are still present in the minds of Iranian and American citizens alike.

US allies, particularly Israel, are also concerned with the possible outcome of a dialogue between Iran and the US. "The Iranian government has never hidden its support for Hamas, especially its ideological support for Hamas and



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

**ISOLATED IRAN** - Jahanbegloo spoke of past hostility toward Iran.

the Palestinian cause," said Jahanbegloo. Although many analysts believe that talks between the two nations will result in Hamas' control over Palestine, Jahanbegloo argued that dialogue with the Iranian government "will push things forward towards the peace process in the Middle East because there is no way that we can talk about the Palestinian-Israeli peace process without taking into consideration Iran as one of the players in the game."

According to Jahanbegloo, a lack of dialogue may result in "the radi-

calization of politics in Iran," and in the strengthening of Iranian ties with Hamas and Hezbollah.

On the American front, Jahanbegloo claims, this will result primarily in "imposing sanctions on Iran or leaving Iranian markets to the hands of the Europeans and Russians."

A lack of dialogue will eventually lead to "postponing or retarding the peace process in the Middle East," said Jahanbegloo. Such an outcome is unfavourable to the international community as a whole.

## Depressing lecture on a failed society

MARA SILVESTRI  
STAFF WRITER

Associate Professor Dr. Gary Potter gave a public lecture last Wednesday at Kitchener City Hall called



YUSUF KIDWAI

**THE SKY IS FALLING** - Gary Potter, often referred to as "Professor Chicken Little," delivered a speculative lecture on a dystopian society.

"Dystopia." The professor of sociology painted a depressing picture for his audience with the discussion.

"Not all aspects of dystopia are violent," stated Potter, while discussing global warming, poverty,

diseases, terrorism, the financial crisis and the oil energy crisis.

Dystopia, the opposite of utopia, embodies ideas of a society in misery. Potter asserted the dystopia thesis, which he believes to be the dystopia of our future, emerging from conditions of the past and present.

Often referred to as "Professor Chicken Little" for holding on to what are perceived as outlandish beliefs, Potter believes that human beings are the cause of their own destruction.

In attempts to get the message across that action needs to be taken immediately, Potter related the world's current situation to the audience using a metaphor of an oil tanker sailing into the future, taking miles to stop, explaining that we need to be aware of the issues before it is too late.

"Problems will interact with aspects of themselves and other problems in positive feedback loops that will cause them to intensify," he said, when outlining the main causes of the dystopia thesis. He described the existing trends that will worsen. In terms of terrorism, he said, "Terrorism is not born in Islam; it is born in poverty." When

outlining poverty, Potter shared the statistic that there are 243 million child labourers in the world today, 173 of whom are working in hazardous conditions: for example, mines with no security. With the current dystopian path that he claimed we are on, he expects that those statistics will worsen.

Diseases are another cause, as Potter says that two million people die of malaria each year and he is predicting the return of the plague. When speaking of global warming, Potter explained that "the polar bear is a poster child for global warming," and the melting ice will cause them to drown.

"Fear itself is an aspect of dystopia," Potter said, since many of us seem to be unaware of what the future holds.

Why is it that Potter thinks the majority of us are missing these changes? He asserted that it is because our attitude inclines us to be too caught up in our 'everyday lives.

"Dystopian situations have a structural logic to them - individuals are virtually forced against their will to contribute to problems," said Potter. For example, he said, the trend to shop at Wal-Mart

or knowingly work at a company that contributes to the degradation of the environment in order to feed a family are contributions to our own dystopia.

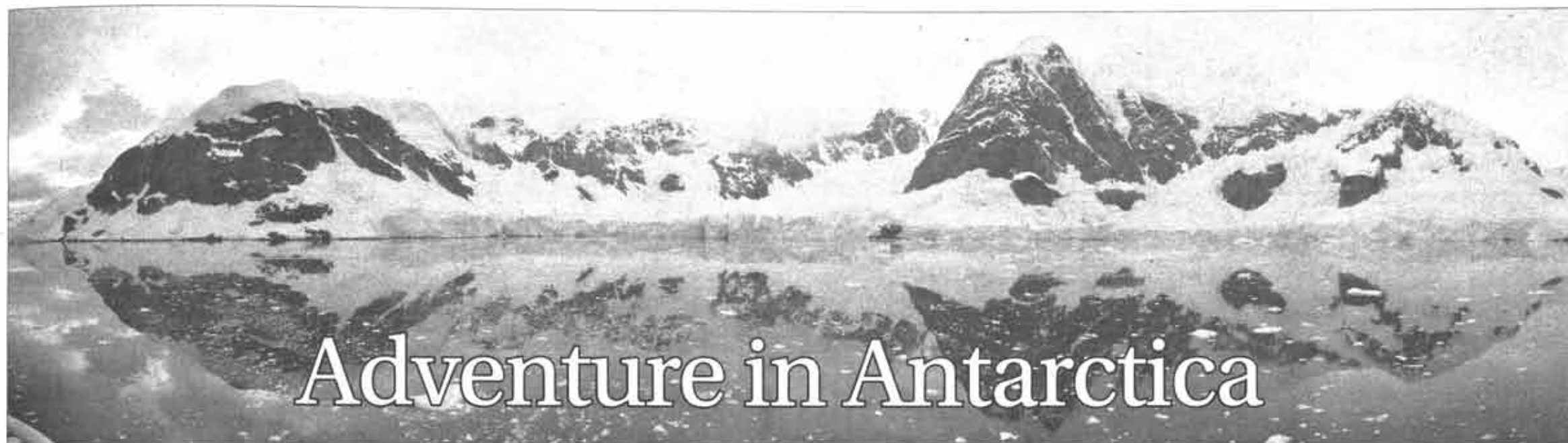
Referring to himself as a pessimist, Potter shared his belief that we are "planning for a future that will never come," as the "wiping out of society is a possibility."

This extremist point of view shocked many as Potter began to explain that a solution lies in radical systemic change. In order to do this, Potter provided the solution to "educate, agitate and organize" as a first step in the right direction. The solution Potter provided for the audience was to work together, as "collective problems require collective solutions," providing the example of a world Wal-Mart boycott.

Overall, the awareness that Potter brought to the audience concerning the topic was in hope that action is taken before the problems are too large to work with.

Potter ended the lecture by encouraging the audience to hold "optimism of the will and pessimism of the intellect," as the balance of the two will produce a deliberated and weighed form of thinking.





KEVIN TURNER

## Adventure in Antarctica

Laurier grad student Kevin Turner spent two weeks on the icy continent of Antarctica after focusing his study on water movement.

**HEATHER MACDONALD**  
INTERNATIONAL EDITOR

Kevin Turner, a Laurier graduate student in geography and environmental studies, returned to Kitchener last Friday from a two-week excursion to Antarctica. Turner's main focus of study was on hydrology and the movement of water in and around the Antarctic.

Turner, a graduate from Trent University in geography and biology, sat down with *The Cord* on Tuesday afternoon to discuss the trip he took with 70 professors and students. Among this group was Nick Betts – another Laurier Master's student, travellers from across Canada, the US and Japan and even a woman from India who had never seen snow before.

The group spent a day and a half flying to the southern tip of Argentina before travelling through the Drake Passage by boat toward their final destination: Antarctica. Turner described the ocean surrounding Antarctica as a swirling mass of water that is continually moving in the same direction as the Earth rotates. This surrounding area is seen as a "protective system for now." He reflected back, wondering out loud how the world can sustain the area.

"Only until recently have we been able to explore around [Ant-

arctica] and the only reason why it hasn't been completely explored is because it's so inhospitable," he said, explaining the effects of its shield of armour. Turner continued, "Right now it's protecting itself but ... we have to push to continue the protection; otherwise, it may go in a different direction and may be impacted negatively by people."

But it wasn't all serious research on the trip. On a visit to an old whaling harbour from the early 1900s, situated in the middle of an active volcano, the group took a quick swim in the freezing cold water. Turner displayed a series of photos of him running through the water in his bathing suit and then racing back to the warmth of the rocks on the shoreline, produced by geothermal energy from the volcano.

Turner also spoke in-depth about the wildlife, using photos to accompany his description of the aerodynamic penguins, petrel seabirds and enormous leopard seals in Antarctica, as well as the South American habitat of "fat and lazy" beavers. Before heading into the Drake Passage, which leads to Antarctica, the group went on a hike in Ushuaia, in the Argentinean province of Tierra del Fuego, where they came across a bunch of dead trees in a valley at the bottom of the Andes mountain range.

In the 1940s, 20 Canadian bea-

vers were introduced to the region to promote fur trade and, since then, "The beavers have multiplied to over 120,000 and have taken over valleys because there's no predators so they're just lazy, fat beavers and they're building these huge dams and drowning all these trees," said Turner.

Turner's favourite part of the trip was at Neko Bay. He said that after they docked their boat, he was able to sit out on the rocks, taking in the scenery. Turner witnessed what could only occur in an area so remote from what Laurier students typically see. He looked onto the glaciers sitting on the edge of the waterfront and watched masses of ice "fall into the ocean," creating a loud sound that he described as being similar to a thunderstorm.

"Meanwhile," said Turner, "[I had] all these Gentoo penguins hopping around [me], checking things out. But it was just a great time to sit there by myself and take it all in."

After absorbing his surroundings, Turner was able to look at an area that is in potential danger and create a positive message to bring back to Laurier students. He said, "This is a very important part of the world; it needs to be protected and we need to clean up our act in order to help."

Turner tries to live a sustainable

lifestyle by taking the bus to school, composting and using cloth diapers for his baby. He pays attention to the products he buys, favouring fair-trade goods. But if you're not used to such a "green" lifestyle, Turner said it's something that's "easy to adapt to," a lifestyle that

he views as something that comes naturally to him.

Among the various groups that Turner went with, his trip was completely funded by International Polar Year, a science and research program that focuses on the Arctic and Antarctic regions.



NICK LACHANCE

**ICE MAN** - WLU grad student talks about his recent trip to Antarctica.

## Food law in effect after scandals break

China's poor track record in food production led to death and illness, pushing the need for new laws

**ALANNA WALLACE**  
STAFF WRITER

China's track record with health and safety surrounding agriculture, food and production industries has been less than stellar, particularly this past year.

With milk scandals killing 13 children and leaving somewhere around 300,000 ill, and with tainted pork making 70 sick and causing many other health-related calamities, adjustments to laws surrounding food production were imperative.

In light of recent events, a law was enacted on Saturday by China's top legislative body that includes tougher penalties for the makers of products that are tainted, along with legislation regarding produc-

tion, the use of additives and quality-control measures for China's approximately 500,000 food processing firms.

Last week, 70 people became ill after eating pork contaminated with an illegal animal feed additive, as reported by China's state media. It is the most recent in a string of scandals involving food processing companies' lax safety and quality-control standards.

The new law will include stricter guidelines for food additives. This legislation comes in the wake of China's milk scandal, where milk from the dairy company Sanlu Group, tainted with the product melamine, made some 300,000 sick and killed 13 young children. Inclusion of the additives will not be allowed in any food products without

them first being proven safe.

The new law is years in the making, following scandal after scandal, some even including pet foods. The first draft of the law was proposed in December 2007. Repercussions for breaking the new law include suspension or cancellation of licences and punitive damages up to ten times the value of products implicated.

Much like the two people who were sentenced to death over the Sanlu dairy milk scandal, the law also claims that individuals and companies can be held liable for compensation including medical costs and could possibly face criminal charges should they not adhere to the laws.

A body for food regulation, a recall system, an outline for pun-

ishment and deterrence and a supervision system will hopefully lead to safer food production standards, according to the Chinese government.

Late last year, a report by the United Nations claimed China's original system of food safety was to split responsibility of regulation among different agencies, which it claimed resulted in uneven enforcement and confusion.

The stricter laws, which will attempt to protect China's growing population from tainted food, will come into effect June 1 of this year, with hopes that the people of China will have a revived optimism towards their food production companies and that the tragedies of the past will stop.

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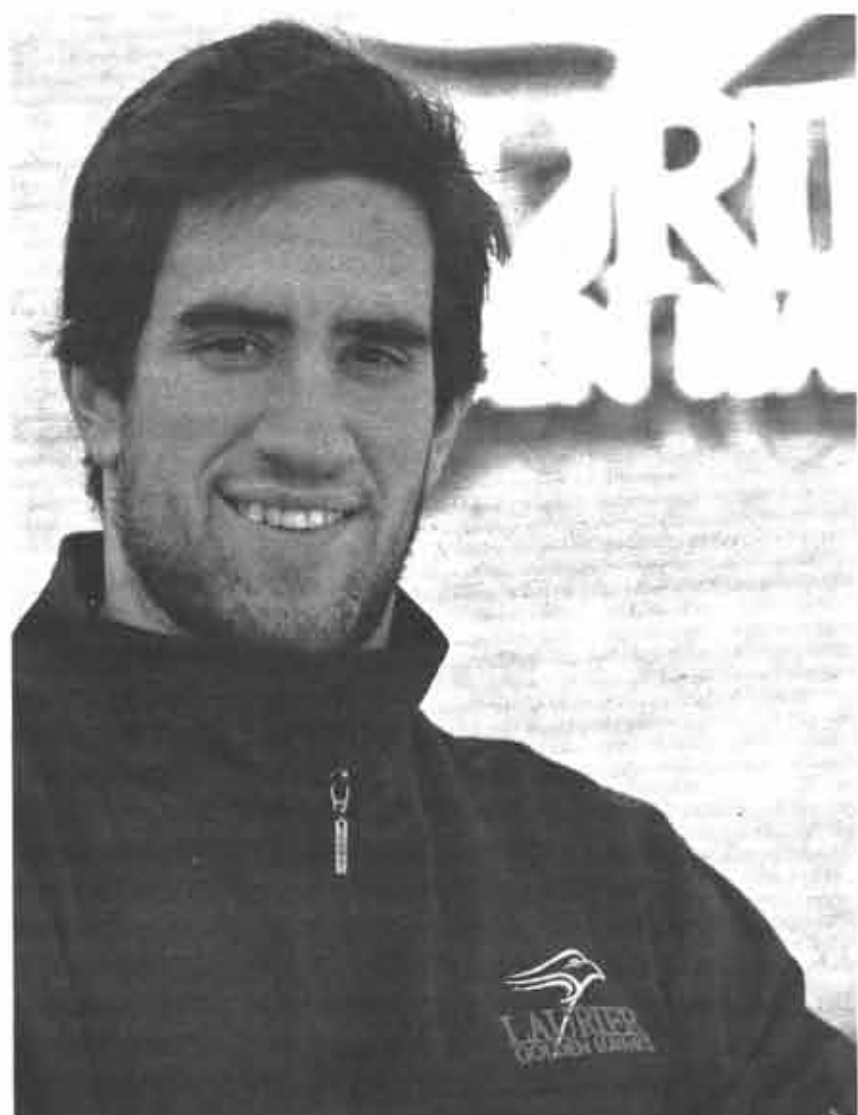


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## The Sportlight



**RIZKY BUSINESS** - Jean-Michel is having a stellar season at WLU.

YUSUF KIDWAI

# Jean-Michel Rizk

**JUSTIN FAUTEUX**  
STAFF WRITER

From the time he was six years old, it was clear that Jean-Michel Rizk was meant to play hockey. Growing up as a devout Canadiens fan, just outside of hockey-crazed Montreal in a town called Dunham, Québec, Rizk spent many a winter's day and night on the pond behind his family's house playing the game he loved.

Now, as a member of the Golden Hawks men's hockey team, 22-year-old Rizk has emerged as one of the OUA's top players. The second-year French major is having a terrific second season with the Hawks, leading the team in goals, with 25, and points, with 54, leading the OUA in both categories.

"Having six brothers, it was easy to get into it," said Rizk. "We played on the pond almost every day in the winter. I think I was about six when I first started skating, but I didn't start playing organized hockey until I was nine."

Rizk and his family moved to the northern-Ontario town of New Liskeard when he was in Grade 8. Living just across the Québec-Ontario border, the almost purely French-speaking Rizk was able to continue going to school exclusively in French.

It wasn't until the age of 16, when Rizk began playing in Michigan for the OHL's Saginaw Spirit, that he learned to regularly converse in English. Rizk would go on to play here, in Kitchener-Waterloo, with the Kitchener Rangers, before finishing his junior career with the Mississauga Ice Dogs, totalling 50 goals and 90 assists.

Last year, following the end of his OHL career, Rizk returned to KW, but this time to join the Hawks.

"I played two years in Kitchener, for the Rangers, and I just loved the area," Rizk said. "I spoke to Coach Nobes before I came here and I could see that it would be a great place for me. I really matured a lot as a player and a person when I came to university."

"In junior, the guys are a lot younger, so the coaches have to do a lot more babysitting. But, here in university, it really just keeps you busy. You get up every day for class and then we have practice in the afternoon, so you're always doing something."

After a tough adjustment year in Laurier's biology program last year, Rizk is now majoring in French, with a minor in biology. The bilingual Québec native plans on using his degree and ability to speak both English and French to get into teaching.

"Last year was pretty rough for me, just trying to adjust to things," said Rizk. "But this year I'm having a lot more fun, which I think is because I have a year under my belt; more experience that way."

Now a veritable superstar in the OUA, Rizk remains humble, staying thankful to all those around him who have helped him along the way.

"I'd say my parents," said Rizk, when asked to whom he attributes his success. "They sacrificed their lives for us, having eight kids, obviously it's a pretty hard thing to do. Also, all my brothers, I spent so much time on the ice with them, they definitely helped a lot. And of course, all the guys here, we've really got a great group."

# To fight or not to fight?

Two **Cord** sports writers examine the pros and cons of allowing fighting to continue to be a part of the game in the NHL



**TREVOR SCHIEDEL**  
STAFF WRITER

In professional sports, there is one common goal: win. Defeat the opponent. In order to do so, athletes will do whatever they can within the rules to help their team "get a W."

In football, players tackle, catch, run and throw to win. In basketball, players shoot, pass, block shots and rebound to win.

In hockey, players shoot, pass, check and fight to win. Wait, fight?

I know they shoot and pass the puck to score, and check the opposition to stop them from scoring.

But why do they fight? It doesn't help a team score or prevent goals. So what purpose does it serve?

"To gain momentum and energize players!" I often hear people argue.

Do these professional athletes really need to see some haymakers to get their blood pumping? Do they need to see blood on another man's face to get excited?

I thought a goal was a much better way to get the adrenaline going and the fans screaming.

Hockey is the only team sport where fighting is thought to be of great importance in the game. But the only argument for it is that it shows toughness and can spark a team.

Dollars are actually spent to sign players who have the willingness to fight.

For whatever reason, coaches and general

managers do put a certain value on fighting and do believe that it helps their teams.

But my point is this: players like Kevin Garnett don't throw punches to energize their teams or even twenty thousand fans, for that matter.

He plays with emotion, with his heart on his sleeve, and leaves everything on the floor every game. Everyone sees his passion, follows his lead and feeds off his energy.

Ray Lewis rouses his teammates through his motivational pep talks and inspirational play, not by getting into a scrap with an opposing player.

Everyone understands he is one of the toughest athletes ever to play in the NFL because of his style of play.

Then there is the issue of safety. Hockey is a physical game to begin with and injuries are inevitable throughout the course of a season. So why increase the likelihood of injury?

Serious injuries can occur from fighting especially when it primarily involves jabs and uppercuts to the face and head area.

Head injuries are some of the most frightening injuries an athlete can incur due to the potential for future ramifications. Just ask Eric Lindros.

In all team sports other than hockey, fighting is frowned upon. Players who take part in it are suspended for long periods of time and are fined.

In the NHL, however, the tradition of fighting lives on.

But it can definitely be argued that it has not and never will help a team reach the ultimate goal in sports: winning.



**TIEJA MACLAUGHLIN**  
STAFF WRITER

Dion Phaneuf, Georges Laraque, Riley Cote, Donald Brashear. What comes to mind with these names? I think of the biggest, meanest, most intimidating, most feared players in the National Hockey League.

They are the best enforcers the NHL has to offer - protecting, defending, and ensuring their team is taken care of.

Since the days of the Original Six, toughness has always prevailed as a defining characteristic of hockey. This is a basic principle and premise upon which the game is built - fighting is essentially what hockey is made of.

The raw passion that results in the bruises, scars, broken bones and missing teeth is what defines a hockey player, and if you couldn't handle it, you simply didn't play.

With the freak accidents that have recently occurred in the hockey world, fighting seems to have developed a less-than-positive rep, and movements have been initiated for its removal altogether.

But let's be serious, the NHL will *never* be able to completely ban fighting, nor do I think they should.

What about cheap shots, or even a clean check coming from a larger player to a smaller one? How do you determine who's at fault, and who do you penalize?

No matter what, some aspect of aggression will always be present. It comes with

the territory as part of sport and competition, and is rooted in the days of the Roman Empire.

The aggression gets us excited, even the biggest sceptic would agree. At the very least, it provides the fans with entertainment.

Take a look at the European hockey leagues - they've got players full of skill and speed, but they've never even come close to emulating the NHL.

They're missing the aggression and the passion: what some may call true "Canadian" style.

Every team has at least one enforcer. Without these players, injury would be far more commonplace than it is now, and it would be the innocent ones getting picked on.

The enforcer has an important role: to allow the all-stars to perform. They provoke penalty opportunities from the opposing team, and instill a fear in them that throws their game off - this is an absolutely necessary slot to have filled in the roster.

Steve Yzerman's Red Wings had Bob Probert, Crosby had Laraque last year and Godard this season, and Ovechkin has Brashear.

Wayne Gretzky had Dave Semenko and Marty McSorley; he even refused to be part of a trade deal without him. A key component of a team's chemistry lies within the enforcer.

Even top-scoring all-stars such as Gordie Howe, Mark Messier, Vincent Lecavalier, and Jarome Iginla have all had their fair share of toss-ups.

Fighting is what defines hockey, and if you take that away the game will be lost forever.



# Hawks win Lakehead series in three

JAMIE NEUGEBAUER  
STAFF WRITER

Revenge was sweet and complete as the Golden Hawks men's hockey team eliminated the Lakehead Thunderwolves from the OUA Quarter-Finals last Sunday. The Hawks took down the Thunder Bay-based squad in three epic, one-goal games, made all the more sweet because Lakehead had eliminated Laurier last season in the same stage of the post-season.

"We just had a few outstanding team efforts," commented Head Coach Kelly Nobes. "We got great goaltending from Jeff MacDougald all season and some great leadership from key guys."

The Hawks returned home from Thunder Bay faced with the necessity of winning two games in two days after dropping last Wednesday's game at Lakehead. The purple and gold, however, were unfazed by the task, winning 3-2 in overtime on Saturday, and 4-3 in regulation on Sunday.

In game two the Thunderwolves came out hard and were rewarded when forward Shandor Alphonso beautifully tipped in defender Drew Kivell's point shot at 14:31 in the first period.

"We turned over the puck a bit in the first part of the game," mentioned Hawks netminder MacDougald. "Later in the game we were better in establishing the fore-check after getting pucks in deep.

That's what we have to do to be successful."

The Hawks' perseverance paid off near the end of the second period when they potted two within one minute and six seconds. Defenceman Ryan Bernardi unleashed a wicked slap-shot from the point past the screened Thunderwolves goaltender, and then Jean-Michel Rizk, the Hawks' regular-season leading scorer, netted on an awe-inspiring solo effort shorthanded.

The Wolves tallied early in the third, courtesy of their leading scorer Brock McPherson on the two-man advantage, locking the game up at 2-2 - a score that would hold to the end of regulation.

It took second-year forward Craig Voakes less than thirty seconds to give the Hawks the win when he took a breakaway pass from Ryan Bellows, neatly putting the puck home.

"It felt really good," said Voakes. "Especially after the tough year I've had, coming up big for the team like this ... it means a lot."

Game three was just as much of a nail-biter as the teams exchanged goals back and forth over the course of the game.

Voakes continued his hot streak as the teams traded markers in the first. The winger scored two in the opening frame with former Calgary Flames draft-pick Chris Hogg scoring for Lakehead in between them.

The Wolves fired two goals home courtesy of McPherson and Ryan

Bair in the second while forward Mike Galbraith, in a mirror image of the first period, scored on a beautiful feed from fourth-year Luke Girard for the Hawks.

The game-winner came with just under seven minutes left in the final period when Hawks pivot Colin Williams jammed home a rebound off of a Philip Magistrale point-shot.

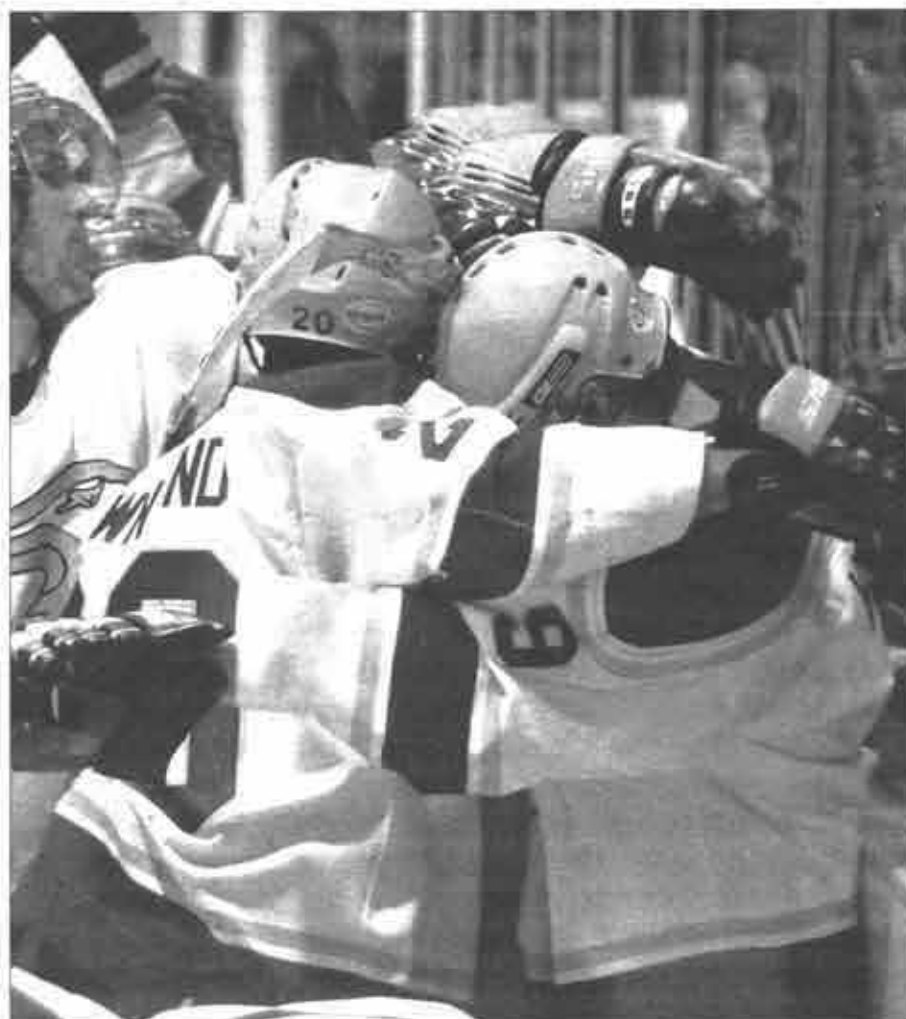
"It was a huge goal and it felt great to score it," said Williams. "I just noticed that [Lakehead's goalie] Whitely had been giving up big rebounds out in front of him and it just was luck to be in the right place at the right time."

With the series victory, the Hawks advance to the OUA Western Conference finals to face the Western Mustangs, who swept the

York Lions in their Conference Semi-Finals.

"Western is a good team and a fast team," said Nobes. "We will be working late tonight, tomorrow and Tuesday preparing for them. It should be a tough series."

The series opens this evening when the Mustangs visit the Waterloo Recreational Complex for game one.



GOLDEN GOAL - Craig Voakes celebrates his OT game winning goal.

## GOLDEN HAWK UPDATE

Week of  
March 2 - 8, 2009

### RECENT SCORES

03.01.09

M Hockey 4 - Lakehead 3

02.28.09

M Hockey 3 - Lakehead 2

02.25.09

M Hockey 3 - Lakehead 4

M Basketball 48 - McMaster 56

### UPCOMING HOME GAMES

03.04.09

OUA Semifinal

M Hockey vs Western

Sunlife Financial Arena, 8:00 p.m.

03.05.09

OUA Semifinal

W Hockey vs TBD

03.07.09

OUA Semifinal

W Hockey vs TBD

03.08.09

OUA Semifinal

W Hockey vs TBD

OUA Semifinal

M Hockey vs Western

Sunlife Financial Arena, 7:30 p.m.

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# Women win gold in China

LAUREN MILLET  
SPORTS EDITOR

Two members of the Golden Hawks women's hockey team returned home on Sunday from what was a once-in-a-lifetime experience: representing Canada at the Winter Universiade in China.

Forward Andrea Ironside and defender and WLU captain Andrea Bevan were both selected to play for Canada at the games.

"Representing Canada is always an honour and just being part of that team is always amazing," said Bevan.

Canada went undefeated throughout the games, taking the gold medal in a 3-1 win over China in the finals.

"I don't think we expected to go undefeated, but as soon as we got there and gelled as a team, everything kept going our way. It was unbelievable," said Bevan.

Since this was the first time women's hockey was included in the games, she added, the team didn't know what to expect from the competition.

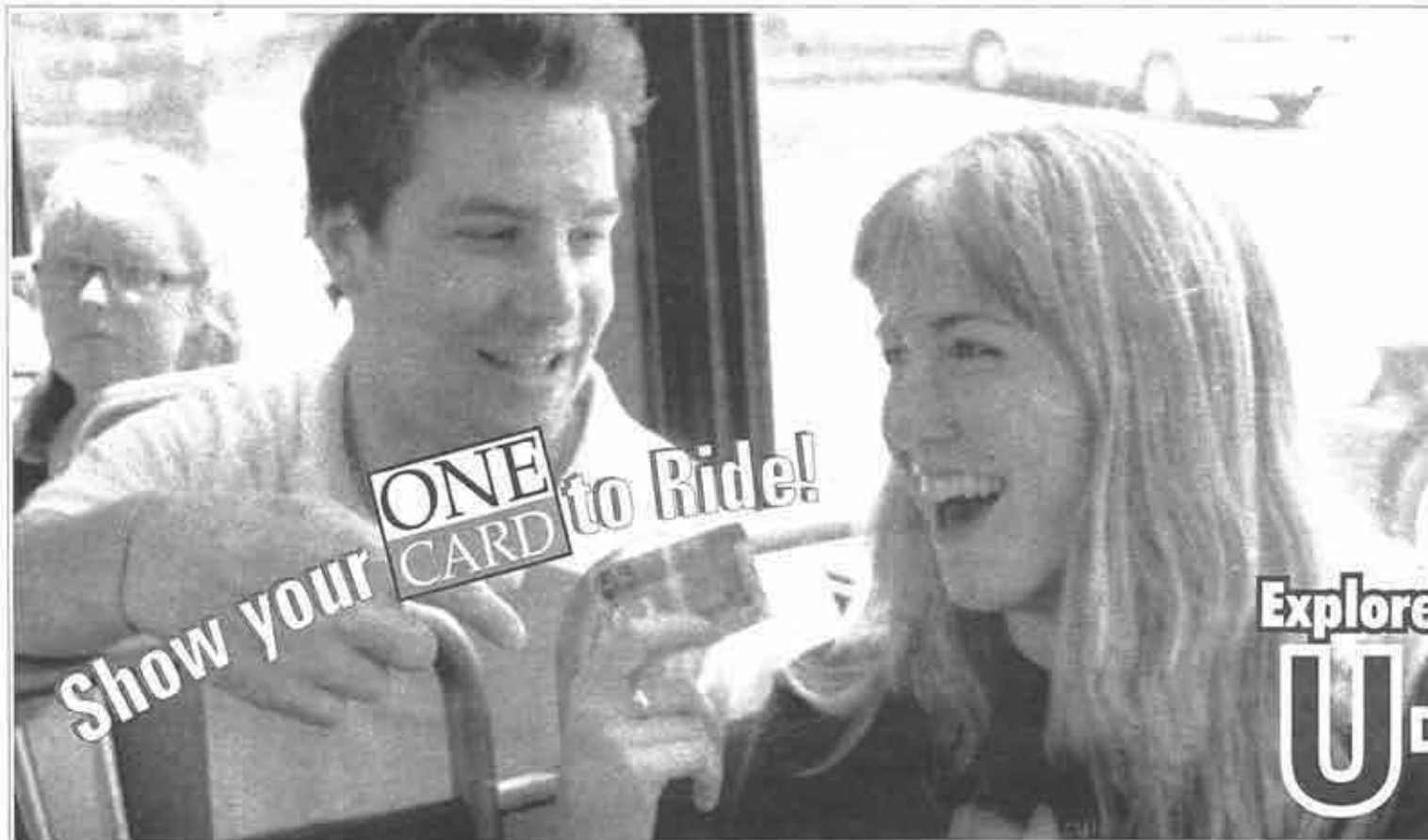
"Meeting all the players, and knowing that at the same time we have to play against them, puts them on a whole new level," commented Bevan about the experience with the other teams and the friends she made.

She said that international hock-

ey is a much faster game than the OUA, and having that experience under her belt, she will be able to bring back skills to help the Hawks improve their game.

The time spent in China is sure to be a trip that won't soon be forgotten by the girls. It taught Bevan to "never turn down opportunities or chances."

"It was the experience of a lifetime and I'm just glad I could be a part of it."



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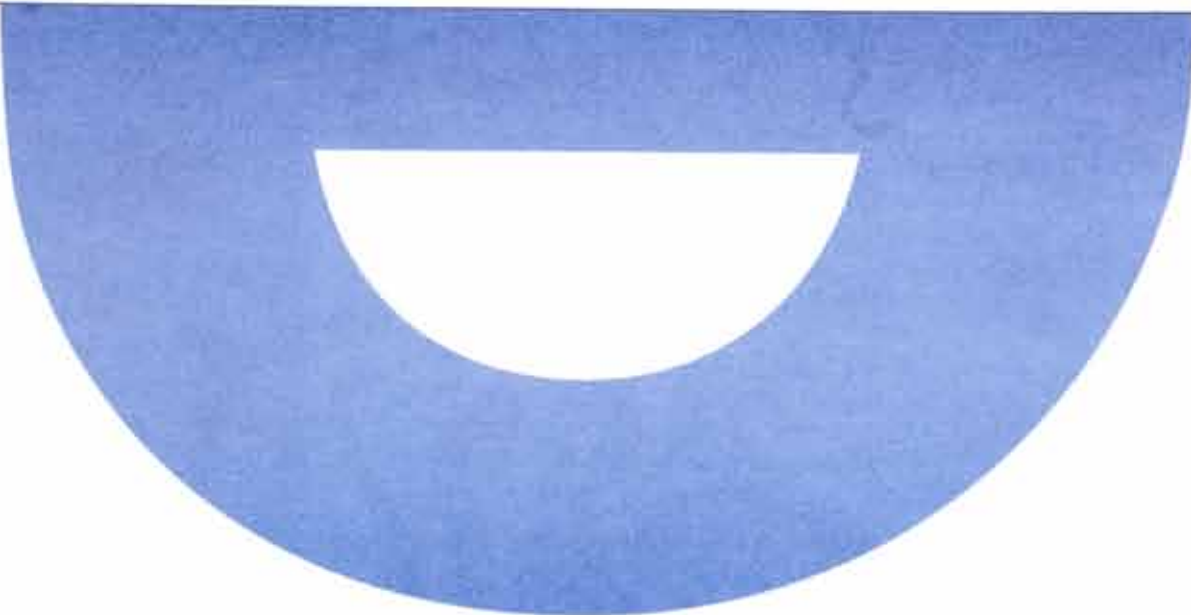
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Since women were first permitted to enroll at what was then Waterloo College in 1929, females have played an integral role in the history of the university. Yet, despite Laurier's current state as a predominantly female campus – three out of every five students identify as female – the female voice has been absent for much of the past 80 years.

In this three-part series, **Special Projects Editor Laura Carlson** identifies historical moments in our campus' past, pays tribute to women in leadership positions and addresses issues that are still of importance today. Gender barriers are still prevalent on campus, and the need for feminism has never been greater

1929

## Women first enroll



Louise Twietmeyer becomes the first female graduate in 1931.

In the academic year of 1929-30, women were permitted to attend WLU, then Waterloo College, and seven women became WLU's first female students.

*The Cord* reported that the final decision to go co-ed was unanimous by the board of governors, though there had previously been some objections based on finances. Additional costs were associated with allowing women into the school because they would have to hire an additional female faculty member and build a lounge for the girls.

Louise Twietmeyer became the first female graduate of the university in 1931, as she had been placed one year ahead of the others due to transfer credits she had previously obtained from Queen's University.

At the time there were only 55 students at the university, and women lived off-campus in a boarding house on Albert Street.

Upon arriving at WLU, Twietmeyer was appointed one of the assistant editors of *The Cord*. When she graduated in 1931, Twietmeyer had the fourth-highest average of the 197 general arts degrees granted to students at various Ontario colleges. There were only four other graduates in her Waterloo College BA class.

Twietmeyer went on to become the head of the French department of Waterloo College, where she taught for nine years before she married a faculty member and retired from the academic world to raise a family.

To read about the role of dean of women, which was also established in 1929, visit [cordweekly.com](http://cordweekly.com)



JULIE MARION

## 'Campus Queen' event



The popular campus beauty pageants ended after a 1970 protest. This photo was of the 1970 event.

The Laurier Campus Queen event, which was established in 1948 and became an integral part of campus life, came to an end in 1970 when Janiel Jolley, a student from UBC, organized a protest.

"I remember when she got up and made that speech," recalls Fred Nichols, dean of students. "She got up on the stage where all the queens were and they each had to say something about exploiting women for looks and bathing suits and beauty.... That actually ended Winter Carnival."

Previously, universities across the country elected female representatives, whom they crowned as Campus Queens. The women then competed in the pageant for the title of Campus Queen.

According to a 1948 issue of *The Cord*, the Queen was "a combination of all the essential qualities in a girl.... Beauty; Personality; Stability; and last but not least, School Spirit."

After the 1970 protest, Nichols recalls that they tried to continue the event, but others wouldn't send a queen. "It ended probably for the better," said Nichols.

"I've seen such a change," he said on the role of women at WLU. "We all got smarter, and it's so easy to see."

## A historic look at women in leadership positions

### Female student presidents

Beverly Ziegel (1955-56)  
Christine Pletch (1960-61)  
Lauren Marshall (1969-70)  
Karen Bird (1988-89)  
Christina Craft (1992-93)  
Laura Sheridan (elect)

### Female administrators

VP and Comptroller: Tamara Giesbrecht (1967-78)  
Chancellor: Maureen Forrester (1986-90)  
President: Lorna Marsden (1992-97)  
VP Academic: Sue Horton (2004-08) and Deb MacLatchy (2009-Present)

### Female deans

Music: Christine Mather (1975-79), Anne Hall (1989-94, 1995-99)  
Social Work: Jannah Hurn Mather (1994-00), Lesley Cooper (2006-Present)  
Dean of Science: Deb MacLatchy (2007-09)  
Dean of Business and Economics: Ginny Dybenko (2006-Present)  
Dean of Education: Colleen Willard-Halt (2008-Present)  
Dean of Graduate Studies: Adele Reinhartz (2002-2005), Joan Norris (2006-Present)





PHOTOS COURTESY OF ARCHIVED KEYSTONES AND LIBRARY ARCHIVES & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

**Christine Pletch**  
Stratford

Honours—English and French  
Activities: Students' Council—Executive,  
Keystone—Editor, Asst. Editor, Proof  
Reader, Chiaroscuro, P.&G., Pianist, I.  
V.C.F., Chapel Committee, Politics Club  
—Executive, Volleyball, Softball, English  
Club—Executive, French Club, The  
Writers' Club, Glee Club, W.U.S., Bowl-  
ing, Projectionist, Cord Weekly.

As the second female student president of what is now Wilfrid Laurier University, then Waterloo Lutheran University, Christine Pletch remembers the days when most women did not receive a formal post-secondary education.

"I was very, very fortunate to be going to WLU and there were not a lot of females at that time," said Pletch in a phone interview from her current home in Thornhill, Ontario.

When she graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in English and French in 1962, she was the only woman to receive an honours degree: the other 14 graduates were men.

"I always enjoyed learning and no one stopped that

aspect of it," she said.

Pletch recalls deciding to challenge herself with the leadership role of student president because it was suggested to her after discussing student issues with some of her peers at the female house residence.

A friend told Pletch to run, noting that she would likely be elected student vice president because the person with the second highest number of votes was granted that position.

"I said 'If I run, I will be running for president.'"

After a rigorous and tight campaign, Pletch came out on top, making her the second female student president.

Though Pletch recalls facing some adverse situations, such as being the only woman at student political events, she feels that many of the challenges she experienced are still prevalent.

"I mean, let's face it, we haven't come a long way, although we may think we have ... but I don't think [the challenges for women in the early 1960s] are that much different than today."

Pletch says that, above all, she and the other women on campus simply wanted a quality education, just like their male peers.

"We were there for a purpose and that was to learn."

1970  
at ends



as of the event in the 1960s.  
integral part of the annual Winter Car-  
protest of the beauty pageant.  
of students at the time.  
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they sent to WLU during Winter Car-  
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other universities refused to select or  
er, the whole world has gotten smarter

1989

Panty raids banned



Little House Residence's display from the 1986 panty raid; the event was banned three years later.

A longstanding tradition at WLU, the annual residence life panty raids came under public scrutiny in 1989, when Laurier received national media attention for the Frosh week event.

Cristina Craft, president of WLUSU in 1992-1993, was in her second year of university when the school officially banned the event, after complaints from the faculty of social work resulted in a public controversy.

Craft recalls that the actual rules surrounding the sanctioned event were quite organized and strict. Students were given the option of participating and they were encouraged to purchase fake underwear to hang on their door for their partner floor to easily access. "It wasn't like guys coming in your room in the middle of the night and stealing your real underwear," said Craft. "It was totally innocent and I'm somebody who would be really offended if it wasn't."

After stealing underwear from another floor, the students would make banners displaying the goods and hang them in the dining hall. Craft recalls that the language of the posters was quite offensive, which is likely what triggered some of the complaints about the event.

However, when the annual panty raids began receiving media attention, the university was put under public scrutiny and the event was officially banned in 1989.

"It was a joke, but it got very politicized," recalled Craft.

"Of course when you hear panty raid, you think 'oh my gosh it's ... offensive...' On the news it was a very highly political discussion, but as a student it kind of felt like they were making a lot of ado about something that, when there's real serious issues that happen to women, it demeans the stuff that really happens."

However, the end of this long-standing tradition resulted in the formation of a standing committee on gender relations, which eventually led to the creation of the WLU Women's Centre in 1990.

The self-selected group of women formed the centre and aimed to create a safe space on campus for women to address the university's unhealthy gender relations.

In future issues

**March 11 - Part Two** addresses challenges still affecting women today and looks at what campus groups are doing to combat gender issues

**March 18 - Part Three** profiles women in leadership positions at Laurier, including one nominated by readers. To nominate a woman for consideration visit [www.cordweekly.com](http://www.cordweekly.com)





PHOTOS BY LAURA TOMKINS

## Experiencing wine

Impressing your future employers can be more about your social skills than any degree, and having a good understanding of wine can go a long way. Identifying wines and enjoying them has never been easier, thanks to Billy Munnelly's wine characters

**MICHELLE CALDARONI**  
STUDENT LIFE EDITOR

"It's not about the wine, it's about your experience of the wine," said Billy Munnelly, author of Billy's Best Bottles, now in its 19<sup>th</sup> edition.

As keynote speaker at the Backpack 2 Briefcase seminar Wine Tasting and Etiquette 101, put on by the Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Thursday, Munnelly explored the intricacies of enjoying wine in a way that appealed to students.

Likening wine to types of people, Munnelly used the examples of "Rock Stars," "Hollywoods," and "the Nicers" to ease participating students into thinking about the personalities of different wines.

According to Munnelly, Rock Star wines are refreshing, tart and jolting, and pair well with antipastos and goat cheese. Usually drunk before a meal to kick-start the taste buds, these wines are interesting

and are a point of conversation. "This type of wine makes a lot of noise, and it has to refresh you," said Munnelly.

Hollywoods are rich, smooth and sweet, are impressive upon tasting and pair well with lobster. Because of the luscious, sweet taste of Hollywoods, they should be reserved for after-dinner tasting because, while dry wine makes you hungry, sweet wine makes you full – which isn't conducive to eating a meal.

The Nicers are a median that please most people and are easy to drink. According to Munnelly, these wines are often served with egg dishes and white meat, over conversations and at weddings. "Nicer wine, you should always have in your fridge for when someone drops by," he said, referring to non-oaked chardonnay and pinot grigio.

Kato Wake, a veteran of the hospitality industry, conducted the etiquette portion of the seminar dur-

ing which students learned that it's a good thing to have two glasses of wine at the same time, to compare and contrast each one. This allows the individual flavours to come out, and ignites the memory. According to Wake, "Flavour is in your memory, not on your tongue."

While the seminar taught a lot about tasting for personal use, Alumni Relations Officer Theresa Smiley explained the importance of this event in the business world.

"I think it's valuable because a

lot of times as part of their recruitment process, employers will invite potential employees to cocktail receptions and things like that and if you show up and don't know what you're doing, or you're just not sure of the finer intricacies of the etiquette, it could potentially cost you the job," she said.

In addition to impressing future employees, knowing your wines gives you a sophistication that is useful in other ways as well. "It makes you look more confident

... even once you've landed the job, you're going to be interacting with clients or interacting with colleagues.

"[Because of this seminar] you're able to do that in a professional manner," continued Smiley.

As a sold-out returning seminar in the Backpack 2 Briefcase series, this refreshing and informative wine-tasting and etiquette event is sure to be back next year with more great information for Laurier students.

### WINE ETIQUETTE

- Only fill the glass to the widest part of the bowl.
- If the waiter presents the cork, you should read it to check for authenticity.

- Red wine should be served at 20 degrees Celsius (68 degrees Fahrenheit).

- Always hold the glass by the stem.
- Chill wine quickly by putting it in a bucket full of ice and water.

## Taking the best stance in interviews

Acknowledge that you have nerves, prepare questions and know that this will not be the last job you interview for during your career

**LINDA GIVETASH**  
STAFF WRITER

If you are dreading the string of interviews involved in finding summer or permanent employment, there are many ways to better prepare yourself for them.

Consulting Stance, an American-based company, offers interview workshops to help you get the job you want.

Consulting Stance offers online "webinars" regularly, every Thursday between 10 and 11:30 a.m. For

a fee of \$20, you will gain access to the 90-minute workshop.

In registering you will also gain access to a workbook and other online materials to help practice.

The online tools are divided into three parts, focusing on resumé writing, common interview questions and a personal pitch development kit.

Their workshops aim to help you better understand job descriptions, answer tough interview questions and know what questions to ask to send the message to the interviewer

that you are interested in the job.

The most common problem Consulting Stance sees in young graduates is that many are being too specific in what job they want to do.

"The most important thing in getting your second job is that you had your first job," explained Casey Connor, co-founder of Consulting Stance.

Connor reminds graduates that their first job out of school will often not be what they dream for their career and will be for less pay than what they hoped.

However, it is the experience and connections made in your first job that will take you where you had originally planned.

But before getting the job, you have to succeed at the interview.

The most common interview question isn't even a question, according to Connor. "Tell me about yourself," or a variant of the phrase, is asked at every interview.

Having a strong and articulate personal pitch will ensure you can answer that question.

Walking into the interview, remember that you're there not only to be questioned, but to learn about the job. Do plenty of research ahead of time about the company and contact any possible alumni that are already working there.

Have questions about the job ready for the interview to show that you're serious and interested in the position.

As for dealing with those pre-interview nerves, "Acknowledge that you're going to have nerves and just

let it go." But being well-prepared and having the right attitude will help get past the emotions, according to Connor.

If you're not sure you're ready to spend \$20 for a full workshop, you can visit Consulting Stance's new website [www.extraordinaryinterviews.com](http://www.extraordinaryinterviews.com).

Launched on March 1, the website offers a variety of free tools to help you write a resumé, network and prepare for interviews.

Career Services at Laurier also provides many workshops to help you find the job you want. Their next Interview Success workshop will be held on March 11 at 5:30. For a list of further events, check out their calendar of events at [www.lauriercc.ca/career/](http://www.lauriercc.ca/career/).



# Getting there: Medical Writing

In a new series on career paths, writer **Heather Gies** examines the academic and professional avenues to becoming a medical writer

**HEATHER GIES**  
CORD STUDENT LIFE

The arts and science faculties at Laurier appear quite clearly divided, yet the profession of medical writing suggests there is an opportunity for increased unity between the two.

Medical writing encompasses various tasks related to medical and health documentation. Competence with scientific information, as well as an aptitude for conveying ideas clearly, which is often acquired through an arts discipline, are both essential.

Katherine St. Louis of Laurier Career Services notes that in careers such as medical writing, proficiency in written communication is crucial. "Whether you gain strong writing skills through academic coursework," noted St. Louis, "or through volunteer [or] work experience, being able to communicate in a written form will help you to be successful in this field."

St. Louis also stressed the need for science, medical and health knowledge or experience to be competitive as a medical writer.

"Interpersonal skills are another key to success," said St. Louis. Although medical writing involves considerable independent work, with the potential need to discuss topics with experts before writing, "having the ability to communicate effectively with others will help you to be successful," according to St. Louis.

Sharon Nancekivell, who has

considerable experience in the field of medical writing, though her current focus is predominantly in medical editing, states that the profession "can be all kinds of things."

Possible projects, according to Nancekivell, could include helping to conduct clinical studies or producing reports for which someone else has completed the research.

"Writing papers often commissioned by pharmaceutical companies [and drafting] patient education and consumer health materials done for all kinds of agencies from non-profit to pharmaceutical" is also typical, Nancekivell explained.

Nancekivell noted that although many pharmaceutical companies and other institutions may hire internal staff for such documentation, it is also common to be a freelance medical writer.

In terms of education requirements, Nancekivell clarified that there are various avenues to pursue that could lead to a career in medical writing. She notes that from her personal encounters with other medical writers, she has found that background experience is incredibly varied.

"It's about 50-50 people coming from the humanities and from the sciences," said Nancekivell. "If you come from an arts [and] journalism background, you really need to brush up on the science."

Nancekivell herself began her education in the sciences, but she completed a Master's degree in English and started a doctorate in the same discipline. She taught

writing for sciences at the University of Guelph, before securing a position at Sick Kids Hospital where she became versed in medical editing.

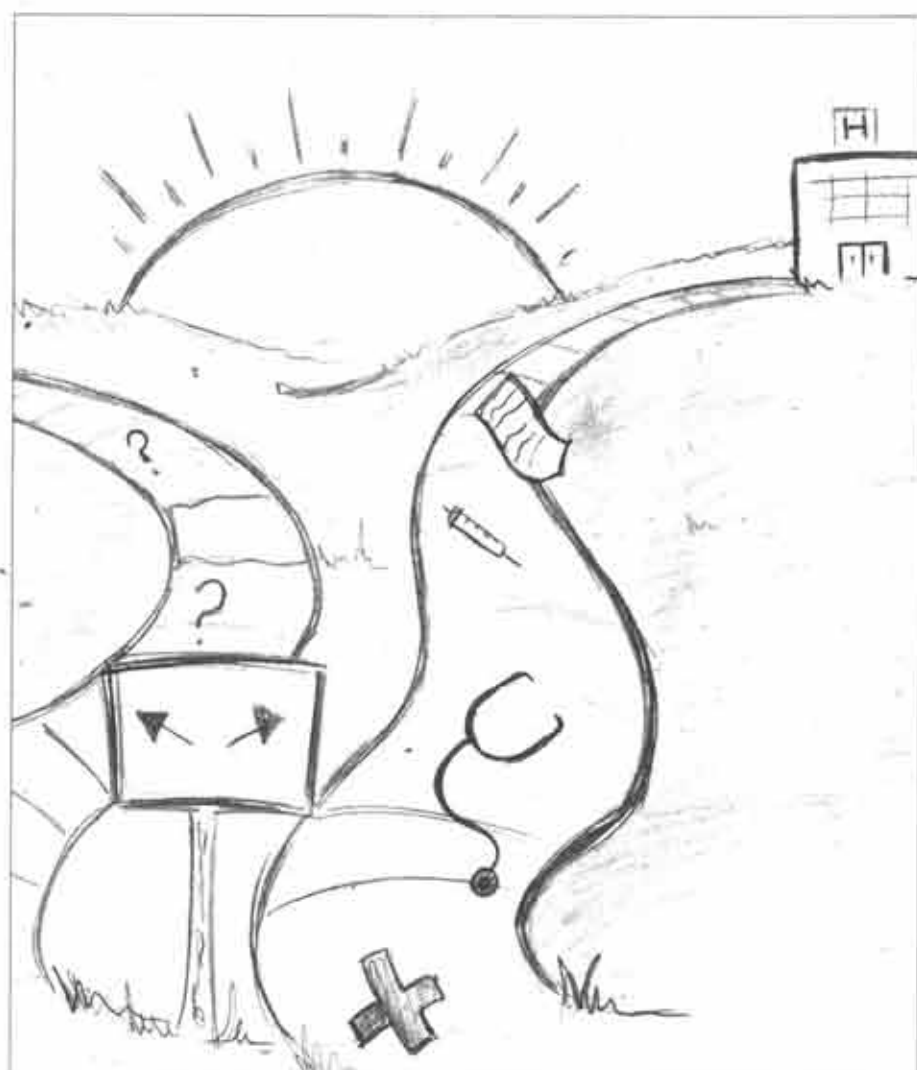
"Like many other people," said Nancekivell, "I learned it on the job." Her work currently includes contributions to some Canadian medical journals and she also gives workshops on how to write for publications.

Nancekivell explained that her English background has given her the ability to rhetorically analyze, and although she may lack some of the specific knowledge of her science-educated colleagues, "Asking intelligent questions and not pretending to be an expert" has helped her to be successful.

There are also academic routes to becoming a medical writer. The University of Philadelphia offers a Master's program in medical writing, and there is a very highly regarded certificate program through the University of Chicago. Some Canadian colleges also may have a stream devoted to medical writing within their technical writing programs.

However, medical writing is a career that is often not predetermined but decided upon en route.

Medical writers are well-rounded in terms of having both communicative and scientific knowledge, and this also means that a wide range of academic backgrounds



GRAPHIC BY JULIE MARION

**OFF THE BEATEN PATH** - There are different paths to follow when achieving professional goals. Choosing one can be the difficult task.

and job experiences are welcome in the field.

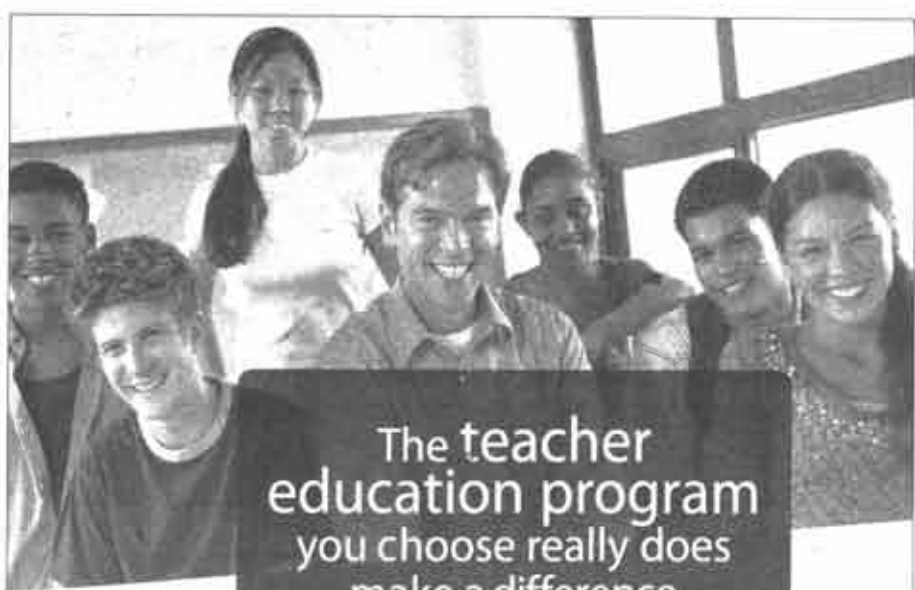
Medical writing allows for acquisition of various necessary skills through whichever means most suits the individual.

"If you really want to break into [the medical writing field]," said Nancekivell, "you need to do something to prove yourself." Classes and workshops, such as those offered through the American Medical Writers Association, can be

helpful.

However, it is also important to get some practice, whether it is with work experience such as copy editing, writing, proof-reading or volunteering. Many employers will request examples of your work, and therefore it's helpful, said Nancekivell, "to build up a portfolio."

Medical writing and all its possibilities serve as a reminder that the lines can, in fact, be blurred, even between arts and sciences.



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Applications and job descriptions are available for pick-up from the WLUSP office located in the basement of Macdonald House.

Applications will be due on Thursday, March 19<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 noon.

Hiring will be held on Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> and Monday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Any questions should be directed to Bryn Ossington at:  
[bryn.ossington@wlusp.com](mailto:bryn.ossington@wlusp.com)



## Women's week vital

The struggle for gender equality in our society is an ongoing one and we must realize that it is far from over.

As university students, it is of utmost importance that we take this week to think about our society from the perspective of women and the challenges they face.

At Laurier, it can often be far too easy to forget that the problems women face are still prevalent in society. With a student body that is sixty percent women, International Women's Week should remind us that a numerical advantage alone does not create a majority.

From sexist jokes to gendered violence to the unfair belief that WLU produces a stereotypical "Laurier girl," it is clear that gender issues still exist and, as university students, we are not above them.

Furthermore, at a school where few of our programs are distinctly male-dominated, we can often forget about the gendered division of labour that is still prevalent in the workforce.

With International Women's Week in our midst, it is important that we continue to examine the various areas of our culture that are still subject to gender biases.

Laurier, like most universities,

has had a rich history of challenges and progressions for women, including the creation of our Women's Centre in 1990.

Remembering this history is necessary; it allows us to understand how women's issues have been carried into the present and give us a context with which to overcome them.

An important part of overcoming these issues is the project of creating more roles of authority and leadership for women. As this year's theme for International Women's Week is leadership, we must learn from the lessons of female leaders and at the same time work towards a framework that encourages equal opportunities.

The most important thing to remember this week is that women's issues are not just women's problems – they affect everyone. We must also realize that it is not just men that oppress women; many women do their part to reinforce gender stereotypes as well.

International Women's Week is something that everyone should participate in, regardless of gender, in order to improve the quality of life for everyone affected by gender inequality.

## Integrity means engagement

It is a good thing that the university is making efforts to reduce academic misconduct in classes as a way to ensure the academic integrity of WLU.

However, this does not mean that eliminating misconduct will solve every problem.

Integrity should be seen as more than just complying to rules – it is also about genuine effort. Most students who have never cheated have likely still compromised academic integrity at least once.

When a student skips every lecture and then crams at the last minute for an exam only to forget the material the next day, there is certainly a degree of integrity lacking.

The onus to maintain academic integrity does not fall solely on students, however. If a professor uses the same PowerPoint slides for a whole decade, this too is problematic.

Professors should create courses that not only contain clear and reasonable requirements, but also challenge their students in new and innovative ways. Likewise, students should be expected to learn rather than just attain marks.

There are many students at university who wish to simply buy a degree, willing to cut corners wherever they can as long as they receive a passing grade. Perhaps more troubling is that enough professors are willing to facilitate this.

Both students and professors should start recognizing academic integrity as the process of gaining worthwhile, meaningful education from classes – not cheating is only one facet of this.

*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 WLUSP.*

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GRAPHIC BY MATT ENGLISH

## The symptoms of ignorance

Self-interested and oblivious actions of students are too widespread



KARI PRITCHARD  
FEATURES EDITOR

Recently, an epidemic has hit our university. The epidemic is spreading quickly, affecting other schools if it hasn't sprouted up already. University students are prone to this outbreak, but community members should be on the lookout as well.

Luckily, the epidemic can be spotted early and treated almost immediately, depending on the willingness of the patient. You might be at risk if you find yourself experiencing some or all of the following symptoms.

Laurier's campus is an area you may be at risk but where you may also successfully stop and stunt symptoms.

For example, simply using an elevator may expose you. You approach the elevator, no matter what time of day or night and move inside as the doors open. You get inside and push the button for the second floor. For some absurd reason, you just cannot climb those two flights of stairs, and so opt to ride in the elevator for ten seconds instead.

When you arrive at class or even an exam, you finish a phone call or text and decide, despite all warnings from professors and

heck, even some common sense, you don't turn off your phone or just put it on vibrate.

In the middle of the lecture or test your favourite ringtone or the lovely "bzzz bzzz" of your vibrating cell phone sounds out, disrupting everyone. Sometimes, if you're lucky, you still won't turn it off, spoiling your peers with a second rendition.

Beware: you must also be on your toes in public spaces, as this epidemic is quickly spreading beyond the university setting, putting many others at risk. Look for these signs to help your odds in protecting yourself.

As you walk down the sidewalk with a friend, you claim it all to yourself. As you approach a person, young or old, walking in the opposite direction, you do not move to give them room to comfortably pass. Instead, you drive them off the sidewalk onto the snow, grass, mud etc., without even consciously realizing because you're too caught up with your own problems to notice or care.

As you continue on your walk, you may be privy to other indicators of this harmful epidemic. As you chat with your friend or partake in a conversation on your cell phone, you constantly refer to inanimate objects as "gay."

When you're not happy with something, instead of using proper English, you become over-

whelmed and instead blurt out "that's so retarded!", disregarding the actual connotation of the word.

Public transit is not safe from the risk of symptoms either. As you get on the bus to go to the mall, grocery store, school etc., you sit on the outside of a seat designed for two people.

Whether you're frightened of the general public or your heavy bag needs its own seat, when the bus starts to get crowded, people are left standing. As others are trying to keep their balance, you still don't give up your extra seat.

Any combination of these symptoms leads to one likely diagnosis: ignorance.

I've only included some of the symptoms of this epidemic, but ignorance is never hard to come by at our university. When students are narrow-minded and only have their own best interests at heart, they become seduced by the epidemic of ignorance, affecting others, but more importantly, themselves.

If you start to notice symptoms, use your common sense. Or better yet, use the wisdom derived from attending university, a place of learning and knowledge.

Surely at an institution of higher learning, we shouldn't be inclined to stoop to such an ignorant low.

letters@cordweekly.com



# WLU would benefit from farming shares

CSA shares, which deliver seasonal fresh produce right to your door, are a great way to help local farmers and the environment



JONATHAN RIVARD  
FROM THE SOAPBOX

I've seen the word "fresh" used quite often in Laurier's dining halls, but considering the distance most of our imported food travels and the heavy use of pesticides, I wonder how accurate this descriptor is.

I would love to see Laurier introduce more organic and locally grown food options on campus. Currently, students have no choice but to eat genetically modified, pesticide-filled fare. A switch to include some local, organic choices is a simple enough request.

One cost-efficient and sustainable solution would be for Laurier to offer CSA shares to students.

CSA, or community-supported agriculture, is a system of food distribution between a group of individuals and a local farm. In essence, people purchase a share of the farm and in return they receive fresh, organic fruits and vegetables every week.

The cost is minimal – as much as or less than the cost of produce from the grocery store – and is often delivered free of charge. In addition to the low price, there are substantial environmental and health benefits to eating local organic produce.

Instead of purchasing over-ripe

vegetables that spent 4,000 km on a truck, CSA members receive produce picked only a few kilometres away from their doors – a choice both the environment and their taste buds will thank them for.

As well, CSA crops are usually free from genetic modification and pesticide, which lessens the negative impact on the earth and the body. Although the effects of genetically modified produce on the human body are currently unclear, the long-term consumption of pesticide-treated products can lead to cancer, birth defects or death.

In regards to physical fitness, a weekly commitment to purchase fresh veggies is a commitment to health. Weight-gain during academic residence is partially a result of our food choices on campus.

It's easy to pick up fast food instead of taking the time out to shop for groceries, and a weekly delivery of produce would keep students eating well most of the time.

As well, Laurier's investment in community-supported agriculture would provide much-needed support to the farmers in Waterloo region. The one aspect I love most about WLU is the sense of community it fosters, and this agricultural support would be a continued step in the right direction.

Laurier could easily offer a CSA share as part of their OneCard meal plans, or use local organic produce in its primary restaurants: namely



LAIURA TOMKINS

**CAMPUS FRUIT FARE** - The produce available on campus isn't nearly as fresh as local produce would be.

the Fresh Food Company, Waterloo College Hall residence café and the King Street residence café.

Eating locally connects us to the growing season and the land itself. While the winter mostly offers potatoes, cauliflower, carrots,

yams, onions, garlic and cabbage, the spring, summer and fall yield nearly every imaginable fruit and vegetable in abundance.

Knowing only a global market of food distribution, we have no concept of seasonal farming or the vari-

ety that Ontario farms offer. I think it would do Laurier and its students a world of good to acquaint themselves with the greater community of Waterloo Region.

letters@cordweekly.com

## The Conservative party's inevitable downfall

Michael Kocheff tells us why Harper's Conservatives are on the verge of falling apart



MICHAEL KOCHIEFF  
THE EVERYMAN

Despite the strong shows on television, the Conservatives are in trouble. Personally, I'm not predisposed to either major party.

I must say, however, that something is wrong with this loose amalgam of individuals who refer to themselves as the Conservative Party of Canada.

They've managed to win my support in the past two elections. Each time, however, I've grown more reluctant. Something is off; Canadians can sense it and I think the party base is starting to sense it too.

The following are the reasons why I don't think the Conservatives will be on the next ballot; even if they don't split into two or three parties, they aren't going to be winning any elections.

One of the few things keeping this party together is the moderating influence of Stephen Harper. I can hear gasping now: Stephen Harper a moderate? Please allow

me a second to explain myself.

Within the Conservative party you have holdovers from the Progressive Conservatives and Canadian Alliance.

It is an odd mix of evangelicals, Sunday Christians and those who have a vague interest in family values or some other supposedly conservative values.

Harper has kept these factions, all members of his party, that is, pretty quiet over the past few years. Cracks are appearing in the foundation, though.

This past week Harper, and his cabinet to some extent, was scrambling, emphasizing the need to be tough on criminals, showing off pictures of Canadian fighter jets escorting Russian bombers out of our airspace and once again aggressively challenging the Liberals to vote down his government.

This isn't righteous fury, it is dishonest blabber. Sincerity has vacated the Conservative party.

Harper is trying his best, after weeks of rather Liberal policy-making, to shore up the hard-line Conservative base.

He knows that the giant \$20 billion stimulus package was a sell-

out to Conservative values. So he is clinging to what Conservative policies remain.

The constant vacillation is starting to look foolish. Canadians are letting him know their feelings, too. Harper's leadership numbers have been on a steady decline.

The Conservatives have tried emphasizing the fact that they do have strong cabinet. Neither the media nor the public believed them.

For good reason, too; this party has been advertised as a one-man show.

Now they're telling us it just isn't that way. Don't buy the logic. This party is the party of Stephen Harper. He is the metaphorical dam, holding back the floodwaters.

Perspective is completely lacking in the Conservative Party. Over the past few months Canadians have found themselves unable to comprehend or connect with Ottawa.

Of course the Conservatives will try to tempt the new Liberal leader Michael Ignatieff. They'll bash his personality and hope he returns the favour, never mind policy discussion.

A foolish mistake, given that Conservative policies are not inherently bad policies. Michael Ignatieff is no fool, though. He has in his possession what Harper pines for; a fresh start.

He wasn't front and centre dur-

ing the most recent conflict, and his cabinet, unlike Harper's, appears to be strong. His leadership numbers, also unlike Harper's, are on the rise.

The Conservatives have yet to face a strong opposition; Paul Mar-

tin and Stéphane Dion, for different reasons, both came across as weak.

This is no longer the case. And in the words of Bob Rae, "The bright red trophy is on its way."

letters@cordweekly.com

## Letters to the Editor

### Thanks for cancelling Rewind WLUSU

Once again, WLUSU has decided not to do their job and represent the students; they've now "put Retro Rewind on hold" for an undisclosed period of time. Thanks. Thanks a TON. First it was the Radio Laurier stupidity, now one of the BEST things about the Turret is no longer available. I mean, it was bad enough that they started charging cover and made it a 19+ area. Way to be inclusive, WLUSU. Apparently they're going to initiate a "strategic planning process" to "determine what students in 2009 are seeking, and how they define fun." I can tell you right now, Retro Rewind was the most fun I've had in a WLUSU run event here at Laurier. Seriously, get a clue. Understand that you need

to represent our needs, not your own; put the students before the business. Ever wonder why voting is down for WLUSU positions? It's because you suck at your job. And our voices are NOT being heard. Just bring Retro Rewind back... and while you're at it, do something constructive about Radio Laurier. Thanks. But I won't get my hopes up.

- Gina Macdonald

### Letters Policy:

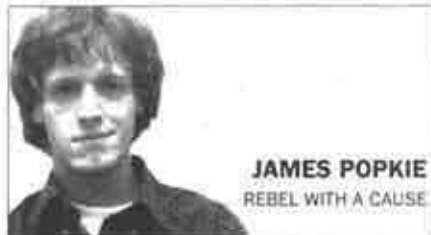
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# Student fees should address education

Academics should be the last place the school looks to make its cuts



**JAMES POPKIE**  
REBEL WITH A CAUSE

Laurier seriously needs to get its priorities straightened out.

Laurier President Max Blouw recently stated in a press release that, within the next three years, the university needs to cut its budget by 16 percent.

With cuts being made, expensive special interest projects like maintaining Laurier's pool shouldn't even be on the table, especially when a myriad of academic positions and programs are potentially on the chopping block.

No one is certain yet what exactly will be cut, though there have been rumours of TAs and professors being cut, class sizes growing and a reduction in next year's course offerings, among other things.

Regardless of how much of this comes to fruition, it is clear that as the recession tightens its chokehold upon Laurier, the face of the university's academics will not look the same next year as it does now.

A university is primarily a learning institution and should therefore define itself primarily based on its academics. Naturally, the brunt of its funding should be allocated to this cause.

Granted, much of the extra-curricular activity at the school is

not funded by the university itself, but by other groups on campus.

However, the main reason most of us are here is to get an education – whether for the sake of learning itself, or to have a nice mark on our resumés.

What the school needs to focus on, both on the level of administrators and students, is enhancing its academic standards.

Pet projects like the pool shouldn't be a priority in economic times like these.

It is easy to embrace a flashy campaign to support something like the pool or rebuilding the Golden Hawk seal on the floor, but things like that aren't what university should be about.

**IF CAMPAIGNING AND VOTING FOR INCREASED TUITION FEES OR ACADEMIC FEES IS A NECESSITY, I WOULD BE MORE THAN HAPPY TO ACCEPT THESE INCREASED FEES.**

Some say that these things are necessary to contribute to school culture and school spirit, but the spirit of our school should be focused on bettering our academic standards, not on frivolous spending on unnecessary ventures.

Being a strong academic university is what we should pride ourselves upon.

Students need to take the initia-

tive to ensure this happens in our future. If campaigning and voting for increased tuition fees or academic fees is a necessity, I would be more than happy to accept these increased fees and I am sure many other students would, too.

Repealing certain unnecessary fees is also a step that should be taken. I am not inherently against maintaining the pool per se, or embarking upon other such projects, but when economic pressures call for sacrifice, prioritizing needs to take place.

I can see the necessity for certain fees, such as the green fee, but I am sure that there is plenty of student money that is going absolutely nowhere educational.

When cuts need to be made, it should be apparent to everyone that non-academic funding must go first.

While creating larger class sizes and lowering our academic quality might

make the most economic sense for university administrators, students altogether must be opposed to this.

If choices need to be made in these times of economic recession, sacrificing our university's educational standards should be the last possible option.

letters@cordweekly.com

# Don't blame marketing

The bombardment of advertising we face is a necessity of our modern lives



**ANDREA MILLET**  
THE BRIGHTER  
SIDE OF LIFE

We all groan when the commercials interrupt our favorite shows, we all flip by the countless ads in a magazine and we all complain about the ridiculous approaches most advertisers seem to take.

The truth is that advertising is not as evil and manipulating as we seem to think, and we wouldn't get very far without it.

Think about all of the small businesses that would be swallowed up by larger corporations if they didn't have advertising as an outlet to get their names and products known.

The Princess and Princess Twin theatres would have been overpowered by Galaxy Cinemas and other chains if they did not have advertising to reach the public with their unique movie lists.

Kitchener music store Opus II

might struggle to compete with large companies like HMV if it did not have the means to generate public interest and knowledge through advertising.

It is not just these businesses that are able to stay afloat thanks to advertising, but also the numerous people who are employed in the marketing field. With the word recession on everyone's lips, how can we criticize an institution that continues to grow and is providing for so many?

Not only does advertising provide jobs for us, but occasionally they do provide some valuable information.

Buying a house or a car in today's economy doesn't always seem affordable, but if you see an ad for a great mortgage plan at a new bank, or a zero percent financing deal on a car, it might be possible.

Thanks to advertising, you are exposed to deals and options that otherwise you may never have known about.

A few weeks ago, I ventured out

to Shoppers to buy more shampoo, which seemed like an easy enough task, but as I stood there staring down the endless aisle of shampoos of different shapes, sizes, colours and brands I felt intimidated.

Fortunately, thanks to advertising, I knew exactly what bottle I wanted, down to the very scent.

I know that one particular kind won't make my hair shinier than the others, but it is this brand loyalty, which we develop through exposure to advertisements, that helps us make our decision.

You might argue that this is an example of how advertising manipulates us, but I disagree. I would have to choose one brand eventually and the truth is, they all do just about the same thing.

Maybe advertising influences us towards particular brands, but in doing so it saves us the time we otherwise would have spent uselessly debating over which to purchase.

SEE ADS, PAGE 19

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RYAN STEWART

ADS! - Even restrooms don't provide us any rest from advertisements.

# Ads not the enemy

- FROM ADS, PAGE 18

It's not that advertising is evil and manipulative; if we are coerced into buying useless products based on their advertisements, it is just because we do not have the common sense to look critically at an ad and say no.

How many people have 12 Shamwows because they couldn't resist calling the toll-free number?

That's not because the advertisement was so good. It's just because we are unable to analyze what we are seeing and make an informed decision.

Have you ever wondered where the magazines and newspapers you like to read make the money they need to continue printing?

It's certainly not from subscriptions. In fact, about 80 percent of a newspaper's profit and 50 percent of a magazine's come from advertising. Without advertisers buying space, these sources of information and entertainment would not be able to exist.

So next time you're watching American Idol and it breaks for commercial, and you think that these ads are a waste of your time, just remember that 100 percent of television revenue comes from advertising and that show could not be brought to you without it.

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Laurier Students' Public  
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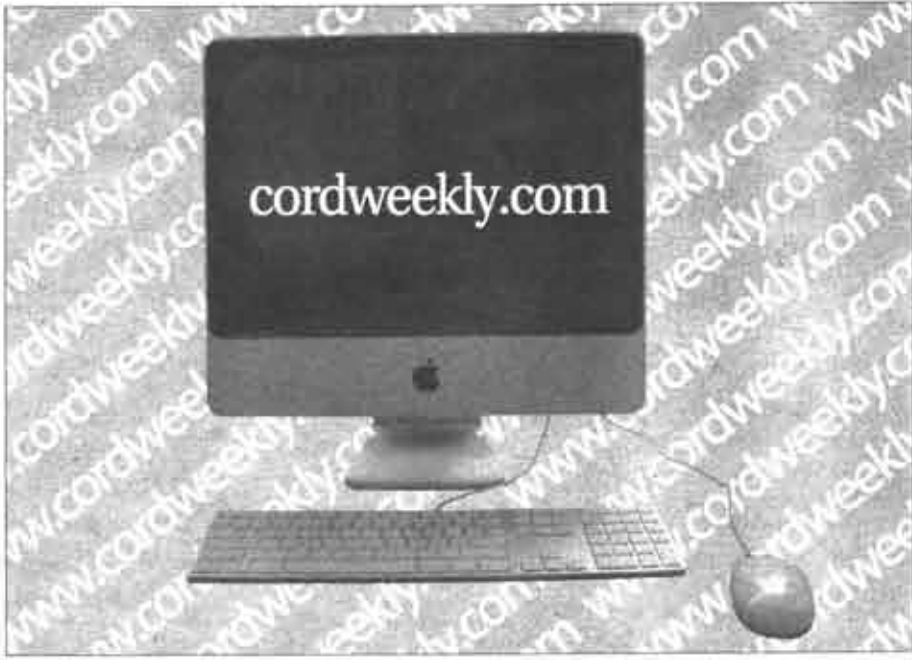


# Sudoku

	7		3	6	2			4
6	3	1	5	8				9
						6		
1			2		6			5
	5			7			2	
2			1		9			8
		5						
3				9	1	4	5	2
7			8	4	5		3	

Last issue's solution:

2	4	3	7	6	9	5	1	8
8	7	6	4	5	1	3	9	2
1	5	9	3	8	2	7	6	4
4	1	2	6	3	7	8	5	9
5	6	7	2	9	8	1	4	3
3	9	8	5	1	4	2	7	6
6	8	5	9	7	3	4	2	1
9	2	1	8	4	5	6	3	7
7	3	4	1	2	6	9	8	5



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More info @ [www.wlu.ca/learning](http://www.wlu.ca/learning)

# The minimum wage is going up.

If you're an employer, here's what you need to know.

	General Minimum Wage	Students under 18 and working not more than 28 hours per week or during a school holiday	Liquor Server	Hunting & Fishing Guides: for less than five consecutive hours in a day	Hunting & Fishing Guides: for five or more hours in a day whether or not the hours are consecutive	Homeworkers (people doing paid work in their home for an employer)
Current wage rate	\$8.75/hour	\$8.20/hour	\$7.60/hour	\$43.75	\$87.50	110% of the minimum wage
Mar. 31, 2009 wage rate	\$9.50/hour	\$8.90/hour	\$8.25/hour	\$47.50	\$95.00	110% of the minimum wage

On March 31, 2009, the general minimum wage will increase to \$9.50 per hour from the current rate of \$8.75 per hour.

To find out more about how the new minimum wage guidelines affect employers and employees, call or visit the Ministry of Labour web site.

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# Not just bleeps

FROM VIDEO GAMES, COVER

The Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony Orchestra will be performing as part of VGL on March 13 and 14 at Centre in the Square, with student tickets available for \$20.

Tallarico began VGL as a way to "prove to the world how culturally significant and artistic video games have become." The show was co-founded with conductor Jack Wall (composer of *Mass Effect* and *Splinter Cell*) with the goal of creating a show for "everybody" – not just gamers.

"You don't have to know a darn thing at all about video games to come to the show," said Tallarico.

Each night of the show, a live symphony orchestra performs on stage to a backdrop of video game footage, perfectly synchronized. But this isn't one of your regular nights at the prom.

"I don't allow the people in the orchestra to wear tuxedos; it's a rule," said Tallarico. "We encourage clapping before, after and during the performance."

The event's hybridity has brought fresh fans to classical music and video game compositions alike. Even members of the orchestra, said Tallarico, find an instant adoration and respect for songs they have never heard before.

"They thought they'd be sitting down plucking out pizicottos on the violin all night – 'bleep bleep bloop bloop bleep,'" he chuckled. The music demonstrated in the show is far from the simple variety though.

The key to VGL's success is its variety – with music ranging from *Pong*, through '80s classics like *Frogger*, to new favourites such as *Halo*.

"We've never played the same show twice," said Tallarico. "We're always adding to the show, doing different stuff."

The music is a mixture of both new and old, he said. "If anything, we lean more towards the new stuff."

In next week's show, the setlist will include fresh material, such as the seminal *Bioshock*, and Tallarico hopes to debut material from *Megaman*. A sure highlight will be a *Guitar Hero: Aerosmith* segment, where a competition winner is brought on stage to duel Tallarico's real guitar playing, backed by a live, improvised orchestra. This part is a particular favourite for Tallarico: he's Steven Tyler's cousin, after all.

Often taking centre-stage, Tallarico will don a flashy jacket, wield his Spider-Man-branded Gibson guitar, grab the microphone and holler song melodies for the crowd to chant along too.

And while Tallarico doesn't take himself too seriously, the man's certainly passionate about his two loves: music and games.

A stroke of luck brought these two joys together when Tallarico, age 21 and virtually homeless in California, was approached by a video game designer at the music store he was working at. Tallarico,

adorned in a video game t-shirt, got a job as a game tester – and before he knew it, he was composing the soundtrack to *Prince of Persia* in his spare time.

Tallarico later went on to become co-host of G4 Tech TV's *Electric Playground*, a show on which he and founder Victor Lucas debate the merits of the latest videogames. Since taking VGL on the road, his appearances on television have dwindled to only a handful of appearances per season.

Though he misses having an outlet to vent his critical voice, Tallarico was eager to spout off his opinion on some of his current peeves in the gaming industry.

He still feels that the name "Nintendo Wii" was an awful choice for a console.

"I hold them to such a high standard that when they come out with

horseshit, I'm gonna fucking call 'em on it," laughed Tallarico. "A lot of people are afraid to say the things I say. But for me, it's not really my career – so I don't give a shit."

And *Wii Music*, Nintendo's answer to the music game phenomenon? "[Creator Shigeru Miyamoto] dialed that one in, I think ... I don't know what the hell happened," he said.

Tallarico certainly doesn't plan on dialing the rest of his career in – the sound of thousands of screaming, adoring fans is too much of an incentive for this natural showman.

"It's instant gratification to see that excitement," he said. "We're ushering a whole new generation of people to come out and appreciate the arts and appreciate a

symphony."

Tallarico will be sure to gratify VGL's fans as he continues to expand the show's musical catalogue. Having just added *Chrono Trigger* to the mix, we're set to hear *Super Smash Bros*, *Shadow of the Colossus* and *Street Fighter II* in the near future.



CONTRIBUTED IMAGE

**MUSIC INVADES** - You can hear the sounds of VGL here at Kitchener's Centre in the Square on March 13.

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# Comics aren't dead

Laurier prof and author of *Comic Books are Dead* chats with *The Cord*

DANIEL JOSEPH  
A&E EDITOR

Comics are dead. Long live comics. These two phrases have been thrown around as often as critics muse that print journalism is doomed.

Jeff Klaehn firmly believes that comics are not dead – so of course he went off and named his upcoming book on comics, *Comic Books are Dead*.

Klaehn's argument of course is that the truth is "anything but."

"Everybody in the 1950s was saying comic books were dead. In the 1990s there was the big boom and then the market crashed, and they said comic books were dead," says Klaehn, an assistant professor in cultural studies at Laurier and a massive *Batman* fan.

The preface to *Comic Books are Dead*, which Klaehn hopes will be released sometime this summer, includes an introduction by legendary comic book writer Steve Englehart, who said that "I'm going

to say comic books are finished, so that they last another 100 years."

That being said, things are definitely changing for the comic book industry. Klaehn notes how the business model is now fundamentally different, as well as how comics are being primarily consumed. "I think that trade paperback and hardcover collections are more and more the way of the future for the industry. The format may change, but comic books are here to stay – particularly with their resonance with the popular culture of movies and video games," he said.

These new formats for comics also grant less hardcore audiences the ability to enjoy the comics that have been around for decades. Klaehn said "This will only help the industry, which is great for people who are just getting into comic books now. You can go out and get *Spiderman 1-10* for twenty-five bucks in a trade paperback. Years ago you would have had to hunt down these back-issues that had been re-printed and collected, and

at an affordable price. That was a lot of hard work!"

It's also clear, when the big blockbusters from last year, *Iron Man* and *The Dark Knight*, were based on classic comic series, and Marjane Satrapi's biographic *Persepolis*' animated film adaptation was critically hailed and a commercial success, that the influence of comics on our popular culture has never been greater.

And, of course, *Watchmen* comes out this Friday.

Klaehn, like many *Watchmen* fans right now, is excited: "I'm about as excited as I could possibly be – I'm totally looking forward to it... I read the actual issues as they came out back in my early days of buying comics, with nary a thought that *Watchmen* would have this kind of resonance so many years later. That it would be such an event," he said.

When asked about how Alan Moore and Frank Miller seem to be defining our contemporary zeitgeist of mainstream comic book



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

COMICAL - Jeff Klaehn, Laurier professor, argues the merits of comics.

dominance, Klaehn sees them as "geniuses" but also stresses the importance of those who came before them. "I just hope that people remember that others like Jack Kirby, Shuster and Seigel, and Will Eisner were out there. That without them, Miller and Moore would not be out there doing what they are doing."

Klaehn hopes to see *Comic Books are Dead* released sometime in June, and until then you can read his regularly updated blog Pop, featuring interviews with dozens of comic book personalities from around the globe, at [jefferyklaehn.blogspot.com](http://jefferyklaehn.blogspot.com).



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## WLUSU is Hiring

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# The wild ones win battle

The Sound Foundation, the wild card band, pulled off a win last Thursday night at Wilf's in the final round of Last Band Standing

SHANNON BUSTA  
CORD A&E

Yet another round of the infamous Last Band Standing came to a close at Wilf's last Thursday. Clearly, LBS has turned into a big deal for our student population, given that the pub was absolutely packed before anyone ever stepped up onstage.

Three of the competing bands were previous victors – Second Floor Escape, Andy's Ego and Music Box – while one wild-card group played for redemption: The Sound Foundation. With a grand prize of \$1,000 and a chance to compete at the national level, these bands all came ready to put on a serious show. The energy only increased with each band's performance, and, not surprisingly, the later it got, the more dangerous the dance floor became.

The screaming boys from Second Floor Escape started the night off. Lucky enough to begin their set with a packed dance floor, the boys offered an especially high-energy (though less-than-unique) set of emo-inspired rock. Their tunes might put you in mind of The Used (minus the lyrical and instrumental compatibility), making for a relatively repetitive set.

Nevertheless, they tossed out an awful lot of energy and good cheer, despite having to play their set lacking some important equipment. In the face of having a floor packed with people ready to dance, Second Floor Escape decided to switch things up at the end of their set, busting out an acoustic guitar and offering up a brand new tune. It was clear that the audience ap-

preciated the variety and the boys ended their set to some serious applause.

The five guys and one lady from Andy's Ego were up next and evidently came equipped with their own personal fan club. This group must have expected to take home the win, given that the entire bar moved up to within four feet of the stage for their performance. The end of every song was met by an uproar of applause and a rhythmic "Ego, Ego" chant.

Offering up a ridiculous amount of talent for an LBS competitor, Andy's Ego were expected by many to take home the grand prize.

But the folksy rock band didn't just have the talent and the popular vote on their side. The socially conscious group came in the hope of raising both awareness and a cool \$1,000 for their friend's charity Eat to Feed Liberians. Nevertheless, it seems generosity, talent and popularity just aren't always enough to guarantee victory these days.

It turned out that the prize was to go to the third performance of the night, a band that also happened to be the wildcard. Losing at a previous show by a single point, The Sound Foundation was given a chance for redemption and clearly these guys took their second opportunity very seriously. On any other night at Wilf's, the saxophone-equipped, funky, ska-rock band would have been declared the highest-energy performer of the night. Last Thursday, however, their rip-roaring energy matched that of the other competitors.

Opening up with a decisively Sublime-inspired tune, the sun-

glasses-wearing five were soon performing for a moshing, skanking crowd. Their big personality and big sound packed the dance floor once again, despite the mass exodus that occurred after the departure of the Andy's Ego fan club.

When asked how he felt about taking home first prize, the Sound Foundation's saxophone player, Nate Payne, expressed nothing less than sheer excitement and genuine gratitude: "I just can't believe the talent we saw tonight; all the bands were really awesome." According to Payne, the entire cash prize will be put back into the band, helping pay for things like promotions and perhaps a CD.

By the end of The Sound Foundation's set, the alcohol had set in and people started heading off to bed. This didn't bother the last performers, though. Despite putting on a great show, The Sound Foundation didn't demonstrate quite as much passion for music as the fourth and final band to take the stage.

Not exactly strangers to performing at Wilf's, the gents from The Music Box clearly came out to have a good time. Starting off their set with a team "quack, quack, quack, quack" chant, they gave the distinct impression that they were there to play music and have a hell of a lot of fun doing it.

It was pretty clear that The Music Box would have been up on that stage regardless of there being a cash prize. Unfortunately, though, in the world of Last Band Standing, passion just isn't enough. The band's hybrid sound (something along the lines of electric folk with rock and country thrown into the



RYAN STEWART

**FOUND SOUND** - The Sound Foundation impressed the Wilf's crowd.

## Measured

*Made to Measure 2* comes to the Langen Gallery

KATIE FLOOD  
CORD A&E

"There's a lot of pressure, there's a lot of pressure to be perfect," says the voice of an anonymous young woman, describing how she feels to be measured.

Laurier's Langen Art Gallery in the John Aird Centre is featuring a sound installation by artist Marlene Hilton Moore, an exhibition titled *Made to Measure Two*, from February 25 to March 21, 2009.

Currently teaching at Georgian College School of Design and Visual Arts, Marlene Hilton Moore has exhibited extensively within Canada and abroad.

*Made to Measure Two* is the second part of the *Made to Measure* series, designed to investigate the issues and stereotypes surrounding women today, and the concept of "measurement."

For this exhibition, Marlene interviewed several young women between the ages of 20 and 30, asking them one simple question: "Do you feel measured, as a female?"

The exhibition features three icons to represent the female form; Thin Venus, Plus Venus, and Hot-tentot Venus. Shaped similarly to dressmaker dolls, these forms have no arms, head or feet; the supreme focus on the body.

This seems appropriate as Marlene explains the female response to being measured: "Always about the body ... your breasts are too small, your hips are too large, you weigh too much. It's never that you weigh too little it seems."

Highlights from Marlene's interviews are installed as sound clips into each of the Venuses. These technologically impressive figures have motion sensors that are triggered as someone walks nearby.



SYDNEY HELLAND

**MEASURE RESPONSE** - The Venuses use motion sensors and recorded responses to convey their message.

The sound clip turns on, and a new perspective on the body shapes is revealed.

One of the young women discusses how harsh the male gaze can be: "but you don't need to point out that I don't have any tits in this sweater. You don't have any bulge in your pants; I'm not gonna point that out!" Despite this, it appears that the gaze that causes the most

stress is that of other women. They measure the surfaces of their fellow women – in far more discriminating and harsh ways than most men would use.

One of the anonymous women interviewed confesses, "See, I don't like myself very much. I pick myself apart on a fairly regular basis when I'm alone." Strange to hear from such a beautiful figure, but precisely

the point. Women pick themselves apart even though to the rest of the world, they may seem perfect.

Emphasized by examples of realistic female forms, Marlene explains, "I have made them beautiful. They are voluptuous, they are thin, or heavy, it doesn't matter – because they are beautiful."