

# THE CORD

The tie that binds Wilfrid Laurier University since 1926

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thecord.ca

## Collett shines solo

The typically collaborative singer strips down his sound for an acoustic set last week at Waterloo's Starlight Lounge

SARAH MURPHY  
ARTS EDITOR

With Starlight's intimate seating arrangement and two of Canada's best singer-songwriters on the bill, Wednesday night promised to deliver a fantastic folk show. And deliver it did.

The night started with Canadian folk singer Al Tuck's endearing performance. Jason Collett claims that, "Hands down, he's the greatest songwriter of my generation, an opinion shared by many of my peers."

Praised by fellow Canadians like Feist, Chris Murphy of Sloan and Joel Plaskett, Tuck left the audience wondering why they hadn't heard of him before.

Armed with whiskey, an acoustic guitar and a harmonica, Tuck played an array of new and old material, including "Wishing Well" — a song that Joel Plaskett covered on his album *La Di Da*.

Charming anecdotes about his new harmonica, his expert harmonica player ex-girlfriend and an asylum in Burlington kept the crowd hanging on to his every word.

Collett came to the stage, accompanied only by an acoustic guitar. Having toured with varying backing bands and collectives, the show at

Starlight presented Collett with the opportunity to showcase his truly singular talent.

Accompanying the release of his acoustic album *Pony Tricks*, Collett said that he's enjoying this tour a lot and finds it "refreshing" to be out on the road with Tuck.

Opening with "Lake Superior" from this year's *Rat a Tat*, Collett captivated the audience throughout his entire set.

Before launching into "Brownie Hawkeye", he joked about underage drinking and hanging around Beer Stores in the hopes that someone would take pity and buy the teenage Collett beer.

He also played the two new songs from his record *Pony Tricks*, "Pulling the Sun Down" and "My Daddy was a Rock 'n' Roller" — the former being a critique of the government's inability to cope with the effects of post-traumatic stress disorder on young Canadian soldiers, which he linked with Remembrance Day.

Collett closed out his set with a variety of material from his back catalogue, sharing stories about everything from throwing out his back on tour and getting extremely high, to Leslie Feist's misinterpretation of the "Bitter Beauty" lyrics as "you're dreaming with thighs wide open."

The crowd listened intently

“  
Waterloo's always been good to me. I've always felt a real warmth here.”

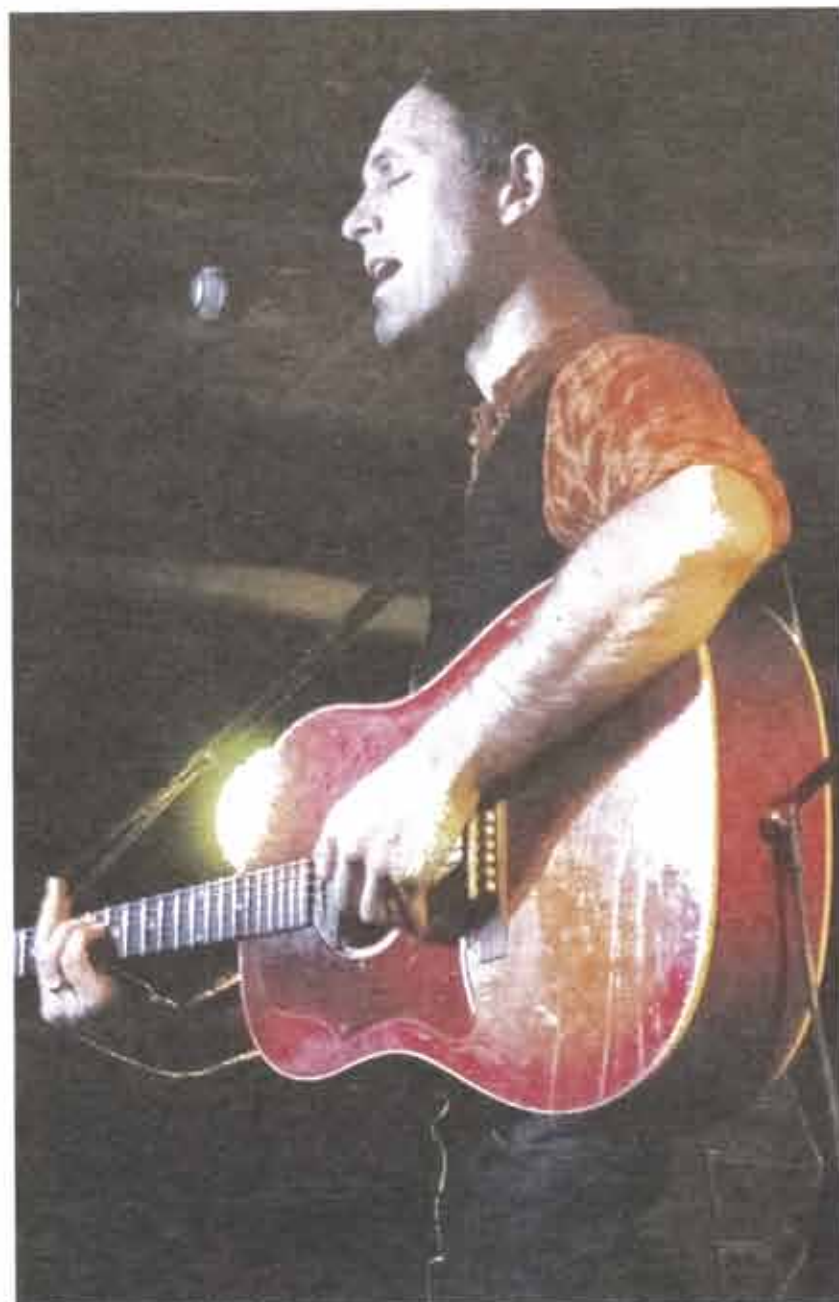
—Jason Collett

throughout, evidently enjoying the cozy atmosphere of Starlight.

He came out nearly immediately after his set to perform a three song encore, featuring "Vanderpool, Vanderpool", a new song and "Long May You Love."

After the show, Collett spoke to The Cord about the atmosphere of the venue. "Waterloo's always been good to me, I've always felt a real warmth here," he said.

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MEGAN CHERNIAK PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

Collett entertained the audience with new songs and old classics.



ELLI GARLIN PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

The Hawks receive their silver medals after a heartbreaking loss in the national championship game.

## Hawks falter in CIS final

JUSTIN FAUTEUX  
SPORTS EDITOR

CHARLOTTETOWN, P.E.I. — Now that was the definition of a heartbreaker.

After outplaying the Queen's Gaels for 90 minutes of regulation time and 15 minutes of extra time, the Wilfrid Laurier Golden Hawks women's soccer team had their hopes of a Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) championship dashed with one perfectly placed shot.

"I'm really disappointed for the girls," said Hawks' head coach Barry MacLean after Saturday's national championship game. "I thought they deserved a better fate, I thought we were the better team on the day. We

fell a little bit short at the end, but that's just the way it goes, one goal wins the game."

It was just two minutes into the second half of extra time when Gaels' midfielder Riley Filion stepped into a strike from just outside the Hawks' 18-yard box. The sinking shot managed to find its way into the tiny space between the crossbar and Laurier goalkeeper Mal Woeller's outstretched hands and put the Hawks down 1-0, a lead that would hold up through the remainder of the game.

"We outplayed that team, we put our whole effort into the game and we gave it everything we had," said midfielder Alyssa Lagonia. "Unfortunately things didn't go our way."

The Hawks opened the CIS championship tournament last Thursday as the top seed from Ontario, having beaten Queen's in the provincial final exactly a week prior to the national title game. The purple and gold took their first game 1-0 over the University of British Columbia and followed it with a 2-0 extra time win over the Montreal Carabins to set up the all-Ontario final.

In the championship game, the Hawks controlled the play and had the majority of the scoring chances, despite key players such as midfielder Tania Pedron and defender Kelsey Tikka battling injuries.

Sports, page 19

## Peace prize nominee preaches forgiveness

LINDSAY PURCHASE  
STAFF WRITER

In the spirit of Remembrance Day, students, professors and community members gathered to hear the tragic but hopeful story of Nobel Peace Prize nominee Dr. Izzeldin Abuelaish.

In January 2009, his story became internationally affiliated with the Israel-Palestine conflict when his house in Palestine was bombed by an Israeli tank, fatally wounding his three daughters and niece minutes before he was to speak on an Israeli television program. Abuelaish's heart-wrenching call for help was broadcast live on Israeli television and was soon heard worldwide.

"I am standing here because of hope," he said. "As I am living and breathing, there is still hope."

Unbelievably, Abuelaish has turned his tragic story into an inspiring message of change, success and healing.

Born a refugee in the Gaza Strip's Jabalia refugee camp, Abuelaish overcame tremendous adversity to become a physician and fertility specialist living in Palestine but working at an Israeli hospital in the unstable and conflict-ridden Gaza Strip.

Now living in Toronto with his five remaining children and working as an associate professor at the Dalla Lana School of Public Health at the University of Toronto, Abuelaish has committed his life to the fight for peace in Gaza.

World, page 7

## Inside

### UW event cancelled

The scene of *Globe and Mail* columnist Christie Blatchford's speech gets heated as a group of individuals demand she not speak.

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## Editor's Choice

### 'It hits closer to home'

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## Editor's Choice

### Presentation turned protest

thecord.ca

## Bag O' Crime

### Alarm: IR#141110-1516

Location: Athletic Complex

Date: Nov. 14, 2010 @ 7:43 p.m.

SCS officers responded to a complaint from staff members that a strong odour of burnt rubber was coming from the women's basketball change room. Upon further inspection, Waterloo Fire Rescue was called to the scene to ensure the safety of the facility staff and patrons. A building evacuation was also ordered by the fire captain. It was discovered that a heating air exchange system had blown a motor, causing the odour. A small natural gas leak was also discovered on the roof. Trades personnel were called in to repair the issue.

### Property Damage

Location: D.A.W.B.

Date: Nov. 14, 2010 @ 11:25 a.m.

Sometime during the night unknown person(s) ripped posters and notices off the bulletin boards on the second floor as well as several signs for the stairwell and an office.

### Injured/Sick Person

Location: Athletic Complex

Date: Nov. 8, 2010 @ 8:55 p.m.

SCS and ERT received a report of a male requiring attention as he was feeling ill.

A 19-year-old male student was located and treated by ERT. He was feeling nauseous after a strenuous physical workout. He was taken back to his residence for some rest.

## For the rest of Bag O' Crime, check out thecord.ca

If you have any information regarding these or any other incidents please call 519-885-3333 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS. The Bag O' Crime is submitted by WLU Special Constable Service.

## This Week in quotes

“

It's what I always wanted to do. I didn't want to be on the cover of the *Rolling Stone*, I just wanted to make music.”

—Royal Wood



“I think they should be told to leave and let us get on with it.”

—Pauline Campbell, Waterloo resident re: protest

“You can't defend yourself against allegations like that, it's like asking somebody 'when did you stop beating your wife?' so I'm not going to dignify that with an answer.”

—Christie Blatchford, Globe and Mail columnist re: allegations her columns are racist

“She already has the *Globe and Mail*, she already has access to CTV whenever she wants, but in our community, racist views and views that support racist ideologies and projects of xenophobic ideas, there's no place for that in the community especially in an academic setting.”

—Dan Kellar, Laurier alumnus re: Christie Blatchford

“I feel so energized and invigorated, inspired and it was a long campaign you know it started in January for me ... so now it's 2 weeks after the election and we're ready to get everything back on track.”

—Mayor Brenda Halloran re: the mayor's student advisory committee (MSAC)



## Deanna Di Clemente

Laurier mourns the loss of Deanna Di Clemente, who passed away after a battle with leukemia on Nov. 12 at the age of 21. “Dee” was a valued member of the Laurier community, participating in groups and events across campus. She was an O-Week Icebreaker, dancer with Fashion n' Motion, a dance instructor with Laurier Athletics and traveled on Alternative Reading Week in 2009. Dee also led a successful fundraiser in support of “Light the Night,” a charity supporting those with leukemia. She was an inspiration to her students and peers. One excerpt from her obituary reads: “Dee touched the hearts of all those who knew and loved her and she will be remembered ... always with a smile.”

## From the archives

### 5 years ago...

#### “We ain't done yet”

The Golden Hawks claimed their second straight Yates Cup against the Western Mustangs. A strong play by the Hawks' defence left the team with the number one offence in Canada with only 11 points in the loss.

A crowd over 5,915 began to celebrate the 29-11 win, pouring into the drinking zone with three seconds still on the clock. The victory paved the road to the Uteck Bowl, where the Hawks were scheduled to play against the Canada East champions Acadia Axemen.

—Printed Nov. 16, 2005

### 10 years ago...

#### “Soccer: Simply the best”

The Laurier men's soccer team beat St. Mary's University in a penalty shootout in this year's national soccer championship. Beating the Victoria Vikings and Laurentian during the tournament, the championship win was the first ever national gold medal for the team.

—Printed Nov. 15, 2000

## Vocal Cord

Did you participate in Remembrance Day's moment of silence?



“Yes I did, I was here for the Remembrance Day Ceremony in the Concourse.”

—Adam Soares  
First year health



“Yep. We did it at the Concourse.”

—Christina Borys  
Third year sociology and women and gender studies



“I would have but I had class.”

—Samuel Wittbad  
First year history



“No, I completely forgot it was Remembrance Day because I was so busy with midterms and tests.”

—Sophia Mreira  
Second year psychology

Compiled by Rebecca Vasluianu  
Photos by Elli Garlin

## THE CORD

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In 2009 the Canadian Community Newspaper Association awarded The Cord third place in the campus newspaper category.



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### Colophon

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

Started in 1928 as the *College Cord*, The Cord is an editorially independent newspaper published by Wilfrid Laurier University Student Publications, Waterloo, a corporation without share capital. WLUSP is governed by its board of directors.



Opinions expressed within The Cord are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect those of the editorial board. The Cord, WLUSP, WLUSP or CanWeb Printing Inc.

All content appearing in The Cord bears the copyright expressly of their creator(s) and may not be used without written consent.

The Cord is created using Macintosh computers running Mac OS X 10.5 using Adobe Creative Suite 4. Nikon cameras are used for principal photography.

The Cord has been a proud member of the Ontario Press Council since 2006. Any unsatisfied complaints can be sent to the council at info@ontariopress.com.

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The Cord has been a proud member of the Canadian University Press (CUP) since 2004.

Campout Plus is The Cord's national advertising agency.

### Preamble to The Cord constitution

The Cord will keep faith with its readers by presenting news and expressions of opinions comprehensively, accurately and fairly. The Cord believes in a balanced and impartial presentation of all relevant facts in a news report, and of all substantial opinions in a matter of controversy.

The staff of The Cord shall uphold all commonly held ethical conventions of journalism. When an error of omission or of commission has occurred, that error shall be acknowledged promptly. When statements are made that are critical of an individual, or an organization, we shall give those affected the opportunity to reply at the earliest time possible. Ethical journalism requires impartiality, and consequently conflicts of interest and the appearance of conflicts of interest will be avoided by all staff.

The only limits of any newspaper are those of the world around it, and so The Cord will attempt to cover its world with a special focus on Wilfrid Laurier University, and the community of Waterloo-Waterloo, and with a special ear to the concerns of the students of Wilfrid Laurier University. Ultimately, The Cord will be bound by neither philosophy nor geography in its mandate.

The Cord has an obligation to foster freedom of the press and freedom of speech. This obligation is best fulfilled when debate and dissent are encouraged, both in the internal workings of the paper, and through The Cord's contact with the student body.

The Cord will always attempt to do what is right, with fear of neither repercussions, nor retaliation. The purpose of the student press is to act as an agent of social awareness, and so shall conduct the affairs of our newspaper.

Quote of the week:  
“I love the smell of ketchup in the morning.”  
—Campus News Editor Mike Lakusiak



# NEWS

News Director Linda Givetash • lgivetash@thecord.ca

## Blouw tours India

President's journey aimed to tap enormous market

BREE MANTHA  
STAFF WRITER

Wilfrid Laurier University president Max Blouw recently returned from a week-long trip to India, a journey undertaken to further the university's goal of greater international recruitment.

Blouw was among a group of 15 presidents of Canadian universities on a trip sponsored by the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC). Their mission was to raise the profile of Canadian post-secondary education to the tremendous number of Indian students in the nation's growing middle class.

One of the strategies the AUCC used to increase awareness of Canadian education was participation in India's Education Day on Nov. 11. "I think we succeeded in raising the profile of Canada certainly with very influential people," Blouw said.

Blouw and his colleagues believe that India was an ideal place to travel to because it is so different from Canada. "Demographically, it's the opposite of Canada," he observed. According to Statistics Canada, the number of Canadians over 65, which is already considerably higher than in India, will double in the next decade. "The reverse is true in India," explained Blouw. "The young people are just burgeoning in numbers."

While India is home to many colleges, universities and technical

institutions, enrolment in the country is low for a variety of reasons. In 2007, Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh complained that, "Almost two-thirds of our universities and 90 per cent of our colleges are rated as below average on quality parameters."

The AUCC sees India's need for quality education as an opportunity for Canada. "The need for education there is profound," said Blouw, who sits on the AUCC board. "The need for talent here is profound. So I think that by combining our need for talent with their need for education, we can have some very good synergies with India."

According to the Laurier's office of the registrar, of undergraduates, 382 are international students — less than one per cent of Laurier's population. Among those, only 16 are Indian citizens. The University of Waterloo (UW) sees a far higher rate of international enrolment, averaging more than 3,400 per year according to UW's web site.

Despite Laurier's low numbers, Laurier International is always seeking to increase the number of international students.

Blouw doesn't have his own specific numeric goals for increasing international students. His primary concern is to increase global engagement in the student community by exposing them to diversity among their peers — not limited to bringing in international students.

"I believe that having students

from other countries here is important," said Blouw. "I also believe that having our students go to other countries is critically important and I'd like to focus on doing both of those."

Blouw's vision of a more diverse student experience is not exclusive to the classroom. He hopes that employers for co-op students will make placements available abroad in order for students to better absorb other cultures.

"I think that the world is increasingly a very small place," said Blouw. "I think that any university that doesn't expose its students to international concerns ... is not doing an appropriate job of preparing students for what I think is a real future of global integration."



# 800

Number of Indian universities needed to satisfy demand

# 2/3

Number of Indian universities with 'below average' rankings

# 16

Indian students currently at WLU

## Do you own your work?

OLIVIA NIGHTINGALE  
STAFF WRITER

Wilfrid Laurier University's office of research services hopes to enlighten students and faculty alike on matters of intellectual property ownership and copyright. This area of academia is not always well understood and can often cause tension between students and faculty.

In a bid to bring attention to the subject of copyright regulations, copyright officer Sarah O'Byrne was invited to make a presentation on Nov. 16 in the Paul Martin Centre.

During her presentation, entitled "Copyright and You: Research Ownership Rights in Working with Students," O'Byrne, a copyright advisor at McMaster University, addressed the issues surrounding copyrights on student work, particularly those that involve faculty collaboration. While this issue is not as apparent with undergraduate students' work, it frequently occurs in post-graduate studies.

O'Byrne explained that the contentious aspect of copyright comes when there is collaborative work involved. In the field of academia, particularly in graduate studies, this is an ongoing dilemma.

In a case where a student has collaborated more extensively with a professor in order to express an idea, likely for commercial purposes, collaboration rules come into play. In accordance with the Canadian Copyright Act, if all collaborators agree to share recognition for the expression of an idea, then joint ownership dictates that the shares of the joint author will be equal, unless there is some kind of agreement stating otherwise.

In basic terms, this means that if two individuals publish an article or finding from a study, then they are presumed to have contributed equally. This relates to the case of students who are working with a faculty member to conduct research.

"Students have no right to intellectual property if they are employed by the university or a contracting agency," explained O'Byrne.

However, if a student has simply asked for assistance from a faculty member while trying to express an idea for academic purposes, then O'Byrne stated, "The student has ownership for the expression of the idea." Unless a student is under a contract of service, which states that any discovery or idea formulated while being employed by the university is property of the university, they have the property rights to the expression of the idea.

The most important way for students to ensure that they have total control over their own intellectual property, according to O'Byrne, "is to always establish an agreement in writing between student and faculty member."

Laurier's Associate Vice-President of Research Paul Maxim concurred with O'Byrne's recommendation. "People ought to discuss how to share credit," he said.

Maxim assured that the office of research services was there to help with copyright disclosure on behalf of both students and faculty. Although there have been few documented incidents surrounding copyright claims, Maxim is hopeful that further education about this topic will "clarify misunderstanding about ownership."

## Campus mourns student

MIKE LAKUSIAK  
CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR

Deanna DiClemente, 21, a fourth-year BBA student at Wilfrid Laurier University, passed away Friday morning in a Hamilton hospital after a battle with leukemia.

DiClemente, who was first diagnosed last January with acute myeloid leukemia, received a successful bone marrow transplant from her sister in April but relapsed in July. She had been undergoing treatment in Seattle, Washington and returned to Ontario only a few weeks ago. Her parents and two younger sisters were with her at the time.

"We held our own vigil for Deanna Saturday night at our house," one of DiClemente's roommates Laura McMillan said. "We got all the students together that knew her and lit a bunch of candles and did a walk together to the Quad [on campus]." 75 or more people attended the campus vigil.

Heavily involved on campus in her time at Laurier, DiClemente participated in Winter Carnival, alternative reading week and O-Week and dance activities.

"She was in Fashion 'n Motion, she was an Icebreaker on the Blue Cavaliers with me last year and she's also been a dance instructor for the Athletic Complex showcase for a few years," her friend Nicole Wolff said.

DiClemente's friends and roommates had been raising money for cancer research throughout her battle, including hosting events in Toronto and at Waterloo's Cameo nightclub on Oct. 5, raising a

total of approximately \$40,000. The fundraising efforts were initiated by DiClemente when she was in remission earlier this year. During her treatment in the U.S., she maintained regular contact with her friends in Waterloo over Skype.

"I think she'll be remembered most for her positive attitude," Wolff said. "She always had a smile on her face throughout her entire battle with leukemia — she was so positive and showed such strength. Throughout everything she was an inspiration to everyone around her and we've all grown because of it."

DiClemente's family will be consulted about the possibility of holding a memorial at the university. "If her family expresses interest in a campus-specific memorial service, that's something we will accommodate and have students drop by," dean of students Leanne Holland Brown said.

Holland Brown also suggested that DiClemente's degree could be awarded posthumously, though that would also be up to the discretion of her family and the university.

Two buses chartered by the WLU students' union were made available for students to attend the funeral Tuesday morning in Oakville.

"There were a lot of Laurier people there and I know a lot of people felt really close to her in the community," Wolff said, noting the response from members of the university community to recent fundraising efforts and scrapbooks that were compiled with messages to DiClemente.

"I know people were signing them with 'I've never met you but I've

heard nothing but great things and I wish I had the opportunity to meet you," she said. Over 900 people attended the visitation Nov. 15.

In lieu of flowers, DiClemente requested that donations be made to



# “

Throughout everything she was an inspiration to everyone around her and we've all grown because of it."

—Nicole Wolff, friend and Laurier student.

The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society of Canada. Holland Brown said that donations will be collected and a card of condolence will be available to sign in the dean of students' office.



COURTESY OF MEREDITH BROWNE



## CAMPUS

Campus Editor Mike Lakusiak • mlakusiak@thecord.ca

# Laurier strengthens ties with China

Delegates from Chongqing University visit WLU to discuss the universities future relationship and opportunities for students and faculty in both nations

MIKE LAKUSIAK  
CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR

Since 2007, Wilfrid Laurier University has had an office on the campus of Chongqing University, an institution of nearly 60,000 students located in the city of Chongqing in south-west China.

The first Canadian university to establish an office on mainland China, Laurier is in a unique position as relations between the universities have grown. The closeness was evident with the visit of faculty and administration from Chongqing on Nov. 12.

The delegates met with

representatives from Laurier at Kitchener's Communitech Hub, a collaborative digital media centre that Laurier is a partner in, and later at the School of Business and Economics in Waterloo.

Peter Donahue, director of Laurier International, explained that the focus of the relationship between the two universities will increasingly be about resource-sharing.

"What we're now examining is an arrangement that would allow our students at Laurier and their students to benefit from teaching on either side," he said, explaining the growth of exchange opportunities for students and having faculty from

either institution teach a semester abroad.

Laurier is focusing at the moment on drawing awareness to the possibilities available to students, associate dean of business: academic programs Kim Morouney said. "We're trying to find a way to interest our students in exchange opportunities in China."

"We don't have a huge number of students that are clamoring to go to China and we'd like to work on that."

There are students taking advantage of the relationship between the two universities, including some present Friday.

Jian Liu is a Chongqing student

who is currently on exchange in the journalism program at Laurier's Brantford campus. She commented on the cultural differences that contribute to a far different university experience in Canada than she was used to. "Students have more examinations but professors have similar teaching methods to China," she said, noting the smaller classes that allow different evaluation practices. "They assign more practical work, that seems like the major difference between Chinese scale academic and Canadian scale."

The growth in online learning and technologies that allow streaming video of lessons and group collaboration among students have created new means of accomplishing the kind of resource sharing Laurier wants to put in place with Chongqing.

Software developed locally was showcased for the delegates at the Hub, including an e-learning platform called "Clevr U" that would allow classes to be streamed to mobile devices including iPads and Blackberries.

"If we're going to be innovative and preparing our students for the world, we have to bring the knowledge of our partners into our campus," Donahue continued.

"It can no longer be only for those who want to or are able to travel overseas, it has to be for all students."

Morouney explained that establishing connections between students at international institutions would be a first step, such as having Laurier and Chongqing business students collaborate on group projects.

Joint programming and degree

"It can no longer be only for those who want to or are able to travel overseas, it has to be for all students."

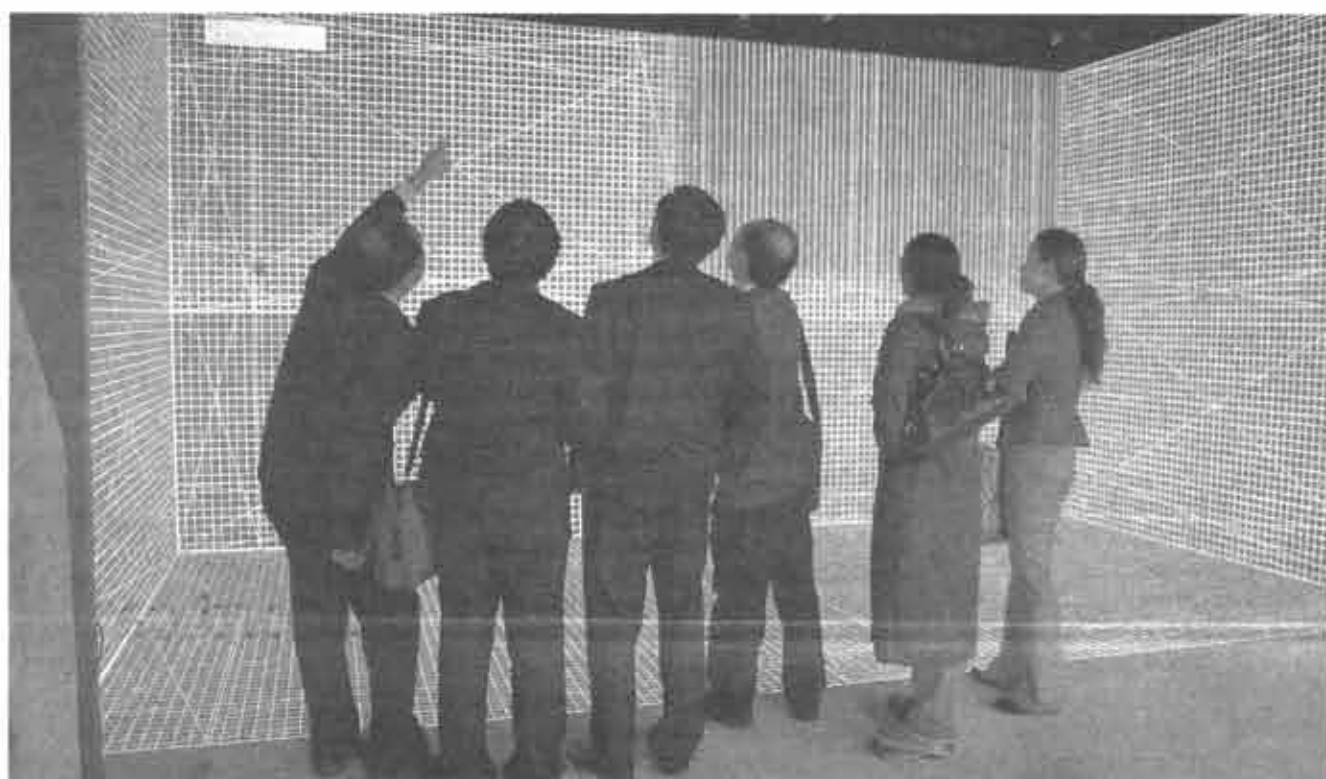
—Peter Donahue, director of Laurier International

offerings could be within the realm of possibility in years to come as well. "From there you move to joint programs," Morouney said. "So maybe one day we'll have a joint degree MBA with a specialization in logistics where you complete a term in China or their students complete a term here."

Donahue stressed the significance of having ties to a partner like Chongqing, which has been ranked in the top thirty universities in China out of nearly 3,000 institutions.

"I think what you're going to see is our university have access to something big because the problems that are going to be solved in Chongqing are global programs," Donahue explained.

"It's water, environment, feeding the population. To be able to have access for our students and faculty to what is happening there means that we have an opportunity to have some input on the world's biggest issues of today."



MEGAN CHERNIAK PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

Members of faculty and administration from Chongqing University examine 3-D imaging technology at the Communitech Hub where e-learning and communications technology were shown off Friday.

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## News in brief

**Laurier doesn't drop much**  
Wilfrid Laurier University, which last year was ranked as tied for fourth nationwide among primarily undergraduate universities, slipped to fifth place in the 19th annual *Maclean's* university rankings.

The drop was attributed to an increase in class sizes. "The research design in some of these instruments is very questionable," David McMurray, VP of student affairs said. "A lot of it is a sort of 'opinion-aire' and it's taken at a time when students can be influenced by many things," he continued.

Laurier still holds the distinction of first place among primarily undergraduate schools in Ontario.

### Brantford dean of students position remains unfilled

Though the search, ongoing since the summer, appeared to be over for a dean of students at the Brantford campus, Chris Macdonald-Dennis will not be taking the position as was previously thought.

"He's not coming, he's declined the position we offered him for personal health reasons," David McMurray, VP of student affairs, said. "We've just launched a new search with the same parameters, the same process ... it's been posted across Canada and the U.S." McMurray stressed that the position is something that is essential for Brantford, which previously did not have a dedicated dean of students.



NICK LACHANCE VISUAL DIRECTOR

### Terrace expansion's 'green' roof installed

Friday Nov. 12, a crew of workers installed the foliage that composes the Terrace food court expansion's "green" roof. The roof material, composed of plants, will help lower heating costs in the structure through the insulation it provides.

The Terrace expansion will also include heated floors and insulated windows to make it even more energy efficient. It is scheduled to open Dec. 3.

The structure shares its roofing material with the City of Waterloo City Centre (City Hall) and Grand River Hospital.

—Compiled by Mike Lakusiak



## LOCAL

Local Editor Vacant • editor@thecord.ca



## Protest stifles national journalist

NICK LACHANCE VISUAL DIRECTOR

ALANNA WALLACE  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

"Our goal was to not let her speak, we accomplished that," said Talula Marigold, media representative for the small group of individuals who usurped the stage on Nov. 12 at the University of Waterloo's (UW) Hagey Hall and prevented *Globe and Mail* columnist Christie Blatchford from speaking.

Blatchford was promoting her new book *Helpless: Caledonia's Nightmare of Fear and Anarchy, and How the Law Failed All of Us*, which examines the Caledonia crisis and critiques the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) for the breakdown of rule of law.

Among the group of individuals protesting the event and criticizing Blatchford was Laurier graduate Dan Kellar, who said Blatchford's book is "very dishonest," going so far as to call it "hack journalism because she's not accepting the role of history in the current situation."

Kellar mentioned that the group was formed of individuals who were affiliated with various groups including anti-racist action and the Concerned Settlers of the Grand

River Territory. Some of the same individuals also organized a teach-in before the event began, which included students, faculty and community members in a discussion about Blatchford, her ideas and book, as well as other common themes.

Some individuals expressed that the columnist should not be given the privilege of speaking in the university's academic forum.

"I don't think there's a space for her with her hack journalism and her driving of misunderstanding and hatred," said Kellar. "There's no space for her to sit in an academic setting and speak."

Blatchford disagreed and although she wanted to go on stage, UW decided to cancel the event instead because of "concern for general public safety," according to Michael Strickland, the school's assistant director: media relations.

"There are critics and that is absolutely fine and I will stay here until the cows come home to answer your questions or hear your heckling, whatever it may be," Blatchford said later.

"But give me my chance to speak

and then I'll give you yours."

Regarding the misinterpretation of her book, Blatchford explained that in her work's forward she explains her approach — being a reporter who covers the criminal court for a living and being interested in the rule of law, she set out "to describe what happened in Caledonia from the perspective of the rule of law and the failure of the state and the failure of the OPP."

Various audience members denounced the tactics of the protesters: both those that had come simply to see Blatchford speak and others who had come to ask her tough questions about her book.

Pauline Campbell, audience member and Waterloo resident, said the protesters used the wrong forum to voice their opinions.

"If they had rented their own room," she suggested that the situation would have been different. "But that wasn't the night I came out here to see and I mean it's a load of garbage, calling people Nazis. It was very unpleasant."

Former Laurier student Jacob Pries said he was not opposed to Blatchford speaking, but said he had

attended the event to "call her out" on what he believes to be falsehoods in her book's arguments.

Pries also had some suggestions for how those opposed to Blatchford's views could promote dialogue.

"What's more appropriate in the situation is to engage with the arguments because then you can actually deal with the arguments and not let them fester and become worse," Pries said.

"That's what we're going to see as a result of this."

The protest lasted for well over an hour, with audience members and protesters yelling and cursing back and fourth.

"Unfortunately there is a small minority that felt that they would win if they'd just sit on the stage and yell 'racist, racist, racist,'" said Strickland.

"We made a determination that since [Blatchford] wasn't going to get a word in, in any sort of respectful fashion, there would be no point in bringing her out and having her subjected to that."

As a result, the event will be rescheduled for a later date and security will likely be heightened.

## Mayor meets with students

ALANNA WALLACE  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

With the municipal election now complete and new council members getting comfortable in their roles, the Mayor's Student Advisory Council (MSAC) has begun meeting again. The group, comprised of Mayor Brenda Halloran and university students, aims to promote the involvement of students in the community.

"What we're looking for is to provide a different level of student engagement on a community level," said Laurier fourth-year and chair of MSAC Tim Elphick.

"Making sure that students are being engaged and aware of what is taking place in the community as opposed to what is happening here within the Laurier block."

Although there were only a handful of students present, Halloran expressed her excitement at rejuvenating MSAC now that she has her entire four-year term ahead of her.

"The people who are here are excited to take it forward and we'll build on it so I'm very excited," she commented.

The meeting generally focused on how to get students to come out to meetings and events and how to engage the wider post-secondary populations.

To read the rest of this story and more check out

**thecord.ca**

## Vigil celebrates religious unity

MATTHEW SAVARD  
STAFF WRITER

On Nov. 11, members of nearly a dozen faiths came together in Uptown Waterloo's public square for an interfaith candle vigil honouring the veterans of the many wars that have been fought in a gathering that was organized by Interfaith Grand River and the Mennonite Central Committee Ontario (MCCO).

"I observe Remembrance Day by remembering all the people who are affected by war," said Josie Winterfeld, member of the MCCO, explaining how the holiday goes beyond just the soldiers but is also about

"remembering people that work for peace as well."

The multitude of faiths present also reflected this message in their prayers and in how they observe Remembrance Day. Imam Shafiq Huda, one of the speakers invited to the event, spoke on how members of the Muslim faith observe Remembrance Day.

"We don't have a formal observation of Remembrance Day," he said. "We try to remember the issues of peace and justice every day."

The idea of unity was what made the event such a success, as Chatai Ahuja of the Sikh community expressed.

"When we are together we [have] a better understanding. We are all the same. We're all one," he said, emphasizing how faiths can even co-operate globally in a similar fashion to the interfaith gathering.

It is these types of stories and gatherings that show how different peoples and faiths can come together and unite.

Ahuja made this point quite clear when he said: "The differences in people make [this world] a little more lively."

"So long as we have differences we can understand our differences and work towards building bridges and getting together."

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## NATIONAL

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## Canada in brief

**More students find it cool to stay in school: StatsCan**

OTTAWA (CUP) — The dropout rate for Canadian high school students has nearly halved over the last two decades, according to a recent Statistics Canada report.

As of 2010, only 8.5 per cent of young twenty-somethings hadn't seen their secondary school education through to the end. More young men than young women have typically failed to complete high school, although the gap between the two groups has narrowed since 1990.

Twenty years ago, 19.2 per cent of men and 14 per cent of women did not complete secondary school — those rates dropped to 10.3 per cent and 6.6 per cent respectively in 2009-10.

—Emma Godmere, CUP Ottawa Bureau Chief

**Canada fails in its commitments to international community: Dallaire**

MONTREAL (CUP) — Romeo Dallaire's speech at Concordia University addressed how Canada finds itself in a new international situation with new powers to contest with. Dallaire went on to argue that there is no longer such thing as a peace-keeper. It is no use throwing money at countries, he said. Instead, Canada must go into countries and "get their boots dirty."

A multi-disciplinary approach to intervention, he argued, is vital.

—Emma Quail, the McGill Daily

—Compiled by Alanna Wallace

## Canadian colleges confront a looming skilled labour shortage

Conference in B.C. sparks debate on how to adapt to a changing job market

ERIC MERKLEY  
OPINION EDITOR

Two week ago, the heads of colleges across the province of British Columbia met at the Advance 2010+ conference to face, head on, the challenge of a growing skilled labour shortage in Canada. Among the speakers at the event was Paul Charette, the chair of Bird Construction Company, who sounded the alarm that a crisis was approaching and more needed to be done. The conference was hosted by BC Colleges, a consortium of 11 institutions representing 250,000 students.

Jim Reed, president of BC Colleges, explains that "the conference held in Vancouver brought together the leadership of the colleges in B.C. for the sole purpose of looking at how the college system should work in a more collaborative way to address what we see is a significant challenge in the province and country in the coming years with the skilled labour shortage."

There have been many identified causes of the impending shortage of skilled labour across the country, from demographic trends to attitudinal changes in the Canadian public. Rick Miner, president emeritus of Seneca College, drafted a report on the skilled labour crisis last year entitled "People Without Jobs; Jobs Without People: Ontario's Labour Market." Reed credits the report as a wakeup call to colleges in B.C. about

the gravity of the challenge faced with the mismatch of education and job availability on the new market.

Miner identifies a key problem as a stigma behind going into the skilled trades or attending college for a more practical education.

"There is still an attitudinal issue in the population, primarily of reluctance to push their children to the skilled trades.... there is a bias towards universities in the hierarchy of education," he said.

Miner admits that this is beginning to change slowly, pointing out that college enrollments have gone up faster than universities and that one of the largest sources of college recruits are university graduates supplementing their degree. "I think there is more and more recognition that while having a four-year baccalaureate degree might be good eventually, you have to get a job and the applied relevance of a college degree is valuable," he explained.

Both Miner and Reed agree that the primary cause of the labour shortage is changing demographics. Specifically, the retirement of the baby-boomers is altering the ratio of taxed wage-earners to those that primarily receive benefits, such as the elderly. It also means there are simply less people able to take on the jobs that are needed to be filled.

"The first baby-boomers turn 65 next year and the reality is there is a dropping fertility rate in Canada," explained Reed. "An aging

workforce will shift the economy right across the country.... they've identified in B.C. alone that there would be one million job openings unfilled. The impact will be just as profound in the rest of Canada."

Miner points out that the lack of filled positions does not mean there will be low unemployment. In fact, he predicts, just the opposite will occur. "Governments will face an increased unemployment rate because people don't have the skills to find a job and at the same time you have employers who can't find workers with skills. It's a real mismatch," said Miner.

With a declining tax base due to increased unemployment and labour market attrition, it will become increasingly difficult to maintain the current trajectory of government spending. This has profound implications on the services offered by all levels of government.

"If you can't fully employ your workforce you can't pay for the social programs. It's going to be a real dilemma," predicts Miner. "It will be harder to support your health care, your educational institutions and other social services."

Reed argues that the shortage will also impact the Canadian economy. In particular, it will limit Canada's ability to compete globally.

"There is aggressive global competition for skilled workers. If we are not able to provide those workers for our own economy.... the jobs

and industries are likely to go elsewhere," he warns.

For Reed, the Advance 2010+ conference was the first step in working to combat the shortage by increasing the co-operation between colleges in British Columbia and looking at the problem from a system wide point of view.

"It comes down to looking at things from a system-wide basis and sharing our collective resources more effectively," said Reed. "We can collaborate in part between colleges, but also with universities and industry to respond to the labour market requirements of the province in the long term."

Miner echoes Reed's calls for greater integration between all stakeholders: the educational system, industry and government. Miner, however, takes it a step further, calling on the federal government to get more formally involved, specifically with the creation of a Ministry of Education.

Reed is cautiously optimistic about the prospects of easing the negative impact of the coming labour shortage.

"I do think we have a serious challenge provincially and nationally and we are not the silver bullet, but an important part of it as are universities and industry," he said. "But if we work together more as collaborators as opposed to competitors I think we have a chance at solving part of the problem."

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## WORLD

World Editor Alex Mitsiopoulos • amitsiopoulos@thecord.ca

## World in brief

**CALIFORNIA, United States**

On Nov. 15, California's Supreme Court unanimously ruled in favor of allowing illegal immigrants to obtain the same reduced tuition rate that legal residents received for public colleges and universities. This law is considered a victory in the series of harsh immigration policies currently being debated in the US.

**PYONGYANG, North Korea**

Due to worsening economic conditions and a dismal food situation, there has been a surge of defections from North Korea recently. One South Korean official stated that over 2,000 defectors have emigrated from North to South Korea this year alone. Due to the numerous fences, land mines and guards along the North-South border, defectors typically escape into China first and then cross into South Korea.

**PRISTINA, Kosovo**

On Nov. 15, European officials stated that seven people have been charged for international organ-trafficking. A network of criminals based in Kosovo allegedly lured poor individuals into giving away their organs on the black market in exchange for large sums of money. The donors state that they never received a penny.

**CAIRO, Egypt**

Egyptian officials have uncovered 12 more sphinx statues along the ancient avenue connecting the Luxor and Karnak temples. This section of the road was used in religious ceremonies and dates back to the reign of Pharaoh Nectanebo I, from 380-362 B.C.

**LONDON, England**

On Nov. 16, it was officially announced that Prince William is engaged to his long-term girlfriend Kate Middleton. The Prince, who is second in line to the throne, proposed while on vacation this past October after asking permission from Middleton's father. The couple met in 2001 while studying art history at St. Andrews University in Scotland.

—Compiled by Nikicia Phillips

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MEGAN CHERNIAK PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

## 'I shall not hate'

—cover

He has written a bestselling book entitled *I Shall Not Hate: A Gaza Doctor's Journey*, which gives a more detailed account of his life and carries the same message of optimism that can be heard in many of his speeches.

Among the many themes of Abuelaish's lectures is the importance of the empowerment and education of women. All of his children, including his daughters, were given the opportunity to be educated. He spoke proudly of one daughter who, after being blinded in one eye during a particular bombing and hospitalized for months, went on to achieve 97 per cent in her final high school exams.

Abuelaish said he believes that "any country's development, you want to measure it by its women's education.... If we want to start the change, this is the vital core." The Daughters for Life organization, which he created in the memory of his daughters that he lost, aims to promote the education of women and girls in the Middle East.

Addressing the issue of instituting change, which was an

emphasized theme during his speech, Abuelaish's words were a call to action for the audience, spurred forward by his belief that every individual is capable of facilitating change.

"If we want to change this world and want this world to endure, we need two things: justice and truth," he said.

The key to this, he said, is that the action must come from within. In words that were reminiscent of Ghandi's famous phrase, he added, "God will never change what is in people until they change what is in their hearts, souls and minds ... Don't ask others to start the change, you are the change."

Abuelaish continued that this type of movement can begin with something as simple as tolerance or as vast as education.

A strong proponent of the idea that children are the future, Abuelaish left the audience with a message of possibility and strength.

"Nothing is impossible," he reminded those present. "I urge of you to dream, to work hard, not to give up."

## G20 Summit: Sustainable and balanced growth

Reform, development and recovery

LEEZA PECE

STAFF WRITER

Plans for "sustainable and balanced growth" — the phrase that Derek Hall, Laurier professor of political science, refers to as "the big banner the G20 has settled on waving in order to emphasize the importance of the agenda at the summit in Seoul, Korea."

Drawing to a close this past weekend, political leaders from across the globe took a collaborative and proactive approach in moving to stabilize the "post-crisis" economy, preventing any future financial disaster at the G20 Summit in Seoul, South Korea.

World leaders addressed a variety of policies on the agenda this past weekend including the modernization of global financial institutions, the implementation of regulatory safety nets as well as combating the prospects of a currency war among trading nations.

The traditional communiqué was created, entitled the Seoul Declaration, which Hall helps explain is based on "a mixture of more focused discussions like currency and banking supervision but also attempting to engage in broader discussion."

Leaders adopted new guidelines in order for accurate reflection of the state of the international economy.

More specifically, improvements were made to the International Monetary Fund's loan system, ensuring the use of emergency

resources.

There are, however, those who question the success of the summit at all as the major currency crisis remains unsolved.

An article deemed one of the most important in promoting efficient growth when dealt with was actually postponed for discussion at a later summit, providing room for public criticism of world leaders.

Patricia Goff, also a Laurier professor of political science, notes, however, that "public criticism is inevitable, as these are highly complex, intractable issues being discussed, and at a certain point we have to see the value in frank discussion that public is not privy to — we have to assume that leaders are weighing exchanges and outcomes as they see fit."

Leaders were unable to move beyond international conflicts regarding the devaluation of currency, to which Goff remarks, "We have to understand that they're not sitting around holding hands, for the most part there is sufficient argument and disagreement, especially when so much is at stake in terms of domestic politics."

To read the rest of Leeza Pece's article and more check out **thecord.ca**

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# FEATURES

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## Capturing the moment

Photography Manager Megan Cherniak provides helpful tips for those wishing to improve their skills with a camera - from point-and-shoot to digital SLR

Photography is no longer restricted to those with expensive equipment and access to a darkroom — it has become a means of expression for our generation.

With websites like Facebook and MySpace, we are invited into many aspects of our "friends'" lives, and pictures have become a staple in this ongoing communication.

From baby pictures to prom and wedding photos to remembering nights out or family events, photos

have become commonplace in our culture, with the accessibility of digital photography furthering the ease with which we can cherish our memories. However, simply owning or desiring a digital camera is only the first step. Often many of the potentially beneficial features of cameras can be overlooked.

When seeking to capture the perfect photo of the sunset on a beach vacation or the perfect action shot at a sporting event, we often need

to learn to take a step back and fully utilize the advanced technology available to us.

For many, this means going back to the basics — where shutter speed, aperture and megapixels can be found.

Generally speaking, the more megapixels a camera has the higher the image quality, and the easier it is to manipulate the image with post-production software such as Adobe Photoshop.

Most cell phones are equipped with a 3 to 5 megapixel camera, most point-and-shoot cameras are between 10 to 14 megapixels and digital single-lens reflex cameras can be upwards of 20 megapixels, with some even shooting HD video.

Knowing the basics can be an important part of owning a digital camera, but understanding how the presets on a camera work can quickly increase versatility and enhance the final product.

### Helpful tips

**Shutter speed** is how long the shutter or "eye" of a camera stays open for, or the length of the exposure. A longer exposure or slow shutter speed allows more light in and shows motion, and a shorter shutter speed limits the light and stops the action. **Aperture** is how much light is let in during the set shutter speed; a wider aperture lets in more light and is useful in low light settings, while a narrower aperture lets less light in — the idea is very similar to the pupil in your eye. A more narrow aperture allows for a greater depth of field, best for landscape, and shots taken from a distance. A pixel is the smallest unit produced in an image; a megapixel is equal to one million pixels.

### Action

**What it is:** A fast shutter speed is used for freezing moving objects or people. Ideal in well-lit settings, as the use of an in-camera flash can create a slight delay, causing the moment of action to be missed.

**When to use it:** Sporting events, pet or wildlife photography and the always difficult "jump-shot."

### Automatic

**What it is:** The shutter speed and aperture are chosen by the camera, taking into account the available light and motion of subjects and offering the best settings for a given situation. This setting can be used with or without flash and is the most versatile.

**When to use it:** Everyday photos, parties and events, can be used without a flash at concerts with some cameras.

### Manual

**What it is:** The shutter speed and aperture are chosen by the camera user; tips and tricks for different techniques can be found online. The manual setting can be used in any situation with practice. Often once a photographer goes manual they find the automatic setting constricting.

**When to use it:** Anywhere and everything depending on your comfort level.

### Landscape

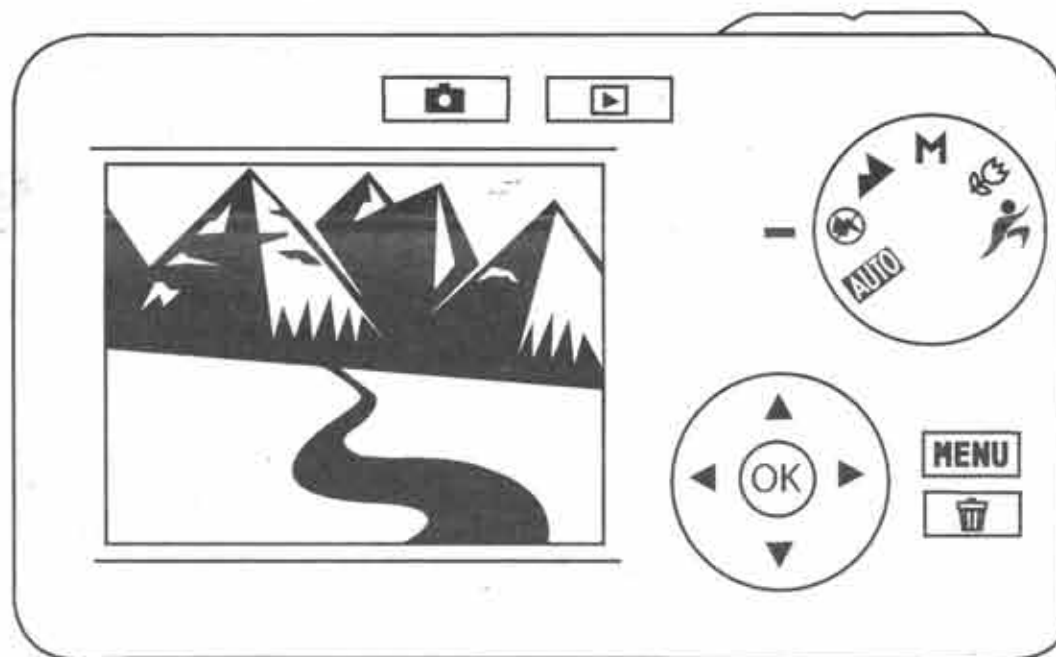
**What it is:** Where macro has a shallow depth of field, landscape gives your camera an unlimited, or "infinite," setting for depth of field. The landscape setting allows the camera to choose the narrowest aperture possible to accommodate the "infinite" depth of field.

**When to use it:** Hiking, a day at the beach, a perfect way to capture those breathtaking vacation photos.

### Macro

**What it is:** Using the macro setting changes the point of focus or "depth of field" on your camera from its usual distance of greater than a foot to a couple of inches. Using macro is similar to switching from binoculars to a magnifying glass — it allows for a closer focus as well as sharper details. Best used in well-lit situations.

**When to use it:** Flowers, insects, jewelry, anything up close.



WADE THOMPSON GRAPHICS EDITOR

## Five photography websites worth a 'shot'

### flickr.com

Search by a type, or click "explore" to be immersed in a variety of photos uploaded by the photographers themselves. Photos can be added to groups or commented on and you can create your own account for free.

### ix.com

A variety of breathtaking and awe-inspiring photos contributed by photographers from around the world.

### photography.nationalgeographic.com

National Geographic has been wowing us for decades with its high-quality photography. Take a look at the photos of the day or browse the galleries; they will not disappoint.

### awkwardfamilyphotos.com

A website that shows us how important posing and wardrobe choice — among other factors — can be for a photo.

### ifoundyourcamera.net

As the website claims, "Every photo on this website comes from a lost camera or memory stick or roll of film somewhere around the world." ifoundyourcamera has set out on the mission of returning these lost memories to their owners.

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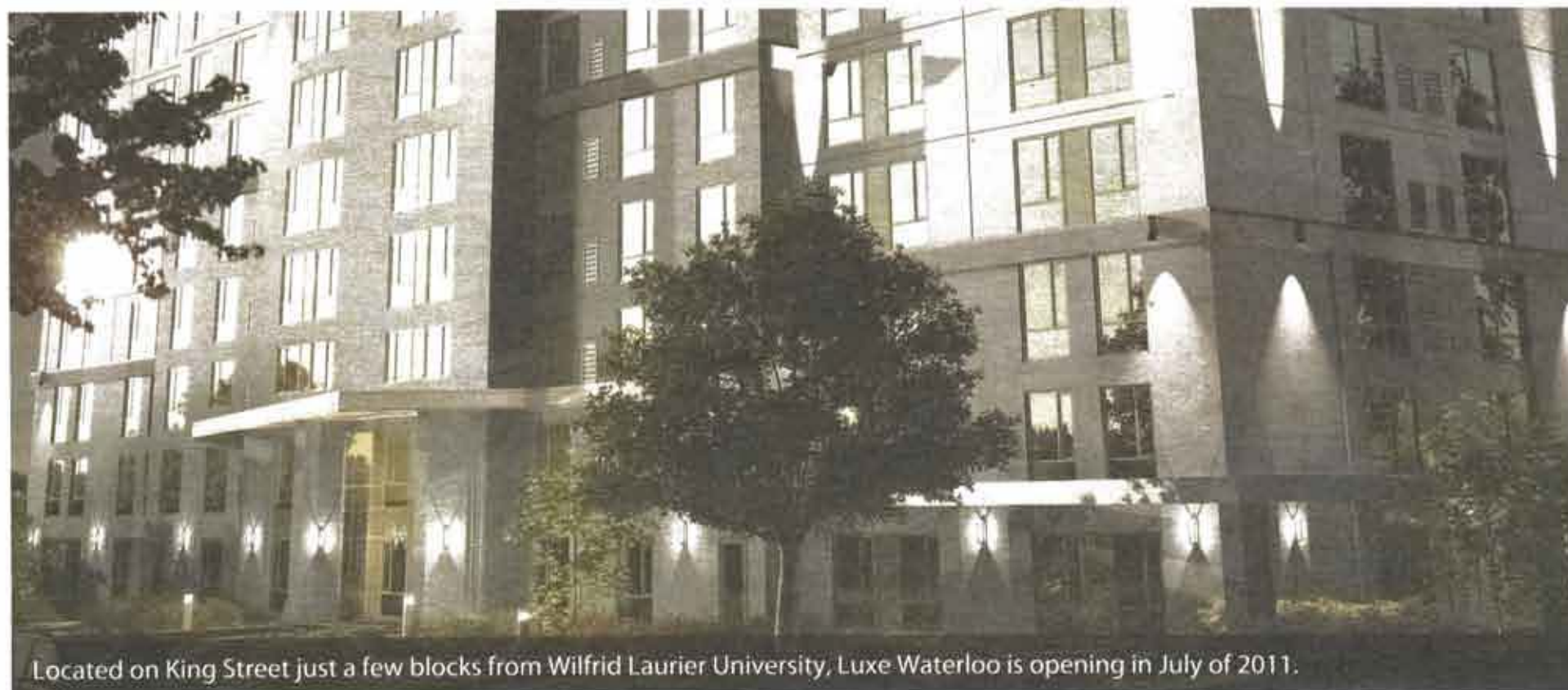


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2008

2009

2010

2011

Sept. 3

Two Laurier students assaulted with a knife on Lester Street.

Sept. 22

A woman is robbed on Albert Street during day-light hours.

Sept. 23

A woman is sexually assaulted on Albert Street during the day.

Dec. 26

A son committed by high school students destroys Hazel Street house.

Oct. 5

18-year-old student assaulted while running at Hickory and Hazel around 12:30 a.m.

Nov. 13

Three masked individuals entered and robbed residents on Regina Street with a weapon.

# 'It hits closer to home'

MEGAN CHERNIAK PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

assaults, break-and-enters and thefts in the area, gathering many diverse perspectives on crime in the community. Columbia Street and Lester Street and residents include university students and more permanent residents

Northdale, stated that from her experience she with tenants. However, she explained that "between ... or over Christmas when we've had maybe

when she visits her tenants, she is surprised which she sees as something that needs to be

Services (WRPS) public affairs co-ordinator Olaf can sometimes be careless, making it easier for

student housing particularly is when you have in a building there's the tendency for some individuals than others," said Heinzl. believes that because of the poor shape many houses in, he sees break-and-enter and property damage

tribute to the amount of crime. When the houses are the crime would occur to them," said Ford, explaining can sometimes lead to a lack of respect for the

the Ward 6 (which comprises Northdale) city ensure that our accommodations are well-maintained it is the right of every tenant to demand correction to improve his or her living conditions. making that a little bit less attractive and a little ... I don't think it's about the fact that we have think it's made for a bit of an easier target so we after accommodations," said Henry. the problem is that for many students, safety is

this kind of population. It's your first home and to keep themselves safe yet. It's something you et. Many people don't treat it as a home and are e here. And as a result, they don't appreciate that

Easson has noted that the temporary nature of aging, dwindling population of permanent residents of trust within the Northdale community. community," said Easson. "Students are here for

a short time and gone, and it creates a situation where people don't know who their neighbours are."

For Rae, the diversity of Ward 6's population — coupled with the inherent systemic problems within the area — may also contribute to some of the crime within the community.

"Different residents are using it for vastly different purposes," said Rae.

"I have neighbours raising children and some who are elderly and some like you who are students. We all have very different needs I think and those aren't being met and I think the recent surge of crime is reflective of bigger issues."

## The solutions

For Easson, it is difficult to envision a way that the crime rates can be lowered in Northdale.

"It's almost unsolvable," said Easson. "I think that's sort of the message we've gotten from living here.... There's just nothing by-law can really do about it or the police."

She explained that many of the crimes — such as vandalism or theft — tend to involve a situation in which the culprit has fled the scene too quickly to take any action; and that police have told her there is little that can be done.

While Statistics Canada's Police Reported Crime Statistics from 2009 have placed Waterloo well below the national average in terms of crime severity, Heinzl explained that with regard to crimes such as assaults, there are still preventative actions that can be taken.

Heinzl said that while "everyone has a different threshold for what they believe is risky or what they feel comfortable with," it is important that the city's residents make sure they are aware of their surroundings and that they report any suspicious occurrences in their neighbourhood.

As far as what can be done from within the university, McKay explained that FOOT does nightly "sweeps" of campus and neighbourhoods around the university to check for any potentially dangerous situations.

He also explained that as a resource, FOOT ensures that students always have an option when they feel unsafe on campus so that they are "never alone."

Henry noted that while the situation may seem hopeless, Northdale residents can improve the situation by keeping their "eyes on the street and fostering a strong environment.

"If we try to vision a neighbourhood we want, it's safe, affordable and actually fosters community," he said.

"With a lot of work, as a community, we must work to shape a vision of what we want."

## Waterloo Regional Police Services (WRPS) safety tips

- "Think about your personal safety first. If you can get out of the home and call police, do so as quickly as you possibly can but don't do anything that would put your personal safety in jeopardy."
- "If you do need to walk by yourself, it's a good idea to let somebody in your household know where you're going, when you're expected to arrive and what route you're taking and stick to that route."
- "If you're walking by yourself especially you should stay on well-lit streets with people around and keep your cell phone on you."
- "We're finding it seems that people who have been assaulted or attacked it's often been from behind when people were wearing earphones.... What we would encourage people to do is have them set at a volume where you can hear what's going on around you."
- "Keeping a look around and know what's going on and don't advertise the fact that you are unaware."
- "As far as doors and windows and the security of the house if you have any concerns first thing you should do is to discuss it with your landlord.... If you have concerns with the quality of the locks brings those to the attention of your landlord."

—From an interview The Cord conducted with Olaf Heinzl, WRPS Public Affairs Co-ordinator



# ARTS

Sarah Murphy • smurphy@thecord.ca

## Waterloo plays host to impressive line-up

### Royal Wood at Starlight (Nov. 9)

ANTHONY DAMIAO  
CORD ARTS

iTunes songwriter of the year Royal Wood played at Starlight last week during the second month of a tour promoting his new record *The Waiting*.

Wood primarily performs in larger theatres these days due to his recent successes, so it was a rare pleasure to see the artist play a small club venue.

Toronto-based singer-songwriter Emma Lee opened the show with her beautiful folk jazz melodies, stunning voice and lyrics that dig deep into the crux of the unembellished life.

Wood played with a full band, combining storytelling and rock 'n' roll with honest lyrics and a lot of noise.

For a portion of the evening, he reverted to a more intimate style, playing only his guitar backed by a double bass — a reflection of Royal's past performances.

The show was well attended, with many seatless fans standing attentively for the entire performance as

Wood moved from piano to guitar and back again.

Wood's songs were interspersed with his wry sense of humor that reflected his eight years in the business.

The audience was an involved one, laughing at his banter and clapping along to the rhythm section during "On Top of Your Love."

The audience sang along unreservedly to the heart-melting ballad "Lady in White" and gathered in droves to purchase CDs after Royal Wood's incredible encore performance.

A number of changes have come around for Wood with the release of his newest record, which he claims is "probably the most personal and introspective" record he has made so far.

Anyone familiar with Royal Wood's musical career, which really got rolling in 2004 with the release of his first full-length album *Tall Tales*, knows how devoted an artist he is. Until his most recent record, Wood had not only produced all of his records on his own but also played most of the instruments on



BEN DEROGHIE STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Royal Wood put on an intimate and breathtaking performance for fans at Starlight last Tuesday night.

them. Feeling it was time to step outside his comfort zone, he decided to enlist the help of a talented group of musicians, as well as producer Pierre Marshall (who worked extensively with Sarah McLaughlin).

"Having other people's opinions, my band coming in and playing instead of me playing everything was strange territory," Wood told The Cord. "I don't regret any of those decisions. I think this is my best

record."

Speaking with regards to the critical acclaim and awards that he has achieved, Wood said, "It can't change you. If you start believing the reviews you read then you're screwed."

"The only reason I started making music in the first place is the same reason I started when I was a little kid, it brings me joy. It's what I always wanted to do. I didn't want to

be on the cover of the *Rolling Stone*, I just wanted to make music."

Inspiring words in a time where musical success is too often characterized by money and appearance.

Royal Wood will be carrying out the remainder of his three-month tour with award winning indie-pop artist Hannah Georgas until Nov. 26, where he will wrap up *The Waiting* tour at Toronto's Queen Elizabeth Theatre.

### Jason Collett at Starlight (Nov. 10)

—cover

He also praised the owners of Starlight, Bernard Kearney and Josh Koehler, claiming that the venue is "an institution, not just here but in Canada."

Touring for as long as he has, Starlight has led Collett to develop an "appreciation for people that have really fine hospitality."

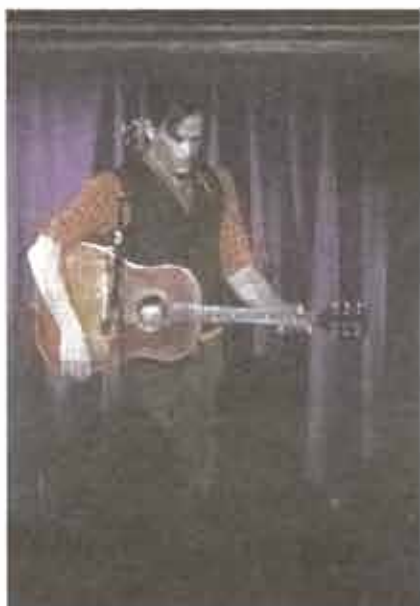
Discussing the changing dynamic of each of his tours, Collett remarked that, "the industry is just used to doing things one way and it needs to figure out other ways to do things."

"This is part of what I do — to

explore other ways to do things, try different angles. Exploring things with other artists in loose collectives is really fascinating to me."

Despite his constant collaboration with other artists, Collett says that for now he's "happy to just go out on my own," though when his upcoming Australian tour with fellow musicians Zeus approaches, "I'll be really ready for it."

An exceptional and seemingly rare solo performance, Collett ensured that Wednesday night's concert was one to remember.



MEGAN CHERNIAK PHOTO MANAGER

### Will Currie & the Country French at Wilf's (Nov. 13)

DREW HIGGINBOTHAM  
STAFF WRITER

This past Saturday night, Wilf's played host to some great talent, showcasing music from Jean-Paul Maurice and Laurier graduates Will Currie and the Country French.

As Maurice took to the stage first for an acoustic performance, an acoustic pop-rock sound filled the room and he displayed his impressive vocals and whistling. His alluring ballads manage to tell stories by mixing humour and heartbreak and are evidently rooted in the landscapes of Western Canada.

Maurice played a mix of songs from his band's full album *Young People with Faces* and their latest EP *Big Country*. The song "Spoons" from the EP showed off Maurice's gentle voice and delivered a soft opening for the rest of the night's music. When he was joined by a backing band on stage, they provided a harder sound that was able to cut through the reluctant crowd and get everyone engaged.

The Cord caught up with Maurice after his set and asked him about playing on Laurier's campus. "It's great here, they treat the bands really well, only bad thing was the grumpy sound guy, he's not very nice," he commented. Maurice continued, "I was hoping the crowd would be a little more interactive since I'm used to a high-energy crowd."

Maurice is currently on tour with Will Currie and the Country French without the rest of his band — aptly called Maurice. "I flew out solo and it's lonely touring without the band. Touring is a lengthy process, but I'll be meeting up with the rest of my band when we begin to drive out West," he concluded.

After Maurice's set, Will Currie and the Country French brought their high-energy rock music to the Wilf's stage. The catchy hooks and upbeat drumming had people tapping their toes and dancing on the



MEGAN CHERNIAK PHOTO MANAGER

spot. The band played tracks like "Tommy Douglas" and "Thunder Bay Coast Guard Radio", the latter a dynamic song with interesting musical changes and neat guitar effects. Delving into some new material the band also played "Railroad", another lively song with a fun melody that had the crowd clapping to the beat. Despite the quiet crowd, Will Currie and the Country French delivered an admirable performance, eventually winning over much of the crowd with their classic indie-pop sound.

The night was capped off with an impromptu cover of "Hey Jude" for the encore, featuring Jean-Paul Maurice on vocals.

Will Currie spoke to The Cord about the show and said, "It was lots of fun. Sometimes when you play your hometown you will have your friends come out and see you but not this time. That's why it's great on nights like these when you have people who come out to see you that just want to sing and dance."

Currie also divulged an update about the band's next record *Awake! You Sleepers*, saying, "We are all done the album, but we're in the works trying to find a distributor. We hope that will be taken care of early in the New Year."

## Film series sheds light on oil industry

ALEX MITSIOPOULOS  
WORLD EDITOR

This past Thursday, Cinema Politica hosted their last screening of the semester. The latest installment featured *H2Oil*, a documentary exposing the severe health and environmental effects resulting from the extraction of crude from the Alberta tar sands.

"We're really thrilled, I don't think we expected such a great turnout consistently throughout the whole term," said Tanya Richardson, coordinator of Cinema Politica's K-W chapter. "Most of the turnout is students so that is really gratifying as well."

*H2Oil* is the first Cinema Politica film of the year to feature Canadian content. The documentary is about the Albertan residents of Fort Chipewyan and their struggle with the expanding oil industries in the northern territory of the province.

As the largest supplier of oil to the United States, the tar sands in Alberta serve as an important source of revenue. However, the industry

has taken a severe toll on the environment and on the health of the residents in the surrounding area.

Initial reports have found that a variety of heavy metals have been found in excess amounts in the earth and water around Fort Chipewyan and in the Athabasca river. Arsenic levels amount to over 400 times the level of safe exposure for humans and animals.

This and other chemicals have created mutations in plant and animal life, causing increasing concern to the residents of Fort Chipewyan, who blame oil corporations like Suncor and Shell for the negative effects. The documentary attacks the methodical contamination of clean fresh water as well, with companies using up eight to ten barrels of clean water to produce just one barrel of oil.

Tailing ponds, man-made dams that store wastewater from the extraction process, have become a significant by-product of the oil industry. If the dam of an average-sized pond, some of which can be seen from space, were to break, it would result in a disaster 300 times worse

than the Exxon-Vadex.

The Fort Chipewyan community has been calling for provincial, national and even international assistance in launching a comprehensive study to uncover the extent to which the oil industry has affected the region. Thus far, no studies have been commissioned.

While Cinema Politica's film roster for the following semester has yet to be selected, Richardson explains that, "There are always new movies coming out so we wanted to see what they were going to get to have the greatest selection."

"What we're aiming for is variety, we don't want too many overlapping themes. Main criteria is to provide a really gripping film," Richardson concluded. Cinema Politica has featured the films *Please Vote for Me* and *End of the Line* in previous months. The films are available for sale online or at Generation X on Regina Street.

Cinema Politica is set to resume with regular installments of documentaries next semester. Film screenings are free to attend, but donations are always accepted.



# CLASSIFIEDS

Advertising Manager Angela Foster • [angela@wluwp.com](mailto:angela@wluwp.com)

## DearLIFE

*Dear Life is your opportunity to write a letter to your life, allowing you to vent your anger with life's little frustrations in a completely public forum. All submissions to Dear Life are anonymous, should be no longer than 100 words and must be addressed to your life. Submissions can be sent to [dearlife@thecord.ca](mailto:dearlife@thecord.ca) no later than Monday at noon each week.*

**Dear Life,**  
You seem to be going well right now. Strange. Sincerely,  
Waiting for something bad to happen soon

**Dear Life,**  
Where does one of the chairs of L.U.C.K. get off saying that "November is just an excuse for all guys to show how lazy they are and there are better ways to raise money for cancer" I would rather grow a mustache than buy one of your fucking cookies anyway. Sincerely  
Just because you won't get man cancer doesn't mean it's not an issue, get over yourself

**Dear Stressed,**  
Feeling overwhelmed with life is a normal experience and you are not alone in feeling this way. If you feel like you can't get up in the morning, just remember Peer Help Line is available from 4pm-2am 7 days a week (884-7337).  
Counseling Services is located across from Health Services too and they can give you that boost of encouragement, and talk you through your troubles! Laurier Secrets is an excellent way to share, but don't forget about PHL and Counseling Services - they will keep your secret and be a great listening ear. Love,  
Someone Who Cares

**Dear Life,**  
This is a friendly 'who the fuck do you think you are Kardinal Offishall hater?' The A-Team puts the A in AWESOME and is responsible for all the AWESOME events that we have here at Laurier. So if you think you have a better shot at getting celebrities like KESHA to come to Laurier then by all means we look forward to seeing her debut at the Turret.  
P.S. - if you don't dig Kardinal Offishall check out Lights. Sincerely,  
Unbelievable

**Dear Life,**  
Why is it that whenever I try to throw things in the garbage in the dining hall, it is OVERFLOWING with take-out containers? Sincerely,  
If you get your food "to go", you should really go somewhere

**Dear Life,**  
I'm so happy the Cord has been bringing humour to serious issues through hilarious headlines. First "Who's Replacing Hu?" and now "Wireless Unplugged"!!!! Sincerely,  
Don't stop the "punny" headlines, fuckheads

**Dear Life,**  
Why is everybody being such a Negative Nancy?!? Sincerely,  
Thank God I didn't take a ride on the Bitter Bus!!  
PS. The flags in the DH are AWESOME!!

**Dear Life,**  
Bitch bitch bitch bitch bitch bitch  
Bitch bitch bitch bitch bitch bitch  
bitch bitch bitch,  
Sincerely,  
Bitch.

## Poll Results: What do you think of wireless on campus?

**42%**  
I have problems with it

**24%**  
Never seems to work

**24%**  
I'm getting myself one of those rocket sticks

**24%**  
It works surprisingly well

Total participants last week: 59

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## Wanted

**LOOKING FOR 2 BEDROOM SUBLET** for month to month rent. Near Hazel & Albert area or Uptown Waterloo. Starting Dec 1st. Contact Bryn at [bryn.ossington@gmail.com](mailto:bryn.ossington@gmail.com)

## Help Wanted

**STUDY ON SLOW METABOLISM**  
Do you have a slow metabolism & have trouble maintaining or losing weight? Individuals who have a slow metabolism may be more prone to diet-induced obesity. Researchers at the University of Waterloo are conducting a study comparing the metabolism of overweight & lean individuals. If you are overweight or have trouble maintaining or losing weight & are interested in being participant for this study, you can obtain more information by contacting Karlee at [chall@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:chall@uwaterloo.ca) or 519-888-4567 Ext. 35791. Participants are asked to come in for a total of 4 hours over 3 visits, & will receive \$50.00 in appreciation of their time. This study has been reviewed & received full ethics clearance by the Office of Research Ethics.

**NANNY NEEDED: PART-TIME** for two small boys (4 years and 1.5 years). Days and times depending on your schedule. Near Erb and Moore. Driver's license preferred. Please call Jane at (519) 741-8619.

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# EDITORIAL

Opinion Editor Eric Merkley • [emerkeley@thecord.ca](mailto:emerkeley@thecord.ca)

## Protesters robbed UW of an important debate

On Friday, Christie Blatchford, columnist for the *Globe and Mail*, was scheduled to speak at the University of Waterloo to promote her new book *Helpless: Caledonia's Nightmare of Fear and Anarchy, and How the Law Failed All of Us*. Within, she gives a scathing critique of how the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) failed to protect the citizens of Caledonia and allowed a breakdown of the rule of law. Her speech was cancelled after a small group of individuals stormed the stage, demanding that Blatchford not address the audience.

For individuals that complain endlessly (and rightly) about their freedom of speech being infringed upon at the G20 protests, it is hypocrisy in the extreme to prevent others from practicing their right on campuses and in society in general. Stifling Blatchford's event also discredits their call for equality and freedom of expression.

Blatchford admits that her book does not address the historical treaties like the Haldimand Proclamation and is rather an account of the events that transpired and a critique on how the OPP stood by while the rule of law in Caledonia faltered.

While it is a legitimate critique that her argument is weaker by not addressing the Native side of the argument, this is hardly racism, as those protesting advocate. Despite claims that Blatchford spreads hatred, the way in which protesters attempted to convey this message completely discredited their point. Tossing the words "racist" and "Nazi" around in anger as they did cheapens the cause of combating legitimate racism that exists in society.

If certain individuals disagreed with Blatchford's opinions, they had an opportunity to question her in the question and answer period of the event. Instead, they behaved in a disrespectful manner and subsequently robbed the audience of the opportunity for needed debate and dialogue.

—The Cord Editorial Board

## Admissions should be based only on merit

Last week's issue of *Maclean's* featured a story about the implications of growing Asian enrolment at top Canadian universities. The article argues that universities face the dilemma that the status quo is leading to a gradual voluntary segregation of the student population; yet there are no options to correct perceived imbalances. In the U.S., unofficial race-based quotas have become increasingly common among top-tier private schools to maintain a stable number of Caucasian students. Some worry these policies will eventually be adopted by Canadian universities.

The article pointed to trends most students take as rather obvious. Certain schools that specialize in mathematics and science have large and growing Asian student populations, while more arts-focused, partying schools like the University of Western Ontario are more Caucasian. It is also largely evident that there could be more interaction between the two groups, which often voluntarily segregate themselves.

For Caucasian students, though, to complain that they can't compete with Asian students because of their focus on academics as indicated in the article is quite sad indeed. It may be true that culture and more disciplined parenting gives Asian students a stronger work ethic, but it doesn't entirely boil down to race or culture at the end of the day, rather the choices of individuals.

If you are in university just to party, then enjoy delivering pizza upon graduation if you even make it that far. If you choose to take your education seriously, you should be rewarded both in class and in the job market. If that happens to skew admissions to favour Asians then so be it.

Universities should work to improve dialogue on campus to allow for better integration. To do anything else would at best dilute our education system by moving away from merit-based admissions and at worst be a terrible precedent of racial discrimination.

—The Cord Editorial Board

*This unsigned editorial is based off informal discussions and then agreed upon by the majority of The Cord's editorial board, which consists of 15 senior Cord staff including the Editor-in-Chief and Opinion Editor. The arguments made may reference any facts that have been made available through interviews, documents or other sources. The views presented do not necessarily reflect those of The Cord's volunteers, staff or WLUSP.*

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## Harper shows he will stoop to any level for political gain



ALANNA WALLACE  
[letters@thecord.ca](mailto:letters@thecord.ca)

In keeping with his blatant disregard for democratic process (for example, the two-time proroguing of Parliament since October 2008), Prime Minister Stephen Harper has extended the Canadian force's mission in Afghanistan beyond the legally mandated 2011 exit date without the permission of Parliament.

I don't even know why I'm surprised anymore.

Initially, when the prime minister announced the extension of the mission, he did so with providing such little detail that the opposition demanded he further his statements — although he has waited until Nov. 15, while he is in South Korea for the G20, to do so.

Putting aside the issue of Canada's military involvement in Afghanistan, I have a bone to pick with Harper and Harper alone.

Firstly, Harper buried the announcement of the extension of the mission on Remembrance Day. This is an occasion for commemorating soldiers' lives lost and a day most individuals use to pause and take pride in the sacrifices of our military.

The fact he would use this day as political cover is not only tasteless but an insult to those who have served. Harper used the public's emotional attachment of the day to tug at the heartstrings of

the population — an act unbefitting of a leader.

Conservatives claim to strongly oppose the politicization of Remembrance Day with, among other things, the white poppy.

In an act of complete hypocrisy, Harper turned around and made an extremely political announcement. It's just another way the Conservative Party continues their trend of hiding behind the men and women of the military to further their politics — it's downright shameful.

Announcing the prolonging of the mission on this day also buried the decision in the media. This stifled at least some of the criticism the government would have been subjected to had the statement been made on any other day. The same can be said of the Liberal Party — they now face less criticism over agreeing to extend the mission behind closed doors. Both parties are guilty of working to avoid a democratic debate on the issue.

Harper's tactics are nothing more than smoke-and-mirrors to pull the wool over the eyes of the Canadian public.

Probably most shocking was Harper's insistence that he need not bring the decision to prolong the mission to Parliament, despite the exit date being fixed to July 2011.

In claiming that the executive can decide technical and training missions, Harper has taken it upon himself to decide the future of our military. Parliament set the date for a withdrawal, thus there is no reasonable explanation for why this decision can be revoked by the cabinet alone.

It is yet another decision made by

Harper's tactics are nothing more than smoke-and-mirrors to pull the wool over the eyes of the Canadian public.

a Conservative minority government that acts like they have a majority in the House of Commons.

Harper said he has come under pressure by NATO allies to keep Canadian military personnel in the field in Afghanistan, but this is no excuse for the insensitive mishandling of the announcement, nor does it excuse how he is opted to make this decision in a cloud of secrecy.

The point I am trying to convey is not whether or not it is right for the Afghanistan mission to be extended or in what capacity the Canadian military should be planning their exit strategy. It is that the Harper government has foregone any type of democratic process and opted to make deals behind closed-doors while using our veterans for political cover.

This is all part of a continued pattern of governance of a man who will stoop at any level to win, even if it means burning down our national institutions in the process.



# THE FORUM

Opinion Editor Eric Merkley • [emerkley@thecord.ca](mailto:emerkley@thecord.ca)

## Letters to the Editor

### Attack on Taylor Swift uncalled for

RE: Taylor Swift confirms her promiscuity, Oct. 27

That article in the Oct. 27 edition of *The Cord* which stated that in her new CD Taylor Swift "confirms her promiscuity" is unbiased journalism at its finest! The author specifically pointed out Swift's song, "Dear John," because it describes a relationship that she had with John Mayer. If the author had done any research, or perhaps, wonder of wonders, listened to the song, he/she would know that in that song, Swift regrets it.

Also, just because this relationship was with John Mayer, known for being quite a ladies' man (why I am not entirely sure, but whatever floats their boat), does not mean that Swift was promiscuous. She states in her song that, "[She] took [his] matches before fire could catch [her]" intimating that she got out of that relationship quickly before anything could happen. So while it was kind of creepy, Swift got over it.

I also noticed that on *thecord.ca*, this little arts bite was heavily edited, as more of a study on the song and the creepiness of Swift's relationship with Mayer. That's good, but the first article was the one that was printed, and therefore had wider readership.

I understand that the author is not a professional writer, but there is no need to write slander and pass it off as news! That one, tiny article, by its biased, unprofessional, and false attack on Taylor Swift, undermines

the credibility of the entire newspaper. What other articles are just as false or slanderous?

—Alexandra Krawecki

### Laurier failed to remember on Nov. 11

For 2 years I have attended this school with pride. But today, Remembrance Day, I hung my head in absolute shame and embarrassment. It physically hurts my heart that classes at Laurier did not, as a whole, stop and acknowledge the minute of silence at 11:11. There was, in its stead, a ceremony in the Concourse, and attendance was optional.

Tonight, I sit in my home writing this letter, free from tyranny and oppression because of the highest price paid by brave men and women from all over the world. I watch the Remembrance Tribute on CBC and I see wives weep, fathers break down, a mother cry saying "My son promised me he'd come home" and a small boy ask "Why would someone hurt my daddy?"

I am deeply ashamed this school did not stop classes for one small minute, to honor the dead: our protectors, our fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters, friends. I am ashamed we did not honour the victims of war. These are people we know, and they paid with their lives, their families now live in grief and we, at Laurier, could not sacrifice one small minute.

A little perspective needs to be

taken. I am not perfect, and I am not holier than thou, I take things for granted too, we all do, but a minute should not be too much to ask.

—Sabrina Brown

### Remembrance should be more than one day

RE: Reflections on Remembrance Day, Nov. 10

Lest we forget, indeed, the other poem synonymous with the remembrance of war other than John McCrae's "In Flanders Fields," namely Wilfrid Owen's "Dulce et Decorum." To only speak of taking up "our quarrel with the foe" is in fact to tell, to repeat to children the "old Lie."

As it were, to take the time just "once a year," as last week's editorial suggested, to honour veterans is actually a disservice to them, eliding their experiences of war in the name of a national identity built upon their very bodies, memories, and hearts: remembrance ought to be every day then. Such should be the painful prick of the past when wearing a poppy, too easily tossed off on Nov. 12.

—T.A. Pattinson

### Letter policy

Letters must not exceed 250 words. Include your full name and telephone number. Letters must be received by 12:00 p.m. noon Monday via e-mail to [letters@thecord.ca](mailto:letters@thecord.ca). The Cord reserves the right to edit for length and clarity or to reject any letter.

## Canadian drug policy is irrational and costly



RICHARD WALSH-BOWERS

[letters@thecord.ca](mailto:letters@thecord.ca)

Last week's column in *The Cord* on the failure of California voters to legalize the recreational use of marijuana raised some important implications for Canadians to consider. Two key questions that come to my mind are: is the Canadian policy of prohibition working and how harmful is marijuana relative to other substances?

Almost everybody knows that many Canadians, ranging from adolescents to elderly adults, use marijuana recreationally despite its prohibition. According to an article in the Oct. 30 issue of the *Globe and Mail*, the trade in marijuana in British Columbia alone, of which about 70 per cent is exported to California, generates approximately \$4 billion annually in revenue. Moreover, many of those who don't use it, such as myself, simply don't believe that society should prohibit its use.

Given that tens of thousands, maybe millions of Canadians use marijuana and do no harm to others as a consequence of their use, prohibition and criminalization clearly don't make sense. Yet massive amounts of public dollars are invested in prohibition to little effect. Obviously, the so-called "War on Drugs" is an abject failure.

A major plank in the prohibition platform is the belief that decriminalizing marijuana will increase its use. However, marijuana has been sold in coffee shops in the Netherlands since the 1970s. Yet about 20 per cent of the adult population has experimented with it, whereas 42 per cent of U.S. adults have tried marijuana in a society that zealously prohibits it. In addition, as last week's column indicated, Portugal has seen a decrease in consumption with decriminalization. In other words, there is little evidence to support the prohibitionists' belief.

What we do know is harmful to society is the fact that those involved in organized crime distribute and sell marijuana. Eradicating the criminal element in sales and distribution by legalizing and regulating marijuana surely would be more beneficial than maintaining the current regimen. In fact, many observers agree that if the drug is legalized, production costs and risks associated with the use of marijuana will decrease substantially.

Besides, legalization and regulation would generate employment opportunities for gardeners, electricians and "coffee-shop" proprietors, at whose shops marijuana could be purchased and consumed.

To read the rest of Richard Walsh-Bowers' column and more check out

[thecord.ca](http://thecord.ca)

## You know what yanks my Cord...

...that special time of year: Christmas songs on the radio; Starbucks selling the Holiday Blend among other festive drinks; commercials already on TV advertising gifts for loved ones. No, it is not the week before Christmas, it's Nov. 1 and it's almost 15 degrees outside.

Each passing year, the Christmas season gets longer and longer. Stores pack up the Halloween candy and put out Christmas decorations. We can't get past Remembrance Day before children start pestering their parents about what they want for Christmas.

Now, I understand that I am perhaps a bitter person and a bit of a scrooge during the run up to Christmas. But seriously people, must we

stretch Christmas into a two-month marathon?

Let's face it, the true meaning of Christmas is pretty much dead in this secular society of ours. Not being a religious person, I don't mind that at all. But it is now not much more than a grotesque display of unrestrained materialism, spending money people largely don't even have. Each holiday season more and more people will be practically owned by Visa and MasterCard. Merry Christmas.

I'm all for capitalism and for allowing people to make stupid decisions, but we don't need to celebrate this spectacle with the same ten damn songs on loop everywhere all the time until my ears bleed. I spent

my high school years working retail at Canadian Tire, including the holidays; by the end of December had I run into a caroller I probably would have went all Chevy Chase on them like in "Christmas Vacation."

I know some will scoff and wonder where my Christmas cheer is. It was slowly fading over the years until it was guillotined in the aisles of the power tools department of Canadian Tire. I know I am not alone in my frustrations. So for the sake of the sanity of those of us that would like to enjoy the fall season without the urge to drop-kick the closest shopping-mall Santa, you know where you can cram your holiday spirit.

—Eric Merkley

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abbr. Laurier Students' Public Interest Research Group; a student funded, student-oriented organization that provides opportunities for Laurier students to create social change.

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# OPINION

Opinion Editor Eric Merkley • [emerkley@thecord.ca](mailto:emerkley@thecord.ca)

## Partisan media not necessarily bad



JOSEPH MCNINCH-PAZZANO  
[letters@thecord.ca](mailto:letters@thecord.ca)

On the fifth anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, Keith Olbermann delivered perhaps the harshest rebuke of President Bush. That night, he asked President Bush how he dared take the actions he did in Iraq and accused him of using 9/11 as a way to instill fear amongst the American people. It was as strong a condemnation as any liberal television host has offered.

"Countdown with Keith Olbermann" has been a staple on the left-leaning cable news network MSNBC since 2003. Olbermann has won over a solid group of dedicated fans who have gravitated to his special comment sections criticizing Republican policies and the actions of the Bush administration. Until recently, Olbermann featured a "Worst Person in the World" segment in which he has granted the title repeatedly to conservative Fox News

host Bill O'Reilly, conservative commentator Ann Coulter and various Republican officials.

Since President Bush declared "Mission Accomplished" in Iraq, Olbermann has signed off his show each night by counting the number of days it has been since that faulty proclamation was made.

It's been no secret that Olbermann considers himself a liberal. The same can be said for other prime time hosts on MSNBC — Ed Schultz, Chris Matthews, Rachel Maddow and Lawrence O'Donnell. All have made obvious statements in support of Democrats.

Matthews briefly considered running as a Democrat for a Pennsylvania Senate seat. Maddow has participated in White House discussions when liberal commentators have been invited to sit with President Obama.

In a way, while the network has an obvious liberal slant, it seems that MSNBC wanted to differentiate itself from Fox — a network that unabashedly puts forth right-wing commentators who have openly made donations to Republican candidates and have issued endorsements of Republicans. Network executives seem to want to create the

image of MSNBC as less partisan in nature than Fox.

The question is: should MSNBC be running from the partisan label?

Partisan news has its advantages. First, it works. MSNBC used to be stuck in a solid third place in the cable news ratings. Fox News and CNN were both heavily outpacing it. Then, MSNBC decided to become the liberal alternative to the conservative Fox. When the line-up cemented itself, MSNBC leapfrogged CNN to become the second-place cable news network in America.

Second, it gives politicians an opportunity to speak to their bases. During the health care debate, Democratic representatives and senators took to MSNBC to make the case for the bill and soothe fears among progressives that the bill was not comprehensive enough. It allows partisans to hear about the issues that matter to them.

That being said, partisan news only works if there is a compelling alternative on each side of the political spectrum. The proposal has been made to bring "Sun TV News" to Canada (what many have termed "Fox News North"). The argument has been that the supposedly liberal-leaning CBC should have a



WADE THOMPSON GRAPHICS EDITOR

conservative counterpart.

While I would wholeheartedly dispute the equivalency of a corporate media conglomerate dominating the right-wing in Canada to a publicly owned broadcasting company with a shaky (if any) liberal edge, I also don't think we should pretend that we are above partisanship in Canada.

One needs only to tune into one day of Question Period to see that we too have reduced politics

to a childlike frenzy of partisan exchanges.

A partisan news network on both sides of the aisle might add some interesting spice to Canadian politics. Let's face it: an Olbermann or Maddow-like figure critiquing Prime Minister Harper could bring some passion and provocative and compelling news coverage that might bring some much-needed excitement to the Canadian political landscape.

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 \$4,400 Average tuition in Canada 2006-07

\$5,746 Tuition at Laurier for 2010-11  
 211,902 Undergraduate degrees granted in 2004  
 244,380 Undergraduate degrees granted in 2008  
 —Information courtesy of Statistics Canada

# Higher tuition rates spark debate over student accessibility and quality of education

Point: Hiked tuition rates unacceptable



**MARCIE FOSTER**  
 letters@thecord.ca

While the Ontario government claims to be working on improving assistance for students, there still remains a lot to be desired when it comes to the issue of tuition rates. These rates are responsible for funding the university experience such as paying faculty wages and improving non-student union facilities, like the library. At Laurier, I'd like to envision that the \$5,746 that I pay yearly to the university is responsible for providing and maintaining a quality education.

But that simply isn't true. With the freeze or cap of tuition rates, students pay a maximum increase of five per cent (as voted to continue for two more years by Queen's Park). The rate of inflation, according to the Bank of Canada, from 2009 to 2010 was 1.92 per cent. If this is the case, there is approximately a three per cent gap between inflationary growth and tuition hikes; a net increase in overall funding, in addition to the \$9.8 million increased grant funding.

Take a look around: do we see evidence of that increase in funding? Classes are uncomfortably over-enrolled, there are less and less quality part-time faculty now and the near elimination of TAs from all academic classes just shows me that Laurier's quality of education is diminishing. There's a disjoint between the growth of the university's budget and the quality of education.

The school should be fiscally responsible with the resources they have. If they keep raising tuition, the Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) must follow accordingly: we know that won't happen.

If Laurier can't focus on keeping its claim as being a university of Canadian excellence, then the focus must shift to access. Accessibility is clearly the number one priority now: prestige and elitism associated with a university education are gone. There is no reason why tuition cannot be rolled back to the national

We should feel we have earned our education and our place in university, not that mommy or daddy signed off on our degree.

average.

Accessibility to higher education shouldn't be limited by financial status: if I am limited to choosing certain schools it shouldn't be based on cost. Too many students choose not to pursue further education because they think they cannot afford it. Raising the tuition of universities will only widen the gap between the rich and poor and the educated and non-educated. With higher tuition costs comes the possibility of higher bursary programs, but the sticker shock associated with these costs would overshadow any possibility of need-based financial aid to students attending Laurier.

We should feel we have earned our education and our place in university, not that mommy and daddy have signed off on our degree. Lower tuition serves to even the financial playing ground in terms of access for all who can make the admissions cut off. One of the reasons I chose Laurier was that they had a commitment to find a way to help you pay should you be accepted. Now it's seemingly in reverse, finding ways to let everyone in to balance the budget.

I doubt that the accountants who do our budgeting walk around Laurier during rush hours, or try to use the wireless internet, or even wait in line for a bus. The issue isn't that the university must suppress growth because of lower tuition, but that it must grow inwardly before it can grow outwardly. If we are not receiving quality education in Ontario then we should not be asked to pay more than other provinces. Roll tuition back in Ontario to a reasonable level to at least preserve accessibility for all students regardless of wealth.

Counter-point: Managed tuition growth the way forward



**NICK GIBSON**  
 letters@thecord.ca

In Canada the provincial government, who has jurisdiction in matters of education policy, can manipulate tuition rates. According to recent Statistics Canada data, Ontario has the highest tuition rates in the country averaging \$6,307 while Quebec has the lowest tuition rates averaging \$2,415.

On the surface, these numbers seem to indicate that education in Ontario would be the least accessible jurisdiction for post-secondary education in Canada — at least when it comes to the financial burden.

However, not only should it be noted that there is more to accessibility than the cost of tuition, Ontario tends to follow a more prudent path when it comes to the regulation of tuition, at least compared to its provincial counterparts. In fact, while it may seem counter-intuitive, provincial governments should aim for controlled growth of tuition rates rather than aiming to cap, reduce or even eliminate it (through use of tax revenue).

There are two main points that underlie the strength of this position — the fiscal capacity of our governments and more importantly the fundamental flaw of cap to reduce or eliminate policies.

Firstly, to allocate enough resources to markedly reduce tuition costs would mean that governments would have to raise taxes or cut services or programs in other departments in significant ways. Given the fiscal state of the government of Ontario, this reality is even more salient.

However, even if fiscal resources were not as much of an issue, significant reduction or elimination of tuition fees (as a result of a massive increase in subsidization over the current framework in place on the part of the government) are not prudent policies if one is concerned about accessibility to post-secondary education.

Capping real tuition rates, reducing them or going for their outright elimination is not accomplishing the goal that most identify as fundamental — promoting accessibility for potential students whose incomes cannot accommodate the cost of higher education.

While seeming counter-intuitive, by taking any of the above actions policy-makers are wasting fiscal resources on those who can already afford education, rather than allocating it where it is needed most — low-income students. By allowing tuition rates to increase, the government (and individual institutions) can allow those who can afford tuition at cost to do so, while freeing up fiscal room to help those who cannot.

However, this position comes with a caveat. Complete deregulation is problematic in that it swings the pendulum too far.

Like working wages, there is a noticeable lag-time between tuition increases and the corresponding non-repayable grants and resources available for loans meant to help low-income students access higher learning.

This is precisely why the approach should be capped growth,

rather than real tuition caps.

These growth caps could be indexed to various indicators, but the most appropriate indicator appears to be CPI (consumer price index) — an aid in determining the inflation in the economy. A more flexible and effective government loan system, in addition to a focus on better aid allocation on the part of individual institutions, will ensure that the gap can be effectively bridged or at least close to it (in Ontario, that means constantly evaluating and re-evaluating OSAP).

It is a given that this approach is not perfect. Debt loads faced by students post-graduation tend to be higher than other jurisdictions and no one need explain the problematic nature of massive personal debts.

But by fooling ourselves into thinking that our natural intuition is correct — that the lower the tuition fees (as a result of government subsidy) the better, we fall victim to the law of unintended consequences as we are worsening precisely what we are pledging to alleviate — barriers to post-secondary education. Without a sober second thought, I fear that we will not only fail to improve access, but we will waste valuable fiscal resources in the process.



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# SPORTS

Sports Editor Justin Fauteux • jfauteux@thecord.ca

## Sports in brief

### Hawks win OUA awards

After nine members of Laurier's football team were named Ontario University Athletics (OUA) all-stars last week, wide receiver Dillon Heap and linebacker Giancarlo Rapanaro were given further provincial accolades.

Heap was awarded the Russ Jackson Athletics and Academics Award, while Rapanaro won the President's Stand-Up Defensive Player of the Year Award.

Heap, a fourth-year business student, not only led the Hawks in receiving with 41 catches, 466 yards and five touchdowns, but also boasts an 11.4 GPA. Rapanaro, meanwhile, returned to Laurier for his fifth year this season and posted 28.5 tackles, two sacks and two interceptions.

### Women's volleyball winless

After a five-set loss to the Waterloo Warriors on Saturday afternoon, the Golden Hawks women's volleyball team saw their record fall to 0-4.

After opening their season with four straight road games, the Hawks will play their home opener this Friday at 6:00 p.m. versus the Western Mustangs.

### Men's volleyball downs UW

Laurier's men's volleyball team improved their record to 4-3 this past weekend with a win over the Waterloo Warriors in straight sets.

The Hawks sit in a four-way tie for third in the Ontario University Athletics (OUA) standings with eight points on the year. This weekend, the Hawks play a pair of home games, starting with a game against the undefeated Western Mustangs on Friday.

-All Compiled by Justin Fauteux

## Hawks keep perfect record

ALANNA WALLACE  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

There couldn't have been a more perfect opening for the Hawks' women's basketball team, as the team stands at 4-0 on the season after dominating the Ottawa Gee-Gees this past Saturday.

Despite being down one of their starting guards, Amber Hills, who is out with a sore back, the Hawks defeated the Gee-Gees 57-38 after upsetting their Friday opponents, the Carleton Ravens, who are ranked seventh in the national standings, by a score of 59-51.

"I was really proud of the girls coming back after a really tough physical game [on Friday] against Carleton," said Laurier head coach Paul Falco. "To follow that up with another one today was super."

Laurier dominated out of the starting gate, never trailing the Gee-Gees, who they held to just 27 per cent shooting from the field.

"That was our game plan going into this game — we just wanted to play strong defence and let our offence stem from that," said Hawks' fifth-year guard Renata Adamczyk, who led the team's scoring with 12 points on Saturday after racking up 20 points during Friday's game.

Falco echoed Adamczyk's sentiments and said the team's defence had kept them in games early.

"If we play good defence transition we're going to have good things offensively and that's going to help us," said Falco.

Along with their solid defence, the Hawks also dominated the paint, with Megan Grant and Kimberley Yeldon collecting 12 and 13 rebounds respectively.

With Hillis sitting Saturday's game out, first-year Felicia Mazerolle was given ample court time,



NICK LACHANCE VISUALS DIRECTOR  
Laurier's Christa Mancino (23) attempts a shot during the Hawks' win over Ottawa. The team improved to 4-0 over the weekend.

which she capitalized on, scoring nine points.

"I didn't think I would start, the only reason is because our point guard is injured," said Mazerolle. "But it's good to be second to her."

Regarding Hillis's injury, Falco was unsure of when she will return to the court with her teammates.

"She's got a sore back and it's been coming along but it's been

slow. She's in good hands with our physio people but it's something we're going to be cautious about."

In the meantime, the Hawks are on the road to Sudbury to play against Laurentian next Friday, looking to improve upon their already solid performances.

"The girls are pretty excited, we're just going to keep going," concluded Adamczyk.

## GOLDEN HAWK UPDATE

Week of  
November 15 - 21, 2010

### RECENT SCORES

11.11.10  
M Hockey 2 - Waterloo 3  
W Soccer 1 - UBC II

11.12.10  
W Basketball 59 - Carleton 51  
M Basketball 80 - Carleton 88  
W Hockey 6 - Toronto 2  
M Hockey 2 - Windsor 3

11.13.10  
W Basketball 57 - Ottawa 38  
M Basketball 91 - Ottawa 71  
W Volleyball 2 - Waterloo 3  
M Volleyball 3 - Waterloo 0  
W Soccer 2 - Montreal 0

11.14.10  
W Hockey 6 - York 1  
W Soccer 0 - Queen's 1

### UPCOMING HOME GAMES

11.19.10  
W Volleyball vs Western  
Athletic Complex, 6:00 p.m.  
M Hockey vs RMC  
Sunlife Financial Arena, 7:30 p.m.  
M Volleyball vs Western  
Athletic Complex, 8:00 p.m.

11.20.10  
W Volleyball vs Windsor  
Athletic Complex, 6:00 p.m.  
M Hockey vs Queen's  
Sunlife Financial Arena, 7:30 p.m.  
M Volleyball vs Windsor  
Athletic Complex, 8:00 p.m.

### LAURIER BOOKSTORE ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

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For more coverage of the CIS women's soccer championship, including a photo gallery by photography manager Elli Garlin, visit [thecord.ca](http://thecord.ca)



## Men's basketball splits weekend

LAURA SEDGWICK  
STAFF WRITER

Big things are expected from rookie Patrick Donnelly this season. After performing strongly in the pre-season and contributing to his team's domination of Queen's and Royal Military College (RMC) two weekends ago, Donnelly and his fellow men's basketball Hawks took on the nation's top ranked team, the Carleton Ravens, last Friday.

Unlike last season when Laurier took on Carleton, the Hawks were able to present a real challenge to the Ravens.

Though Laurier struggled through the first half of the game, they were able to make a strong comeback in the third and fourth quarters.

"It looked like we had a chance to win there at the end," said veteran Kale Harrison, who was the high-scorer of the game with 39 points. "We needed a couple stops that we just couldn't get and we ended up losing."

With less than five minutes left in the game, Harrison hit a three pointer that tied the game 72-all.

"I knew that was a big shot," he said. "It felt really good to know that we had come all the way back from being down by 20. After hitting that shot there was a lot of emotion."

Even though the Hawks ending up losing the game 88-80, head coach

Peter Campbell remained positive.

"That's the best team in the country and they've been number one for most of the 10 years I've been here," he said. "I'm disappointed in the way we played in the first half, Carleton shot the ball really well, but we battled back from a big deficit in the second half and that's a good sign for our team."

The day after their loss to Carleton, the Golden Hawks redeemed themselves by defeating the Ottawa Gee Gees 91-71, with Donnelly coming in as his team's second highest scorer with 21 points.

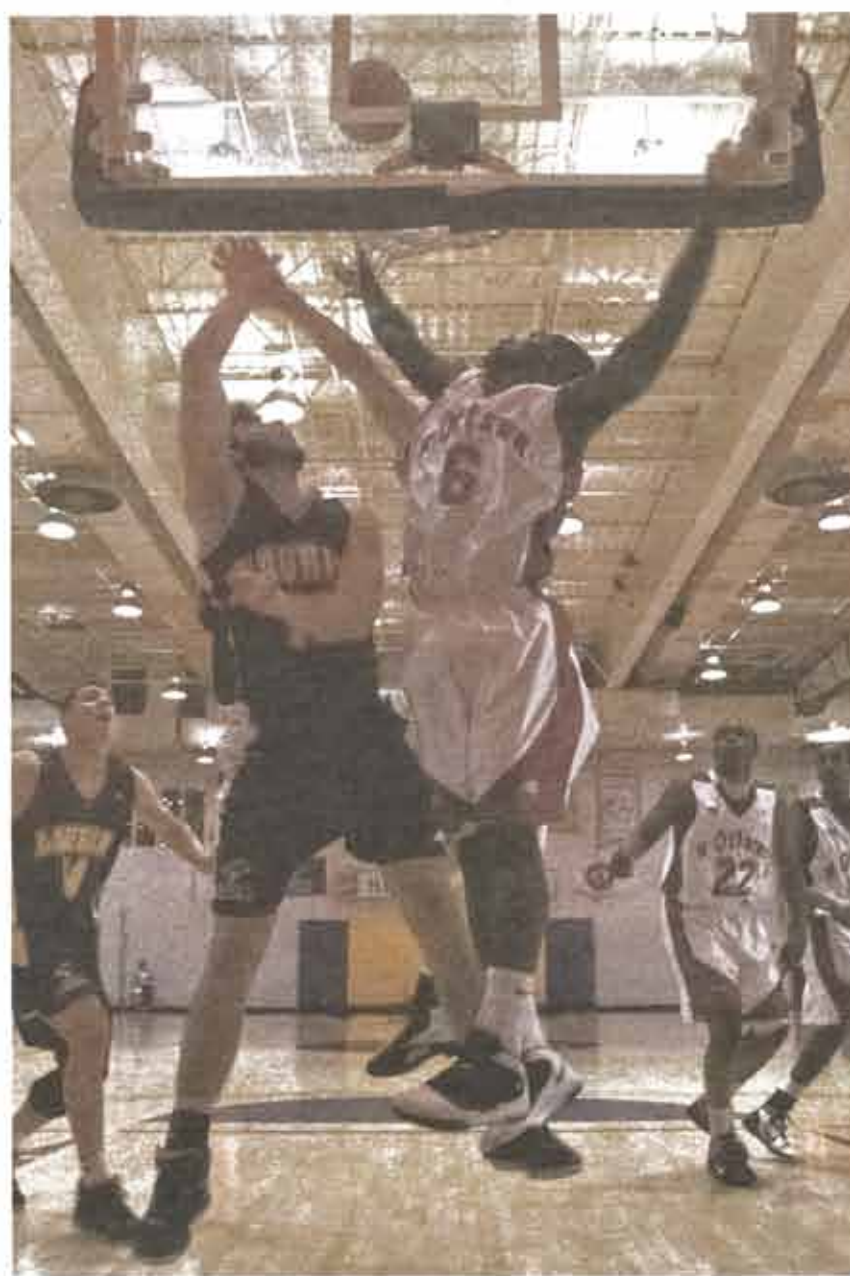
"He can score and he can rebound and he's not a bad defender," said Campbell on Donnelly's ability. "He can do a lot of things so he'll play a big role for us, I think."

Donnelly credits his quick adjustment to the rapid pace of university basketball to his experience playing in New Hampshire at Proctor Academy.

Thus far, Donnelly feels that his role on the team is rebounding and playing strong defence.

"I know we've got some good scorers, Kale [Harrison] and Max [Allin]," said Donnelly. "So I want to put up points when I can but really that'll come by grabbing rebounds off their misses."

Next Friday, the Hawks challenge Laurentian in Sudbury and on Saturday they take on York in Toronto.



NICK LACHANCE VISUALS DIRECTOR  
A Golden Hawk goes for a lay up during Saturday's win over the Ottawa Gee-Gees. Laurier lost to Carleton on the previous day.

## Hawks take silver

—cover

But in the end, they just couldn't find a goal and the one Queen's marker was enough to take the CIS title.

"I think it's incredible how they performed based on the fact that a lot of them are struggling with injuries," said MacLean. "It was a fantastic performance."

The strong performance Laurier put forth throughout the competition was recognized as the Hawks dominated the tournament all-star team, taking up five of the 11 spots. Woeller, Tikka, Pedron, Lagonia and defender Nicole Currie were all named all-stars; however, according to Lagonia that didn't make the post-game ceremony easier to bear.

"It was really difficult to watch Queen's get the gold medals," she said. "It was one of the toughest things I've ever had to deal with but I'm so proud of all my teammates."

Tikka was also named tournament MVP, after already winning Ontario University Athletics (OUA) west division and CIS rookie of the year to go along with being named a provincial all-star.

The CIS silver medal marks the best finish for the Hawks since 1995 and brings an end to a season that, in MacLean's eyes, was special.

"I don't think we could've asked for anything more from our players," he said. "This was probably the best women's soccer team that's ever played at Laurier."

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MEGAN CHERNIAK PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

One of six Laurier goals in a 6-1 win over York on Sunday afternoon. The win improved the Hawks' winning streak to four games and brought their record to 10-1.

## Women's hockey wins fourth straight

MARISSA HERNER  
CORD SPORTS

Coming into the season, one could have questioned whether the Golden Hawks women's hockey team had what it took to defend their identity as champions.

Dissolving any doubt that may have been looming about the team during the pre-season games, the Hawks have been characteristically dominating their oppositions thus far. The Hawks' games this past weekend against the University of Toronto Varsity Blues and the York Lions were no exception to their victorious streak. Defeating the Blues 4-2 and the York Lions 6-1, the Hawks have set their eyes solely on

the objective of attaining the Ontario University Athletic (OUA) championship title yet again.

Out-shooting the Lions 47-29 on Sunday afternoon, the Hawks commanded the first, second and third period by exemplifying a stronger desire to win the battles in the corners, along the boards and behind the net. By capitalizing on York's give-aways and their inability to clear their own blue line, third-year Vanessa Schabkar and rookie Laura Brooker buried the puck in the net and established an early game lead with a 2-0 advantage going into the second period.

According to head coach Rick Osborne, the Hawks were optimistic between the first and second

periods.

"When we are at a two-goal lead we do not sit back and defend it all the time in league play, in playoffs circumstantially we may," he said. "When teams have to start gambling then we are at our best to take advantage of those opportunities."

Although York tried to diminish the gap on the scoreboard by repeatedly attempting stretch passes, they were continuously shut down by Laurier's solid defence. By taking these offensive gambles York was caught with few players to defend, and this was where the Hawks capitalized and first-year Tammy Freiburger set up defenceman Alannah Wakefield at the point which wrapped up the third period with the

Hawks up three.

York quickly began to show signs of fatigue and a loss of momentum during the third period, which led to an increasing amount of penalties drawn. Consequently, York fell apart on the penalty kill and crumbled under the offensive pressure where Paula Lagamba, Erin Weber and Caitlin Muirhead took advantage of goal-scoring opportunities.

Although York caught a lucky bounce that slipped past Hawks' netminder Liz Knox in the last five minutes of the third, Laurier consistently kept up a pace that York could not contend with throughout the whole duration of the game.

Brooker emphasized that communication on the ice is an essential

aspect to the Hawks' successful game play.

"Skating hard is what led to our victory against York this evening," she said. "If we keep our feet moving and we keep going then we can skate past any team."

It is the unique qualities that the Hawks possess, such as their ability to find each other on the ice, that distinguish them from any other team in the league and result in Laurier's conquest over their opponents time and time again. The future season for the Golden Hawks looks optimistic and promising with what appears to be another OUA championship brushing against the fingertips of the Laurier's women's hockey team.

## Men's hockey drops two

The Hawks have now lost four of their last five games

JAMIE NEUGEBAUER  
STAFF WRITER

The Golden Hawks men's hockey team played catch-up all weekend, never leading in either of their games this past Thursday and Friday.

On Remembrance Day at the Waterloo Recreational Complex, captain Jean-Michel Rizk bagged a pair of goals and the Hawks came back from a 3-0 third period deficit against cross-town rivals the Waterloo Warriors. However, the purple and gold skaters were unable to score in either overtime or in the shootout while former Prince Albert Raider and Chilliwack Bruin Andy Smith beat Hawks' goalie Ryan Daniels' five-hole to give the visitors the victory.

The next day Laurier visited the Windsor Lancers, a team who continues to prove that there are no longer any easy games in the Ontario University Athletics (OUA) Western Conference. Windsor was dominant, pelting Daniels with 50 shots and was always one step ahead on the scoreboard ultimately pulling out a 3-2 victory.

Thursday's match against Waterloo was a tale of two games. The first and second periods went the

way of the Warriors.

"We didn't skate the first two periods," commented Laurier head coach Greg Puhalski. "We were waiting to make mistakes."

Waterloo captain and tremendously talented centre Chris Ray scored the first of his two goals after intercepting an errant Laurier pass on the penalty-kill in the Warriors' zone. He made no mistake, converting on the breakaway with a snap shot to the roof behind Ryan Daniels.

The second period was not much better.

A harmless looking wrist-shot by Ray handcuffed Daniels at 10:26 to give the visitors a 2-0 lead. Fourth-year winger Kyle Schwende made it 3-0 when he fired a shot past a screened Daniels from the slot on the power play at 13:56.

The third, however, looked like a totally different game.

"We kept it simple [in the third]," Golden Hawk captain Jean-Michel Rizk added.

"We were more aggressive, finished hits and had lots of shots on net... [Warriors goaltender Keaton Hartigan] gave up a couple rebounds and we put them away."

Rookie Thomas Middup fired home a rebound only 23 seconds

into the frame, and then Rizk calmly converted on a two-on-one with Laurier's leading point-getter Ryan Bellows.

Rizk potted his second of the affair after connecting on a beautiful power-play passing play with less than two minutes left in regulation to tie the game up.

Overtime solved nothing, and UW rookie Andy Smith was the only one to score in the shootout handing the Hawks a 4-3 defeat.

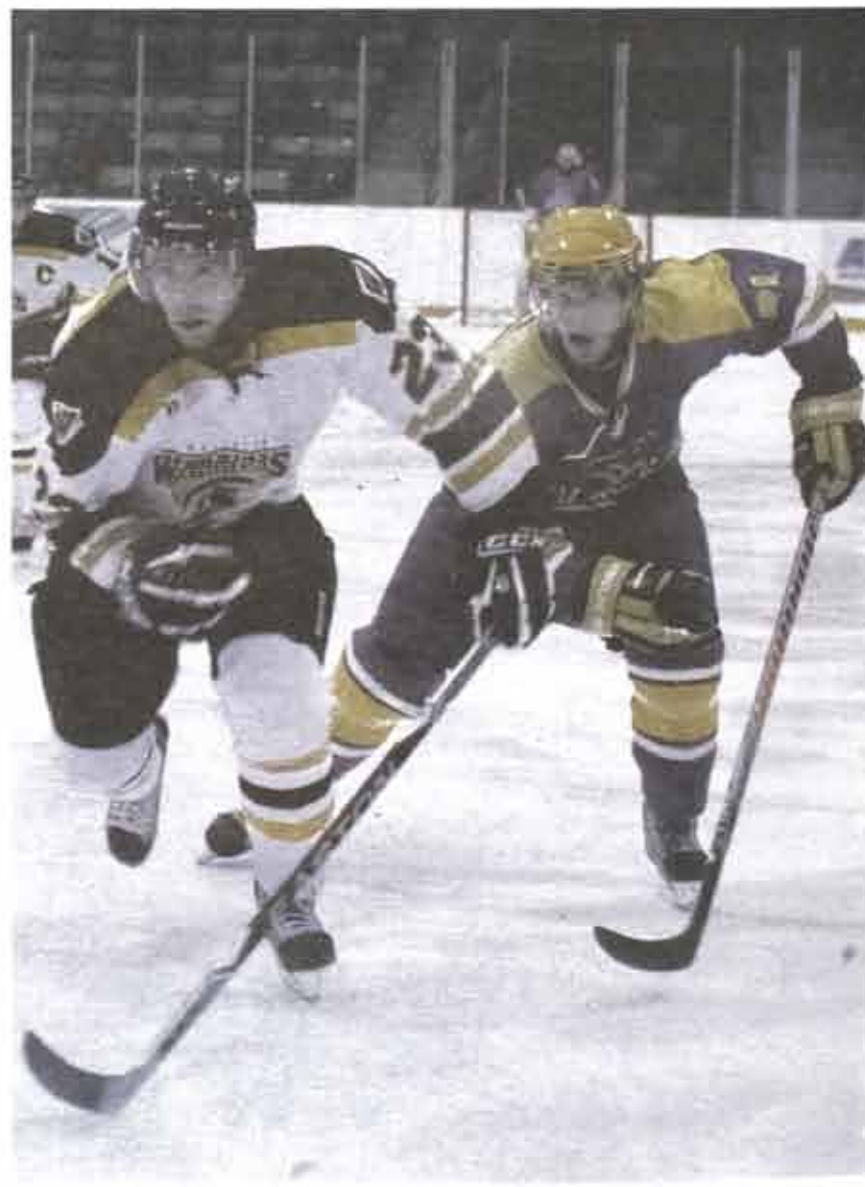
The next day at Windsor it was a tired-looking Laurier team that fell 3-2. Outshot 50-34, the only bright spot for the Golden Hawks was Daniels who bounced back from a shaky game against Waterloo to make 47 saves in the loss.

"We are disappointed," Rizk mentioned.

"We keep doing the same thing. We try to play catch-up hockey and only play one period.... You can't win like that."

The rough weekend means Laurier has lost four of the last five, and drops to sixth in the OUA Western Conference.

The good news is that next Friday and Saturday they host Eastern Conference weaklings Royal Military College (RMC) and Queen's respectively.



SEAN POLLOCK STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

After losing in a shoot-out to the Waterloo Warriors on Thursday, the Hawks fell 3-2 to the Windsor Lancers on Saturday.