

# THE CORD

The tie that binds Wilfrid Laurier University since 1926

Volume 50, Issue 9

Thursday, October 15, 2009

thecord.ca

## Women in Hollywood can be funny too

Arts Columnist Wade Thompson argues that female comedic performers should be recognized

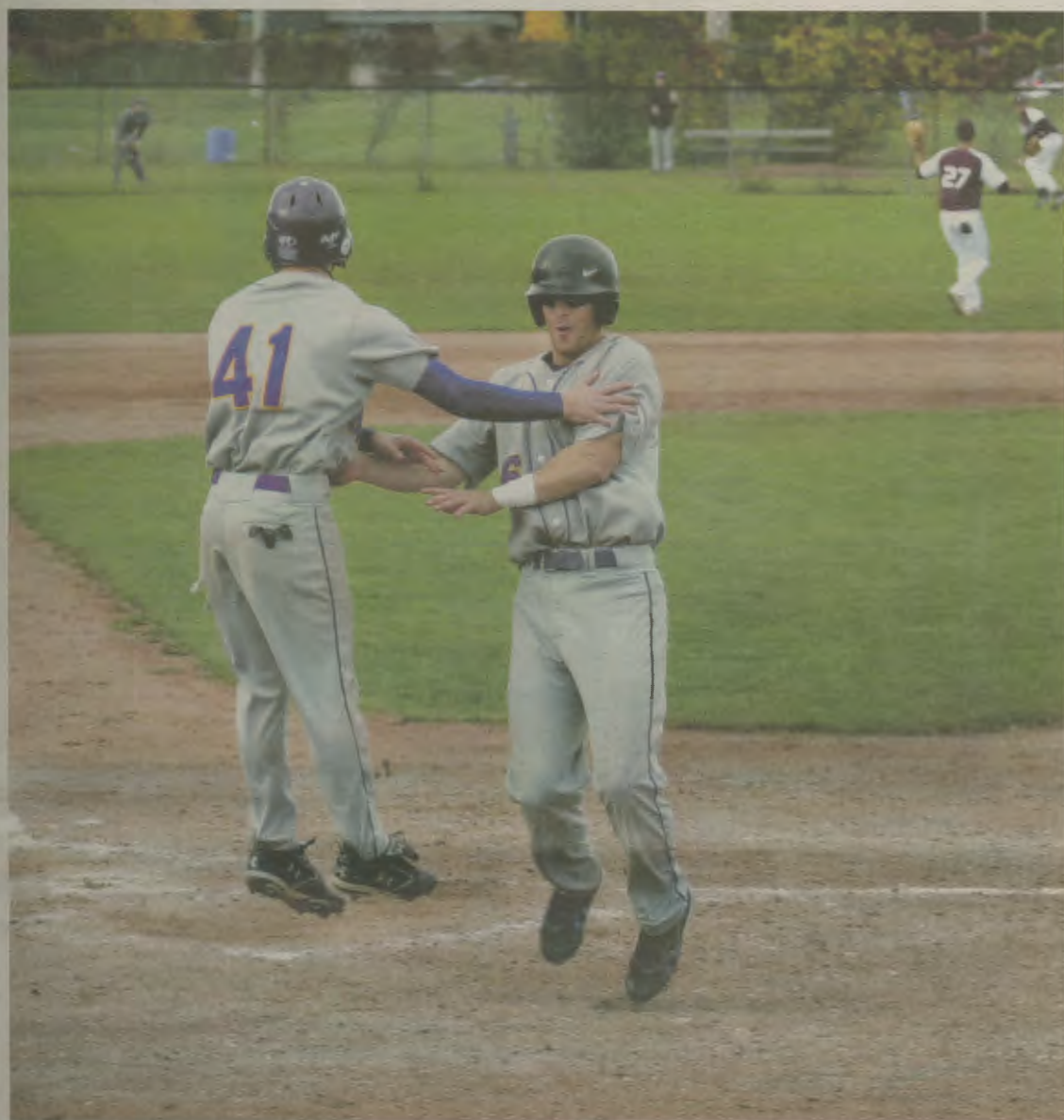
Arts, page 12



## Oktoberfest kicks off for the 40th year in KW

Celebrations begin for the largest Bavarian festival outside of Berlin

Local, page 8



James Bruce (41) and Elliot Shrive (6) celebrate a Hawks run during game two of the series.

YUSUF KIDWAI PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

## Hawks soar to OUA finals

Baseball team perseveres despite having their funding cut by Laurier Athletics

TIEJA MACLAUGHLIN  
STAFF WRITER

The Wilfrid Laurier University Golden Hawks' men's baseball team swept the reigning champion McMaster Marauders this weekend for a spot in the Ontario University Athletics (OUA) finals.

The Hawks are now set to make their first-ever provincial championship appearance, where they will battle the Western Mustangs.

Both games were exciting matchups that saw Laurier rally from behind – edging the Marauders late in game one to earn a 4-2 victory and again in game two earning the winning run in the bottom of the ninth inning, taking the game 3-2.

"These were huge team wins," commented head coach Scott Ballantyne. "We've had to work really hard to get to where we are."

Over the summer, the team lost their entire \$20,000 budget as part of Laurier Athletics' financial reductions. The entire squad, led by Ballantyne, has fought back to prove their team's worth.

According to Ballantyne, the loss of funding has negatively affected the team in many ways.

They have had difficulty recruiting and keeping players and utilizing proper training facilities and equipment.

There have also been issues with game and practice diamonds, transportation and other costs associated with travelling.

"We had a major challenge," explained Laurier's director of athletics and recreation Peter Baxter. "We had to cut our department by 16 per cent over two years which works out to \$380,000."

"The student athletes need to realize that their experience is a privilege and not a right, I think what the baseball team has done off the field to raise money has actually helped them on the field," said Baxter.

This year, the team had to increase their \$300 Adopt a Hawk fee "to \$500 to offset the basic costs of the program."

"Ideally you're supposed to find someone to sponsor you this

Sports, page 21

## WLUSU finalizes Charity Ball donation at \$159

Students divided over significance and future of event

ALANNA WALLACE  
IN DEPTH EDITOR

Last week's issue of The Cord has stirred controversy regarding the 2008-09 Charity Ball. With the final numbers made public late last week by the Wilfrid Laurier University Students' Union, last year's donation to the KidsAbility Foundation totals \$158.99.

The student reaction to the news that Charity Ball raised so little money for charity has been mixed. Some WLUSU volunteers appear outraged at negative coverage while other students feel betrayed.

The WLUSU board of directors mirrored the feelings expressed by many students on campus regarding the morality behind an event based around fundraising that gave little monetary donation.

"It just looks really sketchy when it's a \$30,000 [budget] and you're giving \$150 and change," commented director Greg Evans.

"At the end of it all, with the chocolate fountains and whatever else

you have, it is misleading, I think, being called Charity Ball," he added.

In contrast to Evans concerns, WLUSU president Laura Sheridan feels that Charity Ball had other successes, despite the lack of a significant monetary donation.

"If you kind of take a step back and look at the even bigger picture, [their revenue was] \$5,000 lower than they expected, and they still didn't cost the students' union anything."

Sheridan also noted that students' union volunteers have told her, "It's a shame that people are concerned over this because it really isn't that big of a deal."

Despite Sheridan's observation, director Jacqueline Dobson voiced her disappointment which mainly revolves around the tainted image of WLUSU's charity work on campus.

"I know some will argue that Charity Ball gives a lot of donations through volunteer hours and effort going to KidsAbility," Dobson explains, "But I think just the essential issue of what's happened is that there's just been a mislead in the

“  
At the end of it all, with the chocolate fountains and whatever else you have, it is misleading, I think, being called Charity Ball.”

—Greg Evans, students' union board member

student body.”

The board of directors made an amendment to their Friday meeting in order to discuss Charity Ball because directors were concerned with the negative publicity the union was receiving.

The board discussed whether the

News, page 5



COURTESY OF ZOEY HEATH

A Cord exclusive interview with Dragonette vocalist Martina Sorbara prior to the Canadian bands show at Starlight last Wednesday. Arts, page 11



Editor's Choice
Broadcasting from Kitchener

page 6

Editor-in-Chief Laura Carlson • lcarlson@thecord.ca

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This week in quotes

The shirt says 'Pita Hack' instead of 'Pita Shack.'



-Board director Kyle Hocking pointing out the typo on the new WLUSU T-shirts

I used to float down the Grand River in an inner-tube with a bucket of beer attached to it.

-Dr. Hsui-Li Wang, associate medical officer for the Region of Waterloo Public Health, on when H1N1 and seasonal influenza vaccinations will be available to the public.

Glover's not updated, he's not popular.

The cross country team was more of a jogging club last year.



-Director of athletics Peter Baxter speaking about one of the teams that was cut from Laurier Athletics this year

We usually come in last place, which is great because it gets us to the bar a little quicker.

-Lubor Ptacek, an employee of OpenText defending his answer to a word association game at the PRISM technology forum. The word Ptacek was associating with was "Wilfrid Laurier."

From the archives

5 years
Hawks finish season undefeated
After beating York University in the last regular season game of 2004, the Golden Hawks football team became the first WLU team to finish 8-0.

25 years
MBA program approved
In a university senate meeting, it was noted by the then dean of the faculty of graduate studies, Dr. Berczi, that there was an increasing need for MBAs with a technological background.

50 years
Women's editor hired
In 1959 The Cord Weekly announced that they had hired a women's editor, who would dedicate one column each issue to items of interest to women.

CORRECTION
Designing Laurier
In the Oct. 7 issue of The Cord, in the article "Designing Laurier", it was stated that Carol Kego was involved with the outside pathway construction near the library and new quad area over the summer.

Charity buzz



LAURA CARLSON
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Following last week's article "It feels like fraud...", by In Depth Editor Alanna Wallace, much debate has been circulating on campus regarding Charity Ball's low monetary donation in 2009.

While some in the Laurier community have praised The Cord for bringing this issue to the attention of students, others have responded not so favourably, calling into question the quality of articles this newspaper produces.

Following the release of the article last Wednesday, the reporter who authored the story has been called everything from a bitch to a liar and a sensationalist.

As editor-in-chief I stand by my decision to publish the article as it appeared; all information that was printed was in no way fabricated.

If any numbers were omitted it was simply because they were not

made available by the students' union.

After observing the actual numbers that WLUSU released on Friday, the number we printed for Charity Ball's final donation was on the conservative side.

Regardless of where you stand on the Charity Ball issue, the most important message to take from this situation is to appreciate the discourse on campus.

Students are openly talking about issues that directly impact them and are holding the union - which is the official representative voice of all undergraduate students - accountable for their actions.

This situation should be used as fuel for students to become engaged with other campus happenings. Charity Ball is likely only one of the many groups at Laurier that has fundamental flaws that should be questioned.

If the group you are concerned with does not address them I urge you to either send a letter to letters@thecord.ca or send an e-mail to me at lcarlson@thecord.ca.

The entire Charity Ball issue was only exposed when a concerned student came forward and spoke out, if you are aware of a similar situation I encourage you to do the same.

Vocal Cord

Do you think food services should extend their hours?



"When people are up late studying they want to be able to eat to stay awake."

-Daniel Chang
First-year business



"Yeah. The only options we have after hours on the weekend are pitas and pizza...I want variety."

-Vanessa Naughton
Fourth-year political science



"Maybe. I understand that it's not worth keeping it open later for the amount of business it would get."

-Matt Hortoehii
First-year philosophy



"Maybe. If it was open one hour later that would help."

-Landon Bailey
Second-year physics

Visit thecord.ca for video Vocal Cord

Compiled by David Goldberg
Photos by Nick Lachance

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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.

When statements are made that are critical of an individual, or an organization, we shall give those affected the opportunity to reply at the earliest time possible.

Ethical journalism requires impartiality, and consequently conflicts of interest and the appearance of conflicts of interest will be avoided by all staff.

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

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

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

Quote of the week: "I don't get it... it's all up in there" -In Depth Editor Alanna Wallace commenting on female genitalia.



# NEWS

News Editor Lauren Millet • [lmillet@thecord.ca](mailto:lmillet@thecord.ca)

## Terrace changes opening hours

ANDREA MILLET  
LEAD REPORTER

The Terrace food court, located in the Fred Nichols Campus Center, has adjusted its hours of operation this year, opening earlier in the morning to serve breakfast and only staying open late on Saturday night.

"We have extended ... our morning hours and we are serving more breakfast food in the morning," said Wilfrid Laurier University Students' Union general manager Mike McMahon.

The newly opened Williams Café as well as Union Market now open at 8 a.m. on weekdays and at 9 a.m. on weekends, serving a range of fresh breakfast foods for students.

While the Terrace is now open early in the morning, it does not remain open past 11 p.m. on any night other than Saturdays.

All vendors at the Terrace will be open until 11 p.m. Monday through Friday and until 9 p.m. on Sunday, while only Pizza Pizza and Pita Shack will remain open until 3 a.m. on Saturday.

Although the Terrace has remained open late in previous years on several nights, such as Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, both the changes in the nights the Turret is open and expanded hours of food service at Wilf's have reduced the need for service in the Terrace on these nights.

"In the evenings we're not open late on Friday night and that started towards the end of last year because the Turret is not open on Friday nights anymore," said students' union president Laura Sheridan.

"If you look back at the trends of the Terrace hours over the past five years or so it basically reflects ... what's going on with the Turret."

According to Sheridan, because there are no longer Turret nights on



NICK LACHANCE PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

Students eating in the WLUSU operated food court. Although the Terrace has extended its hours of operation, opening earlier in the mornings, there is still a lack of late night food options on campus.

Fridays, as there were in the past, the demand for late night food on campus has been greatly reduced.

Sheridan also noted that sales have shown that most of the Terrace's late night business comes from students leaving the Turret and so to extend the food court's hours on a night that the Turret is not open would result in a loss, and therefore would not be worth the number of students who required the service.

In addition to the reduced bar nights at the Turret, Wilf's restaurant has eliminated its reduced evening menu and the kitchen will now remain open as long as there are customers, minimizing the need for Terrace service on Wilf's nights, such as Tuesday.

"It would almost be redundant

to have the food court downstairs because our kitchen is going to be remaining open in Wilf's this year," said Sheridan.

While late night food from the Terrace is not as popular on nights that the Turret is not open, there are still students on campus at night, and late night food service is no longer available to them.

"It's kind of annoying, I don't make food often so that's one of my main sources of food," said first-year student Joshua Lerner. "That would be sick if I could get a late night snack ... it would be better."

"Its open later than the dining hall so I guess you just have to appreciate it for that," added Laurier student Shannon Moore.

-With files from Sean Hayward

## Terrace food court hours of operation

Sunday - 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Monday - 10 a.m. - 11 p.m.

Tuesday - 10 a.m. - 11 p.m.

Wednesday - 10 a.m. - 11 p.m.

Thursday - 10 a.m. - 11 p.m.

Friday - 10 a.m. - 11 p.m.

Saturday - 11 a.m. - 3 a.m.

## ICT review released

ANDREA MILLET  
LEAD REPORTER

Last Friday, Wilfrid Laurier University released stage one of its Information Communication and Technology (ICT) review, providing a look into the current university-wide information communication technology available at Laurier.

The report provided a comparison between Laurier's investments in central information technology (IT), the Information Technology Services (ITS) group, decentralized IT, such as ResNet and that of other universities.

It was discovered that while Laurier's spending is comparable to other universities, Laurier is more decentralized, contributing to some of the challenges that the central ITS group face in finding adequate resources to support their systems.

"It's a question of are we ... investing property in the right ways, in the right structure, overall for Laurier," said Buckley.

The results of this report also offered a few recurring themes that relate to students, an important one being an examination of enterprise systems in use at Laurier, how they function and how they can be improved.

"In the example of WebCT, we have a system that's used by most of our students but in the past it ... didn't have the hardware and the people supporting it that other systems such as Banner [a database for storing student and employee financial information] does," said assistant vice-president of academic services and project sponsor Tom Buckley.

"It was not supported at the same level that a system that's used enterprise-wide should be and we need to change that."

The second phase of the review is now underway and will look deeper into answering this question and determining if, and how, spending can be better invested.

They are now looking at the both organizational framework and central versus decentralized IT. They are also exploring a plan to implement their ideas.

Buckley explains that he has begun discussions with the students' union and graduate students' association about establishing a student advisory committee for the ICT review project.

The planning and development of this committee is now underway and will provide students with the opportunity to voice their opinions about what direction should be taken in relation to information communication technology and about what would work best for students at Laurier.

## WLU biology student's research honoured

LIANE SALO  
CORD NEWS

100 undergraduate students from across Canada were recently selected to present their research at the Rising Stars of Research competition at the University of British Columbia, and Wilfrid Laurier University's Emily MacDonald was one of them.

"When I found out that my work

was chosen I was shocked. I never thought I would be one of the ones to get picked," said MacDonald.

The Rising Stars program brings together top undergraduate researchers in science and engineering from across Canada to showcase their research accomplishments and encourage student's skills and enthusiasm for further research.

The main part of the event is the research competition, but the program also included workshops and

lectures from outstanding faculty researchers.

MacDonald is currently pursuing her master's degree in biology at Laurier.

The work she presented, which she completed during her undergraduate degree, involves studying the symbiotic relationship between legumes and bacteria and the meaning of the formation of nodules in the root systems.

If the research is expanded, it

could lead to a large reduction in the amount of chemical fertilizers used in agriculture.

Along with biology, MacDonald also has an interest in environmental issues and says that she is glad that her research is able to connect to the hot topic of being "green".

MacDonald's work was also recently presented at the Canadian Botanical Association conference where it received an honourable mention.

## Laurier launches flu portal for the university community

IDIL HERZI  
CORD INTERN

Wilfrid Laurier University has launched a "flu declaration" website for students, faculty and staff to report absence from class, work or teaching due to influenza or influenza-like symptoms.

Students are being asked to visit [www.wlu.ca/h1n1](http://www.wlu.ca/h1n1) and use their

Novell login to identify the days missed online.

Individuals who would normally seek medical attention should do so; however, a doctor's note is not necessary as a means to help prevent the spread of H1N1.

"We want to be able to preserve the healthcare resources for the people who would normally be seeing the doctor because they're feeling ill for treatment," said manager

of health services at Laurier Karen Ostrander.

"For the most part, flu's are self-resolving. But if they're having significant symptoms or if they have secondary health conditions, such as asthma or diabetes, those are the folks that we want to make sure that were able to see," Ostrander added.

Students can request academic accommodations but must complete the form within 24 hours of their

return to class.

The information gathered on the flu declaration website will be used to find patterns as well as gain information about the incidents where the flu could have been exposed to the student body.

Laurier staff and faculty should also use the website to declare missed work and teaching due to the flu.

Staff and faculty declarations will

be used for statistical tracking.

In April 2009 Laurier activated its Pandemic Plan, which ensures that the university has the means to respond appropriately if a pandemic outbreak occurs.

To help combat the spread of the H1N1 virus the university has installed hand sanitizer across campus. When vaccinations become available Laurier will pair with the region to hold on-campus clinics.



## News in brief

**WLU student congress holds first meeting**

Last Wednesday evening, leaders of different student groups on campus gathered in the Hawk's Nest for the first WLU student congress meeting.

Hosted by Wilfrid Laurier University Students' Union president Laura Sheridan, each student group gave updates about upcoming events within their groups, and discussed how to better integrate the groups.

"I was really excited when the idea for this developed," said dean of students David McMurray, who attended the meeting to address the student groups. "Peer-to-peer education and information sharing is so important," he added.

After each group presented their updates, the group discussed where future congress meetings were heading, and what the different groups wanted to talk about.

Evan Thor, president of the School of Business and Economics Student Society, mentioned that

some challenges faced by one club might be another club's strength; therefore, sharing these will help reach more of the student body.

The meeting was very informal and relaxed; people sat around in a circle on the couches, creating an environment where ideas were easily shared between groups.

—Lauren Millet

**Market research survey launched**

The Wilfrid Laurier University Students' Union officially launched their market research survey last Wednesday, and students received an e-mail to their WLU accounts regarding how to fill out the survey.

The survey is phase one of the larger project.

The survey will be online until Oct. 20.

—Compiled by Lauren Millet

**Pikes raise \$1,500**

The Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity completed their annual fundraiser and has raised \$1,500 to donate to Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Kitchen-Waterloo. Members of the fraternity pulled a fire truck down Albert Street on Saturday, Oct. 3 during the homecoming festivities.

—Compiled by Lauren Millet

**Linking students to alumni**

In 2002, the Link was created to give students a competitive edge between their classmates and other business students.

"Our main mission is to connect past, present and future business students and give them academic and professional advice," said Jessica Tam, vice-president: international for the Link.

With the help of Laurier International, the Leadership in Business Conference taught students at

two universities in China hands-on business skills during the summer.

If you are a business or economics student you can use what the Link has to offer at its "Steer Your Career" event, which will be held this year on Nov. 7.

—Megan Hawkins  
Read the full story at [thecord.ca](http://thecord.ca)

**Laurier professor chosen as Balsillie school chair**

Wilfrid Laurier University's Paul Freston has been appointed to one of five academic chairs of the Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI) at the Balsillie School of International Affairs.

At Laurier, Freston is a religion and culture professor. At the Balsillie School he will be teaching religion and global affairs in three different graduate studies programs.

—Compiled by Idil Herzi

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# ASAP introduces new scholarship

Arts students in co-op will soon be able to apply for funding for their placements

**KAYLEEN WILLEMSSEN**  
CORD NEWS

The Arts Students' Advancement Program (ASAP) is currently working on establishing a new scholarship directed at arts students who are in co-op programs.

The main co-op placements targeted for the scholarship include anything from museums, orchestras and various humanitarian endeavors. This prospective scholarship is an endowment derived from the surplus of student funds that have been collecting in the bank for past

few years.

"We wanted to use this surplus in a way that would give back to the community," explained Jessica Shahan, executive chair of ASAP.

Arts students pay a fee of \$15 per semester in faculty fees, which is then distributed to ASAP.

The scholarship will also be partly funded by external donations. "We have been receiving many donations from the Kitchener-Waterloo community," Shahan said.

It will be awarded annually to cover the whole cost of the recipients' co-op. The recipients of the scholarship will be compensated

at \$13 or \$14 per hour for at least 35 hours a week.

The ASAP scholarship will be offered to students demonstrating an interest in working to further both Laurier and the outside community.

Interested applicants must be registered as a full-time arts student at Laurier (with a co-op option), have substantial volunteer experience, good grades and must demonstrate financial need.

In order to be considered, applicants must also complete an interview with two ASAP representatives and an executive member of the

co-op office.

The scholarship is not yet finalized, although it has been approved by the dean of arts Mary-Louise Byrne and the manager of Wilfrid Laurier University Students' Union Mike McMahon.

The final approval will be determined by a vote from the ASAP representatives, which is set to take place sometime this month.

According to Shahan, ASAP is hoping to have this scholarship finalized by Oct. 25 so that students may begin to apply in January and receive the scholarship money for co-op placements this summer.

“

We wanted to use this surplus in a way that would give back to the community.”

— Jessica Shahan, executive chair, ASAP

## Value of note sharing website questioned

**OLIVIA NIGHTINGALE**  
CORD NEWS

With classes back in full swing at Laurier, most students are starting to feel overwhelmed by their heavy workloads.

For many, juggling classes, readings and essay-writing can be a near-impossible feat.

Laurier student Tim Siad is no different. He too has to deal with the stress of a rigorous academic schedule that can make coursework and midterms daunting.

It is for this very reason that Siad has decided to act as the Laurier representative for University Junction, a new endeavor that hopes to change the academic environment.

He describes the website, which was launched at the beginning of September, as "a free online academic activity tool that helps students learn more efficiently."

University Junction will feature online forums for student discussion on a number of classes; offering notes, online study groups, old

assignments and practice tests.

"On one hand, I think it has added value to the classroom," said assistant professor of communications Judith Nicholson.

"But it makes me wonder what is lost from classroom discussion," Nicholson said of note sharing websites.

While it may seem similar to Laurier's own online student forum, WebCT, the website hopes to connect university students from across North America.

Laurier is among the 119 post-secondary institutions in Canada and the United States that are represented on the website.

The site, which is based solely on student participation, hopes to create resources for a wide variety of courses in a range of faculties.

Siad explains that University Junction will allow a student at Laurier who is taking the same class as a student in Texas to share notes.

Nicholson agrees that sharing ideas is a good idea; however, she is unsure of the value these discussions would have without the full



YUSUF KIDWAI PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

University Junction is one option for students who want to share notes with other students online.

context of the course available.

"I always found the most productive conversations were in reading groups, face-to-face. I don't really get it," said Nicholson about the concept of online discussions groups.

In order to register with the website one must visit [www.university-junction.com](http://www.university-junction.com) and create an account with a university e-mail address.

"A lot of people are intrigued

[thus far]," said Siad about the website.

Still, he hopes that more students will soon become a part of the University Junction online community.

Since these websites seem to be showing up year after year, Nicholson added that they may not provide any real benefits, questioning how they are any different than Facebook or something less academic based.

"They might fill the need for the

person who starts them, whether it's commercial or personal, but they fall apart after that," said Nicholson.

"They are not really a forum for continued discussion then."

Siad will be in the concourse and around campus for the next eight weeks to increase awareness about the website and answer any questions that students may have about University Junction.

—With files from Lauren Millet

## WLUSU board update

"Aren't these numbers negatives?" —WLUSU director Laura Allen questioning management after they explained why they were under-budget in Brantford; WLUSU was actually over-budget

**LAUREN MILLET**  
NEWS EDITOR

The Wilfrid Laurier University Students' Union board of directors held their second meeting of the school year last Friday at 2:30, which lasted until about 6:00 p.m.

The meeting began with a motion from director Andrew Fryer to talk about the potential bad press WLUSU may have received from a recent Cord article concerning Charity Ball. While the issue was addressed briefly, it was motioned to be moved to the "other business" portion of the meeting.

One of the other issues brought to the table was the poor service on campus, particularly at Wilf's.

WLUSU president Laura Sheridan noted that WLUSU realizes that some students are unhappy with the current state of the service, and insisted that the matter is being reviewed and that more servers may be added to lunch and dinner shifts.

The meeting progressed to a presentation about the financial snapshots of periods one through four, which revealed that the union is \$230,000 under-budget thus far, yet management explained that period five should even out many of the payments.

These snapshots appeared to be fairly ambiguous and were the cause of much questioning and discussion among the board members. Many directors were confused over many of the numbers and needed specific explanations for most.

At around 3:45 p.m. the meeting moved to an in-camera session, which was pushed forward on the agenda. The session was scheduled for 25 minutes; however, it lasted for about an hour.

Board chair Saad Aslam attributed this to the fact that it was the board's first in-camera session and they were simply inexperienced and therefore posed many questions.

Following the in-camera session the board elected directors to sit on different committees, listed below.

- BCC Realignment**  
Kayla Smith, Greg Evans
- Ends Policies Development**  
Kyle Hocking, Andrew Fryer, Jackie Dobson
- Environmental Sustainability Policy Development**  
Jordan Hyde, Emily Harason, Chris Oberle
- Ownership Linkage Development**  
Laura Allen, Michael Onabolu, Stephanie Francis
- Elections Policy Review**  
Michael Onabolu, Peter Hanna, Chris Oberle

\*All committees will also have one Brantford Campus Councillor sitting on it.

### iTeach fee reviewed

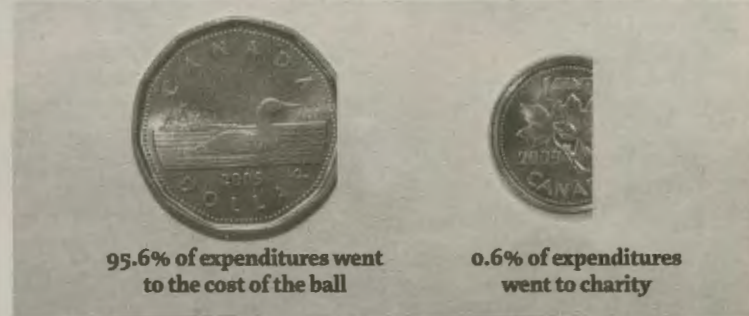
WLUSU has been in contact with the Laurier administration at both the Waterloo and Brantford campuses, as well as the administration at Nipissing University regarding the illegal iTeach fee that was charged to Brantford students in the concurrent education program this year.

"The students' union was creating a statement.... A letter was made and sent out on the 7th of October... and it highlighted the problems with this fee and where it was illegal and also recommended steps moving forward," said WLUSU president Laura Sheridan.

"[The letter] reiterated that the students' union wanted to be active and involved in the decision process."

Nipissing is also now investigating the complications involved with joint programs between different institutions, as is the case with Nipissing and Laurier Brantford, in hopes that these types of problems can be avoided in the future.

—Andrea Millet



## Board discusses adjusting event's name in future

from cover

very name should be changed to something more reflective of the committee.

"I did make the comment in regards to ... possibly a name change to something that's not so misleading," said Dobson.

Dobson explains that Charity Ball's goal, as she remembers, was simply "skills development for the volunteers," which is met each year by the committee.

Chair of the board Saad Aslam feels that because Charity Ball falls under the student activities department "to focus solely on the monetary aspect of it is a loss."

Questions still remain as to what restrictions or protocol will be implemented to monitor committees' spending, if any.

Sheridan explains that the computer program ACCPAC, which all student executives within WLUSU have access to, will be closely monitored by vice-presidents who will

keep an eye on budgets. Even campus clubs has become part of this new system.

In the past the board of directors has also discussed implementing a policy to keep a closer eye on the expenditures of committees, although it has always been in the context of Shinerama.

Despite anguish on both sides, one calling for closer regulations on committee spending and the other angered at the negativity surrounding Charity Ball, the fact remains that at the end of the year the committee was left with just over \$150 to give to KidsAbility.

Evans highlights what many Laurier students have expressed; despite whatever problems WLUSU may have had with finalizing the Charity Ball figures, the final numbers just don't add up.

"In the future Charity Ball needs to make sure students aren't being misled into thinking that all of their money is going to charity," said Evans. "It is a morally grey area."



# LOCAL

Local Editor Linda Givetash • lgivetash@thecord.ca



YUSUF KIDWAI PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

Global National's Kevin Newman stops in the region to anchor the national news program from Kitchener City Hall on Tuesday.

## Broadcasting from Kitchener

DAVID GOLDBERG  
WEB EDITOR

Who says that community-driven news is dead?

Kevin Newman, one of Canadian journalism's most well known faces was broadcast from Kitchener-Waterloo on Oct. 13.

On a frigid day, Global TV's national news program *Global National* was televised from outside the front of Kitchener City Hall.

Newman, *Global National*'s lead anchor, explained to *The Cord* that he's impressed with how much the twin cities have grown, even just in the last few years.

He's always been fond of the Kitchener-Waterloo area and has been here many times.

"I used to float down the Grand River in an inner-tube with a bucket of beer attached to it," he said, laughing at the memory from when he was young man.

As a part of *Global National*'s tour of smaller communities, the show aired stories about Oktoberfest, polka music legend and Grammy-winner Walter Ostanek, as well as a story about a local cemetery that is home to the graves of German POWs from the Second World War.

Newman explained that the choice to schedule a stop in KW was an easy one.

"We have a lot of viewers in

Kitchener-Waterloo and we want to keep them, so it's important to show up and to reflect the community and remind people that we care."

A native of Toronto, Newman got his start in journalism at the University of Western Ontario where he helped start up the university's first radio station.

When he graduated, he spent more than a decade working for CTV, CBC and Global TV at different times. In the mid 1990s he departed for the United States journalism scene. It was here that Newman spent several years working at ABC anchoring *World News Now* and co-anchoring *Good Morning America*.

Even though he was making more money and enjoying a whole new level of fame he had not experienced with Canadian-based networks, he sorely missed his roots.

"[Anchors are] storytellers," he said, "And I enjoyed telling stories to an American audience. But at the end of the day I didn't really understand the audiences as well as I understand Canadians."

So when *Global National* was launched in the fall of 2001, Newman jumped at the chance to return to his native land and to help establish the show.

"I felt most comfortable telling stories to Canadians because I feel them in my gut... and that meant the most to me I think in the long run," he said.

## GO service comes to KW

KATRINA ANNUNZIELLO  
CORD LOCAL

On Oct. 31, the GO bus will make its first trip from Kitchener-Waterloo to Mississauga.

The new route will have stops at the University of Waterloo, Wilfrid Laurier University, Charles Street Terminal, Milton, Mississauga and Toronto.

The stop at Laurier will be at the corner of University Avenue and Hazel Street with 12 departures daily.

A single ride ticket to Mississauga will cost \$12.30 and can be purchased from the driver, Charles Street Terminal or the University of Waterloo Turnkey Desk.

According to Sue Dawson, retail service manager for Wilfrid Laurier University Students' Union, tickets will not be available for purchase at the C-Spot until a market is established on campus.

The governments of Canada and Ontario have also designated \$2.5 million to build four park-and-ride lots that will stretch between highways 401 and 8 to accommodate the GO bus initiative.

In addition, GO is looking to expand their rail service to the area.

According to director of transportation planning for the Region of Waterloo Graham Vincent, the region is simply waiting for more information from the government about when funding will come through for this initiative.

# H1N1 confirmed in Waterloo Region

LINDA GIVETASH  
LOCAL AND NATIONAL EDITOR

The Region of Waterloo Public Health announced last week that there are five confirmed cases of the H1N1 influenza in the region.

Although the cases were not severe, they do mark the beginning of flu season.

"As expected with the advent of the flu season in the fall we are starting to see an increase in cases of influenza," said Dr. Hsiu-Li Wang, associate medical officer for the Region of Waterloo Public Health.

Unlike previous years, this flu

season incorporates the H1N1 strain that has been declared a pandemic.

Thus far, Dr. Wang stated that the majority of flu cases seen in the region, like others in the rest of the country, are of the H1N1 strain.

The number of cases confirmed does not represent the actual number of those infected, as those with milder symptoms will go untested.

"We don't test everybody. We only test a select group: those who have a severe illness, for example, those who are hospitalized or those who are at greater risk of complications," explained Dr. Wang.

Although H1N1 affects younger age groups including adolescents

and young adults, it poses greater risks to those with previous health problems.

In combating H1N1, Dr. Wang said that the same precautions in preventing the spread of the regular seasonal flu apply.

This involves washing or disinfecting your hands, covering your mouth when you cough or sneeze and staying at home when you exhibit flu-like symptoms.

Vaccinations for H1N1 will also be available this year in addition to the regular flu vaccine. However, the exact date when it will become available is not clear.

"That is something that's a bit of a moving schedule," said Dr. Wang,

who also noted that when the vaccine is available for the public it will be announced immediately at [www.waterlooregionpandemic.ca](http://www.waterlooregionpandemic.ca).

The first wave of vaccines is expected to become available in late October or early November.

Those at high risk for flu complications will be prioritized to receive the vaccines first.

The rest of the public should have access to the vaccines by the end of November.

"There's not going to be a very big wait between when [at risk individuals] get them and the rest of the population gets them," said Dr. Wang.

## Flu symptoms

- Coughing
- Fever
- One or more of the following:
  - Sore throat
  - Muscle aches
  - Weakness

## Flu prevention

- Wash your hands regularly
- Use hand sanitizers with 60% alcohol content
- Stay home if you exhibit symptoms

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**English – German dictionary**

The quick and easy Oktoberfest reference guide

1. Hello – Hallo
2. Cheers! – Prost!
3. I'd like a beer please – I'd mögen ein Bier bitte
4. I like your lederhosen – Ich mag Ihren lederhosen

5. My place or yours? – Mein Platz oder Ihr?
6. I feel sick – Ich fühle mich krank
7. Sorry about your shoes – Traurig um Ihre Schuhe

# Oktoberfest celebrates 40th year

North America's largest Bavarian festival kicks off another year of celebrating the region's German heritage

## Luncheon opens festivities

JACQUELINE HOVIUS  
CORD LOCAL

"Oktoberfest ist Wunderbar!" said mayor of Waterloo Brenda Halloran, causing the crowd to cheer at the kick-off of the mayor's Oktoberfest luncheon, held in Uptown Waterloo's public square on Thursday, Oct. 8.

The town square quickly filled up with residents and tourists of all ages. Halloran commented, "By the looks of it this is our largest crowd ever."

Paul Buttinger, the president of Oktoberfest, proclaimed that although the event had not yet started, the spirit was already in KW.

"Tomorrow will be the official opening of the festival, but ... [it] feels like we are starting it right now with a little sausage and schnitzel," said Buttinger.

Pillars, a sponsor of Oktoberfest, provided free sausages, which were served by the city's councilors, along with schnitzel and drinks. Rude Native also provided a chocolate dessert.

The attendees were informed of the many activities that would be held over the next nine days.

Buttinger recommended the Take the Bus on Us program, saying, "Not only does Oktoberfest care about getting people out to the festivals, we care about getting them home too."

This program, provided by Grand River Transit (GRT), encourages the public to take the bus by offering free transportation on the weekends of the festival.

The official master of ceremonies for Oktoberfest, Angie Hill from Kool FM, reminded the crowd of the 50 plus charities that the festival and its many sponsors support.

The Black Forest Band, who proudly presented themselves as Canada's Premier Polka Band, started and finished the ceremony with traditional polka music.

Always a favourite at Oktoberfest, the band included Mark Krueller, former president of the festival, as their drummer.

"Ladies and gentleman, the clock is ticking, the tent is set, and I got to tell you, the beer is chilling, because we are getting ready to deliver Canada's greatest Bavarian festival right here in Kitchener-Waterloo," said Buttinger, motivating the crowd to begin their celebrations.



YUSUF KIDWAI PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER  
Parade participants dress in costumes to celebrate Thanksgiving.

## Parading Uptown

Kitchener-Waterloo's Thanksgiving Day parade exhibits floats and marching bands to celebrate the national holiday

LINDA GIVETASH  
LOCAL AND NATIONAL EDITOR

On Thanksgiving morning, thousands gathered along King Street through Waterloo and Kitchener to watch the annual Oktoberfest parade that featured 30 floats and 14 marching bands.

The parade is one of many family-friendly events that brings the community together during the festival.

"It's a very busy week, but its all about the culture of this community, the family and the children, and just celebrating Thanksgiving and Oktoberfest," said Waterloo mayor Brenda Halloran at the festival's opening ceremony last Thursday.

Megan Reid, 11, who watched the parade Uptown with her brother Carson, 8, said that she preferred the music and marching bands over the floats.

Gerry Howse, attending the parade with his friends and family, including his 4-year-old granddaughter Olivia, told The Cord that he has attended the every year without fail.

"It's a very good parade," said Howse, just as Olivia pointed out a passing float with excitement.

To push the float-designing abilities of the sponsors involved, floats competed for seven awards given by a judging panel. Schneider Foods won the Festival Award, and was named the best float in the parade.

For the first time in parade history, onlookers could text in their vote for the People's Choice Float.

Out of the 25 contestants, the Moonshine Band's float sponsored by the UpTown Waterloo Business Improvement Area received the award.

As any Oktoberfest event, it could not be complete without the enthusiastic participation of Onkel Hans, the official festival mascot.

Prior to the parade, Onkel Hans along with community volunteers took part in a 5 km run down the parade route in support of the Home Caregiver's Programme.

The parade marked the continual success of the festival in bringing together the community and supporting a good cause.

-With files from Jacqueline Hovius

# Barrel race raises funds for housing

LINDA GIVETASH  
LOCAL AND NATIONAL EDITOR

On Oct. 10, the public square was bustling with crowds of people lining up to enjoy a free pancake breakfast and watch Oktoberfest's 31st annual barrel race.

The pancake breakfast, which began at 7 a.m., was made possible by Aunt Jemima pancakes, Pillars sausages and the cooking skills of the students of Conestoga College's culinary program.

"You know there are 10,000 people that showed up for breakfast here this morning bringing life to the centre of our community," said Mark Whaley, city councilor for ward five.

The barrel race, organized by the UpTown Waterloo Business Improvement Area (BIA), raised funds for Supportive Housing of Waterloo (SHOW).

Teams made up of four participants registered for the event, paying a \$35 fee that went towards the charity.

Raising money for the charity was fundamental for the participants who came out at 9 a.m. on a Saturday morning. "It's the fundraising we do it for," said Alexis Conrad, who was participating with her co-workers from Borden Ladner Gervais LLP.

"Some of them have been rolling for years and years and years and it's quite a competition that they have going on with their archrivals," said Patti Brooks, executive director of BIA.

Although several teams have participated over the years, new teams are always encouraged. "You don't need to have any particular sporting



YUSUF KIDWAI PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER  
Conestoga College's co-ed team placed first in their barrel racing division on Saturday morning.

abilities to roll a barrel," said Brooks.

The race was set up as a relay, with two team members at a time rolling the barrel down the track.

"All four of them pretty much have to be in synch because it's a hand off," explained Brooks.

Brooks did note that the task was not as simple as it appeared for the participants. "Some people have been out partying the night before

so it's a bit of a challenge for them to get here this early."

Whaley spoke about the city councilor's team, made up of himself and councilors Karen Scian, Angela Vieth and Diane Freeman.

"We usually come in last place which is great because it gets us to the bar a little quicker," said Whaley.

This year the councilors were unable to race at all as the entire team

was not present in time for the event's start.

In addition to the competitive barrel race, there was a wheelbarrow race for children.

## Winning teams

Co-ed: Conestoga College  
Men's: Spicy Sugar  
Women's: Kegs and Legs

Stacey Shore  
Most Likely to become a celebrity hair stylist

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# NATIONAL

National Editor Linda Givetash • lgivetash@thecord.ca

## Canada in brief

### Vaccine delay 'nothing political'

**MONTREAL (CUP)** – Canadians will have to wait a while longer than other countries before the H1N1 vaccine becomes available.

The vaccine became available in the United States on Oct. 5, and will be available in Britain before the end of the month – but it won't hit doctors' offices until early November in Canada.

The federal government has come under fire from opposition parties for taking "too long" to purchase the vaccine and make it available to the public.

–Tyson Lowrie, the Concordian

### Dalai Lama speaks to Quebec education students

**MONTREAL (CUP)** – His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama held two private audiences with Quebec education students after he learned of the provincial government's introduction of a controversial ethics and religious culture class to primary and secondary students.

During both addresses, the Dalai Lama emphasized the need for a balance between intellectualized faith and secular ethics. He hoped to articulate the need of shared links between humanity, to be compassionate, and work to make the world a better place.

–Emily Clare, the McGill Daily

### Faculty demand funding increase from Ontario

**TORONTO (CUP)** – Last month, the Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Associations (OCUFA) released a report entitled "Post-secondary education in Ontario and the recession," in which they called for increased financial support from the provincial government for post-secondary institutions.

"We have a long-time concern of the economic underpinnings of post-secondary education in the province," said Mark Langer, OCUFA president and associate professor of film studies at Carleton.

"A good part of the university experience is not only going to class, but the cultural aspect. Students don't do that anymore, or they're doing it to a far less extent than in the past because they're busy working," he said.

–Danielle Webb, Ontario Bureau Chief

## Google Street View now in select Canadian cities

**LINDA GIVETASH**  
LOCAL AND NATIONAL EDITOR

After getting tired of looking at a couple holding hands walking down University Avenue across the street from Wilfrid Laurier University, one can easily turn to five men sitting on the patio of The Silver Spur in Uptown Waterloo.

Within seconds, similar actions can be seen taking place in downtown Halifax or Vancouver.

On Oct. 7, Google Maps launched their Street View application in 11 cities across Canada, including Kitchener-Waterloo.

"One of the reasons why we picked the cities that we did is that typically when we launch in a country we choose the largest metropolitan type of cities for the initial launch," said Wendy Rozeluk, global communications and public affairs manager for Google Canada.

"We also try to include cities across the country so it would be representative of the many different provinces and regions."

The application allows you to view these cities in photographs that were taken from a vehicle driving through the streets months prior.

"The pictures that you see on Street View on Google Maps are all snapshots of anything you would see walking down the street," said Rozeluk.

Street View was initially launched in 2007 in some cities across the United States. The initiative has since grown to include cities around the world.

Currently there is no timeline set for updating the photos.

"If you think about the countries and cities across the globe, it becomes a very big project," said Rozeluk.

With its initial release in the U.S., issues of privacy were raised as people, cars and homes were easily identified, something that raised concern for associate professor in communications studies at Laurier Martin Dowding.

"Some of the big issues that were initially brought up were that the Google Street View people were just driving through no trespassing

“

When will someone finally say we have enough already, we have enough information about everybody, we just don't need it?"

– Martin Dowding, associate professor of communications at Laurier

signs; they were driving into very large compounds with gates that just happened to be open that day," said Dowding.

Many cases of privacy were taken to court and not all have been resolved as of yet.

Privacy was taken into greater consideration with the Canadian launch.

"What Google had done is apply technology ... [with] the ability to blur faces and also license plates," said Rozeluk.

Users are also able to report problems with images that they either want removed or they feel needs greater blurring.

Dowding, however, is skeptical about the degree to which individuals' privacy is violated.

"When you think about it, if you ... or I just started walking around and taking pictures of peoples houses and walking into lanes that had no trespassing signs we'd probably be in jail, or at least we'd be in trouble," said Dowding.

Canadian privacy commissioners have accepted the new application after seeking out and reviewing Google's privacy policies concerning the material.

Despite their stamp of approval, Dowding noted that Street View represents a greater issue of privacy as technology continues to progress and improve.

"I think we should be much more



The Aird underpass at Wilfrid Laurier University.



The Silver Spur prior to its closure in April.



The Princess Twin Cinemas in Uptown Waterloo.

attentive to our privacy, and people tend to not be."

With the onset of websites such as MySpace, Facebook and YouTube, along with Google's new initiatives that continue to connect and inform people about one another, privacy is becoming a forsaken right.

"If society keeps going down that road, when will it stop? When will someone finally say we have enough already, we have enough information about everybody, we just don't

need it?" questions Dowding.

Although Street View provides the novelty of looking for directions or simply being able to see places around the world with the feeling that you are physically there, Dowding also doubts the usefulness of the Google application as a navigation tool.

"People seem to get to places okay [without Street View]," said Dowding.



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## Cell phone ban comes into effect

Soon phones can no longer be used while driving in Ontario

**KRISTEN DUVALL**  
CORD NATIONAL

Starting Oct. 26 it will be illegal for Ontario motorists to use any wireless devices that can cause a distraction while on the road.

This includes the viewing of entertainment devices such as DVD players or laptops.

Though the ban is going into effect in a few weeks, Sgt. Pierre Chamberland, Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) explains that the province "will not be able to start issuing tickets for that [ban on wireless devices] until the first of February [2010]."

There are some exceptions to this ban. Motorists who are in need of

emergency assistance will still be permitted to make 911 calls. Wireless devices may also be used when safely pulled off the road or in a designated parking area.

Hands-free and navigation devices securely fastened or integrated into vehicles may still be used while driving.

Professionals who rely on hand-held devices while on the road are still permitted to use them for job-related purposes. The goal is to have a three-year phase-out period in which hands-free wireless technologies will be developed for the profession.

The creation of a safe environment for drivers and pedestrians on all roadways in the province is "ultimately our goal," said Chamberland.

While many are relieved to hear this news, a survey reported on by the CBC found that 14 per cent of 18 to 34 year olds, the age group of most concern, are determined to still use their hand-held devices while driving.

These numbers are disconcerting as teens and youth comprise nearly one-quarter of the total national deaths due to motor vehicle accidents, according to Statistics Canada.

Hand-held wireless devices are responsible for 200 deaths and millions of accident related injuries every year in Ontario.

According to CAA North & East Ontario, a provincial car insurance company, cell phones are the number one cause of accidents.



# INTERNATIONAL

International Editor Paula Millar • pmillar@thecord.ca

## The evolution of revolution

Twitter, Facebook and YouTube are the new tools of political activism worldwide



**PAULA MILLAR**  
INTERNATIONAL EDITOR

Free the carrier pigeon, abandon Morse code, and overlook Radio Free Europe (RFE).

The fact is, a new type of communication is at the forefront of today's political revolutions. Today, rebellions organized via social networking sites are emerging as the newest trend in conflict initiation.

Twitter, Facebook, YouTube and mobile phone text messaging have become breeding grounds for rebel and dissident movements worldwide. Now only a click away, supporting a coup has never been so easy.

While Canadian university students use Facebook to plan birthdays, charity bake sales, and bar nights, Moldovan students have used it to plan uprisings against their Communist government.

In countries where speaking out against the government is not tolerated, many young activists have been forced to find creative avenues to pursue aggressive action for their cause. Interestingly, many have turned to the social

networking sites they know all too well as a means to articulate dissent and to orchestrate revolt.

While this may appear groundbreaking, according to the *Washington Post*, throughout history, "Protesters have often used new technologies to evade government attempts to stifle dissent." The *Washington Post* notes, even when the Soviet Union appeared on the verge of collapse, "Dissidents used underground fax services to spread information."

New media technologies provide vital communication links. Exploiting such communication avenues, while evading governmental interference, is the key to raising awareness for a political cause. Undeniably, this is the future of revolution.

### Moldova

In April, political unrest bred outright civil disobedience in Moldova's capital of Chisinau. Activists,

expressing discontent over the Communist Party's recent re-election victory, overwhelmed the police presence and effectively stormed the country's parliament buildings. Upon retreat, the dissidents left the government offices in ruins and the typically heavy-handed Communist government in utter bewilderment.

According to RFE, the entire act was organized and carried out using a combination of Twitter, Facebook, mobile phone text messaging, blogs, and e-mail.

RFE reports that even as online access to news organizations and opposition parties was blacked out by the Communist government, organizers simply switched to using Facebook to plan and spread information about upcoming demonstrations. The online organization made it impossible for the Moldovan government to monitor or control the students' activities.

### Iran

This summer, Twitter was also a major player in Iran's ongoing political drama. In June, as Iranian President Ahmadinejad claimed re-election victory, many took to the streets in protest. According to the *Washington Post*, these demonstrations were entirely prearranged via Facebook and Twitter.

The *Washington Post* reports that Twitter's influence on the Iranian political situation was so

profound that even U.S. government officials took notice.

In turn, the U.S. State Department asked Twitter to postpone scheduled maintenance of their site, as to not disrupt communication between the dissident movement organizers and their supporters within Iran's borders.

During the uprising, the mainstream media even grew dependent on Twitter updates as the Iranian government barred the press from entering the country.

On some occasions, the *Washington Post* reports, "The predominant information [was] coming from Twitter."

In light of this summer's events, many in Iran have since coined the revolt "a Twitter revolution."

### Somalia

Terrorists, not to be left out of this new trend, have begun to use social networking technologies to their benefit as well.

The BBC reports that Al-Shabab, a radical insurgent Islamic group with reported links to Al-Qaeda, conducts all of its communication via text messages.

The group, operating within war-ravaged Somalia, reportedly organizes its troops, communicates between them, and issues threats to opposing parties using mobile phone text messaging systems.

According to the BBC, low-ranking military officers are given

pre-paid phone cards by elite members of the group.

This way, the leadership of al-Shabab is allowed the disguise of complete anonymity and never even has to set foot in Somali territory.

### America

The developing world, however, is not the only one getting in on the social networking action.

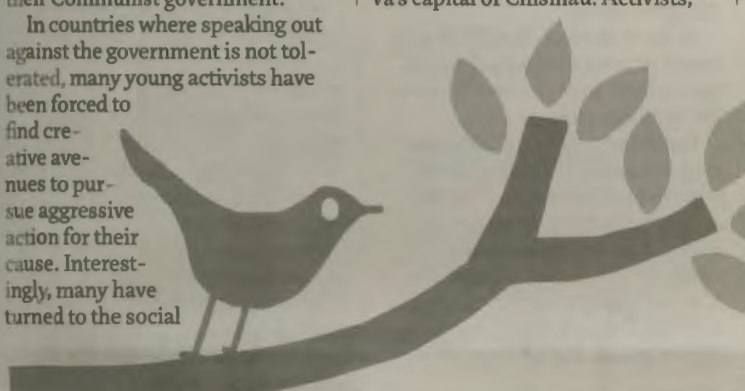
While hardly a rebellion, Barack Obama's successful 2008 presidential campaign is an example of effective use of modern communication technologies.

The Obama team hired Facebook co-founder Chris Hughes to promote the Democratic hopeful online.

It worked. Obama's web campaign was revolutionary and unarguably successful in targeting the youth vote, which has traditionally been a difficult demographic to get out to the polls.

Social networking sites have become a powerful political tool throughout the world.

As this technology continues to evolve, it may become better known for its revolutionary potential than its social networking capabilities.



## Is President Obama Nobel Prize worthy?

**MELISSA CUPOVIC**  
STAFF WRITER

U.S. President Barack Obama was announced as the recipient of the 2009 Nobel Peace Prize last Friday. A record number of 205 people were nominated for the Norwegian award; among the favourites were Zimbabwean Prime Minister Morgan Tsvangirai and Chinese dissident Hu Jia. According to the BBC, the Norwegian committee chose Obama because of his efforts to enhance diplomacy and co-operation.

"Only very rarely has a person to the same extent as Obama captured the world's attention and given its people hope for a better future," the committee said, according to the

BBC.

"His diplomacy is founded in the concept that those who are to lead the world must do so on the basis of values and attitudes that are shared by the majority of the world's population."

Obama was nominated less than two weeks after his inauguration. News of his win has brought about both support and skepticism.

Many wonder what the president has done to warrant such a nomination.

Michael Steele, chairman of the Republican National Committee, asked what the president had accomplished to be worthy of such an award. He credited Obama's win to "star power" and claimed that it was "unfortunate" that the U.S.

president "outshined tireless advocates who have made real achievements working towards peace and human rights."

Former Nobel Peace Prize winner Jody Williams also claims that the prize is "politicized" and that the U.S. president is "facing huge contradictions" as he will send "40,000 new American troops into Afghanistan just as he receives the Nobel Peace Prize."

Former vice-president Al Gore disagrees, arguing that Obama's win is "extremely well deserved" and that "much of what he has accomplished already is going to be far more appreciated in the eyes of history."

However, for groups such as Hamas and the Taliban, who chose

to focus on the present, there is no evidence of any improvement in security for the people living people in their regions.

According to CNN, people in the United States are "divided on whether intangible achievements are worthy of such an esteemed award."

The BBC has also reported that a large majority of its viewers, listeners and website users have expressed shock.

President Obama himself was taken aback by the award, stating in his acceptance speech that he was "surprised and deeply humbled."

Obama also stated that he does not feel as though he deserves to be in the company of the "transformative figures" who had previously

won the Nobel Peace Prize. He will, however, accept the prize as a "call to action."

The head of the Nobel Committee, Thorbjoren Jagland, said that the reason Obama received the award so early in his presidency is because the committee "would like to support what he is trying to achieve."

According to the BBC, Jagland specifically made reference to Obama's efforts to strengthen international institutions and to move towards a world without nuclear arms.

Critics have argued, however, that Obama's efforts have yet to result in success and that it is far too early to speculate on whether they will lead to peace.



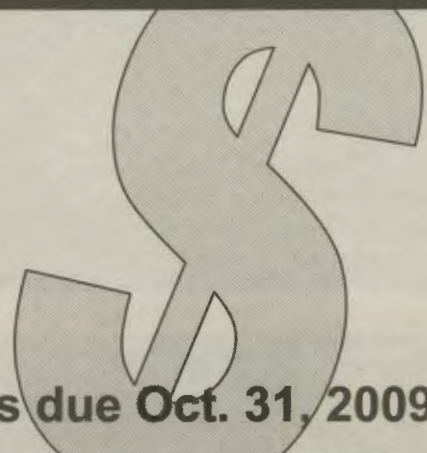
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## Helping you leave your mark





# World in brief

—Compiled by Marie Andic

### GLASGOW, SCOTLAND

The *Toronto Star* reports that the birthplace of Canada's first Prime Minister, John A. Macdonald, is scheduled for demolition. A memorial is included in the home's redevelopment plans.

### GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

Despite delays, the BBC reports that Armenia and Turkey have signed a peace accord. This agreement is expected to end nearly a century of hostile relations between the two countries.

### PARIS, FRANCE

The BBC reports that the Louvre has agreed to return five ancient fresco fragments to Egypt. The fragments are believed to have been stolen from Egypt in the 1980s and purchased by the Louvre in 2000.

### WARSAW, POLAND

According to the BBC, Polish President Lech Kaczynski has signed the Lisbon Treaty. This makes the Czech Republic the only remaining EU nation yet to sign on to the agreement.



JESSICA D'CROIX IJG RECIPIENT

Even in the times of relative peace, corruption plagues Uganda's recovery. Many allege the country's president has stolen international aid meant for reconstruction.

# A questionable democracy

Investigative Journalism Grant Recipient **Jessica D'Croix** examines Uganda's political situation in the first of a three-part series exploring the most pertinent issues facing the war-torn African country today

"Our president has been president for a long time, but it is time for a change," said 22 year-old Sarah Aol, an Acholi woman who has lived all her life in Northern Uganda.

Aol is referring to Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni. Museveni has been in power since a 1985 coup that saw his installment as leader. Throughout his time in power, Museveni has done a great deal to develop Uganda's south. Yet even today, the country's troubled north remains largely ignored.

Despite this obvious mistreatment of a great portion of the country, Museveni has risen to the status of African poster child for good democratic governance in the West.

### Background

The Acholi tribe is located in Uganda's northern region — one of the biggest territories in the country. Throughout history, they have been the underdogs.

There are deep-rooted differences between the Buganda tribe in the south and the Acholis. These

## IJ Grant

differences led Museveni to ignore an over 20 year conflict.

In 1987, Joseph Kony, a young uneducated Acholi, created a rebel group called the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA). At the beginning of the rebellion, Kony received a fair amount of support from the oppressed Acholi tribe. However, support dwindled once it became clear such a rebellion would not be effective against Museveni.

Today, the actions Kony took to perpetuate the conflict are infamous worldwide. Images of child soldiers and the slaughtering of villagers have garnered attention from the international community. These remain vivid reminders of a period of Ugandan unrest.

In the last 15 years, Kony's actions

are responsible for the mass movement of people to internally displaced peoples (IDP) camps across the north. However, since Kony's move to the northern region of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), rebel activity has not occurred in the north for three years.

Due to the lull in violence, citizens are slowly moving out of camps and back to their villages. To those on the ground today, it is painfully evident that this pilgrimage home is quite likely worse than staying in the camps.

### The reality

Most reports focus on the civil war and paint Kony and the rebels as the only group responsible for committing atrocities. However, the Uganda Peoples Defence Force (UPDF) is not exempt from participation in similar activities.

One case is the story of a man named Phillip Aluweo. Aluweo's father was a prominent political figure within the government but, as an Acholi, he was removed from power

and forced to flee to England. Once in the United Kingdom, he and his family claimed refugee status as a means of protection from the Ugandan government.

In the meantime, the UPDF used one of Aluweo's father's offices in the Anaka region as a headquarters for over two years.

Family land, livestock and lives were lost to the UPDF, yet all Aluweo wishes for is peace. "He has done what is more than enough," said Aluweo of Museveni and his action in the conflict. Regrettably, Aluweo's story is only one case of military abuse directed toward the Acholi people during the conflict.

### Blatant corruption

Today, the government claims that it is working to send citizens back home and compensate any losses resulting from military action throughout the conflict. Despite strong statements, there is little evidence that progress is being made.

The speaker of the house for the Gulu district, Martin Okello, claims

that there is work being done to reconstruct the north. Again, he admits, there is not enough funding to put the dialogue into action.

In the past few years, northern Uganda has become a major recipient of international aid. However, questions remain as to the exact allocation of these funds. Allegedly, Museveni and his administration have been stealing funds meant for reconstruction. Corruption is blatantly evident.

When speaking with aid workers in Gulu, the topic of stolen funding is generally accepted as commonplace. One worker claimed, "The government will take its share and will allow us [the Acholi] to suffer for money."

In the developed world, democracy is meant to protect the people. For a regime once idolized as the best democracy in Africa, it is problematic that human rights violations have been permitted to take place. The commencement of prevention methods, and an overall re-evaluation of the situation, is necessary.

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# ARTS

Arts Editor Rebecca Vasluianu • rvasluianu@thecord.ca

## Seeking to thrill

Discussing music with Dragonette songstress Martina Sorbara

ANNE DONAHUE  
STAFF WRITER

Despite the demands of touring and maintaining a sense of constant creativity, Toronto's Dragonette has successfully kept the passion, positivity and energy that are instantly evident in their live performances.

In support of their latest release and second full-length album, *Fixin To Thrill*, the band has launched a massive world-wide tour that brought them to the Starlight Lounge last Wednesday night.

As the Canadian-based electropop band took to the Starlight stage, the audience was able to share in their creative spirit while dancing to the stories sang by lead singer-songwriter Martina Sorbara.

Their open attitude and carefree vibe was evident as die-hard and new fans danced and rocked out to a set list that showcased both new material and favourites from the last record.

Having already been energized by Dragonette's supporting act, Ruby Jean and the Thoughtful Bees, the crowd packed the dance floor and reacted instantly to the likes of "Take It Like a Man," "I Get Around," "Pick Up the Phone," "Easy" and Sorbara's favourite, the dance-country tune "Gone Too Far".

"I think there are distinctive stories to each song and, for the most part, they're very personal stories," Sorbara told *The Cord* in an interview before the show.

"Sometimes there's more than one story going on at once, but a lot of the time it's like I don't even know what it is until after it's kind of written and [it's like] 'Oh, that's what this is about.'"

An extremely visual act – both through their lyrics and live performances – Sorbara donned an eye-catching ensemble that mimicked the 80s new-wave pop look the band embraces through their videos and album art.

"If a vision comes to mind and you have a visual, you just kind of grab onto it ... and hopefully you'll be working with somebody who can help you realize it," Sorbara

“Every single song we write is a sort of surprise. There's really not a like, 'This is the kind of music we play, these are the sounds we use.'”

– Lead singer Martina Sorbara

explained, referring to the video for the opening track on the album "Fixin to Thrill".

"It just started with a flash of an image of me drawing my body on myself. And I made that one ... [with my] best friend – she directed it – so we just kind of came up with all these crazy concepts."

Though the new album has definite similarities to their previous release, 2007's *Galore*, *Fixin To Thrill* offers a distinct presence and maintains the band's love of music as opposed to a love of themselves.

"Every single song we write is a sort of surprise," Sorbara elaborated.

"There's not really a like, 'This is the kind of music we play, these are the sounds we use,' so I think ... both albums take such crazy tangents all the time."

*Fixin To Thrill* – the album, the live show and the title itself – not only reflects the intensity of Dragonette, but also their determination to perform with eagerness and integrity, whether to full houses or sparse crowds.

"When that line came out of me when I was writing that song, I thought, 'Oh my God, I love it!'" recalled Sorbara.

"At first I was like 'Fixing to Kill', as in kill it, and I was like, 'No, that's not right.' Then I was like, 'Fixing to thrill – yes!'"

Regardless of their prominent presence in the Canadian music



COURTESY OF ZOEY HEATH

Dragonette vocalist Martina Sorbara performing at the Starlight.

scene, Sorbara explains that the band's increasing popularity in the United States is a big deal, reflecting the growing relevance of the Toronto act.

"The U.S. is just a big kind of scary black hole of question marks, you know?" said Sorbara.

"So just to have [the album] pick up by itself and have like, almost no roots there at all feels really good.

"Not that it doesn't feel good in Canada, but in Canada we have all

these kind of avenues that we're used to going down ... so having any kind of recognition in the U.S. – even the smallest little bit – is like, 'Our music got there by itself.'"

For Dragonette, live performances create an incredible rush.

"I just wanna rock!" Sorbara exclaimed before the show last week.

"I just want to play live shows and I want people to dance, you know what I mean? I want people to sing along. I'm fixin' to thrill."

## In review

### *The Invention of Lying*

Directed by: Ricky Gervais and Matthew Robinson  
Starring: Ricky Gervais  
Released: Oct. 2, 2009

★ ★ ★ ★

Living in a world where every single person's thoughts are exposed seems tempting, right? Well, if I lived in such a world I'd be forced to say that *The Invention of Lying* fails to produce the expected success.

Ricky Gervais stars as an offbeat, middle-aged man who cannot seem to catch a break where lying has yet to be invented – until he discovers it. Although it has its funny moments, knowing every character's thoughts becomes predictable.

If you're looking for a movie that doesn't require thinking but can produce a laugh, check it out, but if you're looking for something more enthralling, I'd steer clear.

–Meaghan Walford

### *Coco before Chanel*

Directed by: Anne Fontaine  
Starring: Audrey Tautou  
Released: Sept. 25, 2009

★ ★ ★ ★

The Chanel style embodies more than just tweed jackets, strings of pearls and little black dresses. The film *Coco before Chanel* chronicles how the definition of iconic Chanel style came to be.

The film is a depiction of the designer's life before she was as an icon and how her early experiences as an orphan, bar singer and mistress of Parisian elite inspired her to create her designs and a life of empowerment.

While the description sounds like a history lesson with nice shoes, it is a movie that lets you take a walk in the shoes of Coco herself, giving the Chanel label a face.

–Megan Hawkins

### *Vancouver*

Matthew Good  
Universal Music Group  
Released: Oct. 6, 2009

★ ★ ★ ★

"Baby ain't it good to be back home?" Canadian alt-rocker Matthew Good proclaims triumphantly on opening track "Last Parade."

Anyone familiar with Good's history knows this is a deeply personal statement for him. It is evident that Good's return has lifted his spirits.

While the tracks on this new album are much less bleak than those on *Hospital Music*, none of the tracks really bring Good to a new place musically and the album leaves the listener desiring a little more variety.

–David Shore

If you come to a fork in the road take it.

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Wilf's

Flogging Molly  
Oct. 20 @ 7 p.m.  
Elements Night Club

Skydiggers  
Oct. 22 @ 8 p.m.  
Princess Cinema

Shout out out out out  
Oct. 25 @ 8 p.m.  
The Starlight

Bob Dylan  
Nov. 7 @ 7:30 p.m.  
Kitchener Auditorium

# Funny women: Yes, they exist



WADE THOMPSON  
THE REEL WORLD

How many of you out there saw *Couples Retreat* this weekend? It made approximately \$35 million at the box office, so some of you had to have seen it. Obviously, the general public felt differently than I did: that it was worthy of their \$12.

I have no problem with people who saw it because it's a film that plays to attract any number of age groups and audiences.

What gets me is how the film was marketed. Vince Vaughn was the only star of the film that was plugged to the public. He was on all the posters and his name was mentioned in the trailer.

There was no mention of Jason Bateman or Jon Favreau. But most importantly, from my point of view, there was no Kristen Bell.

She's one of the most genuinely funny female performers out there right now, and she was barely a by-line on the poster.

This made me agitated but it also got me thinking. The ratio of funny men to women in Hollywood is atrocious; yet when there is actually the chance to market a movie where there is genuinely hilarious female talent like that of Kristen Bell, it falls by the wayside.

Seriously, if you were to walk up to a random person on the street and ask them to name their favourite comedy performer right now, I



WADE THOMPSON

would bet 49 times out of 50, they would name a man. Once upon a time, things were completely different.

Why have women supposedly tanked comedy-wise since the 40s? Comedy is one of the hardest things to perfect in the acting world. It takes hard work; a good comedian can still chew the scenery no matter how small the role.

But, it's the same for both genders, so what's the deal? That's why I can't fathom the fact that women are so underappreciated in this circumstance.

Kristen Wiig may be one of the

funniest performers to ever come out of *Saturday Night Live*, yet the cast is still male-dominated. Judy Greer is currently one of the greatest character actresses, but you never see her name on the marquee.

Don't get me wrong, there are definitely some gals out there who are getting the appreciation they deserve.

Tina Fey finally got the public to tune in to *30 Rock* and Amy Poehler is doing quite well since finally breaking out of *SNL*. But it took Fey three seasons before anyone started acknowledging her comedic mind. And people like Sandra Bullock

and Anne Hathaway, who are staples of the romantic-comedy genre, still don't get applauded because people think that it doesn't take much to "walk through" those kinds of roles.

Sometimes, it's just a case of being pitted as the "straight man" but that often takes more talent than playing the goof.

This really needs to desist, and I'm taking the first stand.

The bottom line is that funny is a hell of a lot more attractive than the Megan Fox's of the world trying to pout their way through serious roles. And the box office for *Jennifer's*

*Body* definitely shows that I'm not alone in thinking this.

So, I implore you to broaden your horizons. Seek out the heavyweights of yester-year like Lucille Ball, Gilda Radner or Carol Burnett. Take in the current and future queens of the genre like Anna Faris and Emma Stone.

And don't forget the Allison Janneys and Catherine O'Haras, those great character actresses who never seem to get the recognition they whole-heartedly deserve.

There are women out there who are just as funny as men. They just don't want us to know it.



NICK LACHANCE PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

Kathleen Poste with her piece "Tree Island". All art in the annual juried show will remain on display until Oct. 30.  
1st place: "Corn & Green Peppers" by Erwin Rummel (Oil on canvas)  
2nd place: "Tree Island" by Kathleen Poste (Acrylic)  
3rd place: "June 31st Rhapsody" by Pat Kalyn (Acrylic)

# Critiquing Canadian art

LAURA CARLSON  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

If every mid-life crisis ended with the production of a mesmerizing piece of art highlighting the beauty of British Columbia's natural landscape and receiving critical acclaim from a group of local artists, middle age wouldn't seem so bad.

For Kathleen Poste, a registered nurse at the Grand River Hospital, it was a mid-life crisis that caused the self-taught artist to enter a piece in the Annual Juried Show at the Waterloo Community Arts Centre (WCAC).

Of the 71 entries and the 35 selected for display, Poste's "Tree Island" claimed second place, only falling behind Erwin Rummel's "Corn & Green Peppers."

Having previously submitted this same piece in a show where it was greatly critiqued, Poste admitted that she was a bit nervous about making her artwork vulnerable again at the hands of jurors.

"She ripped it apart," said Poste of her painting's last showing. "This painting was actually criticized, so

that's what is thrilling for me," she said in an interview with *The Cord* shortly following the announcement of her award on Friday evening.

Lauren Judge, the general manager of the WCAC, speaks of the importance of the arts community hosting events like this, especially because each of the shortlisted artists were invited to a juror's forum where they were able to have their entries critiqued.

"It helps artists to grow," said Judge.

As the juried show at the WCAC was open to everyone, not just WCAC members, Judge explained that it offered an excellent opportunity to help local artists develop, something that the centre is committed to doing.

"This is the type of place where people experiment and every type of art community needs that," said Judge.

Speaking about the recent media attention that the local arts community has received – following a report released by the Prosperity Council of Waterloo Region, which publicly called for an increase of arts funding in Kitchener-Waterloo and

Cambridge – Judge explained that in this debate about the lack of arts funding an important element is routinely left out.

"There isn't enough being talked about for individual artists," said Judge. "There've been a lot of high level talks about what we can do for arts organizations, and granted we always need more money, but the individual artists are usually forgotten."

This is why Judge so strongly believes in places such as the WCAC and what they do for the local arts community.

"This type of establishment can be set apart from some of the other arts organizations in the city," said Judge. "This place is a grassroots incubator for arts. It's a place where children and families, seniors, students, anybody from the community can come in and try something new. You don't have to be an expert."

For Poste at least, being recognized in a juried show like the one presented by the WCAC has allowed her to acknowledge her talent and keep exploring her artistic side. "I'm going to keep going and just see what it brings," she said.



# FEATURES

Features Editor Shannon Busta • sbusta@thecord.ca

## Sizing up Laurier's mind benders

Features Editor Shannon Busta checks out five WLU classes that will change the way you see the world

Sometimes you take a class that blows your mind. Sometimes you meet a professor who can turn a lecture on the lifespan of dryer lint into the highlight of your week.

On very rare occasions, fascinating subject matter is placed in the hands of a professor who turns it into a course capable of changing the way you see the world.

### FS 102 Film and the Image Russ Kilbourn

"Teaching a first-year course can be difficult," said Russ Kilbourn, a film studies professor who traditionally teaches FS102.

"That is where perspective changing is hopefully going to happen because if it doesn't happen [in first-year] it might not happen at all. By the time they get to fourth year it might be too late," he continued.

Coming into university having watched movies your entire life, you might assume you know everything they could possibly teach you.

The fact that this is never the case is what makes film studies courses truly perspective shifting.

"Everyone thinks they are an expert," says Kilbourn of his first-year film students.

"I try to encourage students to get rid of their preconceptions about film and start all over again."

Starting all over again certainly qualifies as perspective shifting.

"I would hope that ideally every course that I teach occupies a space outside of the 'safezone'. Not in a way that is threatening or negative," said Kilbourn.

"It is always a tight rope. Part of getting students to change their perspective is showing them material that they are not familiar with."

### FS 256 Hitchcock and Modernity Paul Tiessen

"Film is like an open door, an open invitation," said Paul Tiessen when discussing students gaining a capacity to interpret and think critically about information.

A course that focuses on the works of Alfred Hitchcock might seem too focused to be perspective-shifting, but according to Tiessen this is not the case.

“

I don't lecture, I discuss. A conversational style is what I value.”

—Film professor Paul Tiessen

"What is so terribly interesting about teaching Hitchcock is the degree to which he registers a suspiciousness about the way the media operates in our culture," Tiessen said.

"Our culture — our society, Hollywood, the media at large — trains us to understand our self, to understand society, to understand the world, through the eyes of the entertainment industry," he continued.

"It is an absolute joy to teach Hitchcock, to look at films like *Psycho* and *Vertigo* and discover [Hitchcock] is interested in issues of gender, issues of class [and] interested in issues of perception in ways that are highly self-reflexive"

**Recommended reading:**

*The Women Who Knew Too Much*  
by Tania Modleski

### EN 330 Human Rights in Contemporary Cultural Forms Madelaine Hron

It is no surprise that a course with "human rights" in the title has the potential to drastically alter one's perspective.

"Courses like this... make the world a more complex place," Madelaine Hron said on the effect that certain courses can have on individuals. "It brings these far away topics close; it is difficult but also necessary," she said of her course and others like it.

EN330 is particularly unique in that each student is encouraged to become personally involved with issues related to human rights.

"This course ... lets students be activists. That's what makes this [course] different than others.

"They might not feel like they are very powerful," Hron said, "but they have a lot more power than someone in, let's say, Africa."

"This course has changed a lot of my students' lives."

**Recommended reading:**

"The Singer Solution to World Poverty" by Peter Singer

### CS322 Gender and Culture Patricia Molloy

Whether we want to admit it or not, many of us could benefit from taking a course like CS322, which is currently being offered by communications studies professor Patricia Molloy.

Gender studies (not to be confused with women's studies) offers unique opportunities for students to expand the way they understand the world around them.

"This is a course that doesn't leave out men," Molloy clarified. "We also talk a lot about masculinity, sexuality and sexualities."

You might be surprised to learn that gender is not as simple as being man or woman.

"There is a variety of different genders, more than just two," Molloy explained.

"Gender is not that cut and dry, it involves more than biology and more than culture. My class on sex and gender and the body is very illuminating."

"I think [perspective shifting classes] are vital," said Molloy.

"For one thing, we live in the everyday world and this is what communications studies does ... examine these structures in our everyday world that impact us. I want people to analyze and critique and change their everyday world and make it better."

“

If you're not willing to learn from your students you've got no business being in front of the classroom.”

—Communications professor Patricia Molloy

Sex and sexuality are a large part of this particular perspective altering course, making it a popular choice.

Molloy dedicates an entire class to porn and the porn industry. "I destroy some of their myths about the sex trade and the porn industry. The class on porn is a lot of fun ... it really opens [students'] eyes," said Molloy.

**Recommended reading:**

"The Egg and the Sperm: How Science Has

Constructed a Romance Based on Stereotypical Male-Female Roles" by Emily Marti

### CS 420 Conspiracy Theories Michael Truscello

The term "conspiracy theory" tends to carry a lot of negative baggage.

People who are dubbed conspiracy theorists tend to be considered naive, overly paranoid, outsiders and misinformed.

"The course examines the outer limits of media discourse," communications professor Michael Truscello explained.

In his fourth-year seminar, Truscello attempts to address the issue of conspiracy theories in an unbiased way, analyzing the place they occupy in our society as a whole as well as looking at specific theories and evaluating their credibility.

"Usually what gets referred to as a conspiracy theory is something that has been labeled not for public discussion, at least not in the so-called legitimate spheres of debate," explained Truscello.

"That automatically locates that subject matter on the fringe. In that sense [the course] is an examination of radical ideas."

The course offers a critical look into the structure of society, examining why conspiracies hold the position they do, and why they come to be.

"If you consider that we exist in a media sphere that spends hundreds of billions of dollars every year trying to convince us how to think, how to act, whether it's from advertising, public relations, propaganda ... it is not surprising we have an excess of paranoia."

**Recommended reading:**

*Land of Idols or Dirty Truths*  
by Michael Parenti





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**October 28th**

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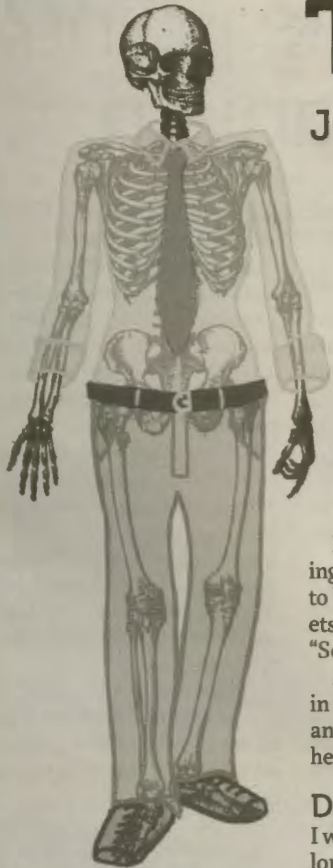







## LIFE

Life Editor Dave Shore • dshore@thecord.ca



TRINA SCHMIDT GRAPHICS EDITOR

## The dangers of extreme diets

Julia Bowen recounts her brief, unpleasant test of the seven-day all-you-can-eat diet

**F**or those of you thinking of losing those extra Thanksgiving pounds by dieting, I can offer you one piece of advice: don't.

Dieting is one of the most detrimental things you can do to your body. It not only slows down your metabolism, but it can really mess up your emotions, mindset and ability to function like a normal human being.

I learned this the hard way during my two-day stint on what has to be one of the most restricting diets ever. Ironically, it was called the "Seven-Day All-You-Can-Eat Diet".

My roommate agreed to join me in this experiment for moral support and to hopefully lose some weight herself.

### Day One

I was allowed to eat all I wanted, as long as it was a fruit and wasn't a banana.

I knew the diet was going to be bad when I realized it was actually restricting a type of fruit. I mean, normally, I would praise myself for just making the healthy choice of eating any fruit at all.

For breakfast, I ate a wholly unappetizing apple while my boyfriend grappled over the decision of whether he should have eggs and bacon or pancakes.

It was so unbelievably tempting that I immediately ate an orange and a handful of grapes while shooting him dirty looks.

It seemed that no matter how much I ate, I was never full. By noon, my stomach felt like it was being eroded from the inside out from the acidity of the fruit.

Two hours, an apple, some grapes and a plum later, I start to identify fruit as the enemy and began my statistics assignment. The next eight hours consisted of me staring at the walls, at my assignment and complaining with my roommate about

how hungry we were, even degrading to a series of hunger groans at one point.

At 10 p.m. I realized that I was nowhere near done my stats assignment and almost had a mental breakdown. Normally statistics would not elicit emotions like that, but I honestly could not control myself. I went to bed that night feeling physically ill, mentally drained and slightly insane.

### Day Two

I learned that celery is disgusting if eaten as anything more than a snack. I woke up exhausted, angry and starving and had to eat celery for breakfast because I was only allowed to eat non-starchy vegetables.

My roommate decided this would be a good time to quit the diet, and if I was smart I would have followed her lead. My classes were a blur because I was having such a hard time focusing, and I couldn't even muster the energy to complete my

homework. Let's just say the rest of the day involved doing nothing but trying to convince myself not to quit the diet altogether.

What happened next was disgusting. At around 8 p.m., I lost the battle against my mind and ate a giant Mexican dinner. Immediately following, my roommate and I consumed massive quantities of junk food. I won't go into details, but we probably wound up going through about 2,000 calories each.

For those of you who were wondering, it's safe to say that I didn't lose weight on this sadistic diet. I actually ended up gaining weight – most likely due to the half a pie I consumed. I learned that dieting not only affects your hunger levels, it affects your ability to focus and control of your emotions.

So if after this Thanksgiving you think that giving the master cleanse, cabbage soup or "Seven Day All-You-Can-Eat" diet a try, all I can say is good luck.

## Finding the meaning of Thanksgiving

JACLYN STIEF  
STAFF WRITER

**T**his past Thanksgiving, I welcomed the opportunity to go up to the cottage and see my family. Since starting university, I have become grateful for these times to talk and catch up with family and friends, something that I didn't appreciate years ago.

Thanksgiving gives us the opportunity to go back home and remember those precious moments to help us refuel for the midterms and essays that lay ahead.

As I walked in the door of my family's cottage, the sweet smells of apple and pumpkin pie warming in the oven tantalized my nose; I could already taste the gravy made from turkey fat that was bubbling on the

stove next to a fresh pot of mashed potatoes.

There are many things that never change at Thanksgiving, and I welcome these traditions. Without fail, it hails every Thanksgiving at my cottage, so I now make sure to pack a warm coat.

Cards will, without a doubt, be brought out for this serious card-playing family.

Nearly everyone has a post-turkey nap, with my uncle Brian and my dad teeth and cheek for the loudest person snoring.

Two years ago, there occurred a Thanksgiving memory that we will never forget. My dad's family was celebrating the holiday at the family cottage.

My cousin Reilly, after many complaints at the table about the gravy, convinced my cousin Kyle to try it, who believed, like the rest of

us, that he just didn't like his special gluten-free gravy.

To our surprise, it was in fact salad dressing he and my dad had both drenched their food in. He went up to replace his plate, yet my dad quietly ate unaware of this mix-up because he didn't want to offend my grandma. Every Thanksgiving since, we always bring up this funny memory and remind them both to take the gravy.

What is the meaning of Thanksgiving? We all know that Thanksgiving originated from the pilgrims, but for students it means a time to fill your face with home-cooked meals, something that runs slim back at school. It can also mean spending a fun time with extended family or being forced to endure a complete nightmare.

There are those Thanksgiving moments that make you just

smile and throw your head back and laugh, knowing all too well that love them or hate them, this is your family.

Long ago, my dad started to wave his hands in excitement, which he loves to do as he shares his stories from the "good old days." This time, it was the famous pie story where my great grandmother had once exclaimed, when pie was being cut into multiple slices, that it should only be cut into two.

This is a story my entire family has already heard a million times before, so much so that my sister Emily finishes the story with my great grandmother's memorable phrase, "Don't cut the pie into eight pieces because I can only eat two!"

As the cousins leave the cafeteria-long line of people with our overflowing plates in hand, we all assemble at our all too familiar "kids'

table," something that will not grow old with age.

After dinner is done, the cousins relax only momentarily for when we hear those tidbits of conversations about sex out of our parents' mouths, we know it's time to go play cards and board games. It can be a little reassuring knowing it's only the full glasses of red and white wine talking, joking and howling with laughter at this point.

While Thanksgiving appears to be all about the food, I think the food fosters an environment where family and friends can reconnect to remember why they are so lucky to have one another.

While I eat my turkey leftovers for the next couple of days, I will reflect on the moments of bonding, sarcasm, alcohol and laughter that occurred with my family during my Thanksgiving weekend.

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"There is no fundamental difference between man and the higher animals in their mental faculties... the lower animals, like man, manifestly feel pleasure and pain, happiness and misery."

-Charles Darwin



NICK LACHANCE PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

The popular UGG boots, displayed on the feet of Laurier students in their natural habitat.

## Boot-iful or UGG-ly?

The Cord asks for student opinion on the prevalent footwear

YENNY VAN ANDEL  
CORD LIFE

Shoulder pads, parachute pants, Crocs... a lot of ridiculous fashion trends have come and gone over the years. However, there is one fad that seems to have decided to stick around season after season here at Laurier: the UGG boot.

Whether you love them or hate them, many girls seem to love them and insist on wearing them day in and day out.

Whether worn over skinny jeans, with track pants, tights or skirts, UGGs have become a necessity in many people's wardrobes.

So what is it about UGGs that is so contagious, and why has the fad been so long-lasting? "I love how comfortable they are," says Ruhi Mamuji, a third-year global studies student.

"Practicality-wise though, they are a mess. You can't wear them in snow or rain."

That sentiment was echoed by many other Laurier students. A number of girls admitted to owning UGGs but said they were awful for the winter weather.

After all, these boots, imported from Australia, were crafted for Australian weather conditions. One must conclude that comfort seems to be the shoes' main selling point.

As with Crocs, many Laurier stu-

dents said they owned them simply for the comfort.

Very few students said they bought UGGs for their good looks. "I love them! They're comfy and warm," said Megan Gardner, a first-year communication studies student.

What intrigues me is the fact that so many students wear them, yet an overwhelming number of people said how much they dislike them. UGGs seem to be people's guilty pleasure.

In short, they aren't the best footwear for any weather. Many people find them ugly or generic.

Yet, there remains a strong devotion at Laurier and elsewhere to UGGs. So, the only question left is, will you be sporting UGGs this winter?

## What's the point? Vegetarianism

LAURA SEDGWICK  
STAFF WRITER

### Vegetarian

Cows were once wild animals that roamed free and took care of themselves. Now, many centuries later, the thought of a wild cow is absurd. How could a cow possibly fend for herself? They have become domesticated animals that rely entirely on humans to take care of them. And torture them. And eat them.

So now that these animals are domesticated anyway, we might as well just continue to eat them, right? After all, meat, to a certain extent, is good for us. The problem, however, doesn't arise from eating meat. Rather, it comes from the way in which we harvest meat and the excess degree to which we consume it.

Most people would be appalled to know how animals are treated on mass-producing factory farms. Chickens are force fed so that they become so fat so fast that they can't walk, they are debeaked and they are packed into cages so tightly that they can't even spread their wings. Cows are made to stand in their own feces, pigs are shoved into battery cages and many lambs never leave their crates and see the light of day. This, perhaps, is the

most extreme of cases, but is not by any means uncommon.

This treatment of animals also affects the quality of meat that humans consume. That is, the nutrition content of meat is decreased due to the animals' poor quality of life and the way in which the meat is produced and prepared.

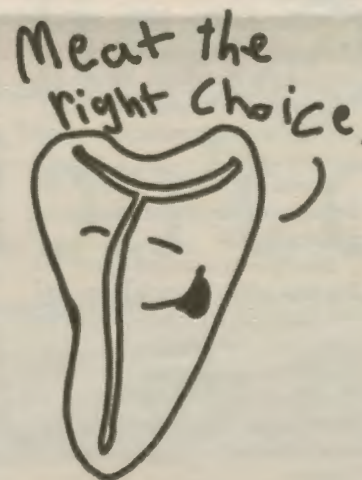
On the other hand, this could also be said for vegan food, as some food considered vegan is also produced in less-than-ethical ways. Vegan food, however, doesn't inflict direct pain and suffering on living things. It is for this reason - animals have the capacity to suffer - that they should not be treated this way.

Furthermore, the mass production of factory farmed cows produces an excess of methane gas, a chemical compound that is linked to global warming.

In fact, in regards to global warming, methane is 23 times more powerful than carbon dioxide.

It follows that, for these reasons, we ought to minimize our support of factory farms by becoming aware of where our food comes from and eating less meat.

In the words of the animal rights activist Linda McCartney, "If slaughterhouses had glass walls, everyone in the world would be a vegetarian."



DAVE SHORE  
LIFE EDITOR

### Meat-eater

As a person concerned with decency and morality, am I obliged to feel guilty every time I sink my teeth into a mouthwatering McDonald's cheeseburger?

At the most basic level, an animal did have to die solely for the purpose of feeding myself and a handful of other meat-eaters. And, coming from a fast-food restaurant, I can be pretty confident in assuming that this animal in question lived in less-than-humane conditions.

On one hand, there are the hardcore vegan and animal rights crowds that will tell me I am doing something fundamentally wrong by eating any animal at all. They have a right to that opinion.

Convincing these people otherwise is a monumental task, but I would simply contend that it must be either extremely self-righteous or hopelessly tiring to view the vast majority of the population as bad people.

On the other hand, there are moderate vegetarians - they won't eat meat themselves, but neither will they criticize others for doing so. Many of them simply claim that the way in which our society mass-produces meat products

is not only revolting and inhumane, it is detrimental to the environment and to our own health.

I can't argue with this. Factory farms are bad. I know that they're bad, yet I tacitly support their existence whenever I buy most meat products.

It is this set of critics that get to me the most. I would have no problem eating meat if it was all organic, farmed free-range and healthy. The animal-killing itself doesn't bother me much. Eating meat in reasonable quantities has significant nutritional value and is a natural function of our species.

The way I see it, there's only one way to get around the factory farming issue. Either I can feel guilty every time I eat meat, I can deny myself the pleasure of meat in most of my meals and I can put in a great deal of time and effort to ensure that food consumption meets a high ethical standard or I can stop stressing over it and eat a goddamn cheeseburger.

It may not be a satisfying answer - it may even be lazy and irresponsible - but the truth is that I, like most people, just don't have the energy to be political every time I get hungry.

I care about ethical treatment of animals like any normal person. I would very much like to see an end to factory farming and a redefinition of the way we produce meat. But, at the end of the day, I'm not going to eat a veggieburger.

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# CLASSIFIEDS

## 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:**  
Why must people complain and act so goddamn offended when I crack my OWN knuckles? It feels good, I'm not hurting you and they're mine. Get over it.  
Sincerely,  
Completely Cracked

**Dear Life:**  
If I have to hear another guy playing an acoustic guitar in the concourse, my ears are going to bleed. Especially is he's playing "Free Falling".  
Sincerely,  
Good Taste in Music

**Dear Life:**  
I noticed in last week's 'Dear Life' there was a comment about how it is unacceptable to wear sweatpants to class ... ever. I was outraged by this slander considering I have early classes all week and predominantly wear sweatpants. At unholy hours of the morning it is vital to stay comfortable, otherwise your day can suffer drastically. On a side note, this is university. MOST people are focusing on getting through their days of class and work, not on how they (or others) are dressed.  
Sincerely,  
Stuck up Much?

**Dear Life:**  
Laurier Wireless might as well not exist, because it works about as well now as it would if it didn't.  
Sincerely,  
Wants Wireless

**Dear Life:**  
Could you please kindly remind the female population of Laurier: leggings are a privilege, not a right.  
Sincerely,  
Blue Jeans

**Dear Life:**  
Who the fuck invited winter to the party?  
Sincerely,  
Freezing My Ass Off

**Dear Life:**  
Handy tip: Coffee can burn. It should not be served in such a state.  
Sincerely,  
Don't Even Want a First Cup

**Dear Life:**  
How come, despite only having two exams this semester, one of them had to be during the exact time that I had Leafs tickets. Do you know how hard it is to get those?! Fuck.  
Sincerely,  
I Hate You So Much WLU

### Last Ditch Effort



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# EDITORIAL

Opinion Editor Kimberly Elworthy • kelworthy@thecord.ca

## Google Street View creepy

Last Wednesday, Google Street View became available in Canada, but only a select 11 cities have been uploaded.

The concept of Street View is to be able to see a pictorial representation of buildings, houses, parks and other public spaces on the Google Map application by dragging the small yellow man in the left hand corner onto the area you want to see.

This function has been available in other countries already; however, Google has faced much controversy in what should and should not be photographed.

Private outdoor spaces and gated communities felt outraged at the availability of their guarded properties online. Others were photographed without their faces blurred leaving strip clubs or other secretive places.

While Google has implemented some rules to ensure privacy is maintained, the general purpose to Google Street View comes into question.

This new application straddles the bridge between a novel time-waster and inappropriate surveillance tool; without much obvious purpose at the moment, it has to be asked why we are letting a company invade spaces that do not need to be accessed by millions online?

People have been finding houses for centuries without the help of Google Street View and although it may be helpful to the curious, it just pushes the line of where it becomes acceptable to impede on peoples privacy.

—The Cord Editorial Board

## Where is all the food on campus?

As the time for essays and final exams draws closer, the amount of students on campus at all hours is going to rapidly increase. At the moment, students are suffering from lack of food services to accommodate late night studying – a common component of the student lifestyle.

Interestingly, there is no food on campus open for 24 hours or even into the early hours of morning. And although there is a movie vending machine in the Fred Nichols Campus Center, something like a coffee machine is absent.

Not to mention the businesses that tend to operate with more flexible time frames are ones that serve unhealthy, fattening foods such as Pizza Pizza or 7-Eleven.

Union Market and Mr. Sub, arguably healthier options, close by 9 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays and at 11 p.m. on weekdays. Although Pizza Pizza and Pita Shack are open till 3 a.m. on Saturdays, everything is closed after 11 p.m. every day of the week. This forces students to starve, pack lunches or make the trip off of campus at night.

When the university requires students from dormitory style residences to place money on their OneCard to purchase food, then continues to shift the hours of on-campus food services, it is not meeting the needs of the student body.

—The Cord Editorial Board

## Oktoberfest mandatory

Waterloo has hosted Oktoberfest for over 40 years and it has become the largest Bavarian festival in North America.

With so much enthusiasm focused on drinking and dancing for an entire 10 days between Oct. 9 and 18, it only makes sense that, as a student, it is a must-do event before one's university degree is over.

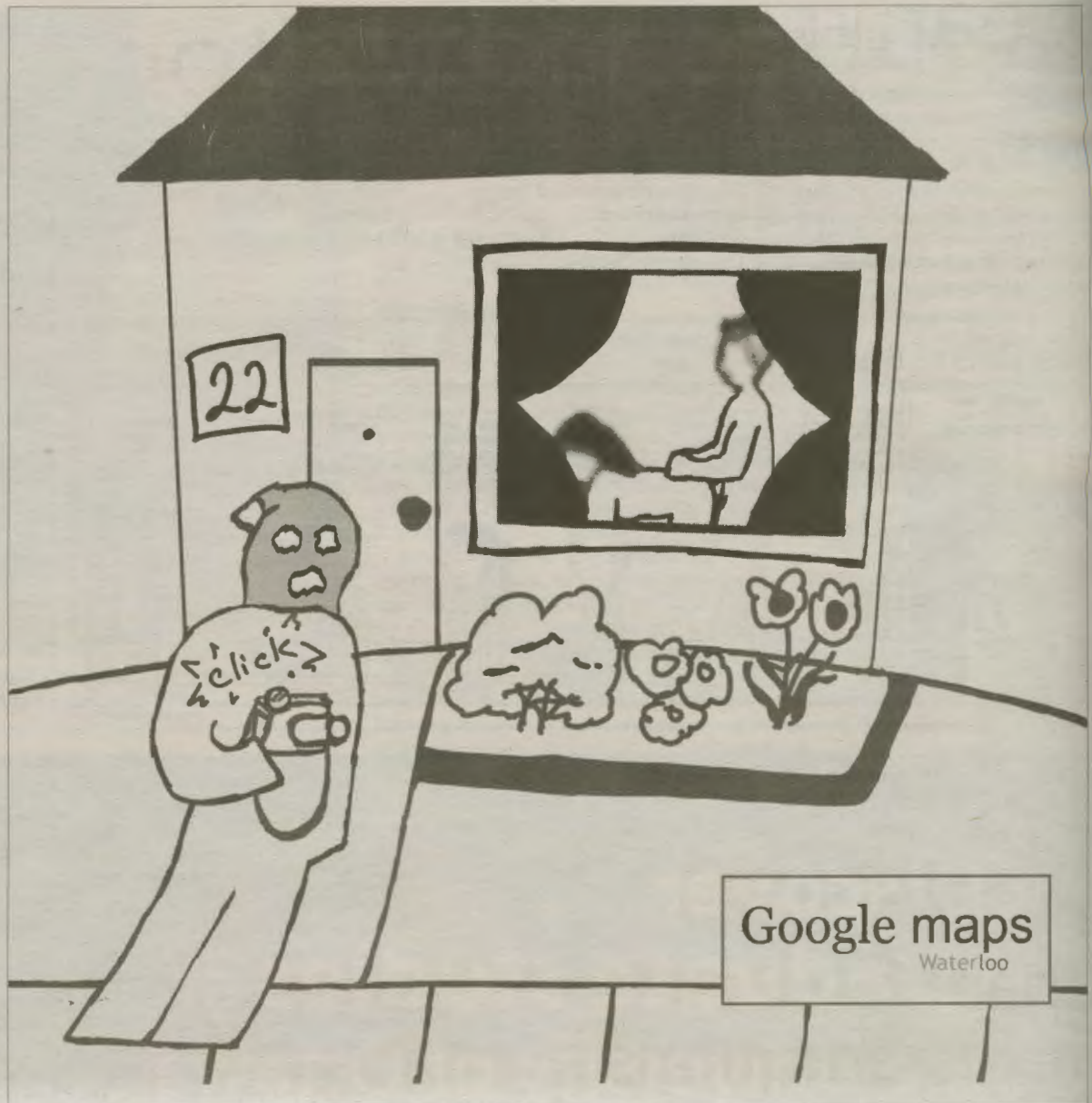
It is an integral part of Waterloo culture and should be considered a mandatory component of life at WLU.

There are student-focused events such as Buff-toberfest, but there are also other events allow the student population to party and integrate with the locals.

Although the festival happens in the height of mid-terms, it is definitely worthwhile to branch outside of the student bubble and take a night (and no doubt a morning) to get fully immersed in the chicken dance and polka.

—The Cord Editorial Board

These unsigned editorials are based off informal discussions and are then agreed upon by the majority of The Cord's editorial board, which consists of 16 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.



DICKSON KOO CORD GRAPHICS

## Professors and technology: a lethal combination



JEREMY TREMBLAY  
PRODUCTION MANAGER

I am part-way through my fourth year at Laurier and I've had it with technology in the classroom.

And I don't mean malfunctioning technology; I mean working, up-to-date technology.

Rather than complementing a lecture in an educational way, I can comfortably say that 90 per cent of the technologies used in the classes I have been witness to are not useful.

At best they have been pointless and at worst they have been downright distracting; however, I should add, those professors who use technology effectively the remaining 10 per cent of time deserve to be commended.

I just can't bring myself to take notes or pay serious attention when I know perfectly well that I can download exactly what I need to know for exams from WebCT after class – or during class.

Facebook, e-mail, and the always-notorious Texts From Last Night website tend to entertain me for the duration of the class.

Many professors claim that slides are just a basic overview and are not enough to successfully complete tests.

Yet in practice, this never seems to be true (particularly if you do the assigned readings).

I have also come to learn that technology isn't just a crutch for students; it's a crutch for professors as well.

And to be frank, I don't feel bad about not paying attention in these classes.

Despite all the talks I've heard from professors about distracting my fellow students and about not learning from the class, I feel like I'm not to blame.

If a professor's lecture is nothing more than the textbook rehashed with provided Coles notes versions on a slide, one has to expect students to just check out.

I have also come to learn that technology isn't just a crutch for students; it's a crutch for professors as well.

While I understand the challenges of leading a class, it's easy to tell when your lecturer is standing at the front and reading his or her slightly lengthened lecture slides to you.

All this being said, I'm thrilled that the university is reviewing information technology at the school.

Technology is important to learning (and teaching), and over the past year we've certainly seen a situation that can be improved (such as WebCT's instability).

With improved technology, what I really hope the university community sees is an improved usage and overall acceptance that newer is not necessarily better.

*University Affairs*, a magazine published by the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada, recently published an article titled "Enjoy your last days on campus."

It surmises that within 15 years, the most striking change to universities "will be the elimination of the physical campus."

Laurier, at least, has had a far more practical approach to planning for the future.

The new campus master plan outlines the future for Laurier's physical space: a distinctly different view of 2025 than the online learning one presented by the columnist in *University Affairs*.

And for that, I'm glad.

Hopefully, discussion and real lectures rather than point-form notes and online quizzes continue to define the university experience.

I've made the choice to take online courses, and beyond the convenience there is little good I can say about them; I don't feel like I learned a great deal, I didn't feel engaged with course material and I felt like interaction with other people in the class was strangely artificial.

I can't imagine that this is the future of academics – even in some modified form.

So if you ever find yourself in a position – or if you are currently a professor – I implore you: don't give in to using technology without seriously considering if it's necessary.



# THE FORUM

## Letters to the editor



Charity Ball's 2006-07 cheque to the GRHF took over a year to reach the charity but raised more than the estimated \$2,000.

## Investigation of Charity Ball stirs mixed emotions

Re: "It feels like fraud..." Oct. 7, 2009

As a previous Coordinator for Charity Ball 2006-2007, I rightfully demand an apology for the Cord's attack on the integrity of Charity Ball.

It's unsettling to see such negativity for a wonderful organization that helps the community.

You stated that \$2000 was the approximate charitable donation historically made by CB, but I'll have you know that my wonderful execs (Caroline, Cristina, Laura, Jenny, and Carolyn) along with our 26 general volunteers (including both Daliah Hijazi and Claire Petch) all worked together in raising \$8,443.71 to GRH Pediatrics/Children's Services.

While it did take me over a year to get that cheque to GRH, as WLUSU's finance department seemed a bit unorganized, GRH got their money,

making it Charity Ball's largest donation in recent years.

When at its full potential, CB can have some excellent results—not only with raising money, but with creating awareness for the Charity and getting the Laurier Community to work together.

WLUSU isn't perfect, and I have had my issues with it—but that's not to say I didn't love every moment that I was apart of it, and of Charity Ball.

There's so much more to CB than it's donation. Love. Friendship. Passion. Support. Growth. Knowledge. Change.

It is ridiculous to compare CB to other SA affairs. Sure, CB might be a bit 'weaker' in the donations department compared to the bigger hitters like L.U.C.K and Shinerama, but ultimately it is still for charity, and I whole-heartily believe Claire will do

me proud this year as coordinator. CB love!

—Darcy Maslen, Charity Ball Co-ordinator 2006-2007

The Cord's recent article on Charity Ball demonstrates both the bias of the Cord's writing staff and their inability to research anything beyond their immediate grasp.

Here are a few salient points:  
—Charity Ball 2007 raised over \$8,000 in cash for Grand River Hospital. This is hardly a pittance. Charity Ball 2006 also raised a large amount, donating somewhere in the vicinity of \$2,000.

While we cannot speak to the difference in 2009's revenue, it does not typify Charity Ball's donation. —Charity Balls are a standard practice at large universities across Canada, they are not an event created by WLUSU.

—Comparing L.U.C.K. to Charity Ball is an apples-to-oranges scenario. L.U.C.K.'s Charity Auction is financially sound. It also uses WLUSU facilities and as such does not pay fees. The two events are on completely different scales (hence why two events are offered instead of one).

The Cord has historically exhibited a rush to judgment where WLUSU events are concerned.

While this vindictive behavior may entertain, it is not supported by fact, and demonstrates the low quality of penmanship our newspaper has been reduced to.

I would encourage the Cord to spend a little bit more time researching their articles before sending them off to the presses — or, wild as this suggestion might be, why not try volunteering with WLUSU for once?

I assure you, the skills gained from these positions are invaluable, and far more beneficial than an ill-written byline.

—Caroline Marshall, Volunteer/Decorations Executive, Charity Ball 2007

*Editor's note: The Cord requested to see a record of Charity Ball's previous donations; however, WLUSU vice-president of finance and administration was unable to access these numbers.*

In regards to reactions that sprung up over Ms. Wallace's article "It feels like fraud", I think people need to get

What kind of event do students want Charity Ball to be? That's what WLUSU needs to find out and students ... you need to provide that answer.

over this insane desire to unravel a deep and mysterious conspiracy because one just doesn't exist here.

Despite being (selectively) quoted in that article, I think that the focus was very accusatory and WLUSU's recent reaction of trying to justify its budgeting via "Updates from the President" is totally off the mark.

No one cares about "zero-based budgeting" since the real issue here is simple.

What kind of event do students want Charity Ball to be? That's what WLUSU needs to find out and students... you need to provide that answer.

If you want a classy night out then you are implicitly asking for chocolate fountains and extravagance, which reduces the amount of revenue that goes to charity.

If you want something simpler, and thus a larger charitable donation, then communicate this to WLUSU!

Start going to Board meetings, send emails to your Chair of the Board and the President.

If you don't like the amount donated by Charity Ball then do something about it — force the Board to pass policy on how donated (ie. auction) materials are used and enforce a minimum percentage of revenue to be donated.

Students need to remember that the Union can't read minds, they need your input.

Stop complaining when an event doesn't go the way you think it should and instead start telling them what you expect before you buy your ticket.

—Asif Bacchus

### Charity Ball shameful

Disgust, embarrassment, and outrage... those were my initial reactions to this article.

My next reaction was that I should bring my 8-year old daughter to the WLU campus to teach our Charity Ball Executive members a little bit about charity.

Two years ago, at the very young age of 6, my daughter Hayley held a fundraising party for World Vision rather than her birthday party.

Hayley and her 20 little classmates raised just over \$450 to spend in the World Vision Christmas Catalogue (gifts included school supplies, mosquito nets, mobile medical clinics, fruit trees, antibiotics for children in developing countries etc.).

A group of six-year old children made a charitable donation nearly double the amount of that made by WLU Charity Ball 2009.

Is it just me, or is there something very wrong with this picture?

Given the new WLU Statement of Values, Vision and Mission "to inspire lives of leadership and purpose," WLUSU should be ashamed of its pitiable donation and should scrap their \$30,000 gala in 2010 for a concentrated effort to actually "inspire lives of leadership and purpose".

Would it really be that difficult to host a gala that was more cost-efficient (say around \$15,000 or so) so that the generous WLU students who bought charity ball tickets (assuming that a significant portion of the proceeds would be going to charity) would be able to enjoy a fun night out while feeling proud of the difference their donation made?

I really hope that students demand accountability and transparency from WLUSU or better yet, abandon Charity Ball altogether this year and instead make individual donations to the charities of their choice.

—Jane Whalen, PhD Candidate

### 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.

The Cord reserves the right to edit for length and clarity or to reject any letter.

## Women's work continues to be unacknowledged

Although the work women contribute to their homes and families is undeniably crucial to a functioning country, it is still not recognized economically



DON MORGENSON  
letters@thecord.ca

When a couple's marriage has reached the point where they visit a lawyer's office to put the final touches on the settlement, inevitably questions must be asked: What are the reasons for the dissolution of such a significant relationship?

The answers, most often, are found in domestic abuse, which ranks as the number one reason for divorce.

The second ranked reason for marital failure is often, "He simply

did not help enough around the house," or, "He did not help me with the children nor did he help me with the household chores."

While domestic abuse deserves worldwide attention, surely the second reason must be discussed as well.

Not only should husbands and fathers be informed of the central importance of helping with housework — we must also inform the so-called leaders of the G8 nations who periodically sit around tables in lush circumstances, the air filled with self-congratulations.

They too must acknowledge the vital contribution women make through their unpaid devotion to house and home.

Peggy Kome, author of *Somebody Has To Do It: Whose Work is Housework?* wonders why we continue to ignore these contributions.

Economists consistently warn that the colossal market economy simply could not exist without the often "invisible" labor of women's unpaid housework.

The free market economy worldwide rides quite happily on the backs of the many women of the world.

In the near future, women's unpaid work and its implications for the economy must be on the agenda when the G8 meets again.

If it were not so tragic it might be laughable to see the world's industrial and political leaders, mostly male, sitting around a table discussing economies, trade, monetary and labor policies, which rarely reflect the contributions made by women everywhere.

Indeed, I might argue that the very foundations of the world's economy, already in dire straits,

might crumble were women to go on strike.

Social and economic justice dictates that we should sing paeans of praise to women everywhere, who continue to dedicate themselves to their homes and families.

Given the implications of their work, policies should also reflect their devotion and their sacrifices in terms of tax exemptions, basic living wages for domestic work and child-care, fully paid maternity leaves, etc.

Am I optimistic that the G8 leaders will acknowledge Cinderella's contributions and develop policies reflecting them? No.

Just as we saw with the mean stepmother and her two terrible stepsisters, the G8 leaders will continue in their ignorant ways.

But you and I can make some productive noise, can't we?

### Womens work statistics:

— The value of women's housework is equal to nearly 40% of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

— Women do 2/3 of the work in the world, earn 5% of the world's income and own less than 1% of the world's real estate property.

— The value of women's unpaid work at home at about \$11 trillion annually.

— Men in dual-career households contribute less than 1/3 of the effort required to complete all household tasks.

— Employed mothers averaged 87 hours per week of paid and unpaid work while comparable figures for men ranged from 17 to 30 hours a week fewer than employed mothers.



# OPINION



NICK LACHANCE PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

Marriage is complicated and many people look to it for the fantasy rather than the reality.

## It's my marriage wedding and I'll cry if I want to



DEVON BUTLER  
letters@thecord.ca

I'll be the first to admit that I partake in tossing my left hand in the air and fiercely dancing whenever I hear Beyonces' "Single Ladies (Put a Ring on it)."

After enjoying the catchy tune and legendary video, I stopped to examine the actual lyrics of the song and the message it sends to women everywhere.

It seems that recently, the obsession with marriage is inescapable. I thought at first it was my ignorance to the concept, but images of marriage have been increasingly thrown at society by every media outlet.

The Learning Channel (TLC) used to be infamous for its home make-over shows.

But more recently its prime time line-up consists of shows which follow engaged couples on their journey into marriage.

Shows like "Say Yes to the Dress," "Masters of Reception" and "Wedded to Perfection" flooded the airways.

These shows, however, rarely focus on the actual marriage, but rather on the luxuries of the wedding with a few tantrums and outbursts from the bride-to-be, or what has been defined as a "bridezilla".

Slice's hit show "Rich Bride, Poor Bride" is an entire hour showcasing a couple taking the plunge where the main message is always, "Whatever the bride wants, the bride gets."

I'm all for girl power, but there is something deeply insincere about this mentality.

It seems that the modern world has forgotten the eternal sacred vows of marriage.

Instead, the focus has been placed on the wedding; it's become a means of showcasing your wealth and status to society.

I've never really understood the institution of marriage, nor desired to ever be apart of it.

Now that marriage has become one elaborate wedding, and your dearly beloved is just another material possession to show off, I really don't understand it.

I tried to recall the days when marriage was considered a blessed sacrament and quickly realized, I don't think there was ever such a day.

Marriage is strictly a male invention; primarily because it was more beneficial to have a wife than a slave.

The man had someone to maintain the household as well as raise his children to carry on his family name.

In return, the woman received protection and wouldn't have to face the shame of being a burden to her parents.

As marriage became an essential practice, arranged marriages were the most popular institution among the upper-class of Medieval Europe.

Parents had the final say of whom one was betrothed to based on connections, wealth, position in society and most importantly, how the match would benefit them.

Love was never in question, despite how Hollywood depicts the Middle Ages in movies like *Ever After*; marrying below your station was

simply not tolerated and had deadly consequences.

We tend to forget how unique personal marriages are.

After an entire history of suffering through arranged marriages, we are finally able to marry on our own terms.

However, what exactly has that gotten us with a startling 48 per cent divorce rate?

In a recent study, conducted by Stony Brook University, 10 married couples were studied and surveyed, using innovative brain scans. The study concluded only one couple felt the same emotions towards their spouse as they first did when they first met.

I think the final question weighing on my mind is why even bother to get married?

If it is merely for love, what is the difference between a long-term commitment and a marriage? Are the tax benefits and elaborate wedding really worth it?

If there is anything we have learned from the days of arranged marriages, it's that marriage should be a choice.

It should never be viewed as just the next step in a relationship, nor should one ever "put a ring on it" as an alternative to breaking up.

With a generation possessed by instant gratification, we are not used to putting effort into our practices or committing fully to them.

With this approach embedded in our brains in combination with society's pressures that we are only complete beings when married, the divorce rates will skyrocket and the simplicity of a lasting commitment will further become history.

## Please, Ignatieff



IAIN MCCAULEY  
letters@thecord.ca

Like many of my fellow students, who consider themselves progressive people, I feel the Canadian parties have been unrepresentative.

Michael Ignatieff, the Liberal Party leader, has yet to give us a reason to rally behind him. Our position is clear: we want Prime Minister Harper out, but we do not know why we want Ignatieff.

Traditionally, the Left vote has been divided between the Green Party and the New Democratic Party (NDP). The splitting of progressive support has, in the past two elections, led to Conservative victories.

For instance, Conservative Peter Braid was selected to represent Kitchener-Waterloo in the 2008 election. Braid's election was the product of a division between progressive voters. Had the Left concentrated their vote for one party, Peter Braid would not be our representative, proving the importance of forming a solid alternative to the Conservatives.

Much of the cause for our Conservative government has to do with our archaic electoral system, which does not give just representation for voters. Until there is real reform of our electoral system, progressives must turn to the Liberal party in order to ensure that the Bush-Redux Stephen Harper is removed from power.

The events which have unfolded over the past few weeks have left distaste in the mouths of progressives.

Jack Layton's partnership with his ideological antithesis, the Reform Conservatives, shows weakness within the NDP. Why do we have leaders planning for employment insurance when they should be creating employment opportunities?

Canadians, especially students, need real solutions, not band-aids. Sorry Jack, but increasing EI benefits will not stimulate the economy. The Conservatives' continuing inaction solidifies the need for a stronger alternative for Canada.

Canadian students have been hit disproportionately hard by the economic crisis. Estimates have put the

student unemployment rate over the summer as high as 20 per cent. The Conservatives appear to find this little cause for concern and continue to insist that the market is responsible for creating employment.

Progressives have the foresight to realize that what we need is active government involvement during such a crisis, stimulating the economy and creating employment opportunities.

Regardless of what you are told, Canada today remains in a serious economic crisis, a crisis that requires extensive government involvement in order to prevent further free-fall. But Harper has proven a lack of understanding in dealing with this, exemplified through such comments as, "The fundamentals of the Canadian Economy are strong" at a time when many other global leaders took action to curtail their cascading economies.

Ignatieff has claimed, as one of his four pillars of his platform, the need to address the economy, an important aspect of which is to reach out to the student population that has been ignored over Harper's tenure. Students' interests branch out further than just the economy; however, the economy is a great courting tool for political parties.

On other issues of concern for students, such as the environment and foreign policy, a vote for the Liberals would mark the return to a more acceptable role for Canada on the international stage. Students are in need of a serious alternative to Harper's inaction.

Students need to be convinced by Ignatieff why a vote for the Liberals is of more value to them than a vote for either the Greens or the NDP.

Ignatieff has the ability to bridge the gap between which reality exists and where the Conservative policies lay – a gap continuing to widen the longer we have Harper.

Ignatieff has the opportunity to reach out to this ignored constituency. By giving students a reason to vote Liberal, this niche can propel Ignatieff to victory.

Ignatieff can learn this important lesson from Barack Obama, in which an outsider candidate with little mainstream support sought out the students of America; it was with this constituency that Obama took the U.S. election.

This could happen for Ignatieff as well. All he needs to do is to realize the importance of the student population, and give us a reason to rally for him.



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# SPORTS

Sports Editor Justin Fauteux • jfauteux@thecord.ca

## Hawks run over Lancers

JUSTIN FAUTEUX  
SPORTS EDITOR

Coming into Saturday's game needing a win to keep pace with Ottawa and McMaster in the Ontario University Athletics (OUA) standings, the Wilfrid Laurier Golden Hawks' men's football team was looking to take advantage of a Windsor Lancers team that had lost three straight games.

Led by their running game – which put up 397 yards – the Hawks came away with a victory, fending off a second-half Lancers' comeback, to win 37-20.

"Our focus today was to come out and do something early," said manager of football operations and head coach Gary Jeffries.

"I was really proud of the way we came out and the way we played in the first quarter."

The Hawks certainly started quickly in this game; quarterback Evan Pawliuk led the offence down the field on their first drive of the game and just three minutes in hit rookie receiver Alex Anthony for a touchdown.

Pawliuk would add touchdown passes to third-year receiver Dillon Heap and fifth-year fullback Peter Quinney, while the Hawks' defence forced a safety and kicker Chris Mamo added a 40 yard field goal to put the purple and gold up 26-0 after just one quarter of play.

"We came out really strong in the first half, we were able to move the

ball whether we were running it or passing it," said running back Mike Montoya. "Both the offence and the defence were playing great and we were really clicking."

Montoya led the Hawks' rushing attack, which the Lancers seemed unable to stop, running for 207 yards – his second 200 yard game of the season – and a touchdown on 24 carries.

Running backs Jim Martyniuk and rookie Julius Jones-Carter also had strong games on the ground, running for 84 and 54 yards respectively.

"Our running back group is probably one of the best in the country," said Montoya.

"Jimmy [Martyniuk], myself and Julius [Jones-Carter], all three of us can really run it and with the blocking that we've gotten it's easy to have success."

Up 33-0 at halftime, it was hard to think of the Hawks coming out of this game with anything but a win.

But the Lancers didn't leave quietly; quarterback Sam Malian threw a pair of touchdowns, and suddenly the game was a lot more interesting heading into the fourth quarter with the score 33-14.

"Coming out of the gate we knew we had to capitalize right away because that's where we've been struggling that past couple of weeks and we did that," said Pawliuk.

"But when it comes to the end of the game, you don't feel well when [you] don't finish as strong as you start and that's something that we'll



NICK LACHANCE PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

Two Lancers attempt to tackle Laurier running back Jim Martyniuk (2). The Hawks ran for 397 yards.

have to work on for next week."

The Lancers would add another touchdown late in the game, but the first-half hole was simply too big for them to climb out of, and the Hawks held on for the win.

"Last week [in the] second half, we kept coming and coming, today we just didn't do that," said Jeffries.

"But we got the win and that

should get us a playoff spot. Now we've got a tough one next week at Guelph and we'll definitely have to be better than we were in the second half today."

The Hawks now sit at 4-2 and still have a chance to claim not only a home playoff game, but possibly a bye.

However, they have two tough

games left on the schedule in a road game this Saturday against the Guelph Gryphons – a team that sits just two points behind the Hawks in the standings – and a home game in the regular season finale on Oct. 24 against the currently undefeated Queen's Golden Gaels.

## Hockey team 2-0

JAMIE NEUGEBAUER  
STAFF WRITER

The Wilfrid Laurier Golden Hawks' men's hockey team won two tough games as they kicked off the season this past weekend.

The Hawks beat both the Guelph Gryphons and the University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT) Ridgebacks to start the 2009-10 season 2-0.

"We are happy we got out with the wins," said captain Jean-Michel Rizk.

"It is tough to play the way we did and be happy with the weekend. We were not getting pucks deep, we were not being disciplined with our system and we paid for it. Nevertheless we want to look at it positively: we got the wins."

On Friday, rookie net-minder Ryan Daniels made 41 saves as the Hawks earned a 4-2 victory over the Gryphons.

Forward Nathan Peacock scored the game winner on a shorthanded penalty shot in the second period, while fourth-year Jeff Borrows netted two and third-year sniper Craig Voakes added a goal and an assist.

Despite being out-shot 43-17, the Hawks stole the opening game of the season.

On Saturday, the purple and gold hosted the UOIT Ridgebacks for their home opener. Fifth-year goaltender Jeff MacDougald looked sharp, making 31 saves as the Hawks edged the improved Ridgebacks 4-3.



YUSUF KIDWAI PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

Hawks captain Jean-Michel Rizk (27) dekes around Ridgebacks' defenceman John McCullough (15) during Laurier's 4-3 win.

Injuries and absences forced head coach Kelly Nobes to play a weakened line-up as the Hawks were missing a number of players, including newly added star forward Paul Bradley.

"Seeing our second and third group producing a goal is good," said Nobes.

"We are still trying to define ourselves and find our identity. We got the job done tonight, but we have some work to do in cleaning up certain parts of our game."

Rizk opened the scoring with the Hawks a man up.

His wrist from the slot beat Ridgeback goaltender Jeff Dawson high glove-side.

Then, centre Colin Williams one-timed a pass from second-year Ryan Bellows with 36 seconds remaining in the period, giving Laurier a two-goal advantage.

Hawks defenceman Jordan Bonnevill finished a beautiful passing play at 7:30 of the second and it looked as though the Hawks would run away with the game.

However, UOIT had other ideas as Jeremy Whelan and Josh Vatri both tallied in the second with a goal from Peacock in between.

Heading into the third down 4-2, UOIT turned up the pressure and were rewarded when Ridgebacks' captain beat MacDougald on a screened wrist shot on the power play.

Bagshaw's marker cut the lead to 4-3, but MacDougald stood strong and Laurier held on to the win.

The Hawks face their first real test next Thursday as they face the Waterloo Warriors at Columbia Street Ice Fields.

## Hawks to meet Western

cover

money," said team captain Mahn. "But it's difficult to get an employer to pay that much, and if you can't get one it comes out of your own pocket."

Each of the school's pay-to-play sports are now using their Adopt a Hawk funds to operate their programs, whereas Laurier's funded teams have their money going towards enhancements.

"I think they could've cut it a little more evenly across the board," said Mahn.

"Instead of trying to make a team fund their entire season on their own, they could have at least given us a bit of a budget."

On top of the Adopt a Hawk fee, it is mandatory that each player pay a \$75 student athlete fee, \$25 Athletic Banquet fee and \$125 apparel package, with no option to opt out.

The remainder of the team's budget had to be raised through fundraising initiatives and donations.

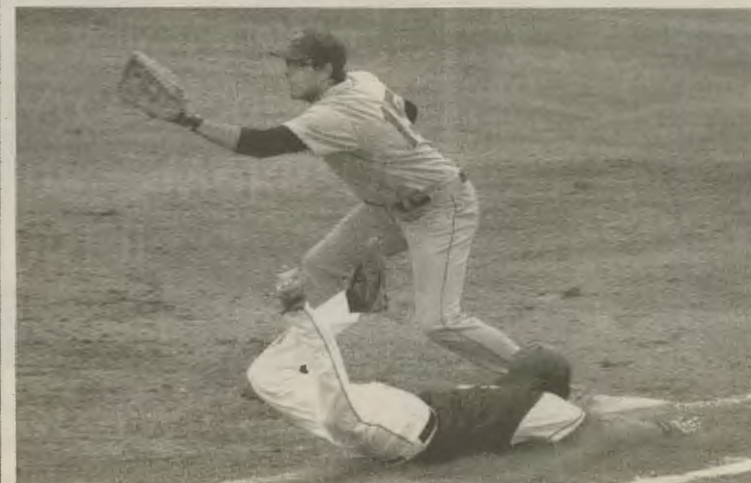
"It was pretty positive to see how strong the whole baseball community really is," said Mahn.

The Hawks gear up for the championship series this weekend against Western. Game one will be held at the in London on Friday, with game two taking place at home on Saturday at Bechtel Park at 1:00 p.m.

"Hopefully with positive results this weekend and with our commitment and accomplishments so far, the school will reconsider their position," said team captain Chris Pittaway.

"We don't want the program to die after how far we've come," added Ballantyne.

"Hopefully we'll be back in the Athletic Department's plans when it's time to reassess the funding in the future."



YUSUF KIDWAI PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

A Marauder attempts to slide in safely in game two of the series.



# Hawks crush Warriors

After 4-1 and 7-1 wins over Waterloo, Laurier's women's soccer team continues its impressive 2009 season



YUSUF KIDWAI PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

Hawks defender Liora Berger (left) shields the ball from a Warriors attacker in Laurier's 7-1 win over Waterloo on Friday.

KEVIN CAMPBELL  
CORD SPORTS

Team captain Sara Hopper knew what she had to do at half-time of the Wilfrid Laurier Golden Hawks' women's soccer team's 4-1 win over the Waterloo Warriors on Thursday. After a tongue-lashing from head coach Barry MacLean, Hopper, along with her fellow Hawks, recognized they needed to shape up, and fast.

Like the speedy team that they're known to be, they wasted no time taking over a game they thought they should have had since the opening whistle.

Hopper sailed in from centre field just moments after the second half had commenced and buried a blast over the hands of Waterloo Warriors' goalkeeper Taylor Meyers, giving the Hawks a 2-1 lead.

The Hawks never looked back, adding goals from Heather Malizia and Alyssa Coppolino; they went on to dominate the Warriors 4-1.

"It was our worst performance of the season," said MacLean. "We had a lack of focus and I think we took the competition too lightly."

MacLean had good reason to show his frustration. In a disorganized and tumultuous first half, the Hawks were able to get on the board with a goal by Liora Berger from a beautiful centring pass by Alyssa Coppolino.

Mere seconds after Berger's opening tally, the Warriors capitalized on a defensive collapse by the Hawks, and Janine Caird, the vocal leader of the Warriors all game long, drove a goal past Laurier's goalkeeper Tristin Vogel.

If Warriors' head coach Peter Mackie's comments are any indication, MacLean's harsh, half-time homily worked wonders in inspiring the Hawks to come out and crush the Warriors.

"The girls felt very good about the way they played the first 45 minutes," said Mackie. "But ... the second goal is demoralizing. Within five minutes of the second half, you're down a goal ... and the game shut down."

The Hawks took all the momentum from Hopper's goal and neutralized any threat by the Warriors in the second half.

"At halftime we had a good long talk, and in the second, we did a lot better," he said.

"I expect a different Laurier team tomorrow."

And a different team showed up the next day to take on the Waterloo Warriors. As if a 4-1 win wasn't convincing enough, the Hawks followed up Thursday's victory with a 7-1 thrashing on a rainy Friday afternoon. Ali McKee and Hopper each potted two goals in the win.

On Wednesday, the Hawks lost for just the second time this year, 1-0 to the York Lions. They are currently 8-2-1 and tied with the Lions atop the provincial standings.

## GOLDEN HAWK UPDATE

Week of  
October 12 - 18, 2009

### RECENT SCORES

10.09.09  
M Rugby 5 - McMaster 17  
W Rugby 7 - Waterloo 5  
M Soccer 2 - Waterloo 0  
W Soccer 7 - Waterloo 1  
W Hockey 2 - China 2  
M Hockey 4 - Guelph 2  
M Basketball 103 - RMC 50

10.10.09  
M Football 37 - Windsor 20  
W Lacrosse 10 - Queen's 12  
M Hockey 4 - Guelph 3  
M Basketball 76 - Concordia 73  
M Baseball 4 - McMaster 2

### UPCOMING HOME GAMES

10.16.09  
M Basketball vs Winnipeg  
Athletic Complex, 8:00 p.m.

10.17.09  
W Lacrosse vs McGill  
Knight-Newbrough Field, 9:00 a.m.  
M Baseball vs Western  
Bechtel Field, 1:00 p.m.  
Homecoming in Brantford  
M Hockey vs Windsor  
Brantford Civic Centre, 2:00 p.m.  
W Lacrosse vs Guelph  
Knight-Newbrough Field, 3:00 p.m.  
W Basketball vs Dalhousie  
Knight-Newbrough Field, 4:00 p.m.  
M Rugby vs RMC  
Knight-Newbrough Field, 6:00 p.m.

### LAURIER BOOKSTORE ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

Chris Pittaway  
Men's Baseball  
Sara Hopper  
Women's Soccer

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YUSUF KIDWAI PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

Laurier's Dara Shahin Hirbod (14) blows by a Waterloo defender in Thursday's match.

## Men's soccer wins two

LUKE DOTTO  
STAFF WRITER

The Golden Hawks' men's soccer team played two games against the Waterloo Warriors this past weekend, but it seemed as though they only really played one.

Identical 2-0 victories with goals by Spencer Cawker and Alex Doma in both games put the Hawks ahead of their cross-town rivals in the 2009 season.

The wins continue a streak of strong play for the Hawks, which saw them tie the reigning national champion York Lions and the second place Windsor Lancers last weekend.

According to head coach Mario Halapir, the recent results can be

attributed to a stronger mental game by the Hawks.

"The last four games we've played great, it's all mental, it's all the mental aspects of the game," said Halapir. "We know where we are as far as our abilities go and it's not how you start [the game], it's how you finish."

In game one of the home-and-home series, the Hawks defence allowed just a single shot in the game, the lowest total in two seasons for Laurier.

The Hawks went ahead when a cross into the box early in the second half was headed back by first-year Brendan Kohler and tipped into the Warrior net by Cawker to put the Hawks ahead.

The Warriors gave their best effort to pressure Laurier through the remainder of the second half, but

failed to generate a single scoring opportunity on first-year goalkeeper Jarret Humphreys.

However, in injury time a long-range shot bent towards the top corner of the net, and Humphreys had to make a game-saving stop with outstretched fingertips.

Halapir was quick to praise his first-year keeper. "For many years to come he's going to be great ... we're lucky," he said.

Moments after the Waterloo chance, however, Doma curved a free-kick from the side of the 18-yard box into the far top corner to ensure a victory for the purple and gold.

The team lost 2-0 to the York Lions on Wednesday and play the Guelph Gryphons in a crucial game this Sunday.

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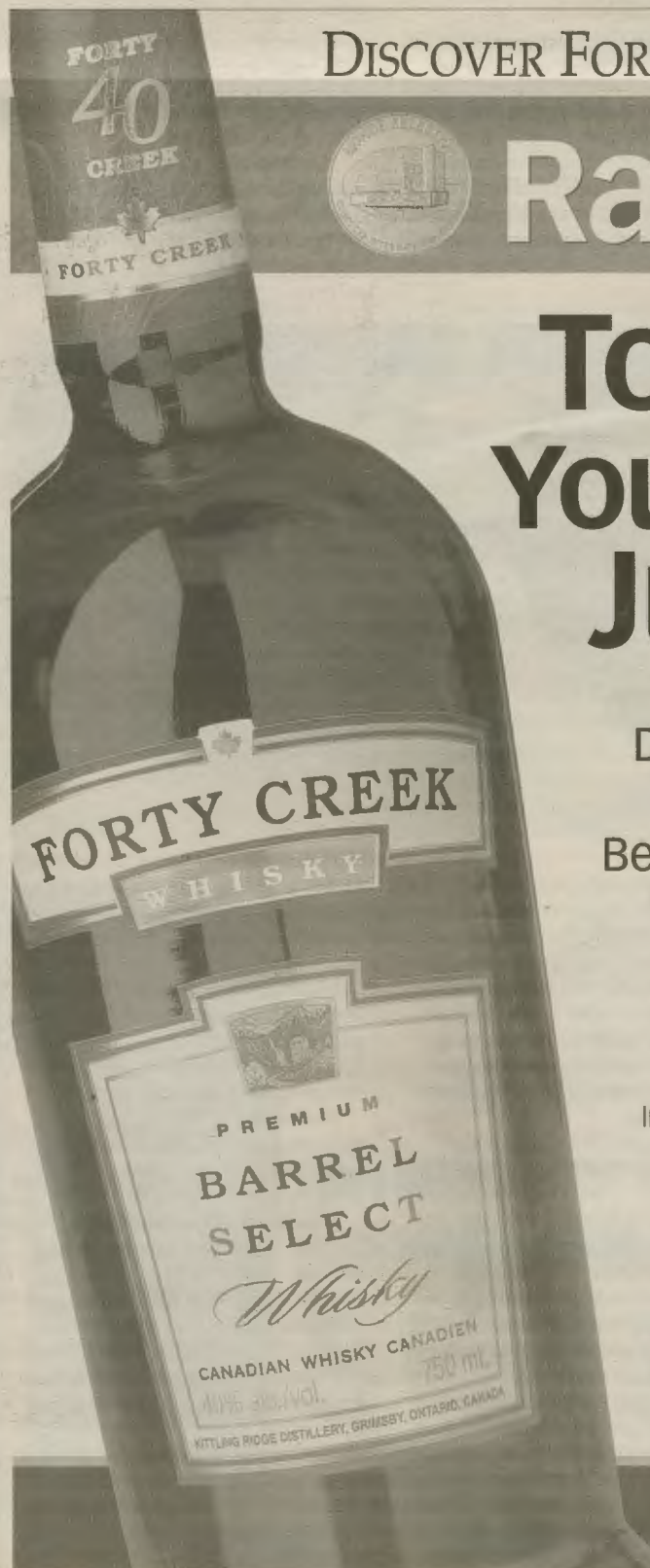
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# Hawks tie China

**JUSTIN FAUTEUX**  
SPORTS EDITOR

The defending Ontario University Athletics (OUA) champion Wilfrid Laurier Golden Hawks' women's hockey team continued its pre-season over the weekend with a game against some unusual competition in the form of the Chinese national team.

In a very entertaining back-and-forth game, the teams tied 2-2 with the Hawks taking the lead twice only to have China tie the game each time.

"I saw speed, tempo and pace that was a lot faster than a typical OUA game," said head coach Rick Osborne. "Their coach said to me that we're by far the fastest competition they've faced so far and that was a tremendous compliment coming from him."

The Chinese team has been playing teams from Ontario to prepare for the Vancouver Olympics and got all they could handle from their university competition as the Hawks not only kept up with China, but oftentimes dominated the play.

"We knew they were going to be fast and a couple of them definitely had some good hands," said goalie Liz Knox. "But our speed was really well matched with them and our defence played the body really well and really didn't give them anything."

"The pace was really good out there," added Osborne. "And I thought that we really set it for at least two of the three periods."

The Hawks received goals from veteran Heather Fortuna and highly touted rookie Candace Styles while forward Zhang Ben and the team's star player Sun Rui scored for the Chinese.

The international competition was nothing new for Hawks' captain Andrea Ironside, who played many of the Chinese players when she represented Canada in last year's Winter Universiade.

"It was definitely similar in the sense that they had very dynamic speed," said Ironside, comparing this Chinese team to the one she faced last year. "They always come to play, they have some very skilled players and their top two lines are phenomenal."

Team China isn't the only higher



NICK LACHANCE PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

Laurier's Heather Fortuna (middle) faces off against Team China's Gao Fujin (29) in the 2-2 tie.

competition the Hawks have faced this pre-season. Last week they played two National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division One teams in Robert Morris and Ohio State; after the China game, they played a pair of Ontario all-star

teams.

"This is the time of the season where you have to overload and getting physically ready should take precedent over the outcome," said Osborne.

"Obviously we'd like to win all

the time, but right now the physical process is the most important part as we get ready for the season."

The Hawks open their season with a six-game road trip that starts this Friday in London against the Western Mustangs.

## 2009-10 Laurier women's hockey preview

**JUSTIN FAUTEUX**  
SPORTS EDITOR

Last season, the Wilfrid Laurier University Golden Hawks' women's hockey team had one of their most successful seasons, going 26-1, winning their sixth consecutive Ontario University Athletics (OUA) title.

Coming into 2009-10, the most glaring changes from last year is the graduation of captain and two-time OUA player of the year Andrea Bevan and three-time provincial

all-star Lauren Barch, who is also a former OUA player of the year.

"Every year you lose key players but we always have talented new ones come in," said new captain Andrea Ironside. "It'll definitely take time to fill those shoes, but I know we have the potential and the ability to do it."

Despite losing two of their top three scorers from last year in Bevan and Barch, the Hawks should have no problems picking up where they left off in terms of scoring.

Second-years Caitlin Muirhead

and Abby Rainsberry are coming off impressive rookie seasons and veterans Kaley Powers and Heather Fortuna are ready to see increased roles after breakout years.

Add in rookie sensation Candace Styles - who will likely see time on the top line with Ironside - and fellow talented first-year Devon Skeats and the Hawks should be able to remain a scoring machine.

"I'm not looking to miss too much of a step this year," said head coach Rick Osborne.

"I would say that athletically,

we're just as good if not better than last year's team. We'll need to work at playing with some grit at times but speed and skill-wise we have no problems."

Defensively, the Hawks lost Bevan and fellow veteran Alison Williams. This means that returnees like Stephanie Crarey will have to help rookies Maureen Mommersteeg and Fiona Lester adjust to OUA competition.

"Things are definitely on the way up for us," said Ironside. "We've brought in a lot of new girls who

have a lot of talent, so things are right where we want them right now."

In net, two-time all-star Liz Knox, who many consider to be the top goaltender in the OUA, returns for her fourth year.

While there is no shortage of talent on this year's team, the Hawks' inexperience may end up resulting in a few more losses than usual.

However, there is no reason to believe that they will fall short of their seventh straight OUA title.

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## Women's fast-pitch wins nationals

KEVIN CAMPBELL  
CORD SPORTS

The Wilfrid Laurier University women's fast-pitch club sure lived up to their name on Thanksgiving weekend.

Competing in the second annual Canadian Intercollegiate Women's Fast-pitch Championship, hosted by Laurier at Peter Hallman Ballyards in Kitchener, the purple and gold were consistent all weekend and earned top billing as champions, dominating Western 7-0 in the semi-finals and defeating the University of Saskatchewan 7-3 in the gold-medal game.

After finishing the round-robin with three wins and a loss, Laurier was set to face Western in the pivotal semi-final game.

Laurier was seeking redemption against Western, who had defeated the Hawks two days earlier 7-6 in the preliminaries.

"We've had such good games against these guys over the last three years, and they've all been extremely close," stated Laurier coach Kevin Fagg.

Western defeated Laurier to take the Ontario championship in 2008, and lost to Laurier to take silver in 2007. This year, they couldn't match the sharp Laurier bats and unbelievable pitching by Cassie Taylor-Baptiste.

Laurier jumped out to a 1-0 lead in the first inning on an RBI single by Kari Jansen. Later, in the top of the fifth inning, Jody Waltho doubled on a pitch, bringing home two more runners to make it 3-0.

Taylor-Baptiste picked up the complete game shutout, frustrating the Mustangs all game long with three strikeouts against the highest-scoring team in Ontario.

"[I beat the hitters by] just moving the ball in and out and trusting the defence behind me," Taylor-Baptiste explained.

"We're always competitors and it would be sweet to play them again, but we'll see."

But it was Saskatchewan who Laurier would feast on in the final.

After losing to Saskatchewan 11-1 in last year's gold medal game, Laurier would seek some serious retribution, winning 7-3 and taking the gold medal.



COURTESY OF LAURIER ATHLETICS

The Laurier women's fast-pitch club beat the University of Saskatchewan to claim the national title.

## Rugby Hawks manage to avoid winless season

JUSTIN FAUTEUX  
SPORTS EDITOR

Throughout the first four weeks of the season, 2009 was definitely a year to forget for the Wilfrid Laurier Golden Hawks women's rugby team.

Coming into their final game of the season last Friday, the Hawks were 0-4 and had suffered some humiliating defeats along the way.

But in Friday's game against the

Waterloo Warriors, the purple and gold finally broke through, winning 7-5.

"I think we need a 10-week season rather than a five-week season," said head coach Jennifer Armatage.

"The team's really just coming together now, we were hungry and focused today and we got it done."

To give an indication of just how much the Hawks struggled early in the season, they opened their season with a 90-0 defeat at the hands of

the Guelph Gryphons and followed that with a 50-0 loss to the Brock Badgers.

In fact, coming into the game against the Warriors, the Hawks only scored eight points all season – a try is worth seven – and had lost 87-3 to the Western Mustangs the previous week.

"You really have to work hard to focus on the good things," said Armatage of dealing with such one-sided losses.

"You try to fix the little things that you can but you have to keep focusing on what you're doing right and try to build off of it."

Things finally seemed to go right for the Hawks against the Warriors; after rookie Christine Jennings scored a try early in the game – the team's second all year – they managed to hold off their cross-town rivals and come away with the win when Waterloo failed to convert on their only try of the game.

While the win didn't put the Hawks in the playoffs, it gives them something to build from heading into next season and Armatage is optimistic about the team going forward.

"I'm very excited, I think they've realized the talent that they have," she said.

"Some good things are happening for the women's rugby team in the future."