

THE CORD

The tie that binds Wilfrid Laurier University since 1926

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YUSUF KIDWAI PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

The women's hockey team surrounds the championship trophy after defeating the Guelph Gryphons in the provincial final.

Hawks claim OUA title

JUSTIN FAUTEUX
SPORTS EDITOR

GUELPH, ON— Saturday afternoon saw the Wilfrid Laurier Golden Hawks women's hockey team break one record and tie another as they defeated the Guelph Gryphons 2-1 to clinch their seventh consecutive Ontario University Athletics (OUA) championship.

The seven straight titles set a

new Laurier record and also ties OUA the milestone for consecutive women's hockey championships that was set by the University of Toronto when they were provincial champions every year from 1988-94.

"It's an incredible feeling, I can't even put words on it," said Hawks' goalie Liz Knox, who has been at Laurier for four of those seven championships. "Going into that third period being up one goal,

there was so much pressure and the crowd was right into it, and when the buzzer went, it was just unbelievable."

"It never gets old," added team captain Andrea Ironside, who has now won five straight OUA titles. "It's awesome. In the moment right now, it just feels incredible."

Saturday's game was the second in the best-of-three championship series. The Hawks had taken game one 2-0 in Waterloo on Thursday

night in a contest where Knox and Gryphons' goalie Danielle Skoufranis kept the game scoreless until 13 minutes into the second period.

The teams didn't have to wait long for offence in game two, as both the Hawks and the Gryphons managed to find the net in the opening 10 minutes.

Third-year Katherine Shirriff gave the purple and gold the lead

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Profs question admin

LAUREN MILLET
NEWS EDITOR

Last Friday, the Arts Council Meeting was the stage for heated discussion regarding the proposed new honours bachelor of arts degree.

Professors gathered to discuss the proposed degree, its implications for students and the financial benefits for the university.

"If the primary focus is academic integrity of the students, then it's a bad plan," said English professor Markus Poetzsch, questioning whether the suggested degree changes are in the best interests of students.

The new degree would allow students who have a high enough GPA (5.0) to be classified as an honours student without declaring a major.

Currently these students are defaulted into a general category; however, under the new degree they would remain an honours student, which would allow the university to receive more provincial funding.

The government funds honours students at a higher rate than general students; Laurier is trying to use this as a means to make up the money needed for the arts department.

According to associate professor Michael Imort, vice-president of academics Deb MacLachy told the arts department they need to come up with \$500,000 or cuts will be made to staff.

"The drive is that we will get more money, as there are many students who could be in honours but have not declared a major," said Imort.

"We want to bring undeclared majors back into honours."

Professors raised many concerns about the lack of a formal plan currently in place for this proposed degree.

The proposal suggests categorizing the honours degrees, designating students with a GPA of 8.0 or higher "first class", students with a GPA of 7.0 - 7.99 "second class," and students with a 5.0 "third class."

Philippa Gates, associate professor in the film department, noted that it is "unethical to give an

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In review: *Alice in Wonderland*

The Cord Arts staff discuss the merits of Tim Burton's latest Disney offering

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Two coaches resign

The head coaches of both the men's and women's rugby teams have left their positions at Laurier

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Funding cuts hit Canadian universities

Across Canada, schools balance less funding and more students

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Reality check: How Laurier is coping

Dr. Herbert Pimlott analyzes increasing class sizes, cut courses and a loss of teaching staff

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A different kind of pain

The physical issues that come with a substantial injury are obvious, but what about the psychological struggles? Sports Editor Justin Fauteux investigates the mental obstacles that an athlete has to overcome when returning from a major injury

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Editor's Choice
In Photos: This Week Around Laurier
 thecord.ca

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

This Week in quotes

“I didn't feel I could look a player or his family in the eye and get him to commit to Laurier when I'm not even sure where the program is going.”

—Recently resigned men's rugby coach Josh Windsor



“If the primary focus is academic integrity of students, then it's a bad plan.”

—English professor Markus Poetzsch talking about one of the funding cut propositions which would allow students with 5.0 GPA to graduate with an honours degree



“It's your jingle.”

—Canadian author Malcolm Gladwell responding to a question about the possibility of changing the phrasing in the Canadian national anthem

“It's unethical to give an honours degree to students with a 5.0 GPA.”

—Film studies co-ordinator Philippa Gates.

“What happens if we can't come up with a solution in a timely manner?”

—Chair of the English department James Weldon, questioning alternatives for funding if the proposed plans to change the general arts degree don't go through.

“I've never had this feeling before; I've never won anything like this and it's just absolutely incredible, more than I ever thought it would feel like.”

—Women's hockey player Devon Skeats on winning her first OUA championship.

“I'm not finding much loss of mental skills but I'm physically drained. I'm not trying to hurt myself in any way, but I do think it is important to go as far as I can.”

—Waterloo resident Dante Ryel who is currently fasting with only a water and supplement diet in support of the passing of Bill C-311, Climate Change Accountability Act.

From the archives

5 years

Shinerama wins third consecutive national award

On Feb. 12, Laurier was honoured at the Waterloo Tennis Club, winning the Canadian Cystic Fibrosis Foundation's Best Overall Campaign award for their 2004 Shinerama campaign. It was the third consecutive year Laurier's campaign had won the award.

Printed March 3, 2005

25 years

Beer strike threatens campus bars

A province-wide strike of brewers had many students panicking about the beer supply on campus. The Turret had stockpiled as much beer as their storage would allow; however, the bar predicted that it likely only had enough beer to last two weeks. After a Saturday night, the estimated two week supply was downgraded to one week. At the time, the Turret was not equipped for draught beer; therefore, purchasing kegs was not an option.

Printed March 7, 1985

35 years

Fees go up without opposition

In an attempt to lower the university's ancillary fee deficit, the board of governors raised residence and meal card fees by a total of \$275 for the 1975-76 academic year. There was an increase in the residence fee by \$150 and a \$125 increase for the five-day meal card.

Printed March 6, 1975

CORD HIRING UPDATE

Wilfrid Laurier University Student Publications has hired upper-level Cord staff for the 2010-11 academic year. Current In Depth Editor Alanna Wallace has been hired as the editor-in-chief. This year, three new executive positions have also been created. Current Local and National Editor Linda Giveta will take the role of news director, Photography Manager Nick Lachance has been hired as visuals director and Web Editor David Goldberg will hold the position of web director. The rest of the hires for the Cord's editorial board and senior staff positions will be announced this Friday.

Bag O' Crime

Fraud

Location: Parking lot # 13

Reported: March 1 @ 4:04 p.m.

A male Laurier student was in possession of a forged parking permit which he had displayed in his vehicle. The permit was seized by and handed over to Parking Services.

Assault

Location: Student Services Building

Reported: March 2 @ 6:19 p.m.

A female Laurier student had juice thrown at her by a male Laurier student. Residence Life will be meeting with both parties. The report has been forwarded to the Judicial Affairs Council.

Theft Under \$5000

Location: Nichols Campus Centre

Reported: March 3 @ 5:24 a.m.

A jacket was reported stolen from the coat check at the Turret. The jacket was later turned into dispatch.

Theft Under \$5000

Location: Dining Hall

CORRECTIONS

In the March 3 article “White, red and gold”, it was stated that Nodar Kumaritashvili, who died on the opening day of the Olympics, was a Norwegian bobsledder. Kumaritashvili was actually a Georgian luger. Also, the photo with the article “Season over for men's basketball” was credited to Yusuf Kidwai when it was actually taken by Mike Whitehouse. The Cord sincerely apologizes for these errors.

Reported: March 6 @ 1:50 a.m.

Officers stopped three female Laurier students that were in possession of stolen property that was taken from the dining hall. All three will appear before the Judicial Affairs Council to explain their actions.

Injured/Sick Person

Location: Residence

Reported: March 6 @ 4:14 a.m.

The Emergency Response Team attended a residence after a female Laurier student had cut her foot while walking home.

Theft Under \$5000

Location: Nichols Campus Centre

Reported: March 07 @ 4:50 p.m.

An officer is investigating a report of a found wallet. \$100 was reported missing from the wallet.

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

Vocal Cord

What do you think of pregnancy and marriage in your 20s?



“If they feel they're ready and they're in love. It's all about personal choices.”

—Zoie Fontana

Second-year communication studies



“I don't think you're mature enough to provide for a family at that point in your life.”

—Janelle Emanuel

Second-year political science



“Whatever makes you happy. Some women have the life goal of raising a family and so do some men.”

—Anthony Damiao

Third-year philosophy



“I think people should be educated about birth control before they make a decision.”

—Fraydie Bonan

Third-year political science

Compiled by David Goldberg
 Photos by Nick Lachance

THE CORD

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75 University Ave W
 Waterloo ON N2L 3C5

519-884-0710 x3564
 Fax: 519-883-0873

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Advertising

All advertising inquiries should be directed to General Manager/Advertising Angela Foster at 519-884-0710 x3560 angela@wlusp.com

Editorial Board

Editor-in-Chief	..... LAURA CARLSON lcarlson@thecord.ca
Photography Manager	..... NICK LACHANCE nlachance@thecord.ca
Photography Manager	..... YUSUF KIDWAI ykidwai@thecord.ca
Graphics Editor	..... TRINA SCHMIDT tschmidt@thecord.ca
Web Editor	..... DAVID GOLDBERG dgoldberg@thecord.ca
News Editor	..... LAUREN MILLET lmillet@thecord.ca
Lead Reporter	..... ANDREA MILLET amillet@thecord.ca
Local and National Editor	..... LINDA GIVETA lgiveta@thecord.ca
International Editor	..... PAULA MILLAR pmillar@thecord.ca
In Depth Editor	..... ALANNA WALLACE awallace@thecord.ca
Arts Editor	..... REBECCA VASILIUNU rvasiliunu@thecord.ca
Features Editor	..... SHANNON BUSTA sbusta@thecord.ca
Opinion Editor	..... KIMBERLY ELWORTHY kelworthy@thecord.ca
Sports Editor	..... JUSTIN FAUTEUX jfauteux@thecord.ca

Volunteers

Cord Web Editor	..... Adam Lazzarato
Copy Editing Manager	..... Gina Macdonald
Copy Editors	..... Kathryn Dobosh Laura Malone Nataja Pannecocker Kristen Rowatt Jocelyn Smith Thaidis Perry-Mills

Contributors

Praveen Alwis	Jacqueline Hovius	Laura Sedgwick
Amalia Bino	Mike Laisiak	Deanna Sim
Devon Butler	Tieja MacLaughlin	Wade Thompson
Kelly Chau	Eris Merkley	Maya Uemura
Kristen Duvall	Olivia Nightingale	
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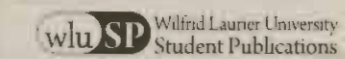
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Treasurer Suhail Hafeez
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Corporate Secretary Maeve Stathis
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Colophon

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

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



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

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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.

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

The only limits of any newspaper are those of the world around it, and so The Cord will attempt to cover its world with a special focus on Wilfrid Laurier University, and the community of Kitchener-Waterloo, and with a special eye 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'm going to cut my hair and start being a douche.”
 —Sports Editor Justin Fauteux on how he plans to run his section next year.

NEWS

News Editor Lauren Millet • lmillet@thecord.ca

Charity Ball raises community awareness

ALANNA WALLACE
IN DEPTH EDITOR

After a year filled with controversy and contention, the Wilfrid Laurier University Students' Union committee Charity Ball hosted their final event this past Saturday.

With the theme of Alice in Wonderland, approximately 350 people attended the dinner and dance in support of Epilepsy of Waterloo Wellington.

Although final numbers for a donation will not be ready for a couple of weeks, Charity Ball co-ordinator Claire Petch is confident that the committee's main event was a success.

Regular tickets to the ball were priced at \$50, while the VIP tickets were \$70, though they increased in price after March 1. Last-minute purchases and those who decided to buy tickets simply for the dance and not dinner, which weren't advertised, made it difficult for the committee to pinpoint how many attended the event.

Charity Ball had a rocky start this year, with The Cord reporting that the 2008-09 committee raised only \$159, despite having a budget projected at \$32,417.

The tension regarding the issue was felt throughout campus, and Petch admitted that morale was low among volunteers during the few events that followed the October story.

"A lot of new volunteers ... weren't sure how to deal with some of the negative feedback we got," said Petch, "But my executive team,

we did our best to intervene when we had to deal with people like that."

Jason Verhoeve, WLUSU vice-president of clubs and activities, echoed Petch's statement, but said that the pitfalls of last Charity Ball were a positive incentive for this year's committee.

"The article obviously put a little bit of a damper at the start," said Verhoeve.

"But it allowed the executive team to take a critical look at Charity Ball and what it offers students and whether they were wanting to offer a massive donation or whether they wanted to offer a quality event to the students that wanted to attend."

The balance between a lavish event and donating to charity was also a point of contention earlier in the year, when students expressed disappointment in the lack of monetary donation and the WLUSU board of directors discussed the potential misleading of students by the committee.

"I think they found a good balance between the two and used what was said and offered in that article to put on the best event possible," said Verhoeve.

Although the 2009-10 Charity Ball budget was created long before any news broke of their meagre donation to KidsAbility last year, it was the committee's intention all along to cut costs wherever they could without jeopardizing the "appearance of the event," according to Verhoeve.

"Doing it ourselves and looking for alternative suppliers ... in the interest of reducing costs" was an angle Verhoeve said the committee

attempted to take.

"We really cut down on decoration costs, ceiling treatment too," explained Petch. "Searching around for a good price and cutting costs everywhere adds up."

Among the guests in attendance was Samantha Campana, a third-year Laurier communications student, who said she thought the Charity Ball executives had handled the bad publicity well and have now "risen above" the controversy.

Many members from Epilepsy of Waterloo Wellington attended the dinner, and executive director Catherine Bodden expressed her excitement for the event and the awareness it garnered for her charity and cause.

"It's just a matter of recognizing that you guys are our future advocates," said Bodden of the Laurier community.

Despite this positive message, many noted that as Bodden spoke to those in attendance on Saturday while dinner was being served, she had to ask the audience to pay attention to her message halfway through her speech. However, the crowd did give her a standing ovation as she left the podium, though many talked through her entire presentation.

Overall, Petch expressed that she and the executive team are happy with the way Charity Ball turned out this year, not just for the final event but also throughout the year, calling it "a really big success."

"Everybody who went had a great time and the charity got to get their message out," said Petch. "I don't think there's anything much else we can ask for."



NICK LACHANCE PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

This year the committee cut back on decorations to save costs.

New summer classes available

ANDREA MILLET
LEAD REPORTER

Students will begin to see new courses being offered over the summer months available for registration on the Laurier On-line Registration and Information System (LORIS).

"The number is growing; [courses] will come in ones and twos ... between now and the start of the term," said assistant vice-president of academics Tom Buckley.

"There's not going to be a day that 30 courses show up ... they will show up as they are approved by the dean and provided to the registrar's office."

New classes have recently been posted in the science department, particularly in math, and a few have been added in arts programs such as English and history.

The music department is also looking to add a few more courses that are not performance-based and can therefore be open to students outside the music department.

Vice-president of academics Deb MacLatchy explained why new courses are slowly and continuously being made available.

"It is at the mercy of the departments, so it's as they get their planning in order and they talk to the dean and get them posted ... they'll just continue to come online as the

“

We are adding more and we hear loud and clear that there is demand....

We will be working towards doing what we can to increase the number of offerings.”

—Tom Buckley, assistant vice-president of academics

departments make the decisions about what they want to do."

Laurier registrar Ray Darling explained that there are now more classes available this year than were offered for students last summer and many are senior-level courses, as they are trying to cater to more Laurier students.

While the early list of courses that were to be offered led to many student concerns surrounding a lack of variety in many programs, especially those in the arts department, administration has responded to these concerns and is looking to add more classes where they are needed and provide the necessary services for students.

"We are adding more and we hear loud and clear that there is demand. The deans and the academic [vice-president's] office are very aware of this and we will be working towards doing what we can to increase the number of offerings," said Buckley.

Changes made to improve student technology services

Reconfigurations to campus IT will create more efficient and reliable networks

ANDREA MILLET
LEAD REPORTER

Throughout the academic year, Laurier's IT department has been undergoing changes to improve the consistency and quality of tech services available on campus.

Systems like WebCT and the wireless networks available on campus that often proved to be unreliable have been examined in an ICT review, and solutions to fix these problems are now being implemented.

"A lot of the frustrations I've heard from students these years are about these specific changes," explained Wilfrid Laurier University Students' Union president Laura Sheridan.

The systems experiencing the overhaul include the WebCT database, which will be replaced by a new learning management software called Desire to Learn.

WebCT will be phased out over the summer and the new system will be made available in September, along with training in its use for faculty and students.

Tom Buckley, assistant vice-president of academics, explained that the Laurier wireless network has also been under examination.

While this year they have made steps to improve the current

network in place, the focus has now shifted to spreading its availability across campus.

"Much like with several other areas, we wanted to stabilize for this academic year and then look to the summer for opportunities to do some fundamental work on re-architecting," said Buckley.

The IT department is also looking for a new external provider for student e-mail that will be more efficient than what is currently in place.

"Everything will still look the same for students except there will be increased storage on the e-mail account and it will be much more reliable than the current system that's in place," said Sheridan.

In addition, students' MyLaurier accounts are being enhanced to provide a database that can give them access to all of the services through one password and one username.

Sheridan explained that the new MyLaurier "will open up to a screen that will allow them to access their e-mail, access the LORIS system for changing classes; they can get on to the learning management software that way and take a look at their On-Card balance."

"It's going to greatly simplify life for students and that's really what this is all about. It's improvement of services and it's simplifying the process by which you access services here at Laurier," said Buckley.

WebCT

WebCT will be dissolved and a new system, Desire to Learn, will take over as the learning management software at Laurier

Wireless

Laurier's wireless connectivity has been greatly improved with the new server, Laurier Wi-Fi, which has been providing more reliable services. IT is now looking to increase the number of access points available around campus.

E-mail

Laurier is currently looking for a new external e-mail provider. Students will still use their WLU accounts but will have more storage space and a more efficient and stable system.

ResNet

The current residence life ResNet program has been amalgamated with the central ITS network and security group to improve the service provided for first year students living in residence.

MyLaurier

The mylaurier.ca web site is being reconfigured to provide one database that will allow students easy access to all of their different university accounts with only one username and one password.

Environmental work has Laurier link

Insurance companies vow to reduce environmental impact in the community through various initiatives

JACQUELINE HOVIUS
STAFF WRITER

Sustainable Waterloo, a not-for-profit organization which seeks to help foundations become more environmentally sustainable across the Waterloo Region, recently introduced five new insurance companies to their carbon-reducing initiative.

They include: The Economical Insurance Group, Farm Mutual Re-insurance Pan Inc., Gore Mutual Insurance Company, Sun Life Financial and the Ontario Teachers Insurance Plan.

Mike Morrice, a Laurier alumnus and executive director of Sustainable Waterloo, explains that, "It was a really exciting opportunity for the insurance industry to collectively show leadership in our community and our region."

"We play a role as a facilitator," said Morrice. "We first help these organizations to sense and baseline their current carbon emissions so

they know where they are at and any progress over time."

These companies reduce their environmental impact by means of efficiency, which includes upgrading equipment, changes to lighting and reducing transportation emissions.

Public relations manager for Sustainable Waterloo Joanna LaFleur noted the significance of the addition of these leading insurance companies for Sustainable Waterloo.

"It shows credibility of us as an organization that these five major insurance companies would want to come on board with us, because we have something that really is going to be valuable for them to participate in."

La Fleur also commented on the number of Laurier graduates and students who are choosing to work with and volunteer with this organization.

"We've seen a lot of Laurier students come on board because they are interested in environmental issues in the business world, and

"It was a really exciting opportunity for the insurance industry to collectively show leadership in our community and our region."

—Mike Morrice, Laurier alumnus and executive director of Sustainable Waterloo

want to try to build up their skills and learn what they can from getting involved."

"It shows that Laurier grads are doing some really valuable things in the community after they graduate."



COURTESY OF MIKE MORRICE

Presenting history

RENE D'HONDT
CORD NEWS

This Saturday, the Wilfrid Laurier University History Students' Association (WLUHSA) hosted its second annual Tri-University History Undergraduate Paper Conference in the Bricker Academic Building.

Through seven undergraduate history panels, the conference presented 24 academic papers showcasing the talent of undergraduate students enrolled in history programs.

The conference had delegates from Laurier and the University of Guelph and featured panel moderators from Laurier, Guelph and the University of Waterloo.

Students who presented their papers received recommendations from their professors to submit

them to the conference.

"I wrote an essay for class and my professor suggested I submit it for the conference," said third-year history major Jeffrey Couse.

Others responded to e-mail queries made by WLUHSA to submit paper proposals.

"The HSA sent out e-mails asking for paper proposals to be submitted to them," said Laurier student Jodi Mandarino.

Presenters submitted their proposals and their full-length essays for consideration.

Presentations were followed by questions from the moderator panel and the audience.

When asked what some of the difficulties of presenting papers to an audience were, Couse noted that one of the main difficulties was responding to some tough questions.

"I felt my paper was not grouped

into a similar category with the others, and I also got grilled with questions," Couse said.

Other participants said that the difficulties they faced were having to cut some parts of their essays out of their presentation, since they only had a limit of 20 minutes to present their papers.

Another challenge faced by authors was the difficulty in finding adequate sources.

"We're very close to our work and we don't like to cut anything out," Mandarino said. "Finding sources that said what we needed was very difficult."

The conference ended with a keynote address delivered by Joyce Lorimer, current chair of the Laurier history department, speaking on a paper she had written about Sir Walter Raleigh's exploration of the Orinoco river in the 16th century.

Alumni relations position filled

McMahon optimistic about new role

ANDREA MILLET
LEAD REPORTER

Laurier alumnus Bridget McMahon has worked in university advancement for the past nine years and has now been appointed as director of alumni relations.

"I'll be working with our alumni relations team and our annual giving team and much of my job will be reaching out to and engaging our over 70,000 alumni," said McMahon.

In addition to graduating from Laurier with a BBA in 2000 and a MBA in 2009, McMahon has also served as a staff member here.

Over the past nine years, McMahon has been involved in many areas of the Laurier community, such as student recruitment, as well as previously serving as associate director of university development.

Through this involvement, she has developed relationships that she hopes will benefit her in her new position.

"The relationships that I have built on campus over my nine years will help me with respect to building the reputation and awareness of our programming on campus," said McMahon.

"Being an alumnus myself I'm just really excited ... to be in a position to help reengage and foster that ongoing relationship between our alumni and the university."

—Bridget McMahon, incoming director of alumni relations

Radio Laurier
www.radiolaurier.com

wilfrid laurier university
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student publications

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Applications Due Friday March 12th at 5pm

For detailed job descriptions and application forms go to
radio laurier.com

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- * Advertising and Sponsorship Manager
- * Technical Director
- * Content Manager

Arts controversy causes stir

—cover

honours degree to students with a 5.0 GPA."

She did, however, like the idea of recognizing students with a GPA of higher than 7.0.

The proposed degree will still require 20 credits; however, the requirements will be slightly different than those of a specialized major. These specifics have not yet been determined, and some professors raised concerns about students not being able to get into classes that are already maxed out to capacity.

The consensus of the meeting was that professors want to ensure that the pressures of the university's current economic state do not

negatively impact the kind of degree Laurier is offering students.

As the discussion of the meeting wound down, the timing of this issue was brought to the forefront, as well as whether the creation of this degree could be pushed along to meet a deadline.

"What happens if we can't come up with a solution in a timely manner?" questioned chair of the English department James Weldon, referring to the \$500,000 the arts department must come up with.

The meeting ended with the description of the degree being sent back to the curriculum department for fine-tuning before coming back to the Arts Council at their next meeting, on April 9.



NICK LACHANCE PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

Garbage was collected and put on display in the quad, showing students what two days' worth of garbage looks like.

Garbage on campus

EcoHawks work towards instituting residence composting system and raising awareness about waste at Laurier

OLIVIA NIGHTINGALE
STAFF WRITER

Laurier has no shortage of garbage. In 2008, Laurier produced an estimated 1715.7 metric tonnes of waste. That number is truly staggering considering the relatively small size of the campus compared to others such as the University of Waterloo.

Laurier's environmental awareness club, the EcoHawks, hopes to change this. On March 3, the EcoHawks set up a shocking display of waste accumulated over a single day from Mac House and Little House Residences. In one day, two of the school's smaller residences produced a total of 20 bags of garbage.

EcoHawks co-ordinator Astri Buchanan explained that the event was meant to "raise awareness about garbage," as well as to promote the screening of a documentary about garbage that they were showing later that night.

This awareness campaign is one of many initiatives that the EcoHawks have undertaken this year to promote sustainable living and environmental awareness at Laurier.

Buchanan described this year as being a transitional one.

Most notably, she highlighted the growth of the club - members have increased from 30 members to 140 - and the increased visibility of the EcoHawks on campus.

This year, the EcoHawks have also been instrumental in the

implementation of Laurier's pilot project for composting in residence. Buchanan explained that their goal for this year was to get University Place Residence fully composting.

"There have been some bumpy points, but the project is still making progress," said Buchanan.

Buchanan is confident that 2010-11 will be an even bigger year for the EcoHawks; with membership reaching an all-time high this year, she is certain that the club will continue to grow in numbers.

Buchanan hopes that in the coming years the EcoHawks will continue to "get the administration and students thinking about sustainability and being environmentally friendly."

Balsillie school discussed at senate meeting

Last Thursday senate passed a new academic plan and Balsillie School proposal

MIKE LAKUSIAK
STAFF WRITER

Last Thursday's meeting of the Wilfrid Laurier University senate began with emphasis on discussing and agreeing upon the school's new academic plan, but much of the meeting was spent on issues surrounding the Balsillie School of International Affairs.

"There was a lot of discussion about our definition of ourselves as a university," said vice-president of academics Deb MacLachy of work that went into the 2010-15 academic plan that came before senate for approval. "The plan ... is descriptive of the university in terms of where we've been and, in the 21st century, need to be."

Speaking on the plan's focus, MacLachy emphasized Laurier's areas of strength in academics and

research that are renowned at a national or international level.

"My personal opinion is that Laurier hasn't been very vocal about [areas of strength] in the past and we need to put in some effort in order to differentiate us as the entity we are, which is different from other universities," she continued. "This is going to start doing that."

The majority of the meeting beyond the reports from upper administration, including an uncertain funding forecast from president Max Blouw, focused on a proposal to create a new academic subunit: the Balsillie School at Laurier.

The academic planning committee brought forward for approval of senate the proposal to move existing Laurier programs to a new department in conjunction with the Balsillie School of International Affairs, which is already involved in some Laurier graduate programs.

The school is a collaboration between Laurier, the University of Waterloo and the Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI), as well as named for and created in part by Research in Motion CEO Jim Balsillie.

The proposal specifically stated that the existing philosophy, politics and economics program at Laurier may be moved under the Balsillie School at Laurier, a program that is currently suspended with no new students entering it.

History professor Joyce Lorimer was vocally opposed to the approval of the proposal, questioning its content and suggesting that the plan was not specific enough. "One normally doesn't bring forward a document [to senate] that says 'presume' and 'possibly,'" said Lorimer.

"What I'm suggesting is you're trying to get senate to approve something at the stage that it has

not been fully worked out."

Terry Levesque, the associate dean who is responsible for Laurier programs at the Balsillie School, defended the proposal, even as Lorimer made a motion to table it pending further discussion. Emphasis was placed on faculty association domain issues and having it come before senate at a later date.

"There's no question there are some labour-relations issues, there are financial issues, there are lots of issues, but we have other forums to negotiate and reconcile those issues," Blouw interjected.

In the end, Lorimer's attempt to pause the motion to create the Balsillie School at Laurier was voted down and the original motion passed, creating a new academic subunit and making it possible that current programs may be moved and placed under the direction of this new department in the future.

“What I’m suggesting is that you’re trying to get senate to approve something at the stage that it has not been fully worked out.”

—Joyce Lorimer, professor

New WLUSU AVPs hired

News Editor Lauren Millet talks with the newest members of the 2010-11 management team



April Bannerman
First-year experience

Experience: Executive for Laurier Students for Learning, ice breaker and head ice, legal resources

Unique quality: "My ability to adapt to different situations and approachability. Those were things that I really respected about the outgoing AVP. I saw the ability he had to adapt to anything that was thrown at him, and I recognized the importance of that."

Main goal: "I think that a lot of us, when we get into second and third year, we forget how many challenges first-years have. And just making sure that all the resources that are in place to combat these challenges are available to first-year students. Specifically through the liason team and incorporating all of the different areas on campus, not just the students' union."



Liz Rowe
Campus clubs and faculty associations

Experience: Marketing director for Campus Clubs, L.U.C.K., Shinerama.

Unique quality: "My experience. There have been a lot of changes to Campus Clubs and I have seen all of those changes and I think that will work to my advantage."

Main goal: "I really want to work on strengthening the department. A lot of these changes we initiated this past year, so rather than adding more new things, I would like to work on solidifying these so that Campus Clubs can be the best that it can be next year. I also want to increase the visibility of Campus Clubs, so students are aware of all the volunteer opportunities available for them and increase communication between the club presidents and us, and vice versa."



Bryan Szwarz
Finance

Experience: Ice-breaker, Winter Carnival

Unique quality: "What really sets me apart from other candidates is my experience [with finances] from my co-op positions, preparing budgets, working within a corporation that has lots of competing goals."

Main goal: "I want to maximize the financial performance of the union, so to make sure that all the different groups and committees are adhering to their budgets and there are no huge variances and any variances that do occur can be explained. I want to work more closely with the heads to make sure they are adhering to their budget. One of the problems in the past was a general lack of how a budget works, so I want to work with the group heads and make sure that doesn't happen in the future."

LOCAL

Local Editor Linda Givetash • lgivetash@thecord.ca

Author discusses business education

ALANNA WALLACE
IN DEPTH EDITOR

Two great minds discussed a number of topics pertinent to current trends in business and economics this past Friday at the Floradale Mennonite Church. The event was put on by the Woolwich Counselling Centre.

Malcolm Gladwell, a staff writer at *The New Yorker* magazine and author of three best-selling books, including *Outliers: The Story of Success* and *Blink: The Power of Thinking Without Thinking*, grew up in Elmira, ON.

On Friday, Gladwell was accompanied by his old friend Roger Martin, dean of the Rotman School of Management at the University of Toronto.

Among other musings, the two scholars discussed what they view as problems with how business education is conducted— an issue most pertinent to the Laurier community and the university students in attendance.

"[The post-secondary education system] broke business training into a bunch of silos," said Martin, explaining how most business schools teach disciplines like finance, marketing, accounting and operations separately. "This is not the way the

world works."

Drawing on his personal experience at the University of Toronto, Martin explained the lack of problem-solving students showed once they were in the workforce.

"Only maybe five to 10 per cent of students could actually put those pieces together in an intelligent way that sells," said Martin. "The other 90 to 95 per cent would go look at a problem and try to cram it into being one that they could solve with the finance tools they had learned."

Martin and Gladwell discussed how in 1908, there was no such thing as a masters of business administration degree.

Now, however, there are about 150,000 granted annually in North America, making up 27 per cent of graduates. Martin explained that with the popularity of MBA degrees, often universities don't feel the need to alter their teaching strategies.

The two discussed middle-ground solutions for decision-making, instead of traditional trade-off models, as a mechanism that many business students seem to be lacking when they complete their education. Martin and Gladwell saw this as problematic, especially considering the entrepreneurial success of the middle-ground model.

Gladwell used the example of

Isadore Sharp, a Canadian businessman and the founder, chairman and CEO of Four Seasons Hotels and Resorts, a man he said revolutionized the hotel market when at the time it was "divided into two camps."

"People did very small hotels which were intimate," explained Gladwell. "The other model was a really big hotel that allowed you to have a lot of services."

Sharp did exactly what Gladwell and Martin were doing and combined two models to create his vision for the needs of consumers.

"[Sharp] was able to see that what people thought as being mutually exclusive options could actually be integrated into one solution," concluded Gladwell. Sharp's hotels were able to combine the best of large and small-scale hotel chains.

There was discussion surrounding the complexity of this type of entrepreneurship and great business leadership and whether it could be instructed to a student.

Martin maintained that his experience had shown that the type of problem-solving highlighted could be taught to those at even a high school level.

More of a creation of dialogue and an exchanging of ideas, these two world-renowned scholars



WIKICOMMONS

Malcolm Gladwell speaks on how problem solving is taught.

created an atmosphere that was both thought-provoking and forward-thinking, especially in a region with two universities and numerous businesses which strive toward entrepreneurial and problem-solving excellence.

Malcolm Gladwell's compilation of his best work for *The New Yorker* includes:

—"Why some people choke while others panic"

—"Hair dye's relation to postwar American history"

—"Why there are numerous types of mustard, but only one ketchup"

—"If the birth control pill is 'natural' and what it meant to its creator, John Rock"

—"The secrets behind 'dog whisperer' Cesar Millan"

Source: *What the Dog Saw* and other Adventures

KW in brief

A vision for Northdale

Waterloo city staff released their vision for Northdale on March 9. It was developed out of proposals made by the city and residents.

The vision includes the need to restructure the area to accommodate the growing student population by shifting from low-density to more high-density housing.

There is still a call, however, to maintain family-oriented homes to retain families already living in the area and encourage new families to move in, providing overall stability to the neighbourhood.

The vision also advocates for better transportation, more accessible services and a pedestrian-friendly environment.

The vision will be formally presented to council in April, as decided at the meeting on Jan. 18th.

-Compiled by Linda Givetash

Fasting for the end of climate change

Waterloo man gives up food to challenge parliament to pass Accountability Act

KRISTEN DUVAL
STAFF WRITER

With six days passed and seven pounds lost, Dante Ryel is fasting with only a water and supplement diet in support of the passing of Bill C-311, Climate Change Accountability Act.

"I'm extremely concerned about climate change and the issue is becoming more and more critical as time goes on," said Ryel.

The 26-year-old Waterloo resident and graduate of Lakehead University believes that the planet risks becoming less fertile if climate change progresses, while also having negative impacts on food

security.

To some it seems absurd to fast for such a long-fought issue. Ryel explained that "if politicians don't pass this bill, they put billions of people at risk for starvation."

Bill C-311, first proposed in February 2009 by NDP MP Bruce Hyer, commits Canada to ambitious greenhouse gas targets.

The goal is to ensure that the country meets previous global climate change obligations as stated under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) by getting emissions to a level that is 25 per cent below the 1990 level by 2020, and 80 per cent below the 1990 level by 2050.

Ryel is willing to fast until he can get a commitment from a senator who will sponsor the bill, and in that case, he will immediately start eating again. Otherwise he will fast until March 31.

One week into his fast, Ryel said, "I'm not finding much loss of mental skills but I'm physically drained. I'm not trying to hurt myself in any way, but I do think it is important and go as far as I can."

He said that if there are any long-term complications, he will call off the fast. Ryel is also having regular check-ups with his doctor to monitor his health.

Being busy throughout the day, Ryel explained that he doesn't have much time to think about food but

claims to dream about food every night— along with having cravings for ketchup and donair meat.

Ryel explained that his family has been supportive of his drastic action towards the Climate Change Accountability Act.

"I think they're really concerned with this problem and they can see where I'm coming from because I don't let the issue drop; I'm always talking about it," said Ryel.

Ryel's video explaining his initiative and along with footage documenting the rest of his action for change at the Youtube channel "Starving for Change".

He also has a Facebook group with the same title to garner support.

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NATIONAL

National Editor Linda Givetash • lgivetash@thecord.ca

Universities take the cut

Recent talks of budget cuts, growing class sizes and fewer professors are only a few of the troublesome solutions to the financial struggles happening across the country

HEATHER GIES
STAFF WRITER

Post-secondary institutions across the country are currently faced with funding challenges and universities are attempting to tailor solutions to deal with their budget problems.

Ken Steele, senior vice-president of education marketing for Academia Group Inc., a Canadian education marketing consultancy, noted that although economic conditions have compounded the financial strain on universities, post-secondary budget challenges are not a new phenomenon.

"Over the last 30 years, there's been this gradually growing pressure on universities in Canada," said Steele.

"Government funding generally hasn't risen very fast, tuition has been practically flat ... and fundraising is not really increasing as a percentage either."

The situation, as Steele describes, is that Canada is "trying to educate more and more students but doing so with less and less per student."

Ultimately, this translates into increases in class sizes, heavier

faculty work loads and extreme pressure to increase efficiencies throughout the university.

Managing less funds

"There are certainly schools that are worse off than Laurier," said Steele, mentioning University of Calgary and the University of Western Ontario, where layoffs of several hundred people, drastic budget cuts and tuition increases have been announced.

Although increasing class sizes have been a major discussion at Laurier, Steele explained that many other institutions have been using this strategy for so long that they have already exhausted it as an option.

Salaries are a major expenditure, accounting for up to three-quarters of a university budget. According to Steele, "it's actually people that's the biggest expense every year, so if you've got to cut from your budget, you effectively have to do something to cut your people cost."

Approaches to reducing salary costs include offering early retirement incentives, instituting mandatory unpaid furlough days, cancelling sabbaticals and announcing a hiring freeze, in which retirees and other faculty leaving the university are not replaced.

Some institutions are also opting to close or merge departments or even entire institutes.

Closing doors

Budget constraints at British Columbia's Simon Fraser University (SFU) have been a contributing factor to the decision to close the university's Kamloops satellite campus, 350 kilometres away from the main campus in Vancouver.

"We have had a very small campus running on the Kamloops Indian band reserve and it's been there for just over 20 years," explained Jon Driver, vice-president of academics at SFU.

The majority of the

program offerings focused on Aboriginal language, culture and history and tended to have a high enrolment of Aboriginal students.

The cost of running these programs at such a distance from the main campus was becoming unsustainable for SFU, particularly considering Kamloops's small class sizes of often only five students or less.

Driver explained that administration is currently working with students to identify options for completing their degrees. "The biggest impact is going to be on Aboriginal students," said Driver.

SFU does plan to keep their Aboriginal language program in operation, despite the campus's closure.

Effects on education

Although Steele argues that the biggest factor in the quality and outcome of education is the students themselves, he acknowledged that changes resulting from budget cuts hurt the entire institute. Increasingly, there is pressure on faculty members to balance more students in their classes.

"There have been a lot of trends leading toward reducing faculty opportunities for interaction with their students from more and more reliance on adjunct and part-time faculty instead of full-time tenured research-stream faculty," said Steele.

Steele also contends that rising tuition fees have a negative effect on post-secondary students. "Not because it takes \$50 or \$100 out of their pocket," explained Steele, "but it leaves them much more anxious about their choices."

Steele feels that even marginal increases make students more sensitive to the fact that school is costing them money; wanting to guarantee a return on their tuition investments, students tend to narrow their educational and career options.

"So if they spend a little more tuition," said Steele, "they stop considering fields that might have been great avenues for self-exploration or development. Students are more likely to gravitate toward programs where they can see the career outcomes because there's this tuition price tag attached."

Cuts made at universities nationwide

\$1.7 billion

lost in endowed funding and the stock market crash at the University of Toronto (U of T)

\$67 million

cut from U of T's budget

\$12 million

lost in tuition payments at the University of New Brunswick (UNB)

14%

decline in enrolment over a four-year period at UNB

5%

cut from Queen's University's budget in the past two years

15%

cut in total from the Queen's budget over a three-year period



KELLY CHAU GRAPHICS

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On March 9, the federal budget survived its first vote, with 214:84 MPs rejecting the Bloc's amendment to improve EI benefits and stop tax benefits for the oil industry.



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Parliament resumes to deliberate budget



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ERIC MERKLEY
STAFF WRITER

On March 4, Prime Minister Stephen Harper's Conservative government tabled its budget, ending a two-month hiatus after the controversial decision to prorogue Parliament.

The budget marked the last year of Canada's Economic Action Plan and charted a course of fiscal restraint for the foreseeable future.

It found savings by closing tax loopholes, freezing administrative growth and salaries, as well as limiting spending growth in certain areas such as defence.

"We will have savings of about \$17.6 billion over five years," said Jim Flaherty, minister of finance, to reporters prior to his speech in the House of Commons.

"That aids us to be very close to balance in 2014-15."

Opposition parties were critical of the lack of new initiatives to help a still fragile economy recover and Flaherty's weak track record on economic projections.

"There's no way to get rid of the deficit without crippling our whole fabric, without an increase in taxes," said James Turk, executive director of the Canadian Association of University Teachers, to reporters.

The Liberals argued that a budget contingency was needed in case the recession rebounds in the near term, which is no sure thing with a fragile economy north and south of the border.

While Liberal leader Michael Ignatieff disapproved of a budget he characterized as having a "lack of ambition" and an abundance of gimmicks, he was not willing to trigger an election.

-With files from Emma Godmere, Canadian University Press

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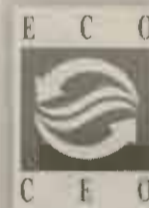
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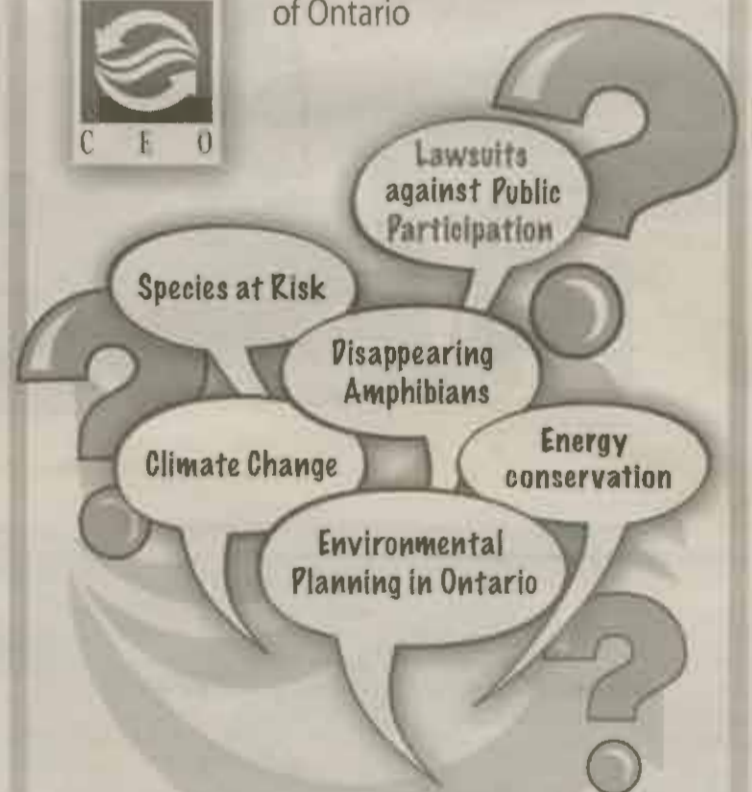
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INTERNATIONAL

International Editor Paula Millar • pmillar@thecord.ca

A week of dialogue and debate

On March 1, the sixth annual international Israeli Apartheid Week commenced amidst widespread protest and condemnation. The week-long event inspired passionate discussion and critique from both parties

PRAVEEN ALWIS
STAFF WRITER

Barry Rubin, a professor at the Israel's Interdisciplinary Centre (IDC), visited Laurier's Waterloo campus last week for a speaking engagement organized by the independent advocacy group Israel on Campus (IOC). During his hour-long lecture, Rubin

presented a stark portrait of Arab-Israeli political conflict and focused on what he believes are the many obstacles in the way of Middle Eastern peace and stability.

As director of the IDC's Global Research in International Affairs (GLORIA) centre and a fellow at their International Policy Institute for Counter-Terrorism, Rubin has authored several books on the subject of Middle Eastern policy and political history. In addition, he has written for publications such as the *Wall Street Journal* and the *Globe and Mail*.

Rubin's explanation of Israeli-Arab tensions focused largely on the inherent flaws in Arab political ideologies, which have emerged over the past 50 years.

Rubin linked the core causes of political tension in the Middle East to the dueling doctrines of Pan-Arab Nationalism and revolutionary Islamism. Pan Arab Nationalism emerged in the early 1950s as a response to the core question of Middle Eastern history – as phrased by Rubin – “Why are we behind?”

The answer was, as Rubin explained, to “expel Western influence, destroy Israel and to create mobilization states ... dictatorships which promoted [Arab] unity.” It is what Rubin termed a failed doctrine, citing economic indicators which place most Arab states below much of the world outside of sub-Saharan Africa.

The failure of Pan-Arab Nationalism has seen the rapid rise of radical, revolutionary Islamism, which Rubin implied is a logical extension of the anti-Western, anti-Israel principles underlying nationalist ideology.

“For 50 years you've been beating your head against a stone wall. The liberal reformists say stop beating your head against a stone wall, try something different. The Islamists say you haven't been beating your head against a stone wall hard enough. In other words, it's not that your goals and perceptions are wrong, it's that you haven't gone far enough.”

According to Rubin, both doctrines require that Israel remains positioned as an oppositional force. This is because he believes that hope for peace through concessions to Islamist organizations such as Hamas are futile.

“There is not going to be any quick and clear resolution to the Arab-Israeli, Palestinian-Israeli conflict....

“

We're used to the idea... that when an idea or structure doesn't work it's replaced. This didn't happen in the Middle East because the regimes learned to stay in power.”

–Professor Barry Rubin

The prospects for getting a signed agreement which will end the conflict are zero,” Rubin stated bluntly. “Hamas's declared aim is genocide of Jews in Israel.”

Expanding on the role of Hamas, Rubin alluded to Western protests against the Israeli occupation of the West Bank. “[Hamas] thinks they're winning over Western public opinion. They look at what's going on at Canadian campuses and elsewhere and they think everyone is swinging to our side ... so why should we make compromises or concessions?” Rubin did not make further comments on allegations of Israeli human rights abuse.

Daniel Stober, an organizing member of Israel on Campus, echoed similar views concerning combating anti-Israeli sentiment on university grounds. “I think there's a lot of misinformation out there, so it's important to present a balanced view. IOC's greater goal is to educate the public about Israel and to engage in respectful debates and dialogue.”

AMALIA BIRO
CORD INTERNATIONAL

There are few subjects in the international sphere that incite as much emotion or spark such heated debate as the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Khaled Abu Toameh, a journalist who covers the conflict from the front lines, shared his perspective on the dispute and his opinion on possible solutions this past Friday when he spoke at the Laurier campus.

The event was one of a series held at 23 university campuses across Canada as part of the Size Doesn't Matter campaign, which was launched to counter Israel Apartheid Week. Toameh's talk in particular was sponsored by Israel on Campus.

Toameh, who lives in Jerusalem, is the West Bank and Gaza correspondent for the *Jerusalem Post* and has produced several documentaries on Palestinian affairs.

Calling himself an “Israeli-Arab-Muslim-Palestinian,” he emphasized his personal connection to both Israel and Palestine to provide context to his subsequent observations on the conflict.

During his speech, Toameh highlighted the historical reasons behind the conflict and why Palestinians have lost faith in the peace process.

He emphasized that while he does not have a ready-made solution, his vision of the ideal is a climate where “if there is a Jew who would like to live in Palestine he is welcome,

and if there is an Arab who would like to live in Israel he is also welcome. In an ideal situation, peace means that people can live wherever they want.”

He acknowledged this is far from the reality of the situation.

He spoke of two communities who live in fear of each other, disengaged with one another and content to live as two solitudes. When pressed by an audience member about how to move forward, Toameh's frank response was that he did not have the answer, but that it would require leadership that strives for peace, justice and equality in the region.

The talk was attended by numerous people who supported either side of the conflict. Predictably, tensions rose during the question and answer period.

Both sides raised contentious issues that led to heated debates

which only served to emphasize the mistrust and tension Toameh had discussed earlier, yet offered a chance for dialogue.

When the subject of Israeli Apartheid was brought up, he argued against the term apartheid, but instead chose to use the term discrimination.

When it was suggested by an

observer that Toameh was at Laurier to represent one side, he replied that he did not represent anyone but himself.

“If you Google search me, you will see that I have been campaigning for good government and democracy in Palestine more than the people sitting here on campus. Let's calm down and try to find things in

common.”

In the end, Toameh's message was one of the need for enduring conflict management and positive change.

He was adamant that mistakes have been made on both sides and that conflict resolution is impossible without the restoration of trust and an element of co-operation.



TRINA SCHMIDT GRAPHICS EDITOR

"[Sunday's] voting makes it clear that the future of Iraq belongs to the people of Iraq." - U.S. President Barack Obama

Iraqi election

NIKICIA PHILLIPS
CORD INTERNATIONAL

Although it may be too early to stage another Mission Accomplished photo-op, Iraq is headed towards democracy, as 62 per cent of the 18.9 million eligible voters were believed to have turned out to vote in the Iraqi national parliamentary elections this past Sunday.

Despite several incidences of violence, the 2010 Iraqi election is being hailed as an overall success.

The March 7 election was Iraq's fifth nationwide vote since the removal of former Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein in 2003, but it was the second full four-year term parliamentary election.

Iraqis all over the world participated in the election, with voters in the United States, United Kingdom, Turkey, Iran and Canada casting early ballots this past Friday.

Over 6,000 candidates from 86 factions, identifiable by their respective Shiite, Sunni and Kurdish platforms, competed for power. Nuri al-Maliki, the current prime minister and leader of the State of Law Coalition political party, was reported to be ahead in the polls on Sunday. However, preliminary results will not be available until later this week.

Final votes may take weeks to be tallied, and it could be months before a government is formally instituted due to the overall fragility of Iraqi politics.

Despite previous criticisms, al-Maliki is generally seen as an assertive yet co-operative leader who the

U.S. can work with. While his cross-sectarian party is typically able to secure many Shia votes in the South, the Iraqi National Alliance is their biggest competition in the region.

However, the popularity of the Iraqi National Alliance party has decreased recently with reports of close ties to Iran.

This election proved to be less divided by distinct political blocs than previous ones. Iraqis were able to vote for individual candidates as opposed to only political parties, which often represent unified political and religious interests.

The greater variety in vote choice is due to the implementation of an open list ballot system where voters were presented with the option of selecting an individual candidate or a specific political party.

Conversely, in the 2005 national election, Iraqis could only vote for a particular political bloc as the names of party leaders were hidden to prevent assassination attempts.

Even with the dozens of attacks and 38 fatalities arising from this election, Iraq is noticeably less violent than it was a few years ago.

The presence of American troops has decreased and much of the country is now relatively safe. The Obama administration plans to withdraw all American soldiers by the end of the summer, but will leave 50,000 American officials to oversee government operations until 2011.

The world, especially the U.S., is closely following this parliamentary vote, as they view it as a test of Iraq's newfound democracy and a defining moment in Middle Eastern history.

“ [Democracy] will mean there will have been some success in Iraq that we can point to for the vast investment and the vast expenditure of blood and treasure that the U.S. has put in.”

-Fareed Zakaria, CNN

“ Their participation demonstrates that [Iraqis] have [chosen] to shape their future through the political process.”

- U.S. President Barack Obama

Chile trembles under the pressure

DEANNA SIM
CORD INTERNATIONAL

At 3:34 local time on Feb. 27, an 8.8 magnitude earthquake hit Chile. In the chaos that followed, cars lay overturned in the streets and few survivors were found amidst the building rubble. Today, the newly homeless of Chile inhabit the streets.

That day, nearby countries also felt tremors during the three-minute-long earthquake. To make matters worse, a tsunami arrived in the coastal central region soon after the earthquake subsided.

Plate tectonics are something Chileans know quite well. In 1960, Chile experienced the most powerful earthquake ever recorded.

Due to the country's frequent experiences with earthquakes, Chile considered itself well prepared for such an event. Furthermore, the structural stability of Chilean buildings and other similar factors suggested that Chile was in a satisfactory position to handle a natural disaster comparable to the Haitian earthquake of January 2010.

Despite their preparedness, over 802 people were killed and more than 1.5 million have been displaced from their homes in this latest disaster.

Currently, Chile is experiencing a change in leadership. President Michelle Bachelet leads the left-leaning government that was in power when the earthquake struck.

Bachelet initially denied the need for aid from other countries and her first response was to deploy aid only via the military. However, once the aftermath of the earthquake became apparent, countries like Pakistan were quick to lend a hand.

President-elect Sebastian Pinera is the face of hope for many who experienced the effects of the earthquake. He has already provided his chosen governors with instructions related to dealing with the aftermath of the disaster. The current process of transitioning from Bachelet's government to Pinera's leaves Chile in a unique position.

This is because Bachelet must work with Pinera's future government in order to continue the transition. At the same time, the parties must also work together to effectively provide aid to those suffering from the effects of the disaster.

Compared to other Latin American countries, Chile has significant income inequalities. Depending on how the government responds to those affected by the earthquake, the gap between the poor and more fortunate may increase.

While strict building codes may have saved many Chileans from fatality, the earthquake has been classified as the fifth largest since 1990.

Regardless, the uniqueness of this disaster stems from the earthquake's birth of a tsunami, which threatened several coastal countries - including Japan and Hawaii, transforming this relatively localized event into a global concern.



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FEATURE

Features Editor Shannon Busta • sbusta@thecord.ca

The quarterlife crisis

I have dreamed of this moment since I was 12 years old. I would finally be a grown-up, free to go wherever I desired, be whoever I could possibly imagine. A decade later, I am months away from this glorious moment of graduation; however, the reality seems more bleak than I had hoped. With little drive to be anything in particular, I am significantly less enthused about my ensuing "freedom". As students, we are made to appear as though we are prepared for life, but at times I have no idea what I'm doing.

KIMBERLY ELWORTHY
OPINION EDITOR

This phenomenon is called the quarterlife crisis.

Many of us are familiar with the midlife crisis – when our parents make youthful, irrational decisions to buy motorcycles or marry people significantly younger than themselves; however, the quarterlife crisis, which affects people ranging from 15 to 30, goes under the radar.

The book *Quarterlife Crisis: The Unique Challenges of Life in Your Twenties* by Alexandra Robbins and Abby Wilner, which was published in 2001, was the first to acknowledge the changing developmental issues of our generation.

We are a generation of children who have been pandered to by our hard-working parents who have wanted to give us the world. Consequently, we can have whatever we want and be whoever we want – the only thing is, how do we know what we want?

Contrasted to the wandering, directionless youth of the 1960s, iconicized through Benjamin Braddock's character in *The Graduate*, our generation is one that has thrown away the comforts and routine of mundane suburban life, only to find that a metropolitan existence is one that is fairly empty and unfulfilling.

Having a significant period of time to focus on the self, therefore adopting rather selfish tendencies, can leave people feeling that their own purpose and meaning has much to be desired. One-night stands, corporate jobs and unlimited consumer spending have brought little value and personal reward to the youth of today.

Furthermore, our generation will take a longer time to "grow up," i.e. finding your dream career, buying a home, getting married and having children. Essentially, the transition into adulthood has lengthened,

resulting in anxiety during our early and mid-20s, as there is little stability in our lives.

The anxiety and stress of the quarterlife crisis is not to be dealt with lightly, and is worthy of some serious attention. As students face extreme change upon graduation, it's an important time to evaluate life, while the university has free resources to help you cope.

Finding your dream job

Looking for a professional position for the first time is daunting and extremely time consuming. Tara Orchard, career consulting co-ordinator at Laurier's Career Centre, said that there are things that students can actively be doing to find the right job.

"The bottom line is to figure out what you want to do," said Orchard.

Laurier's Career Centre has several resources, such as resume and cover letter critiques, and it also runs several workshops that continue into March and April. The Career Services website offers job postings, which include relevant postings for summer, graduating and alumni employment.

Orchard also recommends that students start networking and use new media to get ahead. Social networking sites such as www.linkedin.com, the Laurier Career Centre profile, blogging and twitter programs such as Laurier's Career Chatter provide up-to-the-minute career opportunities.

"It's about clarity, visibility and being active, and [online networking sites] are more useful for finding your professional job as opposed to finding whatever job comes around," said Orchard.

While websites like workopolis.com, monster.com and eluta.com are all great places to begin, Orchard stressed that they are actually passive ways of job hunting.

Orchard recommends that you, "spend 25 per cent of your time on [Monster and Workopolis] type of job

searches and job boards but then spend the rest of your time on more active job searching – so networking, connecting with people through social media and researching companies."

All you need is 15 minutes a day to make contacts and actively pursue the career you have already worked so hard to get.

Getting personal advice

Michael Kimmel, author of *Guyland: The Perilous World Where Boys Become Men*, said in an interview for *Eye Weekly*, a news and entertainment publication published in Toronto, "If you feel you're in crisis, this is a great opportunity to draft a five-year plan with steady concrete goals to help you get to where you want to be. Anyone can transform their life in just a few years."

It is possible to understand and overcome this period in life as long as you are willing to make changes and get help.

Laurier's Counseling Services is a great place to start, as it is a free resource for students. Life coaching can help you prioritize and determine solid goals to provide more structure to your future. It's also important to look to family and friends for support – in many cases, they are going through or have gone through something similar to you.

Professors and academic advisors are also available to discuss education opportunities and how to overcome many of the hardships students face throughout university.

At this age we are at a pivotal moment in our lives. This is a time that requires thought and evaluation, and we have to use all the information we have gained to make the best decisions for ourselves.

In order to get through this challenging time, be honest and open with yourself and your peers about what's going on in your life and be active in wanting to change things.

It's true that our generation has been handed life on a silver platter, but that doesn't mean we should overlook the burden of opportunity.





The psycholo

Laurier Golden Hawks have not been strangers to injury. Sports Editor **Justin Fauteux** examines the lack of discus



YUSUF KIDWAI FILE PHOTO

An athlete's passion for sport leads to extreme disappointment when the individual ends up out of the game for weeks on end.

Athletes train incredibly hard year-round in order to have their bodies in peak physical condition.

But no matter how many hours they spend in the gym or how many miles they run on the track, every athlete is susceptible to injuries that could potentially render them unable to take part in the sport for which they have so much passion.

While it is easy to measure the pain of these injuries in broken bones, torn ligaments and damaged muscles, what is often overlooked is the mental effect that a major injury has on an athlete.

"Athletes I've seen that have been injured have come back and are a shell of the player they were before," said Mario Halapir, coach of the men's soccer team at Laurier. "Mentally, some people just can't deal with the fact that they got injured and they're always afraid of re-injury."

Jill Tracey, an assistant professor in Laurier's kinesiology and physical education department who provides sports psychology consulting to the Golden Hawks' women's hockey team as well as both curling teams, explained the severity of sports injury.

"When someone gets injured, it's not just physical, it's an injury to the entire person, and traditionally we haven't focused enough on how someone is healing psychologically," said Tracey.

These psychological issues often carry over into the rehabilitation process, which most people believe is strictly about regaining muscular strength.

However, the psychological aspect of the process is just as important, because an athlete is never truly

recovered until he or she is back to normal both physically and mentally.

"We talk about [injury] as part of the inherent risk in sport, but that doesn't mean that you come in knowing or expecting to get injured ... so it's pretty hard for most people to deal with," continued Tracey.

Athletes react to injuries in different ways; many struggle through a variety of mental blocks when they get injured.

It is only through overcoming these psychological issues that an athlete can make a complete recovery.

Hardships of an injury

The most immediate mental concern of an injured athlete is the initial shock of the injury.

One second a player is competing in the heat of a game, the next they're lying on the field, ice or court, suddenly without the function of a part of their body.

"So many thoughts run through your head," said Josh Bishop, a fourth-year receiver on Laurier's men's football team.

Bishop has suffered two major injuries during his time with the Golden Hawks: a hamstring pull in his first year and a pinched nerve in his back this past season.

"I really start to think, 'is this going to set me back? Are scouts going to start calling me injury-prone?'"

"I also start to think of my parents up in the stands and how worried they must be, and then of course I think about my teammates and start to think, 'Am I letting them down?'"

The anxiety Bishop is referring to doesn't stop once the player has been helped off the field. According to

Tracey, many athletes go through serious self-doubt throughout their recovery process.

"It's understandable that the athlete is feeling pretty down and pretty anxious," she said. "They're anxious about how long they're going to be out, how severe the injury is, and another big worry is losing fitness and losing their place on the team. That's not just initial shock, that's a lot to deal with."

The athlete also has to deal with the simple fact that they are no longer able to compete in the sport that they are so passionate about and have put so much work into.

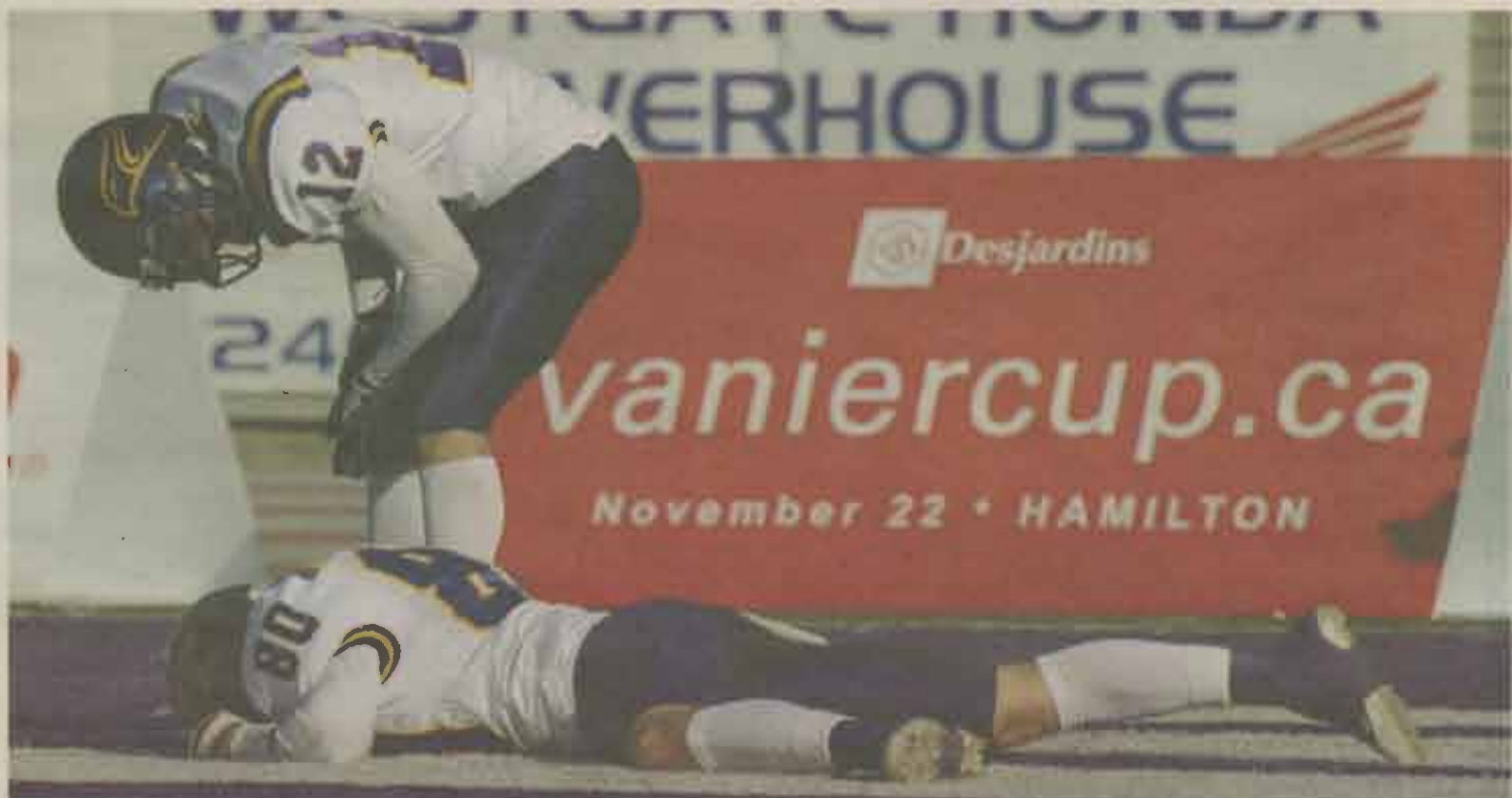
"Initially, I think it deflates them completely," said Halapir. "No competitive athlete wants to miss a minute of training or playing and when you get limited by a serious injury, the initial disappointment of not being able to compete is really hard for people to take."

The process of rehab itself can also take a massive toll on an athlete's psyche, as these players are used to a specific training regimen, focused on making them bigger, faster and stronger, and when they sustain an injury they are reduced to the most basic of exercises.

Being sidelined

After an injury athletes go from a regular routine of team-oriented training to spending their time working one-on-one with a trainer in a therapy room.

According to Tracey, this can lead to the athlete feeling isolated from their teammates; and considering the amount of time an athlete spends with their team and how much most



RYAN STEWART FILE PHOTO

Receiver Brian Malott (12) looks over teammate Troy Leach (80) seconds before a trainer runs onto the field during a game against Western.



YUSUF KIOWAI PHOTO

Psychology of injury

injury this past year, and despite talk of physical rehab, discussion about how being sidelined can affect the psyche

players identify themselves with the sport they play, this sudden change can alter a person's entire demeanour.

"Generally [an athlete] has really close friendships with [his or her] teammates, and then the injury occurs and that person is separated from them," said Tracey. "That's really hard for people to deal with.... You might see a total or partial change in their personality. You might see a different person altogether."

"Obviously, right away, you're down on yourself," added Bishop. "The only time I really feel like I'm helping the team is when I'm out there on the field and all I could think about is how much I wanted to be out there battling with the guys."

The people in an injured athlete's life play a substantial role in ensuring a full mental recovery.

According to Tracey, the trainers, coaches, teammates, friends and family must all ensure that the injured player never feels alone and still feels as though they are part of the team.

"The support behind me throughout my injury has been huge," said Laurier quarterback Luke Thompson, who is currently working through rehabilitating a torn ACL that he suffered in the third game of this past season.

"I know if I ever need anything, whether it's football or rehab or anything about life, the guys, the coaches, or the trainers are going to be there for me."

Getting back in the game

Once an athlete has completed rehab, their next mental obstacle becomes getting ready to return to game action.

For some, this is as simple as being declared physically ready to play by the doctors, but for others getting back into game shape can be a psychological struggle.

The last time the athlete would have played in a game situation, they sustained the injury that kept them out for so long.

This issue extends to professional sports, where the athletes are given an incredible amount of resources to help with their recovery.

Tracey cites the example of Cincinnati Bengals quarterback Carson Palmer, who suffered a torn ACL in January of 2006.

"[Palmer] had a very aggressive rehab and physically recovered very well. However, he was very vocal about his difficulty in recovering mentally," said Tracey.

"He said that even though he was cleared to play and he had gotten back all of his functions, he felt that he was not psychologically ready to play and he actually delayed his return."

In the past, Palmer's reluctance to return after he was declared physically ready to play would have brought about the attitude that he was weak in some way.

However, as the research done in the field of sports psychology becomes more prevalent in the world of elite sports, it has become clear that a player returning from injury before he or she is mentally ready is likely to lead to a recurrence of problems.

If an athlete returns without adequate mental preparation, he or she has an increased chance of either aggravating an existing injury or sustaining a new one.

"There's a natural hesitation, a

tentativeness ... you risk further injury because if you're putting extra attention into favouring one thing, you're more likely to injure something else," said Tracey.

Stressing that since all athletes respond differently, Tracey noted that some risk reinjury by attempting to perform at their previous level.

"Some people come back and try to do too much. They come back and really go overboard when they first get back [in the game], trying to prove that they are fully recovered."

For athletes it can be difficult to truly gauge whether or not they have made a full recovery because there is no way to simulate a game situation.

"It's definitely in the back of your mind," said Bishop. "You can't help but think, 'Am I going to reinjure myself?' Instead of just focusing on the play itself, you have something else that you're thinking about."

A full recovery

While players like Bishop have managed to make full psychological recoveries, sometimes the mental damage caused by an injury is too great for an athlete to handle.

"I've seen a few players go through it and everyone reacts differently," said Halapir, who had 10 knee surgeries during his playing career.

"Some players who go through it end up being a more competitive athlete.... But in others [the injury] is definitely still on their mind when they come back and they just can't seem to get over it."

While the work done by athletic therapists remains an integral part of the healing process, focusing on physical rehabilitation alone doesn't

“Mentally, some people just can't deal with the fact that they got injured and they're always afraid of reinjury.”

—Mario Halapir, Laurier men's soccer coach

always make for a recovery of the entire person.

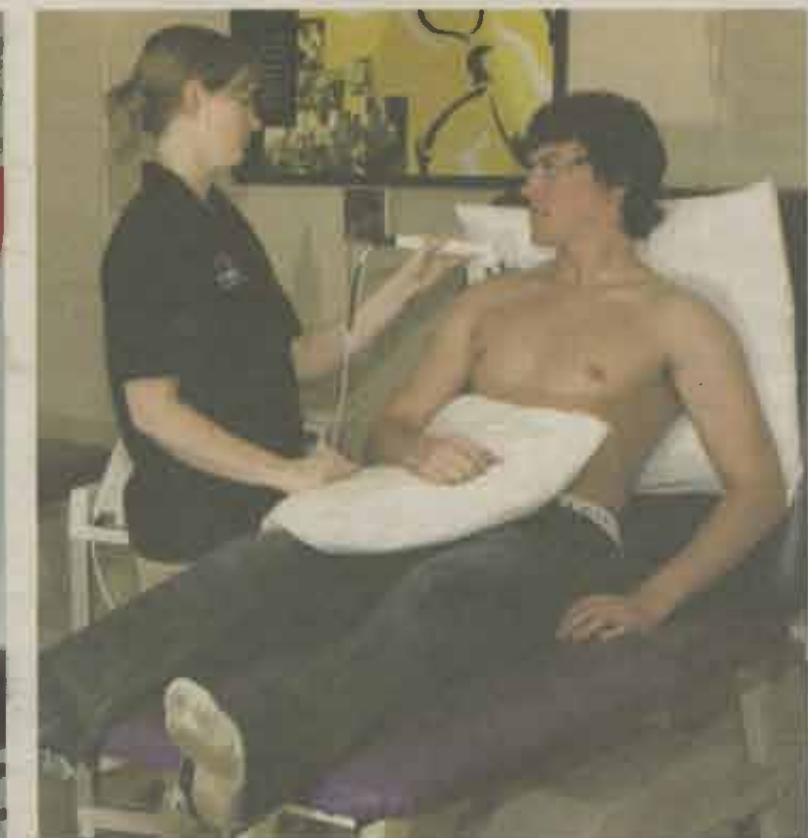
According to Tracey, a large part of the mental struggles that athletes go through is due to the fact that many simply don't talk about psychological difficulties.

"It's a shame because we would be much better off if more people going through rehab would talk about how hard it is to come back mentally," she said.

"Talking through the fears and anxieties and working on strategies to deal with them as they may arise is probably the most effective way to overcome those mental blocks."

Although recognizing the challenges, Bishop remains optimistic that athletes like himself can successfully recover from injuries.

"After taking the time to go through the full healing process, I think it's possible to come back and be the same guy you were, maybe even better."



NICK LACHANCE PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

When an athlete is sidelined, athletic therapists take an active role not just in terms of physical healing but psychologically as well.



YUSUF KIOWAI PHOTO

Trainers are present at every game, ready to help an athlete at any time, like Chima Ihekwoaba, who suffered a severe shoulder injury.

ARTS

Arts Editor Rebecca Vasluianu • rvasluianu@thecord.ca

Wonderland: Without the wonder

Cord Arts Staff **Katie Flood, Mike Lakusiak, Sarah Murphy and Wade Thompson** dissect director Tim Burton's Disney adaptation of a classic story *Alice in Wonderland* in 3D. While the film has a unique twist on the traditional tale and incorporates some unique characters, it ultimately falls short in terms of its visual effects, style and reliance on big-name actors. *Written by Arts Editor Rebecca Vasluianu*

Alice in Wonderland

Directed by: Tim Burton

Starring: Johnny Depp, Mia Wasikowska, Helena Bonham Carter and Anne Hathaway

Release date: Mar. 5, 2010

★ ★ ★

Performances

While the characterization of Alice by Mia Wasikowska was nothing groundbreaking, it was one of the most solid performances of the film, simply because Burton chose not to rely on one of his favourite actresses or a recognizable celebrity in general.

"I'm just glad it wasn't Dakota Fanning or Lindsay Lohan," said third-year English and film studies student Wade Thompson.

From there on, the rest of the key characters failed to impress.

Johnny Depp as the Mad Hatter was simply confusing, whether it was the fact that his accent changed with every scene – ranging from Scottish to British to even pirate – or that his role was expanded beyond need.

Though his first scene, the tea party, was quite strong, featuring Depp walking over the table and giving a suitably deranged impression of the role, the character quickly became overdone, making the Mad Hatter come across more troubled and sad than mad.

"If they didn't focus so much on the Mad Hatter, the other characters would just sort of fill that role and the Mad Hatter would have slipped into the supporting cast and not the lead," said Thompson.

The film continued on the theme of Burton's favourites giving sub-par renditions of the beloved characters.

Helena Bonham Carter, much like Depp, gave a performance as the Red Queen that quickly dwindled and faded.

"I love her and I think it was great what she was doing at the beginning but when her only line in the movie was 'Off with her head!' I thought 'please shut up,'" third-year English and history student Sarah Murphy explained.

Mike Lakusiak, a second-year English student, agreed, stating that she is known for playing defining roles like Bellatrix LeStrange in the *Harry Potter* series, but this performance was not in the same league, often becoming tired.

And though Anne Hathaway did a commendable job as the White Queen, it was agreed that she often relied on the airy, bubbly queen persona that Amy Adams channeled so well in *Enchanted*, not daring to go any further with the role.

The voice acting was impressive, however, utilizing some of Burton's key talents like Stephen Fry who played the Cheshire Cat and Christopher Lee as the Jabberwocky.

Undoubtedly, one of the film's biggest disappointments was the blue caterpillar (Alan Rickman), which took on a largely philosophical, teacher-like role, rather

than that of a snickering, elusive and quizzical creature.

Storyline

The concept of Alice coming back to Wonderland was a unique twist on the beloved classic and had immense promise; unfortunately, it failed to go in an exciting direction.

"The story sort of got lost in the fact that they were focusing on their main actors who were playing characters, and they focused on those characters even though the story could have been better without them," Murphy explained.

The film revolved around the characters of the Mad Hatter and the two queens, taking the story on a bizarre ride, considering the tale is meant to be about Alice.

Thompson suggested that the filmmakers could have drawn more parallels from Alice's life into

Wonderland, carrying over some of the issues and characters she was faced before she fell down the rabbit hole.

For instance, he suggested that Bonham Carter could have been Alice's hot-headed future mother-in-law as well as the Red Queen, connecting the negative role to Wonderland.

Lakusiak agreed, stating, "It would've been really effective to have that crossover because she was supposed to take the lessons she'd learned and transfer them."

Visual effects

To some extent, even the visual direction, something that was supposed to make the film stand out, was unimpressive.

While there were moments – such as the opening scene in Alice's real-life, her first entrance into Wonderland and the final battle scene – that flexed the imagination, the entire film failed to amaze.

"Wonderland was really built up because it's such a fantastical thing and

I think when she first fell down, it did not meet my expectations," said second-year English student Katie Flood.

Not only did it not artistically channel Wonderland as fully as it could have, the computer-generated imagery (CGI) looked sloppy at times.

Thompson noted that the imagery was "so bad in some scenes that it was hard to watch."

He referred to Burton's general inclination towards more traditional graphic effects like stop-motion and even claymation, arguing that the director could have improved the film by keeping it simple.

Other times, it was more of an issue of unnecessary CGI alterations made to characters.

Particularly, Crispin Glover as the Knave of Hearts' distorted, long body was strange and disturbing, as well as the Red Queen's huge head, which seemed unnecessary.

Thompson noted that these oddities would not have been obvious or even necessary in the first place if the filmmakers had properly developed each character.

Drawing on the example of the Cheshire Cat, he explained that whether the CGI was outstanding or not, the quality of the character throughout the film made it unimportant.

In terms of the 3D experience, it was agreed that the effect was neither necessary nor all that impressive. At times, it was difficult to tell that the film was actually in 3D, but at others, the effect was so intense, that it was unpleasant to watch.

"There were definitely parts of it when I saw the value of it but for most of it, I didn't see the need," said Lakusiak.

Thompson agreed, explaining that 3D can be good but *Alice in Wonderland* used it more as a gimmick than an effective visual tactic.

Overall, it was an easy agreement that the film was a disappointment in more areas than visual effects; it tried to unnecessarily develop characters that shouldn't be a focus and created a story that was completely unmemorable.



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March 30



YUSUF KIDWAI PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER
Canadian singer-songwriter Jay Malinowski entertained a crowd at Starlight last night with music from his album released on Feb. 16.

Jay Malinowski speaks to The Cord about going solo

Bedouin Soundclash's frontman began his tour on March 3; the band is on a break but hopes to write more music soon

DEANNA SIM
CORD ARTS

For Bedouin Soundclash frontman Jay Malinowski, this past year has been one of many firsts.

Malinowski not only completed his debut solo album *Bright Lights and Bruises*, but on March 3 he launched his first solo tour in Peterborough.

Last night, Malinowski made a stop in Waterloo, performing to a crowd at the Starlight.

Before coming to Waterloo, Malinowski expressed his excitement about being back in the city in an interview with The Cord on Monday.

"I'm looking forward to coming back. I'll get acquainted with the people of Waterloo again," he said, explaining that he often visited the city with Bedouin Soundclash.

On beginning his solo tour, Malinowski stated, "It's been good."

"It's been such a different experience than being with Bedouin. Just being alone on stage has taught me again how you have to play to the crowds," he added.

Having played countless shows with Bedouin Soundclash, Malinowski has been able to transfer a lot of that experience to the solo spotlight, but explained that performing solo poses its own unique challenges.

"It's different. You have to reassess everything because it's just you, so I'm sort of re-learning how to play to 50 people a night or

100 people a night," Malinowski explained.

And while the intimate experience has been positive for the musician, he notes that he misses his bandmates already.

"I'm so comfortable with [Bedouin bassist] Eon. We're best friends. Being on the road is just like having a family vibe. I miss the inside jokes and this is just a little more isolating than touring with the band," Malinowski admitted.

Bedouin Soundclash has been on break for a few months. In fact, the drastic change to an average life after being on tour for so long is what inspired Malinowski's new solo album.

"There are many changes that take place when you've just been living sort of cavalierly for that long," he said.

"I basically came back and my personal life had completely changed, so there's a few things I had to say.... Writing songs helped me through it."

Malinowski explained that the sound of *Bright Lights and Bruises* is darker and doesn't have the reggae feel that Bedouin Soundclash is known for.

When asked, he explained that the music he's written on his own has more personal meaning and strong emotion than the work he created with Bedouin Soundclash.

As a singer-songwriter, Malinowski explained that he is always searching for a chance to write music.

"I basically came back and my personal life had completely changed, so there's a few things I had to say.... Writing songs helped me through it."

— Musician Jay Malinowski on completing his tour with Bedouin Soundclash

"The reason I did the record was to just start writing again for the purpose of writing and enjoying myself," he said.

Malinowski added that he has every intention to go back and write with Bedouin Soundclash when they decide to begin creating new music again.

When asked about future endeavours and goals for the future, Malinowski replied humbly.

"I'm just taking things one day at a time and I just want to keep writing as long as I possibly can," he said.

"Life's been just a huge gift given to me in terms of having the opportunity to do it," he said.

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Anthropology 101: In theatre form

ALANNA WALLACE
IN DEPTH EDITOR

It is rare to see the Theatre Auditorium packed with students ready to watch a play written and performed by relatively inexperienced actors, and it is even more rare that the stage becomes a mechanism for academics generally allocated to the classroom.

This past weekend, the Anthropology 101 class took the stage to present three showings of the aptly-titled ethnographic theatre production *OMG!* The production attempted to call attention to the impact of technology on our daily lives.

The students were led by Laurier professor of anthropology

Magdalena Kazubowski-Houston, but the students wrote the script, according to co-facilitator and ethnographer Shawn Kazubowski-Houston, a professional theatre artist.

The Kazubowski-Houstons "helped guide [the students], got them to do improvisations and even did some training with the actors" before the students themselves took the role of writing the script, linking the performance with ethnography and technology.

"If there is a message, it would be let's talk about technology and what role does it have in our day-to-day lives," said Kazubowski-Houston. "We're not very critical in our interaction with technology, so let's talk about it."

Using this theme of technology, the play chronicles the life of Tyler, an electronics store drone cast into unfortunate circumstances when a giant cell phone placard crashes on his head.

After the trauma, Tyler awakes, unfamiliar to the technology around him. He endows his cell phone and laptop with superlative powers, convinced that these devices grant him powers that no other mortal possesses. Under this assumption, he has convinced himself that he is, in fact, God.

Despite this rather clear summary of the play's plot, it took a fine-tooth comb to sift through the convoluted writing and massive number of unnecessary set changes when watching it live.

The production's finer moments came during the beginning of the play, when the cast seemed more at ease with the parts they were playing.

The lead role of the play was thrust onto the shoulders of Mike McMurran, who often channeled the characteristics of Jim Carrey, exemplifying his on-stage charisma.

Although failing to achieve that level of comedy, he did the best that he could with what was written.

The strongest performance of the evening belonged to Landon Lewis. Playing Howard, best friend to the ill-fated Tyler, he wafted through his lines with confident flow.

Besides the enthusiastic cast, the production really didn't excel in many other areas. The stage wasn't

used as effectively as it could have been.

Too many set changes led to a lapse in the fluidity of the plot and some dated, borrowed comedy bits allowed for the overall message of the play to be lost in place of a cheap laugh.

Still, a dialogue was born from the translation of metaphors relating to technology, which was the obvious goal of the production from the onset.

So, in spite of the production's shortcomings and an obvious amateur touch, the play was successful in delivering its message of the entrenchment of technology in our lives and its capacity to hinder our relationships, often providing a laugh along the way.



NICK LACHANCE PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

Student actors in an anthropology class took the stage on Thursday, Friday and Saturday in a production meant to display the profound effect technology has on our lives.

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Chatting with OLP

The band tells *The Cord* about their upcoming tour

DAVID GOLDBERG
WEB EDITOR



COURTESY OF SONY MUSIC CANADA

Our Lady Peace has become one of those permanent fixtures in Canadian music culture that fans will always remember for their stand-out albums.

The Toronto-based quartet has changed members a few times over their career that spans 18 years and seven studio albums.

Their biggest hit was "Clumsy", from the album with the same name that was released in 1997; an entire generation grew up with that album and its memorable gems like "4 a.m." and "Thief".

OLP has never had trouble packing the clubs and theatres they tour for faithful fans.

Now, after all this time, they're giving fans another chance to enjoy their music live with their *An Evening with Our Lady Peace* that began yesterday in Montreal.

The format pits OLP as the opening act for their own performances; something fans will be eager to witness.

The band spends consecutive nights at each venue on the road, and at each show they will play a single album all the way through, have an intermission, and then come back on stage to give concertgoers a full set list.

"People have been asking us to do this for years," bassist Duncan Coutts told *The Cord* in a phone interview.

He explained that the band understands how special this would

be, especially for their hard-core listeners.

"It was almost selfish on our part because we've never done it before."

Without argument, it's a testament to a musician's talent when they can offer up such a legendary set list – when people come to see one band run the show.

This was most likely one of the deciding factors when Olympic organizing committees asked OLP to perform at the medal ceremonies for the Vancouver 2010 games.

They performed alongside other Canadian acts like Arkells on Feb. 17.

No Canadians were awarded medals on that day; however, Coutts said it was an amazing experience.

"It was everything you could hope it to be. It was an honour to be a part of [the Olympics] and you get to share the moment with [the athletes]."

Coutts joked that the band was disappointed that they didn't get free access to any of the Olympic events but "it was really cool to be behind the curtain when [U.S. gold medalist] Lindsey Vonn was receiving her medal."

The bassist also mentioned he thought it was unfair how much pressure was being put on Canadian athletes to succeed on home soil, but he was impressed with how the Olympic competitors handled the stress.

"All of it was great ... even after the adversity with the luge athlete and the inclement weather. Regardless of where Canadians medaled they never gave up.... It was a chance to showcase how beautiful the country is and how vibrant we are," said Coutts.

Like Canada's Olympic athletes, mainstream bands often have a lot of pressure on them to release material that will consistently top the charts and please critics.

And also like sports, Coutts knows it's about giving it your best and being satisfied with your performance.

The guys from OLP almost parted ways while recording their 2005 album *Healthy in Paranoid Times*. Coutts hinted producers were bogging them down.

Critics often cite the departure of guitarist Mike Turner in 2001 as a time when they feel OLP's quality declined.

So when they began recording their latest album *Burn Burn* in 2007 they decided to go back to basics; OLP front man and vocalist Raine Maida took over the role of producer.

Coutts used two words to describe making a record without a producer.

"Absolute freedom," he stated. "And it felt like this was the first time the four members were firing on all four cylinders."

A show to forget

Reviewing this year's Oscars debacle



WADE THOMPSON
THE REEL WORLD

If you follow my column, you will recall my adoration of all things Oscar. Naturally then, this past weekend, I powered through the last few films I needed to see, composed all my "year end" and prediction lists, and sat down to watch the movie-lovers' Super Bowl: the 82nd annual Academy Awards.

Now, as much as I love the show itself, last year's re-imagining of what the Oscars should be wound up being quite mediocre in my mind. There were a few moments of brilliance, but in the end, it was more about "look what we can do" as opposed to the movies.

So when this year's show began, and Neil Patrick Harris came out instead of co-hosts Steve Martin and Alec Baldwin, I was blind-sided with a forlorn feeling that this show might not be as good as I hoped.

Those first opening minutes are the most important for a host.

They establish the connection with the audience, and by giving that up to someone whose only contribution to film this past year was voicing an animated monkey in the film *Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs*, you discredit your emcees for the next four hours.

Martin and Baldwin came out on the stage and they weren't funny.

Their thunder had been stolen by a second-rate musical number. In the first 10 minutes of the show, I was already doubting whether or not they could recover from this. I soon found out that they could not.

The hosts did what they could with the rest of the monologue, but could only manage a couple of good jokes amidst a sea of cheesy ones.

Baldwin especially seemed uncomfortable on stage, as though it was the first time he was working with the material. Martin did all he could to take over and save it, but there wasn't a whole lot he could do.

After a rocky start, the Academy continued to confuse, interspersing montages and a rather misplaced "In Memoriam" of John Hughes amongst very few actual awards.

The rest of the show wasn't much better, as producer Adam Shankman made it clear that he was a choreographer above all else. Instead of allowing the Best Original Song nominees to perform this year, he had dancers accompany the Best Original Scores, a decision that nearly slowed the show to a halt.

If this show was the Super Bowl, it was sure providing its audience with a plethora of fumbles.

Despite all of these blunders, there were a moments of delight. Best Actress winner Sandra Bullock provided the speech of the night, showing how to be both a class act and a sweetheart at the same time.

The real winner of the night was director Kathryn Bigelow though, despite the presence of singer Barbara Streisand and her attempts to steal the "First Female Best Director" winner's spotlight.

Although I had my reservations about last year's event, it was better than Sunday's show. We were subject to un-funny and obvious humour (like Ben Stiller as a Na'vi), and pointless spectacle.

I sincerely hope that the Academy realizes their shortcomings from this year's affair, because if they are going to get progressively worse every year, I may just have to start basing my life around something else.

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FASHION 'N' MOTION wlusu.com

Celebrity quote of the week

“It is what it is and, you know, it probably means more that both of them happened at the same time because it's the great equalizer.”

—Actress Sandra Bullock on accepting a Razzie Award for worst actress on Saturday night for the movie *All About Steve* the day before she received an Oscar for best actress for *The Blind Side*

Laurier International Friendship Extension

Bringing international, exchange and Canadian students together at Laurier

L.I.F.E. is currently recruiting student volunteers for 2010/2011 to work with Laurier International as mentors. Mentors are an important part of the welcome and orientation process for incoming exchange and international students, starting during the summer, continuing throughout the academic year.

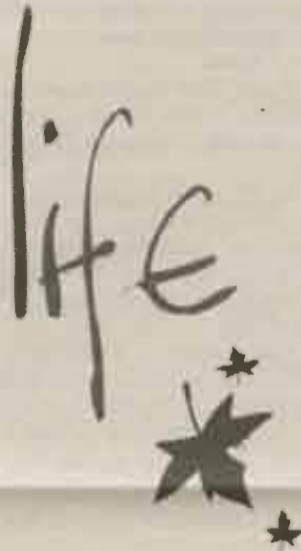
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SUBMISSION DATE

Applications are due Friday April 2, 2010.



Arts bites

The latest in entertainment news

Rapper Lil Wayne avoids prison ... yet again

Last week, rapper Lil Wayne, who had his sentencing for gun-possession charges delayed in February to have his diamond-encrusted teeth (and numerous cavities) repaired, had his hearing postponed yet again because the courthouse caught fire.

Is it too much to assume that the self-proclaimed “greatest rapper alive” could be in cahoots with the “greatest dentist alive” and now the “greatest arsonist alive”?

—Mike Lakusiak

New Radiohead tracklist appears on the Internet

Radiohead returned to the studio in January, apparently recording what would become the band's eighth studio album to be released sometime this spring or summer.

The band is notoriously cryptic and has revealed little about the sessions or the release of the album.

But on Sunday, music blog *tinymixtapes.com* received a strange e-mail from what appeared to be the band's website that when decoded read as a list of new Radiohead live songs and the title *Tehrangelles*.

Nothing is for certain at this point, but this seems to be evidence that a follow-up to 2007's critically and commercially-successful *In Rainbows* might surface soon.

—Mike Lakusiak

iPad to launch in late April

Canadians will be able to purchase Apple's latest hype-crazy gizmo, the iPad tablet computer, a couple of weeks after the April 3 U.S. launch, according to CEO Steve Jobs.

There is no word on Canada-specific pricing but the base model will retail for \$499 with a more heavily-featured model appearing later.

Apple's shares hit an all-time high after word of the launch date was finalized, along with news that an iBooks e-book application would accompany the launch.

The iPad is touted as the possible saviour of print media, just, ahem, like the iPod saved the music industry. No, wait a minute...

—Mike Lakusiak

Christoph Waltz humps?

Sunday night, *Inglourious Basterds* actor Christoph Waltz played a memorable role on *Jimmy Kimmel Live*, hours after winning the award for best supporting actor at the Oscar's. Kimmel aired an alleged BBC biography of the actor.

In the video, Waltz described his most crucial role, in a fabricated movie called *Der Humpdink*, based on a well-known internet video of a Russian man singing “trolololo” repeatedly. Waltz not only sings but humps various objects.

Needless to say, it's awesome.

—Rebecca Vasluianu

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INFORMATION SESSION

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 Venue: Wilfred Laurier University, Career Centre, Room CC - 101 A & B
 Presenter: Dr Allan Edwards
 (Griffith University Faculty of Education)
 Email: a.edwards@griffith.edu.au

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Advertising Manager Angela Foster • angela@wluwp.com

Wisdom disconnect: The week in pointless info

LAURA SEDGWICK
STAFF WRITER

Was Darwin wrong?

There is a creationist museum in Kentucky founded on the belief that dinosaurs and humans co-existed. According to exhibits in the museum, dinosaurs lived in the Garden of Eden, were on Noah's Ark and refrained from eating other animals (they were vegans) until Adam and Eve ate from the Tree of Knowledge.

In the name of soccer ball, the hockey puck

Evolutionary psychologist Nigel Barber, PhD suggests that sport might be a suitable substitute for religion. Some common features in sport and religion include dedication, ritual, sacrifice, spirit and celebration.

But can he dunk?

In 2000, Pope John Paul II became an honorary Harlem Globetrotter. He was presented with a signed basketball and his own jersey, #75, representing the Globetrotters 75th anniversary.

May the force be with you

Jedi is an official religion. Followers of Jedi believe in a single universal force that connects all things and that morality is innate. There are an estimated 70,000 Jedi followers in Australia.

How about "no"?

The Church of Euthanasia hopes to restore the balance between humans and other species. This political organization encourages suicide, abortion and sex without the intention of procreation. Their slogans

include "save the planet, kill yourself" and "eat a queer fetus for Jesus." They are extremely, yet intentionally, confrontational.

Shut up and eat your pasta

The Church of the Flying Spaghetti Monster contends that there is a god made of noodles and meatballs. Some claim that this religion is "fake" and intended to point out the silliness of other religions. This is a mistake. According to their website, "Anything that comes across as humor or satire is purely coincidental." They get a lot of hate mail.

A wise man once said

"And then God created Saturn ... and he liked it so he put a ring on it."
-Unknown

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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 no later than Monday at noon each week.

Dear Life,
Why do people lose all sense of social norms when they enter the Concourse? From that one couple who constantly make out like we're all in their private bedroom (and you all know who I am talking about), to the guitar player who thinks that we all want to hear him play "Save Tonight" off-key ad nauseam. I simply ask for some common courtesy in a public space.
Sincerely,
Concourse Pillar

Dear Life,
No scientific calcs? What is this? Grade 4? As with any test in the history of science, we are being marked on our procedures. Although the calculation of the correct answer gets us a mark, the final answer is not the goal of the question:

knowing how to get there is. There seems to be an unfortunate misunderstanding between Laurier's faculty of science and the rest of the rational scientific community.
Sincerely,
Stop Trying to Turn Laurier Into a High School

Dear Life,
Isn't there a by-law stating that residents of Marshall have to shovel their sidewalks? C'mon guys, snow is melting and lots of people have to walk through all that slush. And just tossing some road salt on it is not the same as shoveling - it's just bad for the environment and stains peoples' pants and boots.
Sincerely,
We Live in Canada, Learn to Shovel

Dear Life,
I understand that it is the flu season and people get the sniffles, but sitting in an hour and a half long lab with the person beside you making horking-like noises every five minutes is getting really irritating.
Sincerely,
It's Called a Tissue, Blow Your Damn Nose Already

Dear Life,
I can't thank Foot Patrol enough for being the black spot on the volunteering spirit in the Laurier community. You suck so much as human beings. Thanks for being a collective of douchebags.
Sincerely,
Trainspotter

Dear Life,
I love the Pita Shack!
Sincerely,
I Love the Pita Shack

Housing

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EDITORIAL

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

Arts reorganization demands attention

Now is an important time for Laurier, as we are in the midst of dealing with budget cuts that totaled \$8.9 million this past year.

Significant cuts are being made across the board; the faculty of arts, for instance, has been asked to cut \$500,000 for the 2010-11 academic year.

With an increasing deficit, cuts are unavoidable, so it is important to decide where they can be afforded and where they will be damaging to our university as an educational institute.

Professors have taken the first step in sticking up for students, as was demonstrated at the faculty of arts council meeting last Friday when they expressed concerns about the proposed honours bachelor of arts degree.

They raised many valid concerns, including the ethics behind allowing students with a 5.0 GPA to graduate with an honours degree, as well as whether these students will be able to get into classes that are already filled with students in specified majors.

Following the professors' displays of genuine concern for the student body should be the Wilfrid Laurier University Students' Union, who must now step up as student leaders and fulfill the advocacy role that a students' union should offer.

Many students have expressed concerns over this proposed degree, and the students' union needs to help students understand what is going on and propose alternative solutions.

While it is encouraging to see professors and student groups, such as the Laurier Arts Advance Program, advocating on the behalf of students, WLUSU should be at the forefront of this discussion as the official representative voice of undergraduate students.

—The Cord Editorial Board

This unsigned editorial is based off informal discussions and then agreed upon by the majority of The Cord's editorial board, which consists of 14 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 WLUSU.



MAYA UEMURA CORD GRAPHICS

Letter of the week

This letter has been selected by the editor to offer commentary on the role of a students' union. The letter was in response to the March 3 article "Stage two completed in market research project."

The purpose of a students' union

Many thanks to The Cord for reporting on the progress of the students' union's market research project. The results, as reported, show that advocacy is the top priority for the surveyed student body.

These results should not be surprising as a students' union, like any union, exists first and foremost to provide collective action for its membership.

A union exists to advocate and there is no better way to bridge the "WLUSU clique" and engage students in elections than to actually work on behalf of students.

They must advocate on issues like OSAP reform, changes to Groupwise email, fines associated with Waterloo by-laws, OneCard fund seizure and the dramatic increase in class sizes.

My concern is that these market research results will only lead to an amplified communication strategy to inform students of what advocacy work is currently undertaken by the students' union.

But communication is a lesser problem when the primary means for advocacy, the University Affairs department, is underfunded, understaffed and under-resourced so that few advocacy goals can take place.

As students see advocacy as the top priority for the students' union there should be a considerable increase in the share of WLUSU's budget dedicated to the University Affairs department from previous levels of around seven per cent.

—Griffin Carpenter
WLUSU board of directors 08-09
OUSA co-ordinator 09-10

Your 20s are for yourself

Take this time as a student to figure out who you are instead of rushing into marriage and having children



LAURA CARLSON
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

When was the last time you went on Facebook, crept photos and took note of how many people from your high school have children, are pregnant, are married or are engaged?

The general reaction to these sorts of people – among my social circle at least – is ridicule and a general disbelief that many of our peers have decided to take their lives in a direction that is completely out of sync with what most students our age are doing.

We're busy worrying about term papers and how drunk we got last night, and it's unbelievable to think that many people who we went to high school with are now worrying about wedding dresses and changing diapers.

While getting married and having children are certainly in the future for many, starting down this path in your early 20s is not the right time to do so.

Though it is not uncommon for people in university to develop relationships with partners that they have every intention of marrying, there is no reason to make such a significant commitment so early

in your life. At our age, there is still so much to experience, and having people in your life that will inevitably restrict your choices is unfortunate.

The opportunities that are available to us at this age are endless; however, by making decisions and extensive commitments now, you will limit what is available to you in the future.

What if you get a chance to study in Paris or receive an internship in Prague?

The troubling reality is that getting married and having babies hinders your ability to take such opportunities.

Nobody wants to wake up one morning in middle-class suburbia feeling as though you never lived up to you potential and resenting your family for holding you back.

The choices you make now will significantly impact the rest of your life; it's important that you make ones that will not only make you happy in the moment, but are in the best interest for your future.

Your 20s are the perfect opportunity to invest in yourself.

Regardless of how long you have been together, people change and relationships fall apart.

While it is perfectly plausible that you may have a meaningful marriage that allows you to develop as a person and gives you incredible experiences, there is no guarantee that any given relationship will last, and it's so easy for people to lose

At our age there is still so much to experience, and having people in your life that will inevitably restrict your choices is unfortunate.

themselves in another person.

The best partners and parents are those who maintain a life and identity outside of their children and spouses.

If you do not take the time to do so, you risk building a life where you depend on someone else for fulfillment, instead of learning how to be happy with the only person that you will need to live with at the end of the day: yourself.

Children grow up and leave home, 37 per cent of Canadian marriages end in divorce and building your entire life around these two entities sets yourself up for failure.

Invest in yourself and your education, because if everything else in your life falls apart, at the very least you will have that.

THE FORUM

Opinion Editor Kimberly Elworthy • kelworthy@thecord.ca

The Laurier budget needs a reality check

Class sizes and tuition fees are rising every year while professors gain more responsibility without the increase in salary; it is essentially the students who are losing out the most during budget cuts



DR. HERBERT PIMLOTT
LAURIER ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

The administration's rationale for increasing class sizes and cutting contract academic staff (CAS) needs to be questioned.

The administration's presentation to The Cord a few weeks ago suggested that students should consider themselves lucky that class sizes have only increased by 13.5 per cent, since the teaching workload norm for faculty decreased from five courses to four – a drop of 20 per cent.

Why didn't the administration point out that the new collective agreement normalized what was already a de facto situation for a majority of faculty prior to 2008?

That is, many faculty were already receiving course releases for large classes; teaching labs or tutorials in addition to large lectures; research and/or publishing commitments; external research grants and administrative and other additional duties.

Plus, there are still exceptions to the four-course teaching load: some full-time faculty, including all limited-term appointments, will teach

five (and even six) courses. Thus, you can see that this would not have been a drop of 20 per cent. Indeed, the administration's new math wouldn't be so confusing if class sizes had always remained the same.

But, this is not the case.

When I started in the department of communications in 2001, first-year classes were capped at 100 students.

The next year, it increased to 125 students: a 25 per cent increase. By 2004-05, first-year classes hit 250 and shortly afterwards increased to 300.

That's a 200 per cent increase over six years.

And it's not just our first year classes that have increased year-to-year. About six years ago, we also had to increase class sizes for second-year core courses to 200 students, and it now appears even some of our third-year courses will have to be increased substantially to deal with the administration's proposed cuts.

Meanwhile, students have been paying more tuition almost every year.

Indeed, at Laurier, tuition fees already account for 42.6 per cent of revenues compared to 34 per cent (on average) for Canada's top 25 universities, according to a report published in January by *Maclean's*.

And, where does it all go? *Maclean's* reports that, as of 2008, there

was an extra \$18 million on average flowing out of teaching and into central administration at the top 25 universities; this trend represents an increase of 67 per cent over 20 years.

Increasingly, tuition fees are helping to pay for more senior bureaucrats (and their support teams) rather than in more faculty and support staff.

There is an assumption that increasing class sizes is also a result of faculty salaries, but Laurier ranks 15 out of 18 Ontario universities (CAUT figures for 2007-08).

And nationally, Laurier ranks 26th, well below the national average.

The cost of all salaries (not just faculty's) appears to be decreasing as a proportion of the budget: from 50.1 per cent in 2007 to 48.5 per cent in 2008, according to the WLU financial statements released in April 2009.

The administration also failed to mention that the Wilfrid Laurier University Faculty Association (WLUFA) had agreed to increase the percentage of courses taught by CAS to cover the shift to a four-course load.

Now, the administration is proposing to cut CAS by 1.5 per cent for next year, even though they represent only five per cent of the budget and teach 35 per cent of courses: a bargain by any reckoning. Cuts can

Tuition fees are helping to pay for more senior bureaucrats (and their support teams) rather than in more faculty and support staff.

only really be applied against the CAS budget in academic units because they are hired on a per-course contract basis (unlike full-time faculty).

Therefore, the seemingly insignificant figure of a 1.5 per cent cut for academic units will have a significant impact indeed.

If the entire 1.5 per cent cut has to come out of the five per cent allotted for CAS, then it will translate into a 30 per cent cut to all CAS-taught courses.

Since CAS teach 35 per cent of all courses, this equals a 10.5 per cent cut to all courses.

Applying these cuts to academic units, which rely disproportionately on CAS, such as communications, constitutes a severe contraction: less course selection and greater class sizes.

If CAS teach 40 per cent of communications courses (as they often do), then our 1,100 communications majors can expect a 12 per cent cut in courses and even larger classes next year.

Now consider the impact of the 5.9 per cent cuts proposed for the following academic year.

Like many of my colleagues, I believe that these cuts are neither necessary nor warranted to the degree that they are being proposed, but reflect an administration that understands little about the classroom and even less about its connection to faculty research, as exemplified by the vice-president of finance's claim that research is "a strain on [faculty's] teaching ability."

These cuts threaten Laurier's reputation for quality academic programs that faculty and staff have worked hard to provide to generations of students.

Dr. Herbert Pimlott is an associate professor of communication studies who has taught in higher education for 17 years in the U.K. and Canada.

He is writing in a personal capacity.

Letters to the Editor

Snow babe is sexist

Re: "Naked snow woman is not controversial", March 3

I feel that the editorial board has shown ambivalence to the legitimate concerns regarding the "snow babe" sculpture.

While many complaints may be based on troubled neighborly relations, the problematic nature of the statue is based on its inherent sexism. Firstly, the position of the sculpture is overtly sexualized, distinguishing it from most public sculptures/paintings.

The fact that there is no head reflects that the 'artists' could not recognize that underneath every female body, there is always a woman.

Speaking out about this part of our culture is an important practice for many women (and men), and is often a necessity, particularly for those who experience sexual violence. It is irresponsible and dangerous of the editorial board to dismiss these arguments as they are ignoring how this incident is a representation of the systemic nature of sexual objectification/violence within our society and university.

–Jen Holden

I read the editorial regarding the snow woman with some interest. Whereas it is true that anatomically correct nude sculptures exist in many public places, there is also the very suggestive pose and the visual intent of the sculpture to consider. In this case, the creators should have been much more respectful of neighbourhood norms and restrained in their sexually explicit exploit.

–Jan d'Ailly
Councillor, City of Waterloo

Save heritage building

Re: "Prof struggles to defend heritage buildings", March 3

As a former student at Wilfrid Laurier University and a present instructional assistant at WLU, I'm writing to applaud Dr. Lisa Wood's stand against the destruction of the 41 buildings on the south side of Colborne Street in Brantford.

I believe strongly in the need for academics to participate in the communities where they work.

There have been several other noted organizations rallying against this, including the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario, the Heritage Canada Foundation and recently the Ontario Ministry of Culture.

I hope that the City of Brantford will rethink the demolition before it is too late.

–Karen Dearlove

Inquire into torture in Afghanistan

As parliamentarians get back to work, let's remember the conservative government continues to stall in calling for a full independent public inquiry into Canadian complicity in torture in Afghanistan.

Richard Colvin, former Canadian diplomat in Kandahar, testified on Nov. 18, 2009, that: "According to our information, the likelihood is that all the Afghan [detainees] we handed over were tortured."

It is time to demand a full independent public inquiry into Canadian complicity in torture since 2002.

–Luke Stewart
Kitchener-Waterloo Anti-Torture Coalition (KWATC)

Oscar graphic design debate: black or blue?

Re: "A panel of experts discusses the 2010 Oscar ballot," March 3

Did this graphic illustrate Mo'Nique in blue to be racially alienating on purpose, or are your graphic designers just completely ignorant and socially unaware?

–Talia

@Talia - yeah the graphics artist guy must be a racist/never seen a black person before in his life so he didn't know what colour to make her, oh well.

–Johnny McTrennon

Very interesting article... If only some of your visitors would read it. But, based on their comments they only look at the pictures... Sort of shows the caliber of reader.

@Talia it's obviously Gabourey Sidibe and not Mo'Nique and @Talia @Johnny she's blue because it works... Think of it as her huge blue dress she wore for the Oscars reflecting upwards... Now go to bed, it's way past your bedtime. Get a life people.

–Guy

Continue the debate online at thecord.ca

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.



CALL FOR COMMENTS

Review Committee for the Vice-President: Student Affairs

The university has determined that the position of Assistant Vice-President: Student Services/Dean of Students will be changed to Vice-President: Student Affairs to better reflect the role's level of responsibility. In accordance with university procedures, a review committee has been established to consider a recommendation regarding the appointment of AVP: Student Services/Dean of Students David McMurray to the Vice-President: Student Affairs position. A description of the new role can be found at:

https://www.wlu.ca/documents/40507/Job_Abstract.pdf

Submissions are invited from the university community on issues to be considered during the review process as well as commenting on the work of the incumbent. A copy of the organizational chart responsible to the Dean of Students can be viewed at:

https://www.wlu.ca/documents/39009/Student_Services_1.pdf

Submissions (in writing or via e-mail) should be sent to the Committee Secretary, Shara Spencer, at sspencer@wlu.ca or c/o University Secretariat, room P2092 by 4:30 pm on March 22, 2010. All submissions considered by the Committee will be regarded as confidential. You may request to remain anonymous to the members of the Committee, but the University Secretariat must receive comments that indicate who the commentator is. The names of those who wish to be anonymous will be deleted before the comments reach the Committee.

For a list of VP: Student Affairs Review Committee members please go to:

https://www.wlu.ca/documents/40547/VPSA_Review_Cte.pdf

OPINION

Opinion Editor Kimberly Elworthy • kelworthy@thecord.ca

Voluntourism in Africa is too trendy



While some travel to Africa to gain a new perspective, learn about different cultures and help make a real difference, their goodwill is shrouded in the selfish efforts of many misguided youth.

ALANNA WALLACE FILE PHOTO



DEVON BUTLER
letters@thecord.ca

It's become an unwritten rite of passage in North American society for today's young humanitarian to engage in the ultimate act of charity: travelling to a developing country to volunteer.

However, not just any developing region will do. To obtain that awe-inspiring repute, Africa has become the continent of choice.

Students on the brink of those four glorious summer months are faced with making decisions regarding how to spend this time.

For most, it's a simple matter of working in order to pay for another year of education. For the luckier few, it's a time to travel, explore and do some good in the world.

At the risk of sounding too cynical, I both support and engage in charity work locally and internationally. In fact, I considered it a probable summer option.

However, I couldn't ignore the seemingly questionable motives of volunteers and the marketing techniques of organized volunteer trips as a means to gain credentials to succeed later in life.

An emphasis on volunteering is a welcome change in the student demographic, and though on paper it appears heroic, it is possible for some that it only perpetuates the need to keep to the latest trends whilst acquiring a well-regarded status in society.

This is probably the most disturbing aspect: volunteerism has become just another product to be branded, marketed and exploited.

Non-religious volunteer organizations no longer promote their trips as a way to help others, but focus it as a way to "find" oneself, gain real world experience and build up your resume; coincidentally, these reasons are entirely self-serving.

In looking at the act of international volunteerism as a product, we can see the privileging of some locations over others.

Just like materialism, one product label is often viewed as more prestigious, and sadly Africa has become the Gucci of the volunteer world. In our quest to spread charity to the

A summer spent in Africa seems to be held in higher regard than one spent in Romania or Central America.

developing world, we've instituted a hierarchical system among those who we decide are the most in need, the most prestigious and perhaps even the most deserving.

For instance, a summer spent in Africa seems to be held in higher regard than one spent in Romania or Central America.

Overseas volunteer work shouldn't be discredited, as there are many who want to better the world.

But for those who see African nations as a place to develop self-confidence and a means to pack your grad school application, perhaps the actual money going to the trip would be better spent donated to charity.

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SPORTS

Sports Editor Justin Fauteux • jfauteux@thecord.ca



YUSUF KIDWAI PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

Laurier's Katherine Shirriff (89) puts the puck past a helpless Danielle Skoufranis (33). The Hawks defeated Guelph 2-1 to clinch their seventh-straight OUA title.

Laurier heads to national championship

—cover

just three minutes into the game only to have the score evened at one three minutes later by Guelph's Erin Small.

"Any time a team has their back against the wall, you have to expect their best game and they gave it to us today," said Knox of the Gryphons' performance in game two. "They showed us their best and we battled through it one shot at a time, one shift a time."

Rookie Devon Skeats would give the Hawks the lead in the latter half of the first period off a scramble at the side of the Gryphons' net.

"That was a little bit of a crazy one, I really wasn't expecting it to go in," said Skeats. "But once I saw it in the net, my heart just dropped to my feet, I was so excited."

With the Hawks up 2-1, the vocal crowd — which featured ample amounts of purple and gold — was treated to a thrilling final two periods with the momentum swinging back and forth between the two teams and both goalies making key save after key save.

But in the end, Skeats's goal would prove to be the difference, ending a hard-fought OUA final.

"What a great series," said Laurier head coach Rick Osborne. "This year was our best-ever season, so there was little bit of pressure on us going into the post-season. But it's

really been the same story for us all season, Knoxy in goal, the leadership of our veterans and some great play from our rookies."

The strong rookie presence on the roster has been integral to the Hawks' success from the beginning of the season right up until Skeats's championship-winning goal.

First-year forwards Candice Styles and Paula LaGamba both ranked in the top 10 in the OUA in playoff scoring, while Styles finished third on the team in points in the regular season, on her way to an OUA rookie of the year award.

The Hawks also received contributions from their rookies on the blue line as defencemen Maureen Mommersteeg and Fiona Lester thrived while seeing significant ice time, leading to Mommersteeg being named to the OUA's all-rookie team.

"They've been phenomenal," said Ironside of her first-year teammates.

"A lot of people look at our team and think that we're young and inexperienced, but the rookies all came in and they stepped into big roles and they've been doing exactly what we need them to do, and that's all of them; all seven of them have been just awesome."

Skeats attributes a large part of the success that she and her fellow rookies have achieved to the leadership of the team's veterans.

"It's been huge having them there," she said. "They're like big sisters and people that you just look up to every practice, game and workout. You look at what they've accomplished and the type of people they are and you just strive to be like them."

The Hawks won't have long to savour their provincial championship as they begin their pursuit of the Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) title tomorrow night in Antigonish, Nova Scotia.

"We don't like to look too far ahead, but we do have a lot on our plates, so we're going to start preparing for what's next," said Ironside.

"We've been there before, we've got a lot of experience and I think we'll draw on that and we'll be ready to go for the first game no matter who we're playing."

The Hawks go into the tournament as the number two seed and will open round robin action against the University of Alberta Pandas.

The only team ranked ahead of the Hawks is the McGill Martlets, who have sent Laurier home with the CIS silver medal two years in a row.

"We know we have a job to do," said Knox. "We've come out the past couple years with the wrong colour around our necks, so we're going to have to get the job done and that's going to start right away."

2010 pre-tournament rankings

Pool A

Pool B

1. McGill Martlets



QSSF champions

Reg. season record: 20-0-0
Playoff record: 4-0
2009 CIS finals: Gold medal

2. Laurier Golden Hawks



OUA champions

Reg. season record: 26-0-1
Playoff record: 4-0
2009 CIS finals: Silver medal

4. St. Mary's Huskies



AUS champions

Reg. season record: 13-10-1
Playoff record: 2-0
2009 CIS finals: Did not qualify

3. Alberta Pandas



Canada West champions

Reg. season record: 23-1-0
Playoff record: 4-0
2009 CIS finals: Did not qualify

6. Montreal Carabins



QSSF runner-up

Reg. season record: 13-6-1
Playoff record: 2-0
2009 CIS finals: Did not qualify

5. St. FX X-Women



AUS runner-up

Reg. season record: 18-2-4
Playoff record: 1-1
2009 CIS finals: 5th place

Women's hockey deserves recognition



JUSTIN FAUTEUX
SPORTS EDITOR

Until it became an Olympic sport at the 1998 Nagano Winter Games, the rest of the sports world gave women's hockey about as much attention and respect as cricket.

But after the world watched the United States upset Canada for the gold medal in a terrific display of hockey, attitudes began change. The

number of girls playing in youth leagues grew exponentially, women's hockey slowly received more and more media attention and there was a growing consensus that women could, in fact, play hockey.

12 years and three Olympic Games later, the participation in girls' youth hockey leagues is still growing, and women's hockey has become one of the most prominent sports at the winter games, with 5.8 million people watching Team Canada win their third-straight gold medal at the 2010 Olympics.

However, women's hockey still doesn't get nearly as much respect as it deserves. While the general attitude towards the sport has improved in recent years, too many

people still believe the stereotype that women are incapable of playing competitive, entertaining hockey.

One only needs to look as far as the weekend's Ontario University Athletics (OUA) championship series between Laurier and Guelph to see that this stereotype simply isn't true.

Both games of the best of three series were fast-paced, hard-fought battles, with all the elements of exciting hockey — from spectacular goaltending to well-crafted goals. And although body contact is supposed to be a penalty in women's hockey, the physicality of the games matched the intensity of standard playoff hockey.

But based on the small crowds

at most of Laurier's games and the general expression of shock I receive when I tell people that I'm excited to cover a game of women's hockey, there's no denying that the aforementioned stereotype is still widely believed.

To make matters worse, now there is discussion about removing women's hockey from the Olympics, based on the argument that Canada and the United States are too far ahead the rest of the world.

While there's no doubt that something needs to change in the makeup of the Olympic women's hockey tournament — because losing 18-0 to Canada is not going to make many little girls in Slovakia want to pick up a hockey stick — removing

it completely would do nothing but hurt the sport.

Having the Olympics as something to strive for has played a huge role in the development of the latest generation of female hockey players; if that is taken away, the sport will be back where it was 15 years ago.

Women's hockey has come so far since 1998, both in popularity and quality. And while many people outside the sport are finally beginning to take notice, widespread popularity is still a work in progress. Taking away the Olympics — women's hockey's biggest stage — will kill the progress that has been achieved by the hard work of female hockey players in Canada and around the world.

Rugby coaches leave Laurier

With the program surrounded by uncertainty, both head coaches have resigned from their positions

TIEJA MACLAUGHLIN
STAFF WRITER

It seems more bad news has hit the Laurier rugby program.

Last Wednesday, the men's team's head coach Josh Windsor announced his resignation; then just a day later, women's head coach Jennifer Armatage did the same.

"I simply didn't like the direction the athletic department was going," said Windsor, who has been coaching the men's team for the past seven seasons and has helped 17 players achieve all-star status.

"It's difficult to recruit players with the uncertainty of the program. I didn't feel I could look a player or his family in the eye and get him to commit to Laurier when I'm not even sure where the program is going."

Windsor has moved on to the head coaching position with cross-town rivals the Waterloo Warriors, and will continue coaching at the high school and inter-county level.

Armatage, meanwhile, has decided to focus her energies on her young children and her life at home, but will also maintain a coaching position at the high school level.

"The program needs stronger support from administration," commented Armatage who had been named OUA coach of the year twice. "The entire athletic system needs

to be re-evaluated from the top."

The program's approximately \$20,000 budget still remains unfunded, obligating student athletes to raise the funds themselves in an effort to hold the team together. Meanwhile, there have been discussions about relocation to Laurier's Brantford campus, or the potential termination of the program altogether.

"We began exploring the option of moving to Brantford because of their offer to fund the team," explained Laurier's director of athletics Peter Baxter.

"The issue was addressed with the men's team but it was determined there were too many problems, so it was decided the program would remain in Waterloo next season."

With Laurier Brantford's considerably smaller student population and the virtually impossible commute which would be required by current Waterloo-based players, the future of a team in Brantford seems bleak.

Both teams have been asked to assist in the recruiting process in an effort to replace the coaches by the May 22 job post deadline. With the lack of funding available, the head coaching position will be awarded a nominal part-time honorarium salary.

"We need to get better," said Baxter.

"After our seasonal performance review, we assessed that there are many areas of the department model that the rugby team needed improvement in."

However, Baxter remains positive about the future of the program, despite the resignation of both coaches.

"I'm confident we're going to find good replacements and move forward with the rugby program."



Men's coach Josh Windsor resigned after seven seasons at WLU.



Jennifer Armatage leaves the women's rugby program after winning two coach of the year awards.

Sports in brief

Hawks honoured by OUA

Last week, two members of the Laurier's men's basketball team were named Ontario University Athletics (OUA) west division all-stars.

Fifth-year guard Jesse MacDonald was named a second team all-star after a year in which he led the Hawks in both scoring and steals, and topped 1,000 career points.

Meanwhile, first-year wing Max Allin was recognized for his breakout season, being named to the OUA west's all-rookie team. Allin was the Hawks' top rebounder this season, pulling down 174, finishing second amongst all OUA rookies.

Curlers head to nationals

This week, both of Laurier's curling teams will travel to Edmonton to compete in the Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) championship.

The women's team qualified after coming in second in the Ontario University Athletics (OUA) championship. The Hawks will be seeking their third straight CIS title.

The men's team finished fifth in the OUA, but qualified after a spot in the tournament opened and the third and fourth place teams from Ontario declined to compete.

The Hawks will be without third-year Matt Maplettoft, who is currently in Switzerland representing Canada at the World Junior Curling Championship.

Gordon earns CIS award

After winning two provincial awards last week, Julie Gordon, a rookie on Laurier's women's volleyball team, was named to the CIS all-rookie team.

Gordon becomes the first Hawk to make the team since 2004.

—All compiled by Justin Fauteux



RYAN STEWART STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Despite major injuries, Laurier's cheerleading team claimed first place at Saturday's national championship.

Cheerleaders take first at nationals

LAURA CARLSON
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Despite having to re-do almost their entire routine the day before competition, this past Saturday the Wilfrid Laurier Golden Hawks' cheerleaders defeated the Carleton Ravens to claim first place in the Cheer Alliance national competition, held at the Kitchener Memorial Auditorium this past Sunday.

Although the Hawks were only competing against one other team in their division – university co-ed level six – teams from across Southern Ontario, including the University of Waterloo, York University, Lakehead University and the University of Ottawa, in addition to the various other age groups, competed in the daylong event.

Laurier's team of 22 (two were out with injury) performed a two minute and 30 second routine, which included the mandatory stunts, pyramids, jumps and tumbles.

"We've been recovering from three major injuries, so based on the rewrites we had to do they did an excellent, excellent job representing both themselves and the school," said assistant coach Jon Cameron.

"We had a lot of rookies really step up and take over some roles that they didn't need to do, but they kind of came in at the last minute and did it pretty perfectly," added head coach Melissa Marshall.

Emily Campbell, a senior on the team, explained that aside from the "few little bobbles," overall the Hawks performed extremely well.

"It was one of the best, most positive runs we've had since I've been here."

Campbell explained that an immense difference exists between the type of cheering that takes place at competitions such as these, and the type that takes place during sporting events.

"Games are a lot more laid back and games are where we get a lot of our practice in front of a crowd and where we learn how to perform," said Campbell.

Team captain Amanda Cosburn echoed Campbell's comments, explaining that when cheering during games they put a lot of their energy into engaging the crowd, and that competitions are much more intense.

"Games are very crowd-oriented; it's basic stunts that you just put up to get the crowd involved. Here it's a lot more elite stunts that you're doing."

Although there were some supporters for Laurier present at the competition on Saturday, Campbell expressed that the cheerleading team still has a relatively low profile at the university.

"We appreciate the fans that do come out. We wish there were more because we only compete twice a year," said Campbell.

"Considering we've won nationals three years in a row, people really don't know that much about us."

Cameron agreed with Campbell's sentiments and noted that it's nice to have competitions available for them to participate in so that the hard work of the athletes is recognized.

"Our girls are an incredibly talented, hardworking group of people and there is definitely a lot more work that goes into it than being a pretty face on the sidelines."