

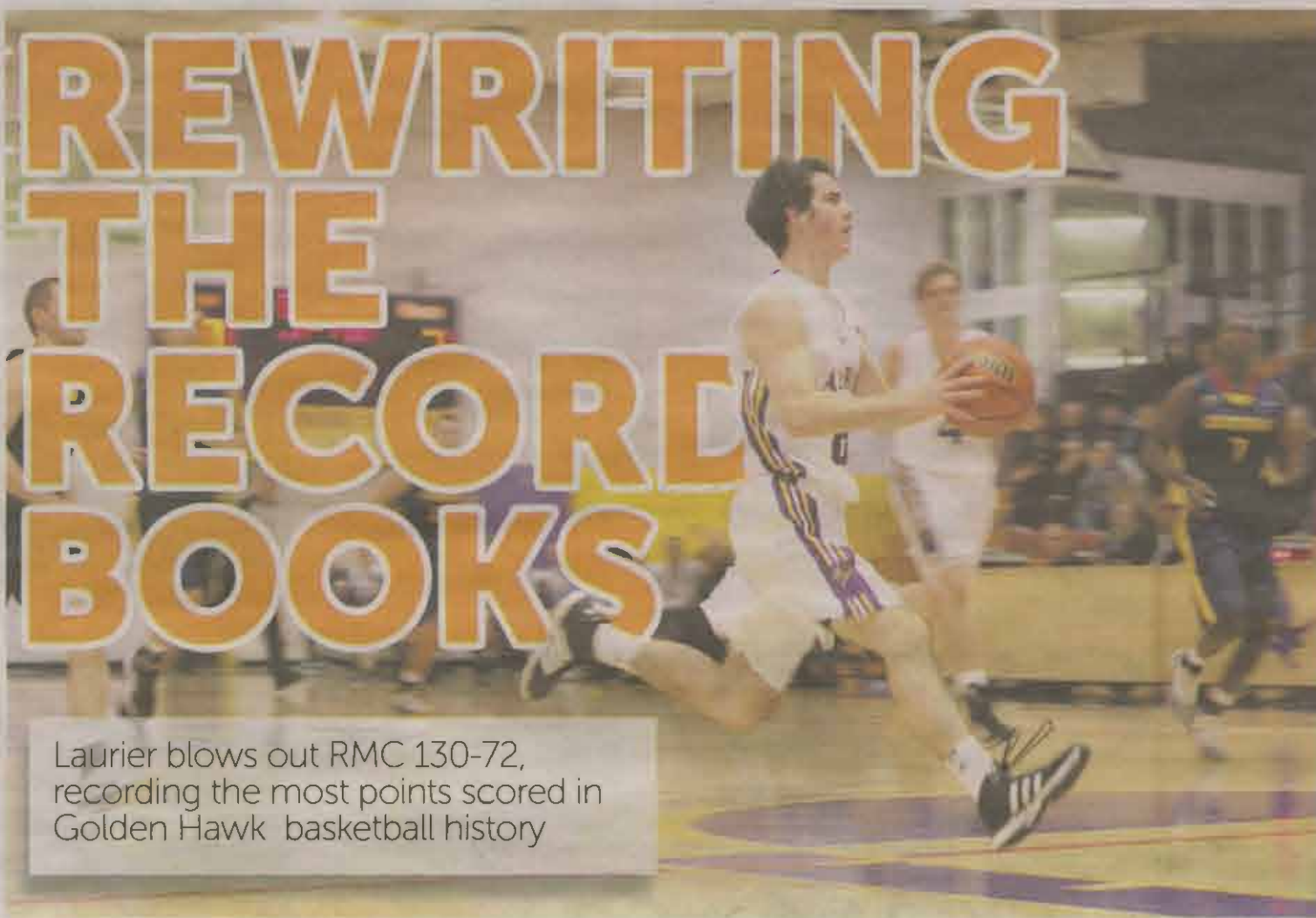
# THE CORD

The tie that binds Wilfrid Laurier University since 1926

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thecord.ca



**CHRIS MANDER**  
STAFF WRITER

The Wilfrid Laurier Golden Hawks' men's basketball team are putting forth an impressive start to the season, with their record now standing at 4-0.

On Friday evening, in front of a large crowd for their home opener, the Golden Hawks dismantled the Queen's Gaels with ease by a score of 88-62.

The Hawks never trailed Queen's at any point in the game, and were able to capitalize on several sloppy turnovers by the opposition.

Head coach Peter Campbell was impressed with his team's performance for the most part.

"I thought at times we played really well, and at other times we played like we were ahead by a lot and lost our focus," said the coach.

The leading scorer for the Hawks was Maxwell Allin who had 15 points to go along with six assists; good enough for tops in both categories for the evening.

Saturday afternoon was much of the same story, as the Royal Military College (RMC) Paladins came to the Laurier Athletic Complex and, despite their best efforts, fell short by a devastating score of 130-72. Laurier's offensive output was the highest in school history, and second most in OUA regular season history.

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## Promises kept

Liberal tuition grant proposed in election to begin January 2012 for students

**AMANDA STEINER**  
LOCAL AND NATIONAL EDITOR

It sounds too good to be true. A 30 per cent tuition grant, which roughly translates to \$1,600 off any dependent student's tuition, whose parents make under \$160,000, is to be set in motion this January 2012. But it is true.

The Ontario Liberal party, led by premier Dalton McGuinty, who promised this post secondary tuition grant if elected, were in fact elected this past October and seem to be living up to their promises. "I'm torn between being really excited and not letting myself believe it yet," said third-year student Alexandra Rollinson. "I work part time so this would really help my financial situation."

Sean Madden, president of the Ontario Undergraduate Student Alliance (OUSA) said, "Surprisingly, still not that many people know about it. But people are excited when we explain it, absolutely. They get pretty pumped when we tell them."

And who wouldn't? It is doubtful that any student dealing with increased tuition prices would turn their noses down at a sizable reduction to their tuition. The only limitations are in qualifying — but even those are not the typical requirements expected by students.

"Well I'd say it's great if it's actually going to happen," said third-year Queen's student Thomas Bailey. "Because it's not really great to spend four years in university or college and then spending double that trying to pay it off. So in reality, any little bit helps."

"The big job right now is to make sure that everyone is aware of the grant and does opt-in."

—Sean Madden, OUSA president

In fact, according to Madden, about 85 per cent of dependent students can qualify for the grant.

The Ontario government considers an independent student to be anybody who has worked full time for two years, or has been out of high school for more than four — they don't qualify.

"To qualify, you have to be a dependent student, so you have to fit that criteria. Your household income has to be less than \$160,000 and you have to be a full-time student — or have 60 per cent of a full course load," said Madden. "Anywhere from three to five [courses] is full time. And that's for the purposes of OSAP and granting and stuff like that."

"If you get OSAP," he continued, "You can also apply for this grant. We like that it's unhinged from OSAP because there were some concerns about participation rates and OSAP, and you don't

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ROSALIE EID PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

## Youth changing the world

### Inside

#### De-occupying the world



With eviction notices released in cities around Canada, Occupy appears to be coming to an end

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#### Pay your debts



The mounting debt crisis in Greece will hopefully be a chance for reinvention and rebuilding

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#### Diabetes and geography



Laurier prof Sean Doherty uses GPS to study blood glucose levels in relation to location

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**Editor's choice**  
*'Figure out what you love to do'*  
News at thecord.ca

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# THE CORD

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### Colophon

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

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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 solemnly 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:  
"Mike's being a nut!"  
—Editor-in-Chief Linda Givetash, about Mike afraid of dying his hair  
"Who's the nut now?"  
—In-Depth Editor Mike Lakuskiak, after dying his Mowbray stretch

## This Week in quotes

"Mr. Pelke was a warlock."

—J.R. Colombo, author, editor and publisher, recalling his early years entering the publishing industry



"You know you shouldn't eat candy, or berries, that come out of a dude's pocket." —ACCESS U speaker Hilary Abel sharing bad networking experiences

"We were very unknown, and then all of a sudden this record came out. 2006 was when we sort of became a band, but we were just a bunch of drunk dudes who wanted to meet girls in Halifax and then when we made this record it was a little bit more serious. We had one record before this one but it doesn't count in the same way." —Wes Marskell of The Darcys

"I wish I qualified for this." —Sean Madden, OUSA president, on the Liberal tuition grant

"It's like a dear friend. It has feelings and stuff .... It might not be something you want to approach in public but it's pretty friendly."

—Ryan Daniels, Laurier men's hockey goaltender, on when the team's symbolic hammer is brought out beyond the hockey arena

## Vocal Cord

What do you think about the Occupy movement?



"I actually don't know much about it. I know that there's a lot of riots and that it's been going on for a while."  
—Kimberly Moreira  
First-year history



"It's the large amount of corporations basically controlling the financial markets, right?"  
—Chris Ryan  
Third-year business



"Actually I'm for the movement. We're all part of the bottom 99 per cent so I really feel that it's important to bring to light the social issues."  
—Adrian Lee  
Fourth-year economics



"I have no idea what that is."  
—Jaclyn Lott  
Second-year sociology



"I don't really know, I don't really focus on it."  
—Jessica Chen  
Second-year arts



"Something about more taxes on larger companies ... it's like greed."  
—Jonathan Ho  
Second-year business

Compiled by Francesca Handy  
Photos by Nick Lachance

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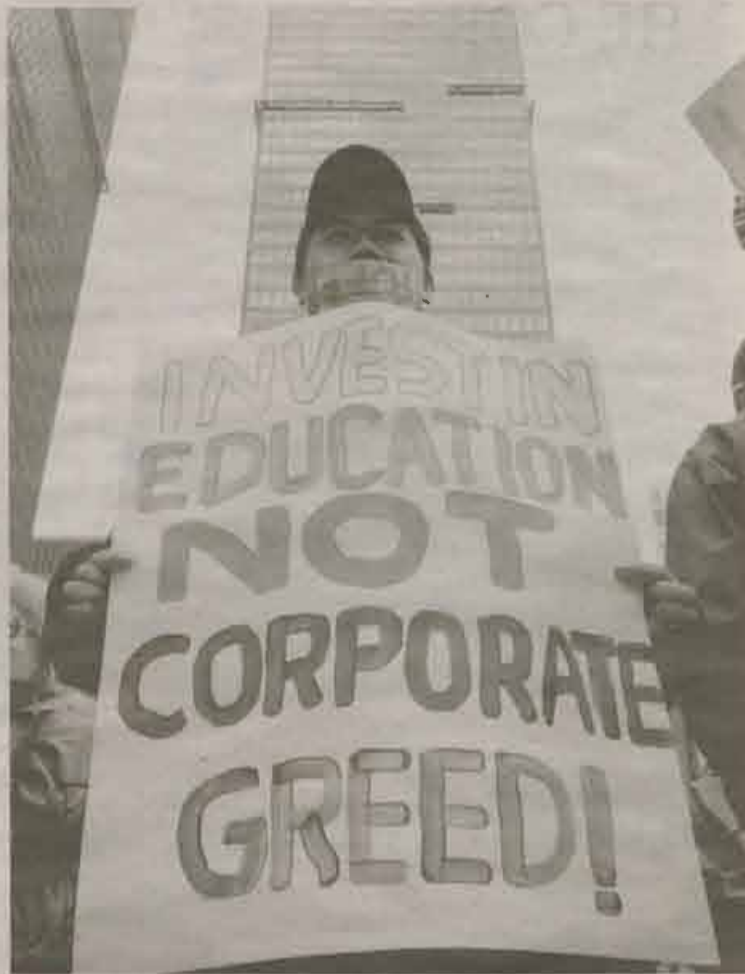
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# NEWS

News Director  
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NICK LACHANCE FILE PHOTO

The Occupy protests in Toronto on Oct. 15, the day the movement went worldwide. Toronto occupiers were given eviction orders that came into effect at 12:01 last Tuesday.

## Occupy movement nears its end

As 'occupiers' across Canada are evicted, the global protest that started Sept. 17 appears to be concluding

LINDSAY PURCHASE  
LEAD REPORTER

Occupy protests, which began in Canada on Oct. 15 seem to be nearing the end of their days. Protestors in Ottawa, Toronto and Edmonton, among other Canadian cities, have been given their eviction notices, and some have already been forced to leave.

As of early Tuesday morning, tents were dismantled along with the Occupy Movements in Quebec City and Victoria.

In Edmonton, protestors have been distinguishing themselves from other movements by occupying private property, rather than in public parks. The land is owned by Melcor Developments Inc. Thus far, the eviction notice, which allows protestors to remain only during the day, is not being heeded.

Robert Moyles, the director of strategic communications for the City of Edmonton commented, "I think those negotiations [between protestors and police] are

progressing, and we're optimistic that there'll be successful resolution that allows them to have had their voices heard, and then also to move on from the site."

Were the Edmonton protestors to move onto public land, they would face similar restrictions due to by-law regulations which prohibit overnight camping, erecting structures without permission and activity between the time of 11 p.m. and 5 a.m.

"We support their right to protest in a safe and healthy manner," Moyles continued. "At the same time, we recognize the rights of the private property owner to manage the event on their property in the way that they see fit."

Still going strong is Occupy St. John's, where city officials appear to have a cordial relationship with protestors. For approximately one month, they have occupied Harbourside Park in the downtown area without interference, something with mayor Dennis O'Keefe says is not likely to change.

"They have a right to be heard,"

**"It would have been great to ... somehow engage these people in a more meaningful way."**

—Carolyn Bennett, MP for St. Paul's

O'Keefe stated, "And so long as they are not a danger to themselves, not a danger to anybody else ... then we will not be interfering."

O'Keefe firmly disagrees with action that has been taken at other protest sites to forcibly remove people from public spaces.

"Putting people in prisons is not an answer to the problems that exist

in society anymore than trying to violently evict people from a public protest. All that does is engender more protest," he explained.

The onus is on government, he believes, to work towards the social change which has been the "common denominator" of all the movements.

O'Keefe continued, "If protests are done properly, then they can be a vehicle for social change. And to turn around and stymie them in a forcible way only creates and motivates more social unrest."

Carolyn Bennett, the member of parliament for central Toronto riding St. Paul's, considers the dismantling of protests, specifically Occupy Toronto, "A bit of a lost opportunity." Bennett commented, "It would have been great to ... somehow engage these people in a more meaningful way, in a long-term way so they don't actually have to be there."

According to Bennett, the lack of negotiation that has resulted in eviction notices being given to protestors is problematic.

Protestors, she said, are well aware that politicians have already made their decisions, diminishing the effectiveness of citizen engagement.

Bennett added, "You're supposed to be able to influence a government or politician before they've made up their mind, not just some sort of ... cosmetic consultation."

The Toronto decision was to evict protestors was largely based on the fact that the right to protest was infringing on the rights of those who use the park for other purposes.

Although many protestors currently remain in the park, the City has made its position clear, and it remains to be seen how resistance to the eviction will play out with local authorities.

Commenting on next steps to be taken, Bennett concluded, "I think it should be to have a conversation with them about what could we do instead; to carry on a conversation that was meaningful and where they would feel that their voices are being heard."

More news at [thecord.ca](http://thecord.ca)



LIZZY COOK FILE GRAPHIC

### Caffeine crash

Brantford opens new coffee shop despite Williams deficit

—Marcie Foster and Kyle Brown

### A voice for students

CASA travels to Ottawa to lobby on Parliament Hill

—Justin Fauteux



NICK LACHANCE PHOTO MANAGER

### Green lessons

Learning from Germany, the world's 'Green' leaders

—Lindsay Purchase

### Loving what you do

ACCESS U hosts post-grad employment workshop

—Justin Fauteux

## WLUSP AGM 2012

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# CAMPUS

Campus News Editor  
Justin Smirlies  
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NICK LACHANCE PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

Wilfrid Laurier University professor Sean Doherty studies the nature of diabetes in relation to location.

## Studying diabetes with GPS

Prof explores blood glucose levels over geographical spaces

MARISSA EVANS  
STAFF WRITER

For many, the GPS systems built into our smartphones are nothing more than a convenience when we are trying to find the closest gas station or a helpful tool when we are lost.

However, Sean Doherty, a geography and environmental studies professor at Wilfrid Laurier University, saw potential in these seemingly mundane tools as devices which could enhance the health of individuals with diabetes. His research paper entitled "Exploring Blood Glucose Level over Geographical Space" outlines the study he conducted regarding the trends of glucose levels in the day to day travels and activities of people with diabetes.

Doherty initially dabbled with the idea of using GPS systems to track people in urban studies he was conducting. He soon realized, however, that this provided an accurate depiction of human exposure — namely where they were spending time and what activities they were engaging in.

"I realized it has direct implications for your health," he said, speaking to the usefulness of the GPS data collected.

These systems could be used to track patients with diabetes to produce a precise depiction of their daily activities.

When speaking with doctors at the Toronto Rehabilitation Institute, they were largely interested in the objective information about their

patients that this system would provide them with.

Two different systems were used to gather information: one being a GPS which collected data every second, and the other being an accelerometer which collected data 25 times a second.

"The accelerometer is like a pedometer," Doherty explained. "Except it not only measures up and down, but also side to side as well as back and forth motions."

With the data collected, Doherty had an illustration of where the individual was, what they were doing and whether their glucose level was being affected. Doherty explained how he started by producing a map of the person's glucose every five minutes as they moved around in space.

"That turned out to be incredibly novel. No one's ever done that," Doherty imparted.

This map brought a new concept, allowing Doherty to examine the question: does the environment people are in affect their glucose levels? However, his findings revealed that it's very individualistic.

"I was trying to make the point that, in different locations, people's lives had different effects on their glucose," he explained.

There was variation, however.

While being far away from home may cause one person's glucose to rise significantly, it may cause another's to drop, and another may experience no changes. Therefore, the study's findings couldn't be generalized.

Rather, Doherty says that health geography is applicable in other ways. "What this leads us to discovering are real behavioural changes that will improve people's health over time," he noted, going on to explain how it's the accumulation of factors that cause adult onset diabetes to develop.

If these factors could be identified and the patient advised to reduce them, the diabetes may be avoided. "At the end of this paper I can definitively say that at best it's going to lead to a new way of managing the disease," Doherty said.

For example, if it is identified that one particular patient's glucose levels rise when they are far away from home, then doctors can engage them in conversation about it.

"Now let's say I give the person with diabetes a smartphone with an application that looks specifically for times when they remain at one location for more than an hour," he explained.

The idea is that when it identifies that situation, it warns them that they should prick their finger and test their glucose level.

Mostly Doherty is devoting his time to creating algorithms that could analyze this data to make it easier for healthcare professionals. While this is a complicated process that requires the consideration of many factors, Doherty believes this study was the first step.

"There's a lot of work to do," he said. "But this paper is drawing attention because it's showing promise."

## Reviving the NDP club

Group re-forms after three-year absence

ELIZABETH DICESARE  
STAFF WRITER

After nearly three years of being inactive, a group of Wilfrid Laurier University students, with help from the New Democratic Party community within Kitchener-Waterloo, has revived WLU's NDP club on campus.

The club has been re-formed because "of recent NDP success in federal elections," explained Richelle Batuigas, the club's president.

"[The success] motivated us to bring the club back together, especially since a number of NDP supporters are youth .... We thought there should be an NDP body on campus," she continued.

The presence of Liberal and Conservative clubs on campus was also a form of motivation to bring back the NDP club.

Batuigas explained that the decision to revive the club was solely a result of students. There was no influence from any professors, but the decision did involve some community members.

"We're really connected with the community, so we always have community members coming to talk to us and guiding us," stated Batuigas.

The main goal of the NDP club is to promote awareness and engage students in politics, whether at the federal or provincial level.

"We're not only existing to demonstrate NDP support, but also to encourage youth participation in elections, voting, government and to support those with progressive values," explained Batuigas.

Eric Reis, the club's policy director, added that the NDP club is not

just a social group. "We do try and engage the student population in elections as much as possible."

Reis also stressed that active participation from youth is extremely important in elections. He added that students need to be more aware of elections because "either provincial or federal politics can directly influence students now or have definite influences to them in the future."

In order to get students more involved with the NDP party, and elections in general, the NDP club tries to have a strong presence on campus. "[There is] a huge lack of awareness on campus," stated Batuigas. "So I guess one way to encourage participation is bringing awareness."

While on campus, they try to engage students in the NDP party's goals, the region's candidates, and politics and elections in general.

Batuigas explained that students should know that politics have a lot to do with their lives. Different parties have different effects on education, tuition, student housing and provincial policies, which all positively or negatively effect youth.

One event the NDP club is planning to raise awareness on campus is a mock election involving campus clubs. Any club members who are interested would be invited to come.

Batuigas explained that the organizers would "hash out policies, but it wouldn't be anything serious. It would be more fun ... and [show] how parliament works."

This event would also be done in collaboration with other political clubs on campus.

## Finding your 'Klondike'

JUSTIN SMIRLIES  
CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR

"Questions are very important, and I'll tell you why," began Robert Colombo, as he spoke at Wilfrid Laurier University last Thursday evening.

Speaking at the Paul Martin Centre, Colombo, a distinguished Canadian author and editor, offered his advice to students about the world of publishing.

By retracing his life all the way to when he was child in Kitchener-Waterloo, Colombo explained the many pinnacles of his career, including being able to study under Marshall McLuhan to writing his own poetry and anthologies. To Colombo though, in order to get somewhere, specializing in a particular topic is key.

To find this, as Colombo introduced the talk, was to ask questions.

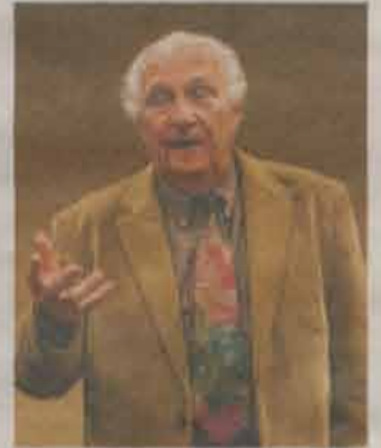
"Try and develop your own Klondike, something you do and that nobody else does," explained Colombo.

However, even though he has enjoyed his career, Colombo did warn that publishing doesn't pay extremely well.

"I enjoyed doing what I was doing, but there was a future in editing and I saw no editing in my future," he added, noting that it was hard to support a family in that field. "I felt that I would need to scale down the editing and begin to publish my own books."

His work as a poet didn't fare much better. "No money in that, that's why it's called free verse," he joked.

Though he brought attention to the financial aspect of publishing and writing, Colombo ultimately encouraged the audience to follow their own passion. "If a man or woman have a passion, they should share it with other people," he continued.



NICK LACHANCE PHOTO MANAGER

In addition to his advice about finding a specialization, Colombo offered other pieces of advice such as reading multiple hours a day and learning how to gauge an audience, whether that be in person, on print or on the Internet.

As digitized forms of media become more popular than print, Colombo sees it as a double-bind. "People will have more facts at their fingertips; you used to have to go through encyclopedias," he told The Cord.

However, the biggest issue he foresees with social media and the Internet is the lack of individuality and self-editing in future generations.

He added that it was very "discouraging" to see the lack of conduct in online forums where some users take the liberty to post obscenities.

To conclude his talk, Colombo offered two final pieces of heartfelt advice: to do at least one weird thing a week and to find a suitable partner that will support you through your career.

"Believe me, it has worked for me and it works for you," he said.

## Food for Fines Campaign

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# LOCAL

Local Editor  
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ROSALIE EID PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

Craig Kielburger, founder of Free the Children at age 12, poses happily for his photo at this year's We Day celebration held in Kitchener.

## We Day hits Waterloo region

NICOLE GREEN  
STAFF WRITER

"You are the generation I've been waiting for," cheered actress and philanthropist Mia Farrow to a crowd of over 6,000 youth that filled the Kitchener Auditorium last Wednesday, Nov. 17, for K-W's second annual We Day.

We Day is the largest youth empowerment event of its kind. Led by Craig and Marc Kielburger and their charitable organization Free the Children, it is a day dedicated to inspiring the youth of this generation to make positive change in the world.

This year over 62,000 youth will attend We Days across Canada. This includes the 6,000 students from over 200 schools in Waterloo Region.

Sponsored by Research in Motion, the cost of a ticket is simply demonstrating leadership and volunteerism within the community. Don Morrison, Research in Motion CEO, encouraged youth to be the change. "We are the change. We are the hope. We are the me, in 'me to we,'" he said.

Last year We Day youth had logged 1.7 million volunteer hours and raised 5.4 million dollars. Halloween for Hunger is the largest single day of fundraising for

non-perishable food items. In 2010, 519,000 lbs of non-perishable food items were raised by more than 180,000 youth on Oct. 31 alone.

Free the Children was founded when Craig Kielburger was just 12 years old. He was inspired by the headline: "Battled Child Labour, Boy, 12, Murdered."

The story detailed the life of Iqbal Masih, a Pakistani boy, who had escaped child labour and at age twelve was shot and killed for leading a movement against child labour. With 11 classmates Kielburger decided to start Free the Children to combat child labour.

"15 years ago when we started Free the Children we got shoved into lockers it was so uncool," said Craig. "Now, today there are stadiums full of students cheering for social justice."

To date, Free the Children has built 650 schools that provide education for more than 55,000 children every day. 16 million US dollars worth of medical supplies has been shipped to over 40 developing countries.

Hollywood icon and UNIFEC goodwill ambassador, Farrow was among the speakers present at We Day. "The thing about Free the Children is, it isn't just the school it's the whole community," said Farrow. "Aid is criticized ... But this

is helping communities rise to the point where they can take care of themselves. It's smart."

"The greatest gift you can give is to help someone so they never need help again," said Kielburger.

The all-star line up of speakers included James Ordinski, the only living Canadian to receive a Noble Peace Prize.

David Martin and Cheif Laforme both spoke to raise awareness about the poverty and disconnect experienced by aboriginal youth.

Keilburger announced that in February Me to We will be rolling out a campaign called Focus Spotlight to raise awareness about aboriginal experiences in Canada.

Among the most inspirational speakers was Michel Chikwanine, a child soldier who shared his story silently to demonstrate the power of silence and to stand up for those who have no voice. Instead Chikwanine told his story by holding up large boards with text on it.

"I've heard his story four times now," said audience member Brian Wilson. "But hearing it that way was like I was hearing it for the first time."

Retired UN lieutenant-general Romeo Dallaire also had a very powerful message after sharing his experiences in the Rwandan genocide he encouraged youth to "dirty

their boots" by travelling to developing nations as a rite of passage.

"Once you have seen and heard and felt and tasted and lived among the 80 per cent of humanity that is living in poor conditions," said Dallaire. "You can come back and be the pilot light for us to change."

When the cast of Degrassi and Michael Jordan hit the stage, the audience was electrified.

No one in the arena could deny the positive energy that circulated the building. "It's probably an overused word because it really was inspiring," said Cali McTavish, a first year at Wilfrid Laurier University who attended We Day as a volunteer.

"It's really awesome to see all the positive energy going around the stadium and that's just the best part for me," added Amber Grant, a We Day volunteer.

"Even though there was a lot of truth about what was going on in the world it was all about positive attitudes," said Wilson. "It was entirely positive."

Comparatively smaller to We Days in Toronto or Vancouver, Wilson said, "The We Day in Waterloo was a lot more intimate but it was probably just as inspiring."

"That energy that you feel around you," said Keilburger, "that is the power of 'Me to We.'"

### K-W in brief

#### Another guilty plea in Campus Court fire

A third person has entered a guilty plea for her role in the Waterloo Campus Court fire from April 2010. According to 570 News, 24-year-old Lyntje Zinger of Hawkesville, Ont. has been sentenced to six months of house arrest and probation.

Zinger pleaded guilty to one count of arson, damage to property, although she had no part in setting the blaze.

Last week, William Schneider and Daniel Campbell admitted to setting the blaze and entered guilty pleas. Schneider received eight years in prison, Campbell got seven. CTV reports Zinger is Campbell's ex-girlfriend and admitted in court to driving the two men to the plaza on the night of the arson. The fire caused over \$4 million in damage.

-Compiled by Amanda Steiner

#### Waterloo taxes dwarf rest of region

According to the *Waterloo Region Record* if you own a Waterloo home, you pay on average up to \$399 more in regional taxes than a homeowner in Kitchener or Cambridge. Some residents reacted poorly to this information, wondering what they were receiving in return for these high taxes, however, Waterloo's crime rates are reasonably lower than the neighboring city of Kitchener, so this could be a considered bonus.

The *Record* reported that the explanation lies within the taxes and that they rise with property values. Waterloo has a robust real estate market and an average home is worth up to \$62,000 more than an average home in Kitchener and Cambridge. As well, Waterloo residents are in good shape to pay high taxes. A recent study found that estimated household incomes are up to \$20,460 higher than in Kitchener and Cambridge.

-Compiled by Amanda Steiner

#### Electric vehicles come to Waterloo

Community Renewable Energy Waterloo is hosting an electric car event Thursday night, featuring screenings of the new documentary *The Revenge of the Electric Car* and vehicle displays.

There will be two showings of the movie: one at 7 p.m. at the Princess Twin Cinema, 46 King St. N., and a second at 9:05 p.m. at the original Princess Cinema on Princess Street.

Admission is \$10 at the door and it's free for students.

-Compiled by Amanda Steiner

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# Proposed LRT routes adjusted

AMANDA STEINER  
LOCAL AND NATIONAL EDITOR

A vote this past June 15 concluded an eight-year discussion on future transit options in Waterloo Region with the decision of regional council to implement Light Rail Transit (LRT). However, though LRT support was considered overwhelmingly positive by most of the city, complications still arose and adjustments have still been made.

"The biggest change to the route was considering using the railway line that goes through Waterloo Square as opposed to Erb Street, from King [Street] to Caroline [Street]," said Phil Hewitson, director of transportation for the city of Waterloo.

"Switching [the route] from Caroline and William to Allan, having on the east side would interfere with the loading docks at the Brick Brewery. The challenges with site-lines, the trains would be running the opposite direction to traffic but on the east side, the train would be running south and traffic north."

"Since the 2009 decision," Hewitson continued, "Transport Canada ruled that the freight trains and the LRT can share the same tracks, they just have to operate at different times. So that means the freight trains will operate at night, when transit doesn't operate. So there will only be one set of tracks going through Waterloo Square. We didn't oppose that, we didn't want two sets of tracks."

According to Hewitson, progress to the region's new LRT system is being made, despite the changes and alterations made through the procedure.

"They want to start construction

2014, so it's still a couple years away," he said. "There's a lot of detailed design and there will be consultations in the mean time through the design process but their goal is to have construction started by 2014, and they estimate by 2017 it will be up and running."

Though considered by many throughout the region to be a positive change for the community, some citizens still oppose the idea. "Some people were still concerned after the workshop, but even at the workshop some of the residents agreed that it was a better alternative, even though it might bring the train a little bit closer to their homes."

Hewitson assures residents, that LRT is very quiet, unlike a freight train. "It is an electric train," he said. "It won't have bells and whistles like the freight train does and it's a lighter vehicle. It doesn't cause a vibration like a freight train does."

In fact, though some people also expressed concerns with LRT being too close to their houses, this wouldn't be the case. The plans for the electric train are to place the tracks where the closest traffic lane already exists and then push the traffic lanes further.

"It won't be any closer than the travel lane where cars drive today," Hewitson said.

"In fact, I think it might be better for the residents because they won't have cars so close to their homes, and cars are more frequent than the trains will be."

The decision has yet to be made but LRT might also stop running during certain hours of the night for maintenance, as it does in Toronto currently.



ROSALIE EID PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

Young and old gathered together at Forest Hill United Church to celebrate Canada's mosaic of faiths.

## A celebration of faith

MIKE RADIVOI  
STAFF WRITER

This past Saturday Cross Cultures Magazine (CCM) presented a multi-faith gathering, or 'Panorama of Sacred Expression' hosted at Forest Hill United Church in Kitchener. Albeit a small gathering, those in attendance presented a mosaic of beliefs and stimulated a great deal of conversation.

Event promotions described the event as an opportunity to share all things sacred from various religious faiths and denominations, and challenged anyone to "prove your faith has taught you love for all mankind."

Although admission was free, the event encouraged participants to donate any non-perishable food item to the Food Bank. Participants themselves were provided with food and refreshments, engaging in an informal meet-and-greet before being seated for sharing and discussion.

Gehan D. Sabry, the editor of CCM, organized the event. Originally from Egypt, Sabry has lived in Canada for 24 years and considers herself a "secular Muslim."

"It's hard to go from a very uniform kind of society to something more diverse without adjusting socially" said Sabry. "Whatever ethnicity, faith, background, we are all human beings. There is no reason for one to think they are more or less than the other."

Attendees participated in group meditation as well as being taught a bit of Hebrew by one speaker. For some present, these actions created discomfort rather than harmony. Edwin Laryea is a Canadian resident originally from Ghana. He described his experiences to the group, going over how his faith background was polytheistic and involved veneration of his ancestors.

"It makes me feel less than equal," said Laryea, "Let me explain why. It is because I have no religion. How do these religions make me feel welcome? And equal?"

The issue did not seem novel to the group, but rather one mutually lived and experienced. Reverend Murray McLeod, one of the ministers for Forest Hill United, shared his concerns on this topic of inclusion.

"For me, faith is about identity.

Who am I, and how do I relate to you?" said McLeod, "One of the places that most religious traditions fall down is when we forget that faith is about identity and start thinking it's about power. Especially power over others."

Originally from Pakistan, Ansar Raza has lived in Canada for 14 years and is a missionary for the Ahmadiyya Muslim community. He spoke of his faith and his appreciation for the freedom to express it.

At a similar event, Raza said someone had asked him a question: Do you love your country of residence, or your country of your birth? Raza related his experiences to those of the prophet Muhammad.

"I am a follower of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him)," he said. "He was born in Mecca, but to avoid persecution had to migrate to another place... When the people asked him if he would return to his native land, he said no. He said 'you gave me shelter when everyone was persecuting me. Now I'm going to live with you, and now I'm going to die with you.' I love Canada. I'm going to live here, and I'm going to die here."

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# NATIONAL

National Editor  
Amanda Steiner  
asteiner@thecord.ca

## Tuition grant ready for January

### Canada in brief



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TAYLOR GAYOWSKY GRAPHICS EDITOR

#### Three girls allegedly murdered for honour

According to the Record, three girls allegedly killed by their family over honour had complained to police, child protection authorities and social workers just months before their deaths. Their father and brother assaulted them and their mother feared for their lives, court heard Tuesday.

They reported that the eldest daughter, Zainab, 19, ran away from home to a women's shelter a little more than two months before the girls' bodies were found in a submerged car. The girls' parents, Tooba Mohammad Yahya, 41, and Mohammad Shafia, 58, and their brother Hamed Mohammad Shafia, 20, are accused of killing them, as well as Shafia's other wife in a polygamous marriage.

—Compiled by Amanda Steiner

—cover

want people to take out a loan just to be eligible for the grant so we made sure it was unhinged."

If all goes as planned, by 2012, students can opt-in for the grant online. "So for the first semester of 2012, reimbursement will probably be by cheque because it can't be automatic," Madden explained. "And it will likely be an Internet opt-in process."

Madden did admit to some technical limitations to the grant such as the Canadian Revenue Agency denying the universities the authority to do the income check themselves but rather have it done by the government as a third party.

"Because of payment processes and timelines," he said, "It'll have to be a reimbursement [process] for

the first bit. But we expect it to be fully functional September 2012."

"We think it's progressive in a lot of ways," Madden added of OUSA's stance on the proposed grant.

"One, it's unhooked from OSAP which we like. Two, it still preserves tax credits. We're not nuts about tax credits — that's a whole other issue because tax credits don't really help with upfront access. It really only benefits the wealthy at the time. That aside, we like the fact that tuition is being charged and then reimbursed as opposed to a tuition reduction." This allows student to keep full effect of their tax credits which Madden said would be helpful upon graduation, easing the financial burden a little bit.

"I like that it's targeted to those that need it most," Madden said. "As

opposed to across the board tuition reduction."

Laurier student Greg Phillips voiced his concerns with the grant. "I heard in class that in the fine print it says that it's possible it could come into effect by 2016. I'm sceptical — but still hopeful because it would be really helpful. But they're pretty vague on the details and how plausible it actually is."

Other concerns raised about the grant were related to the restrictions and qualifications.

"Some people felt it should have been an across the board tuition reduction for everybody," Madden explained. "And that's a fair argument. But I think this has quite a bit of positive impact for people who need it most."

He continued to say, "Some of

the typically underrepresented groups thought the program should be extended to them, i.e. anybody whose independent but has other pressures. We'd like to see the program extended to them, and we've brought that up with the government, but they want the grant to be exactly the election promise that they said."

Madden did explain, however that the government does plan to address existing programming for underrepresented groups.

"The big job right now is to make sure that everyone is aware of the grant and does opt-in," Madden said. "So that will be our big promotional activity. There's going to be a roll out campaign and there will be a website." Students can submit a hard application as well.

#### Visual arts at Queen's in question

(CUP) Kingston, Ont. — The future of visual arts studies at Queen's University is uncertain as enrolment for the school's bachelor of fine arts program has been suspended for the next academic year.

The stop to new admissions is due to a lack of resources, according to an announcement made by associate dean of arts and science Gordon E. Smith. But the announcement potentially reflects a larger opposition towards the fine arts at universities in general, according to those within art faculties.

—By Lee Richardson, CUP Ontario Bureau Chief

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# Born this way: Breaking

In light of Trans\* Awareness Week, Features Editor **Bree Rody-Mantha** profiles one trans woman on labels, discrimination and why she does

Jane\* is not unlike any other young woman at Laurier. She loves her program, stresses about getting things done on time, spends a lot of her time with her friends, has a younger sister back home whom she adores and volunteers on campus.

However, one aspect of the second-year music student's identity has unfortunately made her an easy target for alienation and abuse.

Jane is a trans woman, meaning that although she was born with a male body, she always knew that who she was on the inside didn't quite line up.

"Gender is socially constructed," explained Rainbow Centre coordinator Chris Owen. "From the moment you're born it's like, 'You have a penis, you're a boy. You have a vagina, you're a girl.'"

The Rainbow Centre, Laurier's safe space for members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) community, coordinated last week with the Centre for Women and Trans\* People to host their second annual celebration of Trans Awareness Week, a week dedicated to rejecting transphobia, gender binary and social norms surrounding gender.

In honour of the week, The Cord sat down with Jane and listened to her story, learned what life as a trans woman entails and gained perspective on what is still an under-exposed topic.

## An outside metamorphosis

"A trans person is someone whose gender does not match the one that they were assigned at birth," Owen elaborated. "They may transition — or they may not."

The physical transition is a process that some trans people go through so that their physical body matches their gender. The process usually begins with hormone therapy, followed by supplementary surgeries such as chest surgery and the filing of the Adam's apple and finally full gender reassignment surgery involving the reconstructing of the genitalia.

Not all transition processes are the same, but Jane is someone who intends to fully physically transition. Though she hasn't begun hormone therapy yet, she has big plans for the future.

"I intend to go all the way," she explained. "Ideally I would like to be able to have kids but I know that's not possible. Hopefully someday medical developments will allow me that possibility."

Right now I'm just trying to correct a mistake that nature — or God, or whatever you believe in — made. Mistakes happen."

"Even when you get into those little subculture labels — like jock, nerd, band geek — there are different gender roles you have to fit into," Jane explained. "There always seems to be that division between how a boy is supposed to act and how a girl is supposed to act."

Jane was aware of the social stereotypes surrounding gender from a very young age.

"When you're little and you play with toys, boys are supposed to be into the big, strong, burly athletic types — those are their heroes," she said. "Girls, you're taught to be more sweet and submissive — princess-types."

When Jane decided to come out this summer, she took a risk and tied her long black hair back and put on women's clothes on a night out with friends. "It felt amazing," she recalled.

"I was out with a group of friends and we decided to go bar-hopping," she explained excitedly. "At one bar it was ladies night, ladies didn't have to pay cover, and I got in for free."

Of course, since embracing her identity, Jane still has several bumps to get over. "I'm not very good with hair or makeup yet," she admitted. "But I'm learning!"

## Fitting in

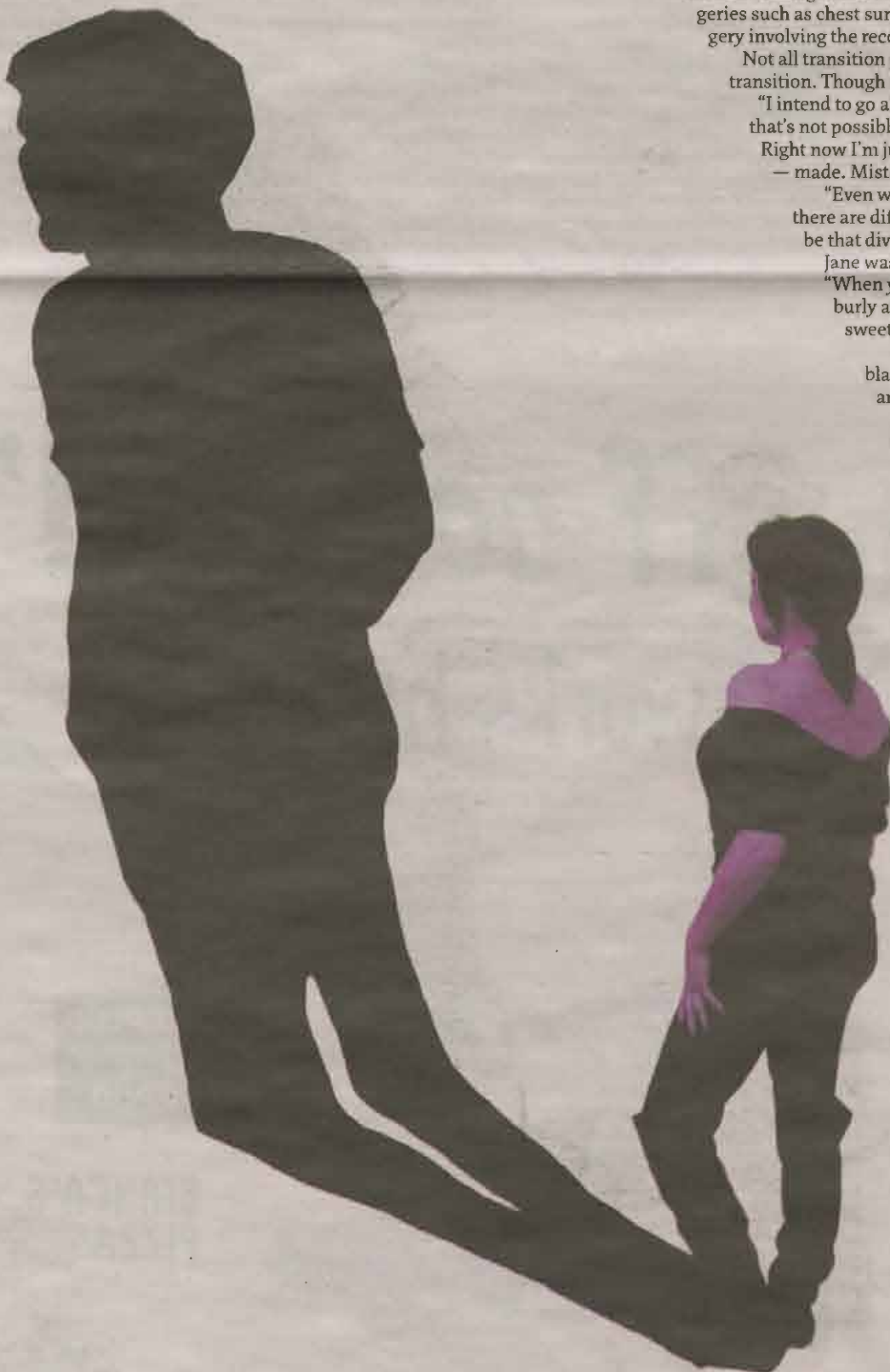
Since her coming out, things haven't been as simple as dressing up and having fun with her girlfriends. Like almost all trans people, Jane has had to deal with ignorance.

Jane had apprehensions before returning to Laurier at the end of this past summer. "I had prepared myself for the worst, but no one really said or did anything that was very hurtful — to my face. What I found was it was more of a passive-aggression," she said.

"I'm getting looks like, 'Ew, look at that... whatever.' I think people are bothered but they're not telling me because they don't think they're supposed to, but that mentality was still there. It isn't always something people understand, sometimes it goes against their belief system."

Because of the lack of positive portrayal of trans people in the media, transphobia still runs rampant in many settings. While Jane has stated that she's never been explicitly attacked for her gender expression, she feels that being trans makes her peers squeamish around her. "Everything I do is sort of put through a lens," she said. "I'm a very touchy-feely person and I like to hug everyone, but I'm the only one getting flack for it. Someone might do something like, when they get too drunk just make out with everyone, and that's more accepted."

Owen, who spearheaded



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## Trans facts and fiction

1. "Transsexual" and "transgender" mean the same thing. **Fiction** — "T" one who is physically changing their gendered parts, though the term is used to describe a community.
2. "Female" and "male" are nouns. **Fiction** — Advocacy groups are "female" and "male" are descriptors, not nouns.
3. Transphobic attacks are not recognized as hate crimes. **Fact** — Race, gender, religion or sexuality are considered hate crimes, but transphobic attacks are not classified as hate crimes.
4. All trans people transition physically. **Fiction** — Many trans people do not transition physically.
5. There are safe spaces at most schools for trans people. **Fact** — Most schools have safe spaces for trans people, and some have trans-specific organizations like the Rainbow Centre and the Centre for Women and Trans\* People.



# g gender stereotypes

es one Laurier student living the trans experience. She shares her insights  
e doesn't feel fully safe to be "out"

2010's celebration of Trans Awareness Week, agreed that students may be suffering from underexposure to trans-specific issues and vocabulary. "Just because you were born with a certain body doesn't mean you identify as a man or woman," Owen clarified. "And you could identify as both, or neither. You could go back and forth day by day, and that's okay."

School has just been one of the hurdles of the transition. Back at home, Jane is dealing with her parents' struggle to accept her identity. "They didn't react in the worst way possible," she said. "They didn't kick me out or anything. But my father goes back and forth from one day saying, 'I love you no matter what,' to, 'you'll never be a real woman, you can't have kids.'"

Many trans people feel that public bathrooms are one of the most difficult aspects of being out in public, especially before the point of physical transition or passing. Many public places in Canada have debated implementing non-gender specific washrooms, which would aid in relieving some of the anxieties that trans individuals feel.

Recently, schools in Western Canada made news when they debated the implementation of gender-neutral washrooms.

Though Laurier has not yet discussed the matter, Jane has found that there are many trans-positive spaces and people on campus. "The Rainbow Centre has been wonderful," she said, "And my friends, my roommates [and] the people I volunteer with have all been a great support."

Compared to others, Jane has had it easy so far. November 20 is an international Trans day of remembrance to honour those who have lost their lives to both transphobic violence and suicide as a result of depression or alienation.

According to the Trevor Project, a resource used to assist young victims of homophobic abuse and prevent suicide, trans people represent 31 per cent of suicides every year, and at least 50 per cent of trans people make at least one suicide attempt by their 20th birthday.

"Everything I do is sort of put through a lens. I'm getting looks like, 'Ew, look at that.'"

—Jane, trans student

The suicide rates are tragic,

but sadly not alarming when considering the amount of violence against trans people. The Transgender Community Health Project reports that 86 per cent of trans people experience verbal abuse and discrimination on a regular basis, and 35 per cent are victims of physical violence. Trans adults also report experiencing discrimination when applying for work or seeking housing. The organization Youth Pride reports that over 90 per cent of trans students feel unsafe on their high school, college and university campuses.

With the safe spaces on her side, Jane feels empowered but still apprehensive. "I like that I can feel safe to be myself here," she said. "But at the same time because of the reactions I've gotten from some people, I'm not going to go around like, 'Hi, I'm trans!' I'd kind of just like to be a Jane Doe."

## Hurtful words and assumptions

Like many members of the LGBT community, Jane feels that many students don't think about their word choice. "I can't stand hearing people say 'that's so gay,'" she said. "It's all about the meaning behind it — if you think that 'gay' is a bad thing on the same level as 'stupid,' it makes [gay people] feel less human."

Two of Jane's least favourite words to hear are "shemale" and "tranny." "Shemale's a bit worse to me, because I've heard 'tranny' sometimes used affectionately between [trans] people, but 'shemale' is definitely the most offensive trans-specific word you could say."

Owen feels that one problematic assumption resulting from a lack of exposure is the frequent confusion of drag performers with trans people. "A drag performer is somebody who identifies with the gender they were assigned at birth — usually, not always — and simply dresses in drag and performs as the opposite sex."

Labels aside, Owen also added that it's important to know that even when accepting trans people, nothing is black and white. "You shouldn't have to choose," he said, referring to the gender roles we're assigned from birth. "My very best friend in the world is gender-queer and identifies as both a woman and a man." He explained that because of his relationship with his best friend, he felt compelled to be involved in trans issues in university.

Jane echoed these feelings. "I don't want it to be like there's four genders — man, woman, trans man and trans woman — that's not how it is."

"You've got people from all fronts who will try to tear you down," said Jane. "Even some people who are more towards the left and more open to homosexuality and stuff don't fully understand it."

"I don't want to make it sound like it's horrible," she said. "It's worth it. If it's really what you want, it's worth the world."

\* = Name has been changed for the safety of the interviewee.

## fiction

tion — "Transsexual" is a medical term for someone whose gender identity is often misused. Trans people are working hard to emphasize that "female"

Fact — In Canada, attacks motivated by one's gender identity are common, but attacks prompted by a difference in gender identity are less frequent.

Fact — Many trans people choose to only transition partially or not at all.

Fact — Most universities have a safe space for trans students. At Laurier currently there are Trans\* People exist as safe spaces for trans folk.



PHOTOS BY NICK LACHANCE

PHOTO MANIPULATION BY WADE THOMPSON AND TAYLOR GAYOWSKY

# EDITORIAL

Opinion Editor  
Joseph McNinch-Pazzano  
jmcninchpazzano@thecord.ca

## Expletive-filled Twitter rant unbecoming of public figure

New Democrat Pat Martin became a trending topic on Twitter after his political adversaries called his expletive-filled rant into question. In response to the Conservative government limiting debate on the budget, Martin called the decision “a fucking disgrace” and said “fuck you” to one of his followers who called him a “foul mouth socialist.”

While it is refreshing that a member of parliament has offered such candor about their positions, this type of conduct is unbecoming of a public figure and Martin should refrain from using such language in his tweets, especially while in the House of Commons. While the first tweet is more excusable than the one directed at a voter, it was inappropriate of Martin to portray his frustration in such a way.

Calls for Martin to apologize, however, are misguided for several reasons. First, any apology he issued would be empty and insincere. Martin clearly has strong feelings of animosity toward the Harper government and he shouldn't apologize for holding such beliefs.

Second, Martin does have a point about the conduct of the Harper government and, at the very least, he incited a conversation about the validity of the Conservatives' decision to limit debate. Martin is correct in questioning whether this type of limitation is becoming of a proclaimed democracy. Furthermore, his passion in addressing this issue — while exerted in an over-the-top fashion — is commendable.

Twitter and, by extension, social media in general is a tremendous platform for politicians to connect with their constituents and provide a real-time account of the processes of government. By no means should MPs limit their use of social media or shy away from it in the wake of Martin's misstep.

Yet, all MPs should take a lesson from this and realize that social media is no different than standing up to give a speech in the House of Commons. It will be scrutinized and debated in the same way. Being an accessible government official is of paramount importance and MPs must never lose sight of that, but they must also keep their comments respectful.

They are, after all, the representatives of our country. They should act like it.

—The Cord Editorial Board

## Effectiveness of We Day should be questioned

There is no doubt that the We Day event held last week at the Kitchener Memorial Auditorium was well-intentioned, designed to inspire the 6,000 students who attended to make the world a better place. It is important to question, though, how much of this event is actually about making a difference and how much of it is about making a big splash.

While other speakers attended the conference, the ones who received the media attention afterward were the celebrities. What began as a grassroots event to inspire youth has become a place for celebrities to get some press and attract a crowd. How much could the celebrity class be accomplishing on its own if it actually harnessed its massive collective monetary potential to do good deeds?

At the root of We Day is a group called Free the Children, founded by brothers Craig and Marc Kielburger who set out to abolish child labour in the third world. The benefits of the foundation, however, have been called into question.

GiveWell, an organization that evaluates the intentions of various charitable organizations, did not clear Free the Children based on two criteria: the lack of substantial evidence regarding the impact of the charity's work and the lack of quantitative assessment available to judge the charity's effectiveness. As the organizers for this event, Free the Children should be providing a broader picture of the effectiveness of its aid.

As an inspirational event, it is well executed and hopefully students actually take something away from it. It is necessary, however, to evaluate the actual aid that this event generates and whether it is truly about changing the world.

—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 WLUSP.*

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# Anti-bullying bill more harmful than helpful



BREE RODY-MANTHA  
FEATURES EDITOR

In light of the disturbingly high number of recent teen suicides — many being members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered and queer (LGBTQ) community — the state of Michigan has finally passed a bill that would force all schools to develop anti-bullying policies, ensuring the protection of children who are victimized.

The law was given the name “Matt's safe school law” after East Lansing's Matt Epling who ended his life after years of abuse at the hands of his peers.

Problematically, shortly before the passing of the bill, state senate Republicans tacked on a statement that bullying based on “a sincerely held religious belief or moral conviction of a school employee, school volunteer, pupil or a pupil's parent or guardian” was to be an exception to these anti-bullying policies.

This statement assures that LGBTQ students will still be denied protection by their schools.

The Republican state legislature has stated that they are looking to find a middle ground that does not “enumerate specific groups for extra protection,” but also a bill that “would [not] provide an excuse for someone to bully someone else.”

When will Republicans and other anti-gay groups accept that providing the LGBTQ community with the rights to not walk out their doors and be harassed is not “extra protection?”

Additionally, it is not ridiculous to say that the LGBTQ community is in need of extra protection as long as there is extra ammunition against them. The Bible cannot be used as a baby blanket to

“There is a large line-up of critics who claim that bullies are merely exercising their right to free speech. The “free speech” debate can stretch on for days, but free speech does not condone abuse.

justify picking on a child for having acne, wearing hand-me-down clothes or being poor, but some Christians — those who clearly don't model themselves after Christ himself — use it as a baby blanket to justify homophobia.

Sometimes, extra protection is necessary.

In their tweaking of this once well-intentioned bill, the Republicans have done exactly what they claim to be against and have provided students excuses to torment peers who happen to be part of the LGBTQ community or have parents who are part of that community.

They have also inadvertently enumerated a specific group for extra protection — religious students (though one has to wonder to what extent Republicans would want this law to protect, say, Muslim students.)

The religious right often attempts to paint itself as a persecuted minority, specifically when it comes to in-school politics. Outrageous and most likely exaggerated claims have been made that schools allow students of non-Christian

religions to pray in school, but outright punish Christian students who pray. All claims that Christian students are victims in the schools no longer hold any water now that state law gives them carte blanche to abuse others in the name of their religious beliefs.

This law also even excuses educators and school administrators from alienating these students when they are the ones who should be providing comfort and protection.

As someone who was the victim of bullying for many years in elementary school, I can safely say that the schools need to play a large part in offering students protection.

Many critics of anti-bullying legislation claim that all damage control can be done in the home.

I was one student who was lucky enough to have a supportive family as well as a single supportive teacher — my music teacher — who allowed me to spend my lunch hours in her classroom instead of out in the schoolyard with my tormentors. Not every child has such luxury. Many have a difficult time being open with their parents, especially when it comes to matters such as their sexuality or gender identity.

There is also a large line-up of critics who claim that bullies are merely exercising their right to free speech. The “free speech” debate can stretch on for days, but free speech does not condone abuse.

No one will ever find a way to give every group the right to say anything without infringing on someone's rights. However, when children are at stake, it's best to go with the solution which causes the least amount of pain and suffering for everyone.

That was not the solution that was chosen here.

Bullies — whether they are Christian, atheist, Muslim or Jewish — do not deserve justification for their actions. Bullying is never justified — that's why it's bullying.

# Greece was on the verge of debt crisis for years



ALEXANDROS MITSIOPOULOS  
CORD CONTRIBUTOR

I was sitting at an intersection in my uncle's car in Athens on one of my days off this past April. We were idling in a traffic jam at one of the busiest intersections following another routine general strike by the electric company. This was the third day without traffic lights city wide. I noticed a motorist get out of his car, approach another, then proceeded to pull the driver out and beat him with a tire iron.

I looked at my uncle for some sort of acknowledgment of what had happened. He turned to me as if he had woken up from a daydream. "Forget about it, Alex," he tells me. "People are just really tense right now." Fast-forward seven months and the discontent is just as prevalent. Pressures from the European Union (EU) to find a solution to the debt crisis and help restore balance to the global economy have taken its toll on tiny Greece.

In years past, general strikes were seemingly unremarkable. They became as routine as the Easter holiday year after year. However tensions have risen beyond civil disobedience. That moment of inception seemed to be in May 2010 when three employees were burned alive at the Marfin bank following a petrol bomb attack in Athens.

With a grim outlook both in the economic and social realms, all eyes are on political leadership as it suffers its own crisis of sorts.

The last in the Papandreou political dynasty, Greek Prime Minister Georgos Papandreou had made clear his defiance to see out the rest of his term despite his claims to the contrary. In fact, it should have come without surprise to onlookers of the Greek political theatre.

His demise began with the announcement of the referendum, once again hurdling Europe into economic despair. Following an emergency meeting in Cannes and dominating the itinerary at the G20



MITCHELL CHEESEMAN  
GRAPHICS ARTIST

summit, Papandreou faced censure domestically as well. Upon return, three members of parliament (MPs) from his own Panhellenic Socialist Movement (PASOK) party nearly crossed the floor. Having just barely survived a confidence vote after finally scrapping the referendum, it was clear that Papandreou would not be able to muster the two-thirds support to approve the EU bailout proposal on his own.

Many have called to question the reasons behind calling a referendum in the first place. Internationally educated, Papandreou had the capacity to foresee the volatility in his choice. What was it that compelled him to suggest a referendum without the consultation of his cabinet nor his EU partners? As always the answer is both simple and complicated.

Papandreou received harsh criticism for the way he handled Greece's finances. He has faced resistance from within PASOK, from the opposition and from Greek citizens who have challenged what has now become one of the toughest austerity measures ever to be implemented in recent memory. Papandreou has been accused of abandoning the wellbeing of the Greek people in favour of investors and the financial sector.

Furthermore, Papandreou is held accountable for submitting to the will of his EU colleagues, sacrificing the sovereignty and integrity of

Greece's statehood. Casually understood that the idea came from a public poll, Papandreou wanted to gain Greece's public endorsement of the austerity measures and ultimately its continuing membership in the EU.

Despite best intentions the plan did not work. Good intentions are typically the first casualties in crises, a sentiment well learned following the defeat of Kostas Karamanlis in 2009. Papandreou's actions didn't take long to reverberate off of local news media and paint a vivid image of the short time that remained for him in office. His decision to go along with a referendum is evidence of a disempowered leader acting in desperation to gather whatever support remained. He acted out of frustration with a brash and myopic plan. Having lost all credibility and heeding aggressive calls, Papandreou formally stepped down earlier this month.

In his place, Lucas Papademos has assumed the thankless role of interim Greek prime minister. Outside of conventional political circles and armed with a coalition government, he stands as the best chance Greece has to move forward with the EU. While still knee-deep in debt, now is a time for prioritization. Among many qualities, Papademos possesses a profound self awareness.

He realizes that he serves a very limited and functional role: the implementation of the EU austerity package. Having just won a vote of confidence and cabinet approval of the 2012 budget, Papademos should be able to proceed unobstructed despite some minor setbacks from the far-right.

Greece had within its grasp a beautiful moment of reinvention; a moment to refute its past of nepotism and corruption and prove that it still belonged as a robust member of the world's largest single-market union.

That moment was lost somewhere between Syntagma Square and the Marfin Bank.

Perhaps, next time I'm in Greece, banners will be brandished on every street corner as a parody of the British wartime morale posters, prompting me to: "Keep calm and always pay your debts."



ROSALIE EID PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

## I would think twice about getting inked



BREE BORSELLINO  
OPINION COLUMNIST

Anyone who takes the bus frequently, or even those who submerge themselves in public crowds, knows how diverse this country's people are. So many different cultures, ethnicities and religions can be seen anywhere you look. That's partially why I love people-watching — it can be so interesting. But something I saw a few months back is only now really making me think about tradition, culture and religion and how they intertwine. I've seen this "something" numerous times throughout my life, but one recent incident made me look at it differently.

I was heading towards school on the iXpress when a man came on the bus and took a seat. Upon first glance I could tell that the guy was a bit different and I don't mean different in an insulting way — it's more of an expressive or possibly artistic kind of different. He had piercings on multiple places of his face: one on his eyebrow, several in his ears and he also had snakebite piercings. When I saw the rest of his appearance though, I was both amazed and confused. His arms, legs and neck were covered with an intricate and complex lacing of tattoos. It was amazing to me because it was so colourful and elaborate in its designs, but I was confused because I know the pain of getting even just one tattoo since I held my best friend's hand when she got hers.

After I got off the bus, I completely forgot about him. But any time I see someone with a tattoo, a picture from my memory of that man comes back into my mind. It's something that continues to intrigue me, so I figured I'd do some research about tattoos: their place in culture, religion and tradition. The practice of tattooing the human body has been going on for thousands of years and has mostly meant something personal to the person acting as a canvas. According to Cate Lineberry, tattoos have "served as amulets, status symbols, declarations of love, signs of religious beliefs, adornments and even forms of punishment." I completely understand the meanings of status symbols, love declarations and religious signs, but I can't help but wonder why people would actually want to engrave

“  
The idea of getting a tattoo is somewhat enticing to me, simply because I really like art, but it's also a bit nerve-wracking since it's permanent. I say, why would I waste the money?

something into their skin. It just seems too painful to me.

Tattoos were most likely first seen on the mummies of ancient Egyptians, but I'm going to take a stab and say that Egyptians dated around 2000 B.C. had many different beliefs, practices and religions than what we have today in Canada. I'm relating this specifically to the "I heart Ian" or "I heart Jessica" tattoos that I see on so many young adults who think they're in love but end up splitting.

My point is that Egyptians may have had a much deeper meaning and relation behind their tattoos than what we place behind ours today. Perhaps most of their tattoos were symbols of their religion, something deeply rooted in their beliefs and something they'd hold onto before and after their lives. Once again relating to my example of the "I heart" tattoos, my older sister always tells me to never get one because they're addicting, and I'll probably regret anything I have written or drawn on my body because I'm so young.

Thinking about it, I can honestly say that I agree with her. The idea of a tattoo is somewhat enticing to me, simply because I really love art, but it's also a bit nerve-wracking since it's permanent. And the process of removing it, I'm guessing, will be just as painful and as expensive as getting it done. So why would I waste my money?

I know a few people who are completely against getting tattoos and of course some who are totally for it. I'd say I'm more neutral about the subject. As cultural symbols, I think tattoos are awesome, but I'd definitely think twice about having Winnie the Pooh stamped on my arm.

## Online this week:

**Hayden Starczala** explores the ongoing Iran-Israel dispute

**Amelia Calbry-Muzyka** says Penn State created a culture that condoned Joe Paterno's actions

**Ian Merkley** favours the Keystone oil pipeline and why it's good for the American economy

**Chris Oberle** on how student clubs can finance their activities



## You Know What Yanks My Cord ...

... campus construction. Someone said to me during the summer that there are two seasons in Canada: winter and construction. In that case, Laurier has one season: construction. In all my time at Laurier, I do not think there has ever been a point there has not been construction.

I get that Laurier is a growing school, and that we need to create more space, but if you think about it, little of the recent construction does, except for the new Global Innovation Exchange building.

Firstly, this construction inconveniences everyone. For well over a year now, students coming from numerous residences have been hindered by all the construction, especially by the area blocked off near the Terrace. While I understand that construction is a necessary part of general upkeep, what possible projects have taken this long? In addition, what construction company has managed to make the job last this long? It seems to me that something is wrong here.

Secondly, why did they destroy St. Michael's. Now I have always had a soft spot for St. Mike's, something about early morning tutorials in first year, it just seems like a fitting place. I realize that because our school is expanding we need more classroom space, but it is a huge inconvenience.

Once again, we see the bourgeois business students stomping on the proletariat arts students. It is not the business students who suffer for their newer, bigger, classier building, but it is built on the backs of arts students. These arts students are forced to take additional Friday classes in the most obscure, inconvenient classrooms.

Once again, we see where the administration's priorities are situated: give the business kids everything, fuck the arts students.

The worst part of all is we are paying for it. You and I are paying to be inconvenienced and to have our classes moved all around. What a lovely waste of money.

— Alex Reinhart

## ARTS

Arts Editor  
Liz Smith  
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## The Darcys play abbreviated Maxwell's set

COLLEEN CONNOLLY  
CORD ARTS

One of Toronto's latest up and coming rock bands, The Darcys, played a show alongside Amos the Transparent on the stage of Maxwell's Music House this past Thursday evening. The venue provided an intimate setting for the young musicians, placing them in close range to a rather modest and scattered audience.

With a hauntingly mellow electronic ambiance to their music, the atmosphere was ideal for a fan of the particular genera. However, it is safe to say The Darcys have a sound that is all their own.

"We've focused a lot in the last few years on creating our own sound as far as the noise is concerned on the record. It's a lot of distortion and delay noise and that is something that a lot of bands aren't doing. Instead of going out there and trying to replicate something that's been done. We try to create our own [sound]," said drummer Wes Marskell in an interview with The Cord.

This particular quality makes The Darcys hard to pin-point in regards to style. "The tagline has been art rock, but we're just a rock band I think. Because we don't have the standard verse chorus layout of the songs we get that art rock label because they're not structured like pop songs. But we're more or less just a rock band, in my mind anyways,"



THE DARCYS CONTRIBUTED IMAGE

commented Marskell.

With a new record released this year that can be downloaded for free on the band's website, Waterloo was just a short stop in The Darcys' recent promotional tour across Canada. Unfortunately, the stop

was much shorter than we could have expected, as the band finished up their set after only a few songs without much more of an explanation than that a member had taken ill.

Later, the band took to their

Twitter, letting fans know, "Dave [The Darcys bassist] fainted during our set tonight in Waterloo. He is feeling better now. Sorry to everyone who came out & we will see you tomorrow in Toronto."

The Darcys' recently released

self-titled record marks a significant point in the progression of The Darcys' musical career, according to the band.

"We were very unknown, and then all of a sudden this record came out. 2006 was when we sort of became a band, but we were just a bunch of drunk dudes who wanted to meet girls in Halifax and then when we made this record it was a little bit more serious. We had one record before this one but it doesn't count in the same way," remarked Marskell.

Developed over the last three years, the record has been quite a project for The Darcys as Marskell explained, "It has a lot to do with distance and space and recreating emotions. There's a lot of noise on the record and we sort of try to make these noises to create moments."

The group truly embodies the dream of every aspiring Canadian garage band, having gone through the same struggles along the way without accepting defeat.

"I've been doing this for such a long time as just guys, growing up, being in a band in high school," reflected Marskell, continuing, "I think it's really easy to get discouraged if your band breaks down or your lead singer quits. But if you have the drive and push through these things, miraculous things can happen."

Faculty of Music presents: *Such Sweet Sorrow*ALANNA FAIREY  
STAFF WRITER

The Wilfrid Laurier University faculty of music's latest production, *Such Sweet Sorrow: an Evening of Modern Opera Excerpts*, successfully accomplished the task of appealing to Wilfrid Laurier students and alumni alike. *Such Sweet Sorrow* is a poignant production dealing with themes of religion and the consequences that result in a lack of faith.

The production, which took place in the Maureen Forrester Recital Hall on Nov. 18 and Nov. 19, presented three excerpts from compositions written by Laurier alumni and students. Andrea Wingelaar directed the production while Leslie De'Ath and Wayne Strongman contributed an elaborate musical element. The three excerpts of the operas were listed as *May 23*, written by fourth-year composition major David Foley, *One Lump or Two* by Laurier alumnus Glenn James and *Ruth* by

Laurier alumnus Jeffrey Ryan.

Each production centred on the prevalent themes of faith, while presenting in various forms feelings of angst, comic relief and religious motifs through the use of song. The immense talents of the cast were the main attraction, overpowering the simplistic setting and basic black costumes.

The cast sang in perfect harmony, never missing a beat and projecting their powerful voices for those sitting in the back of the theatre. Several songs had the power to send goosebumps down the backs of audience members. Although all three excerpts were successful, Foley's *May 23* was the most memorable and poignant performance of the evening.

*May 23*, which follows the life of a man named Henry and his disconnection from the world around him, was Foley's first production. "I didn't expect it to go to production. I was just writing it and hoped

it would be produced but through talking to the opera directors here, I managed to get it on the program," Foley shared.

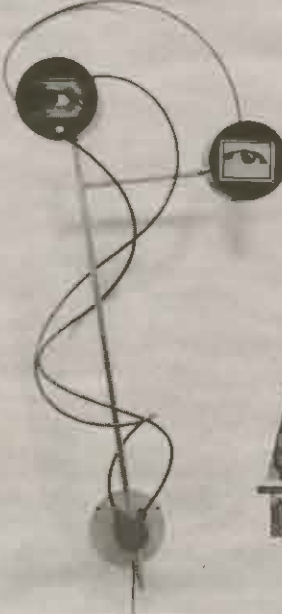
The inspiration for *May 23* came to Foley at the end of his second year of study at Laurier, when he first became interested in opera. During this time, Foley had also seen a film that coincided with his ideas and love of opera. He then decided to take a risk and began to write the play. *May 23*, which deals with the theme of suicide, is Foley's way of reaching out to those who are suffering.

"One message that I want to put forth is that sometimes suicide is the only option to some people's lives and we should be able to stop them before it has to come to that," Foley added.

The faculty of music was successful in their production of *Such Sweet Sorrow*, as they continued to display the talented singers and composers that study at Laurier.



NICK LACHANCE PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER  
Samantha Pickett and Adam Dyjach prep for the evening's events.




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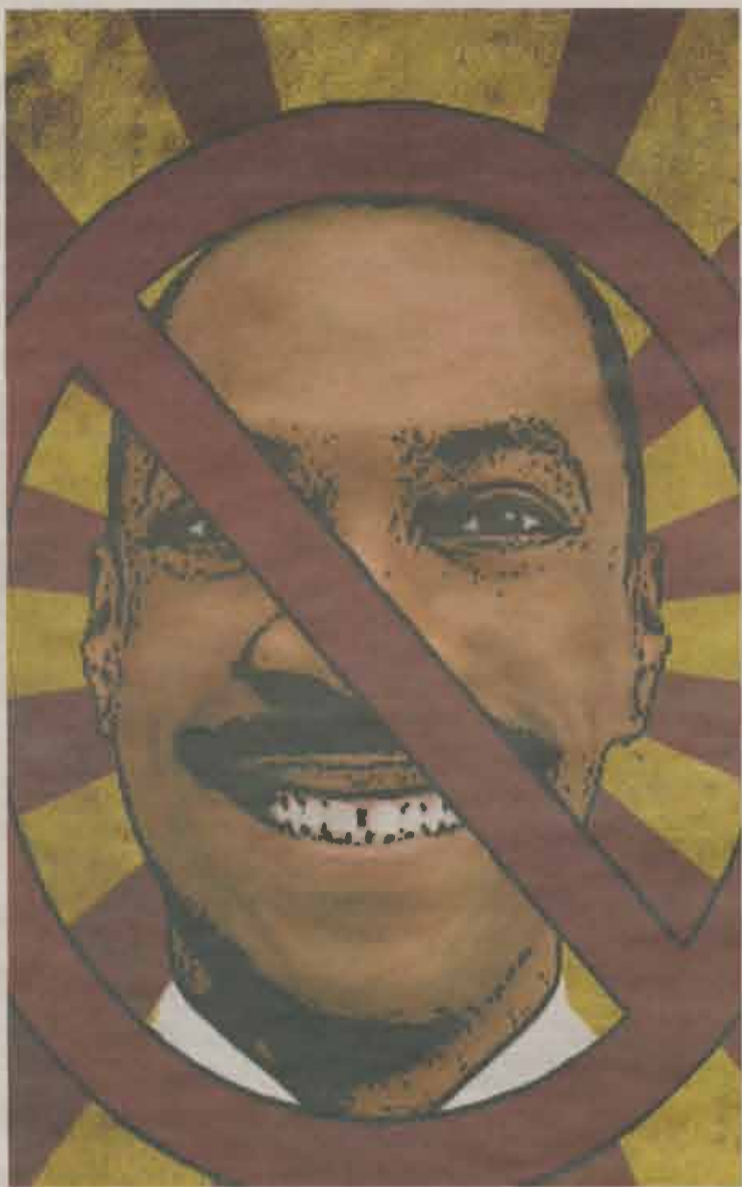
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JESSICA MITRA GRAPHICS ARTIST

# Academy drama continues

Switching producers and host, the Oscars scramble to please

KEVIN HATCH  
CORD ARTS

After last year's Academy Awards ceremonies were widely considered to be the worst in years, the Academy was left in a dark place. As co-host Anne Hathaway's bubbly enthusiasm failed to counterbalance the dead weight that was her hosting counterpart, the leaden James Franco, who was infamously rumoured to be high during the ceremonies, it was clear that the anticipated 'young blood' approach to hosting was flagrantly unsuccessful, prompting a revamped approach for this year. Nonetheless, the preparations for the Academy Awards have prompted an uproar of politics, tension and unintentional humour unlike any ceremony in years.

Perhaps most controversial was the appointment of director Brett Ratner of *Rush Hour* and (prepare to gnash your teeth) *X-Men: The Last Stand* fame, as co-producer of the ceremonies.

While some thought Ratner's risqué comedic sensibilities would punch some much needed life into the notoriously dry ceremonies, others were concerned that his usual brand of self-indulgent crudity would dispel the usual vestiges of panache the Academy struggles to maintain.

Ratner's choice of host, comedy legend Eddie Murphy, elicited feelings of relief in many, though many

remained anxious that the reprised collaboration of the two would turn the Oscars into *Tower Heist 2* — flimsy satire and ill-conceived racial humour included.

At any rate, it seemed apparent that, whether promising or cringe-worthy, the Academy appeared to be tapping into public sensibilities to try to again, to do something pointedly different than the past.

However, this was not to be the case. During a publicity tour for *Tower Heist*, Ratner's mouth got the better of him, resulting in him making several crude references to his sex life and (allegedly unintentional) homophobic slurs. Despite numerous public apologies by Ratner, the publicity backlash led to him "resigning" as producer, with friend and collaborator Murphy quickly following.

Now forced to re-fill the positions of producer and host while subject to considerable scrutiny, it would seem the Academy considered this turn of events as representative of taking a chance on a new approach, as their new appointments, producer Brian Grazer and eight-time host Billy Crystal, epitomized the notion of 'safe'. As Grazer stated, "Humour and comedy are going to be our tentpole. We're not going to try to reinvent the wheel. Our obligation to the Academy is to respect it."

While the reappointment of the beloved Crystal was a source of adulation for many, the Ratner debacle

and the Academy's recovery from it does provide considerable insight into the inner workings of the Academy itself.

Tellingly enough, last year's ceremonies, which arguably took the biggest chance in a while with the youngest hosts to date who were also not specifically anchored as being comedic (like Crystal), also shoehorned in an almost uncomfortably overt succession of allusions to the history and tradition of the Oscars, as if desperately trying to assert more relevance than a burgeoning desire to appear 'hip' and 'cool'.

Likewise this year, in the face of scrutiny and controversy, the Academy reverted to the most traditional, 'safe' framework of the past with Crystal and his patented approach to hosting.

While the adage "if it ain't broke, don't fix it" does come to mind, the projected 'image' of the Oscars in terms of an evolving entity attempting to address a technological age where audiences appear less inclined to sit in a cinema to watch films, remains even more unfixed and uncertain than ever.

It will be interesting to see how the ratings reflect the 'safe' choice of Crystal as host, and whether, in order to reassert relevance, the Oscars will revert to such drastic ends as (God forbid) hiring the *Twilight* stars to host next year's ceremonies.

## Arts bites

The latest news in entertainment

### "Next time on Arrested Development"

As early as 2013, it was announced—last week, new episodes of *Arrested Development* will be produced and streamed through Netflix as part of an exclusive distribution agreement. There is no word on how many cast members will return for the episodes, but the idea seems to be to bring audiences up to speed on the Bluths ahead of the movie to be released sometime after. Fox is probably kicking itself now that Netflix has secured the deal, but that's why you always don't cancel a beloved, ingeniously written show. And it doesn't even take a one-armed man to teach that lesson.

### Elaine against pipeline

*Seinfeld* actress Julia Louis-Dreyfus filmed a clip recently addressing President Barack Obama and calling on him to oppose the Keystone

XL pipeline project. Apparently reformed after her stint in sitcom prison for violating the "Good Samaritan law", Louis-Dreyfus notes that the pipeline could cause catastrophic environmental damage if built.

### Billy Corgan: wrestling promoter

Leader of the Smashing Pumpkins and widely acknowledged insane individual Billy Corgan has taken to promoting wrestling events in his spare time. This is not surprising but nonetheless a fitting anecdote when you hear "Zero" at a party and are asked what Corgan is doing now that the Smashing Pumpkins are an awful reanimated version of the original group.

—Compiled by Mike Lakusiak

Visit [thecord.ca](http://thecord.ca) for arts editor Liz Smith's coverage of the Waterloo Festival for Animated Cinema.

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Find this week's submissions under Life at thecord.ca

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# SPORTS

Sports Editor  
Kevin Campbell  
kcampbell@thecord.ca



ROSALIE EID PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

## Laurier now ranked No. 9 in Canada

—cover

The No. 9 Golden Hawks jumped out to an early 5-0 lead and never looked back from there, scoring 74 by half and being up by 27 going into the third quarter.

Patrick Donnelly, Connor Meschino and Kale Harrison all had 17 points each to lead the team, despite the starters not playing for the fourth quarter.

While the game was not very competitive, Laurier did get the opportunity to showcase their secondary players, something that Campbell appreciates and looks for.

"Guys off the bench, we just want them to control the play, eat up some minutes and avoid trouble," said Campbell.

Against RMC, the Laurier bench did more than just protect the lead, as the Hawks featured a total of six players with 15 points or more.

However, with both games

featuring quite decisive margins of victory, it can be hard for the team to stay focused for four quarters and stick to the hard-working style of play that coach Campbell demands.

Without trying to put a damper on the team's success, Campbell did say that he looks for his star-studded unit to improve once the more challenging opponents come up on the schedule.

"It's where we want to be at this point, but looking down the road, we have got to take care of business," said Campbell who has been with the Golden Hawks since 2000.

"We aren't playing as well as we want, and we've got some big games to come where we will need more out of Harrison, Max [Allin], and hopefully get [Matt] Buckley more involved."

The Golden Hawks' next game comes on Friday when Laurentian University rolls into town. Game time is 8 p.m.

## Mazerolle helps lift Hawks to a perfect weekend

Women's basketball squad notch two more wins and improve to 3-1

**SHELBY BLACKLEY**  
STAFF WRITER

Felicia Mazerolle and Bree Chaput combined for 21 points and the Wilfrid Laurier University's women's basketball team made a strong statement Saturday afternoon, tying for second in the Ontario University Athletics' West division with two wins.

The Golden Hawks easily overcame the Royal Military College (RMC) Paladins 58-44, finishing off their weekend undefeated after taking on the Queen's Gaels Friday night.

Laurier (3-1) showed consistent ball control throughout four quarters, developing swift passes and placing almost ten players on the scoring sheet.

RMC (0-4) was able to put some pressure on the Hawks, scoring more points than the home team in the third quarter and staying almost even in the second and third. However, Mazerolle and Laurier's tight defence proved to be too much for the Paladin girls.

"It was a tough one to play because everyone underestimates RMC," said Mazerolle, a second-year guard. "We came in confident, but not too confident, and adjusted to the way they were playing."

Laurier dominated the first quarter, scoring 16 points and only allowing six against. They extended their lead in the second by outscoring the Paladins 15-12. Chaput racked up nine points to lead the Hawks into the second half.

RMC pressured the Lady Hawks in the third quarter, pulling within six points and finishing the quarter with just a ten-point spread. However, the astonishing play of Doreen Bonsu proved to be too much on its own, as she became an offensive force for the Hawks.

A fourth-quarter rally wrapped up the game as the Hawks dominated the visiting Paladins. Mazerolle finished the match with a beautiful three-pointer that stunned RMC until the final buzzer. Mazerolle also claimed five rebounds and six assists on the day.

"My goal is to get the team going then I can get going. [A] last minute shot like that three-pointer is kind of a lucky shot," laughed the confident point guard. "I played it off like I make that shot all the time."

The Hawks made a strong statement over the weekend, proving that they can adjust to any type of play. The team has been working well, but Mazerolle sees much room for improvement as the season progresses.

"We are looking forward to getting better. We don't want to peak right now," said the guard. "Our goal is to just improve every game and play good defence. It all starts on defence."

Laurier defeated the Queen's Gaels on Friday, 83-60 as Samantha Jacobs tallied 15 points, two rebounds and one assist.

Laurier will "Shoot for the Cure" against the University of Laurentian Voyageurs (1-3) on Friday in the annual Breast Cancer Awareness game. Tip-off will be at 6 p.m.

### GOLDEN HAWK UPDATE

Week of  
Nov 21 -27, 2011

RECENT SCORES

11.17.11

M Hockey 4 - Guelph 1

11.18.11

M Hockey 6 - Brock 3  
W Basketball 90 - Queen's 60  
M Basketball 88 - Queen's 62

11.19.11

M Hockey 6 - Brock 0  
M Hockey 7 - Windsor 4  
W Basketball 58 - RMC 44  
M Basketball 60 - RMC 72

UPCOMING HOME GAMES

11.23.11

W Basketball vs Laurentian  
Athletic Complex, 6:00pm

M Basketball vs Laurentian  
Athletic Complex, 8:00pm

11.26.11

W Basketball vs York  
Athletic Complex, 1:00pm

M Basketball vs York  
Athletic Complex, 3:00pm

LAURIER BOOKSTORE  
ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

Ryan Daniels  
Men's Hockey

Frika Thunder  
Women's Hockey

www.laurierathletics.com  
GET CONNECTED.

Go to [thecord.ca](http://thecord.ca) for Shayne McKay's coverage of the men's hockey game against Western as they handed the team from London their first regulation loss of the season.

## Keystone shout out

To be included in the yearbook and receive a free copy at your convocation you must have your pictures taken before the Dec 17th cut off.

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Marty and Brandy  
Class of 2012

**KEYSTONE**  
Laurier's Official Yearbook

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# Hammertime: the latest weapon in the Golden Hawks' arsenal

The Laurier men's hockey team has another reason to win games in the OUA this season. The player of the game from every win is awarded the "Golden Hammer" and the rights to carry it around school

ERIC THOMPSON  
STAFF WRITER

The Wilfrid Laurier University's men's hockey team consider themselves a well-behaved bunch, but getting hammered now and then isn't out of the question.

The team has found a new source of motivation this season, and it comes in the form of the "Golden Hammer."

"The Golden Hammer was my brain child, I will take full responsibility," said captain Kyle Van De Bospoort. "Although the mechanic [Ryan Daniels] was heavily involved in the fabrication. He was also the first recipient [of the award]."

"A lot of times teams have [motivational tools], like Boston [for the playoffs] had that old jacket that Andrew Ference found on eBay," added Daniels. "Sometimes teams have a hard hat or a tool belt like we've had in the past, but we figured no one could really say they had won a gold hammer before, so we thought this would be a good idea."

The 24-Karat sledgehammer is awarded to one player after every Laurier win. "The Hammer doesn't just go to the guy with most saves; the most goals or points," explained Daniels. "[It's for] if guys make big blocks on the penalty kill or pretty much doing whatever it takes to win. That's what the Hammer exemplifies."

"It's a good tool we brought in this year. It gives guys that extra incentive to work hard and give your body

up for the team," said Zack Shepley. "It's a reward that only one person gets but really at the end of the day when we get a win, it's a team win."

The hammer is given out in recognition immediately following a game, but the perks don't stop there. The winner of the hammer gets ownership, and can do whatever they want with it, until someone else wins it.

"I didn't do anything too special with it, just brought it home and celebrated with the boys," said Shepley. "I was kind of out of commission after that game for awhile, after taking a shot in the foot, so I couldn't carry around an extra hammer with me. I would love to win it again and bring it to class. It's good to bring out and get recognized."

So far this season, the Hammer has been awarded to Daniels (twice), Shepley and forward Tyler Stothers.

After beating Western this weekend the hammer is once again in Daniels' possession. "Winning it feels pretty nice. The hammer is pretty greasy. It's been seen around campus a couple times in class and it's taking part in our Movember campaign. It's pretty much there to just crush skulls and definitely goes out to one of the guys that's the hardest working on the ice, and one of the hardest working guys in the bar too," Daniels joked.

"The Hammer sets a precedent for what's to be expected on and off the ice and in the locker room."

Daniels then proceeded to show

off the power of the hammer, smashing a garbage can around the dressing room. The hammer may be a fearful weapon, but he explained that it has much more personality than that.

"It's like a dear friend. It has feelings and stuff... I know it looks pretty hard and it might not be something you want to approach in public but it's pretty friendly... the hammer likes to be a Golden Hawk too. It bleeds purple and gold and it really believes in our program and our school."

There are more plans for the hammer moving forward, however Daniels said giving it another name is not one of them. "It's just the 'Golden Hammer.' That's pretty much what it is. You can't really give it a name because it literally 'is what it is.' It just does damage."

After this past week, the Laurier squad defeated the No. 4 Western Mustangs 5-4 for Western's first regulation loss of the season.

It was revenge for the Hawks who lost 9-3 in London previously. The hope is that the hammer will become a Laurier hockey tradition for years to come.

There are also plans to engrave the name of past winners in the hammer, so that they will always be honoured.

Even though the hammer hasn't been around for long, the team has rallied around the idea.

The "Golden Hammer" has become the heart of this year's hockey team.



NICK LACHANCE PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

Ryan Daniels has won the rights to the hammer twice.

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