

# CORD SPORTS

The Issue You've Been Waiting For: The Cord Sports Full Colour 2002 - 2003 Year in Review

A special thank you to Carly Beath for the long hours spent putting together the sports collage and thanks to our writers and photographers for the hard work all year, Duff & Boss.

Sports Special Edition

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## Our thoughts: the year revisited

Colin Duffett



Being a Sports Editor has provided an interesting challenge. Late Mondays, late Tuesdays and plenty of other trying times have taught me a thing or two about time management, organization and teamwork.

This Year in Review was the brainchild of Editor-in-Chief Christine Cherry. We feel that the Year in Review will provide a good opportunity for you, the reader, to get your final sports update on your favourite varsity sports teams and will provide us at Cord Sports with a good memento of this year.

I would like to thank a lot of people for helping me with this year. I want to thank all the writers who participated: Bernard, Derek, Shawn, T.J., Craig and Rich, for busting their balls week in and week out for Kristen and I. I want to thank all my fellow Editors for providing some of the craziest times of my life. I want to thank all the Production Assistants for doing all the things that I can't do; without you the section would have looked like shit.

Most importantly, I need to thank my friends and my girlfriend. To those at 204 Lester, thanks for not chewing my head

off for missing all those Monday Night Raws and Thursday Smackdowns. I owe you plenty of wrestling viewing hours. To Melanie, thanks for keeping me going for this long. Your support through the rough times means the world to me; without you, well I'd probably be sitting in a rubber room. I owe you more time than I could ever make up for. To all those who read Cord Sports, thank you for reading the section every week. Without all of you, this section would probably have the same fate as the Business section.

Within this section you'll find articles on all of the varsity sports here at Laurier. Some of the teams this year did rather well, whereas some of them faltered and then stalled. Women's basketball had the season of a lifetime, going all the way to the CIS National Championships. Men's curling and golfer Jim Zwolak were the only males to win a provincial title, namely the OUA gold medal and the Len Shore Trophy, respectively. On the flip side, men's football and men's volleyball had horrible seasons, winning only two games between them.

Every varsity year is a little different from the previous one and next year won't be any different. What 2003 - 2004 has in store is left up to the players and the coaches. Good luck everybody. Me, my luck has run out...I'm headed to News.

Kristen Lipscombe



This year has been a tumultuous one, for both Laurier's varsity athletics scene and for Cord Sports. Due to the firing and hiring of the Cord head honchos and a musical chair-like transition of Editorial Board positions, it has been a bumpy ride for every section, resulting in necessary learning curves for new Editors and organizational backlash. My original Co-Sports Editor this year was current Assignment Editor Caitlin Howlett. However, just as our section began to run smoothly, political turmoil at the Cord hit the proverbial fan. Consequently, I was left to edit sports on my own for quite some time. Midway through the year, my current partner-in-crime, Colin Duffett, joined the Cord Sports Editorial team. Although it took awhile to iron out the kinks, this new partnership between 'Duffman' and myself has turned into a solid working relationship. We hope that you have enjoyed the outcome of our volunteer efforts and of the much harassment we have suffered from our fellow Editorial Board members (i.e. how many sports editors does it take to layout a section?). Although this year has been a roller coaster one for

Cord Sports, we have worked hard to cover as many varsity sports as possible, in combination with an array of intramural, club and professional leagues. With the invaluable assistance of an incredible team of always-willing writers and production assistants (thanks guys!), we believe that we have provided well-rounded coverage of Laurier's sports with continued objectivity and journalistic integrity. Of course, there have always been mistakes to learn from and fresh ideas to consider for our section and overall, my experience as Sports Editor has been an unforgettable adventure, for the most part a positive one.

We finish this year with the first ever Cord Sports Special Edition Varsity Year In Review, something we have been toiling with for the sake of our loyal readers (we know you must be out there...). You can read about our impressive 'men with brooms' or our silver-winning women who skate softly and carry big sticks. You can read about our football fiascoes, volleyball vices, savvy swimmers, synchronized swimmers and very, very cheerful cheerleaders. You can read about our baseball boys...we hear they've got big bats. Our how about our lacrosse ladies...see what they've got up their kilts. We've got soccer success and sorrow, tennis triumph, rugby ear-biting, tee-riffic golfing and some hoop dreams come true. So kick up you feet, if you're hungry grab a Snickers and delve into the world of Golden Hawk Sports.

## Women's basketball earns CIS berth

Bernard Dawson

In a year filled with Laurier athletic disappointment after disappointment, the women's basketball team provided students with a chance to see a winner. Sporting one of the youngest rosters in the nation, the team surprised its faithful fans with a Cinderella type sea-

son, which ended with a run to the CIS Championships. After a regular season that saw the team finish with a 14 - 7 record in the OUA West, the team got hot in the playoffs. After defeating Western, the Hawks lost to McMaster in the OUA West final. In their last shot to make it to the CIS Championships, the OUA bronze medal game against Laurentian,

the Hawks came out on fire. A three-point victory over the Voyageurs sent the Hawks to the CIS Championships; however, the team's run of good luck ran out as they lost both of their games, to Simon Fraser and McMaster. A large factor in the Hawks' success this year was super-rookie Meaghan McGrath, who was named the OUA Rookie of the

Year and was honoured with a place on the CIS All-Rookie Team. Team veteran Dee Channer also came out strong for the Hawks. Her steady play helped to settle a young team filled with rookies and second-year players. Coach Stu Julius was awarded Coach of the Year honours by the OUA for his work with the young group of talented women.



# Hawks with brooms

## Curling only team to win OUA title

Colin Duffett

The men's and women's curling teams took very different turns at the OUA Championships (hosted by Laurier) this season. The men would eventually win the Championships, while the women would finish fifth place in their contest.

The men began the season on a poor note as they started off the year with a 1 - 2 record at the West Sectional Tournament held at Western. The men would improve their record to a decent 5 - 5 after the Crossover Bonspiel held at Brock on

February 1.

The men went on to play their best at the OUA Championships. They finished the tournament with a perfect 5 - 0 record as they outscored their opponents 38 - 18 in their five matches. The OUA gold medal is the first Championship for the team since 1996 - 1997.

The women had a rough regular season. The ladies had a losing year, finishing with a 4 - 6 record which was drastically different from the perfect record that the women maintained in last year's regular season. The Hawks would fail to follow in their fellow curlers' footsteps. Laurier faltered in the finals, finishing with a dismal 1 - 5 record, tying them for a last place finish alongside the equally dismal University of Waterloo Warriors.



Matt Benassi

Women's lacrosse had another strong season, finishing fourth in the OUA

# Lacrosse

Caitlin Howlett

The 2002 women's lacrosse team had three of the four p's - the players, the passion, the potential - but they failed to hold on to the playoffs. Another fourth place finish in the OUA would not go unnoticed, but left the bitter taste of defeat in the mouths of veteran players and a team that only two short seasons ago, captured the coveted title of OUA Champions.

While the strike played alongside most of the ladies' season, the Hawks still managed to forge through most of their tournaments with only a few minor setbacks due to a lack of staff, even having to line their own field on one occasion. However, the Golden Hawks prevailed and ended their season with a boastful 7 - 2 - 1 record. Like many Laurier teams, the stick-wielding ladies had their fair share of injuries. This included veteran goaltender and first year Hawk Stephanie Green, forcing Tamara Watts to fashion her helmet and goalie stick once more.

Falling short in the bronze medal match to Guelph 11 - 10, the ladies ended their season on a sour note with a playoff record of 1 - 0 - 2. The loss of Co-captains Vanessa Cowlen (OUA All-Star) and Kelly McFadyen, as well as fourth-year players Sophie Kotsopoulos, Shivaune Wright, Courtney Campbell and Katie Sandiford, will certainly leave a void to be filled, most likely by third-year attack Caitlin Orth and second homie Cheryl Hooper. A blossoming under-20 league in the province should provide Head Coach Lynn Orth with some fresh new talent, as she looks to rebuild a team capable of securing the OUA title.



Matt Benassi

The men probably lost this game too.

# Skaters figure it out

Kristen Lipscombe

The Lady Hawks varsity figure skaters have improved by leaps and bounds and the team had a successful year overall in 2002 - 2003. In November the skaters competed in the annual Queen's Varsity Skating competition held in Kingston, finishing in third place over all and taking home the bronze. This was the first time that these Hawks had ever medaled in an OUA event.

The Hawks would continue their sweet success throughout the year. In early February the team participated in the Waterloo Invitational tournament at the

Columbia Ice Fields here in Waterloo, with many skaters finishing in the top three for their respective events.

In March, the Hawks skated in the OUA Championships held in Strathroy, Ontario. Laurier skated circles around the competition in one of the most reputable and heavily weighted events at the Championships, synchronized skating, ensuring them first place in that category. Many Hawks finished with second and third place rankings. The Hawks finished fourth overall in the province and had an exceptional season. Look for the Hawks to come out on the ice even stronger next year.



# Swimmers swim

## Delaney and Ross each achieve personal bests at CIS Championships

Kristen Lipscombe

The Hawks jumped in the water for their first competition, hosted by McMaster, in mid-October. Both the men and women fell to the Marauders, although Julie Babin and Clayton Delaney qualified for the CIS Championships in their respective events.

At Western's swim meet on October 26, the Hawks were again defeated. The Campbell Division Championship held at Guelph was no different, but despite the loss a number of individual swimmers had strong performances and both the men's and women's teams finished in fifth place overall at the two-day meet. Veteran swimmer Tara Ross won four events and qualified in the 100-metre Backstroke at the CIS Championships. Babin and

Delaney also reigned victorious in four events.

The OUA Championships transpired at Brock University and saw the women finish eighth and the men finish tenth overall in the province. Coming out of the provincial Championships, five swimmers splashed their way to the Nationals. Delaney, Babin, Ross, Richard Malolepszy and Magda Vavak all traveled to Victoria, British Columbia for the CIS Championships. Delaney managed a personal best in the 100-metre Breaststroke event, finishing eighth, and in the 200-metre Breaststroke event, finishing in fifth place. Ross participated in three consolation swims, achieving personal bests in the 400-metre Individual Medley and the 400-metre Freestyle. Babin won the consolation final in the 400-metre Individual Medley, while Malolepszy

and Vavak fared well at the Championships but did not come out with exceptional results.

Rookie swimmer Delaney is currently preparing for the US Nationals later this month and for the World Championships, which occur in June. Ross has been recruited to train in the Triathlon Centre in Victoria, where she will join elite Canadian athletes such as 2000 Olympic gold medalist Simon Whitfield.

Another highlight for Laurier swimmers this year was the success of Adam Purdy, who managed first place in the S6 Backstroke at the World Championships for swimmers with a disability, held in Mar Del Plata, Argentina. Purdy broke his own record in the event, which he originally set in 2002. He contributed to one of the nation's six gold medals and swam with the team to a bronze medal in the 4x100 metre Medley relay. Purdy is a member of Team Canada, currently ranked as the top team in the world.

# The Canadian way

## Men's hockey falls in Midwest final

T.J. Hill

The 2002 - 2003 edition of the Laurier men's hockey team took on a different look this past season. A disappointing conclusion which saw the Hawks miss the playoffs a year ago gave them something to prove this year.

First year Head Coach Mark French, brought with him an intense new attitude and a commitment to winning. Along with a strong nucleus of veterans and a list of impressive rookies the Hawks soared to their first winning season in two years.

Leading the way for the Hawks was third year winger, Kevin Corso. Corso's 42 points were tops on the team for the second straight season. Not far behind was rookie Richard Colwill, with a team high 21 goals and 39 points.

Colwill joined second year defenseman Nick Vukovic as the only two Golden Hawk representatives on the OUA All-Star rosters.

Laurier's 12 - 11 - 1 regular season record was good enough to capture second place in the OUA Midwest Division. Their second place finish earned them home ice in the first round of the playoffs against the Brock Badgers. Laurier made short work of their division rivals, sweeping Brock in two games.

The Midwest division final changed venues to the Beatrice Ice Gardens as the Hawks locked horns with the first place York Yeomen. The heavily favored Yeomen drew first blood in the series taking the opener 5 - 4.

The Hawks came home facing elimination and put forth a gutsy effort as they came back late in the third to win 5 - 3. The third deciding game in York went to the Yeomen 5 - 0 to end the Golden Hawks' season. Despite the loss, the Hawks gave a powerful York Yeomen team all they could handle.

With a relatively young and experienced team the future looks promising for men's hockey at Laurier.



# Silver is a girl's best friend

Kristen Lipscombe

The Lady Hawks hockey program had yet another successful year, maintaining an impressive record of 17 - 3 - 4 and stealing silver at the OUA Championships in early March.

Laurier also preserved a top five CIS ranking throughout the season, while many players received top honours for individual achievements. Third-year defense and Assistant Captain Alison Goodman made the First Team OUA All-Star squad, along with second year winger Krissy Thompson, who led the province with 19 goals and was second in the OUA with 34 points. Goodman and Thompson also received CIS All-Canadian nods. Goodman is the leading defensive

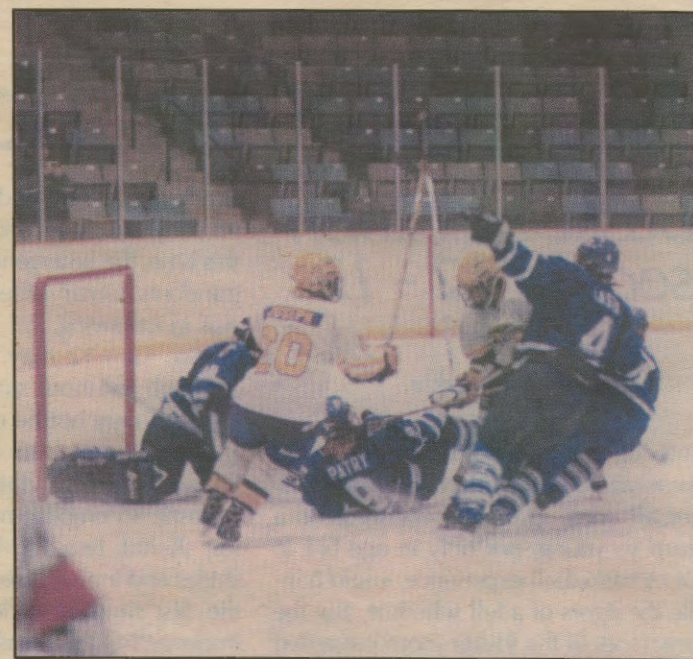
points-getter in Laurier women's hockey history, having racked up 63 points in 69 games. Captain Jacqueline Grahek, third-year centre Kate Macnamara, second-year defensive force Ashley Stephenson and goaltender extraordinaire Cindy Eadie were the four Hawks to make it on the Second Team OUA All-Star squad.

Two new Hawks joined the roster this season; rookie forward Tracey Palinsky and defense Renee Desjardins added a fresh spark to the line-up.

After accomplishing OUA gold and a CIS silver in their stellar 2001 - 2002 season (the most successful year for this team to date), expectations were high for the Hawks this year and supporters hoped Laurier would be able to skate over the competition at the National

Championships. However, the Hawks would fall short of their aspirations and were unable to overcome provincial rivals the University of Toronto, falling to the Blues 1 - 0 early in the season and 3 - 0 in the OUA finals. The Hawks also suffered a few surprising upsets this year, including a 2 - 1 loss at the hands of the Waterloo Warriors, who were new to the varsity scene this year and spent most of the season in the OUA basement.

Despite being unable to crack the CIS Championships this season and a few disappointing setbacks, this relatively young team still had an incredible year full of individual and team accomplishments. As one of the top teams in the nation, the Hawks are over-flowing with potential. We will surely see continued success from Lady Hawks hockey in the future.



Contributed Photo

Women's hockey had another solid season, but lost to provincial rivals U of T in the finals. The Hawks are ranked fifth in the nation.



Matt Benassi

The two-time defending National Championship men's soccer team couldn't even make it past the first round of the OUA play-offs this season.

## Football fumbles

Derek Iwanuk

After the Laurier men's football team lost their home opener to cross-town rivals the Waterloo Warriors on a last second touch-down catch, costing them their first of seven losses in 2002, they probably should have just called it a season.

2002 will go down as one of the worst seasons in the history of Laurier football. Not only did the Hawks finish the season with a 1 - 7 record, missing the playoffs for the first time in several years, but Head Coach Rick Zmich resigned, leaving Defensive Coordinator Gary Jeffries to act as Interim Head Coach.

Although many of the games were close, the Hawks could not seem to muscle out the win. Whether it was injuries, the absence of their Head Coach for half of the season due to the WLUSA strike, or just plain bad luck, the Hawks seemed to lose

the in the end. Even one of the brighter moments of the season, a 58 - 0 romp over the University of Toronto, was overshadowed by dark clouds as star quarterback Ryan Pyear went down with a torn ACL. The next week, his back up Jamie Partington went down with a knee injury, subsequently joining Pyear on the sidelines. Injuries were a key factor in the disappointing season. Pyear, Partington and other key players were plagued by injuries throughout the year.

However, the year was not all blue for the Hawks. Derek Medler established himself as one of the most dominant running backs in the OUA and the defensive unit played solidly throughout the season. There is one good thing about being 1 - 7: there is no where to go but up. With a healthy Pyear, a solid running game and a veteran defence returning next season, look for the Hawks to do better than they did this year.

Derek Iwanuk  
and  
Bernard Dawson

"All good things must come to an end." This quote summarizes the 2002 season for the Laurier men's soccer team. Coming off of back-to-back National Championship titles, the Hawks had little to prove in the 2002 season, but still there was a sense of disappointment when Laurier was eliminated by the York Yeomen in the first round of the OUA playoffs.

Considering the injuries and setbacks, the Golden Hawks did exceptionally well over the regular season, posting a 6 - 3 - 2 record. Although the Hawks had some big wins over the season, Western and Waterloo put a damper on the regular season.

Veterans Kenny Nutt, Joel Abwunza and Niki Budalik were standouts on the 2002 squad, providing leadership, scoring and inspiration. However, an injury to

Budalik kept him out of a few games, and it was obvious that the team missed his scoring capabilities. Starting a freshman goalie in place of CIS All-Canadian Pieter Mueleman also hurt the club.

It is hard to top back-to-back National Championships. When you are at the level of the Laurier men's soccer team, another National Championship is the only thing that can satisfy the fans and the critics. It's called the New York Yankees Syndrome. Although the season was not one to boast about, it definitely was not one to forget. Hopefully, with some more experience for both first year goalies and a healthy squad, the Laurier men's soccer team will be back at the National Championship level in 2003.

The Wilfrid Laurier University women's soccer team had an up-and-down season which included highs such as the play of Tammy Scurr, and lows such as a second round playoff loss to York. The

team finished the regular season third in the OUA West Division, behind Western (who spent most of the year ranked number one in the nation) and cross-town rivals Waterloo. A solid 5 - 3 - 2 record gave the team 17 points and a first round home playoff date against the Laurentian Voyageurs. A close, hard-fought game on a cold afternoon ended in a 1 - 0 Golden Hawks victory. The next week the team lost at York to the Yeowomen by a 2 - 1 score, ending their season and hopes for a championship.

The team's leading scorer, Tammy Scurr, was named a second team All-Canadian after her successful season. Scurr and midfielder Heather Heimpel were also named OUA All-Stars. The play of Kyla Rutherford was also a key factor in the Hawks' successful season overall.

Look for the Hawks to improve in future seasons.



## It's been brought

*Hawks have spirit fingers*

Shawn Parker

There it is in black and white. The cheerleaders claimed second in the CIS Championships, making them one of the most successful teams this season.

Entering the 2002 - 2003 season, the cheerleading squad had high hopes. But there was no way that anyone could have predicted the kind of success that was in store for this group of athletes.

Late November in Mississauga saw the Hawk cheerleaders impress the audience and wow the judges. Subsequently, the team placed second at the National Cheerleading Championships. The Hawks moved from third place after the opening round to overtake the

Western X Squad, and finished behind only arch rival Western's varsity squad. After a technically sound performance, the Hawks took home the silver, and proved that the mighty Western armor did have its weaknesses.

On March 11, after a season full of success and triumph, the cheerleaders took to the air one final time at a competition at the University of Albany, matching up against American Champions Northeastern and Canadian champs, Western. After a strong showing, the Laurier men and women had made history. Western had been defeated by another Canadian club. As well, Laurier had given way to Northeastern by only a fraction of a point.

The season came to a close as a resounding success, and 2002 - 2003 will surely take its place in the record books as the year of the Cheering Hawk.

## Tennis

Kristen Lipscombe

The women's tennis team had a middle-of-the-road season, beginning with their close 4 - 3 loss to cross-town rivals the Waterloo Warriors on September 21. Next, The Hawks participated in Western's three-team tournament, splitting their games with a 6 - 1 loss to Western and a tight 4 - 2

victory over McMaster. The Hawks came out strong in Laurier's own tournament, taking Toronto 4 - 3 and McGill 5 - 2. On Sunday, October 20 the Hawks took to the court in Kingston against York and Queen's. The Hawks suffered a huge blowout at the hands of the Yeomen, but turned the tournament around when they pulled out a close win over Queen's. The Hawks cracked the OUA playoffs for the first time in years, placing fourth overall in the province. The Championship

weekend was hosted by York University from October 25 - 26. The Hawks fell 7 - 0 to the OUA defending champion York Yeomen, but Laurier was good enough to compete in the fight for the provincial bronze medal against the Waterloo Warriors. Despite their efforts, the Hawks were unable to claim the bronze as Waterloo took it away with a 4 - 1 score. Although the Hawks are a mediocre team within Ontario, the women have greatly improved and will likely continue to do so.



# Men shootin' hoops

## Basketball finish season 12 - 12

Shawn Parker

Entering the 2002 - 2003 season, there were mixed expectations about the basketball men. Skeptics wondered if a team so young, not only in age but in OUA basketball experience, could handle the rigors of a full schedule. But the new faces in the locker room presented an interesting challenge for second year Head Coach Peter Campbell.

When the Hawks came out of the gates early on in the season, they looked to turn some heads. Led by second year forwards Chris Keith and Andrew MacKay, Laurier ran off a five game win

streak in October and then a six game winning streak in mid-November. By this time, the emergence of OUA rookie standouts Omar Miles and Rob Innes was in full swing.

So, 12 - 12 may not be that bad, although for those simply looking at a record it may not be overly impressive. But for those who truly understand Laurier basketball, this year saw some fantastic accomplishments, an OUA All-star (Keith), two OUA Rookie All-stars (Miles and Innes), a semi-finals berth for the first time in a decade, and most importantly, this season saw a team come together to play not for themselves but for each other, in their continuing quest for gold.



Matt Benassi

Basketball is fun.

# Keep on ruckin'

Colin Duffet

The Laurier rugby season was one of up and downs. The men's team played in the Tier I division for the first time in Hawks' history. Another first for the men this season was their first ever Tier I win, 18 - 16, against Guelph on September 25. The men finished with a record of one win and five losses securing a sixth place finish in Tier I.

The men failed to be competitive for the most part of the season and they were outscored 47 - 241. The male rugby team had by far the worst defense of all the OUA rugby clubs this season, giving up 70 more points than its nearest competitor and fellow basement dweller, Guelph. There were few, if any, bright spots for this club as they only scored nine or more points on one occasion.

The biggest story for the men this season was the resignation of former Head Coach Derek Humphries, due to a personal illness. Humphries, who had been with the club for a number of seasons, was largely responsible for Laurier's rise into the top tier of OUA rugby. In order for Laurier to remain at least quasi-competitive in the OUA, a major push for a stronger defensive unit is

in order. Even if the team still fails to score many points, stopping other teams will go a long way to making this team respectable, which is an adjective they currently are not able to use to describe themselves.

The women, on the other hand, had another breakthrough season. Laurier's women ruckers continue to make huge strides up the Sheils division ladder, finishing a respectable third place behind Western and Waterloo this year.

The women finished with a 3 - 2 record. Unfortunately, this meant they had to face superpower Guelph. The Gryphons would eventually win the OUA Championships and finish fourth in Canada. In comparison to the male squad, there is a huge upside for this team. On the field, the ladies were led by the play of OUA All-star and CIS All-Canadian Christine Carruthers and OUA All-stars Amy Gaudin and Sandi Pinelli. These three girls represent the nucleus of the ladies rugby club.

Although Gaudin is in her fifth year of study, the strength of the club remains in their speed and strength as a cohesive pack. Seriously look for the ladies to make huge advances in the seasons to come.

# Better than Jays

T.J. Hill

Guelph before eventually losing to Brock's big bats.

Heading into the second half of the schedule, the Hawks were right in the thick of the playoff hunt. With four crucial games against McMaster and Guelph at home the Hawks needed to come away from those games with some wins.

Unfortunately, they would fall short in all four games and would have to say goodbye to any playoff hopes this season.

Despite the Hawks' failure to make postseason there is much to be optimistic about for Laurier baseball fans. The team will have a majority of veterans returning next year, as only three members of their current roster are in their final year.

Their 7 - 9 - 1 record this season is a vast improvement on last seasons' totals. The Hawks are a young and talented team, who year in and year out continue to improve.

# Spiked

Bernard Dawson  
and  
Kristen Lipscombe

In a disappointing year for Laurier sports, the most disappointing team has to be the men's volleyball team. When the season ended the Hawks were left with an awful 1 - 17 record, good enough for last place in the OUA. When all was said and done the team had only won seven sets all season, including the three they needed to defeat Ryerson in their one victory.

The team can only look towards next year and hope that a new coach will bring new life to the program after a forgettable year in 2002 - 2003. Hopefully, the squad will return from the off-season looking more like the 2001-2002 team rather than the team that took to the court this past season.

Coming off of a flawless regular season in 2001 - 2002, the women's volleyball team had much to live up to this year. Although the Lady Hawks only managed a record of ten wins and nine losses, Laurier had a successful season overall, with the ten-player squad making it to the OUA West division quarter-finals.

Unfortunately, the Hawks fell to the Western Mustangs three sets to one in quarter-final action and finished in third place overall in the OUA West. The Hawks were headed by OUA West First Team All-Star Cathy Ingalls, who was second in the province with 207 points over 41 games. Lisa Intini was also an impeccable force on the court, managing 186 digs during the season. The team is better than their 10 - 9 record and first round exit showed. Expect them to have a strong season in 2003-2004, redeeming their subpar year in 02/03.

# Running around

Kristen Lipscombe

The Golden Hawk cross country team had an anti-climatic season overall, with the exception of elite fourth year runner and swimmer Tara Ross, who once again proved to be one of Laurier's finest athletes.

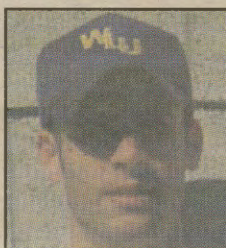
The Hawks competed in Guelph's Gryphon Open in mid-September without impressive results. At the Waterloo Open later that month, Laurier improved on its standings with both the men and women finishing in the middle of the pack. The Western Invitational in London saw the women run to a tenth place finish, while the men finished at thirteenth.

The Hawks hoped to improve upon their performances in October, when they traveled East to Kingston to compete in the Queen's Open. Again the men took last place, while the women one-upped their male counterparts coming in second last. Another Western competition saw the Hawks finally make their way up the ranks, as both the men and

women took sixth place out of ten teams. Dan Johnson, Alex Wilson, Vincent Belanger, Courtney Ludwig, Kaye Hope, Valerie Van Ravensway and Beth Morgan were Laurier's fastest runners at the competition.

The OUA Championships transpired in late October and were hosted by the University of Guelph. The women finished in tenth place overall (out of fourteen teams) in the five-kilometre run, while the men's ten-kilometre event saw the Hawks manage an eleventh place finish (out of twelve teams).

The shining star for Laurier this season was Ross, who traveled to Cancun, Mexico in early November to compete against 3000 elite athletes from more than 75 countries at the 2002 Triathlon World Championships. Ross managed an incredible third place finish over-all with a total time of 2:17:15. Ross has been a huge asset to the cross country team, and it will be interesting to see how the runners will deal with the loss of the graduating athlete next season.



# Golf strokes all 18 holes

## Zwolak wins Len Shore Trophy

Colin Duffet

The Laurier men's golf team had a strong showing this season. The six-member team continually ranked among the top teams in the OUA all season. The team garnered three third place fin

ishes, one second place finish and a lone first place finish in their tournament at the Cutten Club in Guelph, Ontario. At the Cutten Club Golf Course, the Laurier men scored a 297, which was five strokes better than their nearest opponents, the University of Waterloo Warriors.

Laurier would play host to the OUA Championships this season. The tournament would have both its ups and downs. The high spot for the Laurier team would come in the form of Jim Zwolak. Zwolak would win the

OUA Len Shore Trophy with an impressive score of 143 for a three-stroke victory over Steven Billyard (Brock), Michael Glenney (Toronto) and Kellen Barber (McMaster). For Zwolak, the Len Shore Trophy will look awfully nice with the three OUA All-star awards he has received while at Wilfrid Laurier.

As a team, the men had their worst showing of the year finishing a still impressive fourth in the province with a team score of 618, three strokes behind Western. With most players returning next year, it looks as if the Laurier men's golf team will remain among the OUA elite for another season.