

# Reviewing your board

Campus, page 3



# THE CORD

The tie that binds Wilfrid Laurier University since 1926

Volume 52, Issue 18

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thecord.ca

## Best in K-W Bars

Features, page 8



Bridgeport Road



Princess St.



King Street N.



Albert St.



Erb Street E.

The Cord staff nominate their choices for the best bars, clubs and eateries in the area

## Explaining the early start

Why Laurier is back in class on Jan. 3

ELIZABETH DICESARE  
STAFF WRITER

Tuesday morning saw students at Wilfrid Laurier University heading back to class, while students at most other Ontario universities continued enjoying the luxury of sleeping in.

McMaster University, York University and the University of Waterloo were the only other Ontario universities to return to class on Jan. 3. Many students and professors have been wondering why the holiday break was so abrupt. With the fall exam schedule going until Dec. 21, and classes resuming on Jan. 3, students and professors are unimpressed.

However, Ray Darling, WLU's registrar, explained there was little to be done about this year's fall exam schedule. With the loss of the St. Michael's Campus, which provided rooms for exams, combined with the growing number of students at WLU, resulted in a longer exam period.

He also explained that last year, Sundays were used for exams, which shortened the period, but that caused more issues. Because of religious accommodations, Sundays can no longer be used.

"Sunday is a day that students can count on for a study day," Darling added

Sarah Pawelko, a second-year medieval studies student, wrote two exams on December 21. "I wasn't too happy [about it]," she stated. "And it's not like they were exams that didn't correspond with one another."

Jason Sager, a professor within

"If Jan. 3 falls on a Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday, then that is the start of class."

—Ray Darling, registrar

the history department, expressed similar feelings.

"I have to have exam marks in within 96 hours from the writing of the exam ... to have an exam on the 21st would have made me rush," he explained.

But does having such a late fall exam schedule, coupled with an early start date in January, cause more problems? According to Darling, having an early start date for second semester is normal.

Darling explained that academic dates are set by guidelines passed by the senate each year, which have been in place since 1979.

"If Jan. 3 falls on a Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday, then that is the start of class, if it falls on any other day of the week [class] starts the following Monday," Darling continued. "There is nothing unique about this kind of [early] start."

Despite these guidelines being in place for so long, anyone with

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## Debating copyright fees

JUSTIN SMIRLIES  
CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR

For most students at Wilfrid Laurier University, photocopied course packs with their required course material can be pricier than originally thought, especially when most articles today can be found online. But out of sheer convenience, most will pay the price that is given.

These prices and copyright materials, which are supplied to WLU by Access Copyright (AC), have been a topic of contention for the past year and a half.

Currently, as a new potential tariff on academic materials is discussed, AC is undergoing litigation with the Copyright Board of Canada over the specificity of that new potential tariff. The Association of Universities

and Colleges of Canada (AUCC) and the Association of Canadian Community Colleges (ACCC) representing the universities that use AC materials in the litigation process.

As of now WLU, along with the other institutions who chose not to opt out when the contract extension ended in Aug. 2011, will pay an interim tariff, which is essentially the same terms as the previous agreement. According to Shereen Rowe, secretariat at WLU, it is a \$3.85 full-time equivalent (FTE) fee, with a charge of ten cents per photocopied page.

"We're really just at the interrogatory stage. They are just gathering information as part of the litigation process," explained Rowe. "So this is really where we're at."

The proposed tariff by AC is that

the FTE fee would be approximately \$45, with no charge for each individual page.

"The 45 bucks is a figure out of a hat, really. What has to happen is that there has to be enough data to really estimate the usage," said Brain Henderson, director of WLU Press and a member of AC's board. "The board isn't going to make any kind of decision until it has that type of data in front of them."

Along with the tariff, the choice between using a calendar or academic year, has been another point of conflict between the parties. As well, AUCC and ACCC, according to Henderson, would like to see the proposed FTE be applied evenly at every institution and every

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## Inside

### From hot chocolate to German baking

New businesses set up shop in Uptown Waterloo, offering unique food experiences

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### North Korea's future

After the death of Kim Jong-il in December, the power of his little-known successor is uncertain

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### New faces of football

The Golden Hawks welcomed the latest recruits for next year's team at a holiday event

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### Grammy picks

The Cord arts staff weigh in with their Grammy choices

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Editor-in-Chief  
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Editor’s choice  
Winter 2012 style trends  
Life, only at thecord.ca

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# WLUSP AGM

## 2012

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Meeting Starts at 7:00pm

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*Dear Life is your opportunity to write a letter to your life, allowing you to vent your anger with life’s little frustrations in a completely public forum.*

All submissions to Dear Life are anonymous, should be no longer than 100 words and must be addressed to your life. Submissions can be sent to [dearlife@thecord.ca](mailto:dearlife@thecord.ca) no later than Monday at noon each week.

**Dear Life,**  
I just want to give a small thanks to the custodians who let us students stick around in the classrooms to study into the wee hours of the morning cramming for exams. You do a great job keeping our school clean, and your efforts are appreciated.  
Sincerely,  
Ginger and a Business Kid; Ginger and I Have a Soul

**Dear Life,**  
Has anyone else realized yet that sending ‘Christmas presents’ to Africa only contradicts their culture and religion? Muslims don’t celebrate Christmas. Obviously I get that the principle is to send them things they’ve never had, and that North Americans are more likely to give in the Christmas season, but there should definitely be a re-phrasing of wording around this sort of thing.  
Sincerely,  
Just figured I’d mention it

**Dear Life,**  
Exams suck. We are one of the last schools to get off for the holidays and are the first ones back. Personally, I’d actually like to have some time to recover from my New Year’s hangover.  
Sincerely,  
Bitter student

**Dear Life,**  
I don’t know why I do things before I think, but that whipped cream was great. I’m glad my roommate talked me into having hot chocolate with it. Good times (GT’s).  
Sincerely  
The best sugar high of life

**Dear Life,**  
I so don’t miss being a student.  
Sincerely,  
WLU Alumna

**Dear Life,**  
Having a casual conversation with a Laurier Hiring Committee Exec, I was informed of their veto power in the application process for O-Week positions. I was under the impression that these applications were done in a fair and unbiased manner. Apparently the veto power is being used to eliminate applicants based on feelings of dislike or gossip. I am disgusted by the immaturity of the hiring execs and the exclusiveness of the WLUSU crowd.  
Sincerely,  
STARR seems reeeaaaalllllll fair

## Vocal Cord

What is your New Year’s resolution?



“The ever-popular go to the gym more often.”  
–Ellen Basler  
First-year business



“I didn’t make one this year.”  
–Danny Sung  
Fourth-year business



“I didn’t make one.”  
–Sarah Mak  
Third-year business



“I feel like mine’s so generic, but to go to the gym and lead a more healthy lifestyle.”  
–Anu Baterdene  
Third-year business



“To go to the gym, but I bet a lot of people say that.”  
–Kelsey Kirbyson  
First-year business/financial math

Compiled by Justin Fauteux  
Photos by Rosalie Eid

## THE CORD

The tie that binds Wilfrid Laurier University since 1926

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In 2010 the Canadian Community Newspaper Association awarded The Cord second place in the campus community newspaper category.



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### Colophon

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

Started in 1926 as the College Cord, The Cord is an editorially independent newspaper published by Wilfrid Laurier University Student Publications, Waterloo, a corporation without share capital. WLUSP is governed by its board of directors.



Opinions expressed within The Cord are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect those of the editorial board. The Cord, WLUSP, WLU or CanWeb Printing Inc. All content appearing in The Cord bears the copyright expressly of their creator(s) and may not be used without written consent.

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### Preamble to The Cord constitution

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

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

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

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

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

**Quote of the week:**  
“I gained 3 lbs and I have cellulite.”  
–Graphics Editor Taylor Gayowsky on holiday eating.



# Students, profs feel pressure

—cover

support and logical reasons can bring a motion to senate and changes can be taken into consideration.

“I don’t think anyone [in the registrar’s office] would think [starting early] is unfair,” said Darling. “We just enforce the dates.”

Whether or not it’s fair, students and professors are still coping with the early start.

As well, Sager explained that having such a late exam period, combined with an early start date in January, causes professors to scramble while preparing for the winter term.

“I didn’t have the time to do as much proofreading as I would have liked to,” noted Sager. “It causes you to rush.”

Sager also explained that having an early start results in less students attending classes the first week back.

“I think ... students are recovering from New Years, and I don’t just mean from a drunken orgy, I mean people are coming back from

“Students are recovering from New Year’s, and I don’t just mean from a drunken orgy.”

—Jason Sager, Laurier professor

vacation or traveling far from home.”

Pawelko was also not satisfied with starting so early. “I feel like we were screwed over .... how is that fair it’s when all of our friends still home and we can’t see our friends anymore?”

Despite academic dates following the same guidelines for roughly thirty years, according to Sager starting later, “Makes more sense.”

# Laurier may re-evaluate postion in September

—cover

discipline, whereas AC feels that isn’t quite feasible.

“Even if it were 45 bucks, that would be a steal for most students in the social sciences and the humanities. Science students and business students, maybe they don’t use those materials in quite the same way,” he continued. “Some students would be being paying more, some would be paying a lot less.”

However, Rowe feels otherwise. “It would mean a significant [cost] increase to students,” she explained. “[But] at this point, there is no change, really.”

Due to the developments of electronic materials and the increased availability of these materials, finding accurate data of the usage of AC’s materials have be proven difficult. “What we’re seeing for sure is that paper course pack use is falling,” he added, “It’s not like that instructors and profs have decided not to use stuff. They’re just using it different ways.”

Since Laurier chose not to opt out

of the interim tariff, they will have the opportunity to re-evaluate their position in Sept. 2012. The interim tariff, as of now, goes until Dec. 31, 2013. Henderson believes that the Copyright Board of Canada and their description of educational materials is ambiguous, therefore creating more contention among the various parties involved.

“I think that people in senior admin here [WLU] understand the issues, they want to play it right, they want to be cautious,” Henderson said of Laurier’s choice not to opt out. “They don’t want their faculty exposed to legal claims, they don’t want to have students exposed to that stuff, so they’re sticking to the interim tariff.”

But as discussions continue, no clear conclusion is in sight, and when that conclusion will arrive is unknown. “It’s going to be awhile before we have any decision and so now we’re under much of the same terms,” said Rowe. “I don’t want to speculate on what the impact will be, because I don’t know what the decision is going to be.”



PROFESSOR PHILIPPA GATES (L) AND KATHERINE SPRING (R) LED THE PROPOSAL TO MAKE FILM STUDIES A SINGLE DEGREE. ROSALIE EID PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

# Film to become single major

**MARISSA EVANS**  
STAFF WRITER

Film students at Wilfrid Laurier University are responding with enthusiasm to the news that film studies may become available as a single honours degree as their emails flood into the department of film studies. Though the proposal still needs to be passed by the Senate in order for the program to be made official, students are already trying to enrol. Prior to this, it was only offered as a combined major.

“One of the main [reasons] for changing the single honours degree is student demand,” Katherine Spring, associate professor in film studies and program coordinator, said of the evolution of the program.

During her career at WLU Spring has found that many students have requested film studies as a single honours degree. She noted, however, the benefits of students completing their combined honours experience, as they bring diverse knowledge to their film studies courses. Her hope is that many students will continue to take this route.

“We’re offering the single honours degree as an option for those who just want to concentrate on film studies,” she added.

Paula Schneider, a fourth-year student at WLU doing a double major in film studies and classics. When asked whether or not she would have done a single honours major in film studies, her instant response was, “Absolutely.”

In the past, the department was unable to offer enough film studies courses for students to qualify for a single honours degree.

“Now that we have six full-time faculty members,” Spring said. “We are able to offer enough courses.”

The department reached the minimum number of faculty members required when Sandra Annett was hired this year, making it possible to offer film studies as a major.

“We won’t be instituting specific courses to meet the demands of the single honours degree,” Spring said.

The department is going to continue to offer the courses they are currently providing for students. This also means that no additional costs are involved.

Spring and professor in film studies Philippa Gates began drafting the proposal in early Fall 2011. Gates said this was her aim since starting at WLU in 2002.

“It’s certainly something that we all wanted,” she expressed. “I think having something like film on your degree shows that you have a real understanding of contemporary culture.” She went on to explain how, because so much of our culture is media oriented, film studies is a program that many employers see as an asset.

In fact, after the proposal was passed by the department of English and film studies and was presented to the curriculum committee at the faculty of arts, many were surprised that Film Studies didn’t already offer a single honours degree.

“[The program] has rapidly increased. For the past seven or eight years we’ve had 100 plus student do a combined honours with Film Studies,” Gates recalled. If the proposal is passed, students will be able to begin registering as a film studies major in Sept.2012.

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# WLUSU board under review

The Cord evaluates the performances of the 2011-12 Students' Union board of directors and president

With extensive training and preparation, as well as the strong leadership of a competent president, the 2011-12 Wilfrid Laurier University Students' Union board of directors, so far, have conducted themselves quite well in terms of policy and procedure. Over the summer, reforms were made by WLUSU in terms of policy and governance and as a result the board has been able to work more effectively than years past.

This year the board has faced some pretty unique situations, some of which were obviously out of their control.

Trouble has arisen with the prolonged construction of the Foot Patrol office, the transfer of the Terrace to Aramark, the creation of a new campus clubs space and social media policy for elections, and for the most part they have been dealt with diligence and care, though better outcomes could have been possible.

With that in mind, the board has improved from their predecessors, taking the past into account how they make future decisions -- especially with the expansion of the Terrace last year going over-budget.

The most notable change from last year is the increase in professionalism, preparedness and composure of the board members, probably to do with a large turnover rate from last year. Inevitably the board will stray off of what should be discussed, but most meetings typically go without much contention or absurd amounts of heated debate.

The board isn't perfect, and to ask for such a thing wouldn't be possible, mainly because every member on the board has their own sets of strengths and weaknesses.

Sometimes it appears that some of the directors are afraid to challenge opposing opinions, or to delve into detailed conversation. Points of worth should be debated, and the board shouldn't feel like they need to reach a certain decision just to conclude the meeting at a reasonable time.

So far, the board hasn't quite gotten itself into any blunders or major failures, and as a whole, they seem to be cooperating. With a semester's worth of work completed and with perhaps a bit more attention to detail, the board is on its way to a rather successful year.



ROSALIE EID PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER



Nick Gibson  
President and CEO

There's a very good reason why Nick Gibson was the front runner for last year's election, and ultimately chosen for president and CEO of WLUSU. Coming into the role thoroughly prepared, Gibson has proven to the student body, so far, that he has what it takes to be a WLUSU president.

The first half of his term hasn't exactly been smooth for Gibson, but he has dealt with any issue that has arisen with a strong effort. With the O-Week/fall reading days debacle,

Wilf's and the Terrace flooding and the deal that saw Aramark take over operation of the Terrace, Gibson has spent much time making sure those issues are addressed, and that the student body understands what's going on.

Though relatively new to WLUSU procedure and policy, Gibson, with his passion in political science, is extremely well-versed on how to tackle the role. He has kept somewhat true to his platform, and has been instrumental in the reconstruction of the 2-4 lounge in regards to study space on campus.

The role of a president at WLUSU

can, at times, be a bit unclear, to both the students' union and the student body. But Gibson has prevailed through that confusion and has made it clear to students what he does. Ultimately, his strength is connecting with other students and keeping transparency, consistently meeting with people who have concerns.

Though a very strong president — arguably the best in the past few years — Gibson needs to take a stronger stance on certain issues, and to avoid attempting to cater to various differing opinions.

There will be in instances where

students will be dissatisfied with a particular decision and he has to understand that will occur. One example, while he dealt with it reasonably well, was the fall reading break situation, where he tried to cater to both sides of the argument, which was quite polarizing.

Gibson is somewhat of a perfectionist, and there's nothing wrong with that, just as long as he has a clear focus for future. One of the sole reasons WLUSU has remained on track this year is because of the work Gibson has done. The student body at WLU should have nothing to fear for second semester.

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Chris Walker  
Chair and CGO

Walker has excelled in making the difficult transition from a director on the board to board chair and chief governance officer. After being one of the more passionate, outspoken members on last year's board, he has done a good job becoming a more neutral voice during meetings, ensuring all sides of an issue are debated.

As chair of the board he is also charged with the running of board meetings, a task he has performed well. For the most part, Walker maintains good control of discussion during meetings, and while there have been a few instances of debate becoming circular and off-topic, largely thanks to Walker's leadership, board meetings have become much more efficient than in previous years.

While Walker's performance during board meetings has been good, where he has really excelled is in his work outside the boardroom. According to his fellow board members, Walker rarely leaves the WLUSU offices and makes himself very accessible to both directors and management. Walker's experience with WLUSU proved to be an asset in terms of training the eight new directors on the board this year, as the board was able to function efficiently even in the summer board meetings.



However, where Walker has been perhaps most impressive is when it comes to his duties as chief governance officer. This year has seen a massive overhaul in WLUSU policy, something that Walker has played a large role in executing. Walker's strong background in policy has been an asset for WLUSU during this process.

When it comes to acting as a bridge between the board and management, Walker has, for the most part, maintained an effective working relationship with WLUSU president Nick Gibson and the rest of the management group, but remains committed to his responsibilities as chair of the board, challenging management when needed and keeping the board informed.

These reviews were written by Campus News Editor Justin Smirlies, News Director Justin Fauteux and Editor-in-Chief Linda Givetash. They are based on

observations and board meetings and interviews with each director, the chair of the board and the president. Photos by: Elli Garlin and Megan Cherniak.





Bill Papanastasiou

By coming in as a University of Waterloo and WLU double-degree student, Papanastasiou has the potential to be a valuable asset to the board in his ability to see how students are treated at both institutions. Unfortunately, he has remained consistently quiet during board meetings and when speaking to matters that have arisen, seeming apprehensive to participate in much conversation.

Papanastasiou is actively engaged in the Greek Students Society and other various campus activities, so he has shown strong involvement outside the boardroom. Though he has been quiet, he had exerted more confidence in the later weeks of the fall term and is appearing to be more comfortable in the role of a director.



Jonathan Collaton

From his platform to his performance in the board room, Collaton displays a strong understanding of his role as a director. He is engaged in the board room and mindful of support he can give to new directors, asking questions that they may have themselves. Collaton's work also extends outside the board room in participating in committees reviewing monitoring reports and policy that will guide the board in the future. He should work to maintain a strong attendance record at meetings and be a mentor to new directors.

Collaton is also often a source of comic relief, cracking light-hearted jokes and keeping the mood light during board discussion.



Noah Habtemichael

An unfortunate scheduling conflict with one of Habtemichael's classes has made him miss five meetings over the course of the fall semester, which has obviously hurt his tangible contribution in the boardroom. However, to his credit, Habtemichael has taken extra steps in meeting with other board members and CGO Chris Walker to keep himself informed and involved.

Habtemichael did contribute by sitting on the pre-elections review committee. However, at the Dec. 2 board meeting, during which the committee's recommendations were presented, he was largely silent. This continues to be Habtemichael's biggest obstacle: actively participating in board discussion. While it is clear he has passion for his role he needs to express himself more often and forcefully during meetings.



Nick Nyhof

Despite this being the first time Nyhof has sat on the WLUSU board, he has made a fast transition into his role as director and vice chair. In the board room he exhibits strong understanding of board policy and practices. With his experience now as vice chair, he should play a key role in committee meetings about reviewing the position. Now with a semester of experience under his belt, Nyhof should work towards being more vocal and engaged during board meetings.

Nyhof has worked towards his platform goal of connecting students with WLUSU in taking part in ownership linkage events. His involvement on an environmental review executed by the university reflects his concerns for Laurier as a whole.



Andrew Chudnovsky

Chudnovsky has made a concerted effort to make an impact in this, his first year as director on the WLUSU board. On top of attending every board meeting, he has done outside work with CGO Chris Walker to develop as a director and accelerate his learning curve. Chudnovsky also served as part of the ownership linkage committee, staying true to his platform pledge to "Bring the Student back into the Students' Union."

In the boardroom, Chudnovsky isn't the most vocal director on the board by any stretch. However, he maintains a good level of engagement during discussion and is consistently well versed on the issues at hand.



Chris Oberle

This being his third year on the board, Oberle's experience has come through in and out of the board room. He has a thorough understanding of the board's purpose and practices, raising strong discussion points in the board room to ensure all sides of any issue are considered. His involvement in the pre-elections review committee as well as an upcoming election-focused committee is valuable because of his interest and experience in WLUSU election policy.

Oberle is respected by his peers and is a mentor to new directors. He should be confident in his knowledge of WLUSU and the university as a whole and put his ideas and concerns forward in the board room.



Tom Papanastasiou

Although quiet in the board room, Papanastasiou fulfills his role as a director through committee participation and thorough consideration of the issues brought to the board. In chairing a committee, he has taken on greater responsibility, demonstrating his knowledge of the WLUSU board and policy. As a second-year director, Papanastasiou should be more vocal in board meetings to share his opinion with his fellow directors and be a role model to those who are in their first year.

Despite the fact that he isn't one of the more outspoken board members, it is clear that Papanastasiou is an engaged, effective director and is highly respected by his fellow directors.

# 2011-12 Board of Directors

How much has each director contributed to the board this year?



Zach Desson

Though at times one of the quieter directors on the board, Desson still proves himself as a valuable first-time director. His strong attendance and his work with the pre-elections review committee has demonstrated just some of the effort Desson has put into the term thus far. More importantly, when he does speak, Desson is not afraid to take a stance and to be vocal about his opinions.

As a teacher's assistant and former icebreaker, Desson has the opportunity to be more engaged with the student body, something that he could improve on. Overall, however, Desson is a well-rounded director that has a thorough grasp of the role.



Scott Fleming

As he progresses into the second semester, Fleming, a first-time director, will need to take a step back and re-evaluate his role as a director. While he had class during most of the meetings, Fleming needs to make sure that he is up to date with board procedure and conduct when in the board room.

Uncertain and at times seemingly oblivious of his role, Fleming tends to make comments that are out of place and that don't contribute to board discussion. As he increasingly spends more time at the WLUSU offices, Fleming has been taking steps to improve on his skills and shows promise to be a better director in the future.



Sunny Chan

Chan is no stranger to WLUSU, and there's a good reason for that. Knowledgeable, engaged and confrontational when necessary, Chan has been a strong presence on the board, both inside and outside the board room. He is vocal during meetings and brings up valid and worthy points of discussion.

While his communication, at times, can be unclear, his work and devotion to board has been substantial. He demonstrates enthusiasm and pride in the work he does – and rightfully so. By being the only science student on the board, he brings a unique perspective to debates, and through his extensive experience on the board. Thanks to his extensive experience within WLUSU, he also thoroughly understands board procedures and has shown strong initiatives of how he can contribute to the board in a long-lasting way.



Jon Pryce

Over the past year and a half as a director, Pryce has exerted professionalism inside and outside the board room by actively engaging with the student body. Pryce is heavily involved outside of his role as a WLUSU director, serving as the president of campus club ACCESS U and sitting on the board of directors for WLUSP. However, this has not hindered his commitment to the WLUSU board, as he uses his background from various campus clubs and activities to effectively speak to a wide variety of student concerns.

Along with his involvement in the ownership linkage committee, he continues to show promise for the future; his confidence is evident through his composure and conduct. Pryce acts as a leader and model for the first-time directors, as well as any of those who will want to run in the future.

*Disclaimer: Jon Pryce is on the board of directors for Wilfrid Laurier University Student Publications*



Ryan Sher

Sher's performance during board meetings has certainly come along as the semester has progressed. He was particularly vocal in the last two board meetings before the winter break, which is a sign of his development as a director, as earlier in the year he was largely silent during discussion.

As a Residence Life don, Sher brings a valuable, unique voice to the board in his ability to see and speak to the issues facing a large number of first-year students, as well as those in the Residence Life community. However, he needs to start raising these issues, where appropriate, along with being more vocal overall. While his responsibilities with Residence Life takes up most of his time, Sher has remained committed to his role as a director, attending every board meeting in the first semester.



Luke Dotto

While Dotto is in his first year sitting on the WLUSU board, he is anything but an inexperienced director. He comes from a strong policy background having previously worked with the External Affairs Committee, as well as the Ontario Undergraduate Student Alliance (OUSA) and that background shows both through his committee work and his contributions in the board room. Sitting on multiple committees, including the post-elections review and multi-campus governance committee, Dotto's ability to understand policy and translate it into real world terms has been an asset in revising some of WLUSU's policies.

During board meetings, Dotto is frequently one of the most vocal board members, and is often the one to reign in a discussion when it starts to get off track.

*Disclaimer: Luke Dotto is a staff writer at The Cord.*



Jenny Solda

Having experience working in many groups on campus, Solda is aware of students' concerns. In the board room, she is careful not to contribute to discussion that veers off topic or becomes circular; however this can come across as a lack of interest or understanding, which is disappointing in a second-year director. She should take leadership in debated topics and present her opinion that may mitigate potential problems and make discussion more productive.

Exhibiting strong attendance and preparation for meetings, Solda has, for the most part, been an engaged director, particularly in taking a role with ownership linkage. However, considering she is one of the more experienced directors on the board, Solda should take a stronger stance in board meetings, not only asking questions but offering her perspective to influence policy- and decision-making.



## LOCAL

Local Editor  
Amanda Steiner  
asteiner@thecord.ca

# What's new in Uptown Waterloo



New shops and bistros opened in Waterloo this winter including Menchie's frozen yogurt bar (left), Ausanda Chocolate Cafe (center), and German Baked Specialties (left).

## Ausanda Chocolate

The first of the franchise to be opened in North America, Ausanda Chocolate Café looks to provide a unique twist on the typical café experience. It offers over twenty flavours of deluxe hot chocolate, including coconut, tiramisu, hazelnut and torroncino ("honey, almonds and nougat").

Co-owner Minal Patel commented, "It's different, right? Everybody has a coffee shop." Mayank Patel, also a co-owner, added, "Nobody offers the kind of hot chocolate we are offering right now."

What differentiates their hot chocolate from nearby options such

as Tim Hortons and Williams, and will hopefully attract a broad base of clientele, claims Mayank Patel, is quality.

The drinks are made with milk and all-natural cocoa powder, which they believe is also a healthier alternative.

Word of mouth has provided Ausanda Chocolate with some early success, with return customers a common occurrence. "So far we have got a very good, overwhelming response," he commented. "Whoever comes for the first time ... they come back, they like the quality."

Although the primary focus of the business will be on students,

the owners were also attracted to the location due to the potential clientele from nearby RIM, Manulife and Sunlife offices. Minal Patel acknowledged, "When the students are not here, we need the residential stuff, and the offices too."

Located on King Street, between University Avenue and Hickory Street, Ausanda Chocolate is in a convenient location for Laurier students willing to venture a couple minutes walk past Starbucks. Mayank Patel concluded, "We would like them to try once, and they will see the difference they are getting here."

—Lindsay Purchase

## German Baked Specialties

Baked goods from northern Germany have found themselves a home in Uptown Waterloo.

Elke and Marek Narloch — previously denizens of Germany — opened German Baked Specialties this November at 92 King Street South. Elke related her own experiences with baking in her hometown in Germany.

"Where I lived in Germany," explained Elke. "There were 3000 people and five bakeries. We came here and noticed that everyone bought their breads from the supermarket. So, we decided to bring our bread here."

German Baked Specialties ships their products directly from Germany and bakes them on site. The bakery not only offers a wide variety of breads; it also offers an assortment of pastries, cakes and sandwiches.

Elke was a nurse for 25 years before deciding to get into baking. She

believes that her past in the health industry has a great influence on her business.

"So many people only eat wheat flour instead of whole grain flour but then there are no good fats and minerals in the grain," she said.

"I'm very interested in health food. We don't make our sandwiches with mayonnaise, and use fresh herbs and vegetables bought locally."

The bakery itself has a sitting area for customers.

A fireplace is present for atmosphere, with a picture of the Old World hanging above the mantle. The walls are strewn with photographs of famous buildings from Germany.

"I want to say to the students that they are all very welcome here by me," said Elke.

"They have big brains. They need good food, and healthy food. When they want to take a trip, they should come in. I'm sure they'll like it."

—Mike Radivoi

## Menchie's

Celebrating two weeks of business in Waterloo as of Jan. 5 is Menchie's, a frozen yogurt store new to the area, but highly popular in countless locations across the United States and Canada.

Variety seems to be the key to differentiating this frozen yogurt experience. The store rotates over 70 flavours, from staples such as chocolate and vanilla, to other options like frozen hot chocolate and the newly created glazed donut. Sugar-free and dairy-free options are also always available. In addition, customers have over forty toppings to choose from, and a variety of sauces to drizzle on top.

While most frozen yogurt stores have set sizes which determine the price, Menchie's allows customers to decide how much they want, as they dispense it themselves, along with toppings, and price according to weight. The frozen yogurt can come in either cups or waffle bowls. Manager Jamie Gilliland explained,

"A lot of other places, they dispense it for you, and here we leave that experience up to the customer."


Although the time of opening may be unconventional for a store which provides colder treats, the availability of such a central location made it impossible to pass up. "The student population around this area is definitely what drew his [the owner's] attention to this location," Gilliland said.

He added, "The positive of that is that when you open a store in off-season, it gives you lots of chances to train your staff, hire your staff, and to actually get all the systems in place so that when you do get into busy season you're ready to roll."

The vast majority of Menchie's employees are Wilfrid Laurier and University of Waterloo students.

Although details have not yet been released, students can join Menchie's to get some sweet deals on Jan. 21 and 22 for their grand opening.

—Lindsay Purchase



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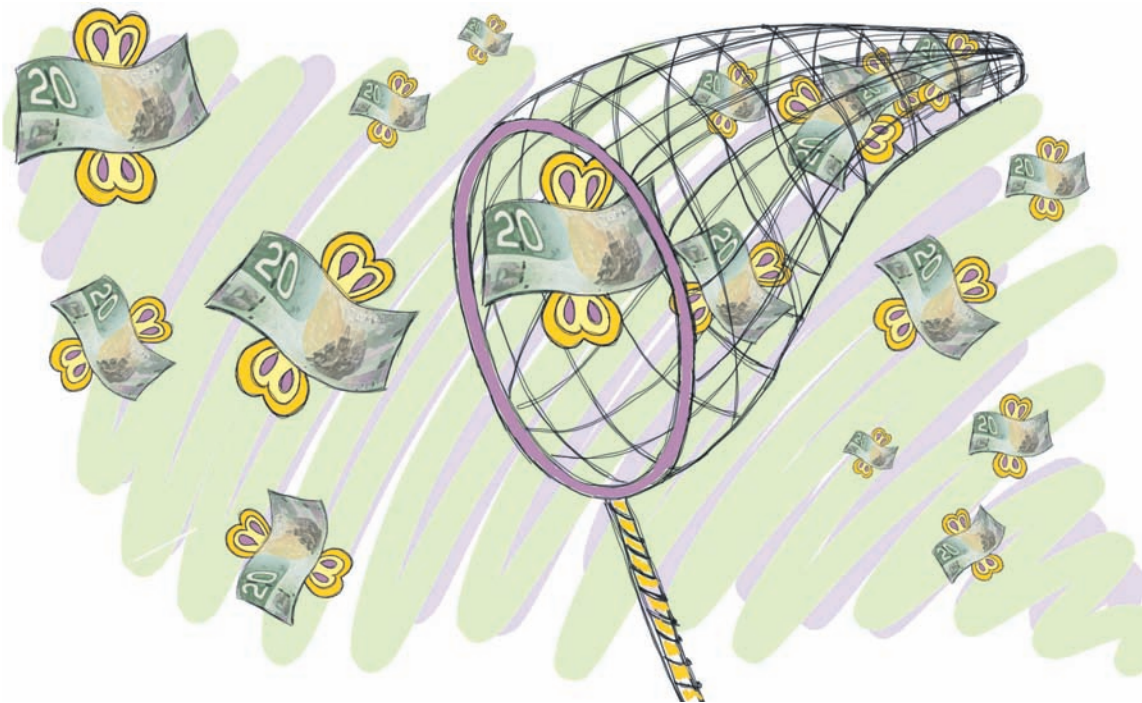


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# NATIONAL

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TAYLOR GAYOWSKY GRAPHICS EDITOR

## Tuition grant within reach

AMANDA STEINER  
LOCAL AND NATIONAL EDITOR

A large majority of students are looking forward to the end of January in order to receive the 30 per cent tuition grant liberal MPP Dalton McGuinty promised during this past provincial election.

Last October, while every political party aimed to include improvements to post-secondary education within their platforms, the liberal party proposed an offer much too good to refuse. They projected a 30% tuition grant, that would give students financial aid towards their tuition, which did not have to be reimbursed. The grant applies to full-time, dependent students in Ontario colleges or universities whose family's income totals less than \$160 000 a year.

"That's about \$730 for each college student and \$1600 for each university student," said Kitchener-Waterloo Liberal MP Eric Davis. "That was stated before and that will continue to be the case."

About 85 per cent of dependent students, or around 320 000 college and university students, qualify for this grant. As well, students who are receiving OSAP are eligible for the grant as well.

"If people are already enrolled in OSAP, and if you're eligible for the rebate, you'll automatically get the rebate," Davis explained. "There will be an automatic computer credit based on their OSAP application and that will happen in time for the second installment of their tuition."

For those who do not automatically register, there will be an easy to use website up and running later this month to register.

In a November interview with Sean Madden, president of the Ontario Undergraduate Student Alliance (OUSA), he explained, "Because of payment processes and timelines it'll have to be a reimbursement [process] for the first bit. But we expect it to be fully functional September 2012."

Madden could not divulge more information currently, until the provincial government releases more information.

"There is an announcement coming," he said. "But I'm not allowed to speak to the details. We've been working closely with the government and we do have it hammered out," he said. "I think people are going to be pleased with it."

Davis seconded the need for confidentiality for the time being when he said, "The details will be released by the provincial government shortly. But I can tell you that I believe [a website and details] will be by mid-January."

According to Davis, "The program is expected to cost the government \$201 million in 2012 and at least \$423 million a year afterward."

When asked how the government could afford such an expense during such an unstable time in today's economy, Davis explained, "It really is an investment in students but it's a key investment especially when times are bad."

"[It can help to] make sure that

people can still get a good education and it's in Ontario's long-term best interest to remain competitive. A way to keep being competitive is to have a highly-skilled and educated workforce."

According to *the Record*, the Tories were quoted saying a government facing a \$16-billion deficit should not be launching such an expensive program. However Davis countered any doubt by referencing the Liberal platform.

"The Conservative platform had a \$14 billion hole in it," he said. "They were basically saying that they weren't going to cut anything but they were also going to lower taxes which just didn't add up."

In contrast, he explained that the Liberal platform, according to Davis, had a very small number of promises and a very targeted number of commitments. So obviously the tuition grant was the key commitment in the Liberal platform.

As well, he mentioned that the New Democratic platform, if actually implemented, would have cost the government billions of dollars. In other words, no matter what party ended up leading Ontario, a deficit would have been acquired.

However, though the tuition grant may cost the government millions, it will help make post secondary education more accessible to students, which was a problem that every party noted in their platforms.

"I'm incredibly pleased," said Davis, "That they're following through on the promise and that students are going to get some financial relief."

## Canada in brief

### Highway crashes claim seven lives

Seven teenagers were killed in highway crashes this Tuesday. According to CBC news, four were killed in a multi-vehicle crash on Highway 69 north of Parry Sound and two others died when their car crossed the centre line on Highway 17 near Hagar, west of North Bay.

A seventh teen succumbed to her injuries Wednesday afternoon. Several people involved in the crashes are also in hospital with serious injuries.

CBC quoted OPP Inspector Mark Andrews saying, "The accidents were a 'waste of life [and] completely preventable ... [resulting in] 12 families that have had their lives turned upside down.'"

### Ex-MP wants legal action

A former Quebec politician is planning legal action against the Conservative government for pulling out of the Kyoto Protocol, calling the move unconstitutional. Daniel Turp, a former Parti Québécois MNA and Bloc MP, was quoted by CBC news saying he is going to ask the federal court to block Ottawa's controversial decision, and is calling on Canadians to join his legal campaign. Turp launched an online petition for Canadians to support his plan because he believes that citizens should have a voice. A spokesperson from Environment Canada told CBC News that the government intends to repeal the Kyoto Protocol Implementation Act.

—Compiled by Amanda Steiner

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# The Tipsies: Best in bars

The Cord presents the Topsy Awards, showcasing the best bars and eateries in Kitchener-Waterloo as voted on by Cord writers and editors. With only a few months left to the school year, take the time to visit the area's best venues.



Best dance club.....Starlight Social Club

Nestled in the heart of Uptown, Starlight defies the expectations of a typical dance club. Exceptionally friendly staff and a safe, clean atmosphere make the nightly five-dollar cover well worth it. The venue is a fantastic social experience that allows club-goers to feel comfortable while letting their hair down. Bartenders are well-versed in any drink order you throw at them, and the interior has plenty of space to spare so that you never feel crowded when dancing. Consider venturing out to Starlight on a Friday, where the DJ swaps predictable club fare for old-school funk. — Bree Rody-Mantha, Features Editor

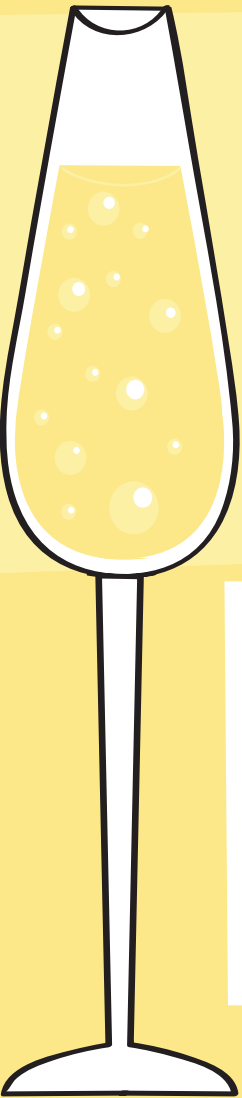
Runner-up.....Phil's Grandson's Place

Best value.....Phil's Grandson's Place

This one seems like a bit of a no-brainer. \$2.75 for a drink? You're not going to get much better value than that. But Phil's Grandson's Place – Phil's to the common student – saves you money in so many more ways. Cover is a manageable five dollars (yes, there's a cover every night, but at \$2.75 per drink the cover is excusable). Plus, the beyond-cheap drinks render a pre-drink almost unnecessary, and its location right at the corner of King and University means Phil's is a walkable destination for first years in residence and inhabitants of the student ghetto alike. Sure, it occasionally smells like a hockey dressing room filled with puke, but there are very few places where your money will go as far as it does at Phil's. Once again, at \$2.75 per drink, it's hard to argue against Phil's. — Justin Fauteux, News Director



Runner-up.....Chainsaw Saloon



Best food.....Ethel's Lounge

Located on the corner of King and Spring Streets, Ethel's offers food that crushes cravings while moving beyond typical bar food. Since the location has no deep-fryer, rather than serving up delicious-but-boring chicken fingers and onion rings, Ethel's boasts a diverse menu of home-made Tex-Mex and vegetarian foods. The lounge is most popular on a Tuesday, when two dollars and the purchase of a drink will get you more tacos than your stomach and tastebuds can handle. — Bree Rody-Mantha, Features Editor



Runner-up.....Frat Burger



Best atmosphere.....Failte

It's uncommon that you would find a bar where patrons are drinking and singing merrily at one table and studying over coffee at another, but Failte is one of those rare finds. With drinks that are neither cheap nor pricey and food that could go either way, what separates Failte's Irish Pub from other locations is the large tables fit for even the roughest parties, an interior that is cozy but never crowded and some of the most welcoming staff in all of Uptown. Though the generally dim light may make Failte seem unwelcoming, once in you can feel comfortable whether you're a solitary man or traveling in a crowd of rowdy students. — Bree Rody-Mantha, Features Editor

Runner-up.....The Duke of Wellington

Best vegetarian options..... Jane Bond

For those who are looking for a meal out but prefer the taste of hummus to steak, Jane Bond on Princess St. just west of King St. is the place for you. Vegetarian cuisine is the only thing on the menu. Offering a small but varied selection of foods, Jane Bond creates a comfortable and pleasant atmosphere in a bar that also doubles as a restaurant. Small, cozy and offering a refreshing change from typical deep-fried pub fare, Jane Bond is an excellent selection for vegetarians and veggie-curious diners. — Nick Lachance, Photography Manager



Best place for live music.....Maxwell's Music House

Maxwell's is located just a stone's throw away from campus and is one of the few bars that you can depend on to consistently offer up unique live performances, from unknown artists to rising stars. Though the bar unfortunately does not offer an exceptional variety of drinks, the establishment gets you by with your basic bands and makes up for its lack of selection by providing one of the most comfortable settings around. Despite a small venue, Maxwell's comfortably seats a surprisingly large number of patrons and provides a concert experience that feels intimate without seeming cheap. — Bree Rody-Mantha, Features Editor

Runner-up.....Starlight Social Club

Best place to bring a date.....Symposium Café

Symposium Café, located in Uptown Waterloo, provides a cozy atmosphere ideal for an intimate date with that special someone. Plush armchairs across tables for two and dim (though sometimes too dim) lighting help set a romantic mood, while Renaissance period-inspired art on the walls keeps things classy, and may even provide a conversation piece for that awkward first date. Prices are reasonable, particularly as each night features a special deal on food or drinks, such as four-dollar martinis on Wednesdays and "Date Night" on Thursdays. Looking for something sweet? Symposium's eight layer cakes and wide-ranging dessert menu provide the perfect platter for sharing. — Lindsay Purchase, Lead Reporter



Runner-up.....The Heuther Hotel



Best place to bring your parents.....The Duke of Wellington

For those days when your parents decide to treat you to a meal out, instead of dragging them to a chain restaurant you could find in any city, The Cord suggests the Duke of Wellington. The authentic British pub at Waterloo Town Square has a large menu of tasty pub favourites as well as a small-but-satisfying selection of Indian food, so you're sure to please even the pickiest moms and dads. With 17 beers on tap and live entertainment most nights, it's a place that your folks just might feel a bit cooler after leaving. The pub is also well-known for its breakfast and brunch, so you're not just limited to dinner outings. — Bree Rody-Mantha, Features Editor

Runner-up.....Ennio's Pasta

Best place to watch the game.....McMullan's

This basement bar has an intimate atmosphere that lends itself well to large group outings. With an abundance of televisions, McMullan's is comfortable enough to occupy for several hours. The best aspect of McMullan's is undoubtedly the food. Though generic in selection, McMullan's menu items are outstanding in taste and the perfect accompaniment to sports-focused outings. The standout of the menu is the pizza and the large selection of beers (including Rolling Rock, which is hard to find in Waterloo) is sure to attract any sports fan. — Bree Rody-Mantha, Features Editor

Runner-up.....McGuinness Front Row





# 2012 Grammy Award nods and predictions



Arts Editor Liz Smith (L.S.) Staff Writer Carly Basch (C.B.) and Allie and Emily from RadioLaurier’s The A & E Show (A&E) weigh in on the 54th annual Grammy Award nominees

### Album of the Year

21 — Adele  
Wasting Light — Foo Fighters  
Born This Way — Lady Gaga  
Doo-Wops & Hooligans — Bruno Mars  
Loud — Rihanna

The Grammy for Album of the Year generally goes to whoever has had the best year and has made the most waves in the music industry. Historically, critics have disagreed with the decisions because they tends to reflect commercial popularity.



Adele’s sophomore album 21 increased her popularity and recognition on this side of the pond while producing a number of hit singles. Many of Adele’s songs were remixed and sampled by DJs and artists which further lent

to her widespread success. Although critics do not tend to agree with the winner of this category, we believe Adele’s artistry, powerful vocals and personal lyrics make this album both a commercial and critical success. For this reason we believe Adele will win a well deserved Grammy for Album of the Year. —By A & E

### Should Win:

Adele (L.S., A&E)  
Bon Iver (C.B.)

### Will Win:

Adele (L.S. A&E, C.B.)

### Best New Artist

The Band Perry  
Bon Iver  
J. Cole  
Nicki Minaj  
Skrillex

The category of Best New Artist is a coveted award for industry newcomers vying for positions at the top. It aims to celebrate an artist who has recently broken into the mainstream and exhibits serious potential for future success. Last year, the Grammy for Best New Artist was awarded to an act who can only be described as an industry underdog. In 2011, Esperanza Spalding won over Drake, Florence + The

Machine, Mumford and Sons and Justin Bieber, eliciting a resounding “..who?” from music fans. Grammy precedent seems to eliminate all hope for J. Cole despite his quickly rising star and stellar industry connections and while Nicki Minaj had great success in 2010, she didn’t release Pink Friday until 2011, making Minaj a likely candidate for 2012’s Best New Artist. —By L.S.

### Should Win:

J. Cole (L.S., A&E)  
Bon Iver (C.B.)

### Will Win:

Skrillex (A & E)  
Nicki Minaj (L.S., C.B.)

### Best Rock Album

Rock ‘N’ Roll Party Honoring Les Paul — Jeff Beck  
Wasting Light — Foo Fighters  
Come Around Sundown — Kings Of Leon  
I’m With You — Red Hot Chili Peppers  
The Whole Love — Wilco

### Should Win:

Kings of Leon (L.S., C.B.)  
Jeff Beck (A & E)

### Will Win:

Kings of Leon (L.S., C.B.)  
Foo Fighters (A & E)

### Best Alternative Album

Bon Iver — Bon Iver  
Codes And Keys — Death Cab For Cutie  
Toches — Foster The People  
Circuital — My Morning Jacket  
The King Of Limbs — Radiohead

Best Alternative Album has an alumni that include The Black Keys’ Brothers in 2011, Radiohead’s In Rainbows in 2009 and The White Stripes in 2008, 2006 and 2004. Bon Iver’s Justin Vernon has collaborated with many other artists, including Kanye West on his album, My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy. The versatility of his talent allows him to collaborate with a variety of artists and transcend genres. Though Bon Iver has had some main stream success they are most likely to be recognized in the Alternative Category. Bon Iver had an outstanding year in 2011 and the self-titled album speaks volumes of the talent the band and front-man possess. For these reasons we believe Bon Iver should and will win Best Alternative Album. —By A & E

### Should Win:

Bon Iver (L.S., A & E, C.B.)

### Will Win:

Foster the People (L.S., C.B.)  
Bon Iver (A & E)

### Best Dance Recording

“Raise Your Weapon” — Deadmau5 & Greta Svabo Bech  
“Barbra Streisand” — Duck Sauce  
“Sunshine” — David Guetta & Avicii  
“Call Your Girlfriend” — Robyn  
“Scary Monsters And Nice Sprites” — Skrillex  
“Save The World” — Swedish House Mafia

Robyn is deserving of this award because she is a seasoned pop artist who consistently delivers innovative pop sounds. Skrillex has been a major player in a mainstream overhaul as dance and electronic music has taken a forefront in the mainstream media. Although it remains to be seen whether Skrillex will remain relevant in coming years, he is likely to take home the Grammy this year because of his huge artistic growth in 2011. —By L.S.

### Should Win:

Skrillex (A&E)  
Robyn (L.S., C.B.)

### Will Win:

Ducksauce (A & E)  
Skrillex (L.S., C.B.)

### Best Rap Album

My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy — Kanye West  
Watch the Throne — Jay-Z and Kanye West  
Pink Friday — Nicki Minaj  
Tha Carter IV — Lil Wayne  
Lasers — Lupe Fiasco

### Should Win:

My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy (L.S., A & E)  
Watch The Throne (C.B.)

### Will Win:

Tha Carter IV (L.S.)  
My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy (A & E)  
Watch The Throne (C.B.)

Although West leads the Grammy nominations with seven and has had an incredible year given the critical acclaim and commercial success of his album My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy and his collaboration with Jay-Z on Watch the Throne and the consequent tour, the mass media is slow to embrace West because of his controversial antics. Lil Wayne has proven to be a difficult Grammy contender in years passed, earning an astounding eight nominations at the 51st annual Grammy Awards in 2009 for Tha Carter III and winning Best Rap Album in that year. The reluctance of the general public to induct West into the league of media darling’s and the gaping oversights of the Grammy’s to acknowledge truly great musical acts leads me to believe Lil Wayne will be taking home the Grammy for Best Rap Album for Tha Carter IV, over the more deserving Kanye West. —By L.S.



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NICK LACHANCE PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

Sam KBz and Biz Davis of The Killabits perform on Tuesday night at Titanium in Uptown Waterloo.

# Killabits shut down Titanium

LIZ SMITH  
ARTS EDITOR

The Killabits are an electro-house twosome from Toronto, ON, who have been a fixture on the local music scene for some time and have recently grown to expand their fan-base throughout Canada and the U.S. with their extensive international tour schedules.

Killabits members Sam KBz and Biz Davis spent the early stage of their career playing weekly shows with fellow Toronto natives Zeds Dead at Toronto's Wrong Bar, developing a serious fan base and greatly contributing to the spread of the dubstep epidemic that has taken the music industry by storm.

The Killabits recently wrapped up a North American tour and caught up with The Cord before their set at Titanium in Uptown Waterloo on Tuesday night.

"Sam and I have been making music for almost ten years now. We met through some mutual friends and we were both into dance music and the hip-hop scene. Once we got to know each other we realized we liked the same kind of influences

and had the same kind of preferences for how we put our tracks together. It's been a couple years and we're still doing it," Davis told The Cord of the partnership.

When asked about the close relationship with Zeds Dead, Sam KBz replied, "In the beginning we were playing a lot of shows with them, but in the last little while we've been on a tour with Figure so we haven't had a lot of dates with them. We've done a couple shows recently with them at home which has been great, and we do occasionally in the U.S. end up having a couple dates with them."

Figure (Josh Gard), a truly impressive DJ, beatmaker, turntablist and all around expert on all things bass, received great praise from tour mates The Killabits.

"He's a great dude, probably one of my favourite people I've ever met in this industry. He has a lot of energy and is incredible to watch DJ. I feel we really stepped up and learned a lot from him on the production end of things, it's really changed the direction we've been going in the last little while we've been working with him."

The duo has spent the majority of the last year touring Canada and the United States but are far from exhausting their passion for performance and creation. "We're just kicking off our winter tour of Canada and the States. On the last tour we went coast to coast and the best places we've played in the last year have been New York City, Montreal, Denver and Chicago, which was crazy," said Kbz.

"It's not always the biggest cities, sometimes it's the smaller crowd. We played Ferny, B.C. to 100 people and they were the craziest 100 people I've ever seen in my life," he continued.

The Killabits have been known for their skilled and precise live performances and heavy dubstep sound showcased on stand out tracks such as "Bassmentality" with Zeds Dead.

At their Titanium show Tuesday night, the crowd was hypnotized by the duo's heavy sound.

Unfortunately, the Waterloo Regional Police Service shut down the event during the very last song of The Killabits set due to an over-capacity crowd at the venue.

# KW native stars in American Idiot

Scott Campbell graduated from Oakville's Sheridan, earning work on Broadway

LIZ SMITH  
ARTS EDITOR

Kitchener-Waterloo native Scott Campbell developed theatrical aspirations at a young age.

"It just came from an involvement at an early age in music and that translated into an enjoyment of the stage," Campbell said in an interview with The Cord.

"I did some intensives when all those summer theatre programs were around, back in the day when there was still funding for them. After that I just got bit by the acting bug and decided I'd pursue acting as a career," he continued.

Campbell then perused a post secondary education at Sheridan College in Oakville, earning honours upon graduation, immediately finding work and representation in the industry.

Since, Campbell has travelled the Caribbean performing for Disney Cruise Lines, playing none other than the iconic Prince Charming.

Recently, Campbell got his feet wet in film and television as well, doing a show on the USA Network called *White Collar*.

Campbell performed in *Jersey Boys* on Broadway, and is now touring the nation performing in the presentation of Broadway's hit musical, *Green Day's American Idiot*.

In the interview, Campbell spoke of the musical and what those attending can expect to see, saying, "If you're just going to see it the once, you can expect to be blown away, overwhelmed really. There is so

much going on. It's a dazzling show with a powerful story."

"I think it's as much fun to watch as it is to put on," continued Campbell of what he described as a "technical behemoth of a show."

"I bought *Dookie* and *Nimrod* at an early age and those are some of my favourite albums, so when *American Idiot* came out I hopped on board, I'd been singing the songs for a long time," said Campbell.

Campbell plays the character of Tunny, the best friend of Jonny, the "Jesus of Suburbia," and the protagonist of the story.

The play sees Tunny being seduced into the military and the drama that ensues from that decision.

As a young actor, Campbell claims to draw inspiration from "powerhouse actors."

"I was always a huge Christopher Reeves fan, Superman was my number one favourite character. As I grew to be able to foster an appreciation for more actors I got into Phillip Seymour Hoffman and Pacino and Johnny Depp...early Johnny Depp," the actor explained.

Campbell has found what he believes to be "success," in the industry, explaining, "If you feel happy with what you do everyday at a job, you should feel successful. For me right now it's earning a paycheck and doing what I love. It doesn't feel like I'm going to work, just playing around."

Green Day's *American Idiot* will run from December 28 to January 15 at the Toronto Centre for the Arts.

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# EDITORIAL

Opinion Editor  
Joseph McNinch-Pazzano  
jmcninchpazzano@thecord.ca

## Laurier’s short holiday break is regrettable

Wilfrid Laurier University is one of the lucky few Ontario universities that returned for the winter term this week. Along with McMaster, York and the University of Waterloo, Laurier started earlier than every other university in the province.

The point of this editorial is not to whine and suggest that we wanted more time off for the sake of having more time off. Instead, it is to suggest that this speaks to systemic issues at the university and the constraints the administration must consider.

For students who had exams right up until the final day on Dec. 21, they had a measly eight business days off, much of which was inevitably filled with holiday travel and endless family gatherings, leaving little time for much needed relaxation.

With ever-growing enrolment and the inability of the Laurier’s physical space to keep up with the high number of students, the exam period is inevitably longer than at other institutions. It is understandable that the university needs to get students back as soon as possible to fit in the necessary exam days at the end of the term.

However, the university must consider the implications of endlessly admitting new undergraduate students and lowering admission requirements in order to do so. While the faculty of arts debated this and realized the danger of low entrance averages, this remains an issue at the university as a whole.

The lack of a sufficient holiday break is not just a scheduling issue or a trivial and petty concern. It is directly related to this university’s serious lack of foresight in addressing issues of mental health.

Earlier this year, the university administration also struck down the proposition of a fall reading week for next year. According to a recent article appearing in the *Globe and Mail*, 15 per cent of students have been diagnosed with some sort of mental health issue and suicide is the second leading cause of death among students.

Higher education should be challenging. It should not be easy for those who simply wish to purchase a ticket to better careers and higher-paying positions. Yet, it should not be so challenging that it ignores the basic needs of students. Students are aware that this is not supposed to be a cakewalk but one can only handle so many successive weeks of midterms, essays, projects and finals without a much needed break.

The vast majority of Ontario universities have recognized this and as Laurier students start attending our classes, their students are blissfully spending time at home with friends and families, collecting their thoughts and readying themselves for another term.

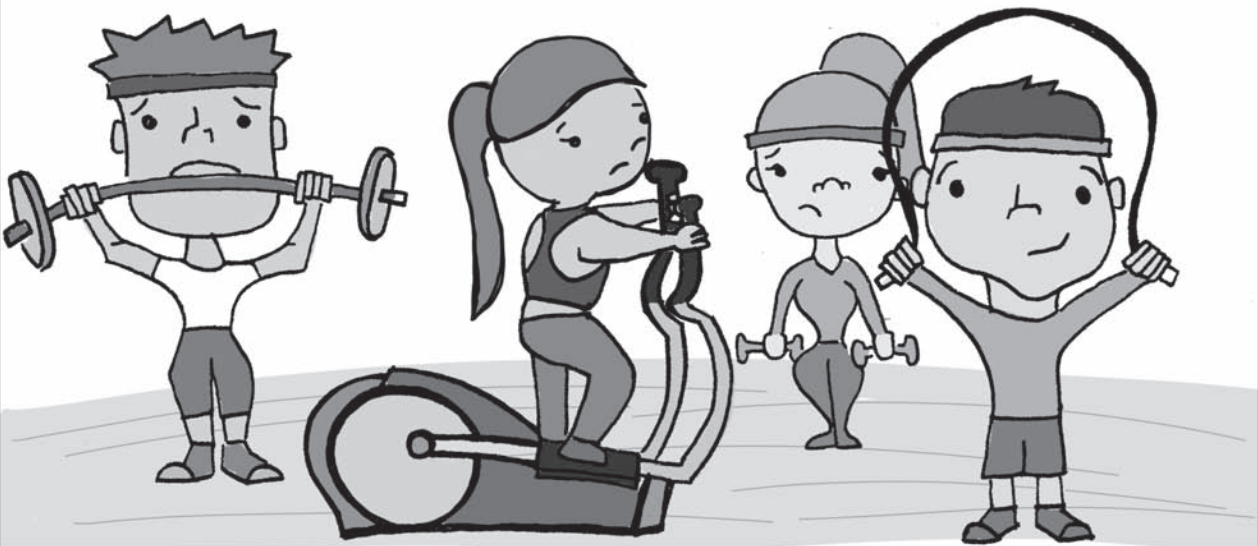
As the term winds down in April and Laurier is still writing exams even as others have finished, this difference will be even more pronounced. It would behoove the university administration to consider the impact of their admission decisions on their existing students and recognize the paramount need for downtime.

—The Cord Editorial Board

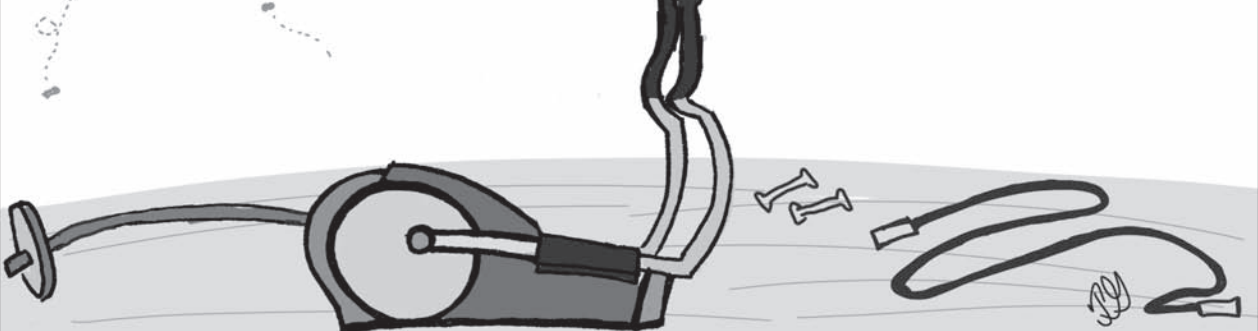
*This unsigned editorial is based off informal discussions and then agreed upon by the majority of The Cord’s editorial board, which consists of 14 senior Cord staff including the Editor-in-Chief and Opinion Editor. The arguments made may reference any facts that have been made available through interviews, documents or other sources. The views presented do not necessarily reflect those of The Cord’s volunteers, staff or WLUSP.*

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### New Years Resoulution: Day 1



### New Years Resoulution: Day 8



# New Year’s Eve shouldn’t be about the fancy perks



ROSALIE EID  
PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

New Year’s Eve is an annual event usually celebrated with family, a few drinks and is filled with unbelievable good times. However, New Year’s also comes with a few inconveniences. This celebration seems to have created an illusion that in order to have a good time and ring in the New Year the right way, you must fork over a hefty budget for your outing.

Unfortunately, while being overwhelmed with trying to create the perfect New Year’s night, we sometimes forget the realities of the holiday and the agony experienced during the process of planning this night.

Even with the connections or money spent, you still cannot be guaranteed a good night because even with VIP, bottle service and connections to the club or bar manager, you can still be stuck waiting in the cold. Local places that previously required no cover all year round seem to ask for a charge that rivals high-end clubs in Toronto and those high-end clubs in Toronto seem to enjoy raising their prices excessively merely for their sheer amusement. Going out on New Year’s is a personal choice, however I feel people should consider the cons when making their decision.

Even after the crazy club or bar and the unbelievable amount of alcohol consumed, we usually wake up beside our close friends reminiscing over the outrageous things that had taken place last night.

These good New Year’s Eve memories weren’t memorable because of where you were, what you were wearing or how prestigious your VIP booth was, but those good times happen because of

those crazy loyal friends you spent the night with.

We have all done it, stressed over having the best New Year’s filled with reservations to a high-end club, arriving by limo and wearing that exquisite outfit that might have cost us weeks of searching. Those friends and family who catered to you throughout the past year are who should be present as you enter the New Year. It is important to realize that having an amazing New Year’s doesn’t always involve the extravagant perks. In the end the idea of joining some of your “acquaintances” merely because they had decided to go all out, will not guarantee you a good time.

By all means if you can afford it and are able to drag your close friends with you, then I suggest going all out. But for those who seem to stress about what is considered to be an appropriate New Year’s, you should rethink what is more important, either being with those you care for or having that luxury of feeling like a celebrity for a night.



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# What’s next for North Korea?

Following the death of North Korea’s “Dear Leader,” Kim Jong-il on Dec. 17, questions have been raised over whether Kim Jong-un can command the same presence



AMELIA CALBRY-MUZYKA  
OPINION COLUMNIST

Following the death of Kim Jong-il on Dec. 17, 2011, all eyes have been on North Korea, anxiously waiting to see what this turn of events will mean for both the country and the world. Kim Jong-il’s son, Kim Jong-un, has been hailed as the “supreme commander” of the military and Jong-il’s successor by the North Korean state media. This change, while not completely unexpected, places North Korea’s elites into the rather precarious position of extending Kim Jong-il’s god-like status onto his son.

A number of foreign policy commentators have noted that it is impossible for anyone, let alone a mere university opinion columnist, to know for sure what will happen as Kim Jong-un steps into his father’s platform shoes. However, it is possible to look at the differences between the conditions surrounding Kim Jong-un’s assumption of power in comparison to his father, when he became North Korea’s “Dear Leader” in 1994.

Kim Jong-un, Kim Jong-il’s third son, was almost unknown until Sept. 2010, when he was made a four-star general and vice chairman of the Central Military Commission. However, the 16 months or so of crash training does nothing to compare to Kim Jong-il’s nearly 30 years

of involvement with the Worker’s Party prior to 1994.

It was through these experiences that Kim Jong-il developed his keen ability to manipulate those around him and his flair for the theatrical, particularly through his work as deputy director of the propaganda and agitation department. This gave him the knowledge necessary to obtain the support and adoration of both the party members and the general public, while eliminating those he saw as a threat. Kim Jong-un’s lack of leadership and party experience will almost certainly work against him, leaving him vulnerable to power struggles.

Another factor which must be considered is that there have been few preparatory steps made to convince the population. The appointment of Kim Jong-un in Sept. 2010 was the first indication that Kim Jong-il intended on making Kim Jong-un his successor. Prior to this appointment, it was unclear as to whom Kim Jong-il would name as his successor.

When North Korea’s first leader Kim Il-sung died in 1994, however, there was no confusion as to who his successor would be. Kim Jong-il’s portrait started to appear alongside his father’s as early as 1975 with his role as successor first officially recorded in May 1980.

This allowed the propaganda machines to surround Kim Jong-il’s name with mythical stories – giving him the status of a living god. These stories were instrumental in the development and maintenance of power, allowing the “Dear Leader” to promote himself and achieve the god-like influence he had over the North Korean people. With Kim



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO PAN-AFRICAN NEWSWIRE  
Kim Jong-un was appointed as Kim Jong-il’s successor.

Jong-un, such strategies have only started in the past couple of years or so, after Kim Jong-il suffered a life-threatening stroke.

Since then, the North Korean state media have tried re-package Jong-un from a shy, nerdy, twenty-something boy into a younger version of the original “Great Leader,” Kim Il-sung.

While he is hailed as “another leader sent from heaven,” according to a Dec. 2011 article in the *New York Times*, it seems impossible for the young leader to have gathered the

support and love enjoyed by his father and grandfather in such a short amount of time.

This fact poses severe problems for the ruling elite, since it is as a result of this cultivated support that the elites have been able to rise above the rest.

However, it is certain that this sudden change of leadership comes with a number of problems for North Korea’s new leader which could threaten his leadership over the ruling party.

This week’s  
online  
opinion at  
**thecord.ca**

Emma Van Weerden  
comments on  
the privilege of  
education and  
why we shouldn’t  
take it for granted

Ian Merkley  
argues that  
governments  
erred in 2011 in  
their response  
to the global  
economic crisis.  
Read about  
his hopes for  
a revived 2012  
economy: less  
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All students interested in running in this year's elections are invited to meet the current Board of Directors & President for refreshments 5-8pm in the Hawk's Nest (Inside the Turret, 3rd Floor FNCC).

## Jan 9 & 10 | Candidate Info Sessions

Potential candidates must attend one of these two info sessions in order to participate in the upcoming elections. Sessions are at 10pm in BA101.

## For more info visit [ClickYourVote.ca](http://ClickYourVote.ca)

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# McWhinnie headlines holiday recruiting class

KEVIN CAMPBELL  
SPORTS EDITOR

Gary Jeffries knows this is an exciting time for Laurier football. The head coach of the pigskin squad was able to rope in the Waterloo County Secondary School Athletic Association (WCSSA) 2011 MVP defensive lineman Andrew McWhinnie, the first MVP to play locally after the previous three Doug

Shuh award winners chose to head west down the 401 and suit up for the Western Mustangs. The football program held two separate press conferences in December before the holiday break, with the first showcasing McWhinnie and the second being a little more intimate. Family members from as far away as Victoria, BC gathered within the team's locker room on Saturday,

Dec. 17, and the team staff formally introduced themselves to their newest prized players and their kin. Recruiting coordinator and smooth-talking funnyman Carl Zender introduced each of the 21 young men lining the front of the room, adorned in purple and gold t-shirts and sitting underneath holiday decorations while "Santa Coach" would later make an appearance (Zender in Kris Kringle gear) to pose for photographs for family members to take home. Pizza, pop and coffee were also available on a day the football program spared no expense, and they're hoping the holiday function becomes an annual tradition. "I think it's great," said the headlining attraction McWhinnie. "It gets the family out and I think it's the beginning of a really good tradition." Beyond the six-foot-four, 225-pound McWhinnie, Laurier's newest group of Golden Hawks include highly-rated linebacker Zach Hoare from Cambridge, Craig Asiamah-Yeboah, a wide receiver from Brampton, Tyler Reeves, an offensive lineman from Burlington, who

attended high school football powerhouse, Nelson, and wide receiver Thomas Stawiarski from Ancaster. The most common reason given by the players in choosing Laurier was the small campus and friendly, family-like atmosphere. "It's a nice tight community here," said Stawiarski. "I just love how walking from the field to class is not 20 minutes; you can walk throughout the whole school in seven minutes ... everyone's really welcoming." Stawiarski said his speed is the Ancaster native's greatest asset. "I'm a fast guy (with some good) hands," said the wide receiver. There were no quarterbacks at the meet and greet, but this group is only the start of an exciting year that will see more recruits signing letters of intent, said the team. And players like McWhinnie are a huge part of that. "I think [McWhinnie's] signing will attract others and not just within the tri-cities but all around the country," said Jeffries. "A lot of people know this young man, so I think good players attract other good players .... We're reloading and

he is a certainly a guy we can reload around." The complete list of recruited players include McWhinnie, Hoare, Stawiarski, Asiamah-Yeboah, Reeves, offensive linemen Jackson Yanchus, Edward Cadougan Jr., Marcus Nese, Jeff Vanier, Dylan Wenzel, linebackers Sam Montazeri, Tommy Majka, Dale Egan, Eric Juhl, Patrick Bishop, defensive linemen Joel Chapman, Michael Malanda, Mark Fidani, defensive backs Tanner Philp, Mike Solanki and running back Darian Waite. The team may look drastically different than the one that suited up this season. Gone will be kick returner and team MVP Dillon Heap, linebacker Sam Aird, defensive backs Shane Herbert and Luke Thompson, George Kourtesiotis and receiver Mark Surya. The predicted No.2 overall CFL pick, Shamawd Chambers, has also likely departed the school and linemen Carlos Naranjo, Mitchell Bosch, Scott McCahill, Dan Bishop and running back Anton Bennett have one year of eligibility left to exercise.



JAMIE HOWIESON LAURIER ATHLETICS  
Head coach Gary Jeffries speaks to his new recruits' families.

# Lady Hawks get a taste of top-ranked McGill

KEVIN CAMPBELL  
SPORTS EDITOR

With an otherworldly 13-0-1 record at the holiday break, the nationally-ranked No.2 Wilfrid Laurier Golden Hawks' women's hockey team had seen the rest of the Ontario University Athletics' (OUA) competition and had more than proven themselves time and time again. No small feat for a team considered on the mend, and reloading after losing veteran goalkeeper Liz

Knox last year. But they had yet to face the one team considered better than the Hawks by the Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) pundits who dole out the weekly rankings by year's end; the McGill Martlets. The defending CIS champion Martlets, boasting Olympic medalist defenceman Cathy Chartrand and goalie Charline Labonte hosted a holiday tournament shortly after Christmas from Dec. 28-30 in Montréal.

And Laurier got the invite, along with No.4 St. Francis Xavier and the University of Manitoba. The Hawks played their way to a second-place finish, defeating Manitoba and St. FX before bowing out in a 5-4 shootout thriller to the host team, McGill last Friday. It was a good litmus test to see how the unexpected team from Waterloo would match up against the country's best powerhouse. In a game that saw the lead switch hands four times, Heather Fortuna,

Caitlin Muirhead, Andrea Shapero and Alicia Martin all scored on Labonte for the Hawks, an encouraging sign, said team captain Abby Rainsberry. "It was probably the closest game we've played against McGill since I've been here," said the fourth-year on Wednesday. "It was very good to see that we were able to score four goals against Labonte ... that's an accomplishment we'll take with us because she does have such a good record."

Rainsberry's description is quite modest, considering the Olympic veteran's 7-1 win-loss record with a 1.47 goals-against average (GAA) and .925 save percentage (SV%) this year. For Labonte, those four goals were a blitzkrieg.

The shootout ended the contest, with McGill's Katia Clement-Heydra and Jordanna Peroff finding the twine and no shooters recording a goal for the Hawks for the 5-4 final score.

"It was pretty intimidating," said Hawks' starting keeper Erika Thunder. "But it was a good opportunity to play them .... It was definitely the toughest game I've played this year just because they're so much faster and their shots are so much harder," referring to the modestly-listed five-foot-ten Chartand in particular.

The Hawks have found success so far this year because of team balance, according to Rainsberry.

"The biggest difference [compared with past years] is the depth on our team," said the captain. "We don't have one line [or] one person scoring all the goals."

Thunder has been a revelation in the Hawks' cage. The rookie Winnipeg native's 8-0-1 record has her in first place among OUA goalies with a 1.60 GAA and a .911 SV%.

Next on the schedule for the squad is a date with the Windsor Lancers at the Waterloo Memorial Recreational Complex this Friday at 7:30 p.m.

## GOLDEN HAWK UPDATE

Week of  
Jan 3 - 8 , 2012

RECENT SCORES

12.28.11  
W Basketball 67 - UQAM 53  
W Hockey 4 - Manitoba 2

12.29.11  
W Basketball 55 - Acadia 66 (OT)  
W Hockey 3 - StFX 1

12.30.11  
W Basketball 58 - Laval 63  
W Hockey 4 - McGill 5 (SO)

UPCOMING HOME GAMES

1.6.12  
W Hockey vs Windsor  
Waterloo Rec Complex, 7:30pm

1.7.12  
W Basketball vs Brock  
Athletic Complex, 1:00pm  
M Basketball vs Brock  
Athletic Complex, 3:00pm  
M Hockey vs Brock  
Waterloo Rec Complex, 7:30pm

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Go to [thecord.ca](http://thecord.ca) to read **Chris Mander's** report on the men's basketball latest game versus the Waterloo Warriors and **Eric Thompson's** NFL playoff preview breaking down the contenders and pretenders of the post-season.