

THE CORD WEEKLY



Garbage smells. Fix it
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Did the Raelians clone
a jackass? Page 10



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www.wlusp.com

Controversy over prof rating

Stefan Sereda

The quiet era of WLUSU neutrality was disturbed last week as a barrage of bright blue posters attracted crowds of students in the Fred Nichol's Campus Centre. However, when Laurier's Faculty Association heard the message, some of the "best" professors gave it the worst review.

A conflict some individuals called "constructive," others "scandalous," was initiated on Monday when the Students' Union printed the rankings given to Laurier professors on the site ratemyprofessors.ca and then posted these charts around the FNCC. Though the posters were taken down by Wednesday morning, the stir created by listing the 20 "best" and "worst" professors in three of the school's four faculties generated the attention sought by WLUSU, and angered several faculty members.

The posters were accompanied by a WLUSU statement entitled "Why have we posted these quality ratings?" which explained that the Students' Union's goal was to open up dialogue between students and faculty on the issue of course evaluations. In defense of a rating system that Political Science and Statistics professor Dr. David Docherty described as "highly unscientific," the poster states that WLUSU "acknowledges the fact that ratemyprofessors.ca does not constitute a valid quality indicator." However, the poster further claims that "our current course evaluations are also unacceptable."

Ben Durrer, Chair of WLUSU's Board of Directors, commented that WLUSU "knows the ratings

are fixed, which proves our point...that this was the only public information on professors." Durrer established that WLUSU's goal is "to get a public forum that rates professors which is less arbitrary."

The web site allows students to rank their instructors out of five, in the categories of "easiness," "helpfulness," and "clarity." Students are also given the opportunity to comment on their professor's abilities, and indicate whether or not they find their instructor "sexy." The site then calculates the professor's average overall rating out of five, as well as the number of votes they received on the basis of sexiness. WLUSU used these averages when compiling their lists of "best" and "worst" professors, and the results proved offensive to many of Laurier's faculty members.

"It's an absolute shame that WLUSU decided to put [the ratings] up... Could the faculty post their ratings of the ten best and worst students?"

-Seventeenth highest ranking Arts Professor, David Docherty

"It's an absolute shame that they [WLUSU] decided to put them up," stated Docherty, who further insinuated that the site was "nothing more than a joke...it's funny, but now the Students' Union is putting the label's "best" and "worst" on that, I don't think anyone wants 'Who Wants to Marry a Millionaire?'-type evaluations." Docherty also felt that his ranking as one of the top ten professors in Laurier's Faculty of Arts gave him the credibility to attack WLUSU's action as "slandorous." "Could the faculty post their ratings of the twenty best and worst students?" Docherty asked.

Many professors, including top-ranking Political Science professor Dr. Debora Vannijnatten, attacked the arbitrary nature of the rankings and their saw their postings as detrimental. "I think we can have a discussion at the university about the teaching evalua-

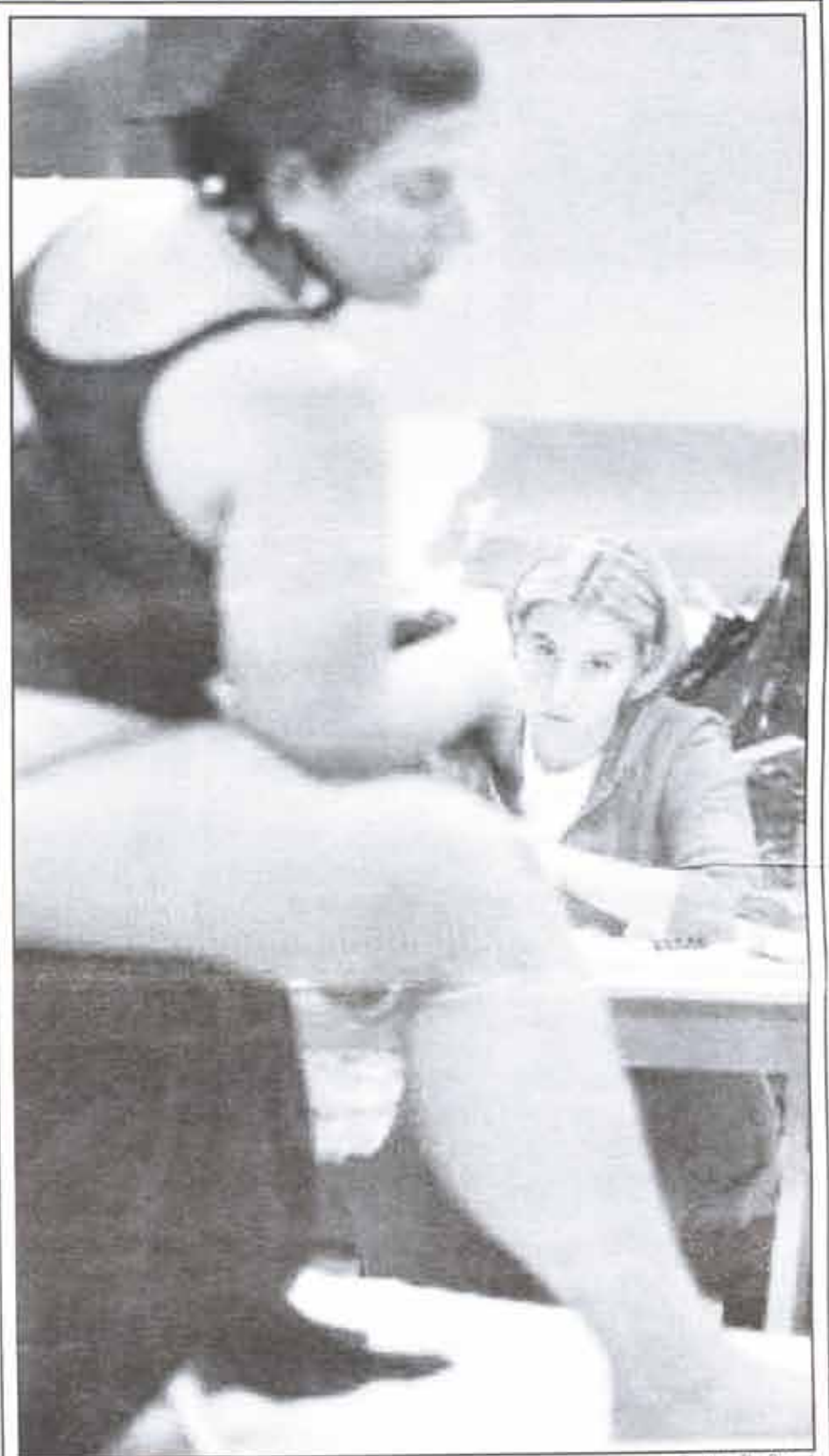
tions but this is not a step in the right direction," commented Vannijnatten. There was also talk of legal action against WLUSU for printing libel, while some professors, such as Dr. Chau, Head of the unfavorably-ranked Computer Science Department, refused talk at all about the rankings.

The posters were taken down in the midst of verbal backlash but Durrer claims that WLUSU generated the necessary amount of attention, indicated by Laurier receiving the most reviews out of any school on the site on Tuesday. "The high input on this web site shows that students want a public forum to discuss their professors." Durrer and the other members of WLUSU's executive are seeking to implement a new course evaluation system to replace the ten-question survey currently used at WLU. "Everyone knows they're bogus," scoffed Durrer. WLUSU proposes a 40-question evaluation called Students' Evaluations of Educational Quality (S.E.E.Q.), which Durrer says has been tested by 3,000,000 students in North America and is much more valid.

Durrer also feels that the students were left out of the agreement between WLUFA and Laurier administration, which allowed for the formation of the present course evaluations.

"What disappoints me is that they haven't looked at the new collective agreement," stated WLUFA President Joyce Lorimer. "We have new language that allows the dean to go in and conduct a much fuller evaluation if there are any clear problems with the course. Our teaching evaluation is now the strongest in the country and gives the administration greater powers to respond to evidence of teaching problems in the classroom."

Dr. Lorimer and WLUSU's Executive Vice-President: University Affairs Kristi Edwards met to discuss course evaluations and both felt the meeting was constructive. Later, Lorimer suggested informing students of their rights under the new agreement would be a better avenue than "publishing anonymous and statistically meaningless results."



Miracle Whip: Life Drawing student Allison Daly draws model Georgina Brown-Branch who sparked controversy by posing as a dominatrix in a WLU Fine Arts class. Full story, page 22.

Finance fiasco

Bryn Boyce

What's a Laurier business degree worth these days? Some people are seriously beginning to wonder, as the track record of original and fair testing in the business faculty has been less than stellar.

Yes boys and girls, academic integrity is front and centre in the limelight. Ok maybe that's being a little melodramatic, but there's no contesting that credibility is quickly going awry at Laurier.

Integrity was the focal point of a lengthy and heated debate during the WLUFA work action. The Academic Senate accosted the top administration for being careless with the precious level of academic quality. Well it now seems that strike or no strike, the testing is just plain flawed.

Come children, let me tell you a tale.

The business students are a proud and humble folk. But these days, a class of 600 BU383 (Financial Management 1) students are caught in the centre of this reshaped dispute. It began when Anwar Ahmed, a respected part-time professor in the Finance department, handed out his final review sheet.

Tame, right? Well Ahmed took questions from earlier exams that are unavailable to students and assembled these onto his review sheet. Same questions, new numbers. He displayed these review questions via overheads in both sections he taught and at least one human xerox machine copied the

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You must be MADD

New Ontario legislation cracks down on drinking and driving

Byron Pascoe

Drunk drivers face a harsher sentence under the new ignition interlock program. A year after receiving Royal Assent, the program, designed to curb repeat offences, is now being implemented.

Impaired driving is the leading cause of criminal death and injury in Canada.

The program requires that an alcohol breath-screening device must be placed in the vehicles of convicted drunk drivers who have become eligible to have their licences reinstated. Transportation Minister Norm Sterling plans to target "preventable tragedies"



Drunk driving offenders will now find themselves out-of-pocket by about \$13,000.

with this measure.

The system is located inside the vehicle, near the driver's seat, and is connected to the engine's ignition system. Before starting the vehicle, a driver must blow into the ignition interlock. The vehicle will not start if it detects a blood alcohol concentration over a pre-set limit of .02 (20 mg of alcohol per 100 ml of blood).

To prevent the driver from drinking while on the road, the interlock device requires continuous breath samples at pre-set intervals while the engine is running. If alcohol is detected or if the sample is not provided within a specific time, the device will issue a warning, record the event and activate specific systems such as flashing lights and horns.

Those who fail to comply with a request to provide a breath or blood sample to police or drive while impaired with a blood alcohol concentration over 0.08 after December 23, 2001 are affected by the new rules. After they serve their sentence, including driver's licence suspensions and mandatory remedial programs, those who are eligible to have their Ontario driver's licence restored will have an ignition interlock condition placed on their driver's licence for a certain length of time.

First time offenders (who have

their licenses revoked for one year) have the ignition interlock installed on all cars that they drive for one year.

A second impaired driving conviction means three years of license suspension and three years of interlock ignition.

A third conviction results in a lifetime provincial license suspension, which could possibly be reduced to ten years. If it is reduced at this point, one must drive with the ignition interlock forever once they are legally allowed back in the driver's seat.

On fourth and subsequent convictions, the guilty party receives a lifetime suspension from driving, with no option for reinstatement.

The alternative to the ignition interlock is to not have the device installed and to not drive at all until the set time for the ignition interlock condition is removed from their licence. There are stiff penalties for not complying with the ignition interlock program, which range up to a \$20,000 fine for driving without an ignition interlock device or for tampering with the device with a commercial vehicle.

Vehicle owners who knowingly allow a person with an ignition interlock condition to drive their vehicle may also be convicted under the Highway Traffic Act.

While Ontario has some of the safest roads in Canada, based on fatality statistics, the province will now also have some of the harshest drinking and driving legislation.

"Maintaining our excellent safety record continues to be one of the government's top priorities," stated Sterling. "In addition to the toll (impaired drivers) take in terms of life and injury, those who drink and drive should also know about the severe financial penalties they face." The legal costs, insurance premiums, payment of fines and now ignition interlock, offenders will find themselves paying at least \$13,000. The ignition interlock systems themselves are estimated to cost \$1,300 per year, with all costs being paid by the driver.

Since 1995, Ontario has introduced tougher measures against drinking and driving which include doubling funds for the RIDE (Reduced Impaired Driving



The ignition interlock system is one whereby the car won't start if the driver's blood-alcohol is too high.

Everywhere) Program, mandatory remedial measures, impounding the vehicles of those who drive while suspended for Criminal Code convictions and increased driver's licence suspension periods for repeat offenders.

Andrew Murie, national executive director of MADD Canada, "commends the provincial government for bringing ignition interlocks to Ontario." Alberta, Quebec, Saskatchewan and the Yukon and forty U.S. states all have active ignition interlock programs.

Third-year BBA student, and member of MADD Canada's 2002 Youth National Leadership Team, Becky Quirt feels that the ignition interlock program "may act as a deterrent, but the main purpose is that once you are caught you won't do it again."



Becky Quirt, MADD Canada member, supports the program.

What are your degrees worth now?

(continued from cover)

questions (and solutions) and sent them flying around the information highway. Every finance student in every section was capable of accessing it through either an unofficial website or through emails.

In the days leading up to the exam, students used the review to varying degrees and in some cases not at all. When these students walked out of their exams they realized that Ahmed's review had completely outlined their final.

Students are outraged that the Finance department did not compile an original exam. As business student Byron Pascoe pointed out "it was the university's mistake not that of the students or the unofficial website." Pascoe along with many others demand that the university accept responsibility and take steps to correct the problem. The outcry was swift and fierce. The forums on the unofficial finance website received thousands of hits but was taken down due to inappropriate content. "People are paying for this education, it should be fair," said BU383 student and Academic Issues Committee (AIC) Coordinator, Abirami Sundaresan.

"My degree could literally be nothing more than a piece of paper," said Katerina Ilievka, who fears that some employers

may take note of these issues of credibility in testing and use it as reason to decline job offer to Laurier students.

A petition was circulated and delivered to the Dean Of Business, Dr. Carson. As one of the students organizing the petition, Ilievka was more than dismayed when the response came back.

In an open letter to the third year business students, Area Coordinator of Finance Dr. Brian Smith outlined a new standardization initiative designed to ensure that these compromised tests do not happen in the future.

The three part initiative will now see that part-time professors no longer receive a copy of the exams or assignment solutions in advance of their students. It will also set up a new full-time faculty member in finance.

The open letter finished off with a decision to "apply the same grading scheme to all students in all sections." The decision was based on a lengthy analysis conducted by the part-time professors to assess whether the marks in these finals had been drastically affected by the advantage. There was a 1% increase in grade average in this

years class as compared to past years.

BU383 Course Coordinator, Dr. Brian Warrack claimed that this increase was "somewhat higher but not abnormal." Their decision was made based partially on the fact that there is no way to accurately tell which students had the review and which did not. If the professors chose to re-weight or edit the grades, they run the risk

of penalizing some students who deserved their marks and aiding others who do not.

By far the most impacting decision of the initiative was to change the structure of the class. Instead of 15 smaller sections, the class will be divided into 3 sections of approximately 200 students.

This new standardization was put into place to ensure academic integrity of the BBA program, but many fear that larger class sizes are not a valid solution. "In the grand scheme of things [the initiative] is not to the benefit of the students," said Ilievka.

This finance incident is an example of many recurring problems found in the Laurier business classrooms. Several students pointed out that last year's EC250 midterm was identical to that of the previ-

Every finance student was capable of accessing the exam through either an unofficial website or e-mails.

ous year. Half of the first term's BU388 students saw the same case study on their final as they had in their BU218 class. Sundaresan explained that issues of integrity are often brought before the AIC. They range from proctor-student cheating systems to TA-student mark doctoring.

The approach taken by Smith and Warrack may set a new precedent when dealing with issues of academic integrity. The standardization and centralization will help reduce the chances of a repeat by shrinking the number of instructors.

The only problem is that Laurier is known for good teacher-student ratios and begs the question: Are larger class sizes a reasonable trade off for continuity and credibility in testing?

"I don't feel like I'm learning in such large classes," said Sundaresan.

So the debate on fairness and integrity rages on. And on. So far the best solutions presented are sadly reactionary and have been labeled as "bandaid" solutions that do not strike deep enough into the issues at hand.

Bag o' crime

CAUSE DISTURBANCE 0250 HRS SAT NOV 30/02

Officers responded to Laurier Place after receiving a complaint from residence staff about a disturbance outside. On arrival all was quiet and no one was in the area.

MEDICAL ASSIST 2100 HRS SAT NOV 30/02

An ambulance was called after an elderly lady appeared to have an allergic reaction to some food she consumed at the Board & Governace Room. She was conveyed to hospital.

MISCHIEF SAT NOV 30/02 - SUN DEC 01/02

Person(s) unknown broke a gate arm at lot 20.

MISCHIEF SAT NOV 30/02 - SUN DEC 01/02

Person(s) unknown dumped a newspaper stand spreading the papers all over the floor in the Arts Building.

MISSING PERSON 1305 HRS SUN DEC 01/02

A search was conducted for for an alzheimers patient who was attending the Convocation ceremonies at the Athletic Complex. He was located in the Athletic Complex a short time later.

SEXUAL ASSAULT 0530 HRS SUN DEC 01/02

It was reported that a WLU student was sexually assaulted in one of the residences. Waterloo Regional Police are investigating. A suspect has been indentified.

THEFT UNDER \$5000 DEC 02/02

The building contractor at the King St construction site reported that sometime between Nov 27 and Nov 28 person(s) unknown climbed the crane and removed a portable heater from the operator's cab as well as a flag from the boom of the crane.

BREAK ENTER & THEFT MON DEC 02/02 - TUE DEC 03/02

Person(s) unknown broke into the Second Cup outlet and removed a number of bottles of juice.

COUNTERFEIT MON DEC 03/02

Turret manager reported finding a conterfeit twenty dollar bill which had been taken in at the Boar's Head Dinner. The bill was turned over to the Regional Police Fraud unit.

THEFT UNDER \$5000 1330 HRS - 1430 HRS TUE DEC 03/02

A WLU student reported that his wallet had been stolen from his knapsack while he was at the Library.

POSSESSION OF DRUGS 2110 HRS TUE DEC 03/02

Four non WLU males were issued written trespass notices when they were found to be in possession of a small quantity of marijuana at the stadium parking lot. The drugs

were turned over to Regional Police.

MISCHIEF TUE DEC 03/02 - WED DEC 04/02

Person(s) unknown broke one of the gate arms at lot 20.

MISCHIEF WED DEC 04/02

Person(s) unknown reached through the cage door at the Tim Horton's outlet in the Arts E wing and knocked over several displays.

MISCHIEF TUE DEC 03/02 - WED DEC 04/02

Person(s) unknown burned a couple of pieces of paper in one of the stair wells at the Peters Building.

MISCHIEF 1520 HRS WED DEC 04/02

Person(s) unknown broke a window at the Athletic Complex. Witnesses stated that they had seen a number of high school aged males throwing ice at the window earlier.

MISCHIEF 0233 HRS THU DEC 05/02

Patrolling officers observed two male WLU students jump onto the hood of a vehicle parked in lot 3 and proceed to dance on it. The matter will be forwarded to the Judicial Affairs Council.

THEFT OVER \$5000 MON DEC 02/02 - SAT DEC 07/02

A WLU student reported that her bassoon had been stolen from her locker. The matter is under investigation.

MISCHIEF 0214 HRS SUN DEC 08/02

Two WLU students were observed breaking a window at the main entrance to Little House. The matter will be forwarded to the Judicial Affairs Council.

FALSE FIRE ALARM 0250 HRS THU DEC 12/02

Person(s) unknown caused a fire alarm in Conrad Hall by activating a pull station. The Fire Dept responded and no smoke or fire was found.

FALSE FIRE ALARM 0245 HRS THU DEC 12/02

Person(s) unknown caused a fire alarm in the Science Building. No smoke or fire was found.

THEFT UNDER \$5000 1320 - 1400 HRS THU DEC 12/02

An Athletic Complex patron reported the theft of his wallet from his locker in the mens' change room.

MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT 1105 HRS FRI DEC 13/02

An unattended staff member's vehicle disengaged from "Park" and rolled back striking another unattended vehicle.

FALSE FIRE ALARM 0216 HRS SAT DEC 14/02

Three males were seen activating a pull station on the 2nd floor of the Nichols Ctre causing a fire alarm. They fled from the scene. A search of the area was conducted with negative results.

MISCHIEF FRI DEC 13/02 - SAT DEC 14/02

Person(s) unknown broke a tail light lense on the Security vehicle.

MISCHIEF FRI DEC 13/02 - SAT DEC 14/02

Person(s) unknown knocked a light post off its base near the

Athletic Complex.

MISCHIEF SUN DEC15/02

Person(s) unknown turned over a recycle bin in the Peters Building causing the contents to spill on the floor.

THEFT UNDER \$5000 SAT DEC 14/02 - MON DEC 16/02

Person(s) unknown stole two floor mats from the Schlegel Ctre.

MEDICAL ASSIST 1300 HRS TUE DEC 17/02

A WLU student fainted in the Food Court striking his head on the floor. The student refused to go to hospital and was subsequently escorted to Health services.

MEDICAL ASSIST 2226 HRS TUE DEC 17/02

An ambulance was called for a WLU student at Bricker residence who was experiencing breathing difficulties. She was attended to by paramedics but declined transportation to hospital.

THEFT UNDER \$5000 THU DEC 05/02 - THU DEC 19/02

A staff member at the Science

Building reported the theft of computer components from a room which is used by numerous students.

THEFT UNDER \$5000 THU DEC 19/02 - FRI DEC 20/02

Person(s) unknown stole a portable radio from the Tim Horton's outlet in the Arts Building.

ATTEMPT BREAK AND ENTER 0415 HRS SUN DEC 22/02

Unknown person(s) attempted to enter a room in Bouckaert Hall. When the occupant of the room yelled out the individual(s) fled. A thorough search of the building and surrounding area was conducted with negative results.

THEFT UNDER \$5000 SAT DEC 21/02 - MON DEC 23/02

Person(s) unknown broke into and attempted to break into a number of vending machines on campus. It appears that money was taken from the machines that were accessed.

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Constructing a school

Stefan Sereda

For those of you who partied in Waterloo for New Year's Eve, you probably found plenty of construction sites to goof around in on your walk home from Ethel's Lounge. For those of you stuck at the Brantford campus, a new residence could provide a place to crash when you're intoxicated off Grand River water next New Year's.

Now that the trees have been curbed and even the Ukrainians have celebrated the holiday season, campus construction projects are on schedule, as construction teams have been working through the break. "Most of last year's projects have been completed," stated Assistant Vice-President of Physical Resources Ron Dupuis, "with the exception of deficiencies."

Only the library project is slightly behind schedule, as minor deficiencies within the building have yet to be repaired. However, all of the books and other research materials have been returned to the building, despite the school's previous statement that a shelving shortage would prevent this from occurring until late January. In addition, the café on the second floor opened for business as of

Monday, January 6, and is currently selling Starbucks products.

The name for the café is to be determined through a contest, with the name 'Starbooks' currently in consideration. The café will be administered and staffed by Arrowmark, the same company that runs the Dining Hall. Both the Schlegel Centre and Waterloo College Hall are complete, however some minor internal problems are being fixed in these buildings.

Undergoing major renovations is Brantford's Grand River Hall, a five-storey office building and residence. Renovations to the first two floors of this building will make way for a bookstore, classrooms, lecture halls, office space and student study space.

Scheduled for opening in September 2003 are Laurier's new teaching building and Science Research Centre, located between the Science Building and Bouckaert Residence. According to Dupuis, foundation for the \$11.4-million Science Research Centre is currently being poured, while construction of the new academic teaching building is proceeding rapidly. The foundation for the building's fourth floor is being poured, and construction teams are preparing to begin work on the lecture the-

atre wing.

New-wave double-cohort age residences are in springing up as well, with both the King Street and Brantford residences set to house first-year students in September 2003. The 326-bed King Street residence is on schedule, with 50 percent of the deck poured for the underground-parking centre. The garage will accommodate 80 vehicles underground, and allow for another 40 vehicles to park at ground level. A new 58-bed residence is to be completed for the Brantford campus as well, but this design-build project is only in the planning stages.

Planning for new projects on the main campus has also begun. The Physical Resources Department has found a contractor to begin work on the daycare centre in the St. Michael campus in the spring. This month planning will also begin for construction of a new building that will allow the Bookstore and Student Publications to expand. The Graduate Students Association may also be given a portion of this building, as their previous habitat was bulldozed to make way for the new teaching facility.

Privy to proxies

Stefan Sereda

With student elections looming ominously on the horizon, students may be expecting the usual downpour of proxy votes. This year, however, the Students' Union is providing a poncho's worth of security measures.

To prevent an election scandal similar to last year's, WLUSU is implementing several measures to reduce irresponsible vote-proxying. WLUSU Chief Returning Officer Vic Truong has been formulating a new system and "trying to find a balance between proxy concerns and still making them available."

The concerns Truong refers to emerged from a scandalous election last year, when approximately 20 percent of the votes cast were proxied to other parties. Proxy votes allowed voters to sign their votes over to others, giving voters the right to hold their own ballot, plus up to three others.

Approximately 400 proxy votes were cast in last year's election, out of approximately 2,000 votes, suggesting severe voting theft. As both WLUSU and

WLUSP are corporations which require proxy votes for their shareholders, proxy voting has been a problem in other years as well.

This year, students will be limited to holding one proxy vote, so candidates should not be able to acquire an excessive amount of proxies. Also, all proxy vote forms will have to be signed by both the student and the proxy-holder, and both will have to provide their Student Identification number. This security measure ensures that both parties have intent to sign over or hold the proxy, and allows the Students' Union to control the number of times an individual votes.

Only full-time students will be allowed to hold proxy votes for WLUSP, while both full and part-time students can hold proxies for WLUSU. Students will be able to proxy their votes for one organization, and keep their votes for the other.

Truong hopes that the more-explicit wording of the proxy forms "will cut down on the proxy-hunting." Nominations for both the WLUSU and WLUSP elections are set to open on Thursday, January 9.

"Students will be limited to holding one proxy vote, so candidates should not be able to acquire an excessive amount of proxies."

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"Kiss my purple backside!"
-George Bell, after his fans threw bottles at him

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The Cord Weekly is the official student newspaper of Wilfrid Laurier University. It is an editorially independent newspaper published by Wilfrid Laurier University Student Publications, Waterloo, a corporation without share capital.

All letters to the editor must be signed and submitted with the author's name, student identification number, and telephone number. Letters must be received by noon Tuesday on disk, or via e-mail at letters@wlusp.com. Letters must be typed or neatly legible and may not exceed 350 words. The Cord reserves the right to edit any letter for brevity and clarity. The Cord reserves the right to reject any letter, in whole or in part.

The Cord reserves the right not to publish material that is deemed to be libelous or in contravention with the Cord's Code of Ethics or journalistic standards.

Opinions expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect those of the Editorial Board, WLUSP, WLU or Hamilton Web Printing.

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Online prof ratings ridiculous

Colin Duffett



Sports Editor

Did you hear? Dr. Phillipa Gates got a rating of four! Who cares? Because if you didn't notice only three people rated her on the idiotic website ratemyprofessors.ca. Three people, three measly people. Oh yeah, clearly this means something. It means three people wasted five minutes of their valuable time to go to this website and fill in the survey. What it doesn't reflect is the attitude of the rest of her students.

Ratemyprofessors.ca has an much merit as hotornot.com. You all remember hotornot.com right? That useless site that rated whether or not you were "hot or not". There is no difference.

Really, the votes on hotornot.com have more merit than the ratings given to the professors on ratemyprofessors.ca for the simple fact that large numbers of people have voted for the people on hotornot.com.

The largest number of votes for any one professor here at Laurier was 93 for Dr. Laura Allan of the Business department. She was the only professor at Laurier to receive more than 65

votes. Certainly that should have more weight than the 11 students who voted for Dr. George Urbaniak of the history department. 11 people out of the 200 plus students who at one time or another registered for his excellent HI 109. This survey is anything but academic. It is a sham and nothing but.

How can one seriously analyze any rating system that takes into account whether or not a professor

so far." Comments like that will never be found in a multiple choice survey but they shouldn't be covered up by the useless drivel that is this rating system.

A system that provides professors with more constructive criticism whether it is good or bad is needed. Although it is a given that everybody won't or can't agree upon the requirements for a new evaluation process all sides involved should be able to find a common ground.

As usual, Dr. Docherty makes a good point. He points out the rating system was "nothing more than a joke." If the Students' Union expects the professors or the university for that matter to give a damn about the ratings they had better rethink their idea. The posting of these ratings does not help the Students' Union in their quest for an improved evaluation system.

To those of you who took this survey seriously, shame on you. Shame on you for falling into the trap that ratemyprofessors has setup. Shame on WLUSU for displaying these ratings around the FNCC.

It does nothing to help improve the evaluation system already in place here at Laurier. Change is needed but this isn't the way to go about it.

"What does the sex appeal of a professor have to do with the merits or demerits of a professor's teaching?"

was easy in his marking or worse yet whether a professor was sexy or not? What does the sex appeal of a professor have to do with the merits or demerits of his or her teaching?

There was only one possibly good section in all of ratemyprofessors.ca. That was the comment section. For example if you look up the comments written about Dr. Joel Faflak of the English department you actually have constructive comments, something like what one student wrote "One of the best profs anywhere! He is so friendly, funny, helpful and caring." Or what about the comments under Ed Jewinski's name "Passionate, brilliant...best prof and best class I've had

The opinions expressed in this editorial are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect those of The Cord Staff, the editorial board, WLUSP or WLU.

Laurier Shorts

Elections approach

Ben Durrer



Rumours are growing, people are getting excited, and individuals are wearing their winter term visibility coat... Ah, the signs of an up-and-coming student election. Over the next several weeks we will vote for our student representatives in the Students' Union, Student Publications, the University Senate and Board of Governors. I have been a representative for the last three years and have found it

to be a very positive and rewarding experience with tremendous learning opportunities. This election contains many hot issues and it will be essential to have numerous candidates who are diverse in their perspectives. All of us have what it takes to be a student representative because we all know the issues that affect our Laurier education and university experience. So take the next step, run for a representational position and make a difference on this campus!

February 6 marks the election date for WLUSP and WLUSU Board of Director positions. The WLUSU BOD election will drive director visibility as a major campaign issue, along with housing and making professor/course evaluations available to the public.

This fall brings the City of

Waterloo Mayoral election and the WLUSU BOD can use that as an opportunity to lobby the city for improved student housing conditions including the elimination of the 75m minimum distance separation rule. Current Mayor Lynne Woolstencroft has not been very supportive of students. This presents an opportunity to support a mayor that appreciates students for their academics, charity work and the economic value that we bring to Waterloo.

Negotiations between faculty and the WLUSU BOD for an improved course/professor evaluation system and public results have been challenging. Faculty continually ignore these student desires and it is time for the WLUSU BOD to increase the pressure threshold and get results. Faculty stole this right in the mid-

nineties through unfair bargaining, but strong candidates will be successful at reinstating these public results.

The WLUSU BOD will also investigate the acquisition of a student centre for the Brantford campus along with their involvement in a major expansion near the bookstore that will create additional student space. The Operating Procedures Agreement between WLUSU and WLU will also be renewed through a negotiations process and this issue will require a great amount of BOD resources.

Other major issues will involve student representatives from the Senate and Board of Governors whom will be elected after Reading

(continued on page 7)

Goat Goes to Laurier

An April Campbell production



Guest Column

New Beginnings

Ryan Vogel



important. So important in fact that we are obligated to do it for the first 19 (or so) years of our lives. Nevertheless many of us will forget to take the time to learn when we are outside of this formal educational setting.

There are without a doubt an endless number of opportunities out in the world to help expand your knowledge base and broaden your perspectives. Organizations such as Toastmasters are in place to improve your skills. Colleges offer classes that will develop your practical abilities. And it should not and does not stop there. Read the newspaper. Watch the nightly news. Travel Europe. Travel Canada. Read a "For Dummies" book. Take up a new sport. Watch the discovery channel. Go to Church or a Synagogue, Temple or to a Mosque. Learn a new religion; it may interest you. Why stop there?

It is a well-known fact that our careers will change numerous times before we eventually find our true calling. Why, then, do we insist on limiting ourselves to the wisdom we currently have? It is human nature to deny and resist change. In a world where change is inevitable, we severely penalize ourselves by remaining comfortable with our current situations. But by learning something new, we mature and prepare for an unknown future.

So learn. Do not be happy with who you are right now. Commit yourself now to advancing your interests and beliefs. Expand your mind. Enlarge the pool of your possibilities. Continually educating yourself through the active pursuit of new avenues and uncharted paths will put you in a position for future growth and will set you apart from others.

Let's start now. Let's learn.

For those of us in fourth year, the end as we know it is near. In less than four short months we will be thrown into a world that is relatively unknown to all of us. Things will change. We will begin to pay taxes; we will begin new relationships; we will begin to truly survive on our own. Simply put; we will begin. We will begin this new life with so much that is foreign and so much that is unfamiliar.

Many of us will look back and wish that we could take a part of our past with us so that some tiny aspect of our lives is warm and welcoming. Sadly and sometimes difficult to understand, most of the activities we have enjoyed, the friendly faces that we have met and the settings that we have grown with will not be within reach and these will be replaced with new, strange occurrences that will help to shape and round out our characters. We will, for varying lengths of time, strive for the past and constantly wonder why things had to change.

Not everything needs to change. Some of us will end our university careers, though, and deprive ourselves of something that has kept us both motivated and stimulated for the majority of our lives. This is something that is within reach and it is something that is not hard to retain. When severing the ties from their 'childhood', many people forget about how much they have learned.

And it is just that, learning. Learning is something that is so

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Animal compassion

Melinda Cockburn



and cried; it was like losing one of my own babies. Many of my other favourites have died and I have mourned them just the same.

But again, why do we let ourselves get so attached to our animals or even other people's animals? First, humans see themselves as the rulers of the earth and therefore keepers of its inhabitants. That includes animals. We see animals as small, helpless creatures in need of our care. Second, I believe humans direct their care and compassion upon animals because we have lost our will to feel anything towards our own species.

Many people have gotten upset about the outpouring of funds to help "Wilf", the little dog found on the side of the road a few weeks ago, because they felt that the money should be going towards human health care and other human needs. I agree with the idea that people should be compassionate towards human concerns (world hunger, etc) but many people find it easier to extend their compassion towards an animal who won't turn on them a couple of years down the road and drop a bomb on their house or shoot up their neighbourhood.

The little six-week old kitten set on fire in Toronto died regardless of the efforts of the veterinarians and donations sent in from around the country. Maybe she should have just been euthanized, but at least one person wanted to try to save her because she could have lived as long as my cat did. I've had discussions with people on this topic and someone mentioned that it should be the responsibility of the veterinarians to decide whether or not treatment should be administered. They will not do that because they are running a business and any money owners want to spend is received with greedy open arms. This is not the case with all vets but it is not rare.

Pet owners spend a great deal of money every year on their pets. Some of this money could admittedly be donated towards helping with third world relief funds and the like but it won't happen because people just don't care anymore. It's easier to love something little, cute, and helpless than it is to love your fellow human beings.

Why are people so attached to their pets? I'm not complaining about anyone because I'm very attached to my pets. The desktop background on my computer is a picture of 'Sugar', one of my dogs who died suddenly from lymphoma this summer. On a wall in my bedroom I have a collage frame of my 16-year-old cat "Kitten" who I also lost this summer. Back home, I still have 11 dogs all of whom I consider to be my babies. My "hairy kids" are the closest thing to children I will have for quite a while so they're very important to me. We've raised them all from either birth or from the day we brought them home.

I worked at an animal hospital for almost three years during high school and for a couple of months while attending Laurier, and I've seen people get upset over losing anything from cats and dogs to iguanas and tarantulas. The lady with the tarantula came in wearing all black and had spider webs painted on her face. She was a bit cracked to begin with, but her grief was none the less genuine. Something doesn't have to be cute and cuddly for someone to love it (like my older 70lb males, "Preacher" and "Molson" who are the best lap dogs) and by working with animals, you get to know them, treat them and love them like they're your own.

When they pass to the other side of the Rainbow Bridge, you're as upset as their owners. My mother works at the same animal hospital I was at and she keeps me updated on my favourite patients. A little dog named Gypsy was living in the hospital and part of the time at one of the technician's home, because his owner had to go to live in a home for the elderly. Last year my mother called me in tears and told me Gypsy had to be euthanized. I cried

Run in the election

(continued from page 5)

Week, but the WLUSU BOD will also have significant input. Governor issues include SBE tuition deregulation, the potential purchase of University Heights high school, food services employee contract, and a parking garage. Senate issues include discontinuation of exams on Sundays, the elimination of classes during the 5:30-7:00. time, the potential addition of a fall Reading Week, and other academic/Registrars Office concerns due to the double cohort.

Take that next step and go to the WLUSU or WLUSP offices to pick up a nomination package prior to January 23. For more info contact a current BOD member or myself at bdurrer@wlu.ca. Know you can make a difference on this

campus and take advantage of this excellent opportunity!

Include SBE tuition deregulation, the potential purchase of University Heights high school, food services employee contract, and a parking garage. Senate issues include discontinuation of exams on Sundays, the elimination of classes during the 5:30-7:00. time, the potential addition of a fall Reading Week, and other academic/Registrars Office concerns due to the double cohort.

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United Nations chooses Waterloo

Minister of Foreign Affairs names Laurier as new location of UN academic program

Joseph Farag

Canadian Minister of Foreign Affairs Bill Graham and other notable members of the Canadian international relations community gathered in the Maureen Forrester recital hall on December 16, 2002 to announce Laurier as the new site of a prestigious United Nations academic program.

Graham, along with WLU alumnus Dr. Alistair Edgar and Canadian UN Ambassador Paul Heinbecker were on hand to announce Laurier as the new headquarters of the Academic Council on the United Nations System (ACUNS), as well as to discuss Canadian foreign policy with students and members of the local media.

When ACUNS moves to Waterloo on July 1, 2003, it will be the first time the organization has been headquartered outside the US in its 15 year history. The organization was started in 1987 with the goal of strengthening ties between diplomats and academics.

Since then ACUNS has been

based at such prestigious universities as Dartmouth, Brown, and most recently Yale. With the help of RIM and the University of Waterloo, who will continue to support and sponsor events, Wilfrid Laurier beat out Columbia and Yale for the bid to be ACUNS newest home.

Comprised of scholars, teachers, current and past practitioners and other individuals and groups from around the world, ACUNS seeks to promote the study of international organizations, the United Nations in particular. Laurier professor of political science Alistair Edgar will serve as the executive director of ACUNS,

while Laurier will be providing office space and infrastructure with which to function.

The arrival of such a prestigious organization to Laurier should provide new opportunities for the school to firmly establish itself as a leader in the

social sciences.

Minister Graham also took the opportunity of his appearance to hold a forum on Canadian foreign policy. Canada's current foreign policy platform was devised in 1994

and consists of three basic pillars; the promotion of progress and prosperity, the protection of security within a stable global framework and the projection of Canadian values and culture.

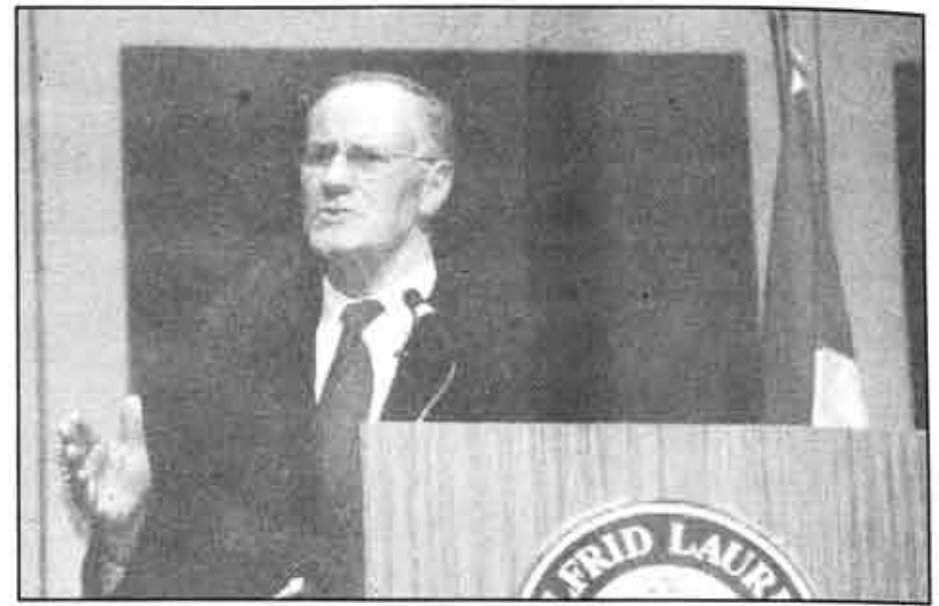
Economic ties with the US and the world at large, the main focus of the first pillar, were discussed. On free trade, Graham remarked: "Free trade ranks somewhere between Christianity and jogging in being much talked about and little practiced."

With this, Graham emphasized the need for more equitable, truer free trade, a far cry from the status quo. Graham also stated that the benefits of real free trade outweigh the detriments. Many argue that the current state of "free" trade is actually far from being fully free, and that it only serves to widen the gap between rich and poor nations.

While in theory, World Trade Organization guidelines are intended to level the playing field for all nations so that all may trade more fairly, poorer nations have gotten the short end of the stick. While wealthier nations are able to find methods to bypass restrictions on subsidies and other supports, making their products cheaper, poorer nations have no such advantages.

International security and an impending war with Iraq were at the forefront of the discussion. Minister Graham asserted the importance of stemming poverty which gives rise to terrorism and conflict. In this way, Graham admits the western world's responsibility for much of the instability occurring in the world today. He emphasized that as long as Third World nations continue to be marginalized, peace will be out of reach.

When asked by a member of the audience about Canada's declining foreign aid budget, Graham pledged a boost in foreign aid spending as part of the effort to reduce poverty. According to Graham, this growing poverty gives rise to terrorism and jeopardizes international security.



Dave Field

Canadian Minister of Foreign Affairs Bill Graham speaks on Canadian foreign policy.

Graham added that conflict inevitably mutes the voices of moderation, further perpetuating violence and conflict.

With regard to rising tensions in Iraq, Graham emphasized the importance of multilateralism and the necessity of working through the United Nations in order to achieve popular consensus on the issue.

Graham unequivocally denounced unilateralism and clearly

stated that Canada would not engage in any military action without a UN mandate. However, there was no definite statement on to what extent, if any, Canada would support and actively engage in a UN mandated attack.

The emphasis of Graham's speech centred upon the third pillar of Canadian foreign policy; the projection of Canadian values and culture abroad. Graham made certain to point out that this was in no way an ethnocentric endeavour to impose Canadian values and culture upon those different than ours, but rather to espouse those values such as humanitarianism, security and the advocacy of human rights, which Canadians hold dear and have universal meaning. However, Graham also added the caveat that Canadian interests have yet to be forcefully advocated on the international playing field.

Graham likened Canada to a microcosm of the world, encompassing numerous ethnicities, cultures, traditions and religions, and asserted that Canada's openness and tolerance of diversity is a model for the rest of the world. The example of Bob Ray's assistance in helping to end Sri Lanka's bloody conflict by drawing on Canadian experience was mentioned.

In the coming months Minister

of Foreign Affairs Bill Graham will be travelling around Canada in a series of similar discussions in order to hear what Canadians have to say about Canada's foreign policy role.

If this discussion forum is anything to go by, then good things are to come.

The discussion was informative and eased the concerns of those who fear that Canada may be tagging along a little too closely to American unilateralist policies.

The audience for its part posed some tough questions to Minister Graham, including questions about Canada's declining foreign aid budget, the exact role of Canada in Iraq should a war occur, and Canada's international image as the US's fifty-first state.

"Free trade ranks between Christianity and jogging in being much talked about and little practiced."

-Foreign Affairs Minister Bill Graham

Graham unequivocally denounced unilateralism, saying Canada demanded a UN mandate before attacking Iraq



Dave Field

Canadian Ambassador to the UN Paul Heinbecker was on hand to announce that ACUNS is coming to Waterloo.

Laurier profs enlisted by UN

Waterloo community comes together to attract prestigious organization

Brandon Currie

For the two intellectuals in charge of bringing the United Nations to Waterloo, interest in international relations began at a young age.

"I've had a long-term interest in international governance, law, and organization since I was an undergrad," explains political science professor Alistair Edgar, the future Executive Director of the Academic Council on the United Nations System (ACUNS).

Along with history Professor John Allison who will serve as Program Co-ordinator, Edgar will head the organization when it moves to Waterloo on July 1 of this year. But neither men are taking credit for persuading the world-renowned organization to make its home in

Waterloo.

In the UN spirit of multilateralism, it was the co-operation of many parties that led to Waterloo's successful bid to host ACUNS. Edgar was quick to emphasize that the "personal, professional, and institutional" commitment of WLU and UW senior administration impressed the selection committee.

Laurier President Bob Rosehart personally met with the selection committee, donated ACUNS headquarters at 194 King Street, and released Edgar from 80 percent of his teaching responsibilities to lead the program. Similarly, UW President David Johnston pledged \$20,000 annually for the organization.

Key funding also came from Jim Balsiellie, co-founder of RIM, who plans to contribute

\$30 million later this year to transform the Seagram Museum into the Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI), another international political think-tank.

Edgar also imparted that ACUNS will benefit students, mostly in terms of attracting high-profile guest speakers, and hopes that he can "put them in the classroom," to create a more intimate learning experience. He also explained that ACUNS summer research workshops will be held in Waterloo and part-time employment opportunities will be available to senior students in a variety of disciplines.

Throughout the five-year tenure of

(Continued on page 10)



Dave Field

Dr. Edgar meets with Bill Graham at the ACUNS commemorative ceremony

Spain devastated by oil spill

Government decisions and loose restrictions blamed for ecological disaster

Sarah Brimson

Last Saturday a Spanish court upheld the incarceration of Apostolos Mangouras, captain of the sunken oil tanker Prestige, stating that there was "solid and conclusive" evidence that he disregarded the requests of Spanish authorities to have the stricken vessel towed away from the northern coast.

In the latest chapter of determining who's responsible for the environmental disaster, Mangouras will be held until trial and bail set at \$3.1 million. Noting that Mangouras is not a scapegoat for the disaster, the A Coruna court also urged investigations into government decisions made during the crisis.

On November 13, 2002 a storm off Spain's Atlantic coast cracked the hull of The Prestige, which was carrying more than 77,000 tons of crude oil, spilling around 5,000 tonnes. This alone was not a relatively huge disaster, except that when the tanker was eventually towed out to sea it left a trail of oil in its wake before it split in half and sank 130 miles off the northwest coast of Spain on November 19.

The Spanish government claims that another 10,000 to 11,000 tonnes of viscous fuel oil seeped out before the Prestige went down, but Greenpeace contends that the size of the spill was double that.

Spanish authorities have been under pressure from environmental groups and the media for not doing enough to prevent the oil reaching shore, and for not reacting decisively to stop the tanker from splitting in two. In fact, the decision to tow the crippled tanker further away from the coast instead of bringing it into port and pumping off the remaining fuel has been a source of controversy.

The American Bureau of Shipping has said that towing the Prestige increased its odds of splitting and creating a major environmental disaster, which eventually occurred. Spanish Prime Minister Jose Maria Aznar has countered that no port would have received the mangled



The Prestige's single hull developed cracks in a storm on November 13 before eventually splitting in two and sinking on November 19.

vessel in such a condition. Spain has also been condemned for its sluggish clean up efforts.

Spanish Deputy Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy blamed several days of fierce storms for interfering with clean-up efforts, and said that it was not a question of not having ships available. Two ships designed to clean up oil from the ocean surface were unable to leave port because of extreme weather. It took several days before the stormy weather improved enough to allow contamination-fighting ships to begin vacuuming up parts of the biggest slick.

Rajoy also argued that experts told the government the remaining oil inside the ship would solidify in the frigid ocean depths if the tanker sunk, which would stop leakage once the vessel settled on the ocean floor. However, the French mini-submarine Nautile discovered on December 5 that thousands of gallons were still leaking out daily.

On December 10, Spain finally admitted that the wreck was still leaking oil, something France and Portugal had maintained since November. The Spanish government announced it would dispatch the army and more financial aid, and make more information available to the public and improve the organization of its crisis response methods.

More than 900 kilometers of the total 1,121 kilometers of Galician coast have been closed to fishing and almost 800 kilometers closed to shellfish gathering. This affects over 90,000 people whose livelihood depends directly on these activities. The ship's liability insurer, the London Steamship Owners' Mutual Association, immediately made about \$25 million available to meet compensation claims. The government has also provided financial compensation for losses to the fishermen.

The French coastline has also been coated with dinner-plate sized globs of oil, and last Friday French Prime Minister Jean-Pierre Raffarin walked along the beaches in disgust, pledging \$52 million towards the cleanup effort. The French oyster

industry has been especially hard-hit, as many prized oyster bed locations have been contaminated.

A Danish pilot who sailed aboard The Prestige was quoted as saying that the 26 year-old, single-hulled tanker was not seaworthy, and that the radar and anti-collision equipment was not functioning properly. Sailing under a Bahamas flag, the Liberian-owned Prestige was chartered by the Swiss-based Russian oil trader Crown Resources and operated by Athens-based Universe Maritime. A Universe Maritime spokesman in Athens rejected the allegations that the tanker was not sea-worthy.

Single-hulled tankers such as the Prestige were outlawed after the Maltese tanker Erika split in two off the coast of France in 1999, but the ban was not due to take effect until 2015. Spain has now taken the first step and effective as of January 1, all single-hulled tankers made 23 years or more ago are banned from Spanish ports. Spain and France have also invoked special powers to inspect single-hulled tankers in their waters that are more than 15 years old.

Some wildlife groups estimate that up to 15,000 birds have been killed or severely affected by the slick. Oil spills damage birds through the loss of insulation when their plumage is coated with oil, and from oil ingested when the birds preen their feathers.

If all of the oil leaks from the Prestige's sunken tanks, the resulting spill would be more than twice the size of that caused by the 1989 Exxon Valdez accident in Alaska's Prince William Sound, a biologically diverse tidal estuary.

More seabirds and marine mammals were killed by the Exxon Valdez spill than by any other spill ever recorded. This was because Prince William Sound was a home for such an abundant variety of wildlife and because the spill happened just before the most biologically active season of the year.

New findings have raised concerns that researchers may have underestimated the long-term environmental impacts of oil spills. Oil pockets have recently been found just below the seabed off the US coast in Massachusetts, 30 years after a tanker, The Florida, ran ashore there. Scientists thought the ecosystem returned to normal over ten years ago and were surprised to discover the oil concentrations were about the same as in 1976, seven years after the tanker ran aground.

This evidence of the long-term effects of oil spillage has been acknowledged by the French and Spanish governments, and they have vowed to make the seas safer for wildlife by tightening maritime laws on ship maintenance and inspections. "France and Europe will not allow shady businessmen, rascals of the sea, to cynically profit from the lack of transparency," said French President Jacques Chirac.



File Photo



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Above: A Spanish soldier helps to clear oil off the shore of Spain's North coast. Below: A dead bird coated in crude oil washes up on a Spanish beach.

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International Opinion

Jackass of the week: Rael

By Brandon Currie

In the scariest cult story since Marshall Applewhite and Heaven's Gate, the founder of Raelianism, Claude Vorilhon aka 'Rael', announced last Sunday that he has a list of over 2,000 people waiting to be cloned. Thankfully these aren't ordinary people, they are a supposed fraction of the alleged 55,000 Raelians worldwide. Vorilhon, who always dresses in white space-age clothing founds his 'religion' on a December 13 1973 meeting with aliens outside of Paris who revealed to him that human life on Earth was created 25,000 years ago as a result of a cloning experiment by extraterrestrials. His story was in the news last week as Clonaid, a spinoff company of Rael's followers, announced that it had cloned the first human being. Yet to be substantiated by scientists, the claim has been heralded by Rael as a "very beautiful first step in the process of giving eternal life to humanity." This reputed scientific landmarks also has the potential to be a beautiful step in the eternal life of Vorilhon's bank account, as each clonee is willing to pay \$200,000 for the process.



ACUNS to provide opporunities for students

(continued from page 8)

ACUNS, which will work in conjunction with CIGI, Laurier students with an interest in international relations will have unique opportunities to work alongside the organization, and benefit from the increasing international profile of the K-W area. "Many speakers will come," predicted Allison, currently a part-time faculty member.

ACUNS will also be appealing to Human Resources and Development Canada for additional funding for student employment. "It all depends on how much they're willing to support us," exclaimed Edgar.

The professors also asserted that the great advantage of ACUNS is that it allows international governance to be criticized without a political agenda. "What ACUNS is not, is a political advisory body," implored Edgar. "It is a great vehicle to provide well-informed policy analysis, with no vested interests."

In this way, ACUNS bypasses the national

"It is a great vehicle to provide well-informed policy analysis, with no vested interests."

-WLU professor Allistair Edgar, on the value of ACUNS

self-interest that many believe hinders the United Nations in searching for universally beneficial reforms and criticisms. Edgar maintains that the only commonality between ACUNS subscribers is that "they believe in the value of international organization and global multilateralism. These people are giving their honest opinion."

If there is any debate as to the clout ACUNS carries within the UN, one need only

to look at the letter sent to Edgar and his team by UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan, which emphasized the importance of the organization. "I wish to commend Wilfrid Laurier and the University of Waterloo...it is essential for ACUNS to continue to grow and attract key Canadian contributors," read the letter.

Thanks in large part to the co-operative efforts of the Waterloo bid, both UW and WLU will be included in this influential institution until at least 2008.



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Laurier grad places first

Sarah Hadley receives Governor General's gold medal

Jennifer Wilder

Former Laurier graduate student, Sarah Hadley placed first on the latest Uniform Final Examination (UFE). The UFE is a challenging national accounting test that is administered annually worldwide. Hadley scored a perfect 300 on this examination, honoured with both the Governor General's Gold Medal for placing first in Canada, as well as the Ontario Institute Gold Medal for achieving the highest score of all Ontario applicants.

Hadley graduated from the BBA program at Laurier last year in the top of her class. When asked how she felt about her accomplishment, she responded by exclaiming how thrilled she was with her mark and went on to say how honoured she was for being a part of such a well-respected profession.

The UFE is one of the world's most challenging professional exams, and is a requirement for becoming a chartered accountant (CA). Written in September, the UFE is a national three-day exam that not only tests general theory of accounting, but also professional judgment, ethics, and communication skills. Each section of the examination is designed to challenge the applicant in numerous areas of study. Only those individuals who successfully complete the entire program are able to use the prestigious title of a chartered accountant.

The reputation and high standards expected of this title are protected by The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ontario, who is responsible for regulating Ontario's over 33,000 chartered accountants and CA students. This governing body regulates the quality of its members by maintaining extremely high standards of qualification and by strictly adhering to a professional code of con-

Ontario has a long standing reputation for producing highly skilled and successful chartered accountants.

duct. Besides representing the CA profession on a national basis, this organization is also involved in setting accounting standards for businesses, non-profit organizations and government. The Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants (CICA) also conducts research on business issues and publishes professional literature and education programs.

The UFE is set by the CA's Board of

Evaluators and measures one's proficiency for organizational effectiveness, control and risk management, finance, taxation, assurance, performance measurement and information technology. Applicants must write the exam with only a CICA Handbook and either a CCHH Income Tax Regulation Act manual or a Practitioner's Income Tax Act handbook for reference material. No additional materials are allowed. A CA student must prove competent in all aspects of this exam and must achieve a mark of at least 180 in order to pass.

Ontario has a long-standing reputation for producing highly skilled and successful chartered accountants. Over the past ten years, its success rate for the UFE has been steadily rising. Ontario now maintains the highest level of participation in Canada and has a success rate of 66.6%. Of the 1,626 successful candidates from Canada, approximately 45% of them were from Ontario.

Ontario silver medallist Laney Doyle placed second in both Ontario and Canada and bronze medalist Scott Bandura placed third in Ontario and sixth in Canada. In addition to these accomplishments, Ontario also produced five more CA students who earned a place on the Canadian Honour Roll. These individuals are as follows: Vincent Young placed seventh in Canada and fourth in Ontario; Adam Boutros placed eighth in Canada and fifth in Ontario; Andrew Imrie placed fourteenth in Canada and sixth in Ontario; Barbara O'Neill tied for fifteenth in Canada and seventh in Ontario; Wendi Buitenhuis also tied for nineteenth in Canada and placed eighth in Ontario.

Laurier also is recognized for produc-



Christine Cherry

The Cord staff's exam would be blank.

ing students who excel at the UFE. In addition to Sarah Hadley's spectacular performance, Laurier graduate Annigie Nagelhout (BBA), and Christopher McClenaghan (Bachelor of Arts) finished ninth and thirteenth respectively on the accounting exam. In the past ten years, Laurier graduates have won three Canadian gold medals and five Ontario gold medals and look forward to continuing this reputation of success.



Auto Industry Falling on Hard Times

Despite recent successful years, automakers are worried about sales dropping in the New Year. With the threat of war looming over consumer's heads, increased competition in the automobile industry, and the high demand for consumer rebate and interest free loans, analysts predict that sales will drop in 2003. The outstanding level of high demand seen in the automobile industry over the past decade has created the current problem of overcapacity. However Daimler-Chrysler, Ford Motor Co. and General

Motors Corp. are unwilling to close assembly plants for fear of the negative repercussions of such an action. Despite these troubling times the US-based auto industry introduced approximately 60 new or redesigned vehicles.

RRSP Investments Decline

According to recent surveys taken by TD Bank's Wealth Management, Canadians are planning to reduce their RRSP investments by approximately \$3,900 or 20% this coming year. The survey also revealed that there is a 22% decline of consumers willing to invest in

equity based mutual funds, and a 16% slump of consumers planning on purchasing stocks from the year 2002. Despite the reduction in RRSP investments, 53% of Canadians are still counting on RRSP's to fund their retirement. Analysts find this trend troubling and predict that the Canadian Pension Plan will not be able to provide a reasonable standard of living to future pensioners.

Microcell Cuts Debt

Last Friday Microcell Telecommunications Inc. made a deal that will effectively reduce their debt by \$1.7 bil-

lion and cut their annual interest payments by \$200 million. Microcell is a marketer of the Fido cell phones, and due to this deal, will become a strong competitor in Canada's wireless sector. Microcell is receiving their funds from secured lenders as well as holders of the company's outstanding notes. Since news of this recent development has come out, Microcell stocks have increased 40% to \$17.5.

Home Depot Stocks Plummet

Last Friday, Home Depot Inc. shares fell to their lowest level in five years. The shares

dropped 13% of their value and as a result the industry was forced to cut its profit forecast for the year. On the New York Stock Exchange the Home Depot stocks plummeted \$3.19 (US) to \$21.69. This put the company's stocks lower than their previous 52 week low of \$23.01. According to Home Depot, its overall sales declined approximately 10% during December when a 3-5% drop was expected. The company will come out with a business strategy dealing with this challenge by January 12.

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Resolutions for the Environment

Heidi Taves and Jeff Latosik



Air Quality:

Air is an essential element that we need to survive. However, clean air is thought of more and more as a rarity, as current air tests reveal high levels of smog and other pollutants, all of which contribute to a host of negative effects on human health. On top of that, environmentalists are concerned with air pollutants disrupting various natural processes. An example of this is acid rain, where toxic materials become absorbed into water cycles through condensation and are then transferred into soil. Another is the depletion of the ozone layer, which some say is contributing to global warming, a problem that could potentially eradicate many sources of raw food production and melt large sections of the polar ice caps. All of these concerns add up to a state of emergency regarding air quality control and, as such, this area has become a hot topic for environmental research.

Federal studies show that several thousands of premature deaths per year can be contributed to air pollution, and the Ontario Medical Association says air pollution costs Ontario citizens more than \$1 billion a year in hospital admissions, emergency room visits and absenteeism. Toronto Public Health Department figures show that air pollution causes hundreds of premature deaths a year and numerous health-related problems. Over time, the negative effects of air pollution can accumulate and cause irreparable harm in even the healthiest person.

In Canada, smog is a concern in most major urban centers but, because it travels with the wind, it can affect sparsely populated areas as well. The two key components of smog are airborne particles and ground-level ozone. Airborne particles are solid or minute droplets of liquid that are small enough to remain suspended in the air. Small particles, less than 10 micrometres, have a significant effect on human health. Of particular concern are the fine particles, less than 2.5 micrometres, that can penetrate deep within the lungs. Fine particles may remain suspended in the air for days or even weeks. Ground level ozone affects the body's respiratory system as well, and causes inflammation that can last for up to 18 hours after exposure. It can cause coughing, wheezing and chest tightness. Many people commonly mistake these symptoms for allergies or common colds.

Human activity is responsible for the increase in ground level ozone in recent years. In this light, about 95 percent of nitrogen oxides come from the burning of coal, gas and oil in motor vehicles, homes, industries and from the evaporation of liquid fuels and solvents. Ozone not only affects human health, but it can also damage vegetation and decrease the productivity of some crops. It can also lead to forest decline in some parts of Canada. Ozone can also damage synthetic materials, cause cracks in rubber, accelerate fading of dyes, and speed deterioration of some paints and coatings. As well, it damages cotton, acetate, nylon, polyester and other textiles.

Resolutions:

- 1) Walk or ride your bike – it's great exercise, and exhaust from cars, trucks and busses are what cause a lot of our smog. The more vehicles that we can keep off the roads, the better our air will be.
- 2) Turn off the lights – generating electricity contributes to smog, so remember to turn off the lights when you leave a room.
- 3) Avoid chemical sprays and cleaners – hair and bug spray, air fresheners and even nail polish remover contain chemicals that add to air pollution. Suggest to everyone you know that they could use roll-on deodorants, creams, sticks and non-aerosol products instead.
- 4) Ask smokers to stop smoking – smoking contributes to air pollution. When they punch you try not to make too much noise.
- 5) Don't use the barbecue so much – burning any fuel adds to smog, so try eating salads and other cold foods instead of lighting up the grill.
- 6) Stop listening to Celine Dion

Water Issues:

Water conservation may sound like a useless endeavour to most people. After all, more than two thirds of the earth's surface is covered by water. However, of this amount, about 94% is found in the oceans, almost 6% is found underground and in glaciers. Rivers, lakes, soil moisture and atmospheric vapour, all of which constitute a major source of drinking water account for only 0.0221% of the total volume on earth.

While it is hard for Canadians to understand, since Canada holds 9% of the world's renewable supply of freshwater, conservation is becoming more and more important. Demand for water is on the rise, but pollution, declining water tables and prolonged drought conditions are shrinking the available supply. In addition, compared to Europeans, Canadians use more than twice as much water per person everyday. Of the water that we use, about 30% is flushed down the toilet. Another 35% is used for bathing, while washing clothes takes 20%. Another 10% is used in the kitchen for drinking, food preparation and dish washing. Another 5% goes for general cleaning around the house. In the summer, household water use can increase by 50% or more.

Residential water consumption is increasing much faster than the rate of population growth. Unfortunately though, media reports about water sources in Canada emphasize the fact that supplies are limited, which only re-inforces the fact that we are pushing the water cycle beyond its natural limits. For this reason, it is more important than ever to conserve water. This doesn't have to mean extreme lifestyle changes; it just means changing some of the ways you use water.

Resolutions:

- 1) Take foods out of the freezer early to allow them time to thaw. Don't thaw food under running water.
- 2) Clean fruits and veggies in a partially filled sink, and rinse them quickly.
- 3) Keep a pitcher of water in the fridge so that you won't have to run the cold water tap in order to get a cool drink.
- 4) You can save 10-20 litres of water each time you shave by filling the sink instead of letting the water run continuously.
- 5) Turn off the water while brushing your teeth.
- 6) Never use the toilet as a wastebasket, and never flush paints, solvents or other chemicals down the toilet. This is one way in which the water supply becomes contaminated.
- 7) Using a running hose to wash your car can waste about 400 litres of water. Using a bucket and sponge with a trigger nozzle on the hose will save you about 300 of those litres.
- 8) Use low-flow shower heads – they can reduce flow by at least 25%. They will pay for themselves in water savings within about 4 months.
- 9) Fill a gallon plastic bottle with water and place it in your toilet tank. It will take up the same space as the water usually does, but in a year, it will save more than 10 000 litres of water.
- 10) Shower for five minutes instead of ten – it will save about 40 litres of water per shower.
- 11) Don't let taps drip. A leak of 1 drop per second wastes 10 000 litres of water a year.



Recycling:

Reusing various materials in order to reduce excess waste is by no means a new idea. In fact, I can still remember that special day I got introduced to the blue box, sometime before elementary school, at which time I was quite oblivious to environmental issues and sometimes threw lined paper in the "regular" garbage when the lines didn't look straight enough.

Well, I smartened up, and learned a little mnemonic device that, to this day, helps me to remember how important it is not to do things like that. It's really easy: Recycling = Good; Wasting stuff = Bad. By good I mean, of course, that recycling uses less energy, emits less air and water pollution, and uses less non-renewable resources than other forms of waste management. By bad I, of course, mean negative toll on environment caused by increased accumulation of needless waste that does not break down or hundreds or thousands of years, if not.

The most commonly recycled items are glass, paper, steel, plastic, and aluminum. This process involves the collection and separation of these materials for re-manufacturing and re-distribution.

Many of the products you use on a daily basis have been recycled at least once; products made from glass and steel can be recycled numerous times without much wear and tear. In the case of items made from glass, it uses a significantly lower amount of energy to re-manufacture than it does to start from scratch.

So here's a brush up on what to recycle and how to do it. If you're still throwing your plastic, glass, and paper out in

the "regular" garbage you might want to scan this list and see how easy it is. Note: don't bag cans, bottles, or containers. The terminology used by recycling literature is to leave these things "loose", which means to place them in the box individually, and not packaged in any way.

Resolutions:

1. Empty and rinse glass, food and beverage bottles as well as food, beverage and other metal cans. If it's a paint can, remove the lid.
2. Rinse, crumple, and flatten foil wrap and aluminum trays.
3. Remove caps and lids from plastic containers.
4. Bag and bundle newspapers, inserts, magazines, phonebooks, paperbacks, and hardcover books. Place bag in blue box or beside it if full.
5. Cardboard boxes (with a corrugated waffle): flatten (break down), tie with string (max size 75cm * 75cm * 20 cm); place beside blue box.
6. Single layered boxes (cereal, tissue, detergent, egg cartons, tissue cores): remove liners; flatten and put in plastic bag, or stuff in another box; put inside or beside blue box.
7. Stuff grocery and retail bags in one bag and place at the bottom of the box.

What not to recycle:

Drinking boxes, Milk cartons, waxed, heavily coated, oily, or soiled cardboard, styrofoam, dishes, food, hazardous wastes, window glass, unbagged newspapers, magazines, junk mail, bagged pop cans, your mama.

Reasons To Recycle

1. Throwing away an aluminum pop can wastes as much energy as pouring out a half a can of gasoline.
2. Each person in Canada produces 2.2 kilograms of garbage per day.
3. In a 1994 study, the American Institute for Self Reliance estimated that for every 15,000 tons of solid waste recycled nine jobs are created. What this means is that if you're like me and consider your car a mobile trash receptacle, you are driving around with roughly 40 potential jobs.
4. Number of trees saved by recycling one ton of newspaper: 17.
5. Recycling one pop can saves enough energy to power a television for 3 hours.
6. The boy band industry was founded in the ancient art of recycling.
7. Six times more jobs are created by recycling than by landfills.
8. People who recycle have longer lifespans and tend to be more popular with the opposite sex.

9. Average Canadian citizen saves 4.6 trees per year if they recycle their paper. This amounts to 325 trees over average lifetime (yes, I did leave out the childhood years, where less paper is used.) It also amounts to 320,000 trees per year in the Waterloo region that could be saved. This is good because trees naturally clean the air, look nice, and inspire people to write songs about the wonderful bounty of nature.



Waste Management:



According to the 1998 edition of the Toronto Environmental Handbook the Canadian population is the most wasteful in the entire world. To make matters worse, 65% of Canada's waste is generated in Ontario. Yikes. In our business sector alone 6.6 million tons (140 million cubic feet) of garbage is generated every year, enough to fill 2,300 football fields, or, to fill the Skydome almost three times. And that's not including the plethora of bottles, pop cans, plastic, steel, and paper that are thrown out on a daily basis at home and school.

Just think: it takes 200-500 years for a single aluminum can to degrade (glass bottles take even longer). Without some way of controlling our cumulated output of these and other similar items, we will no doubt run into a large number of serious environmental problems in the near future, many of which have already begun to take effect.

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Lettermen have no balls left

Jennifer Asselin

Like Santa's little helpers, the Wilfrid Laurier Lettermen Club chose to bring a little Christmas cheer to those children hospitalized at Grand River Hospital.

"Handing out gifts to the hospitalized kids during the holidays has been a club tradition for a number of years," replied club executive Brendan Fox. "Unfortunately," he continued, "in previous years, the club never took advantage of the opportunity to set an example [for the community] by raising awareness about the event."

For those who are unsure, the Lettermen Club is a tradition that has spanned the decades for Laurier. It is made up of a variety of Laurier male Varsity athletes. Each member represents a variety of sports backgrounds such as football, volleyball, cross-country, and golf.

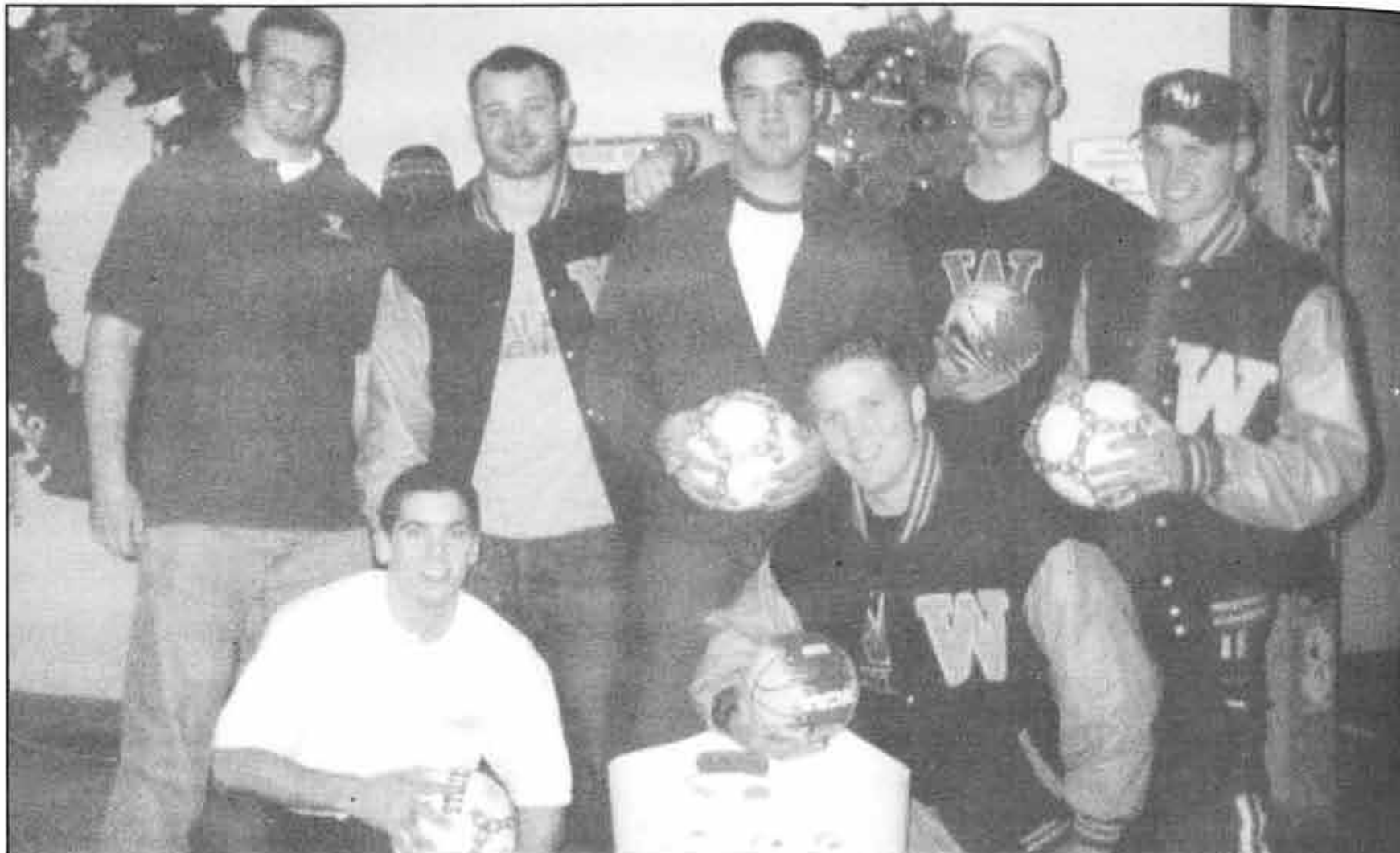
Club president Trevor Eaton explained, "The club organizes various social activities to unite the Laurier community, and also concentrates on improving the local community outside of the school through various charitable functions."

On December 14, the guys handed out 30 basketballs and soccer balls to the children at the hospital. As well, the club also left a bunch of balls at the desk for those patients who are in and out. All of the balls were donated by Canadian Tire in support of the event.

The giving of the sports balls, "seemed like the appropriate gift from a club consisting of Varsity athletes. In addition we feel that encouraging sport participation will optimally lead to a healthy recovery and healthy lifestyle for the kids upon leaving the hospital," commented Fox.

"In fact," added club executive Greg Simmons, "one of the nurses of a young boy encouraged him by telling him that once he gets healthy he can participate in sports and then help others, and be just like us."

As Dan Yungblut, another club executive commented, "The main objective of the



Courtesy of Lettermen Club

Look at these champs holding their balls for a good cause.

event was to help others, especially the tiny children that were unfortunate enough to be hospitalized during the Christmas season. The actual event took only a little effort and time to organize, but I truly believe it made such an impact in the end."

The children were elated as the club handed out the gifts. "The kids faces lit up with gratitude and admiration for what we were doing," Fox said. "The kids looked up at us as though we were heroes, and requested we autograph the balls for them." He laughed, "They were quite humored when I informed them the autographed balls would be worth a lot of money someday when we're all famous."

The nurses and doctors were grateful for the visit and the uplifting feeling the club gave to the kids. As member Todd Galloway recalled, "The nurses were just ecstatic about the entire thing, they were a great help, and they made things less awkward for us by giving us elaborate introductions as we entered each patients room."

The parents were also glowing with surprise, as they had no idea the club was coming. "In fact," Ryan Pyear said, "The parents were pleasantly shocked with the gesture, and were just as grateful and excited as the kids themselves."

When all was said and done the children

thanked the club not only in words but also with bright smiles and laughter. As Kevin MacNeil commented, "This is what Christmas is about. It's about the community coming together to help each other out. The greatest gift given that afternoon was by the tiny kids, and the feeling I walked away with after helping them."

Other activities being planned by the Lettermen Club include a day with Big Brothers. As members they will interactively participate with the kids in a day filled with sports, followed by a meal prepared by Laurier's Culinary Arts Club.



Food for thought



Jennifer Asselin

Take-out is essential for any university student living either on or off campus. The search for a quick meal that you don't have to prepare (or clean up after) but can still eat in the privacy of your own home is a quest that has challenged almost every one of us.

Of course there is the ever-popular pizza delivery but that can get extremely boring, and cause a wicked case of lactose-intolerance, so my friends and I decided to try a little Chinese food.

We took a long hard look at our options, as there are many to choose from in the area, and decided to go with a local joint by the name of Dragon Court Restaurant.

I must first tell you that I am not a huge fan of Chinese food so for me to go along with this plan there was a bit of arm twisting as well as a promise of a fortune cookie-my favorite.

After carefully eyeing the menu, our house of six girls decided on an order of vegetable chow mien (\$5.50), spring rolls (\$1.50 each), chicken lo-mien (\$6.95), and chicken fried rice (\$4.75). The grand total, with delivery was \$27.54. For six girls this was a good deal, as we managed to get

leftovers as well.

We started with the spring rolls. They were still very hot, as was all the food, which is nice since delivery can sometimes make for a cold meal. When talking about the meal afterwards and asking my roomies what they thought of the rolls, each was quick to point out just how good they were, "Very enjoyable," Sarah commented.

"Mmm, I could go for a spring roll right now actually," said Nicole as she remembered the meal.

The noodle dishes, or chow mien as it is referred to as, were both very good. The vegetable chow mien for the vegetarian in the house was a good choice. "It kind of looked like worms but in the end it was really, really good," critiqued Sarah.

I found the noodle dishes to be pretty good especially for someone who isn't really a fan of this kind of food. It was very flavorful and it even had a look to it that screamed "Eat me!"

The chicken chow mien was also tasty but my housemates commented, "It [chicken chow mien] has skinnier noodles than the vegetable chow mien, so it isn't as good."

Lastly, was the chicken fried rice. Although this is the standard Chinese food dish that most can safely say they've tried, Dragon

Court's rendition was exceptional. The rice melted in your mouth with flavor. "It is definitely one of the best," Laura said.

All in all the take-out experience was a good one and one worth repeating. The restaurant made such an impression that a few of us decided on going in to the actual restaurant to eat.

A few weeks later we made the trek and were pleasantly surprised as we entered a room with many tables and dim lighting that was just right for a nice quiet dinner with friends.

We were seated at a round table, which you don't usually see when seating a party of six, by a pleasant waiter. The arrangement made for easy conversation as we were all on equal terms with no one being at the head of the table.

In the middle of the table was a lazy Susan, which rotates for easy access to all the food for each person. This is helpful if you are ordering different dinner combinations that can be shared with many. These combos are all written in detail in the menu and range in price from \$15.95 for a dinner for two to \$44.95 for a dinner for six.

In this case most of us chose an individual combo and two people chose to share an order of chicken fried rice and chicken balls which, as Laura commented, "are a little too breaded". As well,

someone chose the beef chow mien (\$5.50).

"It's so good," Laura said of the chow mien. "I don't even really like beef that much but this is so good. It's all in the noodles," she continued.

As for the individual dinners, there are ten different "Dinner For One Combos" to choose from. Prices range from \$3.95 to \$5.95. It's handy to have all of these combinations laid out for you as you can order by number. The dinners chosen consisted of similar foods that we had tried before but this time I ventured for one including deep fried shrimp (\$5.95), which proved to be a wise choice.

The shrimp was very tender and with sweet and sour sauce to enjoy with it, it was perfect. For someone not into Chinese food I was beginning to take a liking.

Also new to our pallets were deep fried Won-Ton's which were included in each of the combos. I thought they would be similar to the spring roll by the looks of it but unfortunately that wasn't the case. I was met with the first thing I actually didn't enjoy. I think they are an acquired taste as no one gave them much thought.

Overall, the Dragon Court Restaurant proved to be a superb choice as we enjoyed both take-out and dining in and will probably go back in the future. I believe the only disappointment was that

DRAGON COURT

Restaurant

麒麟閣茶館



we did not get fortune cookies when dining in (maybe he forgot) but we did however get them with our take-out.

The fortune cookie has always been the popular part of eating Chinese food for me so I was elated when I chose mine. As a side note, it is always bad luck to be given your fortune cookie handed to you but rather you must choose it yourself. Unfortunately though my fortune wasn't a fortune at all but rather a statement, "You are a person of culture." Go figure.

Dragon Court
34 King Street South
Waterloo
884-8822

Cord's Rating:

You gotta be shattin' me!

- The first couple to be shown in bed together on TV; Fred and Wilma Flintstone.
- Coca-Cola was originally green.
- Every day more money is printed for Monopoly than the US Treasury.
- Men can read smaller print than women can; women can hear better.
- The state with the highest percentage of people who walk to work: Alaska

- The cost of raising a medium size dog to the age of eleven: \$6,400
- The average number of people airborne over the US any given hour: 61,000
- Intelligent people have more zinc and copper in their hair.
- The world's youngest parents were 8 and 9 and lived in China in 1910.
- The youngest pope was 11 years old.
- The first novel ever written on a typewriter was by Tom Sawyer.
- The San Francisco Cable Cars are the only mobile

National Monuments.

- Each king in a deck of playing cards represents a great king from history: Spades - King David, Hearts - Charlemagne, Clubs- Alexander the Great, Diamonds - Julius Caesar
- $111,111,111 \times 111,111,111 = 12,345,678,987,654,321$
- If a statue in the park of a person on a horse has both front legs in the air, the person died in battle. If the horse has one front leg in the air, the person died as a result of wounds received in battle. If the horse has all four legs on the ground, the person died of natural causes.
- "I am." is the shortest complete sentence in the English language.

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The inside stuff on McGrath

Basketball rookie Meaghan McGrath is one of the top shooters in the OUA and has a total of 134 points on the season thus far.

Kristen Lipscombe

She exudes a quiet confidence off the court and displays an inner fire on the court. Women's basketball rookie Meaghan McGrath is an outstanding shooter with an impeccable offensive flare. McGrath's addition to the roster this season continues to be a huge asset for Laurier, as this exceptional player incessantly generates points, power and potential for the Golden Hawks.

McGrath is an OUA (Ontario University Athletics) leader in statistics, currently sitting pretty in the sixth spot, totaling 134 points on the season and averaging 30 points a game thus far. McGrath is also floating around the CIS (Canadian Interuniversity Athletics) in the top twenty statistics, proving herself as a force to be reckoned with on the varsity scene. All this, and she is only in her first year of the Kinesiology program here at Laurier.

Hailing from Toronto, the 5'8" point guard is creating huge sparks on the court for the Hawks. Before her days wearing the purple and gold, McGrath led Michael Powers Secondary School to a fourth place finish at the OFSAA (Ontario Federation of

School Athletic Associations) AAA Girls Basketball Championships, while also playing competitive ball with her Toronto team. Moreover, McGrath is a two-time Toronto All-star.

Indeed, basketball is in McGrath's blood. "It's a family thing," commented McGrath on what has inspired her over the years to play the game. "My Mom played in the '76 Olympics and my Dad played for St. FX University." Paul McGrath was an outstanding force for St. Francis Xavier University and has coached his daughter over the years. Ann Hurley, McGrath's mother, is a former member of the National team and has been a continued source of encouragement for her daughter.

McGrath spoke of what drew her to Laurier. "Stu (Julius)...I liked him as a person and as a coach," McGrath stated. "I talked to the girls here and I liked their attitudes...I really like the girls on the team."

"I have watched her play for the last couple of years," said Head Coach Julius on his recruitment of McGrath. "She is one of the best players in the province by far." Julius also pointed out McGrath's instinctive abilities and her solid understanding of the

game.

Fortunately for Laurier, McGrath picked WLU over going to school in the United States. "We lucked out," commented Julius. He added that the small, friendly atmosphere at Laurier most likely attracted the McGrath family, along with the closeness to her hometown; her mother and father like to watch and support their daughter on the court.

"She is one of the best shooters we have," added Julius. "She doesn't realize how good she can be. If she increases her intensity even more, she will become a better player."

Despite all her success, McGrath is prepared to improve on her skills and become even stronger. She thinks her shooting and three-point games are strong, but wants to hone in on her abilities at the defensive end. "Defensively, I need to improve," admitted McGrath.

McGrath seems satisfied with her decision to join the Golden Hawk basketball ranks and is looking forward to the remainder of the season. "I think we're doing well," she said of her team's performance. "Experience will help with our improvement, because there are a lot of first years on the



Kristen Lipscombe

Meaghan "Mugsie" McGrath is a stellar point guard and a vital offensive force on the basketball court for the Laurier Golden Hawks.

team." A young but promising team, the Hawks consist of six rookies, three second-year players and a lone third-year player.

"We want to win the OUA West," added McGrath. Going any farther "...will be tough but we could have a chance. If not this year, in future years," said McGrath.

The Hawks are now in the third position of the OUA West division and are looking to shoot their way to the top.

Undoubtedly, McGrath will be pivotal in fulfilling Laurier's basketball ambitions for this season and in the seasons to come. McGrath and the other young, talented players that comprise the women's basketball squad are building a solid foundation for future success.

The Hawks are on the road this Friday and tip off against Laurentian. Laurier then travels to York University on Saturday for a match-up against the Yeowomen.

The low down on Hawk Ryan Crombeen

Colin Duffett

The Stats

Games: 12 Goals: 0 Assists: 2 Points: 2
Penalty Minutes: 12

The Vitals

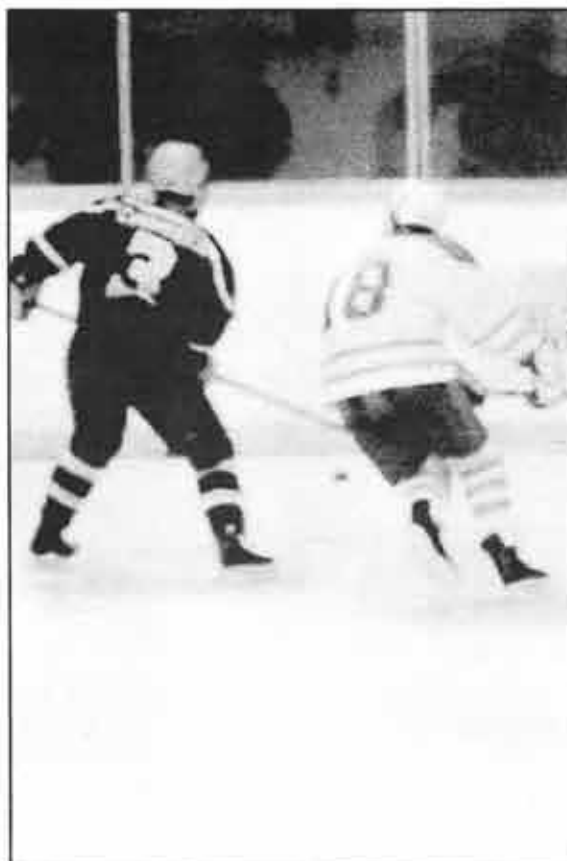
Name: Ryan Crombeen
Date of Birth: February 19, 1980
Height: 6'0"
Weight: 180 lbs.
Position: Defense
Year of Study: 4
Program: Business Administration
Hobbies: Water-skiing and golf
Former Team: Elmira Sugarkings

The Skinny

Ryan Crombeen has been part of the Wilfrid Laurier men's hockey team for three years. He has been a main stay on the defensive corps all season, playing in all 12 of the team's games this season. Crombeen is one of two players on the relatively young Laurier team in fourth year, making him one of the most experienced players.

According to Crombeen, experience has been one of the keys to the success of the team so far this season, citing the team's

overall lack of experience for last year's early exit and the team's improved play in the 2002 - 2003 season.



Courtesy of Laurier Athletics

Golden Hawk Ryan Crombeen (#3) races an RMC player for a loose puck in the corner.

"Everybody has a year under their belt now. It gives us a lot more experience," said Crombeen.

According to Crombeen, the other reason for the team's early success is Head Coach Mark French. "Mark French definitely made a big impact on the program and now has it headed in the right direction."

Crombeen has been a reliable pillar on a Golden Hawks blueline that has seen itself improve tremendously, compared to last season's counterpart. Crombeen has been a large part of that transformation along with fellow defensemen Bill Duncan, Nick Vukovik and John Jarram.

Ryan is an all around defenseman capable of playing in virtually any situation. This versatility has paid off for Ryan, as he takes a regular shift on the ice and often sees ice-time during the powerplay and penalty kill.

Crombeen came to Laurier from the Junior 'B' Elmira Sugarkings. Crombeen commented that "...the OUA game suits my style of play," referring to his experience in Junior B and in the OUA. Crombeen feels his offensive style of play is an advantage in the OUA, where the focus is more on speed

and skill as opposed to size and strength.

When asked about the success of the team in the first half of the season he replied, "In the first half of the season we played a lot of tough teams." Ryan added that "...it showed us we can compete with the top teams in the country and gives us some confidence going into the second half and playoffs. We keep getting better and better and hopefully we can continue that."

The 22-year-old defenseman has hockey in his genes. Ryan's brother, B.J. Crombeen, currently plays for the Barrie Colts of the OHL where he amassed 25 points and 118 penalty minutes in 2001 - 2002. Ryan's father, Mike Crombeen, played professional hockey for eight seasons playing for the Cleveland Barons, St. Louis Blues and Hartford Whalers.

Ryan Crombeen will surely be called upon to produce for the Golden Hawks in the coming weeks and for the rest of the season.

Laurier has a stretch of games against divisional rivals Guelph, York and Brock. The second half of the season begins tonight, when Laurier takes to the ice against Guelph at the Waterloo Recreation Centre at 7:00pm.

Fool's gold



Colin Duffett

medal gold? The short answer is yes.

Yes, we should win the gold medal. We have the largest minor hockey system to draw our talent from. Some of the fastest, strongest and most skilled players in the NHL and in major junior hockey leagues are Canadian. So why is it that we have not been able to reproduce the success of the Canadian Junior teams of the 1990's?

This question is much more difficult to answer. Are we still producing the same calibre of players as in the past? Absolutely. Players like Carlo Colaiacovo shined during the tournament. The national team was full of players like him, superstars already at the age of 18 and 19.

Silver medals look nice and all, but they are hardly a substitute for a shiny gold medal. Canada won silver at this year's World Junior Championships and it just was not good enough. The bottom line is: it's gold or go home.

We live in an age when parents get kicked out of hockey arenas for shouting obscenities at the refs and when players sue their coaches and organizations because they didn't win the MVP award at the end of the season. These examples may sound crazy but they do in fact happen across Canada, the biggest hockey hotbed in the world. Canadians nationwide eat and breathe hockey.

So is this the reason why we, as Canadian hockey fans, expect gold from our teams that represent us in international tournaments? Is the only acceptable

Upcoming Golden Hawk Games

Women's Basketball

Laurier @ Laurentian
Friday, January 10, 2003
6:00pm @ Sudbury, Ontario
Laurier @ York
Saturday, January 11, 2003
6:00pm @ Tait McKenzie Gymnasium, Toronto

Men's Basketball

Laurier @ Laurentian
Friday, January 10, 2003
8:00pm @ Sudbury, Ontario
Laurier @ York
Saturday, January 11, 2003
8:00pm @ Tait McKenzie Gymnasium, Toronto

Women's Curling

Laurier vs. West Sectional
Saturday, January 11, 2003
@ Western

Men's Curling

Laurier vs. West Sectional
Saturday, January 11, 2003
@ Western

Women's Hockey

Durham @ Laurier (exhibition)
Saturday, January 11, 2003
7:00pm @ Waterloo Recreation Complex

Men's Hockey

Guelph @ Laurier
Thursday, January 9, 2003
7:30pm @ Waterloo Recreation Complex
Laurier @ Guelph
Saturday, January 11, 2003
7:30pm @ Gryphon Centre Arena

Women's Volleyball

Ryerson @ Laurier
Saturday, January 11, 2003
1:00pm @ WLU Athletic Complex

Men's Volleyball

York @ Laurier
Friday, January 10, 2003
7:00pm @ WLU Athletic Complex



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Marv Franz (Pastor) marvfranz@waterloomb.org

Confessions of a sports nut



Bernard Dawson

I write for Cord Sports and so far it has been an awesome experience working with a great group of writers and editors. Besides attending many games here at Laurier, I also like to watch sports on television and visit sports sites on the Internet.

Lately, this has been a depressing experience for me. Everywhere I look I see spoiled athletes getting arrested or doing other dumb things. I also see parents suing high schools or teams because their kid wasn't on the power play unit or didn't win MVP.

It was in this depressed state that I checked out one of Rick Reilly's weekly columns on cnsi.com, which also appears every week in Sports Illustrated. Reilly wrote about a mentally handicapped Ohio high school student named Jake Porter.

Porter is a member of three varsity teams at his school, including the football team. He never misses practice, even though he never gets to play in a game. That is, until one particular game when his team was losing badly. Jake Porter was put in for one play at the end of the game.

The coach of the opposing team told his players to let Porter score. He ran for a 49-yard touchdown on the last play of the game with the competing teams, their fans and even the officials cheering for him.

To me, this is an example of one of the things that makes sport great: the fact that many times, sports are where the best qualities of humanity are shown. Sure sports features people like Shawn Kemp, John Rocker, Jeremy Shockey and Ilya Kovalchuk who are not the greatest examples of humankind. I'll be the first to say that many athletes have a better chance of appearing on Cops or America's Most Wanted than in their sport's respective all-star game.

Go ahead and read Rick Reilly's column on cnsi.com. It's titled "The Play of the Year" and should be in his archive. Or rent the movie Rudy, about another athlete who never gave up and always played with a heart and a love for his sport.

That is the true essence of sport: a place where it is not about the money, the groupies, the BMW's or the yachts. The people who play because they love the game are the underdogs, the walk-ons who work their butts off every time they play and the players who arrive to every practice first and stay the latest.

These are the athletes that we look up to. Doug Flutie, who walked on at Boston College as a 5'9" Q.B. and threw "The Pass" to beat the cocky Miami Hurricanes in '84. Doug Gilmour, who will end up in the Hockey Hall of Fame, but was considered "too small" to be a star in the NHL.

Now everytime I hear of another player with seven kids by six women, or charged with murder or drunk driving, I will not feel depressed. I will remember Jake Porter and his love for the game.

Thank you Rick Reilly for bringing such a great and heartwarming story to light. And to Jake Porter, you are the MAN and a hero to every true sports fan.

OUA and CIS Honours for Fall 2002

Football OUA All-Stars: Derek Medler, Ryan Jeffrey, Justin Shakell, Josh Alexander, Rohan Thompson, Ed Becker

Lacrosse OUA All-Star: Vanessa Cowlen (also OUA MVP)

Golf OUA All-Star: Jim Zwolak (also Individual Champion)

Women's Rugby OUA All-Stars: Christine Carruthers (also CIS All-Canadian), Amy Gaudun, Milissa Watson

Men's Rugby OUA All-Stars: Dan Yungblut

Tennis OUA All-Stars: Kim Foote and Anne Demure (also Doubles silver medalists)

Men's Soccer: Jason Lyall, Dave Nutt, Kenny Nutt (also CIS All-Canadian), Wojciech Cwik (also CIS All-Canadian), Niki Budalic

Women's Soccer: Heather Heimpel, Tammy Scurr (also CIS All-Canadian)

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Rewind 2002



Jennifer Asselin

Movie Picks
Bowling for Columbine
Minority Report



Stefan Sereda

Album Pick
Elvis Costello-- When I was cruel

Movie Pick
I hated Star Trek: Nemesis



Brandon Currie

Album Pick
I hated The Eminem Show

Movie Pick
The Two Towers

The Cord's Editor Picks



Melissa Allen

Movie Pick
Spiderman

Album Pick
Ministry of Sound Canada



Geoff Padmore

Album Pick
Sum 41-- Does this look infected?

Movie Pick
The Ring



Siobhan Bhagwat

Movie Pick
The Two Towers

Album Pick
Our Lady Peace-- Gravity



Jeff Latosik

Album Pick
Interpol-- Turn on the bright lights

Movie Pick
Ytu Mama Tambien



Bryn Boyce

Music Video Pick
Christina Aguilera-- Dirty

Movie Pick
Divine Secrets of the YaYa Sisterhood

The year in entertainment

Roger's Video top video, DVD and game rentals of 2002.

Top 3 Videos

Top 3 rented (VHS and DVD):
Ocean's Eleven, *Training Day*, *Don't Say a Word*

Top 3 sold (VHS):
The Lord of the Rings: Fellowship of the Ring, *Harry Potter*, *Monsters Inc.*

Top 3 sold (DVD):
The Lord of the Rings: Fellowship of the Ring, *Harry Potter*, *Monsters Inc.*

Most Popular...



Actor: Brad Pitt

Actress: Reese Witherspoon

Theatrical movie release of 2002:
Spider-Man

Movie release of all time: *Titanic*

Video release of all time: *The Lord of the Rings: Fellowship of the Ring*

Movie classic: *Gone With the Wind*

Canadian video release of 2002:
Men with Brooms

Canadian video release of all time:
Porky's

Most unpopular video release of 2002: *Glitter*



Top 3 video game rentals

Playstation 2:
Grand Theft Auto - Vice City, *Grand Theft Auto 3*, *Medal of Honour Frontline*

XBox:
Halo, *Tom Clancy's Splinter Cell*, *Mech Assault*

Game Cube:
Metroid Prime, *Super Mario Sunshine*, *Mario Party 4*



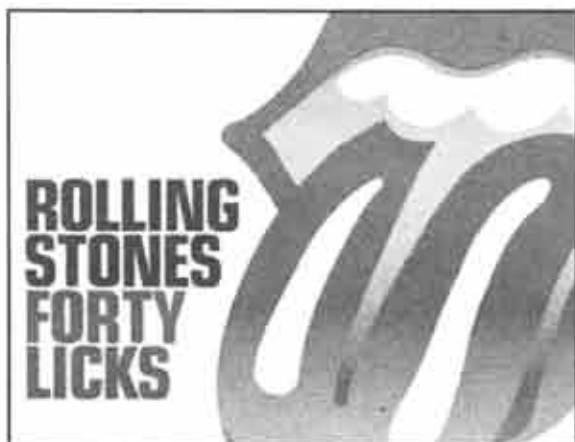
ear candy

The greatest hits albums of 2002

Justin Sharp

Now that the beloved Christmas season is over, all the gifts have been opened and the precious CD's listened to, here comes my critique, albeit late, of the absolute invasion of "Greatest Hits".

First, I must quote Kids in the Hall member Bruce McCulloch's opinion of greatest hits' compilations, "Greatest hits are for housewives, and little girls." McCulloch prefers listening to complete albums rather than sections from them. He's right, of course, because when not enough thought is placed into track selection, greatest hits can be insulting. The Rolling Stones, David Bowie, U2 and Elton John all have albums that should be listened to in their entirety. Selections from them do not do the art justice. Now, with that rant aside, onto "Justin's Show Spectacular Guide to the Cosmos, Love, Greatest Hits and other Myths of my Human Existence."



Rolling Stones
Forty Licks



By far the greatest of all the "greatest hits" released this season. Sure it left out some amazing tracks ("Midnight Rambler" being the greatest loss; "Waiting on a Friend" another) but over all it's tightly packed with great momentum. The Stones did cheat

though; four new songs have been added strictly for this release. These four don't compare to the losses ("Don't Stop" is the best of the bunch and the only exception). The Stones must have thought that releasing an 'oldies' only greatest hits would be hinting that they've lost their fervor and passion. They have, but they're still better than half of the current garage rock revival bands.



U2
Best of 1990 - 2000
Best of 1990 - 2000 & B-sides

By far the most disappointing of all the greatest hits released. Much like its predecessor (the '80s - '90s 'best of') this collection leaves out way too many singles and its lack of chronological order gives the album a jittery transition. The most awe-inspiring aspect of U2 during the '90s was their ability to change sound and image constantly, with fantastic success. Without chronological order the entire sound of U2 is lost and confusing. Also, Pop was ignored completely! Yes they did include *Discotheque* and *Staring at the Sun* but these are new mixes not found on Pop, so they don't count. The biggest shockers: "Elevation" and "The Fly" are totally absent. This collection doesn't represent U2 in the '90s and isn't a good starting point for anyone unfamiliar with their catalog.

(continued on next page)



Elton John
Greatest Hits 1970 - 2000

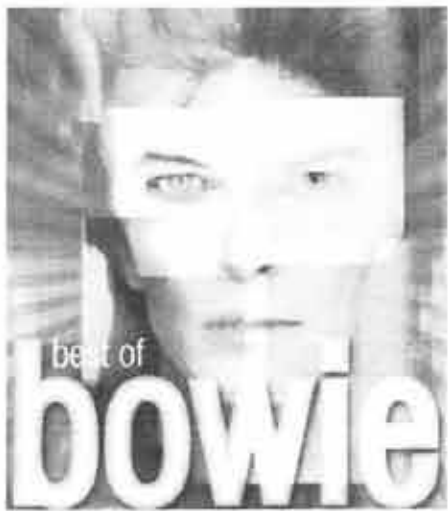


If there's any compilation that shows how a musician can change over 30 years, it's this one. Split into two parts, disc one contains John's '70s best work while the second disc contains everything else. The two discs represent a direct change in style and structure as a '70s rock superstar becomes an easy listening, soft rock, radio station favorite. And with the exception of the odd song ("I Want Love" and the devilish catchy "Don't Go Breaking My Heart") this disc is useless. If you love '70s Elton and want a 'best of' pick up his best of vol. 1 & 2 released 20 years ago.

Björk
Björk Greatest Hits



As a mix disc of the most enjoyable Björk songs this package is nothing really spectacular. Since the packaging is nothing impressive and the original songs do not need to be remastered, with the exception of some volume adjusting for her early work, the package only fills a need for those that know nothing of Björk or her obsessive fans. Since the track listing was picked by a fan poll, it's surprising that "It's oh so quite" is missing but other than that the album has a nice flow.



David Bowie
Best of Bowie [bonus disc]



Best of Bowie



Chronological. Extensive. Almost perfect. And yet because of its absolute track listing, this collection is today's cheapest and best starting point for any Bowie newbie that has yet to get one of the many, many, compilations. Why did this beat out the Stones? Because, this collection had no filler, no wasted space and no presumptions that a brand-new song is comparable to "Midnight Rambler."



Nirvana
Nirvana



"You Know You're Right" isn't that great. Although, when compared to the mountains of trash on popular radio this track's fantastic. However, when placed next to all the other tracks it sounds out of place and dated. Cobain's early work was full of life and vigor (ironic considering it's morbid lyrical content) while this newest single is nothing new and ultimately dull. My biggest complaint: Nirvana had three studio albums, one b-sides, and two live albums. Every album is completely different from each other and shouldn't be condensed into one - styles will get confused and, overall, the 'sound' will be muddy. Just pick up the studio albums. They're not that expensive and completely sensational.

Elvis
Elvis: 30 #1 Hits



Unlike the Stones (who ignored chart position when selecting their songs) effort this album only uses Elvis's #1 hits and as a result the track listing suffers. Some of the #1's are just bad, yet gems like "Money Honey," "I Want You, I Need You, I Love You," and "That's All Right" are absent because they didn't reach No. 1 poll position. Obviously, the popular opinion back when the singles were released must have been the parent that spawned the morons of today. What the listing really needs is a good doctor to trim the excess fat (and give us the always popular, thin Elvis). It's a decent start for any non-Elvis fanatic, but many will be turned off by the bad tracks. Elvis die-hards will certainly enjoy it both for it's inclusion of "A Little Less Conversation [JXL Remix]" and the remastered quality of each track.



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Fine Arts Model



Domineering Art Bryn Boyce

The Fine Arts program at Laurier is not well known but lately it's getting a giant-sized helping of attention. The controversy surrounding Professor Marshall Ward's selection of a Cambridge model to pose as a dominatrix in the second-year life drawing class spawned a heated debate over "sex show" art classes.

The whole debate first came to light when Record columnist, Joel Rubinoff, printed an article on Ward's

life drawing class. According to Rebecca Lamb, a student in Ward's class, "everyone was really fine with it, no one seemed to take it sexually."

Rubinoff's article sparked a series of letters to the Record that brought out response from both university students and members of the Waterloo community. One Waterloo woman attacked Ward for missing the purpose of life drawing "by hiring a model who explicitly represents a sexual fetish" and is of no education value.

Another woman claimed

that Ward was seeking to "resurrect the sexism that dominated art education for generations."

Many students defended Ward's course set up. "Marshall Ward is the best art teacher I've ever had," said Lamb. She further pointed out that Ward was very meticulous in his choice of models, find many of different sexes, body types and ages.

"I think teachers are in the entertainment business and have a responsibility to keep their classes fresh and fun

regardless of discipline," said Ward, who was offered a job at the Homer Watson Art Gallery, one of the oldest in Kitchener.

The idea that life drawing sessions are not meant to be sexually-motivated or pornographic was one that was lost in the controversy simply because the model was wearing leather and sporting claws and whips.

One community member stated that "the purpose of (life) drawing is to practice drawing the human body to improve understanding of

shading, proportion and anatomy."

The small Fine Arts program, which is a fairly quiet department, has enjoyed a lot of discourse over this issue and is now getting some of the attention it so rightly deserves.

Ward was delighted to see art provoking conversation in the community and reiterated his teaching mantra: "It's very important to me to keep those students interested in and enthusiastic about making art and think about art."

She Shall Remain Nameless....

Miranda Macdonald

Until now, I never realized how easily a normally intelligent human being could be manipulated by a flimsy, narrow-minded phoney.

I'm surprised that more people aren't as rudely aware of these deplorable character traits as I am.

There has been times when I have had to refrain from some form of physical violence on one of her victims and shake them back to their senses before they gave way entirely to her so-called charm.

I have known her long enough to know that under that underneath that friendly, open-minded exterior, she is just an introverted girl searching for a personality.

But you have to hand it to her though.

She is a wonderful actress.

That about sums her up. She knows all there is to know about nothing and she's more than willing to talk about herself. But she's really unaware of what life is all

about. She seems to live in a dream world where reality is meaningless. She's hopelessly short sighted and I fear, not too intelligent.

Personally, I like my life a whole lot better. Sure, I say some stupid things and make mistakes but my friends forgive me just as I forgive them for their shortcomings.

I feel sorry for her.

She knows a lot of people but doesn't have many friends. She's travelled the world but she's never really seen anything.

Sometimes I think I hate her. But that's not entirely true. In some ways I envy her but in more ways pity her. Ever noticed how life has a funny way of evening things out?

Some of us have good looks. Some have good sense. I have realized that if you have good sense you can usually achieve good looks and charm. But if you don't have the good sense to begin with, you're just out of luck.

Creative Corner

Distastefulness

Kara Bertrand

Her hands trembled in her pockets, and beads of sweat rolled down her pale face. But they were here; she'd done it. Months of aggravation and worry, and finally, they were here. So, why was she regretting it?

Through all the indecision of that moment, she could hear them struggling to escape. With a swift movement, she kicked one of them in the side, and she enjoyed the grunt that followed. He looked up at her and stared, blood trickling down his face. His mouth moved one word: Why? His eyes pleaded for mercy, for her to let them all go. A smile slowly crept on her face, and then she shook her head. He groaned and let his head slump back between his shoulder blades. With the back of her hand, she hit him across the head, signaling him to stop whatever thoughts were in his head.

One by one, she proceeded to kick them in the side, and hit him across the head. It was well deserved, she kept telling herself. Maybe it was true, maybe it wasn't. With the hurt inside her she didn't care. All they were to her were animals. Each and every one made her sick to her stomach. Three specimens of the human race that brought such betrayal and distrust to her life.

The Chain

Kara Bertrand

Pack your bags and leave this world behind.

It'll be alright, wipe away your tears. Remember this is for the best. If you leave him now, he'll never know.

Okay, he'll know tomorrow.

Tonight, you're safe.

He's asleep in his bed.

He didn't even drink tonight.

You must leave.

His keys are on the table.

Take the keys.

His car is in the driveway.

Drive away.

You're at the end of the street.

Right or left?

It doesn't matter, just not back.

You turn right and continue.

You haven't looked back.

You're on your way.

He'll never hurt you again.

Live happily without him.

Why are you crying?

How can you miss this man?

You escaped and you're safe.

Do you miss his eyes?

Why?

They're bloodshot and angry.

Do you miss his mouth?

Why?

Its smile is crooked and his teeth are broken.

Do you miss his leg?

Why?

It kicked you against the wall.

Do you miss his hand?

Why?

It hit your cheek roughly.

How can you miss this monster?

You are still broken.

Forget him.

You're better off alone.

He didn't deserve you.

You're special and beautiful.

So, leave his eyes, his mouth, his leg and his arm.

Drive on down the road.

Don't look back.

The hate is over.

The pain is gone.

You will be strong.

You will be happy.

Let go of the chain.

Book Club

"I love books, because you read about somebody else's life, but it makes you think about your own; that's the beauty of it."

-Oprah Winfrey

Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood
Written by
Rebecca Wells

Siobhan Bhagwat

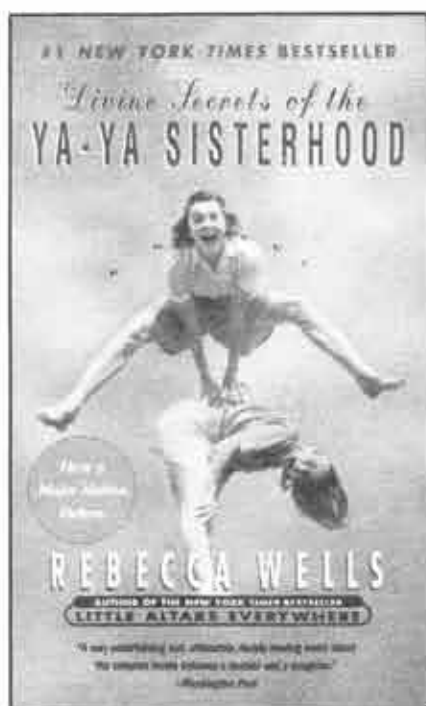
Many people have heard of Gilmore Girls, a show that tells audiences the story of the wonderful relationship between Lorelai Gilmore and her teenage daughter, Rory. The pair has a relationship that every daughter envies – they rarely disagree and when they do it is for a short period of time, they share each other's clothes, quirks, and humour. In fact, their relationship resembles that of best friends rather than mother and daughter.

On the flip side, we have Divine Secret of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood in which the main character, Sidda Lee Walker

battles out her emotions concerning her mother, Vivi. Wells has managed to truly portray the tangled web that is a mother-daughter relationship.

"Tap dancing child abuser," is the first sentence in the novel. The phrase was used to describe Vivi by a reporter who interviewed Sidda. Furious, Vivi disowns her eldest child and Sidda begs for her mother's forgiveness. When Sidda postpones her upcoming marriage an alarmed Vivi gathers with the Ya-Yas, her childhood friends, and together they decide to send her their "Ya-Ya-rabilia," a scrapbook Vivi made chronicling the events in the lives of the Ya-Ya's.

Through this scrapbook Sidda rediscovers her mother not as Vivi Walker but as Vivi Abbott. She learns pieces of her mother's past that had never been discussed, the friendship and loyalty that banded the Ya-Ya's and more about her relation-



ship with her mother with the flip of every page.

This is the type of story in which you can lose yourself. You feel for each of the characters and by the end you are close friends with Vivi, Caro, Necie, Teensy and Sidda. In fact, you have become a Ya-Ya.

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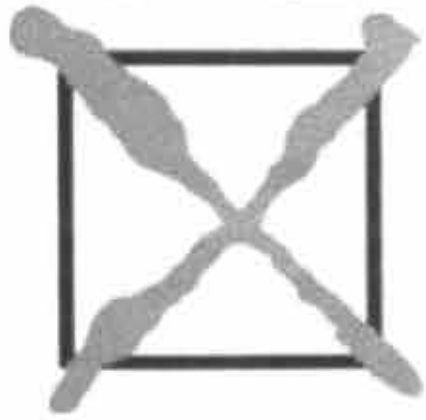
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MISCELLANEOUS

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Great Job Opportunity

A brand new show Club Radio Culture is being launched in February of 2003. We are looking for a person who is experienced (or would like to get experience) in broadcast sales. Their duty would be to sell air time or commercial spots for night clubs and bars to appear on the program. Pay will revolve around a salary rate plus commission. If you are interested, please email us back at: promotions@clubradioworld.com.

Need Cash!!

Proctors needed for SBE midterms. Non-bus. Students needed too. Contact Ann or Lucy in SBE 1250, call X2572 (Ann) or come to orientation Jan 16 5-6 pm 2C3.

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AUDITIONS

FRINGE FESTIVAL AUDITIONS!

Talented directors searching for actors/actresses for this years Fringe Festival. Open auditions to be held Thurs. Jan 16th in room 1E1 from 3:30 - 8:30 pm. No Prep necessary. Amateurs welcome! We are looking for enthusiastic students; this could be your big break! Musicians who wish to be showcased at the festival may also audition at this time. Don't be shy, you don't want to miss this great opportunity!

Be a Canadian Idol at Fringe Fest 2003!

Acting and musical talent will be assessed Jan 16th in 1E1 from 3:30 - 8:30 pm. The Laurier Fringe Festival is a drama and arts festival showcasing Laurier student's talent. If you always wanted to act and become the next Zack Morris, come out and show your star potential!

PERSONALS

Green Computer.

You have only won the last battle. I am yet again back to conquer your power.
Angry & Tired Classified Co.

Wilbur.

I like it when you whisper to me in your creepy stalker voice. It makes me want to splooge.
Kristen H.

Sara Wash.

And you say there is never a message in the classified for you! Have you used your new "fan-tactic" move on any hotties in biz class yet? hehhee...
Film class roomie

Tyler B.

Retro night at Phils isn't the same without you. Let's get together soon.
Shy T-Shirt Girl

1989 Blue Jays,

Clearly, you were the best sports team ever! All of you were awesome, even though Tony Fernandez's golden glove outshines you all. Rance, you should have played third base, not Gruber. You were robbed.
A true sports fan

Toronto Star,

Why are you pandering to the masses? What, your circulation isn't high enough, so you have to put Avril Lavigne on the cover?
A true journalist

Real Punks,

Hurry up and do something about Avril before your movement loses all credibility. Ironic that her corporate identity is now the sleeziest thing about you.
A true punk

Nicole and Jennifer,

Why did you write "Stefan is a sham" in the frost on my car window? All you really did was expose your own frosted hearts to the harsh elements of classified ridicule.
Where's the love?

Wittle Wabbit

To quote the great Ozzy Osbourne "Mamma, I'm Coming Home!"
Teddy

To Billy and Rolster,

Get ready boys, the laugh is back on the ice. Beware, I may wheeze my way through practice as these days I can barely make it up the DAWB escalator to get to class. See you Friday. Please don't make me sing the national anthem.
Lipper

To one Smarget Berry,

I am publicly requesting that U.S. return one S.S. to the hands of O.S. Please, the safe return of this precious and delicious smelling individual is necessary to my well-being. Return via one Ms. K. "pipo taker" M. There will be no questions asked. S.S. needs to come back home. Yo queiro berga grande.
O.S.

Stefan,

You are a sham, but you sure as hell don't own the word.
Websters

Inside Jokes,

You are funny!!!!
The Cord staff

Maverick,

Please come retrieve your Top Gun glasses from Bryn. He thinks he is a highway trooper. It's sad, really.
Goose

B9 Ladies,

Happy New Year girls! I will try to be more social this semester because I miss all of you.
Chained to my desk at The Cord

Wilbur,

Please stop barking at me! You have no idea what you are saying.
Marghrita

Jenn,

I guarantee if it happens again, that there will be certain body parts flying in the direction of certain heads. You won't laugh on the outside, but on the inside you'll be having a riot.
Wilbur

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