

THE CORD WEEKLY

The tie that binds since 1926

THE HAWK'S LAST HURRAH?

Our sports editor looks at a football team on the verge of change after the Vanier ... **FOOTBALL, PAGE 12**
A Saskatchewan sports writer explains why the also-ran Hawks are a great second-place team ... **SPORTS, PAGE 14**

THE TOP PICKS OF THE YEAR

The Cord takes a look at (what we believe to be) the best cultural products of this, the year of our Lord, two-thousand and five ... **ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 22**

THE BIRTH OF THE GOLDEN HAWK

We uncover the 1956-1966 decade in Laurier history - from the inception of 'WLU' and 'The Cord Weekly' to the retarded roots of Shinerama ... **CORD HISTORY, PAGES 10-11**

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SLOW MOTION - Mill Jain (left), Christine Simon (centre), Will Snowball (right) and other members of Bacchus and Fashion 'n' Motion tow a GRT bus down King Street from WLU campus to Grand River Hospital on Thursday, November 24, 2005. Together the Laurier students pulled in over \$1,000 for K/W's Make-A-Wish Foundation.

Profs back new deal

Ninety-four percent of Faculty Association vote in favour of accepting new CBA offer

ADRIAN MA & DAN POLISCHUK
News Editors

Laurier professor Bob Litke is a self-professed workaholic and it shows - it's Monday evening and he's at his desk, preparing for his 5:30 pm class, despite having spent the last few days at home taking care of some severe tendonitis in his shoulder.

He's been prescribed Tylenol 3s for the pain, but not even they can slow the 65-year-old philosophy professor down - he's animated and talkative as he describes his love of teaching.

"I've given my whole life to this," laughs Litke, who is also serving this year as interim chair of the philosophy department.

He has taught at Laurier for some 30 years; a small gold clock, a gift to commemorate his long years of service, juts out of a pile of notes and folders.

He definitely feels at home at this school and has a rapport with his fellow staff, students and the administration. The recent ratifi-

cation of a new agreement between WLU faculty and administration has Litke feeling relieved; he says that he's seen things slipping for some time.

In the last 5 to 10 years, there's been a slow decline in the [faculty] feeling appreciated.

- Bob Litke, WLU philosophy professor

"In the last 5 to 10 years, there's been a slow decline in the [faculty] feeling appreciated," says Litke. He saw class sizes ballooning, with resources "getting stretched to a breaking point."

Litke grew increasingly concerned about the morale of faculty; exhausted, overworked teachers lecturing in classrooms crammed almost to capacity.

"I have one of the best jobs in the world for me," he says. "But that turns into nothing if I don't have the conditions to work well

and interact with my students."

He says that morale is a serious issue and feels the health and education sectors as where employee morale is overlooked the most.

"My mother's in a nursing home," says Litke. "I see how her life is connected with the morale of the staff." Litke also sees how the well being of students is linked with the morale of their teachers.

The new collective agreement, for which 94 percent of WLU teaching staff voted in favour, is "a step in the right direction," says Litke. It is a signal that administration is responding to the concerns of their professors.

David Docherty, WLU's Dean of Arts, spends much of his time communicating with faculty, and says that there is optimism among professors about the new agreement.

- Please see **FACULTY**, page 4

A MAYORAL DECREE

The proposed 'student ward' was quashed but Waterloo Mayor, Herb Epp, argues that students need to engage in city politics first ... **OPINION, PAGE 7**

NO SILENT NIGHTS

Michelle Pinchev reviews the vibrator industry and the rainbow of choices you're likely to encounter at your local sex shops ... **STUDENT LIFE, PAGE 18**

Bitter winter ahead

A nasty election campaign looms as Liberals fall Monday night. **Nadya Bell reports from Ottawa**

NADYA BELL
CUP Ottawa Bureau Chief

OTTAWA (CUP) — Prepare for political arguments over the holidays, as Canada's Liberal government was defeated by a non-confidence motion Monday night.

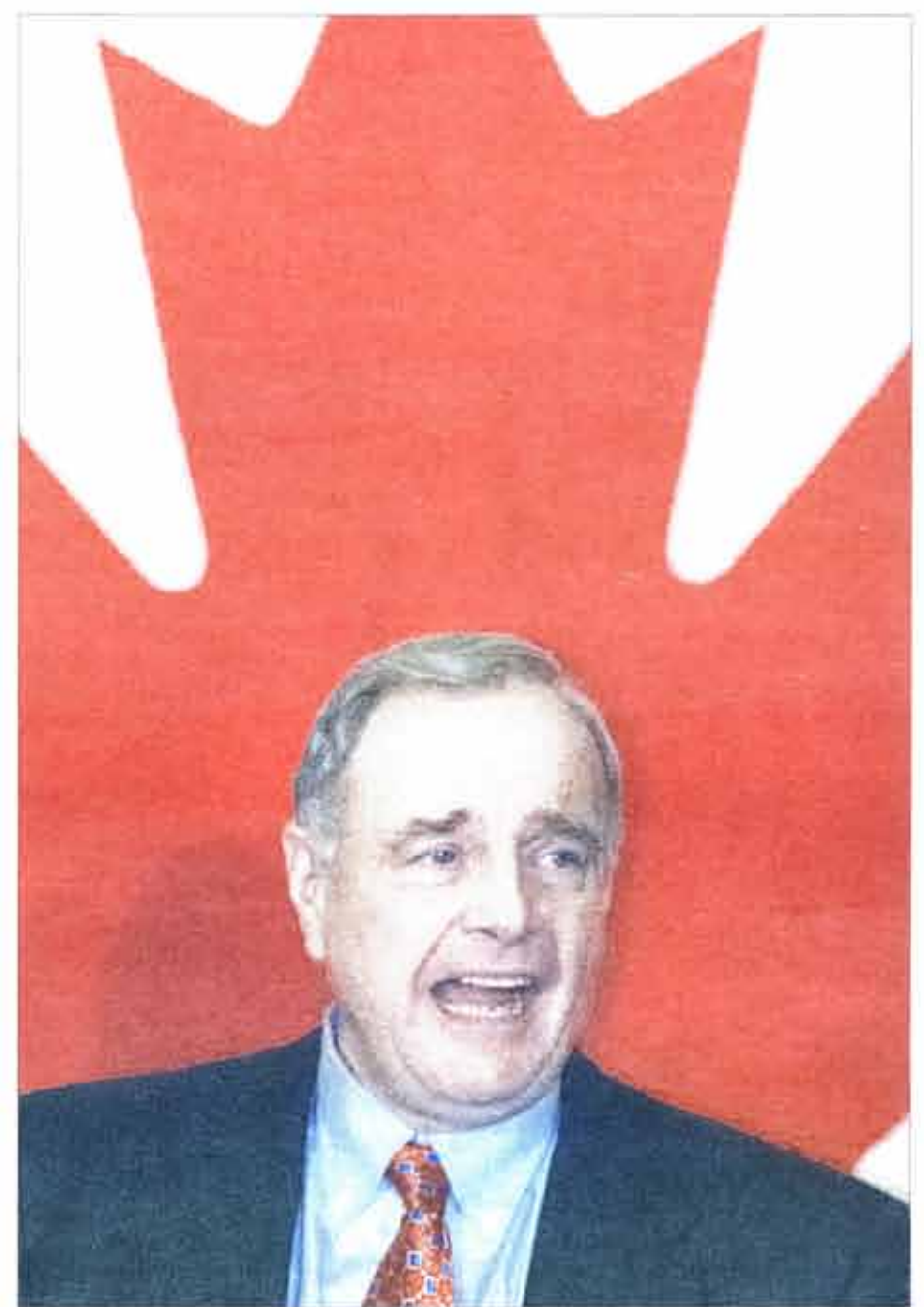
Yesterday, Paul Martin visited the Governor General and asked her to dissolve parliament.

The Globe and Mail reported on Monday that the election would likely be called for January 23.

There was a last-day-of-school atmosphere in the House of Commons as the vote to defeat the government passed with the support of the Conservatives, the Bloc Quebecois, the New Democratic Party and the three independent members.

- Please see **ELECTION**, page 3

> Local reaction to January election, **PAGE 3**
> Editorial Board reaction, **PAGE 6**



Nadya Bell/CUP

VOCAL CORD

What do you want for Christmukah?



"Peace on earth - goodwill towards men."

- Tyler Ball
Fourth Year English/History



"A portable record player, the new Fiona record and world peace."

- Tatum George
Third Year Psychology



"It all comes back to a pool cue. A nice pool cue."

- Dave Jenkins
Fourth Year Business



"A computer would be nice because mine's a piece of crap."

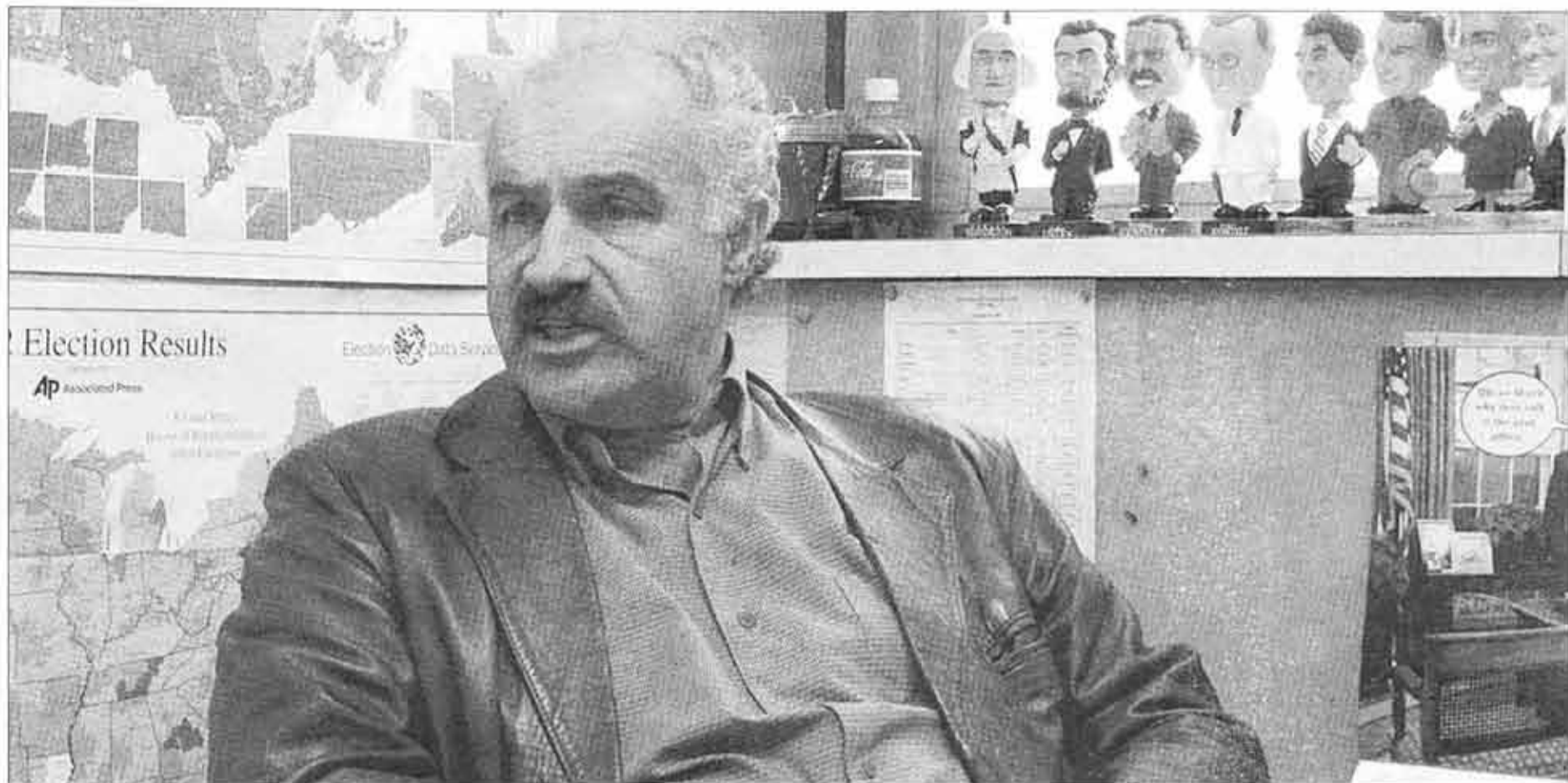
- Kevin Cappelli
Fourth Year Business



"I want everyone to be happy and for all the kids to get good marks."

- Bev
The Effervescent Lunch Lady

Compiled by Adrian Ma, photos by Sydney Helbert



Sydney Helbert

GET READY TO RUMBLE - Laurier political science professor Barry Kay is keeping a close eye on the upcoming Canadian federal election, as both a professor and a political consultant for the Global Television network.

Election storm hits WLU

From January 16th to February 3rd, Laurier students will face three elections, but will they vote en masse?

ADRIAN MA
News Editor

Kitchener-Waterloo MP Andrew Telegdi is preparing himself for a long holiday season - the Liberal representative will soon be defending his crown thanks to Monday's vote of non-confidence in Parliament.

He is in Ottawa, working steadily at his office, fully aware of what is to come. But the long-serving Telegdi still has time to talk about something he enjoys - varsity football.

"Laurier - I definitely like Laurier," says the Hungarian-born MP when asked about which team will emerge victorious at this weekend's Vanier Cup.

It's likely that hordes of Laurier students will be flooding Ivor Wynne Stadium for the big game, but will young people be heading to the voting booths in late

January in droves? Laurier professor Barry Kay doesn't think so.

"Younger people in general, people that aren't [political science] majors, aren't particularly interested in politics and are more turned off than ever," said Kay. "It's certainly not unique to Laurier, in fact it's not even unique to Canada. Younger people are just tuning out to political matters."

Laurier students will soon be able to participate in three elections to choose representatives for WLUSP (Jan. 16), their federal electoral riding (Jan. 23), and WLUSU (Feb. 2). Last year's WLUSU elections saw a 30 percent voter turnout among Laurier students. According to Kay, turnouts of this level are not unusual.

"That's not unlike the proportions [of youth voting] ... I would expect that turn-out levels of people below 30 to be below 30 percent."

He attributes much of the voter apathy of students to a kind of vicious cycle.

"When people wonder why politicians tend not to be particularly sensitive and aware of student issues, not just students but younger people's issues in general, it's because younger people are not as active and as interested," said Kay.

"If students want politicians to take them seriously, students should take politicians seriously ... if they don't participate they're less likely to get attention."

Kitchener-Waterloo NDP candidate Edwin Laryea feels that young people have been alienated from their government because the Liberals have "neglected to invest" in post-secondary education and the environment, while giving tax breaks to corporations.

Ajmer Mandur is Kitchener-Waterloo's Conservative candi-

date. Mandur could not be reached for comment, but a passage found on his website seems to agree with Laryea's assessment of post-secondary education in Canada.

"We believe strongly that provincial jurisdiction must be respected. However, the federal government must play a role in addressing tuition and standards," the section reads.

"[The NDP are] going to campaign on accountability ... we believe government has to come clean," said Laryea.

Telegdi understands the criticisms that have been levelled at the Liberal party, but knows that the Canadian people will be the ones passing the most important judgement.

"The electorate gets to make a vote on accountability," he said.

House of cards falls, forcing vote

- **ELECTION**, from cover

MPs who were retiring, like NDP Ed Broadbent, or ill, like Conservative Darrel Stinson, received standing ovations when their vote was counted, and the speaker invited members to a Christmas party afterwards.

But political pundits are widely predicting there will be a very negative campaign.

Layton said health care would continue to be a priority for his party in the election campaign.

During a speech to the Liberal members, Paul Martin highlighted the achievements of the Liberal party over the past months and the condition of the Canadian economy.

"It is easier to get a job today, and that is the result of the hard work of the Liberal government," said Martin.

Across the hall, Stephen Harper spoke to his caucus, saying they should campaign on more than the Gomery report on Liberal corruption.

"While the Liberals complain about facing the people, we are concerned with facing the future," said Harper.

Spending announced by the government in the past week could be reversed or simply not carried through after the election, including the fiscal mini-update, which announced billions of dollars for student grants and a student aid overhaul.



Contributed Photos

Faculty strike averted: relief on both sides

- from **FACULTY**, cover

"Both sides are genuinely happy ... there's a great sense of relief among faculty and staff," says Docherty.

Herb Pimlott, Media Relations Officer for WLUFA agrees, saying that "this collective agreement goes a long way towards addressing our concerns."

It is a positive sign, especially considering the uncertainty that was involved with this new agreement. The negotiation process for this new three-year deal was longer than for any other faculty agreement, with the exception of 1989-1990 when it took 15 months of bargaining to hammer out a deal.

Litke says he was nervous during the whole thing because Laurier administration had kept professors "in the dark." He has no idea how close faculty were to striking, but noted that "a number of faculty [members] made it clear they were ready to go on strike."

While salaries were certainly an issue, Litke says that money was hardly the overriding motivation; it was disdain for unmanageable class sizes, overburdened professors and cheating students out of proper attention - the growing threat of a multiple-choice Scantron card education.

"One colleague said to me 'I will never let everything be graded by machines - that is what I will go on strike for.'"

Jim Butler, VP: Finance and Administration with WLU, commented that he "could see a deal there all the way through."

"There's an agreement that was there last time and its there this time, on a 23 to 1 ratio. So for every 23 students there's one professor ... that's a very good, healthy ratio," said Butler, adding, "And then there's a number of course remissions throughout the contract and this course remission's where a professor, if they're teaching 350 students or more, they get a course remission. So the workload issues were addressed in that way."

Addressing the concerns of teachers continuously during negotiations, Butler summed up the whole process by saying, "We were making good progress throughout the whole time."

Doug Skelton, President of WLUFA, shared Butler's senti-

ments saying "both sides dealt with the matter in a professional way."

"Certainly within any exercise like this you get disagreements and a little animosity every so often, but both sides were at the table professionally, they conducted themselves very well ... I'm relieved that it's over, that we didn't have to go to the nasty [strike]."

While he did acknowledge that faculty were having difficulty understanding where the university was coming up with the figures they were presenting, Skelton credited mediator Jackie McVeigh for doing a great job bringing the parties together to get a deal finalized.

All differences aside, the faculty's relationship with university administration remains in a "strong position," according to Skelton.

"We'll always have our differences. They'll never disappear; hopefully they'll diminish," he added.

CLARIFICATION

In the November 23rd edition of *The Cord*, the graphic accompanying the article entitled "Aramark Me" was not meant to depict any actual employees of the Dining Hall. Any likeness to any of Aramark's employees was strictly coincidental. *The Cord* regrets any misunderstandings this may have caused.

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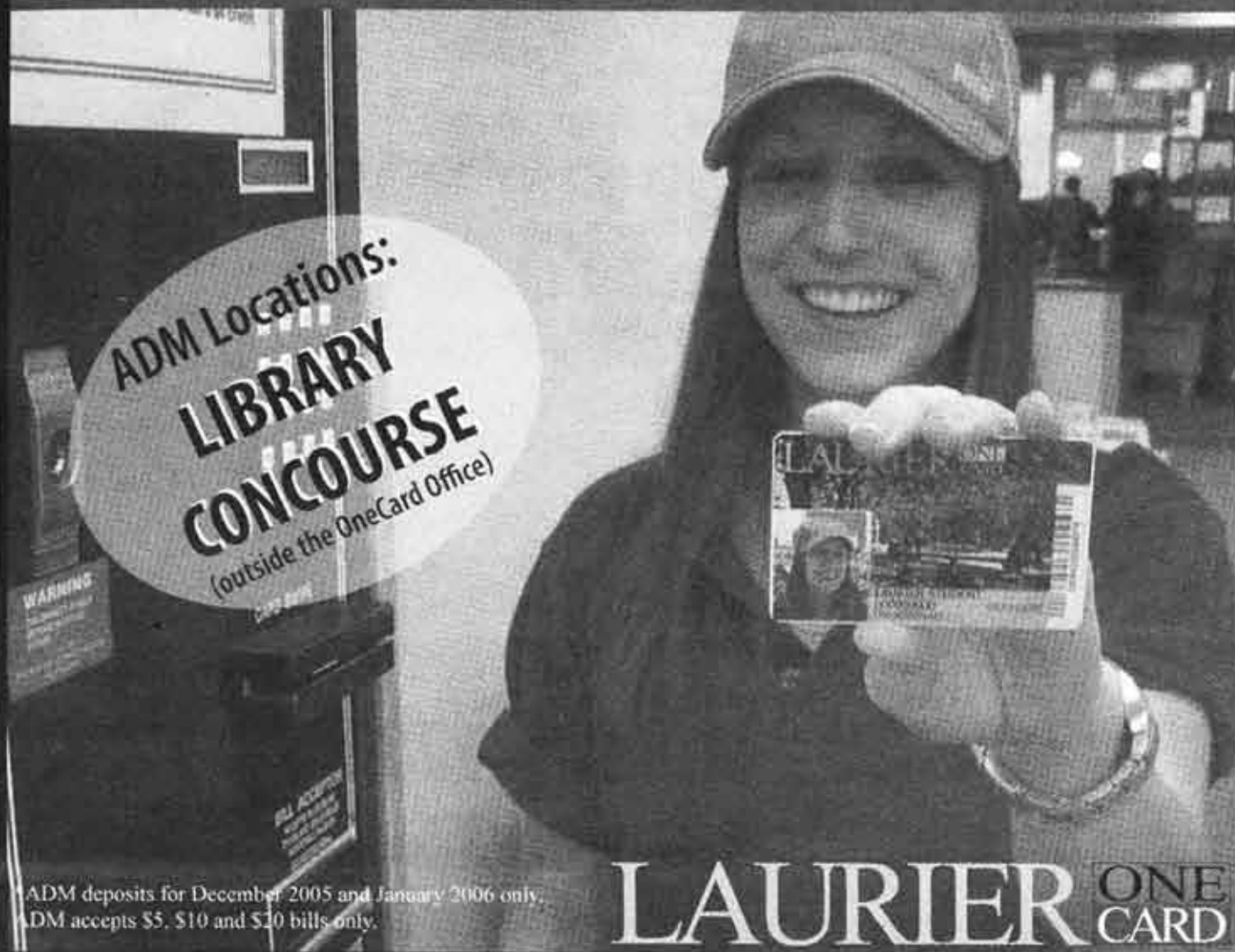
CORRECTION

In the November 23rd article, "Biz school gets another upgrade" Brian Leader was misidentified as the "VP of Advertising for the CA of Ontario." He is actually the VP of Learning with the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ontario. *The Cord* regrets the error.

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Deck the halls with boughs of voter apathy

It appears that no one expects much from our age bracket when it comes to politics. WLU professor Barry Kay claims that, "Younger people in general, people that aren't [political science] majors, aren't particularly interested in politics and are more turned off than ever." He goes on to predict a less-than 30 percent voter turnout for people under 30. But can anyone blame his pessimism?

You've heard it all before. You know that young people vote in atrocious numbers. You've heard that you should feel lucky to live in a democracy where you're given the privilege of having a hand in selecting your government. So why don't most students listen?

With the federal election, the WLUSU elections and the WLUSP elections (the latter two which will be two separate events now) running so close together, there's an increased possibility that students will become even more overwhelmed with the issues, candidates and choices that come with three elections and simply dispense with democracy altogether.

This is the last thing anyone should do. As far-fetched as it may seem to some, these three elections should be viewed as a privilege and opportunity, rather than a burden. Within just one month, you have the chance to influence who governs your country, your school and your media. These things are huge factors in your life, whether you feel them directly or not.

Mayor Herb Epp has made an excellent and impassioned plea (see opposite page) for student political involvement. Heed his advice and do something - anything - this election season, from voting to volunteering to even becoming a candidate.

If nothing else, it earns you the right to complain when your federal government, Students' Union or Student Publications do something that makes you mad.

WLUFAs: thank God it's over

With the contract ratified by WLUFAs on Saturday, Laurier's administration has rightfully recognized that Laurier's dedicated faculty deserve far better working conditions than they've been subjected to lately.

Teachers have been expected to do more and more for less. According to WLUFAs, Laurier's faculty and librarian salaries rank 15th out of 17 Ontario universities. Meanwhile, class sizes have been growing, forcing professors to take on greater workloads and diminishing their interaction with students.

The heartening thing about the settlement of the WLUFAs negotiations is how satisfied Laurier's faculty seem to be with the contract. Too often, labour disputes end in a compromise that leaves much to be desired for those seeking a better contract.

In this case, 94 percent of Laurier's faculty voted in favour of the new collective agreement (it only needed a simple majority to pass), suggesting it will truly help improve the situation of WLUFAs members in a significant way. Indeed, Dr. Herbert Pimlott said the agreement "goes a long way towards addressing our concerns."

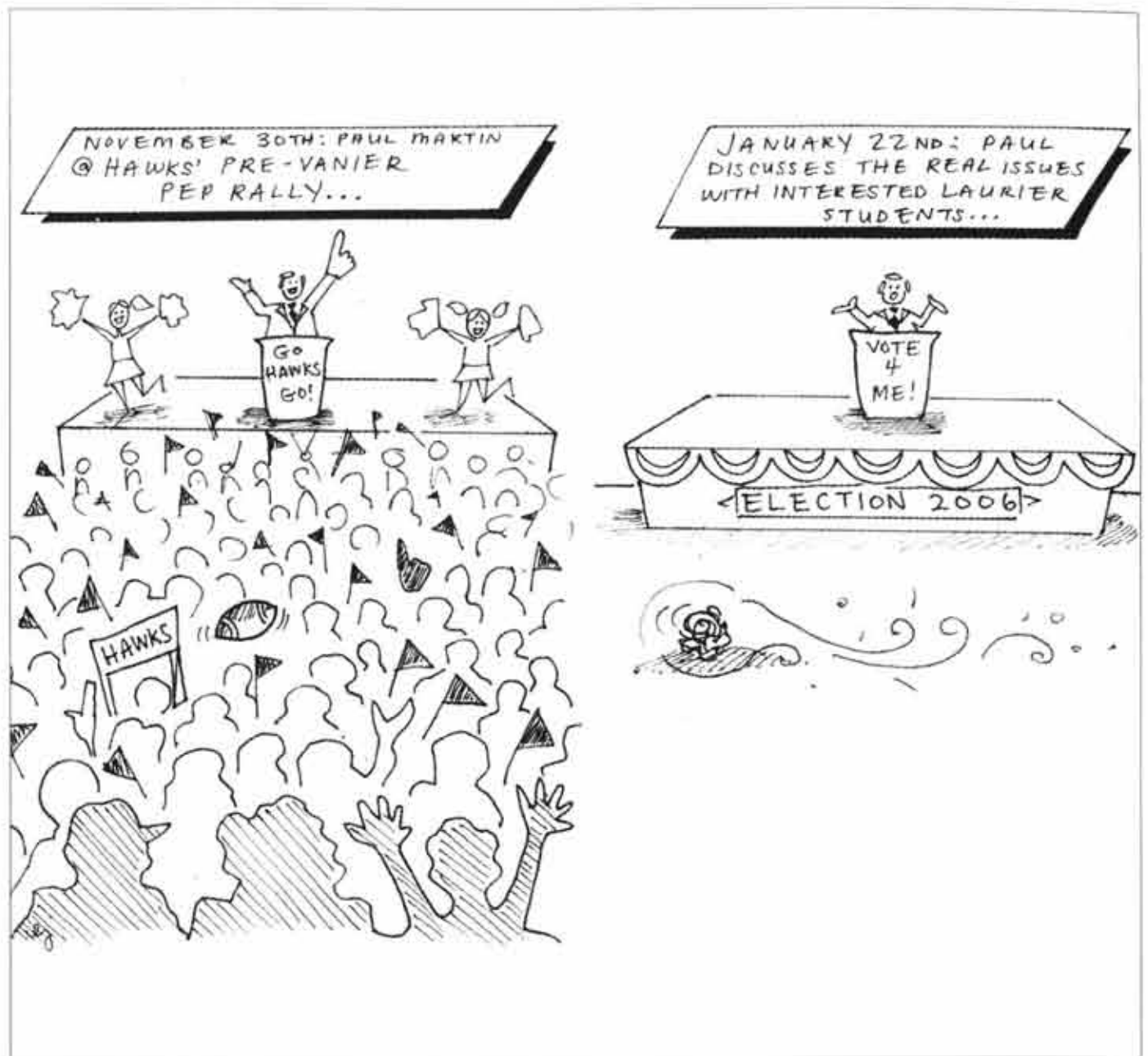
It's good to know that Laurier's faculty are receiving a contract that will work in their favour and work towards creating a better teaching environment.

Not only will this be a benefit to the deserving faculty, but it will positively affect students as well. When professors have lighter workloads, something ensured by the new agreement, they have more time to devote to each individual student. And a better general sense of morale among professors can only bring with it a greater interest in course content.

This doesn't mean that things are perfect now. But at the very least, the ratification of this collective agreement shows that Laurier's administration recognizes that professors have been over-worked and underpaid and that they are now willing to work to rectify this.

This may well be the first step towards reversing Laurier's downward spiral in the *Maclean's* rankings, and more importantly, improving the university experience of both faculty and students.

This unsigned editorial was agreed upon by at least two-thirds of the The Cord's Editorial Board and does not necessarily reflect the view of The Cord's volunteers, staff or WLUSP.



Have a real Christmas

Family provides intangible gifts that are better than any material present



When do you recall experiencing your first real Christmas?

I'm not asking about that December 25, however many years ago, when you were still spitting up drool as an 'Oh so cute!' newborn. I'm talking about the first time it actually meant something.

Sure, you may land that new iPod that'll hold hundreds of songs you'll never listen to after downloading or the \$300 jeans that come already torn for that casual look. But is this going to bring you true happiness?

For me, that time came about eight years ago when I spent it with my grandpa for the last time. He died that spring.

Looking back at that year's holiday after his passing, it was as if something inside me finally clicked. Ok, maybe it was the fact that puberty was finally starting to kick in, but I still maintain the belief that it was something more.

Up to that point, I was the typical kid who arose that special morning to see if Santa really hooked me up with the good stuff. Yeah, clothes were nice, but nothing would be sweeter than seeing G.I. Joe, in all his glory, parked under the tinsel.

The time finally came though, after the death of a family member I was so close to, that my perspec-

tive on what really matters in life started to change.

Sure, you may land that new iPod that'll hold hundreds of songs that you'll never listen to after downloading or the \$300 jeans (that come already torn for that casual look). But is this going to bring you true happiness?

The really vain and hollow people of the world will say that it will. Even then, however, I question the response.

The Christmas just before the first anniversary of that tragic occasion, I decided to really dedicate myself to my family, because I just knew that it would be a tough time for all, and being the eldest sibling I felt a call to duty. Ironically, it turned out to be the best holiday I ever had.

Sure, it may seem like a corny, feel-good story, but I think that for those

who haven't figured it out yet, being with family is what makes Christmas truly an enjoyable time.

With whom else can you eat a 20-pound turkey and not be considered rude to ask for thirds? Where else can you try to sing Christmas carols off tune without being considered a dork?

It is these intangible gifts that families provide that make them so much better than any gift money could buy.

You may think I'm speaking in crazy tongues. Maybe I am, considering that I've drank enough late night cola to keep me consecutive days without sleep. Damn essays.

Either way, I think it will really ring true once that pencil is finally put down after that last exam to end the term. Because the only thing really left to desire then will be to go home to revel in the company of those who care about you.

And I guarantee that if you recognize this, you will really have a merry Christmas.

letters@cordweekly.com



Municipal politics and WLU students

Mayor of Waterloo Herb Epp says that student involvement in local politics highlights issues that might otherwise go unnoticed



It was heartening to see Laurier students take an interest in civic matters when Waterloo Council raised the issue of creating new ward boundaries within the city.

After all, one third of Waterloo's population is composed of students and faculty from local universities, and students have not been known, in the past, for their involvement in politics.

Laurier's contribution to the ward boundaries issue, as you may remember, included the proposal to create a ward with boundaries that would encompass the majority of students of both universities.

On September 19 of this year, Waterloo's Council voted down the student ward in favour of a different set of municipal dividing lines. There were a number of strong arguments for this decision.

With 64 percent of constituents

in the proposed ward being students, voter turnout in the university sector would have to increase significantly to ensure representation by population in that ward.

Further, it wouldn't be fair to subdivide the city based on class. A student ward would lend itself to democracy no more than a ward comprised primarily of lower-class families, new Canadians or commuters would.

I encourage you to ask how you will affect the future of our city.

Raise an issue, support – or become – a candidate, and please cast your vote.

In Waterloo, the function of a member of council is to ease the process by which constituents make issues known. Any good councillor should be able to represent the students of Laurier and Waterloo who reside in his or her

ward, regardless of where boundaries lie.

One member of Waterloo's voter support committee, Steve Lindt, was quoted in *The Record* as saying that "it would be lovely to have a younger person on council." I could not agree more.

The acceptance of a ward model other than one for a student-dominated ward should not be seen as a vote against the power of students to influence municipal governance.

In the last two months, three high school seniors have taken up positions as mayor in their respective northern US cities. Michael Sessions,

the new Mayor of Hillsdale, Michigan, was successful over the incumbent mayor as a write-in candidate with only \$700 to run his campaign. And young people are not only successful in governance south of the boarder.

Stephen Clark held the position of Mayor in Brockville, Ontario for three consecutive three-year terms, from 1982 to 1991. He was first elected to the position the day after his 22nd birthday, and as Canada's youngest mayor, he found himself in the centre of much debate and controversy. Clark is still active in politics today, now as a private citizen taking action at both the municipal and provincial levels.

More recently, Ike Awgu ran for Mayor in Ottawa at the age of 19. Although the Carleton student was not elected, he later said that just by taking any active part in municipal politics, young people can highlight issues that may not otherwise be brought to the council's table.

In a column he later wrote for Carleton's *Panorama* newsletter, Awgu said that his campaign alone positively shaped the considerations of Ottawa's municipal government.

"The void our absence creates is often unfilled. Had I not run for mayor, it's unlikely that safety at

night (which later became an issue) would have been highlighted, or that topics such as affordable housing and voter apathy would have been discussed."

Laurier students make up nearly one-tenth of Waterloo's population, and are by choice training to be knowledgeable critical thinkers – the sort of people who should be involved in the governance of the city.

Your investment of four or more years in your local education makes you empowered citizens and capable of making a difference.

As Waterloo begins to make its plans for the 2006 elections, which will include campaigns for the councillors of two new wards, I encourage you to ask how you will affect the future of our city. Raise an issue, support – or become – a candidate, and please cast your vote.

The city is listening, and the city needs your involvement and support.

letters@cordweekly.com

WLUSU: back up off my vagina



Last week I decided not to abuse the kindness of my roommate and I took the bus to go grocery shopping.

Riding the bus has been a source of inspiration for many writers. In recent years the bus is also an affront to a person's aesthetic landscape, as both the outside and the inside of the bus have been plastered with advertisements.

The bus itself is generally a large message; buses aren't fast moving vehicles and don't leave the opportunity for a lengthy sales pitch.

Inside the bus is the place to inundate people with advertising rhetoric. The GRT even tries to trick us into thinking that they're



trying to make a dialogue out of the landscape by publishing poetry on certain panels.

One particular panel that has irked me since my university career began is the Birthright panel. A sincere looking woman sits next to the help line number: "Don't Be Pressured... Choose Life."

A brief pause for contemplation is followed by a torrent of thought. At least this advertisement is blunt about its purpose.

Now, it's actually not the contentious issue of the panel that concerns me. It seems to me that there is no space in our lives that is advertising free and isn't trying to dictate how we live our lives, feel about ourselves and our decisions.

Every day, there is a smorgasbord of advertisements trying to tell you who to be and it doesn't end with the malls or the transportation that gets you there.

After finishing a pita I went into the bathroom in the Terrace, took a seat in a stall and stared at the door.

I was getting a bit bored sitting there, but thank heavens, WLUSU and Zoom Media spared me the pain of another boring empty space with an advertisement for a product to cure yeast infections.

The panel tells me that having a yeast infection is the one time that I should "wish I was a man" and it bothers me to no end. Is this particular advertisement telling me that I should desire to be a man when my vagina is feeling inconvenienced by a bacterial imbalance?

The advertisement talks about feeling unclean, but are men really

cleaner than women? I'm supposed to want a penis and our pal Sigmund has been right all along? Why am I being told that having a vagina is a bad thing in a bathroom stall? Women's bodies are being assaulted by the advertising industry.

There's a new kind of pad and tampon marketing silent wrappers! Oh, no! Women menstruate? The woman in the next stall is menstruating?

It's a giant leap backwards in evolution and a leap forward for advertising firms. They've convinced us that there is no space where the body is not being policed by the rest of the world.

Menstruating is dirty, yeast infections make people want to change genders and we ought to make sure that no one else is savvy to the secret!

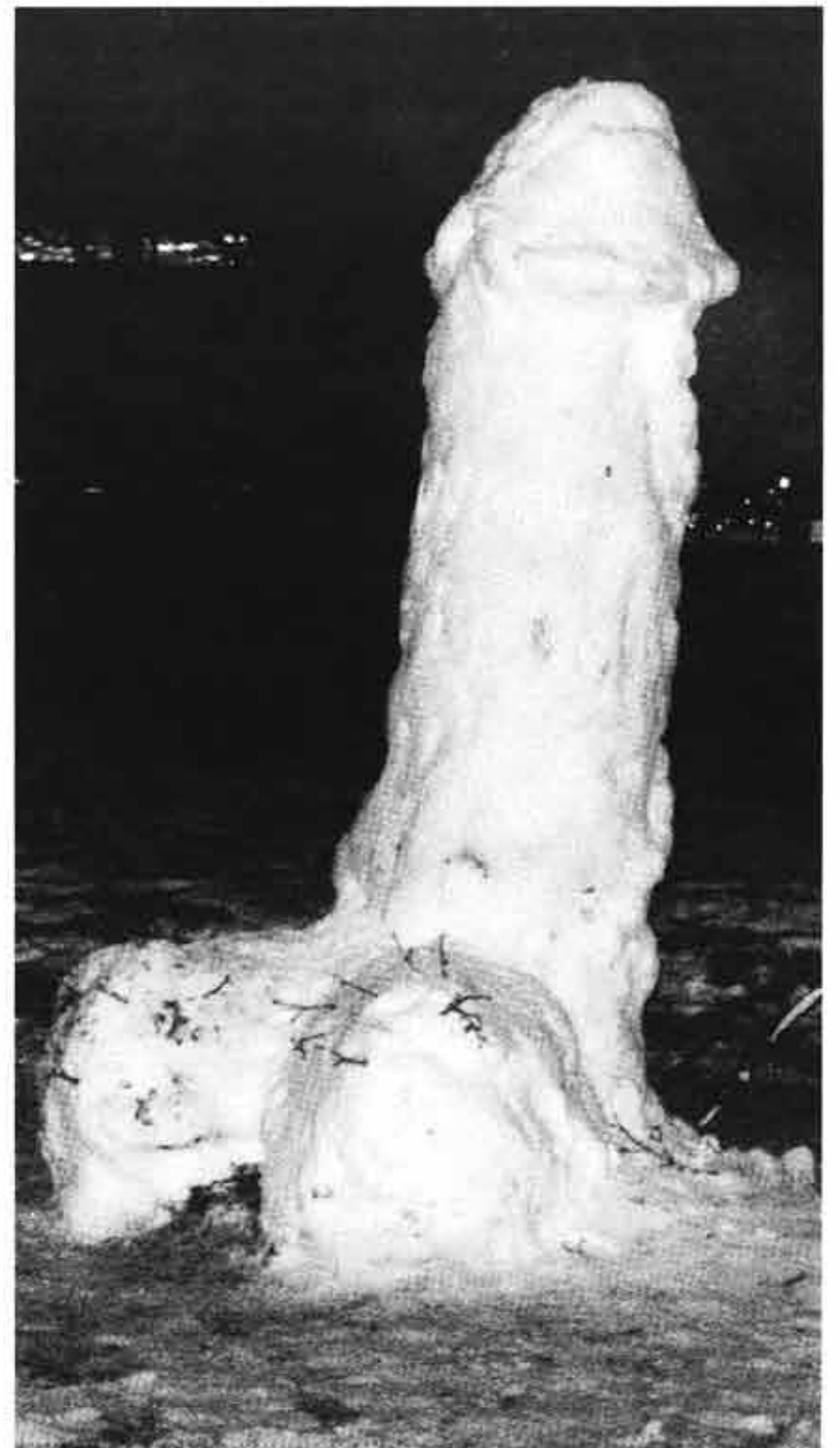
Content of the offending advertisement aside, I'm pissed off (pun intended) that there is an advertisement staring me in the face in a bathroom stall.

I've been informed that above the men's urinals are posters advertising the Terry Fox Foundation. God forbid that anything be implied about the penis when it's so vulnerable to intimations.

Whether it's urinals or stalls, I think that there should be one place on campus and in this entire advertising-obsessed world that I can avoid being told how I should feel about being a woman and particularly about how I should feel towards my vagina.

letters@cordweekly.com

Campus Pictorial



Carly Beath

Snow Schlong

It's the most wonderful time of year. The first significant snowfall comes and the requisite annual snow penis is erected on campus. This year's is a scarily realistic sculpture (note the twigs representing scrotum hair), though the size might be a little surreal. It's all in good fun, sure, but just once couldn't we see a giant snow vagina?

Essays and exams: out of the frying pan...

It's the end of the semester and we're a far cry from the carefree days of September - **Mark Ciesluk** wishes you good luck



MARK CIESLUK
Thus Spake the Wiseman

It's 10:30am on Thursday morning.

After four consecutive all-nighters, countless prayers and pleas to any almighty being that happened to be listening, this year's essay season died a gruesome death by my hands.

Upon that desk at the front of BA201, I piled the sum of all the general rage and frustration felt by my faculty from the graduate students on down.

And then, as if my chest had been a mortar, I gladly burst my hot heart's shell upon it by throw-

ing my paper down before collapsing, defeated yet victorious.

Though I was unconscious the second my heroic efforts were completed, I remained standing erect and was borne from the room by a stream of like-minded automatons, devoid of life or thought but nonetheless slowly shuffling towards freedom.

But as usual, freedom was snatched from my desperately searching fingers by the looming spectre of final examinations.

What cruel force thought to give rise to this sadistic concept? After focusing our attention on a single topic for weeks, once we'd forgotten everything else learned in the term, they're mandating a cumulative nightmare of a two hour death sentence in the sweltering AC?

Surrounded by the soft sobs of first-years watching their future flush down the toilet (because they were more interested in the hippie in 1E1 who never wore a bra than whatever the hell that grey-haired guy in the suit jacket was rambling about) is no honourable academic death for a man of humble designs.

It all seemed so simple a scant few months ago. Does anyone even remember September? I vaguely recall - as if through the sleep-like haze surrounding the best of dreams - sitting outside and smoking flavoured tobacco in the sun instead of going to Global Studies lectures.

We were without a care in the world except for where we would be drinking that night. We were flush

with OSAP and summer savings. We were confident that the tutorials we skipped on a daily basis really couldn't be that important. We were convinced that tomorrow would, and could, never come.

Unfortunately, reality has a way of whipping back to snap you in the eye, leaving you to blink through tears at an exam schedule that gives you four tests in five days.

If only I could take back just one of those days I spent too hung-over to move. If only I had just one more Friday night between me and the inevitable terminus of PO205 - at 9am, thank you very much scheduling office - I swear I'd stay in and study. If only I had cherished time instead of wasting it away on idle conversation and too much wine. If only ...

If only nothing! University was never about essays or exams; I'm here to enjoy my time. Enjoy I have, and enjoy I will. I refuse to admit to my mistakes, let alone learn from them, and I'm sure there are many out there who are in exactly the same boat.

To you, I can offer only the following succour: never stop rocking, never let them see you cry and never trust anyone over A-.

Good luck to you all. May God have mercy on your grades, because those equally-frustrated grad students sure won't.

letters@cordweekly.com

Signs of The Apocalypse in southwestern Ontario

Count the inability to stand in line and talking on the dance floor among them claims **Tanya Doroslovac**



TANYA DOROSLOVAC
Bigmouth Strikes Again

It has recently come to my attention that the world - and I believe that this is the correct technical term - has gone all crazy.

Riots, freakish weather, robot dogs that can pee, plagues ... all signs of The Apocalypse.

Luckily, nothing really seems to have affected us here in southwestern Ontario. Or has it?

My proof is contained in this rant about certifiably crazy things that happened on the weekend.

First of all, why don't people know how to stand in lines anymore?

I'm no expert in the science of queuing discipline, but the last time I checked, if you're waiting to get into a club in the wee hours of the morning, your entire group can't leave the line for forty five minutes to get some nachos from the place across the street unless you bring some back for me. With ground beef. That's just annoying.

Sassy line jumpers are a different story, though. If someone actually has the guts to walk straight through fifty people to the front of the line and act like he's been there the whole time, you have to give him a little respect. I mean, that guy's got the system beat. It's like he's in the Matrix or something.

The situation inside the club is even worse. Crowds of beautiful people! Lasers rockin' to a retro beat! People standing around, wasting valuable dance floor space in failed attempts to have intense conversation! Guess what? Go home and talk! When there are bubbles falling from the ceiling, conversation that is not expressed through gyration and limb movement is simply unacceptable.

A particularly stupid example of

this phenomenon occurred at the Mod Club last Saturday, when the go-go dancers gave up their spots to the common people. A few girls brought the house down Electric Circus style for a while, until their friends came up on stage to say hi, and those friends brought more friends, etc., the vicious cycle continuing until people were standing around talking on the stage. Where the go-go dancers are supposed to be.

What are you possibly talking about that is more relevant to the situation than the Killers song that's drowning you out? I mean I'm all in favour for intelligent, friendly conversation. But you know what's not intelligent, friendly conversation?

Margaret Atwood: Do you like my earrings?

Donna Haraway: Me too! That guy's cute!

Margaret: Thanks! I have to go pee!

Donna: What?

Margaret: I HAVE TO PEE!

Donna: ME TOO! THAT GUY'S CUTE!

Now I know what you're thinking. You're thinking, *Tanya, you're not actually a good dancer. I've seen you at Phil's. These people are doing you a favour by stopping you from dancing. So stop complaining.*

Well you know why I'm not a good dancer? Because I never get a chance to break it down properly without spilling Margaret Atwood's beer! Please, for all that is sacred and good in the world, give me some dance floor space. Those of us who want to shake our drunken booties are people too. Oh, and stand in line properly. I know it sounds communist, but it works.



Contributed Photo

GO GO DANCERS - If you're going to try and take her valuable spot onstage at a club, at least have the courtesy to shake your shit while you're up there.

Letters to the Editor

International Interaction

In the article, Marion Teboul speaks about the international students not getting to know a lot of Canadian friends. Being an international student myself, my experience is totally the opposite. I am not in the same residence as all the internationals and hardly know any of them. I have tons of Canadian friends and am learning a lot about the culture.

In the last three months, I have had a lot of Canadians telling me that they liked to really meet an international student, because normally they all cling together and nobody hardly gets any contact with them. I think this is a result of having the international students all together in the same residence and having events especially for internationals.

Don't get me wrong, the international office does so much good for all the international students, but they get less 'forced' to interact with Canadian students. At first I was sad I was not with the other international students in residence, because they are more or less in the same situation. Looking back at this at the end of the semester, I am happy I am in another residence. I am more involved in school events and have more Canadian friends than I could have expected.

Mya Wijbenga

Letter Policy:

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 12pm Tuesday on disk, or via e-mail at letters@cordweekly.com with the subject heading of 'Cord letter.' Letters must be typed or easily legible and may not exceed 350 words. The Cord reserves the right to edit any letter for brevity and clarity. Spelling and grammar will be corrected. 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.

letters@cordweekly.com



The Cord's Vanier Cup Special Edition, on newsstands:

Monday, December 5th

Do you yearn to rule Student Publications?

Then you are going to want to attend the
**Wilfrid Laurier University Student Publications
 Annual General Meeting**

**January 16th, 2006
 At 7:00PM in the Senate Board Chambers**

The annual general meeting is open to all WLU students.

Buses will be available for Brantford students who wish to attend. They will depart from the Carnegie Building at 5:30PM sharp. To reserve a seat contact Anthony Piscitelli at president@wlusp.com or at 519-884-0210 ext. 3565.

PROXY VOTES:

Proxy voting forms must be filled out and handed in by 12-noon on Thursday January 12th, 2006.

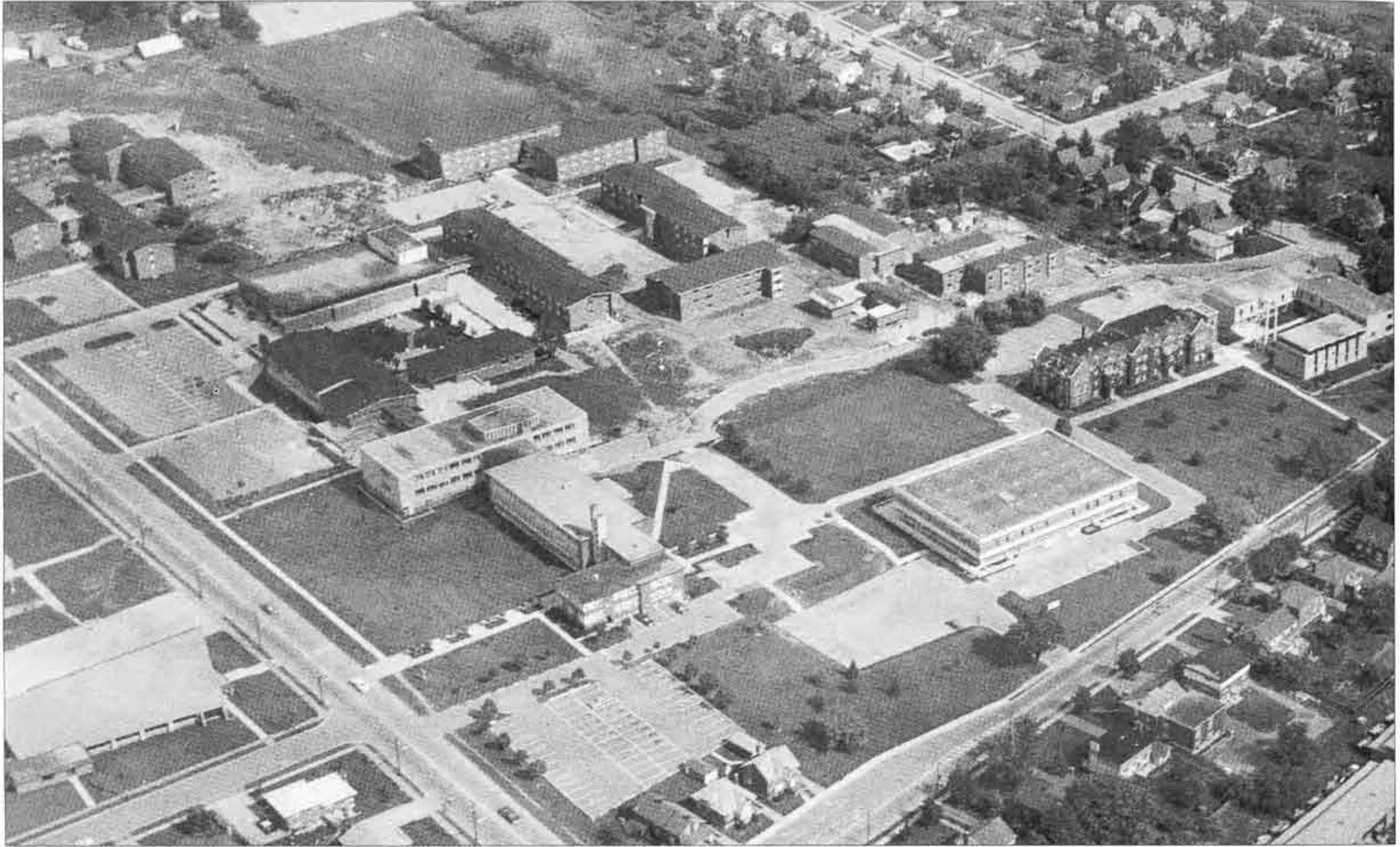
NOMINATION FORMS:

Nomination forms must be filled out and handed in by 12-noon on Monday January 9th, 2006.

Waterloo Students - Proxy voting and nomination forms are available from the WLUSP office located in the basement of Macdonald House.
Brantford Students - Proxy voting and nomination forms are available from Tracy Arabski's office (located in the Odeon Building room 102)

The Wonder Years: 1956-1966

In one whirlwind decade, *The Cord* became *The Cord Weekly* and Waterloo College became WLU - Waterloo Lutheran University. In the meantime, the paper struggled to understand the Cold War, comparing Fidel Castro to Abe Lincoln and lauding a good Russian education



FLEDGLING CAMPUS COMING OF AGE - The top photo, taken in 1966, shows the level of growth that had occurred at Waterloo Lutheran University from 1950-1965. The campus was beginning to assume its present-day character, although the original Willison Hall still remained. The photo was taken from the northwest corner of campus, with University Avenue traversing the bottom left and Albert Street on the bottom right. Below, students unveil the school's new mascot, The Hawk, which replaced The Mule, or as it was often referred to in *The Cord*, The Ass.

KRIS COTE
Cord Historian

In *The Cord Weekly's* fourth decade, the institution it now represents began taking shape.

Familiar names, including professor and current *Cord* contributor Don Morgenson, began to grace the pages of *The Cord*, while the sparse campus began to be built up.

Shinerama was created, and WLU's 'volunteer' atmosphere began to develop.

The school's mascot, The Mule, was traded in for The Hawk, chosen above the notable candidacy of The Nomads, Centipedes, Millipedes and Mobiles.

While Waterloo College gave birth to the University of Waterloo, *The Cord's* relative decline led to its subsequent merger with the *Waterloo College Newsweekly*.

Birth of *The Cord Weekly*

The Cord limped into its fourth decade of existence.

Its literary content had become increasingly trivial, while publication became increasingly infrequent.

In the fall semester of 1956, not a single issue was published.

Meanwhile, those in a position to resurrect the paper had all but given up on *The Cord*, and its editor from 1956-1957, John Colombro, mused that it no longer served a purpose to students.

The campus' other paper, the *Newsweekly*, continued to say that it better served the interests of students, and should receive more

funding at *The Cord's* expense (student publication fees were \$7.50, from which *The Cord* received more than half).

On January 18, 1957 the *Newsweekly* attacked *The Cord*, and called for "the *Cord* people [to] attempt at least to put forth a better publication, justifying the reputation it once had." On the other hand, a November 29, 1957 editorial noted that the *Newsweekly* had become "required reading."

In a bid to end *The Cord's* misery, in March 1958 the Board of Publications announced that students would be asked in the upcoming elections whether they supported a merger of the two publications.

For its part, the editors of *The Cord* placed blame for their failure on "apathy or lack of talent, we don't know which!"

The merger was approved, and the only task that remained was choosing a name for the new publication. The options included: *The Cord*, *The Weekly Cord*, *The Cord and Newsweekly* and *The Cord-Weekly*.

As it turns out, Volume 1, Number 1 of *The Cord Weekly* was published on November 7, 1958.

Sputnik and the Red scare

In November 1957, students were warned in an apocalyptic article that "Its cameras point earthward as the thing drifts over the cities of Canada. Its powerful radio sends back to the master controls complete information about our weather and military

defences."

Indeed, the Russian satellite *Sputnik* seemed to take students by surprise, and the *Newsweekly* represented the shock felt by many. The student publications began to look for answers to Russia's perceived advantage, with a unique student-focused twist.

The Cord Weekly examined the Russian university system, and concluded that it was superior to the Canadian university system in two regards.

First, it was focused on the pursuit of science, a preoccupation of North American post-war society. On December 19 1957, the *Newsweekly* criticized the state of Canadian engineering, and argued that while Russian students were smart enough to create satellites, North American students could only create "cars with monstrous tail fins and vertical grilles."

Secondly, university education

Hindsight, however, reveals that the bastard-child of Waterloo College, the University of Waterloo, would grow to eclipse 'the high school down the street.'

was financially accessible to all Russians. *The Cord* reported that students had their school paid for by the state, provided that they did not fail any classes.

This was contrasted by calls in *The Cord* and by student organizations for greater financial assistance to Canadian students. Indeed, *The Cord* launched a concerted campaign in support of the Canadian Union of Students program to have the income tax law amended so that students would receive a tax break.

Vive Cuba libre!

The Cuban Revolution also proved to be an infatuation of *The Cord*. It began its coverage of the revolution with a first-hand account of Cuba on January 29, 1959. "For the first time since her founding, Cuba is free," students were told.

A March 10, 1961 article attacked the American portrayal of Cuba, and accused the "free world" of withholding the truth. *The Cord* argued that "its people [cannot] know that the practice of the principles of free enterprise and investment by monopolies could reduce people like the Cubans to misery and poverty which made revolution necessary as the only way out."

Two weeks later on March 24, an article in *The Cord Weekly* called Fidel Castro the "Abe Lincoln" of Cuba and a "true people's hero."

Despite its support for Castro and Cuba, *The Cord Weekly* was never a radical student paper. Throughout this period it continued to espouse the superiority of democracy and capitalism, and whenever possible it sought to denigrate Russia and communism.

UW breaks away

In the booming post-war period, Waterloo College expanded on all fronts; new buildings were built, enrolment increased and new programs were created.

On February 24, 1956, the *Newsweekly* announced the creation of an all-new Junior College, which would offer degrees in

applied science and engineering. Both the administration and student publications were proud of this expansion, and the *Newsweekly* noted that "the building of this 'Junior College' will certainly make the name of Waterloo College prominent in the field of higher Canadian education."

Hindsight, however, reveals that the bastard-child of Waterloo College, the University of Waterloo, would grow to eclipse 'the high school down the street.'

On December 7, 1956 the *Newsweekly* revealed that the Department of Applied Science had officially been created, while on January 27, 1958 it was announced that 200 acres of land had been purchased for campus expansion.

Chemical and engineering buildings began construction, forming the pillars of the new University of Waterloo, which the *Newsweekly* bragged would be larger than the University of Western Ontario.

Also on January 27, the *Newsweekly* revealed that the Associate Faculties (the title which had been given to the engineering and applied science departments)

desired to form a 'University of Waterloo', whereby Waterloo College would be incorporated as the university's Arts Department.

Next year, on October 23, *The Cord* informed students that Waterloo College had split three ways: the Associate Faculties had incorporated as the University of Waterloo (UW), the Evangelical Lutheran Seminary of Canada (who had previously run the seminary) had incorporated as Waterloo Lutheran University but could only grant degrees in divinity, while the arts faculty of Waterloo College had become Waterloo University College. The latter was still affiliated with the University of Western Ontario, but this was set to expire in June 1960.

While relations between 'arts-men' and 'plumbers' (the term used in *The Cord* to refer to University of Waterloo engineering students), had never been good, the students of Waterloo College supported federation with the University of Waterloo.

Students were told that "the most probable course will be affiliation with the University of Waterloo." The October 23, 1959 issue of *The Cord Weekly* was even published under the University of Waterloo.

Students left for summer vacation in 1960 believing that they would return to be a part of the University of Waterloo.

So what went wrong? While *The Cord* provides a somewhat muddy account of what occurred, it appears that two factors caused the federation to collapse.

The Board of Directors of Waterloo College wanted to retain control over the proposed University of Waterloo faculty of arts, while the Board of Directors of the also sought this control. This disagreement seems to have been aggravated by personal rivalries. An 'ad hoc' committee from Waterloo College further confused things by submitting to the demands of the UW administration. This, however, was blocked by the Executive Committee of the Lutheran Synod of Canada.

While the official name of the school was now The University College of Waterloo Lutheran

University, in an act of defiance against the administration, *The Cord* was published instead under Waterloo University College.

Shinerama's humble beginnings

The Cord Weekly reported that throughout Waterloo, the call could be heard, "Let us shine your shoes for retarded children."

The current Shinerama campaign, which raises money for the Canadian Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, was created in 1961 by Paul Enns. Created as a freshman initiation, Enns partnered with the Esquire Shoe Polish Company to raise money for the Sunbeam Home for Retarded Children, which was located in Kitchener (this is curiously absent from the official WLUSU history of Shinerama).

The first campaign was a marked success, Enns had hoped to raise \$500, but instead WLU students helped shine his way to \$1358.

WLU students continued to shine shoes for the Sunbeam Home for Retarded Children for the following two years, raising \$3,466.38 and \$4,265.67 respectively. Cystic Fibrosis launched the national Shinerama campaign in 1964, though the tradition of "shining shoes for retarded children" persisted for several years at WLU.

The emergence of student politics

One of the most striking changes in *The Cord Weekly's* fourth decade was the rise in prominence of political issues. *The Cord* discussed and reported on politics on a campus, regional, national and international level as never before.

Student elections and mock parliaments were treated like the real deal, while prominent political figures, including Paul Martin and Tommy Douglas, visited the campus.

While Waterloo College prided itself on a lively campus club atmosphere in the mid-1950s, political clubs were officially banned from campus. In November 1958, *The Cord* reported that students were petitioning the administration to allow for political clubs to be formed. *The Cord* did not oppose the formation of mainstream political clubs, but it worried that their approval would create a slippery slope whereby radical groups could gain

"Although we in Canada enjoy political democracy, we do not yet have social democracy - namely the freedom from want and the freedom from fear."

- Tommy Douglas to WLU students, *The Cord Weekly*, December 1, 1961

access to the campus. In 1959, a non-partisan Politics Club was formed, and several years later this was followed by the introduction of Conservative, Liberal and NDP clubs.

Debate raged in the pages of



Photos courtesy of Wilfrid Laurier University Archives and Special Collections

SHINING SHOES - Freshette 'Drips' participate in the 1963 Shinerama campaign to raise funds for the Sunbeam Home for Retarded Children.

The Cord, which reflected the atmosphere on campus, over national issues such as Canadian defence and economic policy. *The Cord* dismissed the Avro Arrow as a waste of money and favoured nuclear weapons and the Bomarc missile defence system.

In October 1960 *The Cord* weighed in on the American elections, and urged students to support Nixon over Kennedy. This stance, however, was protested by several students whose letters denounced Nixon and espoused the virtues of Kennedy in the October 28, 1960 issue of *The Cord*.

The issue of racial segregation became a popular topic on campus, and *The Cord* warned in a January 31, 1958 editorial that the situation concerning civil rights in the US should concern all Canadians since, it was argued, as Canada grows it could use the example of the US as a model of what not to do.

Breaking from its past, *The Cord Weekly* became sensitive to minority rights and racial slurs, and it attacked then Immigration Minister, J.W. Pickersgill, for commenting that he did not want "West Indians coming to Canada to populate our slums."

In September 1962, an anti-discrimination league was formed on campus and they immediately took up the campaign of James Meredith, the first black student to attend the University of Mississippi.

A protest was held on campus, and an effigy of Mississippi Governor Ross Barnett was created

and ritually burned. While supportive of the anti-discrimination league, *The Cord* lashed out at the protesters, arguing that "they didn't stop to consider that they were acting and reacting in the same manner as those whom they were demonstrating against."

Rebranding WLU

Having supported federation with the University of Waterloo, *The Cord* expressed disappointment over Waterloo College's union with Waterloo Lutheran University.

Throughout the decade, it remained hostile to the college's actual name, and fought against naming the newly-built student union building after the new WLU moniker.

However, while it had previously bragged that the University of Waterloo would be larger than Western, and therefore better, *The Cord* reverted back to its traditional argument that despite its smaller size, the school was just as good as any larger one.

Since the school was still a denominational institution, it did not qualify for provincial funding. While *The Cord* had previously used this as a supporting point for federating with the University of Waterloo, after the fallout this point was spun so that WLU appeared to be more democratic than UW. Provincial funding, *The Cord* argued, meant government control, and without this funding WLU was therefore more democratic.

At the same time, WLU began to grow. Enrolment rose, numerous buildings were built, and the Faculty of Fine Arts was created. By 1961, *The Cord's* circulation stood at 1,000.

The Cord Weekly

UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO, WATERLOO, ONTARIO

October 23, 1959

MASS CONFUSION - Published under the University of Waterloo, this issue of *The Cord* shows the confusion which surrounded the break-up between the two schools.



Stephen Pat

JEFFRIES' 12 DISCIPLES - Somewhere amongst this levitating Hawks squad, there are 12 fifth-year players that are getting ready for their final game in purple and gold on Saturday.

The end of an era

As the biggest game of their lives looms just three days away, Laurier's impressive class of graduating seniors sat down with **Sports Editor Mike Brown** to discuss the unforgettable ride that has been their last five years, from off-field turmoil to on-field success

MIKE BROWN
Sports Editor

Welcome to Laurier football. For the next five years, this is your life.

It will be the basis of your strongest friendships. It will entail a massive time commitment. It will adversely affect your academic standing, but it will also form a cornerstone of your identity. It will be the vehicle for your greatest achievements and will inform other students' opinions of you, for better or for worse.

Though probably never laid out in such explicit terms, that was essentially the invitation extended to the twelve most senior members of Wilfrid Laurier's illustrious football program five years ago.

In this weekend's Vanier Cup, the swan song for the fifth-year Hawks, they have a unique opportunity to end their university careers with a national title. And the significance of that chance is not lost on defensive tackle Kyle Armour. "This is it," he explained. "This is what we've been working like five years for."

"I just know it's my last game," noted defensive lineman Adrian Houwer. "I've got the rest of my life to recover, so I'm going to be playing balls to the wall, you know, like a bat out of hell."

Entering this weekend's battle with Saskatchewan, the Hawks' program is clearly flying high, but

things haven't been always been so peachy. These veterans watched their squad struggle through two frustrating seasons.

They lost their coaches to a the WLUSA strike, their quarterback Ryan Pyear to injury, and a number of tight contests to top it off.

But after the hiring of current Head Coach Gary Jeffries in 2003, things were looking up. Laurier quickly put together a surprise 6-2 season and upset Queen's to make a surprise Yates Cup appearance.

Shortly after the season ended, though, the off-field legal troubles of three starters, including stand-out running back Derek Medler, hit the news and a black cloud fell over the program.

Departing fullback Bryon Hickey and his teammates were pretty upset by it all. "All that off-season stuff - that was the lowest of the low, definitely," Hickey explained, while twirling a pigskin in his Hemlock St. living room, adorned fittingly in full Laurier sweats with a purple Hawk emblazoned in his bleached blond hair.

Long-time roommate (as Hickey jokes, the duo's been living together long enough to be considered common-law) and Laurier slotback Andrew Agro, similarly suited in WLU swag, says the team never doubted their ability to handle the adversity.

"It was pretty easy to move forward because we knew that it was-

n't the whole team," the slight receiver explained. "It didn't reflect the whole team, it didn't reflect the program. It was just two or three guys making the wrong choice."

Things have certainly come together ever since, with the Hawks posting back-to-back undefeated seasons and making the school's first Vanier Cup appearance since 1991. More importantly, though, the players have made changing the team's image a priority.

"Five years ago, [the reaction to the football players] used to be 'Oh, so you're the kind of guy who parties all the time, doesn't go to school, you know, is an asshole to girls,'" commented graduating wide receiver Mike Maurice. "And that's a style that over the past five years has completely switched."

The on-field success probably hasn't hurt, and the players have remained single-minded in their on-field focus. "Before the season started, I took last year's Yates Cup ring off and put it in my jewelry box and it's stayed there ever since," explains full safety Jeff Smeaton. "I'll have plenty of time to wear that later, but right now I'm focused on this season."

Smeaton has added motivation to win it all this year, after turning down an acceptance to the Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College in order return for his final year of eligibility. "Now, looking at

it, it was a great choice," he beams, while trying to ignore running back Nick Cameron's snide questioning of why he owns a jewelry box (it was a gift from his grandmother, Smeaton assures us).

Even if they hadn't taken their game to another level, however, most of the fifth-years were in no rush to leave their Laurier days behind, due to the unparalleled camaraderie on their team.

Kicker Brian Devlin, who played his first two years on an athletic scholarship at Simon Fraser University, was grateful for the chance to start over after a disappointing university experience out West. Arriving at WLU, his experience "changed on the field and off the field as well, both very positive," said the reserved Sarnia native.

"I'm definitely going to miss just being around the guys," reflects 320-pound offensive lineman Mitch Zappitelli. Cameron agreed. "I often go to practice an hour or two early to just hang with the guys in the therapy room and shoot the shit," he said in between pleas for a spinal readjustment from Smeaton.

Cameron's not the only one beleaguered these days, as the OUA champions struggle to catch up academically. "I think a lot of professors don't understand how big of a commitment it is," noted two-time All-Canadian halfback Ian Logan. "Some are not always

that kind to give extensions, or to give any help at all."

Seven Hawks have the added burden of submitting teacher's college applications on time and many of the guys are compiling tapes to send CFL recruiters. Others intend to head overseas to continue playing.

Zappitelli and Agro are hoping to play together while discovering their roots in Italy, while Pyear tries his hand doing play-calling in another language at the helm of a French premier league team starting in January. Eventually, he hopes to pursue a career in the air force, but will first have to appeal a decision that rendered him ineligible due to, of all things, a peanut allergy.

Meanwhile, Maurice is bound for Australia with long-time girlfriend Laura Horner of the women's volleyball team and, as for offensive lineman Erkki Salo, he's getting sick of being asked what's next. "My mom and my girlfriend have been asking me that a lot," he sighs. "I just want to take some time and relax for a bit."

But whether they're playing football in Europe, suiting up for the BC Lions or prepping to teach high school Phys. Ed., these 12 will be forever linked by this historic season, and for now, they intend to cherish their last three days as teammates.

Volleyball Hawks plough over Guelph

MARK D. HOPKINS
Sports Writer

"Gold is our goal," declared Laurier Head Coach Dave McIntyre, minutes after the Golden Hawks women's volleyball squad decisively downed the visiting Guelph Gryphons in straight sets (25-14, 25-17 and 25-15) on Saturday afternoon.

The win marks the third in a row for the ladies, who have rebounded from a lacklustre 2-3 start to the 2005-06 campaign. Laurier now sits third in the OUA West with a record of 5-3.

The Hawks are looking to plough their way deep into the OUA playoffs for a second consecutive year. The team was able to battle their way into the gold medal game last year but settled for silver, bowing out to the rival Western Mustangs.

While McIntyre was happy with the victory, he realizes the team has to continuously improve to get to the level they were at last season. "We're making strides with defence," he noted, "but a lot of our success rides on our serve-ceive."

With the game well in hand and Laurier leading 16-6 in the third set, McIntyre attempted to give a few rookies some floor time. It didn't work as planned, as the Gryphons fought back and the Hawks' bench boss was forced to substitute his starting unit back into the game. "[I] tried to get some players in; it didn't quite



Jordan Jooce

GET 'EM HIGH - Kanye ain't never told us to put down our hands and the Lady Hawks had plenty of reason to keep 'em up, ploughing over Guelph.

work out," McIntyre offered. "I thought the veterans we left out there let us down a little bit."

Additionally, it was interesting to observe the opposing coaches on the sidelines. Guelph Head Coach Paul Funk was extremely animated, jumping around after

plays while pacing the perimeter of the court. Perhaps he should have placed some of that energy into drawing up some plays for the 1-7 Gryphons to remove them from their current funk.

A contrasting approach was evident with McIntyre on the Laurier

bench, as he kept his emotions in check while calling plays and conversing with his team. When questioned about his coaching style, McIntyre was quick to ensure that he is not as laid back as it may appear, saying, "[the style is] fairly intense, but maybe just shown in a

different way."

Despite not playing to their potential, the Hawks sport a respectable 5-3 record thus far. The ladies host the second-place McMaster Marauders on December 2 prior to breaking for the holidays.

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Ladies finally lose

Despite loss, hockey Hawks retain command of OUA

VIVEK SARMA
Cord Sports

The Wilfrid Laurier Golden Hawks netted a 2-0 win over Queen's in women's hockey on Sunday night, led by a strong defensive effort and a solid showing between the pipes by Morgan Wielgosz.

The Hawks controlled the flow of the game early, creating solid scoring opportunities and quickly notching their first goal at 3:29 of the first period. Second-year sniper Samantha Cully deposited the goal on a lovely pass in the slot from rookie defender Vanessa Bennett.

Queen's was slow out of the gates, but did eventually quicken the pace of the game, registering a few shots in the first period. It was clear, however, that Laurier was much too powerful, and if not for the play of Queen's netminder Claire Hunt, the Hawks would have blown the game wide open.

The second period started much the same way, with Laurier controlling the play thanks to an early power play. The Hawks took a 2-0 advantage 49 seconds into the middle frame on a goal by

Fiona Aiston. The third-year forward jammed a loose puck home with the Queen's goalie sprawled badly out of position.

From that point onward, Laurier played solid team defence and, with the help of championship-calibre goaltending, were able to shut the door on a talented Queen's squad.

The win was a welcome sign after a surprising loss to York on Saturday night. The 2-1 defeat at the hands of a rather mediocre York side was the first in Laurier's season and snapped a 27 game winning streak dating back to last year's CIS championship season.

The Lady Hawks still sit comfortably atop the OUA with 22 points at 11-1, six points ahead of their closest competitors from Guelph. With half of their regular season complete, Laurier is on pace for another OUA banner and a showing at the CIS championships in the winter.

Be sure to keep a careful eye on the Lady Hawks' quest for an OUA three-peat, as they've been overshadowed by the success of the men's football team of late.

An open letter to Wilfrid Laurier football fans

The Saskatchewan Huskies' football correspondent is so confident about his school's chances in Saturday's Vanier that he's decided to blatantly mock WLU fans



Dear Wilfrid Laurier,

I want to take this opportunity to congratulate you on making this year's Vanier Cup.

What a season, eh? 11-0 is impressive; you even managed to beat Acadia and become the first team from Ontario to make it to the national final in over ten years. Wow. Kudos to you my friends.

You're a very formidable opponent and, from all estimates, a great school. I hear you have a fantastic optometry program and finished first among comprehensive universities in this year's *Maclean's* rankings.

Oh, wait, that was the University of Waterloo (I get you guys mixed up all the time). I see that Wilfrid Laurier dropped five places in those same rankings. Hey, not to worry, you're still the second best university in Waterloo.

However, this letter is also to regretfully inform you of your upcoming loss to the University of Saskatchewan Huskies. I'm really sorry.

You have a great team, there's no denying that. Your quarterback, Ryan Pyear, is incredible from what I hear. I mean, our quarterback, Steve Bilan, holds the record

for the most touchdown passes in a single season, but Pyear will probably be better than average in a few years.

Not to mention your coach, Gary Jeffries. I hear he's really motivated his players this season. And you can really tell they're motivated. Did you know that your team is second only to the UBC Thunderbirds in ass pats per game?

Our coach, Brian Towriss, is noooooo Jeffries. I mean, he's coached the team for 22 seasons, won seven Hardy Cups, four Churchill Bowls, an Atlantic Bowl, three Mitchell Bowls and three Vanier Cups (I think there's even a street named after him) but, like I said, he's no Jeffries.

For your own safety, I should probably warn you about Ryan Gottselig. He's really not as mean as he looks and though he's sure to sack your quarterback five or six times, he doesn't hate him.

Our running back, David Stevens, is a Hec Creighton nominee and averaged almost two touchdowns per game this season, but, wow, I saw your running back, Nick Cameron, on television the other day, and he's a very nice person and very well spoken.

For your own safety, I should probably warn you about Ryan Gottselig, one of our defensive linemen. He's really not as mean as he looks and though he's sure to sack your quarterback five or six times, he doesn't hate him. Trust me.

I should also warn you to not stare too hard at Huskies' receiver Leighton Heron when he catches his third touchdown pass of the game next weekend. He only has nine and half fingers and displays the missing half-finger on a neck-lace. Kinda gross if you ask me. He cut it off in front of the Laval players last week just to intimidate them.

I hear you have a lot of great fans at Wilfrid Laurier and that they'll party through the most bitter, heart-wrenching disappointments and losses. I understand you celebrated that one-win season in 2002 like it were an undefeated year. Kudos.

Again, I apologize in advance for the tough, blowout loss next weekend. You had a great season. Second place is something to be proud of. Congratulations.

David C. Schumacher covers football for the University of Saskatchewan's newspaper, The Sheaf.

GOLDEN HAWK UPDATE

Week of
Nov 28 - Dec 4, 2005

RECENT SCORES	UPCOMING HOME GAMES
<p>11/23/05 W Volleyball 3, Waterloo 1 M Volleyball 3, Waterloo 0</p> <p>11/25/05 W Basketball 71, Lakehead 48 M Basketball 67, Lakehead 72 M Hockey 3, Concordia 3</p> <p>11/26/05 W Basketball 63, Lakehead 65 M Basketball 71, Lakehead 75 W Hockey 1, York 2 M Hockey 3, UQTR 5 W Volleyball 3, Guelph 0</p> <p>11/27/05 W Hockey 2, Queen's 0</p>	<p>12/01/05 M Hockey vs Guelph 7:30 PM, Waterloo Rec Complex</p> <p>12/02/05 W/M Volleyball vs McMaster 6:00/8:00 PM, Athletic Complex</p> <p>12/02/05 W Hockey vs Rob Morris 7:30 PM, Waterloo Rec Complex</p>

LAURIER BOOKSTORE
ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

Richard Colwill
Men's Hockey

Danielle Walker
Women's Volleyball

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CALL FOR COMMENTS

Search Committee for the Dean of Graduate Studies

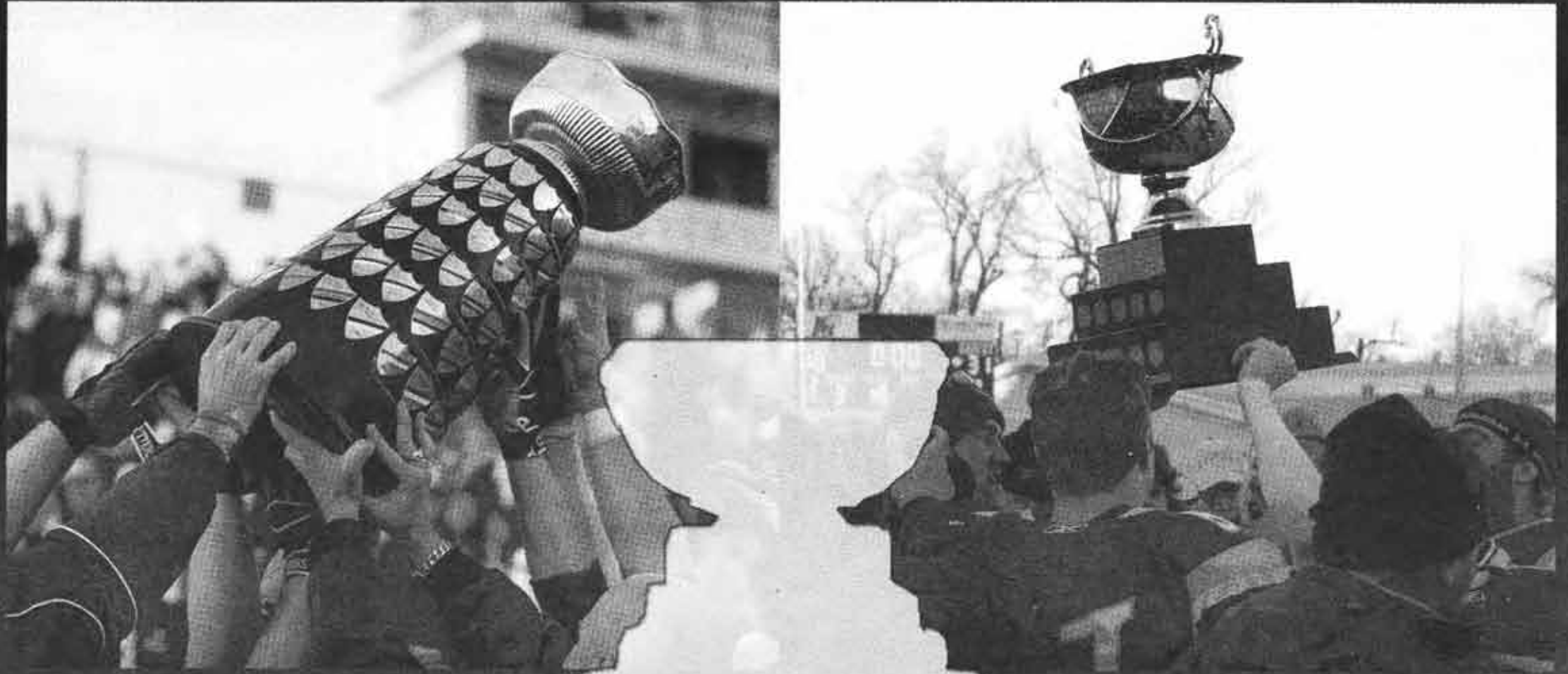
In accord with University procedures, a search is underway for the new position of Dean of Graduate Studies to serve a five-year term to start by July 1, 2006.

Submissions are invited from the University community on issues that should be considered during the search process. As well, the Committee is interested in receiving nominations of individuals whom the committee should consider. A copy of the position description can be obtained from http://www.wlu.ca/documents/8423/SAPC_rpt_to_Senate_Sept_20_05.pdf. Submissions (in writing or by e-mail) should be sent to Debbie Thayer, Secretary of the Committee (dthayer@wlu.ca). It would be most helpful to the Committee to have your comments by **4:30 p.m., December 6, 2005**, so that the Committee may discuss them at its next meeting; however, all comments will be accepted by December 31, 2005. All submissions considered by the Committee will be regarded as confidential. You may request to remain anonymous to the members of the Committee. The Committee Secretary should receive comments that indicate who the commentator is and she will delete names of those who wish to be anonymous before the comments reach the Committee.

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Australian man to be hanged

Van Tuong Nguyen faces death penalty after three years in Singapore prison

TONY FERGUSON
International Editor

Singapore's chief executioner has high hopes for his next job. Claiming he was sacked after he spoke with the Australian media, he is still expecting to carry out the execution of a 25-year-old Australian man.

Vietnamese-born Van Tuong Nguyen, now from Melbourne, was convicted of drug trafficking and is sentenced to die by hanging this Friday in Singapore.

Darshan Singh has carried out many executions throughout his 48-year career, which came to an end last Sunday after he was sacked by prison authorities and would not be needed for any further executions.

Singh claims that his experience will allow him to conduct the execution more efficiently and painlessly, whereas someone with little experience might make mistakes and cause suffering.

"With me, they [the prisoners] don't struggle. I know the real way," he said in an interview with Reuters.

According to Singapore's prison department, Singh has not been let go and is still a contract officer. It did not say who would perform Nguyen's execution.

Nguyen was arrested three years ago at Singapore Airport as he was about to board a flight to Australia to deliver almost 400 grams of heroin to a Sydney drug syndicate.

Now sitting on death row at Changi Prison, he is visited almost daily by family members and friends as the grim day quickly approaches.



Contributed Photo

OFFERING A HAND - Australia's Victoria State Attorney-General Rob Hulls reaches out to Nguyen's father Khoa while his mother, Kim, weeps at the Australian High Commission on November 24, 2005 in Singapore.

Nguyen's mother's anguish was visible as she visited her son on Sunday when she was helped out of an Australian High Commission car and slowly shuffled towards the building.

"With me, they don't struggle. I know the real way"

- Darshan Singh, Executioner

His lawyer, Lex Lasry, commented on Nguyen's courage and composure as his death approaches.

"He's composed and although I wouldn't say he's not frightened, he is showing incredible fortitude," said Mr. Lasry.

"You are talking about the life of one drug trafficker. But what about the thousands who suffer because of the drugs?" said Singh, a supporter of the government's anti-drug laws. In Singapore, anyone over 18 who is convicted of possessing more than 15 grams of heroin receives a mandatory death sentence.

Singh swears by hanging, saying

Singapore should continue to use this method of execution rather than switching to other means.

"With hanging, many of them can still do good by donating their organs. Part of them will continue to live on. But with lethal injection, none of their organs can be used," he said.

Singh said that the most difficult part of his job was when he worked with condemned prisoners as a prison officer in the 1960s. After befriending some of the inmates he worked with, he was still forced to perform their execution.

"They became my friends and wanted me to hang them," he said. "One of the fellows even asked me to give him his final haircut."

If the execution does take place on Friday as planned, it will likely follow Singh's usual routine. The hanging takes place at 6:00am before the sun has risen and is witnessed by as many as seven people. The victim's family is not included in the event.

Lasry pressured authorities yesterday to allow Nguyen to hug his mother before being put to death. There is no word yet on whether this restriction will be relaxed.

Kenyan constitution rejected

Voters waiting for a constitution to address corruption dismiss the latest draft

MARY ERSKINE
Cord International

Unrest in Kenya continues to grow following a recent referendum regarding the implementation of a new constitution.

The constitution failed last week and the Kenyan cabinet was later dissolved.

Public opinion in the country has been in strong support of a new constitution for over 15 years due to alleged nepotism and corruption resulting from centralized presidential powers.

Even so, 57 percent of Kenyan voters rejected President Mwai Kibaki's draft constitution, which (among other things) maintained presidential executive powers.

Kibaki, 74, blamed his peers for misadvising him on issues regarding the constitution and subsequently shocked the nation by dissolving cabinet a day after the failed referendum.

Kibaki announced this past Wednesday that "in exercise of the powers conferred by section 59 (1) of the constitution of Kenya, I pro-

rogue Parliament with effect from the 25th of November."

Reaction to the move is mixed within Kenya. However, many political analysts are predicting a fresh start for the president and his governance.

57 percent of Kenyan voters rejected President Mwai Kibaki's draft constitution which maintains presidential executive powers

"I'm hoping [the dissolution of cabinet] means the president is ready to consult widely and let go some of the ministers who marred his name and his image," said Maina Kiai, chairman of the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights.

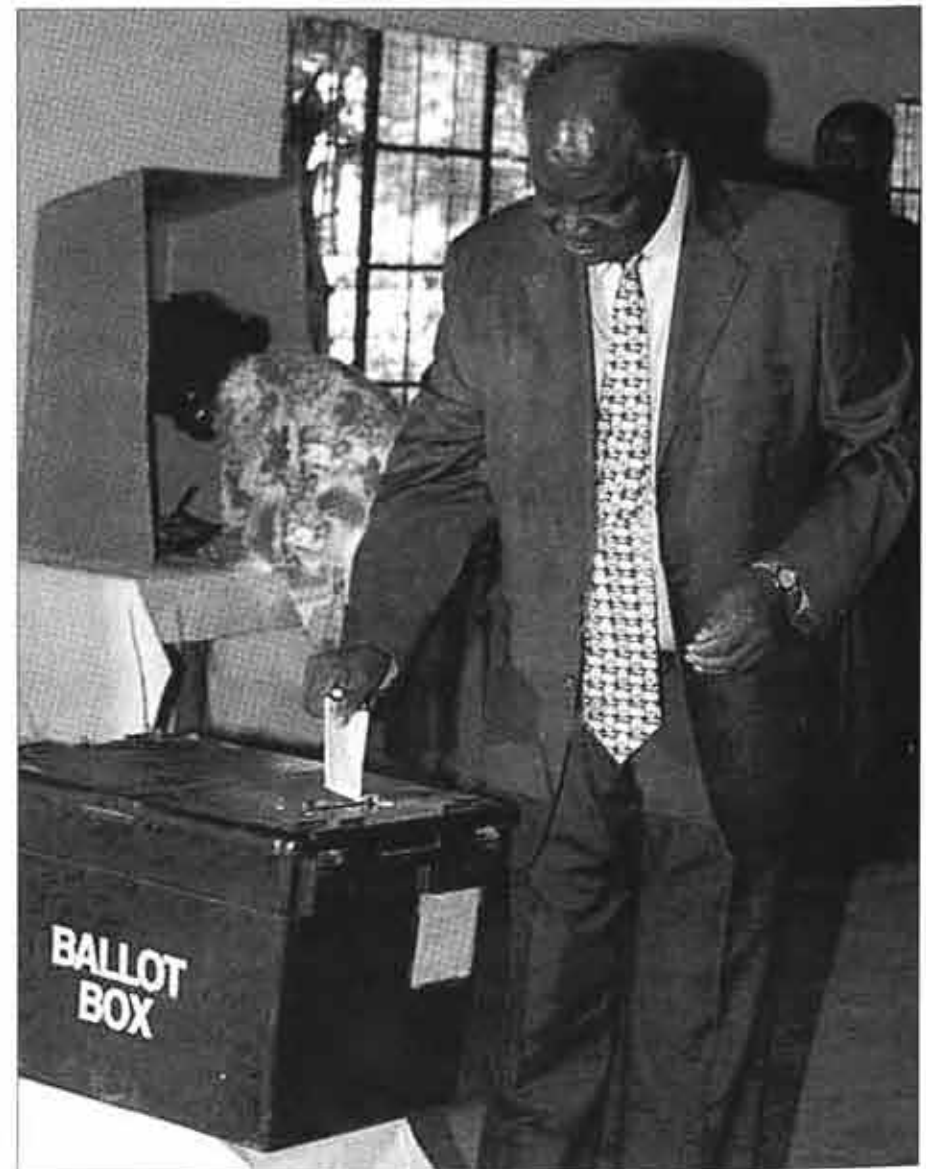
Events to date, particularly the dissolution of the parliament, suggest an election will be held in the middle of Kibaki's current term as president. There are also growing calls from opposition to hold a 'snap' election following the

recent results of the referendum.

These issues are not exclusive to the inner workings of government, as protests and rallies have begun to spring up in front of the parliament buildings in Nairobi.

One such gathering boasted over 10,000 in attendance at the nation's capital. A government statement issued this past Sunday indicated "the government will not allow the planned rallies ... what Kenyans need is time for reflection to allow for sober consultations on the constitution."

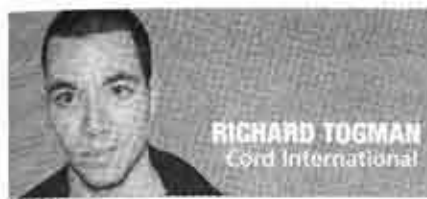
Vice-President Moody Awori further emphasized the government's stance on the protests by stating that they would be a "threat to national security," and he maintains that although the proposed constitutional reforms failed, this is no reason to call for an imminent election.



Contributed Photo

BACK TO THE DRAFTING BOARD - Mwai Kibaki casts his vote on the draft constitution that would have allowed him to maintain executive powers.

Religious right losing traction



RICHARD TOGMAN
Cord International

A series of political earthquakes have rocked Israel this past month, and the changes to its political landscape could dramatically alter the Middle Eastern scenery in the foreseeable future.

The first seismic shift occurred during the leadership race for the Israeli Labour party, which is the main rival of the governing party, Likud.

Labour ousted Shimon Peres, their long time leader and dinosaur of Israeli politics. Peres is among the last remnants of the pioneers who helped found the state of Israel in 1948. His replacement at the helm of the Labour movement is the relatively young and energetic union leader Amir Peretz.

Earlier in the year, Peres formed a coalition government with the Likud party to help it push through the disengagement from Gaza. This enabled Likud to fend off attacks from its right wing, which consists of religious nationalists who opposed the withdrawal.

However, with the leadership change, Peretz stated that Labour will sever its coalition with Likud and withdraw from the government to act as the main opposition. With the completion of the departure from Gaza, Peretz sees no further reason for Labour to ally itself with Likud.

The Labour move sent the government into crisis as it was no longer able to command the allegiance of parliament. Accordingly, preparations for a national election began and the political maneuvering was initiated.

The second major shock was Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's move to abandon the party that he helped create and start a new party which would be called Kadima.

Sharon was institutional in the creation of Likud in 1973. It was formed with a right wing, religious ideology that called for the return of the biblical land of Israel to Jewish control. He was a strong supporter of the movement until he began dismantling the party's roots with his pullout from Gaza. Sharon received harsh condemnations and death threats from the fanatic right, who saw his move as a betrayal of the ideological principles he helped establish.

Now he has effectively signed the death warrant of his own party with his creation of a new party which would follow a moderate, centrist stance and continue negotiations with the Palestinians.

These two major events may spark a dramatic shift in the political infrastructure of the Israeli establishment. The installment of Peretz as head of Labour heralds a more feisty and provocative era for the Labour movement, who have been essentially dormant of late.

A young and energetic leader is sure to effectively advocate the popular left-leaning policies of the party. Moreover, the move of Sharon to the left and the effective destruction of Likud as a major force in Israeli politics may shift the sands under the religious right that has exerted so much pressure for so long.

With a general election to be held in the New Year, we may see a dramatic shift leftwards in Israeli policy as years of intifada and reprisals have tired the Israeli populace of the aggressive and unrepresentative policies of the religious right.

Due to the proportional representative electoral system that the Israelis have adopted, the government is in a perpetual state of coalition government, which consists of multiple parties in each coalition.

Also, due to the fractious nature of Israeli politics, these coalitions are often fragile. In recent years, this has led to the dominance of fringe groups within Likud to dominate policy as they threaten to abandon the coalition if they are not appeased.

With the increasing support of Labour and the move of Sharon and his followers to the left, the religious right seems to be on the verge of losing power. The Israeli mainstream, which is more liberal than its current government would suggest, may exert itself and regain power.

This is sure to have dramatic consequences for the Middle East as relations with the Palestinians may improve under a liberal Israeli government.

With the Palestinian elections in progress, a viable and representative Palestinian government may emerge, which could act as an effective negotiating partner with the Israelis. These events may lead to the re-energization of peace talks between the warring parties.

letters@cordweekly.com



Contributed Photo

SO LONG LIKUD - Israel's newly elected Labour Party leader Amir Peretz campaigns at the Karmel market on November 25, 2005.



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'Tis better to give sex toys than to receive

Santa isn't the only one with toys in his sack; pick up some good vibrations from the Stag Shop for that special someone this holiday season



MICHELLE PINCHEV
Student Life Editor

Sex toys might not be at the top of everyone's Christmas list, but they're growing in popularity.

These days, women are becoming more open to do-it-yourself projects. Even couples are discovering that Santa isn't the only one who keeps toys in the sack.

Sex toys come in all shapes, colours and sizes. While vibrators and dildos usually come to mind first, they only make up a segment of the sex toy industry. There are an assortment of toys that cater to the sexual needs of both men and women of any orientation. Some men's toys include blow-up dolls, sleeves, vibrating rings that stimulate and maintain erection and even simulated female parts that are made to look as real as possible.

Still, vibrators remain the most popular. Perhaps it is because there is such a diverse range of vibrators available that people find them so intriguing. Whatever the reason, all kinds of people are

picking up good vibrations.

If you're open to picking up one of these bad boys, there are a few considerations to make:

If it's a gift, make sure the person you're buying the sex toy for is either very open-minded or has a good sense of humour. Obviously, artificial female parts aren't an appropriate gift for your professor, family doctor or chaplain.

Toys come in any price range. While the higher-end models can cost as much as \$200, you can pick up a decent one for under \$30. I would assume the more expensive ones are reserved for dildo aficionados who are looking for the ultimate thrill.

I'm no vibrator connoisseur, so I went to the Stag Shop in Toronto (there's one here in Waterloo on King St. as well) to get a crash course from their friendly staff. Clearly a toy enthusiast, the salesperson let me in on some trade secrets.

For beginners, sex guru Sue Johanson's line is highly recommended; in particular, a teal blue, waterproof vibrator called the "Royal Servant" is said to be fool proof.

Things to consider when looking to buy a quality vibrator

include brand name (they recommend anything from California Exotic Novelties), price, style and size. Is length or girth more important to you? Do you want your toy to be realistic or toy-like and inconspicuous?

As a total novice, the line "My First Vibe" initially attracted my attention. These toys were small and came in ultra-girly pastel colours. But I was assured that these were "for 14-year-olds."

While I've heard of "doggy-style," the expression "rabbit-style" was entirely unfamiliar to me. Made famous by *Sex and the City*, the "Rabbit" is one of the industry's most popular brands and now refers to an entire category of vibrators.

The original "Rabbit Habit" from the show stimulates the clitoris, has a rotating shaft that works on the G-spot and pearls that massage the vagina's sensitive opening, making it a triple threat.

A "rabbit-style" toy now refers to any triple-threat toy that has an extension in addition to the shaft, so it vibrates on the clitoris and the vagina simultaneously.

These are obviously the most advanced toys out there right now.

Once again, it all depends on what you're looking for. You have to decide if G-spot or clitoral stimulation is more important. The Stag Shop's staff also pointed out that a couple might find an extremely large model "intimidating."

If what you're looking for is more of a joke or a casual gift and you're not looking to spend a lot of money, there is an extremely inexpensive line called "Sabotage Sex Toys", which is great for stuffing stockings. Secret Santa presents and gifts for friends with a sense of humour. The "Micro Men" guard and chef toys are sold for under \$10 and, at a glance, you wouldn't be able to tell them apart from a pair of salt and pepper shakers.

When I went to the Stag Shop, I expected to see more phallic toys. The ones that looked more like an actual penis in shape and colour were the ones that instantly caught my attention. But I was surprised that most of the vibrators, particularly the ones recommended by the staff, more closely resembled something you'd find in a happy meal than actual body parts.

The salesperson explained that the trend in sex toys is now moving away from "the real deal" toward a

more toy-like appearance. That way when unexpected visitors drop by or when the kids get into mom's bedside drawer, they won't come face to face with a silicone penis.

Some of those toys, particularly the Sabotage line, are so cleverly concealed that you'd glance right past them and not look twice. From the \$15 dollar aqua sponge to something called "I Can't Believe It's Not Lipstick," these toys are cheap, funny, small and completely inconspicuous.

While newer vibrators are being made to look more fun and less obvious, you shouldn't feel like toys are anything to be ashamed or uncomfortable about.

But remember ladies, while a vibrator is a good supplement, it doesn't replace the companionship of a real partner. A vibrator won't cuddle with you at night or take you out for dinner, and you most certainly can't introduce your vibrator to mom and dad.

letters@cordweekly.com

Eight ways to beat stress this December

JENNIFER O'NEILL
Body Break

We've all been too busy to eat, sleep or do anything but study.

Roommates become more annoying and you secretly plot against the friend who has no exams and keeps pressuring you to go out. In times like these, being able to deal with your stress is the key to surviving the holiday season.

Ask for help. If something doesn't make sense, don't sit staring at your page for an hour hoping the answer will come to you by divine intervention. Although miracles do happen during the holiday season, don't plan for anything miraculous the night before

an exam. Try studying early so if you have any questions you will have time to talk to your prof. Start a study group with others in your class; chances are someone will have the answer to your question.

Prioritize your time. Create two lists: one list of the things that you need to do and another of all the fun things that you want to do. Create a third list mixing the needs with the wants. Making time to have a little fun will keep you from feeling overwhelmed.

Avoid caffeine. I know avoiding coffee over exams is like avoiding turkey with Christmas dinner, but caffeinated foods such as coffee, tea, soda and chocolate are not going to help manage stress. Experts say eating an apple will

give you just as much energy as a cup of coffee. Choose foods rich in calcium and magnesium as these two minerals can help relax muscle fibres.

Don't procrastinate. University students are a breed that excels in procrastination. However, leaving things to the last minute is only going to cause you more stress. It's true what they say: doing something is never as bad as thinking about doing it. Take larger jobs and divide them into smaller ones. The task will seem more manageable and doing a little bit at a time will stop you from being left with last minute rushes.

Take advantage of "down time". Mid-November is when students start discovering the

library in hopes of cramming for finals. To avoid not being able to find a quiet desk, go to the library early. Anytime before 2:00pm is relatively quiet. Do your Christmas shopping during the quiet hours of the mall. Shopping in the early morning or afternoon will help you avoid the stressful crowds and line-ups. Grab a warm drink and relax as you shop. Bring a list of gifts you need to buy and only buy what is on your list.

Schedule breaks. Let yourself have breaks. Work for a few hours then reward yourself with your favourite TV show or a computer game. Stretch during these breaks. Stretching major muscles groups like your legs and back can help get the blood flowing again and

perk up your energy levels. It will also relieve tight muscles.

Laugh away tension. A good laugh gives your body, heart, lungs and stomach a healthy workout. It also lowers blood pressure, heart rate and muscle tension and can relieve stress as effectively as a nap.

Exercise. Get moving! Exercise can be a great study break and it will also relieve some stress. Walk with friends or go to the gym. Aerobics and cyclefit classes are free for the exam break so grab a group of friends and try something new. A good workout will leave you feeling fresh and energized.

Festive Food for Thought favourites

Josh Boros and Laurie Sadowski put a twist on holiday classics: rum balls, egg nog pancakes, turkey stuffing and gingerbread

Josh's Easy Stuffing

1 loaf bread
1 medium onion
2-3 stalks celery
2 cloves chopped garlic
1/3 pound butter
2 eggs
1 tsp lemon juice
1 tsp each chopped fresh sage, parsley, rosemary, thyme
1 tsp each paprika, ground ginger, salt, pepper

Instructions:

1) Cut the onion and celery into small pieces. Melt the butter in a frying pan on medium heat and add the onion and celery. Let fry for about five minutes and add the garlic, salt, pepper, paprika and ginger. Fry for another two minutes and add chopped herbs and lemon juice and remove from heat. Set this aside to let it cool.

2) Cut the loaf of bread up into 1/2-inch cubes and set aside. Stale bread actually works better, it will absorb more liquid and it's easier to cut.

3) Once the vegetables cool enough to be handled, add them to the bread. There should be a lot of butter in the pan, as this is the liquid, along with the eggs, that will bind the stuffing together.

For the eggs, beat them in a separate bowl before adding them in. Add the lemon juice last. Mix this in so the bread absorbs all the liquid and mashes together. This stuffing will work with turkey, chicken, duck or goose. Basically anything with feathers.

Cram the stuffing into the cavity of the bird (this batch size is for a 15-20 pound turkey), season the top with salt and pepper and roast in a preheated 350 degree oven. To tell if it's done stick a fork into the thickest part of the breast meat, and if the juices run clear then it's good to go.

Josh's Balls (of Rum)

2 cups finely crushed chocolate chip cookies
1/2 cup white sugar
1/2 cup finely chopped walnuts
1/3 cup melted butter or margarine
1/4 cup rum
icing sugar

Instructions:

Line a large container with an airtight lid with wax paper and set aside.

Next, in a mixing bowl, combine the cookie crumbs, sugar and walnuts. I find that the easiest way to crush cookies is to put them in a zip lock bag and wack them with whatever you have on hand (rolling pin, empty wine bottle, half empty rum bottle, etc).

Add the melted butter (or margarine, but butter is better) and rum and stir mixture until it is all combined (mix should be crumbly).

With your hands, roll the mixture into balls about an inch across, then roll them in the icing sugar. Place them in the container, making sure to separate layers with wax paper if stacking.

These will keep for about 2 weeks in the fridge, or a couple of months in the freezer.

Makes around 24 balls.

Laurie's Gingerbread

4 cups flour
1 tbsp. each: ginger, cinnamon
1/2 tsp. each: salt, nutmeg, cloves, baking soda
1/2 lb. butter
2/3 cup brown sugar
2 eggs
2/3 cup molasses

Instructions:

Sift the dry ingredients (not the sugar) together. In a mixer, combine butter, sugar and eggs. Beat in the flour, mix and stir.

Add the molasses, then beat in the other half until just combined.

Divide the dough in a bunch of pieces, and press each piece about inch thick between plastic wrap. Chill for an hour or overnight or freeze.

Preheat the oven to 350 and move the racks to the upper thirds in the oven.

Roll out the dough on a floured surface, and cut out with cookie cutters (or a knife, if you're making the house).

Bake batches for 8-10 minutes then cool.

Garnish as desired! I suggest an abundance of icing and candy.

Egg Nog Pancakes

1.5 cups flour
1-2 tbsp sugar
2 tsp baking power
1 tsp salt
1 cup egg nog
2 tbsp melted butter
1 egg, lightly beaten

Instructions:

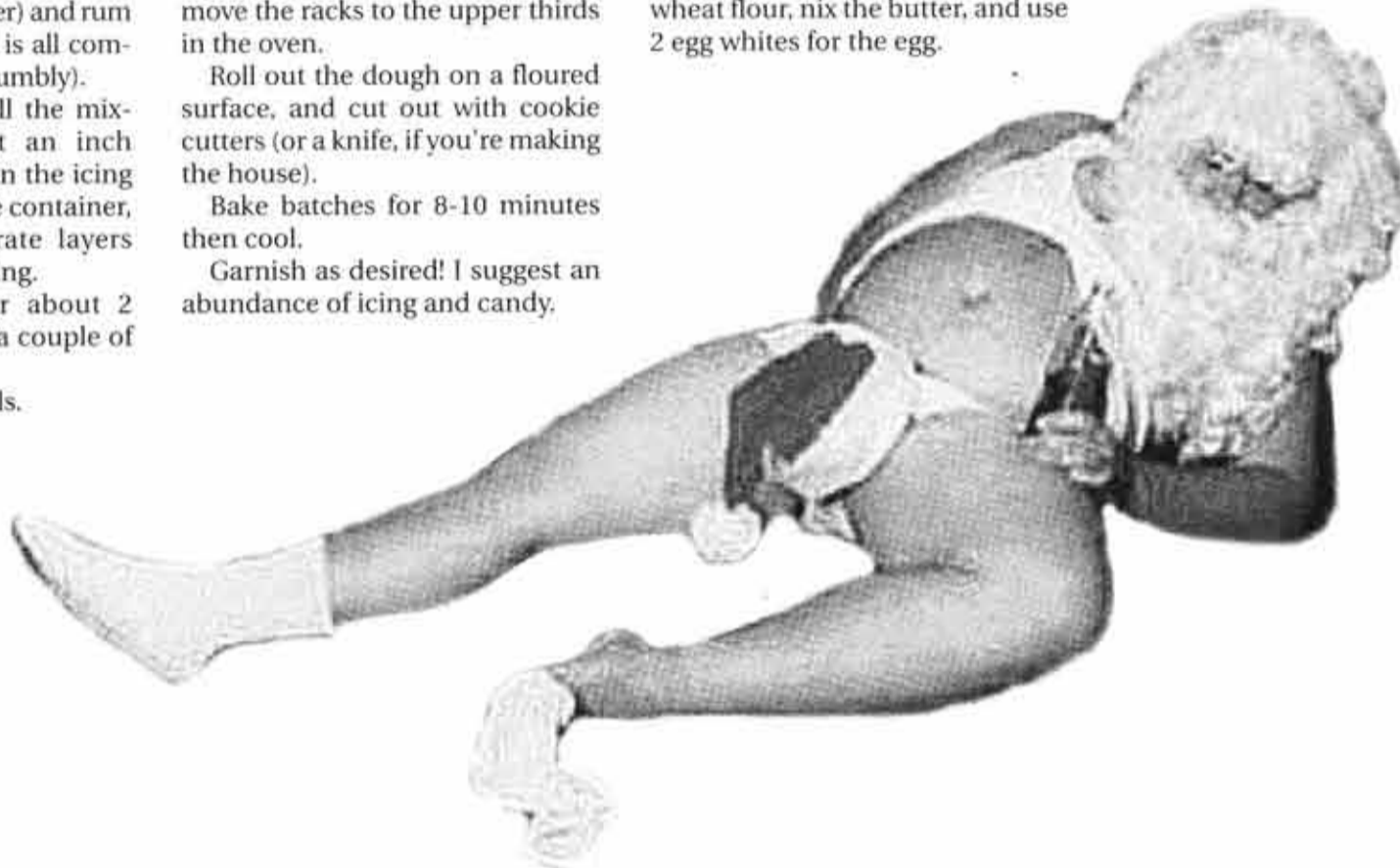
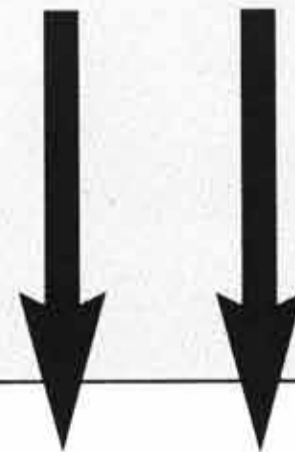
Oil a skillet over medium heat. Mix dry ingredients. Make a well in the center and pour in the wet ingredients. Mix until just moist. Pour onto hot griddle. Wait until the pancakes bubble. Flip. Brown other side and you're done! Add milk or water to thin out the recipe if your egg nog is really thick, or they might burn.

For a healthier touch: use whole wheat flour, nix the butter, and use 2 egg whites for the egg.

Egg Nog Speedball

1 part Egg
1 part Nog
100 parts Spiced Rum

Consume irresponsibly.



Finding the perfect gift for that special someone

DJ: holiday shopping for guys is a piece of cake



D.J. DEMERS
Sex and the University

To be perfectly honest, ladies, getting a gift for a guy is a lot like mowing the grass: it's simple.

Bad analogy, I know, but I'm a little exhausted from shopping for women, so give me a break. What do guys want? I'm going to go out on a limb and say 95 percent of guys would be satisfied with any of the following technological gadgets: a video game, a digital camera, or an iPod.

Even if you don't really like this guy, you can jump down a price level and still have plenty of options. A CD is a good gift if the man in question hasn't yet united with the digital revolution. You can also go with the ol' time-tested favourites such as cologne, a bathrobe or a cuticle trimmer.

One of those was a joke, and if you can't determine which, then maybe you should outsource your holiday shopping.

Clothing is fair game too, as long

as it corresponds with his style and is not your attempt at molding him to how you would like him to dress. For example, that trendy American Eagle toque and scarf will not be a welcome addition to his current wardrobe of Phat Farm and G-Unit.

If you want to stray from the norm, check out www.paramountzone.com/gifts-for-men.htm. Based in Britain, it offers unique ideas I am sure can be found in Canada as well. Why not get your boyfriend a USB cup warmer? It can plug into the USB port of his computer and keep his coffee warm for hours while he works.

You could even cater to your boyfriend's love of alcohol and get him a mini alcohol breathalyzer. Who doesn't want a toy that is most effective when used while inebriated? Both the breathalyzer and the cup warmer can be purchased for less than \$25.

Every man is unique in his tastes and preferences when it comes to gifts. Keep this in mind when choosing a gift. Or, if all else fails, go with the cuticle trimmer.



EMMA MCFARLANE
Sex and the University

'Tis the season to stress over buying holiday presents and wracking your brain trying to remember if your girlfriend said that she loved that tea cozy set. Or did she say she hated it?

This drama and other purchasing headaches can be avoided. Here are some tips for picking out the perfect gift for your girl that will ensure cozy nights (and not icy glares).

First of all, if it has a motor and is similar to what you bought your best guy friend, chances are the lady is not going to like it. In fact, just to be safe, nix Canadian Tire, Home Depot, Electronics Boutique or any store that has a huge storefront display of AA batteries as a possible place to buy her a present. No matter how much she says she needs a blender or a weed whacker, she does not want one for a present.

A good rule of thumb, however,

can be applied to your comfort zone: the more uncomfortable you are in a store usually means the better the gift will be.

Case in point: lingerie stores, bath and body shops, jewellery counters, spa boutiques, etc.

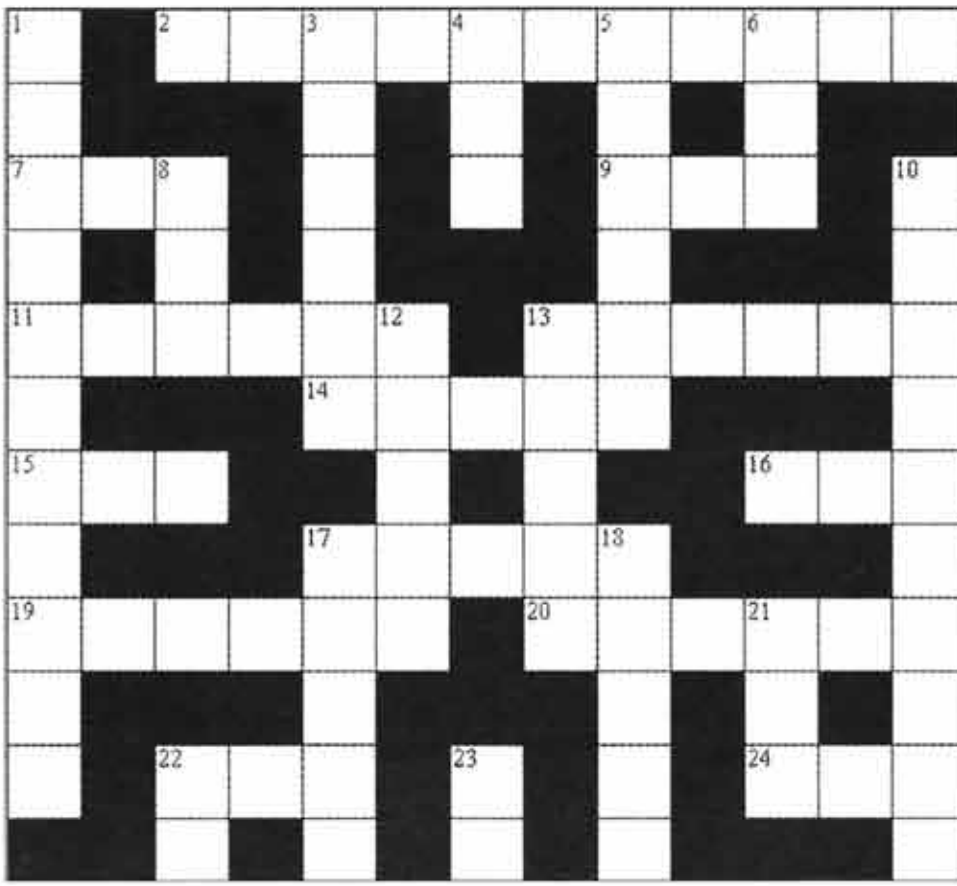
These hot spots will guarantee that yours are touched this holiday season. A word of caution when buying clothing or underthings: this is only for girls you have been dating for a while (at least 3 months) as things can get quite nasty if you pick something that is not 'her' or not the right size.

Arguments that start off with "You thought I was a size large!?" can make for very silent nights.

When in doubt, a good gift certificate can work wonders. This can be seen as lame and effortless by some, but as long as you make it for somewhere special (see hot spots above) you can save yourself from embarrassing moments in and out of the store.

So good luck this Christmas, Hanukkah or Kwanza! Maybe this will be the year that everyone hears about how well you did, and not how well her ex's have done instead.

This Week's Crossword



Vertical:

1. To recite Jewish liturgical prayers
2. Canadian insurrectionist who organized the métis settlers of the Red River valley
3. Keep dead people in it
4. Of or relating to Gaul
5. Alpine or cross-country
6. To quiver; to vibrate; to veer about
9. A raised platform
10. Even, by Shakespeare
12. You have 10, and I am not talking fingers
13. To drain energy or strength from
14. 3rd level spell in D&D that causes a ball of fire
17. A pathological amnesiac condition during which one is apparently conscious of one's actions but has no recollection of them after returning to a normal state
18. Type of GMC SUV
22. Forming or having a tube
24. Not a girl
25. A circular, domed, portable tent used by nomadic peoples of central Asia
27. An agent of fermentation
28. Error, mistake
30. Don't touch that _____
31. Finnish people or five dollar bills
33. Calgary Rugby Union
34. Hawaiian flower necklace

Horizontal:

1. Old timey pharmacist
7. What you breathe
8. Goat offspring
10. As compared with odd
11. Angry, hostile
14. To touch or intuit
15. Big cat, has a mane
16. Like a motel, but rural
17. To pass off as genuine, valuable, or worthy
19. Do this with your eyes
20. As compared to 'too little' or 'too much'
21. Directed the counteroffensive at Stalingrad
23. To endure; to abide
26. To draw or bring out; elicit
27. Up to a specified time; thus far
29. Not quiet
31. A companion or spouse
32. Words that accompany a song
34. Someone who tells lies
35. Used in roofing
36. A space equal to half the width of an em
37. A lute player

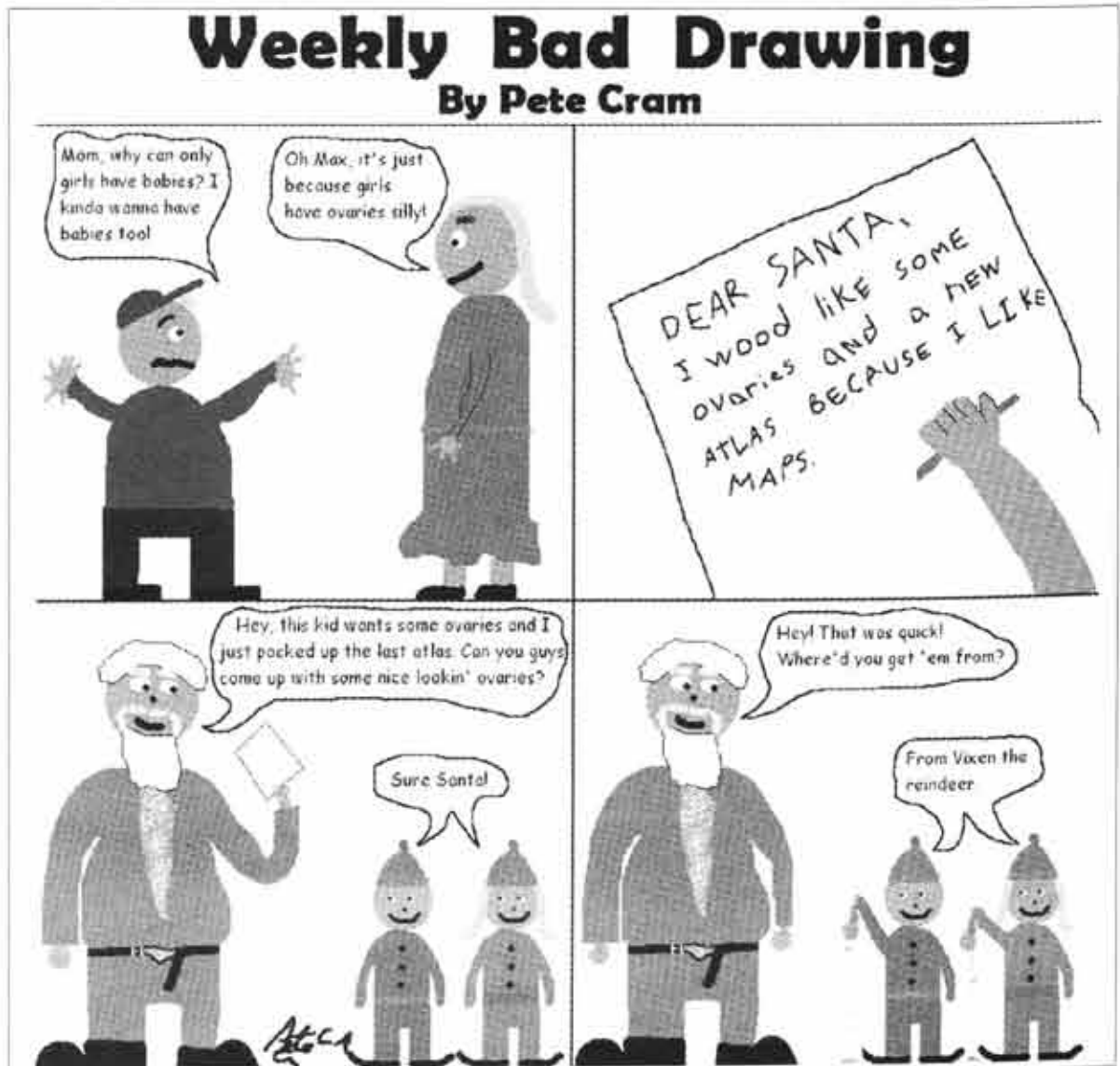
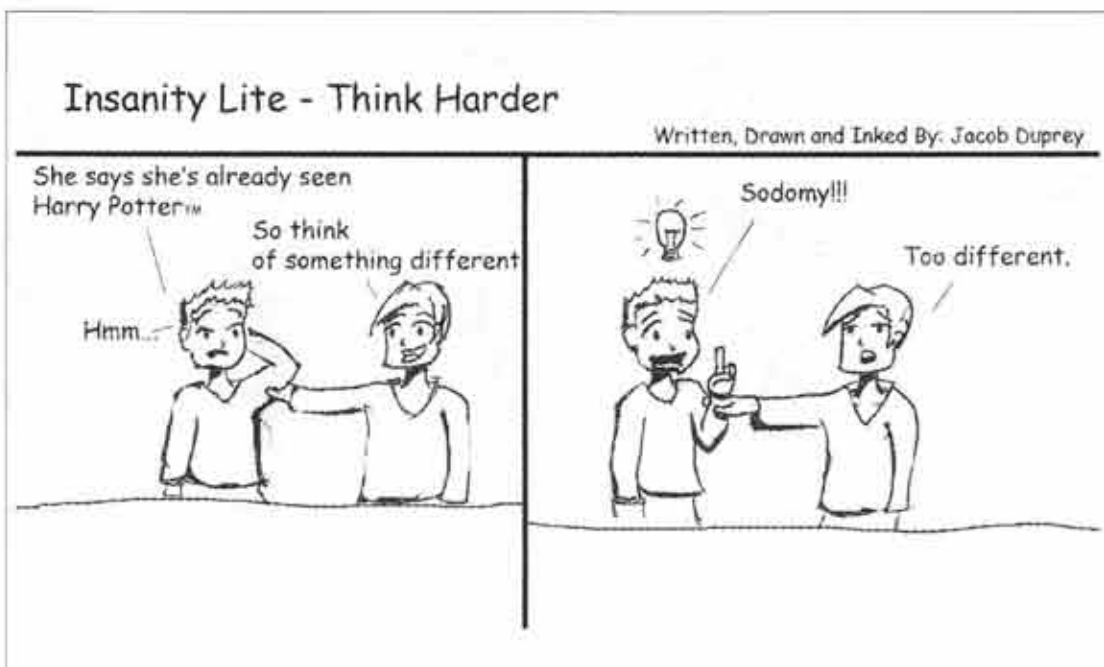
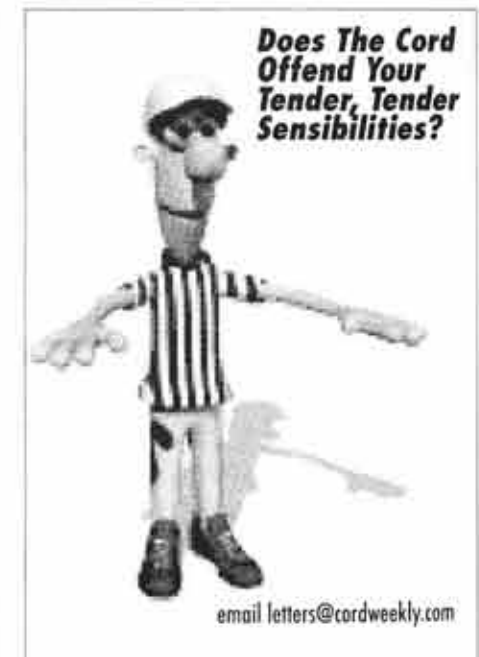
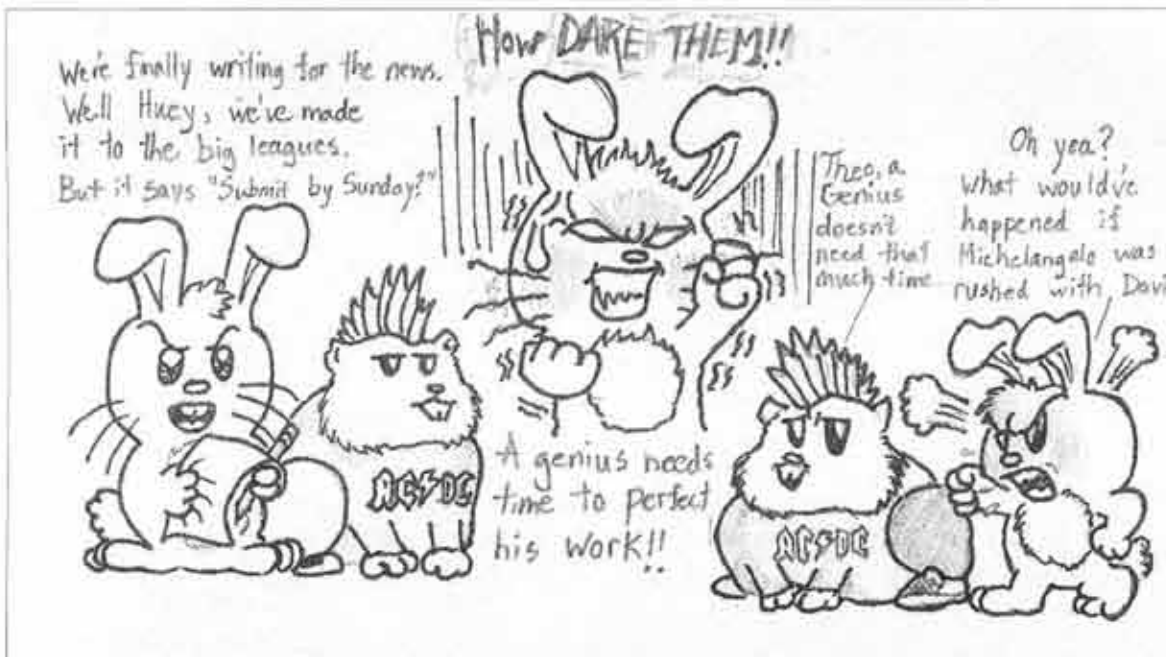
Sudoku

5	3	8					1	4	6
	7	1	8		3	9	5		
9			6		4				1
			7		2				
3			1		5				8
	4	2	9		8	6	3		
6	8	5					2	1	9

HOW TO PLAY: Fill in the blank squares so that each row/column and each block of nine includes the numbers 1-9.

WIN TICKETS TO K-W SYMPHONY!

Win *The Cord's* Sudoku contest by successfully completing the puzzle and bringing it down to the WLUSP offices (basement of MacHouse) to claim two tickets to "Christmas Pops" for Friday, December 9, courtesy of the K-W Symphony.



Work on Campus—Earn \$9.50/hour!

The Responsible Gambling Council (RGC) is looking for students with great interpersonal skills to assist with *Know the Score*, an interactive awareness program designed to prevent gambling-related problems among young adults.

The program will visit Wilfrid Laurier University Campus from January 16 - 19. Students must be available to attend a paid training session on Sunday, January 15th from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Apply online before January 13, 2005 at www.knowthescore.ca/jobs.cfm

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HOUSING

LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION!!!

Adjacent to U of W. on corner of University & Westmount. I'm looking for someone to a four month lease from January 1st to April 31st. The bedroom for rent is one of 5 bedrooms located within a bright, clean, and brand new apartment building. Laundry facilities are on site, the bedroom is lockable, and covered parking is available free of charge. You will be sharing this apartment with 4 wonderful female roommates, so I prefer a female. You will have access to the whole apartment which includes two full bathrooms, a kitchen area, living room, and plenty storage! No pets allowed. We currently have high-speed wireless/non-wireless internet, cable TV, and a shared phone line set up in each bedroom. Rent is \$475/month plus utilities, open to negotiations. Please note that the apartment is also available at an earlier date, should you require. Contact Elaina @ 519-424-2428 or eehettin@artsmail.uwaterloo.ca for more info.

Attention Co-op Students!

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MORE HOUSING

Have your own NHL-sized Ice Rink this winter!

Studio apartment in log home located less than 10 minutes from WLU (on the edge of the city) available this January to May. Amazing location - private lake/ice rink for skating and 5km of cross country ski trails throughout the woods. Includes dishwasher, laundry facilities, freezer, etc. Rent \$450 including utilities. Call 888-0519.

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PERSONALS

EIC Notes,

Thanks to everyone who turned up at the beach party. Our combined heat production was enough to heat up the rest of Waterloo in the three days since. It's science, really. That house was 35 degrees for the better part of 6 hours. Thanks for helping us cause the world's first man-made chinook. Also, to Adrian, Dan, Syd, Emilie, Blair, Carl and Lindsey for the planned birthday gifts, and to Bryn and Miranda for impromptu ones (building the paper and butterscotch liquor respectively). Y'all know how to make an old man feel appreciated.

- King Lear II

"But what is the difference between literature and journalism?
 ... Journalism is unreadable and literature is not read. That is all."

- Oscar Wilde

To My Death Trap Sisters,

This is it! this is my shout out to that hallowed space that has brought so much joy and utter inebriation. I'm glad to say the trends seem to be continuing and that this weekend will be no different. God bless Col and Ro: you two are peaches! Also: thanks to the B&B boys at the Cord and to my first experience with that heinous practice you to seem to enjoy!

-Em

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Cord Editor's Choice Awards

To celebrate the final A&E section of '05, *The Cord's* Editorial Board self-indulgently decided on the best that the year had to offer us



Emilie Joslin

ALEX HAYTER

Arts & Entertainment Editor

CD - Bloc Party, *Silent Alarm*
 Song - The Futureheads, "Hounds of Love"
 Film - *Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*
 TV show - *Family Guy*
 Looking forward to - the new Strokes album

EMILIE JOSLIN

Graphics Editor

CD - Coldplay, *X&Y*
 Song - Coldplay, "Speed of Sound"
 Book - Margaret Atwood, *The Penelopiad*
 Film - *Fever Pitch*
 TV show - *What Not to Wear*
 Looking forward to - *Fever Pitch 2*

BLAIR FORSYTH-STARK

Features Editor

CD - Jack Johnson, *In Between Dreams*
 Song - My Chemical Romance, "Helena"
 Film - *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*
 TV show - *Medium*
 Book - *Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince*
 Looking forward to - *The Da Vinci Code* movie

ADRIAN MA

News Editor

CD - Coldplay, *X&Y*
 Song - White Rose Movement, "Love Is A Number (Blackstrobe Remix)"
 Film - *Initial D*
 TV show - *Entourage*
 Book - Mark Kingwell, *Nothing for Granted*
 Looking forward to - *X3*

JORDAN JOCIUS

Photography Manager

CD - Kanye West, *Late Registration*
 Song - Common, "My Way Home"
 Film - *First Descent: The Story of the Snowboarding Revolution*
 TV show - *World Famous for Dicking Around*
 Book - Edward Burtynsky, *Burtynsky - China*
 Looking forward to - the *Curious George* movie

MIKE BROWN

Sports Editor

CD - K'naan, *The Dusty Foot Philosopher*
 Song - Matt Mays "On the hood"
 Film - *Crash*
 TV show - *Clone High* (DVD)
 Book - Nothing post-1900
 Looking forward to - the new K-OS album?

DAN POLISCHUK

News Editor

CD - Kanye West, *Late Registration*
 Favourite Song - Dave Matthews Band, "Stand up"
 Film - *Cinderella Man*
 Book - Steven Coll, *Ghost Wars*
 TV show - *Family Guy*
 Looking forward to - Ukrainian uprising in World Cup 2006

BRYN BOYCE

Production Manager

CD - Sinsemilia *Debout, Les Yeux Ouvert*
 Song - BEP, "My Humps"
 Film - *Crash*
 TV show - *Hockey: One Love*
 Book - Something Clancy
 Looking forward to - *Gnomeo and Juliet*

APRIL CUNNINGHAM

Special Projects Editor

CD - Dierks Bentley, *Modern Day Drifter*
 Song - Keith Urban, "Making Memories of Us"
 Film - *The Wedding Crashers*
 TV show - *Gilmore Girls*
 Book - Anne Kingston, *The Meaning of Wife*
 Looking forward to - Garth Brooks and Chris Martin collaboration

BRANDON CURRIE

Editor-in-Chief

CD - Common, *Be*
 Song - Kanye West ft. Cam'Ron and Consequence, "Gone"
 Film - *Crash*
 TV show - *Trailer Park Boys 5*
 Book - Thomas L. Friedman, *The World Is Flat*
 Looking forward to - the new Eagles of Death Metal album

CARLY BEATH

Opinion Editor

CD - Wolf Parade, *Apologies to the Queen Mary*
 Song - Robyn, "Konichiwa Bitches"
 Film - *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*
 TV Show - *What Not to Wear*
 Book - Chuck Palahniuk, *Haunted*
 Looking forward to - the new Arcade Fire album

MICHELLE PINCHEV

Student Life Editor

CD - Fiona Apple, *Extraordinary Machine*
 Song - Common, "The Corner"
 Film - *March of the Penguins*
 TV show - *America's Next Top Model*
 Book - Malcolm Gladwell, *Blink*
 Looking forward to - the *Memoirs of a Geisha* movie

KRIS COTE

Cord Historian

CD - Propagandhi, *Potemkin City Limits* and Protest The Hero, *Kezia*
 Song - Against Me!, "Unprotected Sex with Multiple Partners"
 Film - *Shake Hands With the Devil, Downfall*
 Book: Jared Diamond, *Collapse*
 Looking forward to - the new NOFX album

SYDNEY HELLAND

Photography Manager

CD - Sigur Ros, *Takk and Moby, Hotel*
 Song - Ferry Corsten, "Holding On"
 Film - *Life Aquatic (DVD)*
 TV Show - *Drawn Together*
 Book - Sue Townsend, *Adrian Mole: Weapons of Mass Destruction*
 Looking forward to - the new *Alice in Wonderland* movie

Disagree with these choices?
 Have some of your own?
 Post 'em online at:
www.clublaurier.ca/forums

Caribou season coming to Starlight Lounge

Formerly known as Manitoba, Caribou is comprised of one member - Dan Snaith. We interview him in the midst of his North American tour

NATALIE SIMONS

Cord A&E

"I don't really like anybody touching my music," Dan Snaith protectively retorts when confronted with the prospect of one of his albums falling victim to the contemporary trend of album remixes (a la Bloc Party and Death from Above 1979).

And why would he? After spending over four years of producing intricate and electronically laced arrangements, the idea of his

music falling into the hands of another is practically adulterous.

Snaith, the 26-year-old Ontario-based front man of Caribou (formerly Manitoba), creates his own particular blend of seemingly disparate influences and cites psych rock, hip hop, noise rock and "spiritual jazz" as examples of genres that have shaped his distinctive sound.

When asked about the name change from Manitoba to Caribou, Snaith explained that it was due to a potential litigation

suit from Handsome Dick Manitoba, front man of the New York 70s pre-punk band, The Dictators. "It was a real rock and roll reality [check] but I think we still got to maintain that Canadian theme," he explains. "I mean, we didn't want to change it to Manitoba X, or whatever."

Released earlier in the year was Caribou's latest album *The Milk of Human Kindness*, the title of which the artist allegedly chose while touring after reading it off of the back of a milk truck.

Needless to say, as 2005 comes to a close, critics everywhere have reserved a toasty spot within their best-of lists for this 40 minute arrangement of electronic bliss. The album, greatly appreciated for its instrumentation, combines a strong dynamic of sickeningly sweet keyboard melodies, piano-laced hip hop rhapsodies and psychedelic riffs that'll spark any acid trip flashback within a ten-foot radius.

Additionally, look out for tunes like "Hello Hammerheads" where

Snaith does the unexpected and offers his voice on top of an intimate recipe of beat and acoustic guitar.

Caribou is due to hit the stage of the Starlight Lounge on December 10. For those who haven't been graced with the opportunity to see them play, expect cacophonous bursts of sound, unreal twin drum solos, a projection of animated video in the backdrop (thanks to Dublin based artists Delicious 9) as well as any other visual spectacle they see fit for the night.

Battle of the blandness at Wilf's

ADRIAN MA
News Editor

For the good souls who braved punishing winds and icy temperatures that would make even Old Man Winter question his own barbaric cruelty, last Thursday night at Wilf's must have seemed like an oasis. After all, it was Music Explosion 2, and what better way to warm body and soul than with good beer, good friends and good rock n' roll.

The featured bands of the evening did little to rise to the occasion and produced sets that weren't bad - they just weren't particularly good.

Well, two out of three isn't bad. Despite occasional glimpses of originality and skilled musicianship, the featured bands of the evening did little to rise to the occasion and produced sets that weren't bad - they just weren't particularly good.

Opening the night was Intransit, a four piece pop-rock outfit that has been featured in local entertainment guide Echo Weekly. They are a clean sounding band and they ambitiously employ harmony-loaded choruses to decent effect.

Their sound harkens back to the mid-90s golden era of guitar-based pop, when the Gin Blossoms were still charting and people knew that Dishwalla was a band and not a type of liquid detergent.

The band acquitted themselves; their songs melodic, their performance tight. But Intransit did

little to distinguish themselves from the millions of other poppy rock bands in the Travis vein, and their lack of dynamic stage presence did not help their cause.

While they play the pop-rock formula to perfection, their songs are largely forgettable and in need of potency. Intransit showed a lot of promise, however, and this was most evident when guitarist Joel, bathed in the blue light of his e-bow, began playing the opening riff to Bruce Springsteen's ballad "Secret Garden". With lead singer Mike throwing out his best falsetto vocal, Intransit reworked the song into something uniquely aggressive, providing a lighter-waving, sing-along moment that Chris Martin would smile approvingly of.

Following Intransit was Alterspective, a five-member crew that featured two vocalists and boasted a hard-driving metal sound akin to early Nine Inch Nails and Nirvana's more dissonant, ramshackle moments. Their energy was evident from the first chord, as the band stomped around stage screaming their balls off against the impressive double-kick drumming of Ryan Chalmers.

"If you'd like to scream with me, go right fuckin' ahead," said singer Shane Bales breathlessly before the group launched into their song "Random Reasons", a propulsive Monster Magnet-esque tune.

Alterspective exuded the most stage presence, but despite the bird-of-prey shrieks and rapid-fire drums, the band sounded thin as opposed to menacing. Although



Jordan Jocus

INTRAVIS - Winners of the second Music Explosion of the year, Intransit showed promise with melodic songs but could benefit from improving their stage presence and the originality of their sound.

Alterspective guitarist Adam played valiantly, the band would benefit immensely from a second guitarist to reinforce the sound - either that, or invest a year's tuition towards Mesa Boogie gear like Linkin Park would.

The songwriting showed little diversity or imagination, but credit goes to the tandem vocalists for their charisma - although their larynx-shredding style ensured that they could barely sing in tune by the last two numbers. Still, Alterspective have energy to spare; some more time developing and refining their songs, and they

could be a band to watch out for.

Rounding off the night was Here And There, an appropriately named band since they didn't seem to know whether they were playing a gig or in rehearsal.

Their set began with a high-octane jam that highlighted the otherworldly guitar abilities of Daniel Rochester. Technical problems, however, quickly destroyed any momentum.

When Here And There were ready to continue, the crowd was largely somewhere else. In an attempt to salvage the set, the band launched into a pair of cov-

ers: "Bullet in the Blue Sky" by U2 was well executed, and Led Zeppelin's "Immigrant Song" roused the remaining Wilf's patrons to a last-ditch call-to-arms.

Here And There are undoubtedly talented and very well could have been the best band of the night, but fell victim to the hazards of live rock n' roll.

In the end, the panel of judges proclaimed Intransit as the crowned kings of Music Explosion 2.

Ultimate console put to the test

Microsoft's Xbox 360 finds its way into the hands of **The Cord**, turning us all into giddy schoolkids

JILLIAN PANCOTT
Copy Editor

So I've had my Xbox 360 for almost two weeks now, and I've got an overall feeling of the new console and system; how it runs, the feel of games and menu systems, the controllers, and so on.

What's my overall opinion of the system? Well, I think it's pretty good, with a variety of titles being released soon, plus a whole lot of flashy extras.

The initial set up of the console to your TV is like any other console set up: AV input cables, power source, the end. The Xbox 360 is also equipped to deal with HD televisions. My biggest complaint is the size of the power source. It is roughly one-third the size of the actual Xbox 360, and the cables are stiff, making it awkward.

Not only have I played a couple games on my Xbox 360, but I've also watched movies, and listened to CDs and music from my MP3 player. You can access these functions through the Menu system, which is set up well, easy to access and navigate through.

With tabs to flip through so you can find the specific menu system you want, a simple toggle of the analog stick is all you need to do to move around. And if you don't want to connect your wireless controller (which really isn't all that difficult once you figure out the key sequence) you can use the remote control, which I received with my Xbox 360. DVDs run really well and smooth,

with normal buttons on the remote control to advance to the next chapter, play, pause, etc. Music plays well, using the psychedelic swirls of Windows Media Player (or at least I assume so since it is made by Microsoft). At any point, you can access the menu system by pressing the dome shaped Xbox button on both the remote control and the controller.

Many people are concerned about the controller ... is it as large as the original? What's the button positioning like? Is there lag with the wireless?

Coming from a person with small hands, believe me when I say that the controller fits nicely into the hand, with easily accessible buttons. When compared to a Gamecube controller, they have a similar layout and size, but not weight (due to the batteries in the wireless control). The 360 controller is very easy to play with, and I've yet to experience a lag in time between commands and action response in the game.

I do, however, see some negative aspects to the system. I'm a little disappointed in the graphics during game play. Some movements in *Perfect Dark Zero* seem choppy, and, paired with boxy images, it doesn't seem like the newest, most advanced console on the market. Even some pre-rendered video during game play is rough, but not all (for example, the intro to *Perfect Dark Zero* is phenomenal).

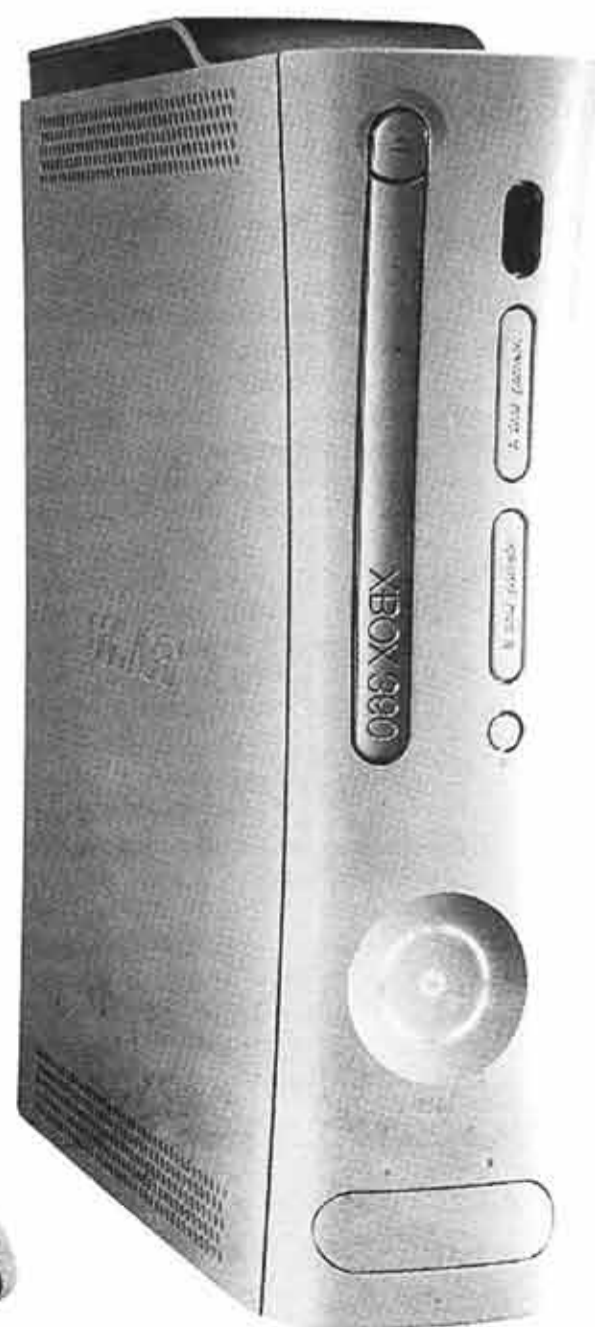
The final issue is the price of accessories. I understand that Microsoft practically sells the Xbox 360 at a loss, so they need to make

up margins elsewhere, so why not on games and accessories? But selling a wireless network adapter for approximately \$130 seems a little outrageous when you can just run a cable from your modem.

Maybe the Xbox 360 redeems itself by being backwards compatible, but only on "select" games—I haven't run any yet to know how smoothly they run.

Overall the system is pretty nice, but has some definite flaws. However, if you either don't mind some of the drawbacks, or have the money to bypass the drawbacks, then you won't mind owning an Xbox 360.

Just expect it to set you back \$399.99 for the Core system, or \$499.99 for the Premium. I honestly believe that if you can live with wired controllers, the need for a hard drive or memory cards, and having no way to communicate over Xbox Live, buy the Core system. But if you later regret it, you'll end up paying a lot more to make it similar to the Premium system.



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- Sep. 22 - WLUSU pulls advertising from Cord
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- Oct. 20 - Music Explosion at a funeral home-like Wilf's
- Nov. 12 - The Trews performed to a half-full Wilf's
- Nov. 17 - Blackwater Trio at an empty Wilf's
- Nov. 22 - Grocery Shuttle Service flops entirely
- ∞ - No low-cost food options, a New Year's resolution perhaps?