

THE CORD

The tie that binds Wilfrid Laurier University since 1926

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ELLI GARLIN PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

Drag draws enthusiastic crowd

Rainbow Centre combines education with entertainment during Trans Awareness Week

BREE MANTHA
STAFF WRITER

Last week, Wilfrid Laurier University celebrated Trans Awareness Week, a global event to increase awareness of those whose gender does not match the sex they were assigned at birth.

Numerous events were put on by the Laurier Rainbow Centre, meant to increase students' knowledge of what it means to be trans, teach different terminologies and ask what gender really means.

The week ended with a vigil at the Waterloo public square for victims of transphobia.

"Everybody talks about homophobia," explained Chris Owen, the literature and resources

co-ordinator for the Rainbow Centre. "Everybody knows it's bad. Very few people know that transphobia exists."

According to the Trevor Project, a 24-hour confidential suicide hotline for gay and questioning youth, transgender people represent 31 per cent of all suicides and over 50 per cent of those who identify as transgendered will have made at least one suicide attempt by age 20.

"It's absolutely horrific," remarked Owen. "And no one really talks about it."

Owen and the Rainbow Centre co-ordinators opted for a week full of interactive events to further involve students. "We decided that we needed an event that brought a lot of people in and then use that event to

our advantage."

Pamphlets were distributed, an information session was held in the Mac House lounge and a "drag race" to introduce people to the experience of drag took place in the Concourse.

The week included education as well as entertainment, as on Nov. 19, the group co-ordinated the university's first ever drag show, which took place at Wilf's.

According to Owen, Wilf's was over-capacity for the event.

At the show, drag kings and queens took to the stage for lip-sync and dance performances.

Between acts, hosts Diva Divine and Parker South provided jokes, anecdotes and education to the audience.

“

We decided that we needed an event that brought a lot of people in and then use that event to our advantage.”

—Chris Owen, literature and resources co-ordinator for the Rainbow Centre

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Inside

Young entrepreneurs: A network in Uptown

Cord contributor Erin Epp sits down with three Waterloo business owners to discuss the trials and tribulations of owning one's own business

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Ecohawks promote green holiday initiatives

The campus group sets up their annual Green Store in the Concourse

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United Nations fails on gay rights

Columnist Shagun Randhawa criticizes the amendment to a UN resolution that fails to protect identity rights

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GO eases transit woes

GO Transit revealed plans to extend train service to tri-city area

PRAVEEN ALWIS
STAFF WRITER

ALANNA WALLACE
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

On Nov. 12, GO Transit, with support of the provincial government, announced they will be expanding their rail service from Georgetown to Guelph and Kitchener-Waterloo. The project which stands to cost \$18 million, is anticipated to be running by the end of 2011.

"There are a lot of people traveling the 401 right now mainly because they can't get good rail connections and the bus service doesn't suit them as well as trains might," said Ken Seiling, chair of the Region of Waterloo.

"[GO Train service] provides the exact alternative we need to remove the single rider vehicles from the road," added member of provincial

parliament (MPP) for Kitchener-Conestoga Leeana Pendergast. "And it offers an alternative of course that is safer for the riders and for the environment."

The rail expansion plans come shortly after an announcement that the province will halt a long and protracted project to expand the stretch of Highway 7 between Kitchener-Waterloo and Guelph. Seiling sees GO Rail service as an unrelated development which likely won't fill the need for an expanded highway. "I'm not sure how much traffic will be taken off the highway by the GO service, because it really depends on the transition in Guelph for people going back and forth. Sometimes it's easier to drive."

The trains are expected to be running along an additional 54 kilometres of track that Metrolinx, the managing organization for GO Transit, will be expanding. This

\$18 million

projected cost of new GO Train line

54 km

distance of rail extension into the tri-city area

180

design and construction jobs created

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Editor's Choice

Burns HoF snub
inexcusable
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Editor's Choice
Drag Domination online
photo gallery
thecord.ca

Editor-in-Chief Alanna Wallace • awallace@thecord.ca



ELLI GARLIN PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

Photo of the week

Faculty of Music students perform Act 1, Scene 1 of Giuseppe Verdi's *La Traviata* during the Nov. 20 opera production.

From the archives

5 years

And now, the Vanier

The Golden Hawks dismantled the Acadia Axmen 31 - 10 to win the Uteck Bowl. The win marked the first time in a decade that an OUA team would go on to compete in the Vanier Cup.

With 12 veterans making up the team's key players, it would be the last opportunity for them to play in purple and gold.

The Hawks would be returning to Vanier for the first time since 1991, when they beat Mount Allison, to play the Saskatchewan Huskies who were appearing in their third Vanier Cup game in four years, and winning the title three times in the 1990s.

The Hawks went on to win the Vanier cup in 2005, edging the favoured Huskies 24-23, capping off an undefeated season.

Printed Nov. 23, 2005

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This Week in quotes



“Some people don't take much pride in their show, they just follow the status quo. I'm all about trying to have one of the craziest shows ever.”

—Kardinal Offishall, Canadian hip-hop artist

“And my response to it is that you should come back with love.”

—Diva Divine, co-host of the Rainbow Centre's Drag Domination show re: her reaction to transphobia



Vocal Cord

Will the GO Train coming to Waterloo help your commute?



“Definitely, because I have friends in Toronto I'd like to visit.”

—Mike Lucas
Third year communications



“Yeah.... It would be nice not to have to take the bus — sometimes they're late.”

—Olivia Montgomery
First year kinesiology



“Yes... I live in Mississauga so the new train will be a bonus.”

—Silviu Besenyei
Fourth year communications



“Absolutely... I have to take the GO bus to Milton but soon I'll be able to travel to Georgetown.”

—Tracy Richardson
Second year business

Compiled by Elli Garlin
Photos by Megan Cherniak

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Colophon

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

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Opinions expressed within The Cord are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect those of the editorial board, The Cord, WLUSP, WLU or CanWeb Printing Inc.

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Preamble to The Cord constitution

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

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

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

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

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

Quote of the week:
“What about Jack?” “Don James Brown knew about this!”
—Graphics artist Wade Thompson and Sports Editor Justin Fauteux in response to the question: “Did they bomb Seoul?”

NEWS

News Director Linda Givetash • lgivetash@thecord.ca

Projects approved for funding announced

MIKE LAKUSIAK
CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR

Approved projects for the Strategic Investment Fund (SIF), a \$730,000 fund of money reallocated from Wilfrid Laurier University's budget and made available by open applications, have been announced. Projects that received funding will contribute to changes in the classroom, campus and student experience at Laurier.

The initiatives will either be funded on a temporary basis or have been added to the university's base budget permanently.

The report, released by VP: finance Jim Butler, shows that \$29,000 has been devoted to the faculty of arts for a range of student retention initiatives that provide support to struggling students with the aim of keeping them enrolled in Laurier programs. "[It's] a program to help them increase their study skills and they'll be able to do better in their courses and stay as a student," MacLatchy said. "This really helps to provide additional safety nets for students."

Also proposed under the faculty of arts was an \$80,000 bid by the

global studies department and the Laurier Centre for Military Strategic and Disarmament Studies (LCMSDS) to develop programs that allow students to study abroad. Part of the money will go toward a history course on war and memory held in the spring term that would allow students to, as part of their coursework, take a two-week field trip to Europe.

"We'll be visiting battlefields, cemeteries, memorials and museums in Belgium and France," LCMSDS director Terry Copp explained. Pending final approval for the course's implementation from the faculty of arts, 18 undergraduate and graduate students could register this spring.

Approved in the faculty of science were funds for the hiring of an academic advisor. While there are already biology and chemistry departmental advisors, MacLatchy explained, "The faculty level advisors are more to develop programs around at-risk students, study skills and helping to integrate experiential learning experiences into academics." Enhancements will also be made to chemistry labs with SIF money.

The School of Business and Economics (SBE) received \$212,000 in funding for two initiatives. One will lead to the hiring of an academic director who will work campus-wide on entrepreneurship initiatives; the other more substantial project focuses on a "blended learning initiative" that seeks to further integrate technology into courses.

Dean of SBE Ginny Dybenko said the project will focus on "understanding and learning how to engage technology in the classroom," adding that the goal is to create flexibility for students and not just meant to combat rising class sizes.

"In addition, we're looking to bring the world into the classroom, being able to engage some of our partnership schools and professors from other countries to be able to heighten the global experience within the classroom."

Dean of music Glen Carruthers explained that the approved projects in music, an advanced performance master class, peer mentoring and support for wind, brass and percussion ensembles could not have been a reality without SIF money. "We put forward projects that would improve the chances for our students

to succeed in the course of the program and beyond the program," he said.

MacLatchy stated that a \$55,000 project to establish "Service Laurier", a kiosk that would include student registration and OneCard services "amalgamated in one area, instead of having a whole bunch of different offices you would have one kiosk that would handle of those types of activities."

As previously announced, the bid by the Wilfrid Laurier University Students' Union to have the library open as 24-hour study space was not approved.

However, the existing budget for extended hours was made a permanent part of the university budget to ensure that the hours will remain as they are.

MacLatchy was impressed by the scope of the projects approved and how they will serve students.

"I guess what I'm really most happy about is so many of these really focus on enhancing student success," she said, "as well as providing increased opportunities for experiential learning at Laurier."

—With files from Matthew Savard

350 pages

Applications for Strategic Investment Funds

\$1,301,219

Total funding announced

\$75,000

Yearly amount budgeted for tech initiatives in the classroom

\$86,422

Funding for upgrades to chemistry labs

Green Christmas

EcoHawks aim to get campus into the holiday spirit with environmentalism

LINDA GIVETASH
NEWS DIRECTOR

On Nov. 23 and 24, the EcoHawks established their annual Green Store in the Concourse to promote the sales of eco-friendly and sustainable products as the holiday season approaches. Featuring several local companies, the EcoHawks' event also provided free gift-wrapping using re-used newspapers and magazines.

"The holiday season is coming up [and] people have the option of buying more sustainable products and services while supporting local businesses and the local economy," said Ericha Regio, EcoHawks co-ordinator.

Regio explained that the EcoHawks were providing gift-wrapping with newspapers "to promote not buying as [much] gift-wrapping because that's not really good for the environment."

She also suggested that students reuse gift bags or other paper since gift-wrap is often unable to be recycled due to the glaze and sparkles that coat the paper.

Greentainers was one of the companies with a booth at the Green Store. Alana Vigna, an EcoHawks volunteer, explained that Greentainers was an initiative brought forward by an EcoHawks volunteer that works with the company's founders in Toronto.

A "greentainer", according to Vigna, is a far more environmentally friendly product than your standard Tupperware. "It's BPA free, lead free [and] 100 per cent recyclable," she said, highlighting that those harmful chemicals that can leach in to food are not a risk with the product.

Another booth sold jewelry, featuring handmade, natural products brought from Kenya through the Mully Children's Foundation. EcoHawks volunteer Mabel Wong explained, "The organization itself is

orphanage where there are multiple projects for development, like health care, food programs, education."

"The jewelry is made in Africa by the women and children [and] the jewelry they make is their [source of] income," she added.

In addition to buying eco-friendly, Regio provided tips for being environmentally friendly this holiday season and suggested that students should consider re-gifting items that they have and don't use. Despite the taboo of re-gifting, she explained that it is far better than throwing out unused products.

Buying power

The sustainability office utilized the event of the Green Store to show off the campus sustainability assessment that was compiled by sustainability coordinator Sarah English.

English, explaining the university's green purchases, said, "About 40 per cent of the university's cleaning products are Green Seal certified, a third-party certifying agent that looks at the environmentally friendliness of certain products."

Her other findings presented in the assessment included the use of recycled paper across campus and the purchasing of local and organic products by food services.

"The last major area that we're moving on is computers and laptops. About 80 per cent of what we purchase are energy efficient, again recognized by a third party called EPEAT," said English.

Highlighting the influence the university has in purchasing green products, English said, "If the Laurier opts to purchase eco-friendly products we can affect supply change further down the line because of the massive amounts of products we buy in bulk."

"There's a lot of purchasing power ... and I think Laurier should use it," she said.



How we look online

BREE MANTHA
STAFF WRITER

Students at Wilfrid Laurier University now have another site to worry about when it comes to incriminating photographs being broadcast on the Internet.

Room110.com was launched in early November and markets itself as a "reality blog" where Canadian university students can connect with each other and give others a glimpse of what goes on behind closed doors on their campuses.

While some are concerned about the drinking and overt sexuality depicted in the photos, BACCHUS co-ordinator Janelle Emanuel reasoned that the content of the photos was nothing new.

"Those things do pop up and occur in university," she said.

However, unlike Facebook's adjustable privacy settings, all submissions to Room110 are done anonymously and anyone with an account can see every picture on the site.

Due to the party-heavy and overtly sexual content, university administrators elsewhere have written to the site's creators asking to have some aspects of the site removed.

Some have even attempted to block the site from their networks.

Laurier's section on the site remains minimal but has still generated anger amongst some featured students.

A post entitled "You can land a rich girl at Laurier!" showed a photo of four female Laurier students, referring to them as "by far the richest girls to ever go to Laurier."

The caption, which posted the names of all four girls, proceeded to mock their alleged wealth, referring to them as "Daddy's little girls."

The caption ended by telling male readers, "Happy hunting, boys!"

The post was removed on Tuesday.

Wilfrid Laurier University Students' Union public relations representative Pam Blomfield agreed that the content was not the issue for her.

"All schools have students who like to engage in activities that aren't as responsible as they could be," she said, "So as far as school's reputations, I don't feel like it overshadows too much."

Blomfield emphasized that students need to take responsibility for their own photos when they post

them on social media sites. "Whatever you post on Facebook ... it can be taken off the Internet and put anywhere."

So students have to keep that in mind when they post things."

Even innocent photos have been targeted on the site. Users have posted casual shots of students and accompanied them with captions attacking their appearances, lifestyles and social activities.

"The way it's going right now, it looks like it's bordering on cyber-bullying," Emanuel said. "This semester at school has been so focused and plagued by all these stories about bullying and cyber-bullying."

Blomfield agreed that the written attacks on the website were the most worrisome aspect. "In an age where it's so easy to be engaged in cyber-bullying, it's the last thing parents and students would be wanting to see."

In a statement issued by Derek Paul, a media relations representative for Room110, the site was described as a "fun, free environment ... Students know this is just a fun environment and would not set out to hurt anyone's feelings."

CAMPUS

Campus News Editor Mike Lakusiak • mlakusiak@thecord.ca

'Gender is just one aspect of who you are'

—cover

One of their main focuses was on proper trans-vocabulary — including the difference between a drag queen and a trans-person.

"Just because I am wearing this lovely, lovely frock does not mean that I am transgender or transsexual," Divine explained to the audience. "Drag is different from transsexual or transgender. Drag is about fun."

"I don't identify as a boy or as a girl," Divine expressed. "I just identify as myself."

One of the highlights of the show was an appearance by Kitchener's Club Renaissance veteran Miss Drew. Miss Drew, real name Bradley Hamacher, has been performing for 15 years.

"One of the best feelings is ... when someone comes in and they're having a bad night and they have a smile on their face while you're on stage," Hamacher said.

Miss Drew's final performance of the night was an emotional lip-sync number to Christina Aguilera's "Beautiful", in which he removed all elements of his costume and revealed himself to the audience as Bradley. Many audience members were brought to tears by the performance.

Hamacher, who said he enjoys performing in "straight"

establishments, loves to shock his audience. "There were a lot of people [at Wilf's] that had never seen a drag show before ... I took about twenty-five pictures with people. Everybody was just like, 'Wow, that's so cool, that's so cool.'" He said he looks forward to performing as Miss Drew in future shows at Laurier.

Divine Divine, 28, has been performing for nearly 10 years. "My favourite thing about it, aside from the makeup, is that I can say things and I can do things ... that I normally can't say when I'm a man."

Divine said that she can only recall one incident where she felt misunderstood by others. "One time, I had my makeup done and I had decided that I just wanted to go to school as a man," she said. "Three or four football players were saying, 'I didn't know that they allowed the freaks out during the day.'"

Fortunately, Divine explained, this was her only firsthand experience with transphobia. "I've had friends who have experienced it," she said. "And my response to it is that you should come back with love."

Owen offered some advice to those experiencing abuse or confusion related to their gender. "Gender is just one aspect of who you are," he concluded.



MEGAN CHERNIAK PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

Battery-powered hope

Charity Ball's annual Luminera event was held Tuesday evening in the Quad. Over 720 electric candles were sold in support of the K-W Humane Society. More photos at thecord.ca

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Last week, ACCESSU collected 16 boxes of school supplies to send to children in Haiti.

Prepare for work

HR expert provides students with advice for starting their careers

LINDA GIVETASH
NEWS DIRECTOR

On Nov. 22, the Wilfrid Laurier University Human Resources Network hosted the presentation "Brand Yourself", featuring certified human resources professional Jeff Desbiens as part of their ongoing speaker's series.

Desbiens, a manager of talent and workforce analytics for the Economic Insurance Group in Waterloo, addressed the room full of business students on the important steps in finding and accepting your first job after school.

"You're all going to have to make significant decisions," said Desbiens, explaining that these decisions not only influence an individual's future career but also the companies they choose to work for.

"Never say no unless it's really not a good fit," Desbiens advised. "You don't know what opportunities are in an organization until you're [working] in the organization."

Using himself as an example, Desbiens told the group that although he had graduated from a business program with a focus on human resources, his first job was in sales. He used the opportunity to his advantage and worked his way into a position in the human resources department in the same company.

"There's more to a job than just a salary."

Despite being open to any opportunities, Desbiens reminded the group to keep their goals in mind and consider "the upward potential" within a company.

Whether already working or just during the application process, making the right impression, particularly when it comes to first

impressions, is incredibly important. Desbiens recommended that students have a clear idea of who they are in terms of their goals, values and interests in order to present that to prospective employers.

"Always be conscious of what you're going to say [and] how you're going to be perceived."

Creating a good reputation stems beyond the interview or the office into the world of social media as well.

"Have your Facebook profile, have your LinkedIn profile and keep them separate," he suggested. While maintaining a professional social life is necessary to be noticed in gaining consideration for promotions, leaving the not-so-professional aspect of yourself that may exist on Facebook is best left unaffiliated with your career.

In terms of interactions in the workforce, Desbiens explained that employees who are involved with a company's social activities while maintaining their personal integrity ensure a more successful experience.

"When you make that choice to accept a job, jump into it," he said.

If you want to move up in a company, going above and beyond what's expected of you and bringing more value to the organization is imperative to succeed in the competitive nature of the entry-level job. However, Desbiens was adamant that should never forgo maintaining a healthy balance between work and a personal life and risking a "burn out".

"Get in the habit of taking time for yourself," said Desbiens. "If you have that right balance, you'll be better set for success."



MEGAN CHERNIAK PHOTO MANAGER
Jeff Desbiens speaks to an audience of business students.

Advice when entering the workforce

1. Find your sweet spot
2. The interview never ends
3. Be respectful
4. Own it
5. Have integrity
6. Know yourself
7. Get involved
8. First impressions are big
9. Have a plan
10. Be open-minded

Healthy conversation

MIKE LAKUSIAK
CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR

On Nov. 18, the science atrium was filled with nearly 100 health sciences students to take part in the program's first information session on career opportunities in various health fields. Entitled "Conversations in Health", the event was created to allow students to interact with health professionals in a number of fields.

With approximately 180 students enrolled in first and second-year in the program, having such a high turnout was important to Health Sciences Students' Association president Latif Murji. "That's an unbelievable turnout," he said, noting that many first-years had a chemistry exam the next day and still attended.

"That's something that's so special about our program is that it's brand new and everyone is so close-knit, everyone comes out to everything and is really enthusiastic."

Associate dean of science and health sciences program co-ordinator Rick Elliott explained that the event was about showcasing alternative career paths.

"We knew when we designed the program that the bulk of students who registered in it would be thinking medicine and becoming doctors," he explained. "The reality of this situation is probably five per cent of people who start out with that as a career in mind actually end up being accepted into med school."

"From day one we wanted to provide them with opportunities where they could see that there is a wealth of health-related careers that don't necessarily involve an 'MD' after your name."

Elliott was involved in the creation of the program two years ago and emphasized the importance of having students meet people in

“
I'm trying to be open-minded and this helped me see what's out there.”

—Mike Mikhaeil, second-year health sciences student

many different health-related fields, including Laurier alumni. "That was the point," he said, glancing at the tables around the atrium filled with groups of students. The students rotated around the room and met with a sample of guests.

"There's two alumna in each group, there's somebody that works in a hospital in each group, there's someone who's had to do extensive postgraduate work. We balanced it over all of those dimensions."

Second year health science student Mike Mikhaeil was satisfied with what he gained from the evening. "I got a lot out of it," he said. "I was exposed to different health care professions, a lot of things I'd heard of before but didn't really know what they were."

"I'm trying to be open-minded and this helped me see what's out there."

Laurier alumnus and health entrepreneur Marlene Wynnich, who operates a local health product company, explained that students were receptive of what she had to say. "It gives them a wide variety of options and maybe helps to open a window they wouldn't otherwise have looked through," she said.

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UW prof wins health award

LINDA GIVETASH
NEWS DIRECTOR

On Nov. 16, the Canadian Institute of Health Research (CIHR) presented University of Waterloo (UW) professor David Hammond the Canada's Premier Young Researcher Award. The award recognized Hammond's contribution to the field of tobacco control in researching the influence of cigarette labels and packaging.

In regards to his research of the packaging of cigarettes, Hammond explained, "It's illegal for [tobacco companies] to come out and say one brand is less harmful than others and yet they still try to minimize people's worries about health risks, so how do they do that?"

The development of government warning labels on cigarette packages, as well as the analysis of the marketing techniques the tobacco companies use to make their products appealing is only part of what Hammond's research entails.

An affiliate scientist with the Propel Centre for Population Health Impact, Hammond's work contributes to Canadian policy surrounding tobacco and to the global treaty, the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, which 171 countries have adopted.

"We've had a lot of success in Canada, I mean we still have five million smokers so by no means is the job done," said Hammond, going

on to point out that "in China they have over 300 million smokers [and] there's a billion people smoking worldwide."

Explaining the effectiveness of the treaty, Hammond stated, "If you get something passed in that treaty, you're talking about intervention that reach upwards of a billion people."

Working with low to middle income countries such as China, India and most recently Uruguay, Hammond helps in implementing tobacco regulations while testing the effectiveness of Canadian methodology on foreign markets.

Canada continues to be a leader in implementing restrictions on the marketing of tobacco products, such as new legislation prohibiting flavoured cigarettes, that Hammond hopes will be adopted globally.

"We've shown in our work that absolutely, if you show kids packs with the word cherry or vanilla, words like ice or fresh, that increases the appeal of those products to kids considerably," said Hammond.

Discussing the direct health problems associated with smoking, Hammond explained that although new screening technology has allowed for lung cancer to be discovered sooner, it is still an incredibly expensive process and puts patients at risk of radiation.

"Typically we invest all of our money on the treatment side but it's far better to actually reduce

“You're talking about intervention that [would] reach upwards of a billion people.”

—David Hammond, professor

the demands of these services and frankly we don't have much of a choice.”

That aspect of preventative health care and the ability to influence policy in order to better educate millions about their choice to smoke is why Hammond pursued a career in this field. "That really draws my passion, changing the environment and interventions that reach lots of people and have a big potential for impact," he said. "I've been addicted to it ever since."

Reflecting on being named Canada's Premier Researcher, Hammond said, "[It is] less a reflection of my own skills than it is of the people that I work with."

"I think it's a testament to the importance of the field more than anything," he added.

KW in brief

Ward 9 recount applied for
Kitchener candidate for Ward 9 Debbie Chapman has applied for a manual recount after losing the councillorship of the ward by one vote.

According to the *Waterloo Region Record*, Chapman believes that some voters marked more than one candidate on the ballot and that those votes could have been potentially counted incorrectly. Chapman only needs only two votes to be added to her favour in order to take the seat from the currently-elected Frank Etherington.

A digital recount on Nov. 3 already confirmed Etherington's win. A hearing in the Superior Court scheduled for Dec. 16 will determine if a manual recount is necessary.

UW plans to design better entrance to campus

On Nov. 23, the University of Waterloo launched a design competition to improve the main entrance to the campus at University Avenue and Seagram Drive.

The competition is open to teams of undergraduate and graduate students that must be formed from at least two different areas of study. The Provost's office intends to put \$100,000 toward the winning plan that will be selected in May 2011.

The proposals must be ready for submission by February and must include a vision for the the next three to ten years.

Blatchford schedules return

Outspoken journalist and author Christie Blatchford will be returning to the University of Waterloo on Dec. 7 after her last lecture was disrupted by protesters.

On Nov. 12, invited to speak about her new book *Helpless: Caledonia's Nightmare of Fear and Anarchy*, Blatchford had to abandon her presentation as protestors yelled "racist" while sitting on the stage.

Woman charged for fraudulent limo service

A 36-year-old Brantford woman was charged by Waterloo Regional Police for running a fraudulent limousine service. The police had received complaints from people who were dealing with Bellagio Limousines regarding having paid deposits and not receiving rides.

Landlords outraged at unpaid water bills

Cambridge landlords are claiming that it is illegal for them to be forced to pay the water bills of "deadbeat" tenants. According to the *Waterloo Region Record*, the issue will be raised in the Dec. 13 city council meeting where the newly elected council will decide whether to continue charging property owners for unpaid hydro bills or whether a new system needs to be established.

—All compiled by Linda Givetash

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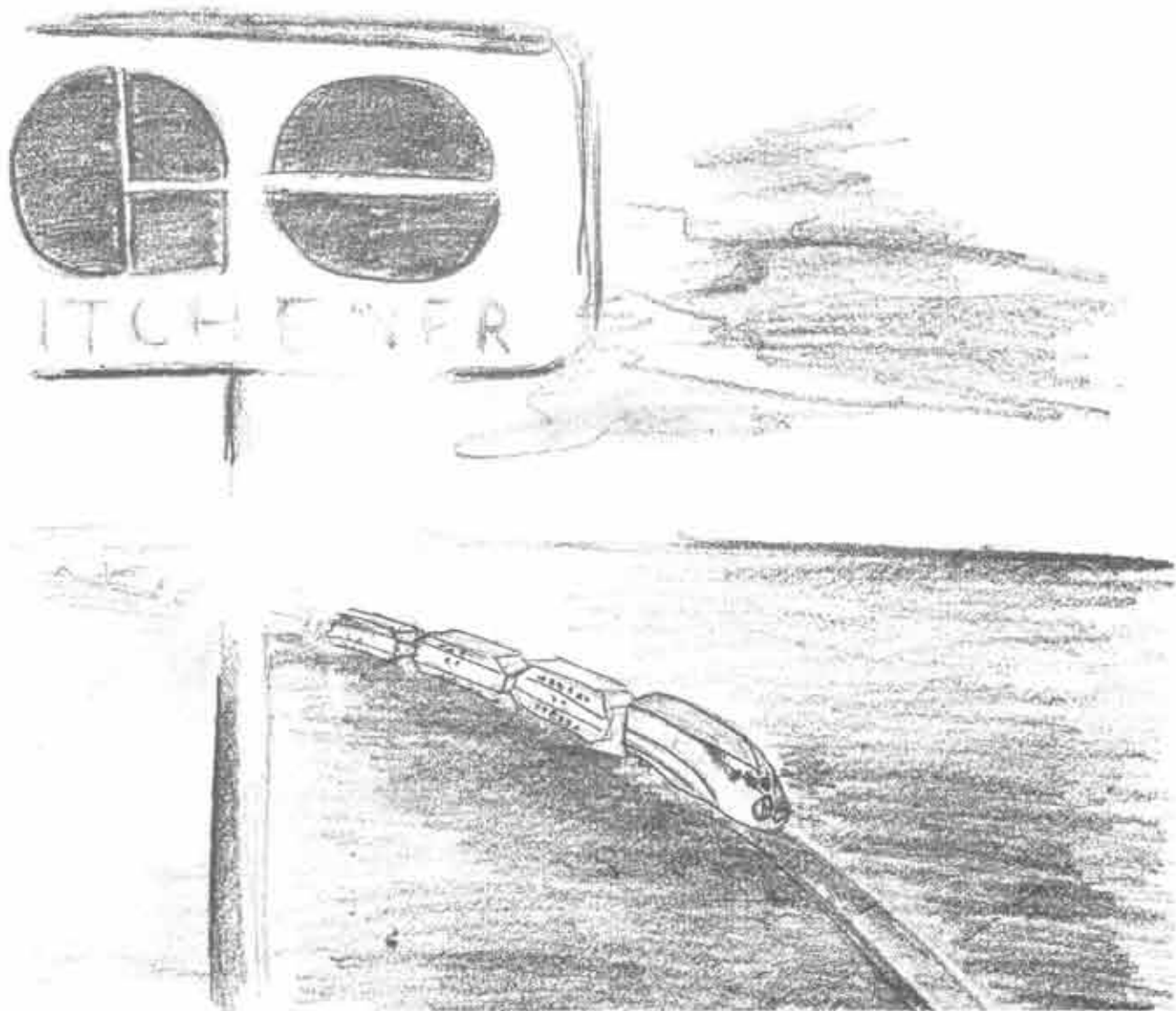
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YEARBOOK IS HIRING

"I suspect that once the trains are used more and more there'll be more of a case for it and they'll add more trains to the line." —Ken Seiling, regional chair



MAYA UEMURA GRAPHICS ARTIST

Rail line will hopefully bring increased ridership

—cover

project however, is a scaled back version from the initial plans that were based off an environmental assessment of the region in 2009.

Seiling commented that the service is likely "more geared towards people going back and forth into Toronto or the Toronto area," which could lead to an increase in commuters and make the region more attractive to students and home owners.

"It also not only is part of the Open Ontario Plan, but it also makes the Region of Waterloo more accessible so if people are thinking of taking a job ... or looking to come to live in our area and for students at the universities it means that they can get themselves from Toronto much easier, faster, safer," said Pendergast.

GO bus service was brought to the region in October of 2009 and saw great success — which Pendergast said contributed to the decision to increase service to rail.

"The fact that the bus service was estimated to be around 9,000 a month and now it's at over 20,000 rides indicates there's a demand

for service into the greater Toronto area," said Seiling.

"They had originally proposed to do four trains a day with two additional stations, a layover near Baden and another station in Breslau," Seiling explained. "With the provincial cutbacks, rather than cancel the whole thing they decided to go ahead and do two runs per day. Two in the morning going out and two coming back later in the day with a temporary layover stay in Kitchener."

Though not privy to Metrolinx's plans for the future, Seiling assumes continued development will be contingent upon commuter demand. "I think if ridership increases and line improvements get done they want to expand the service and I suspect that once the trains are used more and more there'll be more of a case for it and they'll add more trains to the line," he said.

Pendergast said the implementation of GO rail lines, which should be completed by the end of 2011, may have the same effect of increased ridership as busses have had in the last year, echoing Seiling's assumption that train runs could be increased in the future.

Uptown store has more than just gelato

HEATHER GIES
STAFF WRITER

Local, fresh and absolutely delicious — Whole Lot-A Gelata owner Chris Parent describes his Uptown Waterloo shop as offering the utmost quality and taste in its menu.

Parent opened Whole Lot-A Gelata in May 2003, responding to a need he saw in the community. As a resident of Waterloo and father of three children, Parent felt that the town lacked a family venue. "There was nothing in town," recalled Parent. "Nowhere to get coffee, nowhere to get desserts, nowhere to hangout, nowhere to do anything in Uptown Waterloo."

Although he initially expected the shop to be a hotspot for families with children, Parent described his demographic as "everyone." Whole Lot-A Gelata has become a destination for bicyclists, walkers, local residents and Uptown employees on their lunch breaks.

Despite the close proximity to the Laurier campus, however, Parent indicated that students do not typically frequent the shop.

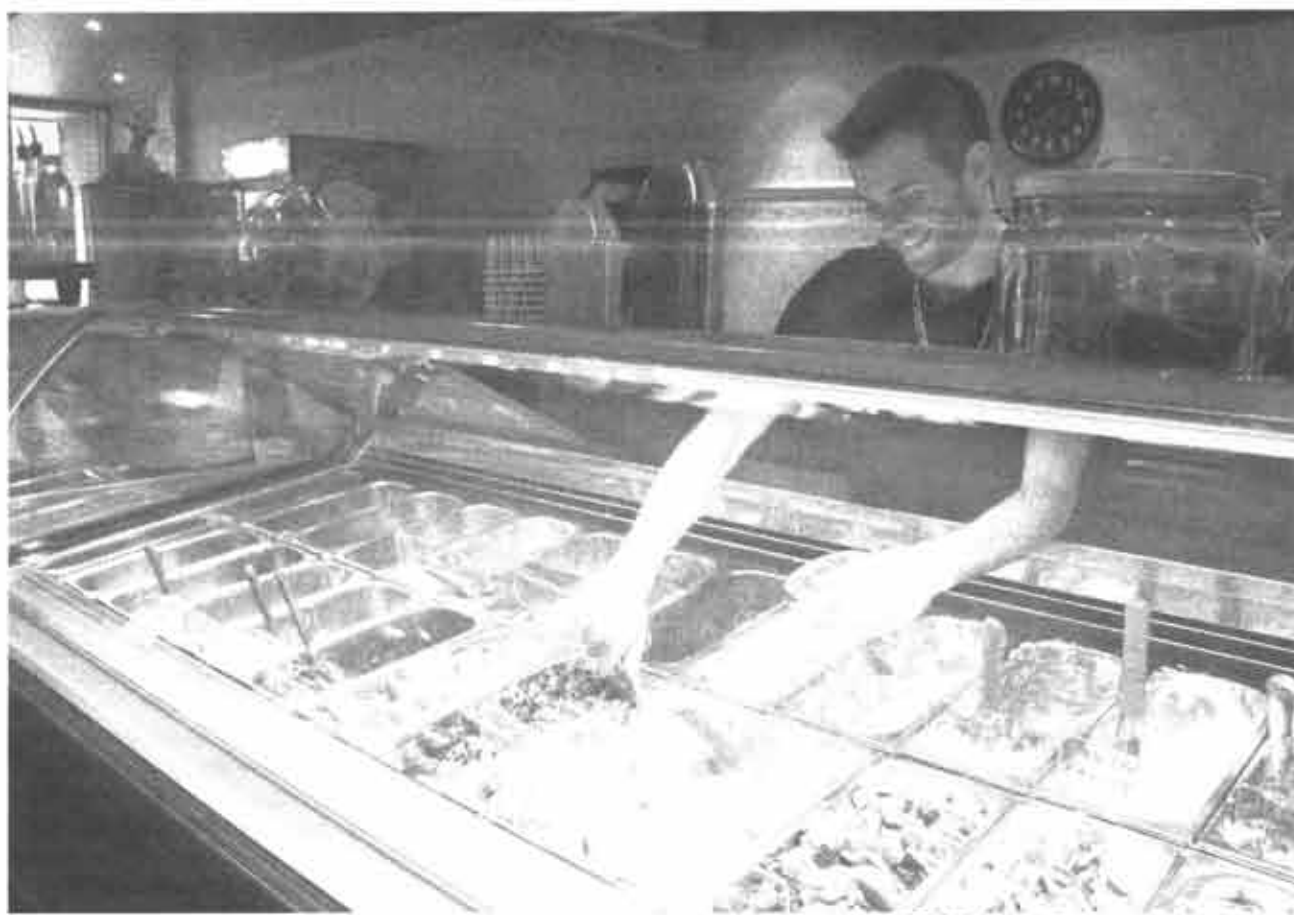
"We're trying to become part of

the fabric of Waterloo, but the university... is a different tapestry altogether," said Parent, describing the integration of the business into the local community and the challenge of engaging the student population.

Describing the unique features of the business, Parent highlighted the market-fresh quality of his products. "Everything's homemade. Everything's from raw materials I find locally," explained Parent. "Really, there is nothing else like this here."

Although the shop continues to serve customers year-round, business peaks between the months of April and September. Homemade Gelata, Parent's own brand of gelato, is a warm-weather crowd pleaser and the vast selection of Gelata and sorbet flavours broadens over the summer months to reflect this popularity.

In addition to serving cold treats, Whole Lot-A Gelata also offers salads, paninis, coffee and other specialty drinks, desserts and pasta, made from scratch in house. Not only are all menu selections from a local source, but they are also customizable to personal taste preferences. Meals prepared on a



DEBORAH LAM CORD PHOTOGRAPHY

A Whole Lot-A Gelata, located at 120 King St. South, has a variety of fresh and organic lunch options.

made-to-order basis ensure quality and freshness of the food being served.

"We're a mainstream local establishment," said Parent, stressing that Whole Lot-A Gelata is community based and not a franchise

business. "Everything's organic and everything's market fresh."

Whole Lot-A Gelata accommodates the dine-in, take-out and catering needs of its patrons. It also hosts special events including DJ competitions, spoken word readings

and poetry groups and is available for private parties, rented out to community groups with no overhead cost.

"Trying to be a part of the community," added Parent, "[is] an integral part of the fabric."

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NATIONAL

National Editor Vacant • editor@thecord.ca

Environmental bill struck down by Senate

Tough green legislation argued to be detrimental to Canadian economy

SEAN HAYWARD
STAFF WRITER

On Nov. 16, the Senate defeated a private member's bill to set greenhouse gas emissions targets for Canada over the next 40 years.

"I am absolutely profoundly disappointed. I am not surprised, but I am disappointed," said Grant Mitchell, the Liberal senator who sponsored the bill in the Senate.

Bill C-311, introduced in the House of Commons by New Democratic Party (NDP) member of parliament (MP) Bruce Hyer, would have set a target for Canada to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions.

This plan and its implementation would be reviewed by the commissioner of the environment and sustainable development, as well as the National Roundtable on the Environment and the Economy, which would report back to the government and to Parliament.

"The bill would have made it awkward for the government because the targets set in the legislation were tougher than the ones the Conservatives established," said Roberto Leone, assistant professor of leadership and journalism at Laurier.

"The government's view is that tougher targets are not attainable without substantial shock to the economy and loss of jobs."

Bill C-311 included, as an interim target, that Canada reduce its greenhouse gas emissions to 25 per cent below 1990 levels by 2020, which conflicts with the Conservative government's target of reducing emissions to 17 per cent below 2005 levels by 2020.

"I support [Bill C-311] because I am deeply concerned about climate change. I am struck that the government is doing literally nothing. It is a great bill by Bruce Hyer of the NDP... The argument that it will harm the economy is nonsense," stated Senator Mitchell, noting that the short-term target in the bill, of a 25 per cent reduction by 2020, is not binding. Despite the opposition of the Conservatives, the bill was passed by the House of Commons due to the support of all three opposition parties, who collectively

outnumber the Conservative MPs. Having passed the House of Commons in May, the bill was under consideration in the Senate.

It is highly unusual for the Senate to defeat a bill that had been passed by the House of Commons, although the Senate does often amend bills and send them back to the House.

Senators are typically reluctant to defy the will of the House of Commons because, unlike MPs, they are appointed by the prime minister and are not elected.

Leone noted that a few major bills were defeated by the Senate in the 1990s and explained, "It's totally within their realm of power to defeat bills... The Senate has near equal powers with respect to legislative duties as the House of Commons."

When Bill C-311 came up for a vote in the Senate, the Conservatives, who now have a near-majority due to recent appointments, voted against the bill and it was defeated by a vote of 32 to 43.

"They [the Conservatives] don't have democratic principles, they have democratic conveniences. I bet they will find other bills [that they want to defeat in the Senate]," predicted Senator Mitchell.

Leone doesn't see any prospect for a breakthrough in Canadian climate change policy in the near future: "There was a stalemate before the defeat of C-311 and it continues today. This will likely be the case for the foreseeable future."

Bill C-311 facts

- First reading in Parliament Feb. 10, 2009 when Hyer introduced the bill
- Ensure that Canada meets its global climate change obligations under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
- Reduce to 80 per cent below levels registered in 1990 by 2050. The bill would also have required the government to commit to a series of interim targets leading up to 2050 and to develop a plan to reach those targets

—Courtesy of www.parl.gc.ca



ELLI GARLIN PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

From left: Iain Klugman, David Johnson, Craig Alexander, Ian Mclean and Allan Foerster.

Economy to 'muddle along'

Laurier hosts economic outlook session to discuss the global economic recovery with a special focus on Canada

JOHN BOUFFARD
CORD NEWS

After Canada was dragged into the worst economic recession since the 1930s, it would be well over a year before the economy began its recovery.

But many wonder what sort of resiliency is to be expected in the coming years and just how susceptible the market may be after its downfall and outright contraction.

To generate some answers, the Laurier Centre for Economic Research & Policy Analysis (LCERPA) along with the School of Business and Economics (SBE) hosted an economic outlook session at the Communitech Hub in Kitchener.

The event featured keynote speaker Craig Alexander, senior vice-president and chief economist at TD Financial Group, who was asked to address primary economic issues and expected growth trends.

"History has shown that the worse the recession, or contraction, the stronger the boom in the recovery," said Alexander.

Given the severity of the recent recession, growth rates should have been upwards of six per cent.

However, since the cause of the decline was a financial crisis as opposed to inflation-related issues, it is typical that recovery is much slower.

In Canada and other developed

nations, markets have rebounded, but with moderate growth rates of two to three per cent, which seems disappointing in comparison to emerging markets such as the developing giants China and India who are experiencing the largest growth rates at close to ten per cent.

The main worry is the occurrence of a "double dip" in which the economy would slip back into another recession.

"We think there is a one-third chance of (a double dip) happening, but it is not the most likely scenario," Alexander predicts.

He expects that the Canadian economy will "muddle along" at a 2-2.5 per cent annual growth for the next two years, limited by the United States' weak housing market and unemployment rate, which is realistically 16 to 17 per cent when including discouraged and underutilized workers.

"40 per cent of the economy is trade and 76 per cent of [Canada's] trade is with the U.S.," pointed out Alexander, illustrating that the well-being of the Canadian economy is steadily dependent on that of the United States.

"There was nothing fundamentally wrong with the Canadian economy before the financial crisis and the financial system seized up."

Alexander expects rock-bottom interest rates to remain low and the Canadian dollar to average at least

"History has shown that the worse the recession, or contraction, the stronger the boom in the recovery."

—Craig Alexander, senior vice-president and chief economist at TD Financial Group

parity with the U.S. over the coming year and well above that in 2012.

One particular area of expected growth is in business investments — a promising trend for the Waterloo Region and its technological sector.

With below-average unemployment rates, the region has already experienced a marginally better rebound than the rest of the nation.

Start-ups and new ventures are a means of fuelling growth and increasing the country's productivity, which Alexander says is far too low.

"Canada's biggest issue, besides the budget deficit it faces, is its atrocious level of productivity."

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Provincial lobby group outlines priorities

LINDA GIVETASH
NEWS DIRECTOR

With the Ontario Undergraduate Student Alliance (OUSA) anticipating their provincial lobby conference at Queen's Park in the upcoming weeks, their general assembly held on the weekend of Nov. 4 allowed the member schools to outline the organization's priorities.

Three of OUSA's policy papers — regarding student financial assistance, accessibility and international students — were re-evaluated and approved during the plenary session on Nov. 7.

Financial Assistance

"There's a never-ending stream of changes that could be made to improve [the Ontario Student Assistance Program] OSAP for students," said Alexi White, executive director of OUSA. Last spring, the provincial government made several changes to the program, including doubling

the in-study income exemption from \$50 to \$100 per week, however there are still shortfalls OUSA believes must be addressed. "One is lowering the parental contributions," White explained, noting that OSAP calculates a greater parental contribution requirement than the national student loan, leaving many students under-funded. He added that OUSA's policy on the student loan system is also advocating for a decrease in the interest rate currently set on the loans, from prime plus one to simply the prime interest rate, which although seems insignificant would make a huge difference to a student repaying their loans years after they graduate.

Accessibility

Saad Aslam, who attended the conference, along with four members of Laurier's external affairs committee (EAC), said that one of the important issues that was addressed was in the accessibility

paper that discussed providing more assistance to minority and first-generation students. Aslam sees these students with the potential to contribute a new perspective to the post-secondary system. "Getting students here who are a diverse part of the population I think is a big thing because with their different life experiences," he said.

Reaching out to prospective post-secondary students, as outlined in the policy paper, must begin to be tackled in the primary and secondary school systems. "Most students would have made up their mind whether they are going to [post-secondary education] or not before they even enter high school," Aslam said, conveying some of the statistics that were researched in formulating OUSA's policies.

Read the full story online at thecord.ca



CASA advocates student issues

The annual lobby conference earned commitments from MPs

LINDA GIVETASH
NEWS DIRECTOR

Last week, the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA) and its member schools, including Wilfrid Laurier University, lobbied members of parliament (MP) and senators in Ottawa on issues affecting current and prospective students. "One of the major things we were pushing for and actually I think was received well was making sure that graduate students have access to needs-based grants," said Zachary Dayler, national director of CASA. "More students are going to pursue more levels of education, so making sure that money is there was important."

The conference, Dayler explained, followed a presentation the organization made to the House of Commons steering committee on finance on Nov. 1 regarding CASA's pre-budget submission, which highlighted many of the key issues that were later lobbied on. "We definitely pushed for a number of reforms to the Canada Student Loan Program (CSLP)," added Dayler.

Over the course of three days,

Nov. 15-17, CASA and its members met with 112 government representatives, including Liberal leader Michael Ignatieff and conservative finance minister Jim Flaherty.

Saad Aslam, VP: university affairs for the Wilfrid Laurier University Students' Union (WLUSU), attended approximately eight meetings with government representatives.

One of the CSLP reforms Aslam and Dayler both explained called for a re-adjustment to the in-study income exemption, which currently allows students to earn \$50 per week. "After they make \$50 per week the assessment for CSLP claws back what they can get dollar for dollar," explained Dayler, "so allowing that to grow from \$50 to \$200 that would make it the highest provincial standard, which is in Alberta."

Regarding reforms needed for the copyright act, Aslam discussed how the current legislation poses many financial and academic difficulties for students.

"There was a book importation premium that's in the copyright act, what this does right now, it's marked up by ten per cent for books from the [United] States or 15 per cent for

international books so this increases the price that students pay," explained Aslam. He added that there was also a portion of the act that required intellectual property, such as lectures and lesson plans, to be destroyed after only a few years, making it difficult for professors to constantly restructure their courses.

In meeting with MPs and senators, Dayler said that approximately 50 per cent of them committed to the ideas CASA was presenting.

"We ask these MPs to write letters to their colleagues, to raise it with their caucus, to write letters to other ministers," he then added, explaining what that commitment entails.

"What it comes down to is satellite lobbying," said Aslam, who although did not meet with any local Kitchener-Waterloo MPs, intends on following up with them when they return to their ridings.

Reflecting on the conference as a whole, Aslam added that having now returned to Laurier, he hopes to receive feedback on some of the lobby items from the student body. "All of these [points] significantly impact students whether they're aware of it or not," he said.

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WORLD

World Editor Alex Mitsiopoulos • amitsiopoulos@thecord.ca

Haiti: 'The Republic of NGOs'

As Haiti looks to the future, reliance on foreign aid is questioned

ALANNA WALLACE
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

"Its government exists only in name, not in substance," said Patricia Adams of Probe International in regards to Haiti, as she addressed a small gathering at the University of Waterloo at a conference held by the Institute for Liberal Studies on Nov. 19.

"Though Haiti occupies a seat at the United Nations, it doesn't deserve one," she continued. "It is not a truly independent state."

Adams' lecture examined the nation, which was ravaged by an earthquake last January that killed approximately 300,000 people and left 1.5 million homeless.

She pointed the blame largely at foreign aid and those agencies that supply monetary aid — explaining Haiti's long, turbulent and corrupt past.

"History shows that the more aid Haiti has received, the more Haiti has fallen," Adams said. "New foreign aid is not going to fix the fundamental problems that plague the country — it will only make those problems worse."

Categorizing Haiti as a failed

state, Adams described the small Caribbean nation, which shares a border with the Dominican Republic, as a "predatory democracy, where those in power pillage the state and treat government positions as entrepreneurial opportunities."

Again, Adams turned to the problem of Haiti's dependence on foreign aid, which has created a vicious cycle whereby the "government is unconcerned with nation-building, with institution-building, or with post-conflict resolution ... content to let outsiders dictate its future."

"In the end the nine million citizens in Haiti abide under an absentee administration with no control, no input or responsibility over their own body politic," said Adams.

The effect that foreign aid has on the politics of Haiti can be tracked through the overwhelming amount of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) that operate within the country.

Having the most NGOs per capita of any other nation, Haiti is home to what Adams called a "parallel state" of non-government actors, which include big charities such as Doctors Without Borders.

She said one estimate states that 70 per cent of aid flowing through Haiti comes from NGO operations and "may account for as much as one quarter of Haiti's gross domestic product."

This means Haiti's development is dependent upon charity.

Most important was likely Adams' suggestions for ways to break the cycle of dependence for Haiti.

The first included making the nation a UN trusteeship; the second included executing an existing strategic plan set forth by 60 Haitians.

Both the third and fourth proposals included the United States taking on various administrative, judicial and legislative authorities, with Haiti giving up certain degrees of sovereignty.

Without suggesting which option would be best, Adams stressed that the decision of how to rebuild and restore Haiti should be executed through democratic process.

"Only Haitian citizens can decide that and they can really only decide that after they've had a chance to debate it in a secure environment, in an open environment," said Adams. "To look at all the various options and to vote."

The facts

- During the Jan. 12 earthquake, 250,000 buildings came down, including the presidential palace; 300,000 were dead, buried and maimed.
- Ten months after the devastating earthquake, little of the \$10 billion has been handed over by rich governments for fear that the Haitian government, which has a reputation for being corrupt, will steal the money.
- One million Haitians still remain in tent cities without proper sanitation or water of nine a million population.
- Despite receiving \$8.3 billion dollars in foreign aid over the last four decades, Haiti remains politically dysfunctional and impoverished.
- 30 per cent of the civil service employees are "phantom" which means they collect their pay cheques but they don't show up for work.
- Its population is 25 per cent poorer today than it was in 1945.

—Courtesy of Patricia Adams



MEGAN CHERNIAK PHOTO MANAGER Adams during her lecture at UW.



NICK LACHANCE VISUAL DIRECTOR

Lee Windsor speaking at Wilfrid Laurier on the battle of Messina.

A new breed of historian

Canadian professor accompanies troops in Afghan mission

ALEXANDROS MITSIOPOULOS
WORLD EDITOR

"The public debate that was being had about the mission in Afghanistan in ... 2006 is almost the same of what the status of the public debate on Afghanistan is today. It's terrible," said University of New Brunswick deputy director of the Gregg Centre Lee Windsor in regards to his book *Kandahar Tour: Turning Point in Canada's Afghan Mission*.

Specializing in Canadian military history, Windsor visited Laurier on Nov. 17 to deliver a presentation on the battle for Messina.

Most of Windsor's work revolves around Canada's involvement in the Italian campaign in WW2; however, his interests have come to include Canadian involvement in Afghanistan as well.

"What links my interest in the Second World War together with my interest in Afghanistan is that they're probably the two most important times in Canadian history where Canada has become part of a large multinational partnership that has gone abroad to project military, political power and even aid power for something that they collectively believe needs to be done. That's the

link."

In 2007, Windsor accompanied a Canadian combat group, Task Force 1-07, while on duty in Afghanistan. Windsor assumed the role of an embedded historian, a task that afforded him the opportunity to "document the events of the war as they unfolded."

"The book that we wrote as a result of that experience is less a history and more of a chronicle," Windsor explained.

Often frustrated with some of the inaccuracies that surrounded the Afghan mission, Windsor suggested that the debate "needed an emergency transfusion of information into a public discussion that was ignorant of reality."

"We don't want to influence the debate over this, for or against, what we want to is to raise the quality of the debate so that at least people can be discussing the facts," he added.

Windsor believes that the Afghan mission has become a matter of partisan politics, stating, "The people arguing for and against the mission have dumbed it down to the lowest base levels."

"It's a complicated mission. In a lot of respects, what I thought what we needed to do with this book is

write Afghanistan for dummies," he added.

Under the status of a soldier himself, Windsor had security clearance to access information on the mission unattainable to anyone outside military personnel. He was able to attend briefings and sit in on deployment instructions that would regularly exclude members of the press.

Windsor explained that his experiences as an embedded historian were largely possible due to his close relationship with the Task Force. "It worked because we knew people. The battle-group commander was a former student at the University of New Brunswick and we said hey, if I tagged along, this would be a great way to create a historical package."

Given the nature of his involvement in the project, however, he said, "I don't know if you could recreate this again. It's dangerous."

Presently, Windsor is continuing his work investigating NATO operations and Canadian efforts in the Second World War, in addition to the changing scope of the war in Afghanistan. His new book, *Advance to kill: Allied strategy and Canadian tactics in the battle for the Gothic line*, is set for publication in the near future.

WLUSP AGM

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World in brief

MADRID, Spain

On Nov. 17, at the international conference entitled "Last Frontiers of Transplant Operation" in Madrid, doctors announced that they are currently in preparation for the first double leg transplant on a patient who lost both his legs in an accident and is physically unable to use prosthetic limbs. The doctor, Pedro Cavadas, will lead the transplant team in surgery, loosely scheduled to take place within the next two to six months at Hospital de la Fe in Valencia.

AMSTERDAM, Holland

The Dutch government is pushing to ban the sale of marijuana from all coffee shops in an attempt to decrease national criminal activity. Tourists are currently able to legally buy and possess up to five grams of hash. The government announced a more expansive "crack-down" on the matter, enforcing new bans this coming September. Amsterdam has taken a leading pro-active approach, already in the process of closing many shops in the red light district that currently practice drug sales.

GENEVA, Switzerland

Researchers at CERN, the European Organization for Nuclear Research, announced on Nov. 23 that they have managed to trap and suspend 38 anti-hydrogen atoms in place for a fraction of a second; a scientific breakthrough, as any antimatter created before was destroyed upon instant contact with real matter. Researchers report that this new ability to study antimatter will allow for the test of fundamental physics, previously rendered impossible.

—Compiled by Leeza Peece

"Bosnia, Korea, they're all important, they're all similar, but [Italy and Afghanistan] are the two largest packages with the heaviest blood price per capita for number of soldiers engaged." —Lee Windsor

Nuclear disarmament set to start

Ending unfavourably last year, skeptics doubt nuclear regulation will succeed

NIKICIA PHILLIPS
STAFF WRITER

The two countries that account for more than 95 per cent of the world's nuclear weapons are in the midst of signing a nuclear arms treaty.

However, some United States Republican lawmakers prove skeptical of the agreement and are hesitant to pass the legislation.

The New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (the START program) would leave Russia and the US with 1,550 warheads each— a reduction of nearly 30 per cent.

In addition, the treaty would allow for regular inspections of each other's stockpiles.

These visits were allowed under the first START program, but it expired last year.

The *Globe and Mail* reported on Nov. 18 that U.S. President Barack Obama called the treaty "a national security imperative" last week.

Furthermore, he told the American people, "This is not a Democratic concept. This is not a Republican concept ... This is a concept of American national security that has been promoted by Ronald Reagan, George H.W. Bush, Bill Clinton, George W. Bush and now my administration. We've taken the time to do this right."

Patrick Dennis, a political military professor at Wilfrid Laurier University and former senior officer in the Canadian Air Force, asserts unequivocally that the treaty

is crucial to American national security, as well as to U.S.-Russia relations.

However, Dennis expressed, "The treaty has clearly become a political football of sorts during this post-election 'lame duck' session of Congress."

Similarly, Barry Kay, a professor of American politics at Laurier, suggested that despite the importance of this legislation, there is a partisanship element to this debate.

"Those opposed to Obama are trying to fight [the treaty] because they think that any Obama "accomplishment" helps him and hurts them, regardless of its merit," stated Kay.

Without regular inspections, the national governments are left to speculate each other's capabilities which may result in further increases to existing stockpiles.

Dennis demonstrated concern over the expiration of the first START program, in that "an inspections regime is a vital component of this treaty... but for almost a year now there have been no inspections whatsoever, and it appears that this will be the case for some time to come."

The treaty still needs to pass in the Senate, where Republican senators have been vocal about their disagreement with the legislation.

Some Republicans view this approach to national security as dated because it infers that Russia and the U.S. need to keep an equal amount

of weapons in order to maintain the threat of mutually assured destruction.

Also, conservative lawmakers feel that the treaty would constrain the development of American anti-missile defenses.

Many are skeptical of whether

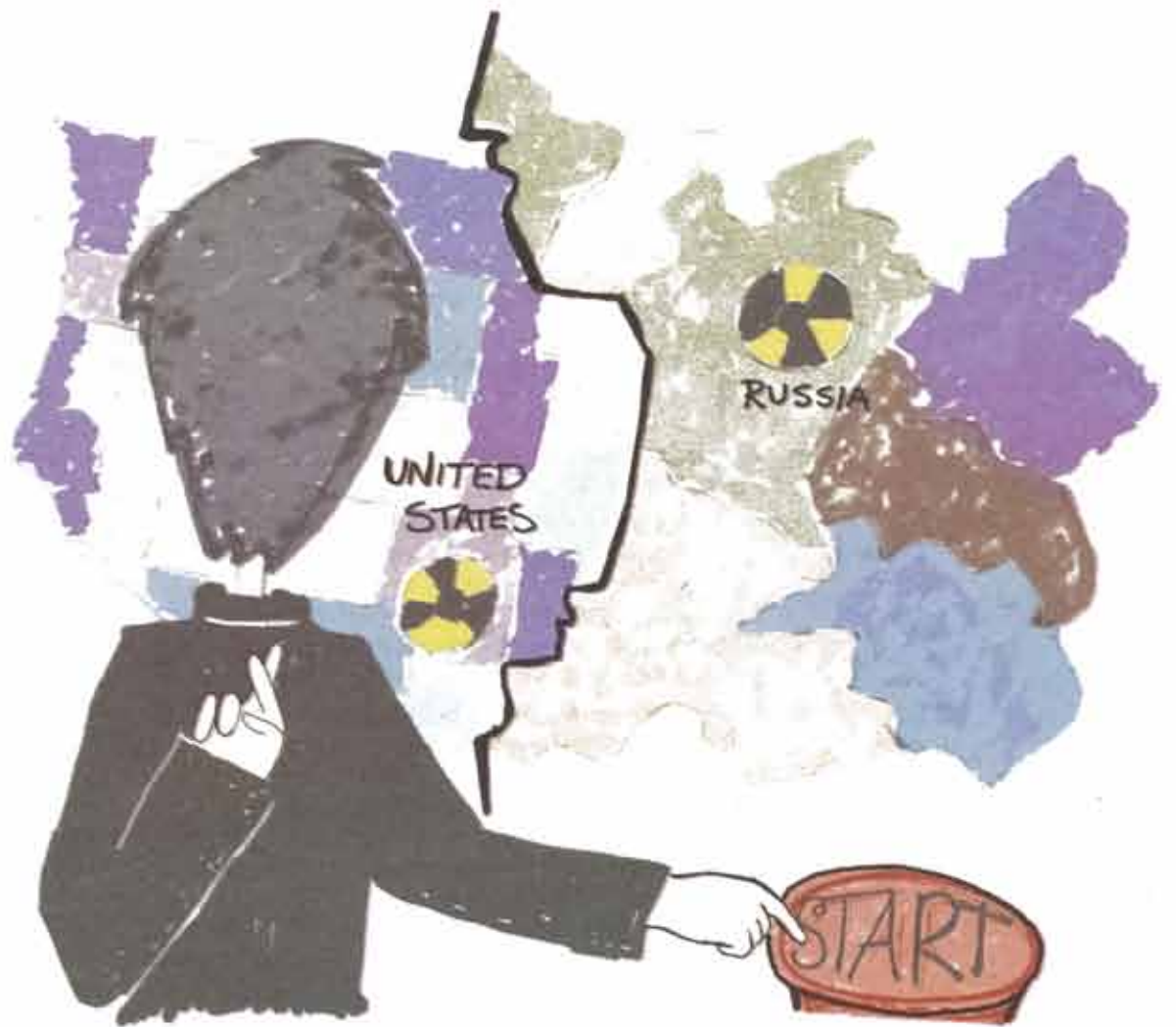
Russia will honour the pact.

Sen. Jon Kyl of Arizona has been outspoken against the treaty and urges that more time is needed to develop an effective nuclear arms treaty with Russia and that this shouldn't be rushed.

Obama is lobbying Capitol Hill

intensely for ratification of this piece of legislation and remains confident that he, like every president since Ronald Reagan, will get the treaty passed.

Ratification requires 67 votes out of the 100 senators on the issue.



FIGIELLA MORZI GRAPHICS ARTIST

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Shaping the growth of Uptown

The young entrepreneurs who own businesses in Waterloo give their tricks of the trade and open their own small businesses — explaining why being your own boss at a young age is so rewarding

ERIN EPP
CORD CONTRIBUTOR

Local businesses form the backbone of Uptown Waterloo, making our urban core an area with a unique draw.

These entrepreneurial endeavours contribute to the local economy by reinforcing the Uptown area as a destination spot and employing both students and long-term residents of Waterloo.

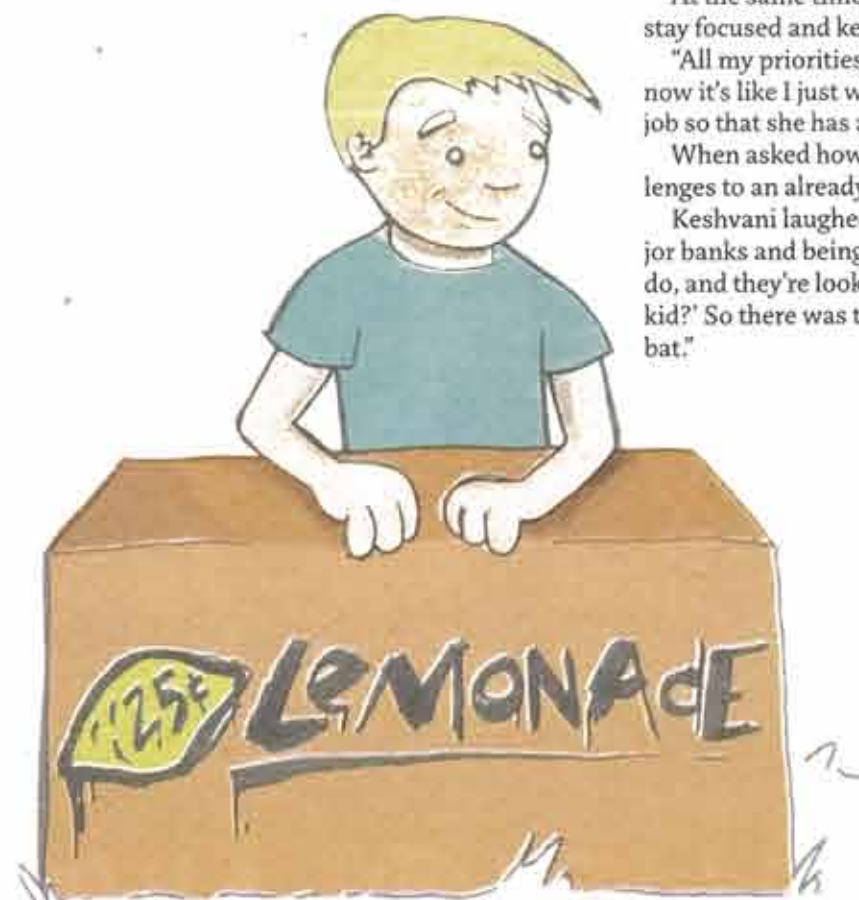
Three of those businesses, the Princess Cafe, Loop Clothing and Sustainable Waterloo, are owned and/or operated by young entrepreneurs.

Marc Lecompte is the 26-year-old owner of the Princess Cafe, located at 46 King St. N. Although he has been working at the cafe since its opening in 2006, he bought it on Oct. 1 of this year.

The cafe serves fresh, homemade soups, salads and delicious sandwiches, as well as locally made desserts and pastries. His food philosophy in three words is "simple...but awesome."

He continued, "The fact that we just focus on soups and sandwiches is important. It's what we're good at and that's why people come here, so the emphasis on simplicity is important."

Alnoor Keshvani is the 32-year-old owner of Loop Clothing, which he started in 2004. Loop is a streetwear boutique that sells high quality, exclusive brands, and is located at 56 King St. N.



When asked what his original concept for the store was, Keshvani answered, "The key for me was that I wanted to open up a shop that wasn't just a shop. I wanted it to be a destination for people to come and be active participants in the culture."

Mike Morrice is the 26-year-old executive director and co-founder of Sustainable Waterloo, a non-profit that works with organizations in Waterloo Region to help them reduce their environmental impact.

Currently, this mission takes the form of the Regional Carbon Initiative, where businesses set voluntary goals to reduce their carbon emissions and work to lower their emissions over time.

He said that what he loves about his organization is that they are "adding to the discussion around meaningful reductions and tracking that action — as opposed to all the greenwash that exists out there — and providing a vehicle for communicating that change."

The difference of being a young business owner

Getting a new business or non-profit off the ground is no easy task. It means working long hours, sometimes without pay, and spending less time with family and friends.

For Lecompte, the biggest drawback of working such long hours is spending less time with his two-year-old daughter, Clover.

At the same time, having a daughter helps him to stay focused and keep business going well.

"All my priorities shifted when I had a child, so now it's like I just want to work hard and do a killer job so that she has a good situation," he said.

When asked how being young adds new challenges to an already stressful task,

Keshvani laughed, "I remember walking into major banks and being like this is what I'm looking to do, and they're looking at me like 'how old are you kid?' So there was that sense of ageism right off the bat."

Morrice stated that his biggest challenge being a young entrepreneur was building a network and making connections with the business world.

"One of the biggest take-aways for me in the past few years is the importance of building long-term relationships with people across the community," he stated.

Despite these drawbacks, all three people stressed the benefits of starting young.

Keshvani and Lecompte both benefited from loans and mentorship through the Canadian Youth Business Foundation (CYBF), which aims to help young entrepreneurs between the ages of 18 and 34 to start their own business.

Keshvani also pointed to knowledge of new media as a benefit of being young.

"One of the things I was able to do because of my young age was finesse my PR channels really well, letting major publications know that this is who I am, this is what we're doing," he said. "And because I was young they were interested, so that was the spin."

Morrice emphasized that particularly when the people involved in an organization are young, a strong sense of passion shines through.

"A real benefit of it all was the passion we brought to the whole thing, and I think people really find that refreshing and are excited by it and rally around that."

Sustainable Waterloo certainly makes use of young talent, as the organization is driven by volunteers and co-op students.

According to Morrice, engaging students "adds to the diversity of the organization so that when we have our team meetings and talk about how we're going to approach this issue that we have a younger perspective as well as an older perspective."

"When it comes to volunteering for us, it's about not just having them contribute to what we're doing, but having them focus on their professional development and what they're going to get out of it," Morrice also noted of the mutual benefit that arises from engaging students as volunteers.

Uptown?

Really proud to say that like 80 per cent of the rest of the year I'm walking to work," said Keshvani. Indeed, this holds true for Lecompte and Keshvani as well; all three men live within walking distance of their work and all three are invested and active in the local Uptown community.

Keshvani continued, "I live Uptown, I own property and I just bought a loft on the other side of the city. It's really important to me that I'm not just a business owner, I'm also a community member and active in the community."

Everyone wants each other to succeed because business doesn't succeed then it's bad for the rest of the community. Everyone wants to see the other do really well so we can keep Uptown vibrant," said Lecompte of the close community of independent business owners in Uptown.

From an environmental point of view, Sustainable Waterloo's central Uptown office location also the business stay true to its values. As Morrice said, "If we were going to think about an office space, Uptown was preferred, on a bus route referred to as well, in a central location was preferred."

The office space itself has helped Sustainable Waterloo develop a better team dynamic. According to Morrice, "Having this office space has really done a lot for our team's culture and our team identity, and it says enough about how having a space really is a team identity and a dynamic to grow."

Uptown business

Uptown business allows space for innovation and creativity, pointed Lecompte, who stated, "I've put potato chips on a menu for a lunch special."

special if I want. There's just a lot more license to do what I want to do."

Although Lecompte has only owned the Princess Cafe for less than two months, he has already renovated the space and has plans for putting a greater emphasis on catering and making the cafe more of a destination for community events.

"I want to do like B-movie nights and music video nights. I feel like the environment, the way we've changed the way it is in here, is more conducive to hanging out and doing fun stuff in here."

According to Keshvani, Loop Clothing has grown incredibly since its inception.

To grow further, he has started a new initiative called Fresh Almighty, which will offer an expanded inventory along the same lines as Loop, but online.

"My goal is to be able to be Canada's top online sneaker-wear retailer," he said of his business objectives.

Sustainable Waterloo will continue to grow membership in the Regional Carbon Initiative. They currently have 29 member businesses who have pledged to reduce their emissions, and they aim to have 50 members by the end of next year.

The business is also looking towards new areas in which they can help businesses reduce their environmental impact.

Morrice is currently "looking at other environmental impact areas such as water, waste, product

“Everyone wants to see each other do really well so we can keep Uptown vibrant.”

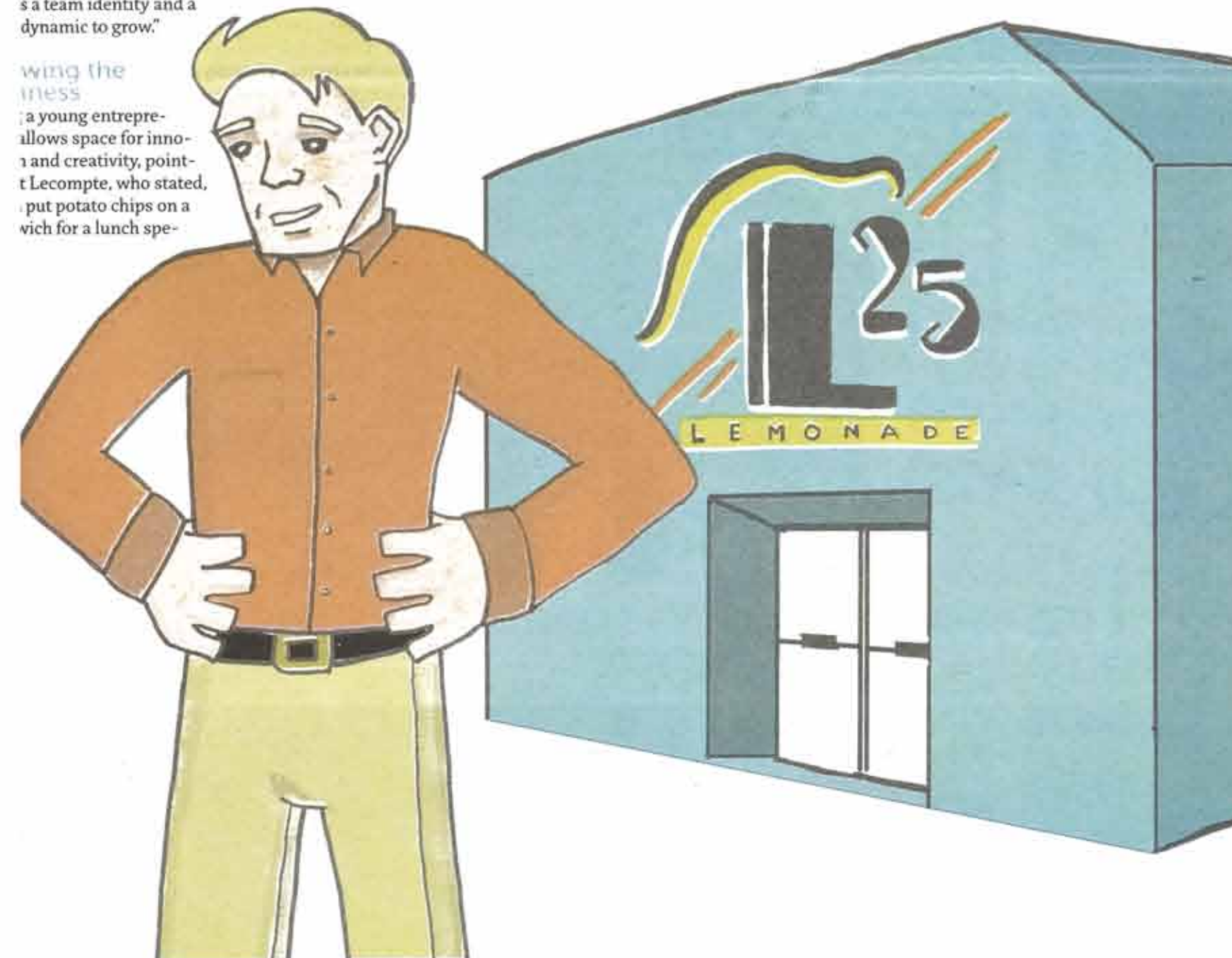
—Marc Lecompte, owner of Princess Cafe

lifecycle and seeing which one of those might make sense for us to work on."

In terms of advice for young entrepreneurs, Keshvani stressed the importance of having a good support system.

"It's important for any young entrepreneur to surround themselves with like-minded people and a support structure that they can lean on because, you know, it's tough working day in day out, really long days, and eating Kraft Dinner when you go home."

"It's a tough lifestyle, but it's one of those things that when you stretch it out, in due time, it will pay off ten-fold. I guarantee it," Keshvani concluded.



WADE THOMPSON GRAPHICS EDITOR

The brightest and youngest entrepreneurs

Mark Zuckerberg, 26
Co-founder of Facebook, which is set to bring in about \$1 billion in revenue this year alone according to various reports. Zuckerberg's own wealth is estimated to be somewhere in the vicinity of \$4 billion.

Stacey Bendet, 32
Bendet co-founded Alice + Olivia, a successful women's clothing line that makes a reported \$50 million annually, which she now runs by herself. Collections are now sold in over 800 stores around the world.

Dennis Crowley, 33, and Naveen Selvadurai, 28
These two founded Foursquare, which allows users to alert Facebook and Twitter friends and followers of the places they've been. The social networking and software combination is worth approximately \$80 million.

David Chang, 32
Chang created Momofuku, a New York City noodle bar that now has overflowing restaurants across the entire city. He has authored a cookbook and made the 2010 Time 100 list.

David Hurley, 34; Steve Chen, 32; and Chad Hurley, 31
The three youngsters co-founded the video-sharing website YouTube from an office in a garage in 2005. Its worth is unknown, but Google bought it in November of 2006 for \$1.65 billion.

Andrew Mason, 29
Mason, owner of the coupon website Groupon, estimated to be valued at \$1.2 billion in 2010, is also the creator of the site, which brings in around \$350 million annually.

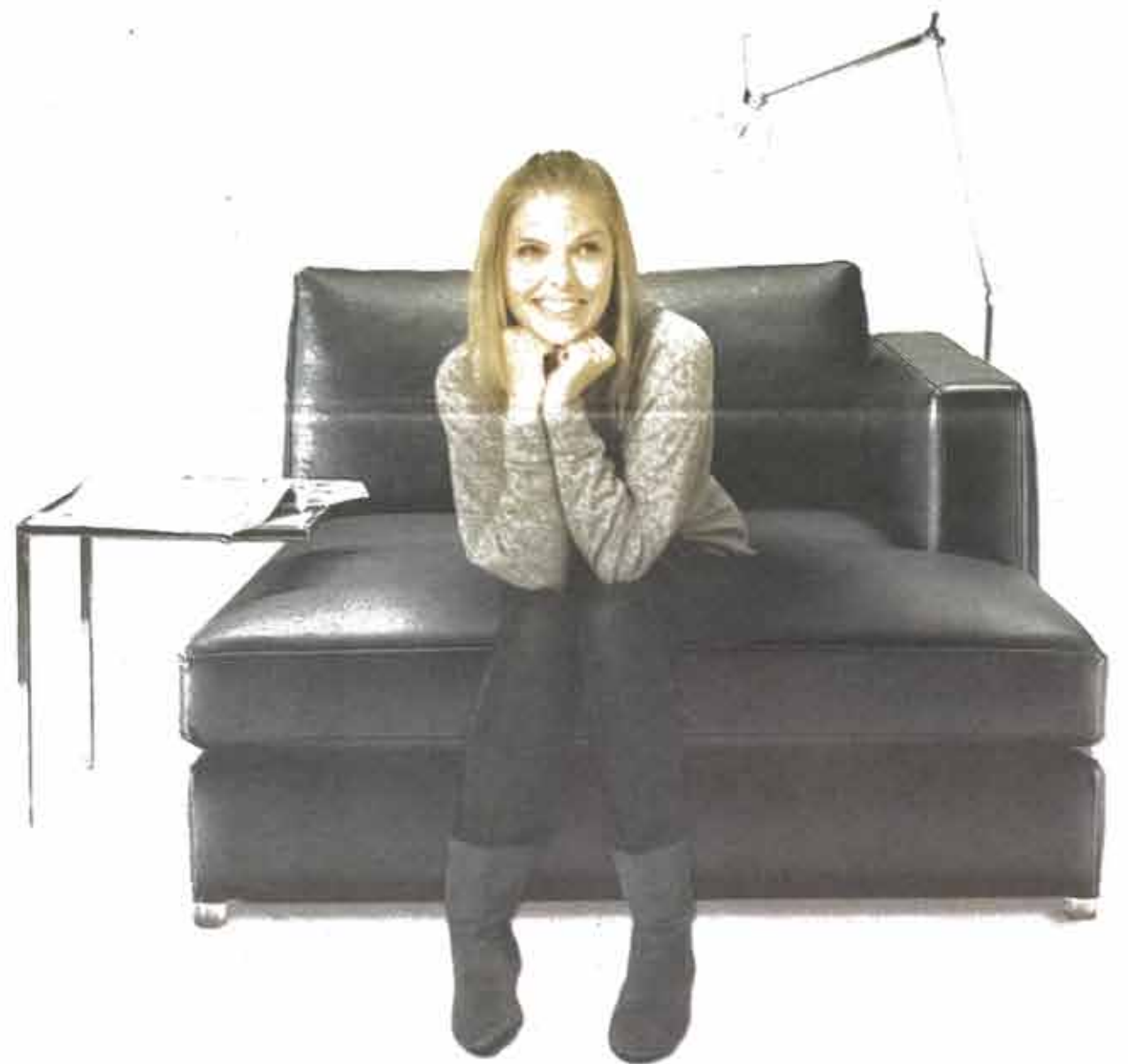
Aaron Patzer, 30
Creator of the money management site mint.com, Patzer holds multiple graduate and undergraduate degrees and created the site when he was just 25. Intuit bought it for \$170 million in 2009.

Kevin Rose, 33
Rose created Digg, a content-sharing website with an estimated revenue of about \$31 million.

—courtesy of smallbusiness.aol.com, compiled by Alanna Wallace

LUXE
WATERLOO

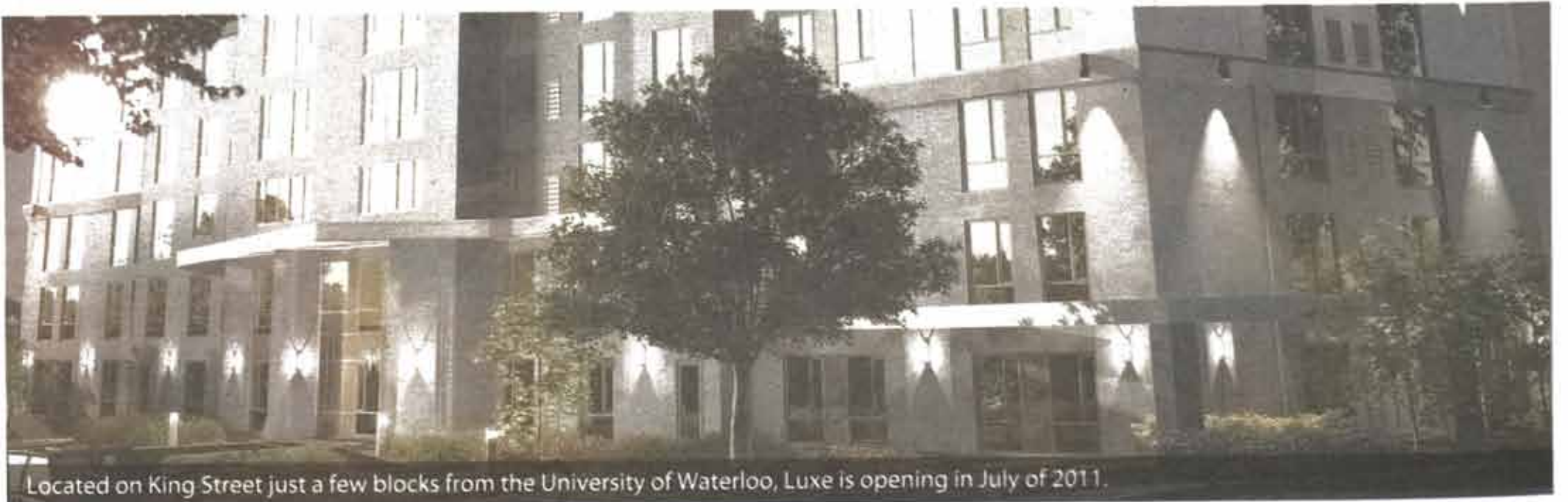
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ARTS

Arts Editor Sarah Murphy • smurphy@thecord.ca

Action replaced by wizard angst

Latest instalment of the magical series abandons fast pace for incredibly awkward melodrama



SARAH MURPHY
ARTS EDITOR

Like any die-hard fan of the Harry Potter franchise, I've counted down, lined up and dressed up for the midnight screenings of the previous six films.

I've also been severely disappointed with the onscreen adaptations of most of them.

I'll admit that the last few instalments have been visually impressive and delivered entertaining action scenes.

There have even been admirable performances from the adult cast, most notably Helena Bonham Carter and Gary Oldman.

And yet as I sat in the theatre last Thursday night, eagerly staring at *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part I* on the giant screen in front of me, I was once again let down.

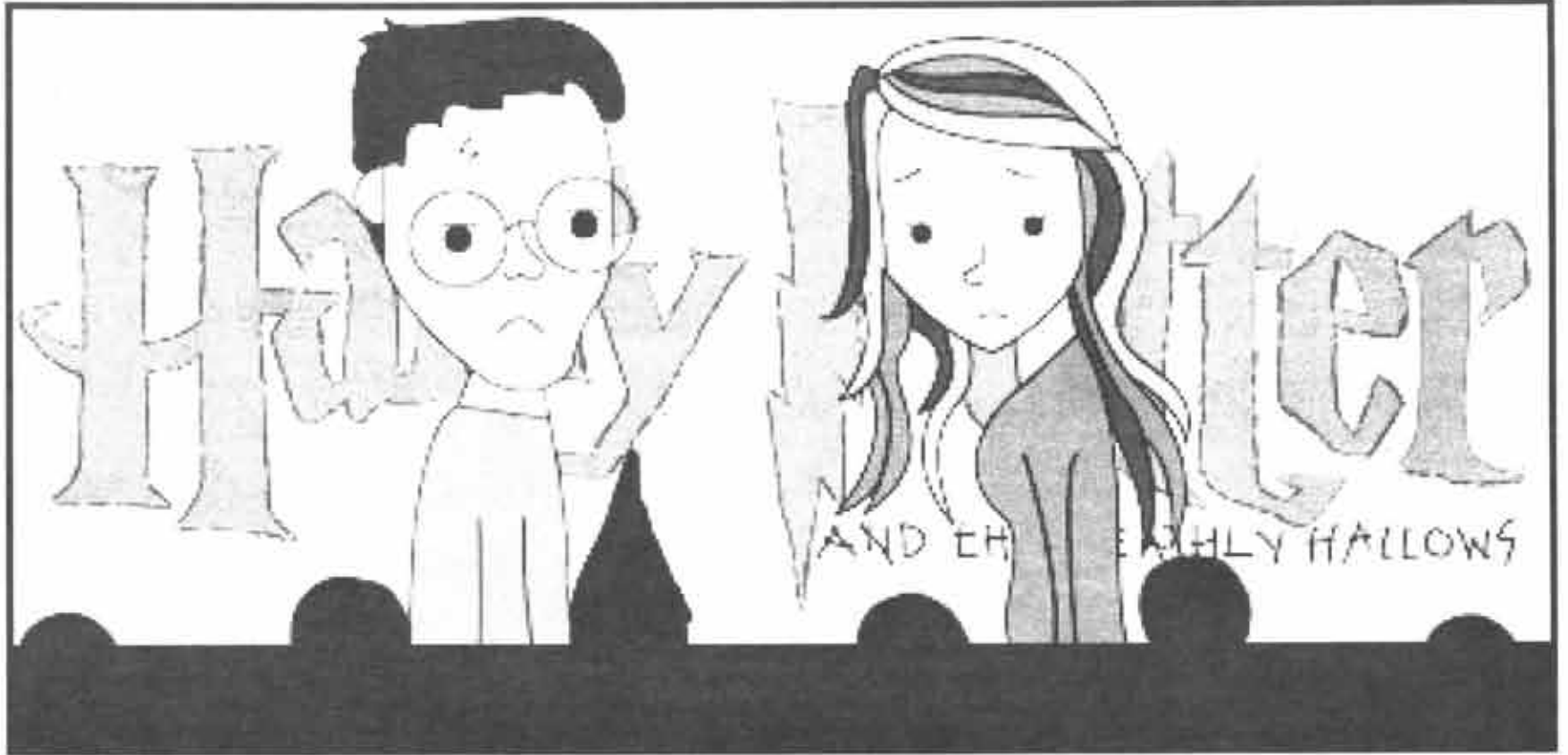
After the first film (2001's *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*) I reconciled with the fact that it is absolutely impossible to include every detail of a book in a screenplay.

It sucked that they left out some of the series' most endearing characters like Winky and Firenze, but as I said, I've come to terms with the omissions made in previous films.

So if it wasn't technical accuracy that bothered me about *The Deathly Hallows*, what was it?

Well, for starters, I wasn't expecting to see multiple shirtless Daniel Radcliffes in a single frame.

Yes, the Polyjuice Potion scene at the start was able to deliver some laughs, but more than anything, I just felt uncomfortable staring at a



TAYLOR GAYOWSKI GRAPHICS ARTIST

topless version of the kid that I've grown up watching on the silver screen for the last nine years.

And then there's the angst. Oh God, the angst.

I understand that wizards are not immune to whiney teenage despair, but it seemed to me throughout the film that the angst levels in Harry, Ron and Hermione were out of control.

Ron Weasley (Rupert Grint) fills the part of the brooding ginger — always short-tempered and melodramatic.

His anguish comes to a climax when he attempts to destroy Salazar Slytherin's locket.

The horcrux plays on Ron's wildest fears, conjuring up a vision of a naked Harry and Hermione making

out.

Though mostly factually accurate, the scene just came across as incredibly cheesy, eliciting laughter from more than a few audience members.

Hermione Granger (Emma Watson) is equally angst, constantly torn between her two male friends and rarely appearing onscreen without tears in her eyes.

To be fair, Potter (Daniel Radcliffe) himself comes off as more awkward than angst-ridden, but it doesn't make the viewing experience any more enjoyable.

Stumbling over silly one-liners, in addition to the world's most awkward and unnecessary dance sequence with Hermione made me cringe on more than a couple

occasions.

The melodramatic lives of the ex-Hogwarts students wouldn't even have been so unbearable to watch had the story been supplemented with more action.

Other than the Death Eaters' early attack on the Order of the Phoenix as they transport Harry to safety — a scene that seemed to borrow immensely and somewhat unfittingly from Christopher Nolan's *The Dark Knight* — there were relatively few fast-paced sequences.

The scene where Snatchers chase the trio through a forest picked up the pace a bit, but was unable to recreate the greatness of the battle scenes in *The Order of the Phoenix* or *The Half-Blood Prince*.

Moreover, as one of two

instalments, *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part I* fails to stand on its own as a film.

I couldn't help but leave the cinema feeling like I'd only watched half a movie.

This may be an overly harsh assessment of the film.

Everyone's favourite house elf Dobby stole the show, and the animated sequence telling the "Tale of the Three Brothers" was executed masterfully.

Who knows, maybe in a couple years I'll even look back and find the awkward child actors charming.

But as for now, all I'll be doing is re-reading the book and preparing myself for the probably inevitable disappointment of *The Deathly Hallows Part II*.

Starlight hosts impressive indie showcase

At the Indie Band Festival hosted by Laurie Brown of CBC Radio 2, local independent bands were given the opportunity to demonstrate their musical talents for an eager Waterloo audience

DREW HIGGINBOTHAM
STAFF WRITER

This past Saturday, the Starlight Lounge wrapped up their Indie Band Festival after three nights of showcasing talented independent artists from across Ontario.

The New Music Society (NUMUS) is one of Waterloo's cultural institutions that helped bring together some of the most innovative and challenging musicians from Waterloo and Ontario.

The NUMUS mandate is to advance the public's knowledge and appreciation of music by providing and promoting musical performances and concerts from up and coming Canadian artists.

Late night CBC radio host Laurie Brown was in attendance and filled the role of host and curator for the evening. Brown, who currently hosts *The Signal* every Monday to Saturday on CBC Radio 2, spoke with *The Cord* briefly between sets.

"I was asked by Glenn Burh, a very talented music composer and member of the NUMUS society, if I

would assemble good artists from Ontario to do a late night series for the Starlight," explained Brown of her involvement with the festival.

Describing her eagerness at the opportunity, she concluded, "Of course I said yes."

All three evenings presented something different.

Thursday, Drumheller opened up the festival displaying their free jazz style.

Friday evening featured Daniela Gesundheit (also from Luxury Pond) with her side project Snowblink.

Also in attendance on Friday were Kevin Breit and Sisters Euclid, displaying their collaborative brand of jazz fusion.

Saturday evening's performance was extra special because Brown brought a CBC recording crew with her to capture the amazing sound of the Luxury Pond.

She described their sound as "a great musical happening" and went on to say that "Luxury pond changes the definition of contemporary music."

Luxury Pond front man Dan Goldman and musical partner (as well as his wife) Gesundeit from Snowblink collaborated with The Penderecki String Quartet, a well-established group of performers with strong ties to the music program at Wilfrid Laurier University.

The light guitars and beautiful vocals from Goldman and his wife, in conjunction with the quartet, made for an overwhelming musical experience, ripe with emotion.

The Penderecki String Quartet at one point offered their own tribute to great composer Henryk M. Gorecki, displaying their musical expertise.

The piece was intense and intricate, often with sudden changes in tempo, tone and texture. Luxury Pond's final song left the crowd roaring with applause.

As Luxury Pond finished and local electronic rock band Bocce took to the stage, the atmosphere underwent an amusing change.

The less regular, slightly older and more reserved crowd shifted to the usual Saturday night



BEN DEROGHIE STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

university bunch, ready to party alongside Bocce's impressive upbeat performance.

The guys rolled through songs both old and new, playing a few tracks from their latest album *Disambiguation*.

It was no wonder Bocce was chosen to end the night off, as their

fist-pounding beats and distorted electronic sounds elevated their goofy, off-the-wall stage presence.

The night was a rousing success and as the evening faded into its usual Global Warming club night, it left the audience looking forward to the next time Starlight hosts another indie showcase.

Be sure to see **Lights** at the Turret on Nov. 25 — Doors @ 9p.m., tickets \$20 at the C-Spot

Combining art and meditation

The KWAG's new workshop explores the connections between art and yoga

DREW HIGGINBOTHAM
STAFF WRITER

This past weekend, the Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery hosted a unique event exploring the connection between art and meditation.

The practice of yoga has different applications for everyone.

For some, it is a way to improve one's flexibility and physical well-being, to help achieve a toned body, reduce stress and acquire better posture.

Others take the practice of yoga one step further, choosing to utilize it as a means to achieve higher levels of self-awareness and a sense of spirituality.

Although commonly mistaken as a sub-type of religion in the same vein as Buddhism, yoga is not a religion.

Yoga is really more of a physical and mental discipline akin to a philosophical practice rather than a religious one.

Yoga is also a progressive process; the mind and body will continue to move forward as one achieves and experiences new areas of enlightenment.

Taking yoga yet a step further is Queen Street yoga director Meaghan Johnson at the Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery.

What Johnson has done is bring together the experience of yoga meditation and art in order to give participants a heightened perspective.

KWAG's experience of art through yoga was a two-hour workshop put on by Johnson in the art gallery's new programming space.

The workshop was designed for all types of yogis, from beginners to experts, from young to old.

Participants required no prior experience with yoga or contemporary art.

Johnson has been teaching yoga for eight years; she teaches a blend of Iyengar and Ashtanga yoga in addition to meditation techniques from the Buddhist tradition.

The new programming space has allowed Johnson the opportunity to fulfill her dream of teaching yoga at the art gallery.

The workshop began with stretching and meditative techniques designed to enhance the capacities of awareness and feelings of presence in the body.

Participants then wandered through the galleries focusing upon three elements of experience and perception in relation to art: the physical, the emotional and the cognitive.

While walking through the exhibits, positive or negative responses to the art evoked physical change like tension or release in the body and determined whether participants were interested or bored by the pieces on display.

Speaking to *The Cord*, Johnson said, "I've always thought of art galleries as a playground of experience. Here, we can be more open to experiences, and meditation really enhances that."

She continued, "Art galleries are an awesome place for practice. Often the feeling is that we need to know art in order to go to galleries. We are always focused on knowing what the art means or what the artist is saying."

Johnson concluded, "This sort of practice helps us look at art as our experience, exterior to what the art ought to say. How we see and perceive art can and should be our own experience."

Promising to be a unique and informative experience, Johnson's next workshop will be this coming January at the Clay and Glass Gallery in uptown Waterloo.



MEGAN CHERNIAK PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

Kardinal Offishall showed off his moves and got the crowd on their feet last Thursday at the Turret.

'If I didn't love it, I wouldn't do it'

ANTHONY DIMIAO
STAFF WRITER

Canadian hip-hop icon Kardinal Offishall played a well-attended set at the Turret last week, and it got loud.

The floor shook beneath the feet of a mass of fans, who had their hands in the air more often than not. Opening acts included K-W rap outfit The Get By and the Team Canada DJs duo.

The Get By were a lyrical experience, imparting a message of authenticity and making an effort to level with the audience.

The Team Canada DJs were all about dance, blending rap, swing and 50s songs together into one continuous rhythm which kept the crowd dancing throughout the longest set of the night.

Kardinal Offishall arrived with his band and entourage around 11 o'clock and briefly spoke to *The Cord*.

Born Jason D. Harrow, Kardinal grew up in Scarborough, Ontario — with hip-hop being less of a genre than a "way of life."

"Music is an expression of what we live, how we live, and why we live it," remarked Kardinal, who started

rapping when he was only eight years old.

By the age of 12, Kardinal performed on stage for the first time, with Nelson Mandela in attendance, an incredible start to what has become one of the most successful careers in Canadian hip-hop.

"Music took up so much of my life. We dedicated so much time, effort, money, sweat, pain into being able to do this for a living," said the rapper. And it shows in his performances.

Thursday's show had terrific energy, which left little distinction between the performer and the audience. Kardinal had four select fans dancing on stage and a seething crowd of fans dancing below.

"We're pretty show heavy," stated Kardinal. "Some people don't take much pride in their show, they just follow the status quo. I'm all about trying to have one of the craziest shows ever."

Kardinal's success as a live act was contingent as much on his audience as it was on his five-piece band.

There wasn't a single song Kardinal was willing to start if the audience wasn't as physically involved as he was. That said, his stage presence

“

We dedicated so much time, effort, money, sweat, pain into being able to do this for a living.”

—Kardinal Offishall, Canadian hip-hop artist

made rallying the audience an easy task.

Being one of the biggest names in Canadian hip-hop, Kardinal receives regular recognition and is a consistent award winner, with three Junos and three SOCAN awards, among others. While he appreciates the recognition, Kardinal Offishall still enjoys making music for the sake of making music and still gets a thrill out of performing for fans all over the world.

"If I didn't love it," said Kardinal, "I wouldn't do it."

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DearLIFE

Dear Life is your opportunity to write a letter to your life, allowing you to vent your anger with life's little frustrations in a completely public forum. All submissions to Dear Life are anonymous, should be no longer than 100 words and must be addressed to your life. Submissions can be sent to dearlife@thecord.ca no later than Monday at noon each week.

Dear Life,
Found a ring under my bed the other day. It was a girl's ring! So being a nice guy I wanted to find out who it belonged to. Naturally, I called up my ex-girlfriend and told her that I had found the ring that she had lost several months ago. After describing the ring to her there was a short pause followed by, "It's not mine! Go fuck yourself!"
Sincerely,
SHIT SON... Ma bad

Dear Life,
Look, I understand that you need to practice your dance moves somewhere, but how dare you insult mine and others' dance moves just because we do not take part in Fashion n' Motion. I'll have you know that I tear up the dance floor at Phil's on Saturdays and am probably a better dancer than you folk who choose to flaunt your dance moves in the Concourse. Also, you may want to spend more time studying than dancing there since you embarrassed your fellow dancers by saying 'your' and not 'YOU'RE'.
Sincerely,
People at Phil's appreciate my dance moves more than yours

Dear Life,
Why is campus suddenly filling up with random doors that serve no further purpose than to be an unnecessary roadblock? Example...the new doors the 24 Lounge. Or the ones by the Dining Hall. When one door opens...apparently another one gets built. Please use my ever-spiking tuition towards something that might further my education rather than something just makes it less convenient for students to get places.
Sincerely,
Open spaces

Dear Life,
Every day I fall in love a little more with something new at Laurier, but everything I've ever loved at WLU was BLOWN OUT OF THE WATER by the Rainbow Center's drag show. What a night of entertainment, love and acceptance. Please, please, please bring that show back, I promise I will be in the front row each and every time.
Sincerely,
Straight but DEFINITELY not narrow!

Dear Life,
Canada does not recognize Palestine as a sovereign nation. Why does our university choose to make political statements about foreign relations by placing a Palestinian flag in the Hall of Nations?
If a Kurdish student studies at Laurier, will the flag of Kurdistan go up? What about Northern Cyprus? South Ossetia? Somaliland?
Sincerely,
Free Tibet

Dear Life,
Next time you want to make a spelling mistake, please put it in an essay, rather than on a sign advertising our ever popular business faculty. Entrepreneurship? Really?
Sincerely,
Spelling is a transferable skill

Dear Life,
I want to scream a big and fat "F. YOU!" to the Faculty of Music for messing up my life royally in the last 3 years and 2 months — and 5 more months of it is on the way.
Sincerely,
I am getting the fuck out here in April with my 10.1 GPA

Dear Life,
I don't care if you're waiting for an elevator, looking for a book, or keeping your group study room door open because you're waiting for someone.
SHUT THE FUCK UP IN THE FUCKING LIBRARY AND HAVE SOME RESPECT. If you want to be social go to the 24 Lounge! You don't need to yell in the library!
Sincerely,
Trying to work on research papers P.S. And to the guy who was singing very loudly on the seventh floor last Wednesday evening: FUCK YOU

Dear Life,
I love people who recognize somebody is behind them and they hold the door open for you.
Sincerely,
It's nice how such a small effort can make your day

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EDITORIAL

Opinion Editor Eric Merkley • merkley@thecord.ca

Athlete egos are ruining professional sports

From Vince Young's temper tantrum after being benched in Sunday's game to Randy Moss's bizarre outburst regarding a catered lunch to Sean Avery's repeated disgracing of the game of hockey, professional athletes have not been presenting themselves in a positive light lately.

These more recent incidents come as just the most recent reminders of the latest breed of athlete. Today's professional athletes have become little more than egotistical, self-centred primadonnas, who seem to think they're above not only the rules, but also their fans and their teammates.

It seems obvious in today's era of multi-million dollar contracts, lucrative endorsements and worldwide media coverage that these athletes' egos will become slightly inflated. But it's gotten to the point that someone needs to remind them that they're simply an individual playing a sport.

Fans still showed up in droves when Brett Favre made his third return from retirement to the Minnesota Vikings this season. Tennessee Titans supporters greeted Moss at the airport despite his known attitude problems that got him run out of three different cities. And go check how many followers Terrell Owens has on Twitter, who is probably the most famous me-first athlete of them all.

These stars get away with almost anything; the fans are guiltier than anyone for feeding these disgusting egos.

Maybe the fact that this type of athlete is now idealized says more about today's fans than the athletes themselves. Narcissistic superstars are lauded over and followed every minute of every day, while a pure sporting event like this weekend's Vanier Cup will go largely unnoticed.

With last week's passing of legendary NHL head coach Pat Burns, fans should think back to the "old-school" brand of athlete: one of toughness and quiet confidence. And more importantly, one who respects his teammates, opponents, fans and the game.

—The Cord Editorial Board



Trans Awareness Week a tremendous success

Co-ordinated by the Laurier Rainbow Centre, Trans Awareness week was a tremendous success and should be heralded as an example for other campus groups who wish to create awareness.

With the Trevor Project reporting that 89 per cent of transgendered students were verbally harassed last year and with the recent media attention surrounding suicides caused by homophobia, it is important that the university community embrace events like the ones put on by the Rainbow Centre.

The centre and its volunteers, including the week's co-ordinator Chris Owen, should be commended for their innovative and dynamic ideas. The centre's volunteers combined entertaining events such as Wilf's Drag Domination on Friday night with important critical thinking discussions like the one on Nov. 19.

It is through these types of initiatives that a wide array of individuals across campus will be educated about issues normally labeled as taboo.

Participants created an atmosphere for learning that broke down the barriers so regularly related to issues of identity.

More groups on campus should learn from the Rainbow Centre's successful week of education and entertainment. At a school of often poorly attended guest speakers and conferences, their events were a breath of fresh air — so take note.

—The Cord Editorial Board

This unsigned editorial is based off informal discussions and then agreed upon by the majority of The Cord's editorial board, which consists of 15 senior Cord staff including the Editor-in-Chief and Opinion Editor. The arguments made may reference any facts that have been made available through interviews, documents or other sources. The views presented do not necessarily reflect those of The Cord's volunteers, staff or WLUSP.

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Pitch your BlackBerrys



ERIC MERKLEY
letters@thecord.ca

There it goes again, that damn BlackBerry buzzing endlessly at all hours a day to satisfy the apparent need to be reachable by friends, family and work 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Before long you will feel your BlackBerry going off when it isn't even there. Before long you will realize you lost the ability to connect with people in ways other than with BlackBerry Messenger (BBM). After my BlackBerry's usefulness waned, I pitched it as far away as possible, liberated from BBM and 24 hour accessibility.

Many other people are not so lucky. It is quite incredible how much technology has changed our lives: how we work, how we interact with one another and how we live our lives. What is particularly incredible is how much change has occurred in the past two decades. I would argue that too much of anything is never a good thing.

The advent of BlackBerrys and smart phones in general is particularly changing how people function. Now people can instantly receive emails and instant messages from a range of different options: SMS, BBM, Google Chat, MSN Messenger and even Skype, at least on Android. This of course opens up a whole range of options for how people can harass each other incessantly over the most trivial issues.

This increasing range of communication options has its advantages. People can co-ordinate and organize things far more effectively than in the past. People can stay in touch with far-flung friends in a convenient manner, which doesn't add grotesque costs to their phone bill. I would also argue employers

get far many more hours of work from their employees as the concept of a 9-5 job disappears. As the economies of the Western world struggle to adjust to cheap labour in the developing world and a declining manufacturing sector, this bodes well to keep up worker productivity in other sectors of the economy.

However, I believe that society is going too far to an extreme, where personal interactions are being devalued at the expense of technological interactions. No matter how you spin it, chatting with people through Facebook or BBM simply isn't as meaningful as a phone call or a face-to-face conversation. Too often is the former replacing the latter.

This is clearly evident in the rapid decline of social skills in society. The worst example of this is an obvious lack of cell phone etiquette. Many have a clear and obvious lack of respect for others.

There is no need to text endlessly in class, and if you are having a conversation with someone turn your phone off and give the person your full attention. Admittedly, I have lapses on this part on occasion, especially when it's someone I don't particularly want to talk to, which is fairly often. Yeah, I'm a jackass, get over it.

I would argue that this decline of social skills has led to a parallel decline of community. With an ever-expanding web of virtual contacts, the time spent building real relationships decline. Ironically, people are connected now more than at any point in history and yet less connected in ways that matter.

This is seen in the decline of voluntarism; whether it is memberships in different organizations, donating to political parties, participating in letter-writing campaigns or even just voting. Political scientist Robert Putnam describes this as social capital — a measure that indicates the health of a democratic society such as ours. A lack of social capital can breed resentment and apathy. Our society is not on a good trajectory.

Ironically, people are connected now more than at any point in history and yet less connected in ways that matter.

I know most of you probably aren't buying the argument thus far; that the era of instant communication is eroding the foundations of our society. Maybe I am being too dramatic. So, why should you care?

Well, for starters you cannot write the English language worth anything. Seeing as this is a university, it is really quite sad that most students can't string together a semi-proper sentence. I believe this is partly because of instant communications. Instead of writing letters, people are writing, "heey yo, what u been up 2 l8ly?" on BBM. It never ceases to amaze me how people aren't embarrassed by writing like that. At least in one respect society is becoming more and more functionally illiterate.

So why did I ditch the BlackBerry? It really didn't have anything to do with the above. I simply hated operating under the expectation of being on call to respond to everyone's trivial needs instantaneously.

I do still have a smart phone, but not being captive to the "r" and "d" that go along with BBM messages is liberating. I have also consciously avoided checking my phone every five seconds. People can wait.

So, take my advice and pitch your BlackBerry (RIM sucks anyway). And if you are pissed off I called you illiterate, write me a letter to the editor; it's a step in the right direction.

THE FORUM

Opinion Editor Eric Merkley • emerkeley@thecord.ca

Letters to the Editor

Video game bubble to burst?

So by now you must have heard of the new Call of Duty game? Black Ops? My roommate bought it on release day and has been playing it non-stop ever since. Apparently, it grossed \$360 million on its first day of sale — which once again reaffirms that video games are now bigger than movies (and the major cause of mass losses in productivity around the world).

But here's my question: are the benefits derived from games like this worth the cost?

Long gone are the days when my Super Nintendo games sold for twenty bucks a piece. New games now retail between \$60-70 before tax.

I don't admit to being an avid gamer, but for years I've been observing the trend of skyrocketing video game prices. This leads me to believe that as new technologies progress, and games become more complex to design, production costs are going to continue to increase as larger development teams are needed. As a result, retail prices are also to rise. We could see another \$20 increase within the next 10-15 years.

Maybe it's just me, but I foresee the video game bubble bursting soon. At some point, someone is going to wake up and realize that they're not willing to shell out close to \$100 after tax to play a game. The video game industry is going to collapse and will have to undergo major restructuring. At least I always have 8-bit Mario to fall back on.
—Kenny Mak

High tuition for cut-rate education? No thanks

RE: *Hiked tuition rates unacceptable*, Nov. 17

In response to higher tuition rates I have to say Foster hit the nail on the head. As a part-time student returning to post-secondary school I was sickened at the hurdles that WLU placed in my way as I attempted to further my education.

I could not afford full time studies therefore I had to work full-time to pay for my part-time enrolment. My parents are tied up financially sending my siblings to university, so I could not rely on them for money. I was not eligible for a bank loan or credit card with a limit high enough

to cover tuition. I was not eligible for OSAP because of my parents' income.

To add insult to injury, as a part-time student I was discluded from most bursaries and scholarships, the ones that were offered were for the most part available to those in specific fields of work or study. Getting in the door was not easy. Once I was accepted and I had to choose courses I faced the problem of being excluded from a lot of the courses I was interested in taking. Because I was a part-time student the spots were being reserved for "serious," full-time students according to one administrator I spoke to.

I pay the same tuition and book prices as everyone else and follow the same deadlines and payment schedules.

If Laurier is gonna overcharge me for cut-rate education and over-stuffed classrooms they could at least be nice to me when I make an attempt to address these issues with department heads and administrators.
—Rebecca Cameron

Tirade in defence of Taylor Swift is bizarre

RE: *Attack on Taylor swift uncalled for*, Nov. 17

I am by no means a professional writer, but I do believe that "unbiased journalism at its finest" is what a newspaper strives for, being impartial but informative.

I am very confused at the newest Letter to the Editor in the most recent Cord "Attack on Taylor Swift Uncalled for," where this hyper Taylor Swift fan goes on a very humorous rant, attacking a recent piece of writing in Arts' Bites. When you state an article unbiased, try not ending your ridiculous tirade totally contradicting yourself calling it biased.

If I am not mistaken, I am pretty certain that a staple in high school writing classes we were taught that the use of clichés weakens your argument, rendering it almost comedic. And yes, you used them! "Whatever floats your boat," "wonder of wonders." Unfortunately this did not add any wit to your clause and makes your highly opinionated article almost as silly as your ridiculous obsession with the pop star.
—Danielle Dmytraszko

CIGI doesn't compromise academic integrity of Laurier

RE: *WLU and UW must stand up for academic integrity*, Nov. 10

I am pleased that the Editorial Board is concerned about academic integrity. This is an important issue for the whole university community. However, I would like to comment on the issues raised in your editorial of November 10, 2010. Graduate programs are offered at Laurier only after they receive rigorous review by a number of academic bodies.

Proposals for the Master's of International Public Policy (MIPP) and the PhD in Global Governance were reviewed and approved by the university's Graduate Faculty Council, a subcommittee of Senate which includes faculty and student representation.

The proposals were reviewed again by the Senate Academic Planning Committee, the Senate Finance Committee and finally by Senate. After this, they were submitted to the Ontario Council on Graduate Studies for consideration. That review was focused on the quality of the program.

At no point was any nonacademic group or person permitted to influence the review or the decision to mount the program. Currently, the Laurier programs are overseen by the Faculty of Graduate & Postdoctoral Studies.

No curriculum changes are permitted without the approval of Graduate Faculty Council and Senate. Laurier is fortunate that both the MIPP and Global Governance students receive scholarship funding from a donor, as well as the opportunity to participate in an international think tank which deals with issues of critical importance our country and the world.

However, neither CIGI, nor any other external body or donor is permitted to determine the curriculum or academic standards of our graduate programs at Laurier.
—Joan E. Norris

Letter policy

Letters must not exceed 250 words. Include your full name and telephone number. Letters must be received by 12:00 p.m. noon Monday via e-mail to letters@thecord.ca. The Cord reserves the right to edit for length and clarity or to reject any letter.



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You know what yanks my Cord...

...traffic jams at Laurier. Since when is it okay to walk into someone, not apologize and keep going?

I have been bumped, collided into and delayed, and the problem is escalating.

There is a reason why you aren't allowed to use your cell phone behind the wheel of a car: this same logic is transferrable to walking.

Not paying attention? Well, you're going to run into people: professors and fellow students, both of whom don't exactly enjoy the inconsiderate knock they receive when you not-so-gracefully manoeuvre your way around campus.

Whatever happened to good manners? Thanking someone for opening a door for you or holding

the door, apologizing when you bump into someone or accidentally step on their foot, or even saying "excuse me," when you have to squeeze through the crowded Arts E Wing to get to your next class or to get off campus.

I know most of us are rushing around in between classes, but I'm sorry, I have lost my patience for excuses; we're way off in our own little worlds and we're failing to pay attention to our surroundings.

Walking slowly; stopping in the middle of a busy walkway (St. Mike's crosswalk?) and generally causing inconvenience for others is not conducive to a positive atmosphere.

There is only so much space on

this campus; quit taking up valuable room by loitering in main traffic areas.

Realizing you're not the only person on this campus would help, as we all have places to get to and people to meet, and we'd all appreciate it if you shared the space.

While standing around waiting for your classroom to empty, how about letting others walk through the hallway?

When in a building with an elevator, how about not taking it to the second floor?

And when you walk anywhere, including up the stairs, for goodness sakes don't walk against the flow of people.

—Marcie Foster

OPINION

Opinion Editor Eric Merkley • emerkeley@thecord.ca

Treatment of our disabled veterans deplorable



MARTIN PINEDA
letters@thecord.ca

The status of benefits and services offered to Canadian veterans is in dire need of reform. Under current policies concerning veterans, the federal government is far from reciprocating the level of commitment given by former Canadian military personnel for their service.

Canadians' exposure to the challenges faced by those in the armed forces is often confined to news updates complete with footage of Canadian soldiers conducting operations in Afghanistan. What often goes unnoticed in the media is how frequently the battlefield is extended to Canadian soil for the inadequately compensated veterans that continue to struggle to survive upon returning home with psychological or physical disabilities.

The amendments made to the benefits system for veterans through the Veterans Charter of 2006 blatantly neglects the long-term needs associated with the disabled who once served.

The legislation switched from the old system of paying out lifetime pensions to veterans in favour of lump-sum compensation and disability stipends.

Disabled veterans are entitled to a maximum of \$276,000 from Veterans Affairs Canada. Once a payment administered in the form of a lump sum, the recent reform was restricted to an option of either a lump sum or annual installments rather than the amount of compensation itself.

The price the 21-year-old infantryman pays who loses both legs in an explosion is by no means proportional to a mere \$276,000.

Lifetime rehabilitation and medical equipment expenses combined with limited opportunities for being employable far exceed the low

and arbitrary amount that has been equated with the permanent suffering caused by service-related injuries.

What is also alarming is the extent to which those whose injuries are of a psychological rather than physical nature are either neglected or not given due consideration. Operational stress injuries (OSI) have just as many detrimental effects on an individual's well-being.

The constant physical and mental duress experienced during military operations are often manifested through post-traumatic stress disorder, as well as severe anxiety or depression well after service has ended. These illnesses have been the cause of a series of suicides that are becoming increasingly common.

These changes are an insult to the men and women who sustain permanent damage and endure unimaginable horrors while contributing to the defence of this country. The lifelong consequences of an injury sustained during military service dictates that the government has a permanent responsibility to provide for the means necessary for our disabled veterans to live a dignified life.

Recently, veterans across the country were once again engaged in a mission — this time for due recognition and the need for systemic reform during the Canadian Veterans National Day of Protest that took place on Nov. 6, 2010. It is absolutely shameful when those to which we owe much gratitude for once willingly risking their lives in the cause of freedom must protest for assistance.

The amount of respect towards current and former members of the armed forces visible each year on Remembrance Day is something that Canadian society should be proud of. It is absolutely imperative that Canadians do more to honour their veterans than wearing a poppy or attending a ceremony by recognizing the problem and supporting policy changes that give veterans sufficient support to cope with their adversities.



WADE THOMPSON GRAPHICS EDITOR

UN's commitment to human rights is a sad joke



SHAGUN RANDHAWA
letters@thecord.ca

When we think of homosexual intolerance in the West, we think opposition to gay marriage and intolerant jokes that are inherently anti-gay.

However, sitting on death row just because of your sexual preference — gives a whole new meaning to the word "intolerance."

Homosexuality is placed right up there with murder and molestation. Making it a criminal act to choose a same-sex partner says a good deal of the progress we have made in conquering ignorance and backwards thinking.

Yet, we have no reason to worry! Our wonderful United Nations has our backs! Right?

Wrong. A United Nations committee on social, cultural and humanitarian issues has deleted a reference to

sexual orientation addressing extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions. Morocco and Mali, as well as a number of nations from Africa and the Middle East voted heavily in favour of the change. These countries currently criminalize homosexuality; some treat it as a capital offence.

The proposal had the terms "sexual orientation" replaced with a more vague phrase of condemning executions for any "discriminatory reason on any basis." This reference to a large number of groups, such as human rights defenders, religious and ethnic groups as well as street children. The amendment has contained the reference to sexual orientation for the last ten years, is voted every two years and now, in what I'd like to think is the peak of gay rights awareness, has been deleted. It was a narrow margin, 79-70 and was approved by the UN General Assembly committee with 165 in favour.

Cary Alan Johnson, executive director of the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission, had this to say: "This vote is a dangerous and disturbing development. It essentially removes the important recognition of the narticular

Caught between appeasing homophobic countries and protecting the rights of a persecuted minority, the UN made the cowardly choice.

vulnerability faced by lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered people — a recognition that is crucial at a time when 76 countries around the world criminalize homosexuality, five consider it a capital crime and countries like Uganda are considering adding the death penalty to their laws criminalizing homosexuality."

To be honest, I was not surprised that the UN would pass something like this. Caught between appeasing homophobic countries and protecting the rights of a persecuted minority, the UN made the cowardly choice. It is ironic how many countries are willing to vote on such a horrendous amendment in order to keep up diplomatic relationships, while they themselves advocate forward-thinking. South Africa, for example, voted for the amendment despite their history of persecution under the Apartheid regime. Way to stay proud, South Africa.

Gay Rights activist Peter Tatchell said, accurately so, that the move was a "shameful day in United Nations history." What is so sickening is that the entire situation reminds me of the crowd that gathers when a high school bully insults his victim. The world is standing by, knowing inside how wrong it really is, in cowardice, because it is "not my problem."

The UN is slowly becoming a joke when it comes to protecting human rights. As this esteemed organization deteriorates in front of our eyes in stunning hypocrisy, we might as well all climb into our time machines and press the button backwards a hundred years. With the UN supposedly leading the charge for human rights and freedom in this day and age, at this rate, it might be for the best.

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Canadian attitudes towards the monarchy as of May 2010...

69% of Canadians want a Canadian head of state

52% want to open a constitutional debate over the role of the monarchy

33% want Canada to remain a monarchy

36% want Canada to have an elected head of state

—Statistics courtesy of Angus Reid Public Opinion

Canada: monarchy or republic?

Point: Knee-jerk withdrawal from the Commonwealth is ill-advised



KEITH MARSHALL
letters@thecord.ca

With the Queen's visit earlier this year and the announcement of a royal wedding next spring, it's come time yet again to debate the importance of the monarchy to Canada.

There are historical, financial, practical and political reasons why the British monarchy should continue to play a role in the Canadian political system even after the death of Queen Elizabeth II.

Historically, our nation has been tied to monarchies for 500 years. In that time we have grown as a country from a mixture of British and French colonies to the nation we are today.

We have become a democratic country whose laws are determined by our legislatures, not the monarchy.

Despite our history with the monarchy, recently public support of the monarchy has waned. A 2009 survey found that 86 per cent of Quebecers favoured abolishing our connection with the monarchy, whereas about 27 per cent of Canadians were in favour of keeping it. Populism alone, however, is not a sound reason to drastically change a political system.

Support for the British monarchy in Quebec has always been the lowest in Canada, and casting aside the monarchy, especially with the idea of making Canada a republic, would present danger to a unified Canada. Given that traditionally, separatists in Quebec have been vocal about their animosity towards the monarchy and have favoured an independent Quebec republic, abolishing our connections with the monarchy

could be seen by Quebec voters as legitimizing separatist views.

Considering the tremendous costs associated with years of carefully planning a new constitution, the failures of both the Meech Lake and Charlottetown accords to change our constitution, as well as the amount of time and effort that would be required to rewrite Canadian laws to accommodate these changes, it makes little financial sense to declare ourselves a republic following Queen Elizabeth II's death.

At a cost estimated at about \$50 million a year to maintain the monarchy, including maintaining a few buildings for the royalty to use, it is definitely worth avoiding that outcome.

The governor general David Johnston, Queen Elizabeth II's Canadian representative, has a very practical role within the government of this country.

While the Queen is away, the

governor general attends ceremonies and banquets across the country. This allows the prime minister and cabinet to focus on issues pertaining to the operation of the country. More importantly, the governor general, acting on behalf of the Queen, has the time to be able to travel across the country and speak with ordinary Canadians.

In 2008 Canadians witnessed the political side of the responsibility of the governor general when Michelle Jean had to make a difficult decision of whether to prorogue government at Prime Minister Harper's request or allow the government to fall. In a climate of minority governments and potential coalitions, the power of an independent entity determining who governs is essential to Canada's political stability.

Similarly, this past year, following an election in Britain, the Queen herself determined that the Conservative and the Liberal Democrats could form a coalition government.

While ideally this would be left up to voters to decide in an election, in cases where there are more than two parties represented in a legislature have a majority, the possibility of having to form a coalition government exists.

In those situations it is prudent to have a person independent of the political process to decide which parties have the greatest legitimacy in forming the government. David Johnston, knowledgeable in constitutional law, is a good choice to act in this manner.

Ultimately, maintaining our connections with the monarchy and its traditions provides our country with greater political stability and improves our relations with an important ally.

When this is compounded with the importance of our historical traditions and maintaining our national identity, it is hard to see why a knee-jerk reaction against our monarchy is worthwhile.

Counter-point: Monarchy is an archaic institution; Canada needs to move on



JOHN KENNEDY
letters@thecord.ca

With media bombardments of Prince William's upcoming nuptials making the rounds, the debate on whether or not Canada should maintain its monarchical link to Britain and the Queen has hit the mainstream once again. As time passes, it seems that Canadians are warming to the idea of developing a Canadian republic and severing ties to the monarchy.

Polls done on Canada's relationship with Britain and the monarchy consistently show that more and more Canadians favour the emergence of a Canadian republic. This sentiment is not surprising. Canada, along with the rest of the world, is evolving, and archaic concepts of inherited rights and peerage are

seemingly less relevant as time progresses.

So why keep such an outdated and irrelevant model? Sure, being under the Queen's umbrella of subjects provides for some cheap representation on the world stage, but what else is there? She "represents" Canada, but she doesn't really represent Canada.

The Queen represents the Commonwealth, which encompasses over 50 states, so how would Canada's interests be best understood when it's only one fish in the Commonwealth pond?

It's still perplexing how the monarchy has such staunch defenders

For a nation that ardently defines itself as something that it isn't — being American — it still allows for Canadians to be defined as subjects of the Queen.

It's been reiterated to the point of redundancy that keeping monarchical ties is one of the only criteria that separates Canada from America. So let me get this straight — Canadians don't want to be like Americans because they throw their weight

around the world, invade unsuspecting countries and generally feel like they own the joint, but it's okay to be linked to the last remnants of an aristocratic empire that colonized and oppressed people for centuries?

Most Canadians are also hard-lined supporters of a clear separation between Church and State, so how does it make sense for our head of state to be the technical leader of the Church of England, which is still quite a predominant title and not one based purely on symbolism. This position within the church only further defines how archaic the notion of monarchism is in current society and how these out-of-sync the monarchy is with modern Canadian views.

Despite all this, one reservation that many hesitant fence-sitters have is what to replace the monarchy with as the Canadian head of state if ties to the monarchy were severed.

Many allude to the development of a Canadian "president" to be the ceremonial head of state, which again would make us more

American. Why not just transfer the power of the head of state to the governor general and change the name of the office?

Ireland and India both implemented similar models once they decided to replace the sovereign with a republic; their respective publics have responded positively.

Other than finding a replacement as head of state, what else is there? Are people worried that we won't be able to find a new face to put on the back of our coins? Somehow I think we'll manage.

While it's easy to admit that cutting ties with the monarchy will be difficult thanks in part to just how embedded the Crown is in Canadian political and cultural institutions, this difficulty is not reason enough to keep the status quo.

In all likelihood, Canada's ties to the sovereign will greatly deteriorate once Queen Elizabeth is succeeded.

The Queen has fulfilled her duties as Canada's head of state quite gracefully and her support with the Canadian people means that any talks of developing a republic won't

Are people worried that we won't be able to find a new face to put on the back of our coins? Somehow I think we'll manage.

truly start until she has passed on. It seems highly unlikely, though, that Canadians will be willing to accept someone like Prince Charles or any other member of the gong show that is the royal family as Canada's head of state.

It seems that Canada's ties to the monarchy are solely built around its relationship with Queen Elizabeth. Once that ends, the discourse on a Canadian republic will greatly pick up steam and will, hopefully, be implemented one day.



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SPORTS

Sports Editor Justin Fauteux • jfauteux@thecord.ca

Burns HoF snub inexcusable

Staff Writer Chris Mander pays tribute to legendary NHL head coach Pat Burns

This past week, the hockey world mourned the loss of a coaching legend with the passing of Pat Burns. I am sure that many of us are in the same boat, where Burns was a staple of our Saturday nights growing up. Watching Hockey Night in Canada and seeing him often irritated with the referees, voicing his displeasure, quite clearly became the norm for Leafs fans.

Those were the days of Doug Gilmour and Wendel Clark, Felix Potvin and the legendary Maple Leaf Gardens. The Leafs were competitive and Burns was the mastermind of it all.

This past Saturday night was a perfect setting to honour Burns, with the Leafs and Canadiens both sporting commemorative stickers on their helmets to show respect for their former coach.

Is it not appropriate that we remember Burns during November? His mustache was always recognizable and he managed to keep it as long as he could into his cancer treatment.

During this past summer, Sports Centre ran a story on Burns' contributions towards building a new hockey rink in the Eastwood Townships of Quebec.

Depleted by his cancer, Burns was virtually unrecognizable, but still managed to bravely stand next to Prime Minister Harper and celebrate the new rink.

This was deep down what Burns was all about — small town Canadian hockey and communities coming together to celebrate their passion for the game.

Over his 14 seasons as an NHL coach, Burns accumulated an



Pat Burns in June 2010 at a ceremony for the arena that is to be built in his honour in Quebec.

impressive 501 wins and a Stanley Cup victory in 2003. He also won over fans and media alike in both Montreal and Toronto, two of the most passionate and difficult markets to excel in. When news of his illness broke, fans came together in attempt to earn Burns a deserving spot in the Hockey Hall of Fame.

Facebook groups, hockey fans and reporters all agreed, it would have been appropriate as well as logical to induct Burns into the Hall of Fame this year, so that he could embrace the honour and share it with his family. It should have been

a fitting farewell from the game to Burns, a man who had given hockey all he could.

Unfortunately, the Hall of Fame voters and committee are illogical, and failed to give Burns the send off he had earned. Now as fans, we are left with our own memories of Pat Burns to allow his legacy to live on.

For me, I will always remember sitting down on a Saturday night and watching the then-competitive Toronto Maple Leafs with Pat Burns behind the bench, confident, voicing his displeasure to the referees and smiling when he liked what he saw.

In a day of boring press conferences and athlete divas, fans long for a genuine character who is not afraid to express his emotions and demonstrate his passion for the game.

A colourful man that stuck true to himself and loved his job, it is sad that the Hall of Fame snubbed Burns and didn't give him the pleasure when he was alive.

For what it's worth, November now has a whole new meaning to me, as I now have two reasons to wear my mustache.

Thank you for the memories, Pat Burns.

Sports in brief

Women's basketball splits weekend games

Laurier's women's basketball team suffered their first loss of the 2010-11 season over the weekend, falling 63-59 to the York Lions in Toronto on Saturday night. The previous day, the Hawks won their fifth-straight game to open the season, 65-59, on the road over the Laurentian Voyageurs.

Now sitting at a record of 5-1, the Hawks are locked in a four-way tie with Lakehead, Western and Windsor for top spot in the Ontario University Athletics (OUA) west division.

—Compiled by Justin Fauteux

Men's basketball moves to 4-2

After playing their first two home games of the season on Nov. 13 and 14, the Golden Hawks men's basketball team went back on the road this past weekend, travelling to take on the Laurentian Voyageurs and the York Lions.

On Friday, the Voyageurs edged the purple and gold 88-87, while the Hawks bounced back on Sunday with a 100-94 win over the Lions. Fourth-year Kale Harrison continued his strong season for the Hawks, leading the way in both games scoring 23 and 26 points.

—Compiled by Justin Fauteux

Women's hockey keeps rolling

The number-two nationally ranked Laurier women's hockey team won their fifth and sixth-straight games over the weekend, defeating Queen's and the University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT) on the road.

In Saturday's 3-1 win over Queen's, the Hawks received goals from veteran Katherine Shirriff and rookies Andrea Shapero and Tammy Freiburger, while goalie Liz Knox stopped 27 of 28 shots. On Sunday, ten different Hawks got on the score sheet as the purple and gold flew past UOIT 6-2.

—Compiled by Justin Fauteux

Laurier to host CIS shoot for the cure

This Saturday, the Laurier Athletic Complex will play host to more than just a women's basketball game between the Golden Hawks and the University of Toronto Varsity Blues.

The game will be part of the Canadian Interuniversity Sports (CIS) shoot for the cure initiative and as a result all proceeds from tickets will go to support breast cancer research. The Hawks will also be sporting pink jerseys to raise awareness.

—Compiled by Justin Fauteux

Vanier Cup re-uniting with CFL

Next season, the Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) championship football game will be once again held in conjunction with the CFL's Grey Cup.

The Vanier Cup will be played on Friday, Nov. 25, followed by the Grey Cup on Sunday, Nov. 27, with both games taking place at Vancouver's B.C. Place. The two games were last held at the same venue on the same weekend in 2007 at Toronto's Rogers Centre, with the result being an attendance of 26,787 for the Vanier Cup, the seventh-largest in the game's history.

—Compiled by Justin Fauteux

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GOLDEN HAWK UPDATE

Week of
November 22 - 28, 2010

RECENT SCORES

11.21.10
W Hockey 6 - UOIT 2

11.20.10
W Basketball 59 - York 63
M Basketball 100 - York 94
W Hockey 3 - Queen's 1
M Hockey 2 - Queen's 1
W Volleyball 3 - Windsor 0
M Volleyball 3 - Windsor 2

11.19.10
W Basketball 65 - Laurentian 59
M Basketball 87 - Laurentian 88
M Hockey 9 - RMC 2
W Volleyball 1 - Western 3
M Volleyball 1 - Western 3

UPCOMING HOME GAMES

11.26.10
W Basketball vs Ryerson
Athletic Complex, 6:00 p.m.
M Basketball vs Ryerson
Athletic Complex, 8:00 p.m.

11.27.10
W Basketball vs Toronto
Athletic Complex, 12:00 p.m.
M Basketball vs Toronto
Athletic Complex, 2:00 p.m.
W Volleyball vs Toronto
Athletic Complex, 6:00 p.m.
M Volleyball vs Toronto
Athletic Complex, 8:00 p.m.

Laurier Bookstore Athletes of the Week

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Brittany Hopley
Women's Volleyball

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Women's basketball

Friday	Saturday
WLU vs. Ryerson 6:00 p.m.	WLU vs. U of T 12:00 p.m.

Men's basketball

Friday	Saturday
WLU vs. Ryerson 8:00 p.m.	WLU vs. U of T 2:00 p.m.

Women's volleyball

Saturday
WLU vs. U of T 6:00 p.m.

Men's volleyball

Saturday
WLU vs. U of T 8:00 p.m.



KATE TURNER STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Hockey Hawks take two in a row

JAMIE NEUGEBAUER
STAFF WRITER

The Golden Hawks men's hockey team had a different challenge last weekend, taking on two weak opponents. This meant they had to stay sharp, disciplined and get up to face teams they should beat.

Indeed, on Friday they faced cellar-dwellers Royal Military College (RMC) and crushed them 9-2; while on Saturday they took on the slightly more difficult Queen's Gaels — a squad languishing in seventh place in the mediocre Ontario University Athletics (OUA) east division

— squeaking by with a 2-1 victory. Rookie Thomas Middup paced all scorers with four points on Friday night, while Hawks' captain Jean-Michel Rizk bagged a hat-trick, propelling Laurier to the blow-out win.

The next evening, however, proved a lot tougher. The concern for Laurier was that after the easy win versus RMC they would enter this game lacking intensity, and that's what happened.

Three minutes into the game, with Laurier defenceman Kyle Van De Bospoort in the box, Brock Ouellet converted on a two-on-one, giving the Gaels the early lead.

Eventually the Hawks settled into their rhythm and began to dominate puck possession. In the last minute of the first period on a Laurier power play, Ryan Bernardi unleashed a blast from the point that Queen's net-minder Steele De Fazio could not handle. The rebound fell to rookie Kain Allcock, who shoved it in to tie the game up.

"I actually thought our first period we played pretty well," said Laurier head coach Greg Puhalski. "We scored a late goal and it was probably our best period of the game."

The rest of the game almost went as Queen's had hoped. Laurier's

forwards unsuccessfully attempted to carry the puck through the clogged neutral zone while the Gaels had numerous opportunities off turnovers. Hawks' goaltender Ryan Daniels was sharp, holding off the visitors' counter-attacks.

"It was nice to hold the fort down there," Daniels said. "It was nice to give our team a chance to score and get back in the game."

With just over five minutes remaining in regulation, Laurier sophomore Zach Shepley wired a routine dump-in along the boards into the Queen's zone. Except instead of ringing all the way around,

the puck took a funny bounce off the half-boards, headed straight to the Gaels net and beat De Fazio.

"You know what they say: you have to be good to be lucky," said Puhalski. "It was nice to see Zach Shepley get a good bounce because he was our best player tonight."

"We had a successful weekend," added Daniels. "You can call a goal a fluke, but coach was telling us to get pucks in deep all night. That's what [Shepley did] and it paid dividends."

The goal was all Laurier needed as they eked out their seventh win of the year, putting them in fifth place in a tight OUA west division.

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Hawks score first win of 2010

NICOLE GREEN
CORD SPORTS

The Wilfrid Laurier Golden Hawks women's volleyball team bounced back from their four-set loss on Friday night to the Western Mustangs to sweep the Windsor Lancers for their first win of the season.

Against Western, the Golden Hawks fought hard but lost their first two sets 25-18 and 26-24. In the third set, the ladies rallied together and won the set 25-14. Their hard work and determination paid off but unfortunately for the purple and gold the Mustangs took the fourth set 25-14, largely because of their ability to keep the ball in play and capitalize on opportunities. This defeat took the Hawks' record to 0-5.

After the disappointing loss on Friday night, the Lady Hawks looked for redemption on Saturday night as they took on the Lancers, the only other winless team in the Ontario University Athletics (OUA) west division. They went into the game confident and focused and came away with their first win of the season, a blowout victory with the Hawks taking the game in a three-set sweep.

The Golden Hawks came out strong and took the first set 25-17. With confidence the Lady Hawks took the second set 25-19 and then sealed the victory with a 25-16 victory.

"The key to success tonight was discipline and consistency in being able to control what you need to control at the right time of the game," said Golden Hawks head coach Luke Snider.

This was shown through Laurier's

ability to win rally points, which successfully ended any Lancer momentum. They showed focus and determination and maintained composure throughout the game.

The Golden Hawks team captain, Tesca Andrew-Wasylik, was proud of her team for their first win of the season.

"Everyone worked together really well," she said. "We've been building up through every game and it all came together tonight."

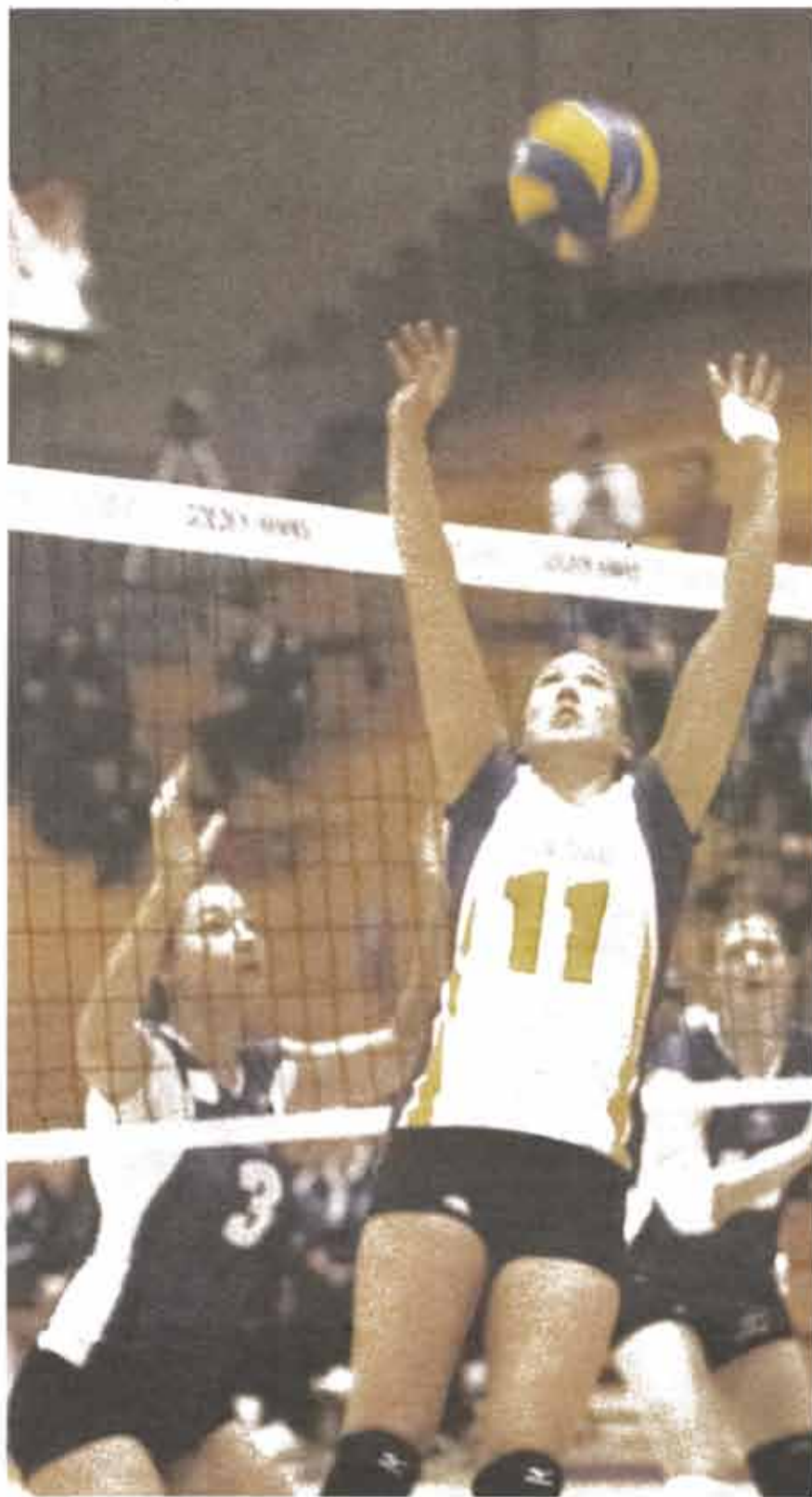
"We were able to get touches on everything and pop up the ball and then ripping on the ball as hard as they could," continued Wasylik, who had ten and nine kills on Friday and Saturday respectively. This takes the captain's attack percentage to an impressive .412.

Lauren Carter, the Golden Hawk all-star of the game, contributed to the win by contributing 38 assists, three kills and five assisted blocks against Western. Julie Gordon, last year's OUA west rookie of the year, led the Hawks offensively with 11 kills on Friday night against Western. She is also currently in twelfth in Ontario, averaging 3.45 points per game.

Second-year Brittney Hopley also had a great weekend with ten kills against Western and nine kills, five digs and three blocked shots against Windsor.

The Lady Hawks will look to keep up their momentum when the University of Toronto Varsity Blues visit the Laurier Athletic Complex on Nov. 27 in their last game of the semester.

A win against Toronto would put the Golden Hawks one win away from a tie for fifth in the OUA west with the Waterloo Warriors.



Second-year Lauren Carter (11) sets up a spike on Friday versus Western. The Hawks would go on to beat Windsor the next day.

ROSALIE EID STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Rainsberry settles into new role

KEVIN CAMPBELL
STAFF WRITER

Hair tied back in a ponytail and bag slouched over her shoulder, Abby Rainsberry wanders into the 24-Hour Lounge.

On a busy Monday afternoon in late November, the third year co-captain of Laurier's crown-jewelled varsity program of women's hockey shakes hands, sits down, beams and greets the inquisitive journalist sitting opposite.

On a moment's notice, in the midst of essay season, the face of Laurier's storied hockey franchise has agreed to meet *The Cord* for a glimpse into the life of one of WLU's foremost female athletic leaders.

But that's just who she is. "I saw I had two missed calls," said Rainsberry of the unidentified number. "I figured I'd better call back."

It begins and ends with communication for the ice warrior. She'll make time for anyone.

Ladies' hockey head coach Rick Osborne sewed the "C" onto the chest of Rainsberry's jersey, thanks in no small part to her ability to vocalize, articulate and correspond.

"We have a good relationship, me and Rick," said Rainsberry. "I think I'm someone he can rely on."

Not always present in a dressing room full of changing female athletes, Osborne values Rainsberry's input and perspective on maintaining a healthy pulse on the team's chemistry and spirits.

"He only sees so much, right?" smiled the captain. "He's got a room full of 23 girls, but I think he's learned a lot from us."

"I feel I'm on a good person-to-person basis with everyone. We all get along well."

Rainsberry first laced up the skates in her humble home pastures of Petrolia, with a modest population of around 7,000.

"It's a hockey town," explained Rainsberry. "Everyone knows everyone. It's a friendly town."

And like so many others recruited before her, Laurier's friendly and intimate atmosphere captivated Rainsberry.

"It kind of resembles home," said the captain. "Anywhere I go on campus, I run into someone I know, which is the same feel as Petrolia."

The kinesiology major didn't have to look far to get sound advice and support whenever she needed it.

"My dad coached me a lot when I was younger, right up until Bantam or so," recalled the forward. "My dad (and grandpa) pushed me a lot, gave me constructive criticism."

The captaincy is a role she relishes.

"We're all new to the leadership team, it's been interesting," said Rainsberry, citing the team's majority of players being in first and second year.

"I try and help the rookies with what I found difficult in my first year, so it's kind of information overload, learning our systems (the first months), but they're catching on really well," she said.

But mastery and dominance isn't pulled out of a hat.

"It's not easy," said a grinning Rainsberry. "It probably looks like we just float in and win titles for the past however many years ... but it takes work; we attend workouts twice a week and we have practice, plus a lot of girls do extra training."

"It's an honour to play for Laurier and represent the school," she continued. "The fans are so supportive each game, even in Brantford at the other campus."

But time flies when you're winning championships left and right. "I don't want it to end — you're so in the moment, you don't really see it ending," she said. "Each year goes by faster and faster ... I love it here."

Men's volleyball moves to 5-4



The Hawks celebrate a point during their win over the Windsor Lancers on Saturday night. The previous night, Laurier lost to Western.

KATE TURNER STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Hawks split weekend for third week in a row; look to end semester on a high note

JUSTIN FAUTEUX
SPORTS EDITOR

The Wilfrid Laurier Golden Hawks men's volleyball team seems to be following a pattern.

For the past three weekends, they've come away with one win and one loss, culminating in their middle of the pack 5-4 record.

This past weekend they continued that trend, falling in four sets to the Western Mustangs on Friday night before downing the Windsor Lancers in a five-set battle on Saturday.

"We're not too concerned about it," said Laurier head coach Shayne White of the pattern his team's fall into. "The matches that we've lost have been against some really good teams. We're more concerned about winning the first set and then

completely falling apart later in the match."

That inability to continue the momentum of a strong opening set proved to be a problem once again for the Hawks in their loss to Western. After stealing a tight set 25-23 from the undefeated Mustangs, the purple and gold would drop the next three.

"When we were good, we were really good. But when we were bad, we were really bad," said White of his team's performance versus Western.

"We won the first set; we had an opportunity to win the fourth and then if we had gotten to a fifth, who knows. But when we played very badly, they really stepped on top of us."

According to White, the Hawks were able to carry their performance

from the fourth-set versus Western into their match against Windsor, which played a huge role in the win.

"I really liked how we responded in the fourth set and I think ending in that way led to us playing really well versus Windsor," he said. "Beating Windsor was a great accomplishment for us, they're a really good team."

The Hawks now head into their final weekend of the semester where they face a potential trap game on Friday versus the 2-6 University of Toronto Varsity Blues before taking on the always-tough McMaster Marauders.

Despite the Blues' weak record, White doesn't think his team will have any trouble getting up for the game.

"Toronto beat us twice last year

and that was the reason why we missed the playoffs by one match, so I think we have tons of motivation," he said.

"Our goal is to be above .500 at the end of the first semester and Toronto is standing between us and our goal."

The Hawks will then have the opportunity to end the semester on a winning note versus a Marauders team who is usually one of the top teams in the nation, but currently sit just two points ahead of the Hawks.

"I think we play the top teams well, we just need to start playing well against them consistently," said White. "This is probably one of the years where Mac is weak in some areas and this would be a year where we might be able to take them down."