

THE CORD

The tie that binds Wilfrid Laurier University since 1926

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thecord.ca

Author interacts with students

Lawrence Hill speaks to The Cord about his attempts to call attention to corners of Canadian history typically swept aside

ALANNA WALLACE
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

This week, Wilfrid Laurier University hosted several events featuring award-winning author Lawrence Hill, whose most famous work *The Book of Negroes* has sold over 500,000 copies in Canada alone.

Hill has come to Laurier on several occasions in the past, visits he described as "unequivocally positive," stating that the Laurier community has always been "open, engaging and welcoming" – one of the reasons he accepted the offer to become a writer-in-residence on the campus from Sept. 27 to Oct. 1.

"It's about fostering a community of writing by coming in and making myself available," Hill said of his visit this week.

"Talking about my stuff but also, when possible, listening to other people talk to me about their interests in writing."

Chair of the religion and culture department Carol Duncan said that writers-in-residence such as Hill embody the prominent liberal arts tradition at Laurier.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for members of the community to be able to interact with a very fine writer," said Duncan, whose sentiments were also expressed by James Weldon, chair of the English and film department, who said having authors like Hill could have a positive effect on the image of the university.

"He's given his time generously

“
There's hardly anything more satisfying than connecting with students about your work.”

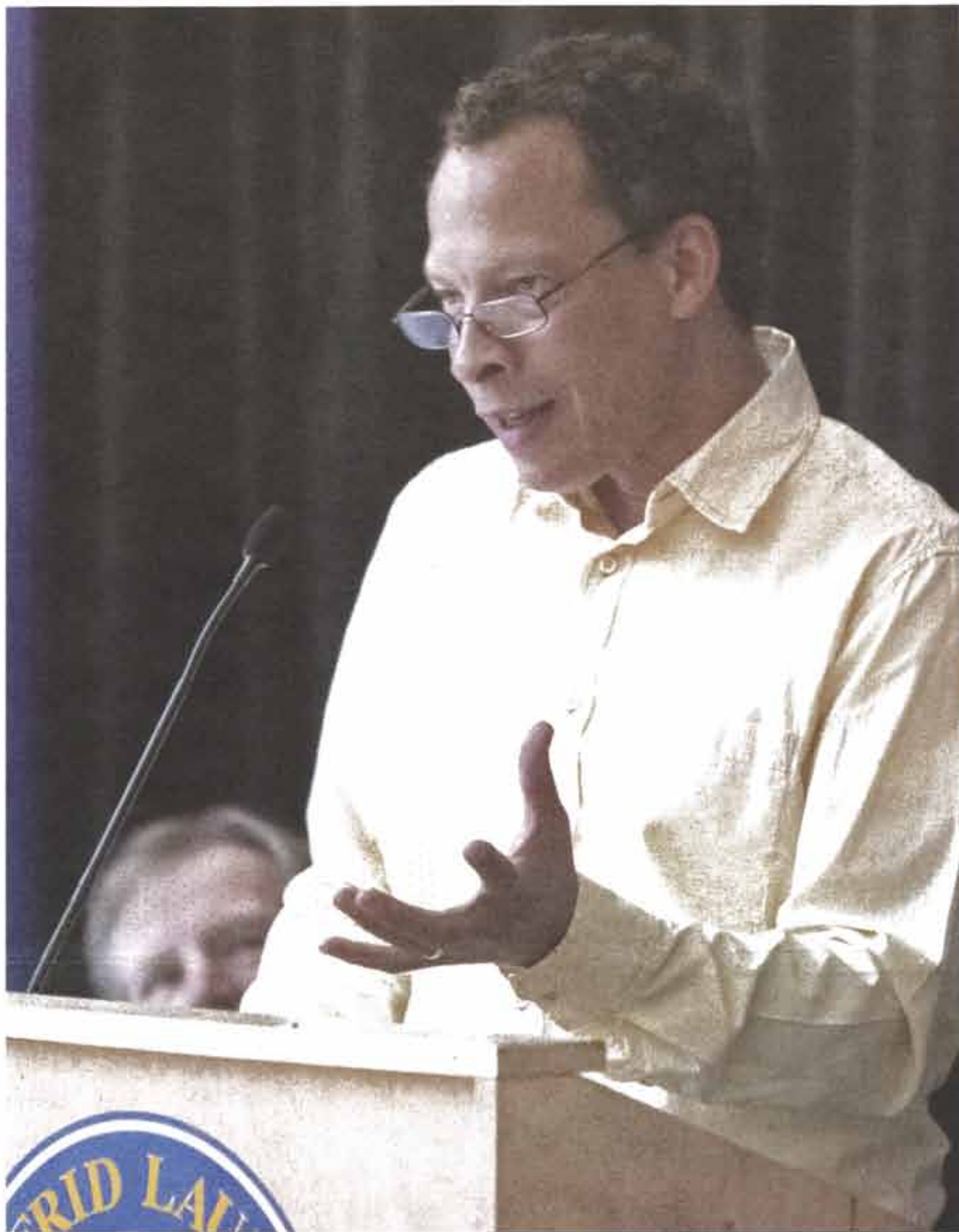
—Lawrence Hill, author of *The Book of Negroes*

in a number of venues so that students can talk with him and meet him, discuss him, discuss his book, discuss the implications of his book and why he does what he does," said Weldon.

Hill has made himself available for interaction through several on-campus events including a reading from *The Book of Negroes*, a book signing in the concourse on Sept. 27 and a speech in the Maureen Forrester Recital Hall on Sept. 28.

He will also visit the Brantford campus on Sept. 29 and return the next day to Waterloo for a guest lecture in an English contemporary Canadian fiction class.

Campus, page 4



NICK LACHANCE VISUAL DIRECTOR

Hill interacted with students in the concourse after a reading from his award-winning novel.

Inside

What you didn't know about your body

Features Editor Laura Sedgwick explores the complexities of the human body, examining everything from why men have nipples to what your appendix is for.



Features, page 10

Questioning government military spending

Opinion columnists Keith Marshall and Joseph McNinch-Pazzano debate the Conservative government's \$16 billion purchase of F-35 fighter jets.

Opinion, page 18

Men's football moves to 2-2 on the season

Going into Homecoming weekend, the Hawks are looking to continue their two-game winning streak against Guelph with the help of returning quarterback Shane Kelly.

Sports, page 20

Turn off your phone

Professors say distracted students are easy to identify

BREE MANTHA
STAFF WRITER

If any class on campus is quiet enough, the light tapping of students' thumbs against cellphone keyboards can be heard. Unfortunately for professors at Wilfrid Laurier University, students' use of the devices has become more of an annoyance as the devices have become ubiquitous.

With plain talk-and-text cell phones soon to be a thing of the past, more and more students are carrying smartphones. Whether an iPhone, BlackBerry or Android phone, students can now have access to social media like Twitter along with instant messaging and web browsing at their fingertips.

Though every course syllabus at Laurier features a blurb about the prohibition of cell phones and other electronic devices, students don't seem particularly respectful of the regulation.

In an online poll conducted by *The Cord*, 27 per cent of Laurier students admitted to voluntarily using their cell phones at least once per class, and an additional 41 per cent said that they will use their phone

provided someone texts them first while 12 per cent said that they don't intend to use their phones, but often forget to turn them off. Approximately 20 per cent of students said that they turn phones off.

Languages professor John Schwieter is one of many profs who aren't fooled by students who text under their desks. "They usually sit way back in their chairs and put their hands halfway under their desks but on their lap, and they're constantly just making little arm movements," Schwieter said knowingly. "In terms of their attention level – they're not even looking up."

Some students remark that a confusing double-standard is set when professors themselves are constantly glancing at and fidgeting with their Blackberries.

Trevor Holmes, a contract academic staff member in cultural studies at WLU and a full-time staff member at the University of Waterloo's Centre for Teaching Excellence, suggests that it may not be quite accurate to characterize this as a professor-versus-student problem.

41%

say they will use their phone in class if someone texts them first

27%

admit to voluntarily using cell phones at least once per class

20%

say they turn their phones off while in class

12%

state they don't intend to use their phones but often forget to turn them off once class starts

—Poll conducted by *The Cord*

News, page 3

Editor's Choice

Political films find home at Laurier
Arts, page 12

News 3
Local 6
National 7
World 9
Feature 10

Arts 12
Classifieds 15
Opinion 18
Sports 19



Editor's Choice

An interview with Lawrence Hill
thecord.ca/news

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

This Week in quotes

“Unfortunately the GSA president cannot apply for this award.”

—Christinia Landry, grad students' association president re: new grant for Laurier graduate students



“Laurier secrets for example – that doesn't do anything, that's just 'here, I'm going to write a secret on a piece of paper; – so I guess it's a waste of paper as well.”

—Ian Merkley, Campus Conservatives president

“The dualities of my own experiences certainly fed into my writing into my world views and interests. I could never really separate myself from my background on the country I've tried to embrace it and mine it and make use of it in writing. My background is who I am and it informs everything about what I wrote.”

—Lawrence Hill, award-winning Canadian author

“I thought there was nothing more exciting than to meet an author whose works I had read and to be able to talk with that author about the creative process, the writing process and the development of ideas for books and novels and things like that.”

—James Weldon, chair of the English and film studies department re: having writers-in-residence at Laurier

Vocal Cord

What are your Homecoming traditions?



“Farmville...It's crazy how people can get so obsessed over it.”

—Minja Milicevic, first year psychology



“I usually wake up at 9 in the morning, have my first beer, go to the game and go out at night.”

—Arshad Desai, third year history



“Just party before the game and looking forward to watching some football.”

—Bethany Sharpe, fifth year communications



“Spending time with friends and drinking.”

—Mohammad Ali Malik, second year political science

Compiled by Alexandros Mitsopoulos
Photos by Elli Garlin

Radio Cord Roundtable

Tune in to the Cord Roundtable on Wednesdays from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at radiolaurier.com to hear editors comment on stories and pieces they have written and edited in the issue published that day.

Web Director David Goldberg will be discussing the upcoming Ontario Regional Canadian University Press Conference, happening this weekend with special guest speakers such as Alan Cross.

Editor-in-chief Alanna Wallace and Campus News Editor Mike Lakusiak will be discussing Lawrence Hill's visit and playing some of their interview with him this week at Laurier's Lucinda House.



ELLI GARLIN PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

Photo of the week

Laurier receiver Ryan Thompson avoids major injury this past Saturday despite the angle of his right knee during this tackle.

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

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From the archives

5 years

WLUSU pulls Cord ads

After publishing a controversial article entitled “A gentleman's guide to getting laid at WLU” in the Student Life section of the Sept. 21 issue of The Cord Weekly, Wilfrid Laurier University Students' Union decided to pull advertisements from the newspaper.

The decision would amount to a potential \$14,000 loss in revenue for Student Publications. Kat Lourenco, vice-president of marketing for WLUSU, said that they would re-evaluate the decision if “we're finding articles that we really want to support.”

Printed Sept. 28, 2005

11 years

Homecoming parade takes a detour

At the 71st annual Homecoming celebration, 200 students participated in a parade which began at Seagram Stadium.

The parade took a wrong turn down Bricker Avenue instead of taking the planned route down Ezra Street, disappointing many students awaiting the passing of the parade. It was discovered that the parade was rerouted because police had decided to force traffic down Ezra Street.

Printed Sept. 29, 1999

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All advertising inquiries should be directed to Angela Foster at 519-884-0710 x3560 angela@wlusp.com

In 2009 the Canadian Community Newspaper Association awarded The Cord third place in the campus newspaper category.



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Colophon

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

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



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

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The Cord has been a proud member of the Ontario Press Council since 2006. Any unsatisfied complaints can be sent to the council at oac@ontariopress.com.

The Cord's circulation for a normal Wednesday issue is 8,000 copies and enjoys a readership of over 30,000. Cord subscription rates are \$20.00 per term for addresses within Canada.

The Cord has been a proud member of the Canadian University Press (CUP) since 2006.

Campus Plus is The Cord's national advertising agency.

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 Waterloo-Waterloo University, ultimately The Cord will be bound by neither philosophy nor geography in its mandate.

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

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

Quote of the week:
“TM WADEN”
—Multiple members of the editorial board who aren't Wade Thompson, Graphics Editor

NEWS

News Director Linda Givetash • lgivetash@thecord.ca



ELLI GARLIN PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

Students pay attention to their respective devices during a lecture.

Profs say it's too late for phone ban

—cover

"How many professors have, in both academic and non-academic settings, seen colleagues apparently multitasking with Blackberries and iPhones during committee meetings, presidential addresses, and guest lectures?" Holmes mused.

"The problem may be a symptom of communication technology's ubiquity and a general decline in respect for situations that used to carry a certain gravitas."

Holmes believes that professors and students alike could use these devices productively — such as Tweeting quiz questions and answers.

But he believes that using phones during lectures and meetings is inappropriate.

Schwieter isn't as concerned about the distraction, but said that using phones in class to chat about less pressing matters is insulting to an educator. "It does make me think twice about how I feel about that student," he said.

In fact, Schwieter does not allow any electronic devices, with the exception of laptops only for students who truly need them.

He's been wary about the use of laptops since an incident two years ago, when a student brought a laptop to class, allegedly to take notes. An entire row of students, "were all watching this football game," he recounted.

Since then, Schwieter asks that the few students using laptops sit

“

It does make me think twice about how I feel about that student.”

—John Schwieter, languages professor

in the very back row to create as little distraction as possible for other students.

Other professors prefer the opposite — keeping their laptop-using students in the front of the classroom in order to better monitor their activities.

Four years ago, 18 million Canadians were using mobile phones — a number almost on par with the amount of landline users.

The number has only risen since then.

With cell phones a part of everyday life, profs may be giving up hope that they can ever fully ban them from classrooms.

"I'm just wondering if it's something that you can't beat anyway," Schwieter said bleakly.

On your phone:

Wilfrid Laurier University and WLUSU are both introducing smartphone apps this semester.

In the coming weeks the university will launch a campaign to promote their new app that will be available, free of charge, to all students with iPhones or Blackberries.

The Laurier app will allow prospective and current students to choose what kind of information they are interested in receiving, whether it's athletics updates or residence information.

The app was introduced at the Ontario University Fair last weekend.

The WLUSU mobile application will function in the same way as its WLU counterpart. Their app will allow users to access information about campus clubs and activities.

Although the app has been available for download from the Apple store since the third week of August, it is still not available for Blackberry users.

WLUSU President Kyle Walker said that the delayed launch of the Blackberry app has "been as a result of a problem with Blackberry App World." WLUSU is waiting until the app becomes available for Blackberries, before launching a promotional campaign.

—Compiled by Olivia Nightingale

Two generations offer their stories

African women told community members about HIV epidemic, drawing awareness to charity's campaign

MIKE LAKUSIAK
CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR

"We're here to tell our side of the story on what we're doing in the face of HIV/AIDS," said Regina Mokgokong, one of two African women who delivered their accounts of the devastating epidemic to a group of members from Wilfrid Laurier University and the local community.

The gathering on campus is one of 40 such lectures by African grandmothers and granddaughters across Canada taking place between September and November.

The Grandmothers to Grandmothers campaign, run by the Toronto-based Stephen Lewis Foundation, raises awareness and funding for many African grandmothers who have been forced to raise their grandchildren after their own children contract HIV.

There are 240 groups of women in Canada working to supporting the initiative's work in African nations. So far the Canadian grandmothers have raised upward of \$9 million.

Mokgokong, a grandmother who cares for her HIV-positive niece and her children, is the executive director of Tateni home care nursing services, an organization operating in townships north of Pretoria, South Africa.

A nurse for 30 years, she has administrated the organization that provides in-home care for HIV-positive individuals and their families as well as children neglected as a result of the infection striking their parents, since 2005.

Discussing their initiative, Mokgokong explained, "How far the Stephen Lewis Foundation, through

the support of the grandmothers, have come." She went on to express Tateni's goals of consistent and thorough care, especially for children affected by the presence of the virus in their communities.

Zahra Mohamed, program officer at the foundation, explained that drawing awareness to the issues surrounding treatment programs and giving Canadians a better perspective on programs they may be supporting is important.

"It's an opportunity for the community to hear, because they've been very supportive, from the organization that they've been raising funds for for so long."

She continued, "We can't send everyone to visit the projects so this is a good way for the community to be engaged and to draw awareness."

Nkulie Nowathe is a 17-year-old South African who lives with her extended family after her mother died of AIDS in January.

She depends on Tateni's operations to continue her education and since she arrived in Canada the first week of September, has spoken to many community and university groups.

"I think it's important to share my story with people who support me," she said. "It's not always easy [to stand in front of groups] but I try."

Nowathe, who will soon graduate high school and hopes to pursue a degree in English, explained what she has seen in her brief time in Canada, specifically speaking at universities.

"I think students should take everything seriously ... they should appreciate what they have and not take the opportunity they have by being

“

It's an opportunity for the community to hear ... from the organization that they've been raising funds for for so long."

—Zahra Mohamed, program officer, Stephen Lewis Foundation

here in the university for granted," she said.

Education, especially beyond high school, is far less accessible in her community she said. "Some of the children want that chance, they need that chance — people here are so fortunate."

John Laband, chair of Laurier's history department, was involved in sponsoring the event and making it possible for the women to speak at the university.

Asked what it meant for the university community to host these individuals, he expressed regret that more students did not attend.

"What interests me is what you do to get students to become involved and engaged in these kinds of initiatives," he said.

"There's a great deal to learn and also a lot of complacency — this is Third World stuff ... and here is a group that's obviously making a difference."



MEGAN CHERNIAK PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

Regina Mokgokong, executive director of a homecare service in South Africa dealing with HIV/AIDS patients, speaks Monday night.

CAMPUS

Campus News Editor Mike Lakusiak • mlakusiak@thecord.ca

LSPIRG opt-out question remains

MIKE LAKUSIAK
CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR

Sept. 26 was the last day students were able to opt-out of the Laurier Student Public Interest Research Group (LSPIRG) fee by completing an online form available from the university business office. The \$5.11 per term fee has gained some notoriety in the past few years as Facebook campaigns have encouraged students to save their money while LSPIRG has strived to make the merits of their fee clear to the student population at large.

"LSPIRG on campus provides opportunities and resources for students to build their capacity as agents of social change," said Humera Javed, executive director of the group. The predecessor of LSPIRG began as a campus club and mailing list in 2001.

With a referendum in 2006 it became student-funded and an arrangement was made so that the university would collect annual fees from students unless they chose to

opt out.

"We just remit funds to the organization," said Wilfrid Laurier University's director of budgets and the business office Ryan Simon. "From there we don't check on what it's spent for, the contract doesn't cover that kind of thing."

Unlike campus clubs, which must submit a budget for approval by the students' union, LSPIRG receives funding directly and utilizes its own board of directors and finance committee to allocate money in its budget. Javed admitted that there have been surpluses in years past. The excess funds were put toward resources such as camera equipment that is accessible for students to loan.

Javed emphasized that students can apply for funding to hold events or conduct research. "As long as they can justify that it's a social change project we'll help support that," she said.

"They support different groups and provide funding to these groups but a lot of them are a complete

waste of money," said Ian Merkley, president of the Campus Conservatives.

The Campus Conservatives have been in favour of the opt-out movement citing a lack of information among students about where their money is going. They have also raised concerns about LSPIRG's financial support of ideologically motivated groups, despite the organization's explicit non-partisan model.

Merkley also pointed to the total amount LSPIRG ostensibly receives factoring in that Laurier has nearly 15,000 undergraduate students. "Because it's really ideologically motivated, it should be an opt-in rather than the other way around – it's reasonable," Merkley said, pointing to LSPIRG funds supporting campus groups with a variety of sometimes controversial ideologies.

"I don't think we're biased or ideologically inclined one way," Javed said, explaining that any group can apply for funding so long as they can convince LSPIRG the money will support "social change".

"We are non-partisan so we don't take sides."

Merkley stressed the issue of awareness of LSPIRG's role for students. "Some people don't know where their money is going. They should research where it's going but some students don't know what LSPIRG even is," he said.

Javed explained that efforts are being made on the organization's end to inform students of LSPIRG's presence and how to take advantage of what the group has to offer.

She said the lack of information among students about the group's operations, "Has been a struggle for us since we started, that's something we're conscious of and are trying to actively promote on campus."

She emphasized that students should not arbitrarily opt-out without first thoroughly examining the group.

"We just want students to make informed decisions," she said. "I think every student should be able to opt out if they don't feel that LSPIRG provides the value for their money."

2006

year of referendum making LSPIRG student-funded

20

number of current working groups and affiliates supported by LSPIRG

\$10.22

Annual LSPIRG fee charged to each full-time student



NICK LACHANCE VISUAL DIRECTOR

Lawrence Hill addresses the crowd in the Concourse on Sept. 27.

Hill encourages students to reflect on history

—cover

"Students are so fabulous to communicate with, they're generally radiant with enthusiasm and ambition and bright as all get-out," said Hill. "There's hardly anything more satisfying than connecting with students about your work."

Taking advantage of Hill's availability and willingness to communicate with students is an opportunity Weldon said should not be passed up.

"This is a moment where students who have been at the reading, have had contact with him, have had their books signed with him, they'll remember this," he said.

"It'll be a moment that they really remember and it's a part of

education."

Hill expressed his excitement at meeting with fans and academics alike on campus.

The author has academic connections to Duncan, with whom he worked on a documentary film project *Seeking Salvation: A History of the Black Church in Canada*, which won the American Wilbur Award for best national television documentary.

Duncan was also responsible for a number of Hill's former visits to the Waterloo campus.

"Hill has had a long relationship with Laurier going back about a decade," Duncan said. "A portion of *The Book of Negroes* was written over at Lucinda House, for instance."

Hill's work revolves primarily around issues of identity and

belonging, with a focus on the history of slavery in a North American context.

Working to highlight the history of slavery in Canada, Hill said it's an important component of our heritage that has been systematically swept under the rug.

Duncan commented that Hill's works allow readers to "have a fuller view of Canada and the legacy of slavery."

Through his weeklong visit, Hill hoped to foster a learning environment of dialogue surrounding literature and issues he finds important to Canadian culture and heritage.

"It's important to know our history and know our stories and to celebrate and dramatize them in order to know ourselves."

VOTE
and be counted

Are you on the voters' list?

Call or visit the Clerk's Office at Waterloo City Hall to see if you're on the municipal election voters' list.

If your name isn't on the list, you can fill in a form to ensure you're ready to vote on Election Day – Oct. 25.

To vote, everyone must present ID with their name, address and signature, or sign a declaration from confirming their eligibility.

For more information, visit Waterloo City Hall at 100 Regina St. S., call 519-747-8704 or 519-747-8703, email elections@waterloo.ca or go to www.waterloo/election.

THE CITY OF
Waterloo

WATERLOO'S 2010 MUNICIPAL ELECTION — MONDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2010

Proposed names for Laurier's centennial beer: 1911, Hawk 100, Centenni-ale, Lauri-ale, Anniversary Ale

New focus on policy

WLUSU hires inaugural position to protect students' interests

JOHN BOUFFARD
CORD NEWS

The Wilfrid Laurier University Students' Union is taking measures to ensure that WLU students are being governed fairly and equivalently to other learning institutions.

A new full time position has been created, the focus of which will be undertaking research into policies of the university, municipality and provincial and federal governments in order to determine how they affect the students' best interests.

Part of the reason WLUSU felt the need for the new position were the results of last year's extensive market research project which made visible students' concerns on a lack of advocacy efforts on the part of the union.

WLUSU president Kyle Walker attributes this perception to the fact that they are simply not communicating these efforts well enough.

The students' union is currently a member of two strong lobby organizations, for which students pay significant fees, he said.

The creation of this new position, among other things, will maximize the benefits received from these memberships.

Chris Hyde has been hired as the



ELLI GARLIN PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER
Chris Hyde was hired as WLUSU advocacy co-ordinator.

university's inaugural policy researcher and advocacy coordinator.

Hyde brings several years worth of relevant experience to the position, most recently as deputy director of research and capacity at a think tank in Ottawa where he advocated on behalf of all Canadians.

This, coupled with Hyde being

identified as a candidate who could work very well with the students' union, made him an ideal selection for the position.

"Chris obviously [fit in with the union], he stood out from anyone. We are so lucky we got him," Walker said.

Hyde recognizes the transition that has to be made from representing a vast number of diverse individuals to a more condensed group consisting entirely of students.

"Now my clients, my stakeholders, my focus are the students of Wilfrid Laurier," Hyde said. "I think it's a tremendous opportunity; I can use skills I used in B.C., Alberta and Ottawa to a micro level and make it work well here."

In addition to research into how various university and governmental policies affect WLU students, a key aspect of the position includes how the policies compare to those of other universities in the region and nation-wide.

Through benchmarking statistics, such as institutions' average ancillary fees, WLUSU will be able to identify discrepancies between this university and others and work to advocate policies to eradicate them.



ELLI GARLIN PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER AND **WADE THOMPSON** GRAPHICS EDITOR
The university is introducing commemorative beer for centennial.

100 year beer

MIKE LAKUSIAK
CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR

To coincide with the Wilfrid Laurier University's centennial, WLU Food Services have contributed a distinctly celebratory element to the occasion: special centennial-themed beer and wine.

Initially the decision was made to offer special wine at centennial dinners and catered events throughout the upcoming year, explained director of Food Services Ryan Lloyd-Craig. "The idea came up to do a beer as well," he said, adding that since Grand River Brewing previously provided beer for the Grad Lounge, they were approached with the initiative in April.

"They're a great partner ... the brewery is in Cambridge; we figure it's a local product," he said.

The brewery was approached with specific parameters according to Lloyd-Craig. "It's got to be lower in alcohol, gold in colour and something that's easy-drinking," he said. The brewery "Suggested a Kölsch style ale which is a German Oktoberfest beer."

According to Wilfrid Laurier University Students' Union (WLUSU) president Kyle Walker, whether the beer will be available at campus bars is still undecided. "We're not sure if we're going to carry it in Wilf's yet," he said. "If it's going to be a draw for students, we'll sell it."

The name of the beer is a bit of a contentious subject, and while nothing has been decided yet, the list has been narrowed down after some suggestions were taken from the Laurier community and through WLUSU's Facebook page.

"We got crazy names that don't really pertain to the name of the beer, the idea behind the beer and what we're trying to create in a special product," Lloyd-Craig said of the names posted on Facebook. "Hawk's Piss isn't going to cut it."

"It's also a product that's going to be sold in LCBOs, not just on campus," Lloyd-Craig said, noting that the LCBO stores in Uptown Waterloo and at King and Northfield already carry Grand River Brewing's beers. "That's why we need a proper name for the label, it's got to be approved by the LCBO."

The initial order is for 5000 500mL bottles according to Lloyd-Craig and there is currently no word on pricing, although Grand River beers currently sell for between \$3.00 and \$3.50 a bottle at the LCBO.

The beer is in a sense about community awareness of the university's 100th year, Walker said. "Students, faculty and staff are happy that Laurier is turning 100."

"It's a way to get the community involved to put some beer bottles on the shelf and some wine and show Laurier's face."

VOTE

and be counted

Bring your ID to vote!

Voters in the October 25 municipal election must show ID with their name, address and signature.

Acceptable ID includes:

- Ontario driver's licence
- Ontario Health Card (photo card)
- Ontario motor vehicle permit (plate portion)
- Cancelled personalized cheque
- Mortgage, lease or rental agreement
- An insurance policy
- And many others

Students who live on-campus and plan to vote there must bring proof that they live there or sign a declaration form.

For more information, call 519-747-8704 or 519-747-8703, email elections@waterloo.ca or go to www.waterloo.ca/election.



WATERLOO'S 2010 MUNICIPAL ELECTION
MONDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2010

News in brief

Grad students initiate award for volunteerism

The Wilfrid Laurier University graduate students association (GSA) signed an agreement Monday to begin a yearly award of distinction for graduate students who volunteer in the Laurier community.

The award recognizes, "A graduate student who demonstrates Laurier's values or helps to make this community a better place," said GSA president Christinia Landry. The award is worth \$5,000 this year and \$10,000 each year until 2015.

Chinese students have tea and candles in the Turret

The WLU Chinese Culture Society hosted their first-annual event marking the lunar equinox with moon cakes, teas and candles last Wednesday in the Turret.

The event, originally scheduled to be held in the amphitheatre but moved due to weather, was well-attended according to society project manager Allen Tsang. "There were lot of non-oriental people there that were just interested in having a good time," he said.

LOCAL

Local Editor Vacant • editor@thecord.ca

30 years of lessons learned

Waterloo continues to struggle financing the RIM Park debt

HEATHER GIES
STAFF WRITER

RIM Park may be a valuable facility to local residents, but its construction did not come without a cost. Today, the City of Waterloo continues to pay the price of the unforeseen legal, political and enormous financial implications.

In order to finance the construction of RIM Park, the 500-acre recreation complex in northeast Waterloo, the City of Waterloo entered a financial agreement in September 2000 with MFP Financial Services Ltd. of Mississauga, now Renasant Financial Partners Ltd. Shortly after, however, it was revealed that the contract indicated a 9.2 per cent interest rate, as opposed to the 4.7 per cent the City thought it was approving, drastically increasing financial obligations.

Based on the insights from a City-conducted sport-amenities study, the City of Waterloo planned the construction of the RIM Park complex, including soccer fields, baseball diamonds, ice rinks, Grey Silo Golf Course and Sportsplex, at a total cost of \$56.7 million.

Council voted in favour of signing a deal with MFP Financial for a \$48.3 million loan, under the impression that the interest rate was

4.73 per cent, an obligation that would require 1.2 million tax dollars annually for 30 years. However, six months after entering the contract, an investigation by the *Waterloo Region Record* found that the City actually agreed to a much higher rate of 9.2 per cent, equalling a total payout of \$227 million over the 30 years.

But it wasn't just Waterloo that took a hit, explained Mike Connolly, a regional councillor for the City of Waterloo at the time of the signing. The City of Toronto, which, among other former clients had previously advised Waterloo of their satisfaction with MFP's services, reviewed its documents and found that interest was at the proposed rate only for the first few years, after which it increased for the remainder of the contract, just like the RIM Park deal.

Public inquiry

In hindsight, Connolly acknowledges various "fishy" happenings in the RIM Park deal process.

Waterloo filed a law suit against MFP, and, as a result, the \$227 million was reduced to \$145 million over 30 years.

Further litigation, including action against MFP and former City employees John Ford, CFO, and Tom Stockie, CAO, remains outstanding.

The City of Waterloo refuses to disclose the associated legal costs of this action.

According to the Judicial Inquiry released in 2003, "Council relied exclusively on the reports from the CAO and CFO." Connolly explained that, by standard procedure, Council never actually saw the contract.

The Judicial Inquiry states various troubling facts, including: the social relationship between Tom Stockie and MFP Vice President David Robinson, a potential conflict of interest; Robinson's minimal paper trail, limited engagement of City lawyer William White; reliance on John Ford, who "lacked the knowledge and sophistication to undertake the due diligence that this transaction deserved;" and the insufficient communication that left Mayor Joan McKinnon poorly informed on certain matters.

While the Judicial Inquiry reported, "Mr. Robson, on behalf of MFP, but unknown to his immediate superiors, deliberately misled Mr. Ford, Mr. Stockie, and other members of the staff of the City," there is, after ten years, still no definitive direction in which to point the finger of blame. Somewhere the RIM Park deal went very wrong, and the City of Waterloo continues to manage the largely financial fallout.



NICK LACHANCE FILE PHOTO

RIM Park, in the city's northeast end, houses recreational facilities.

2000

the year the contract was signed between Waterloo and MFP

\$145 million

the actual payout over 30 years determined by the law suit

2031

the year the contract ends

\$33 million

of unexpected debt

\$114.9 million

the amount the city anticipated to be paying out in total for the debt

7.41 %

interest rate compounded semi-annually on the debt repayment

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2010

for the following offices:

OFFICE FOR WHICH VOTE TO BE HELD	NO. TO BE ELECTED
Mayor, City of Waterloo	1
Councillor, City of Waterloo – Ward 1 – Southwest	1
Councillor, City of Waterloo – Ward 2 – Northwest	1
Councillor, City of Waterloo – Ward 3 – Lakeshore	1
Councillor, City of Waterloo – Ward 4 – Northeast	1
Councillor, City of Waterloo – Ward 5 – Southeast	1
Councillor, City of Waterloo – Ward 6 – Central-Columbia	1
Councillor, City of Waterloo – Ward 7 – Uptown	1
Chair, Regional Municipality of Waterloo	1
Councillor, Regional Municipality of Waterloo	2
Member, Waterloo Region District School Board	3
Membre, Le Conseil scolaire de district du Centre-Sud-Ouest	1

Please note the following acclamations:

Member, Waterloo Catholic District School Board

ROBERT HÉTU
LOUISE ERVIN
Acclaimed

Membre, Le Conseil scolaire de district catholique Centre Sud (French Language Separate School Board) to represent the Region of Waterloo and the Counties of Brant, Haldimand and Norfolk)

DOROTHÉE
PETIT-PAS
Acclaimed

REGULAR VOTING DAY – MONDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2010 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Students living in on-campus residences will vote at:

University of Waterloo
Multi-Purpose Room, Student Life Centre
200 University Avenue
Waterloo, Ontario

Note: This voting location is for on-campus residents only.

Students living in off-campus accommodations should contact the Clerk's Office at 519-747-8703 or 519-747-8704 to find out where they vote.

ADVANCE VOTING DAYS

Date	Location	Time
Saturday October 2	Conestoga Mall	10 am to 6 pm
Sunday October 3	Conestoga Mall	12 noon to 5 pm
Thursday October 7	City Hall	10 am to 6 pm
Friday October 8	City Hall	10 am to 6 pm

KW Elections in brief

Government websites will not link to candidates

Candidates for Waterloo Region were told that they are not allowed to post links to their personal websites on the municipal government's website during the campaign for the public to get information.

According to the *Waterloo Region Record*, the municipalities worry that including the links may be unfairly contributing to the campaign, even though larger cities have included them. They also stated that they don't want to take responsibility for what the candidates post because they cannot monitor the sites.

The policies are reviewed after every municipal election, so the matter may be addressed at a later time.

Mayoral debate heats up

Waterloo mayor Brenda Halloran was in shock as three challengers flooded the incumbent with negativity about the city of Waterloo at the all candidates' debate on Sept. 21.

According to the *Waterloo Region Record*, the challengers complained about the rise in the city's taxes, high debts and wasteful spending. Debate also turned to the relocation of the Google offices from Waterloo to downtown Kitchener. Halloran responded by saying that the city is improving the finances and doing very well.

The debate was hosted by the Waterloo Voter Support Committee and approximately 130 people attended the event, which was held at RIM Park.

From councillor to chamber president

Ian McLean, a current councillor, has been given a new title as the new president and chief executive officer of the Greater Kitchener Waterloo Chamber of Commerce.

The *Waterloo Region Record* stated

that McLean, who has been councillor since 2003, did not want to run for council this year and opted to instead apply for the 1,700-member chamber.

McLean, 42, feels that this role would be a good fit because of his background and volunteer experience. He starts his new position on Oct. 5.

Water taxes on the rise

The average water and sewage bill in Waterloo has greatly increased to \$787 annually, which is a high 54 per cent increase between 2007 and 2010.

The *Waterloo Region Record* reported that the water bills in Kitchener have increased nine times faster than inflation and four times faster than taxes. It is said that the high increase is generally due to four factors: the Walkerton water tragedy, environmental needs, aging systems and water conservation. This reasoning has however come under great scrutiny.

This is not the end though; in Waterloo it is expected to continue to rise another 51 per cent by 2018.

Fluoridation discussed

The Sept. 23 debate for the second official forum on water fluoridation was a little one-sided as the dentists did not show up.

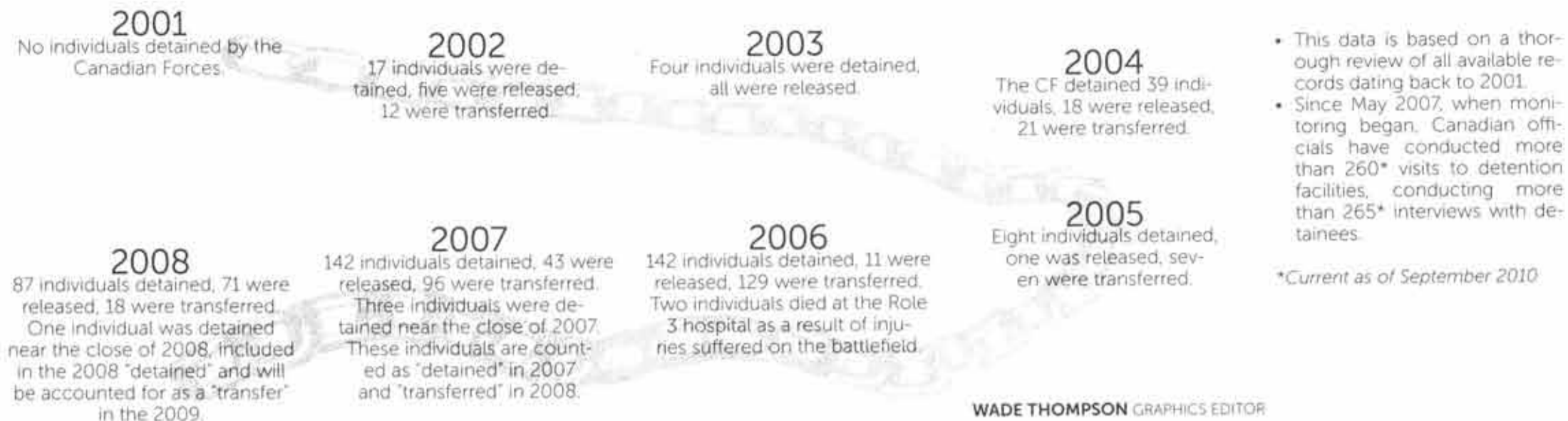
According to the *Waterloo Chronicle*, the debate was opened by Andrew Hillard of Wonderful Waterloo, a local civic-minded group which acts as a neutral third party, who asked if anyone in favour of water fluoridation wanted to come forward and speak. The audience of 40 greeted him with silence.

It is said that water fluoridation has few benefits for your teeth and can be fatally harmful to your body. It has been known to leave several people with a lifetime of health problems.

–Compiled by Miranda Edgar

NATIONAL

National Editor Vacant • editor@thecord.ca



• This data is based on a thorough review of all available records dating back to 2001.
 • Since May 2007, when monitoring began, Canadian officials have conducted more than 260* visits to detention facilities, conducting more than 265* interviews with detainees.
 *Current as of September 2010

Canadian Forces release detainee statistics

ALANNA WALLACE
 EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

This month, the Canadian Forces (CF) released statistics on individuals detained by the CF in Afghanistan between 2001 and 2008 after it was decided that releasing the numbers no longer posed a threat to operations abroad.

It has since been announced that statistics regarding detainees will be released on an annual basis after being held for a period of 12 months. The numbers will include those individuals who have been detained, released by the CF, transferred or are deceased.

Laurier professor of global studies Timothy Donais said that the release of the numbers is likely part of a "broader political game that's being played."

"This has less to do with the rights of detainees and more about politics," he said, adding that the current Conservative government will use the numbers to advocate the mission's transparency while the Liberal opposition will attempt to call attention to the human rights abuses which have historically occurred after detainee transfers.

The report released stated, "individuals detained by the Canadian Forces are handled and transferred

or released in accordance with our obligations under international law." This includes a post-transfer monitoring program, called the Diplomatic Contingency Plan, which was developed in May 2007 after allegations of abuse of a Canadian-transferred detainee.

"We've heard a lot through the [Richard] Colvin testimony and other testimony about this issue in front of parliamentary committees," said Mark Sedra, senior fellow at the Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI).

"We've heard some pretty damn-ing things about what went on in terms of the transfer of the

detainees to Afghan authorities," he said.

In an effort to avoid these types of incidences, since the program began Canadian officials have conducted over 260 visits to detention facilities, conducting more than 265 detainee interviews.

Detainee transfers were also suspended on one occasion between November 2007 and February 2008 and paused by the Canadian Commander of Task Force Kandahar on three occasions in 2009.

The CF reported that data on detainees had not been released until this month due to a need to "maintain a high level of security for

military operations in Theatre" and to protect CF personnel, civilians and allies in Afghanistan.

"Canadians are probably getting a little bit cynical about it," said Donais of the mission in Afghanistan.

Agreeing, Sedra commented that the release of the numbers could strengthen suspicion or sentiments of frustration towards Canada and NATO's role in Afghanistan.

"It could also show to the Canadian public that this is a part of warfare in this area and it's a challenging area of world," he concluded.

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Fraudulent witchcraft

A Brampton man recently joined the elite ranks of Canadians charged with fraud on the grounds of selling witchcraft

MEGAN RAFTIS
STAFF WRITER

A resident of Brampton recently found himself in the unusual position of being charged with the crime of pretending to practice witchcraft.

"[The law] is an old one, but [its use] is not unheard of," explained Ontario media contact for the department of justice, Paula Creighan.

That charge, along with the accompanying one of fraud under \$5,000, was levelled by police after receiving several complaints that the man, Yogendra Pathak, was charging money to perform spells from his home in Brampton, with the promise that he could "solve any and all of your problems."

However, it was not the practice of witchcraft itself that led to his court date scheduled for Oct. 7.

Police also suspect that the culprit has been operating his business for more than a year, and has defrauded many more people than those who have already come forward.

Officials are urging any other potential victims to overcome any embarrassment and bring their complaints to the Peel Police.

"We really don't care if you want to practise witchcraft, as long as you don't allegedly defraud people," said Sgt. Sahir Shah, of the Peel Police during a Sept. 15 press conference.

The charge of fraud under \$5000 could land the Brampton man with an additional six months and/or a fine of up to \$5000.

"Its purpose was to protect Canadians from fraudulent witchcraft," Creighan said, as it is exemplified in this case.

The law, which came into play in 1892, was meant to protect citizens more from having witchcraft fraudulently perpetrated on them, rather than in a bid to stop people from practising witchcraft as part of their personal beliefs, if they so choose.

Most recently, the law came under fire last year when a woman from Toronto, Vishwantee Persaud, was charged with it and two other counts of fraud in relation to allegations.

Some groups were calling for the law to be struck down and there was even a facebook group dedicated to seeing section 356 taken off the books, however these attempts have proved to be unsuccessful.

Understanding the law

- The charge comes under section 356 of the Canadian Criminal code.
- The law prohibits people from practising "any kind of witchcraft, sorcery, enchantment or conjuration" as well as telling fortunes in exchange for money or using any occult methods to find lost items.
- The crime is considered an offence punishable by summary conviction.
- It carries a maximum fine of \$500 and/or six months jail time.
- While Canadian jails may never be filled with people guilty of pretending to practice witchcraft, 38 people in Ontario alone were charged under section 356 from January 1999 to October 2009.

Canada in brief

UBC students win Emmy

Vancouver (CUP) – A group of students and faculty from the University of British Columbia's journalism school have won an Emmy award for a documentary that investigated the effects of electronic waste shipped to other countries.

Ghana: Digital Dumping Ground, a PBS documentary produced by the students and faculty, was the winner of the Outstanding Investigative Journalism award at the 2010 News and Documentary Emmy Awards on Sept. 27 in New York. The award marks the first time students at a Canadian journalism school have won an Emmy.

–Justin McElroy, The Ubyessey

New drug plan needed

Ottawa (CUP) – A public policy professor at Carleton University has said in a new study that a national drug plan could save the country up to \$10.7 billion. The study, entitled *The Economic Case for Universal Pharmacare*, notes that the public and private plans that Canada now employs are impractical for a population looking for affordable drug coverage.

Most of the savings would come from the country's ability to negotiate better prices and enforce drug reviews once the plan becomes installed, said Gagnon.

–Victoria Alarcon, Excalibur



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Ballot Questions ...

On Election Day – Oct. 25 – Waterloo residents can vote for the mayor, ward councillor, regional chair and councillor, and school board member.

This year, there will also be two questions on the ballot:

"Should the Region of Waterloo fluoridate your municipal water? Yes or No."

"Do you support the members of Kitchener and Waterloo councils engaging in discussions about the advantages and disadvantages of merging the cities of Kitchener and Waterloo? Yes or No."

Have your voice heard! Vote on Election Day or in an advance vote.

For more information, call 519-747-8704 or 519-747-8703, email elections@waterloo.ca or go to www.waterloo.ca/election.



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May 1, 2011: Application deadline for upper-year programs

TEAS www.ouac.on.ca/teas/

Teacher Education Application Service
December 1, 2010: Application deadline for English programs
March 1, 2011: Application deadline for French programs



ORPAS www.ouac.on.ca/orpas/

Ontario Rehabilitation Sciences Programs Application Service
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WATERLOO'S
2010 MUNICIPAL ELECTION
MONDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2010

WORLD

World Editor Alex Mitsopoulos • amitsopoulos@thecord.ca

MDGs run awry in NY

United Nations discusses growing worries that the 2015 goal will not be met

MELISSA CUPOVIC
STAFF WRITER

"One could say there was a certain lack of seriousness in this process from the start," said United Nations (UN) Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, at last week's General Assembly meeting in New York.

The assembly met for the summit on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which were revealed to be lacking the progress necessary to reach the 2015 goals.

The richest of states have committed to donate 0.7 per cent of gross national income in order to halve extreme poverty and hunger, establish universal primary education, promote gender equality and empowerment of women, reduce child mortality, improve maternal health, combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases, ensure environmental sustainability and develop a global partnership for development.

According to the BBC, former British Prime Minister Gordon

Brown expressed concern and anger over the lack of progress made in establishing universal primary education.

Brown said that guaranteeing education for all was a matter of "security, anti-poverty and health."

One of the primary reasons for these failures is that the world's richest countries have failed to donate 0.7 per cent of gross national income.

Five years ago in Gleneagles, Scotland, G8 countries committed to doubling aid to Africa by 2010, which has yet to happen.

The countries claim that their failure to uphold their commitment is the result of the financial crisis. Jeffery Sachs, an MDG advisor, claims that there was a shortfall in aid far before the crisis.

Despite the bleak progress report, Ki-moon insists that the goals can still be achieved if enough work is done.

Wilfrid Laurier University professor Alex Latta disagrees. He explained that Ki-moon's role is that

of a cheerleader in that he is now trying to "rally the team for a last heroic quarter;" consequently he has to "make it seem that we can meet those goals if we just give it our 110 per cent effort."

According to Latta, this, however, "serves to perpetuate the myth that problems like poverty can be solved by simply 'working harder' to deliver aid where it is needed most."

A draft resolution referred to the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session reports that progress has been slow in advancing gender equality and the empowerment of women as well as in providing basic sanitation and achieving environmental sustainability.

It further states that, "progress on other Millennium Development Goals is fragile and must be sustained to avoid reversal."

Latta further explains that MDGs not only oversimplifies the world's problems but "set the bar quite low in terms of what we might consider human 'progresses'; or even the



COURTESY OF CREATIVE COMMONS

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon at the MDG summit.

elimination of 'poverty.'

He argued that even if we were to meet all the MDGs "we would still live in a tremendously unequal world, where a minority consumes the bulk of the world's resources."

Latta suggested, "Instead of such abstract goal-setting exercises, attached to lacklustre aid initiatives,

we would be better off to turn our attention to the economic relationships that generate inequality—both within and between nations."

"As it stands, programs like the MDGs actually serve to legitimize the existing global order, distracting our attention from more critical reflection on world issues."

Swiss Federal Council enjoys female majority

LINDSAY PURCHASE
CORD WORLD

Sept. 22 saw the election of a fourth woman to Switzerland's Federal Council, creating a female majority at the highest level of national politics.

It is only one in five countries worldwide to do so, a surprising statistic considering Switzerland was one of the last European nations to grant female suffrage in 1971. The first female cabinet member was not elected until 1984.

Simonetta Sommaruga, a member of the Swiss Social Democratic party, was elected following four rounds of voting by parliamentarians in the Federal Assembly, beating her opponent of the Swiss People's party, Jean François-Rime, by an absolute majority of 159 votes to 81.

She succeeds former Minister Moritz Leuenberger, who retired following 15 years of government work. Also elected was Johann Schneider-Ammann, who replaced Minister Hans-Rudolf Merz. The political orientation of the seven member council did not change.

Critics have suggested that Switzerland has yet to achieve equality in many other parts of society. However, many are hopeful that this great symbolic action will prompt change in other such lacking areas, such as the professional workplace.

"I think it's really, really important as a model because there's a lot of research to suggest that having underrepresented people ... in political life at all levels... is beneficial to those groups," commented Juane Clarke, sociology professor at Wilfrid Laurier.

Along with having a female majority of council members, the current member to have the rotating presidency is a woman, and each house of parliament has a female leader.

All seven positions will be up for re-election next year and it is difficult to anticipate whether this

“
There's a lot of research to suggest that having underrepresented people ... in political life at all levels... is beneficial to those groups.”

—Juane Clarke, professor of sociology

development in Swiss politics will continue into a trend for the future. "When women are represented in positions of power in a society, women's overall health improves," added Clarke.

Not all in Switzerland are so pleased by the election result. There is discussion of a global antifeminism conference to be held in October due to concerns that the amount of women in politics could have detrimental effects to Swiss Society. The conference is being organized by Swiss activist Rene Kuhn.

However, while the female majority is undoubtedly positive, said Angela Rooke, a Ph.D. candidate at York University, it is a very incomplete measure of the status of women in the country.

"Ultimately, I wonder what's more important: having equal representation of 'women', which often means middle-class, educated and white women, in cabinets and parliaments," she questioned, "or, having a government whose policies are designed to afford all women equality of opportunity, by recognizing that not all women's needs are the same."



COURTESY OF CREATIVE COMMONS
Simonetta Sommaruga, SP

Women in politics

- 45 of the 80 seats in Rwanda's national government consists of women, making it the highest percentage of any country.
- Canada sits at 51st place in having the greatest percentage of women in national government in comparison to countries around the world. Currently, women hold 68 of the 308 federal seats, or 22 per cent.
- Among countries with a presidential system, Bolivia holds

the highest percentage of women in office, with 17 of 36 positions, or 47 per cent.

- Women make up only 19.3 per cent of the national members of parliament world wide
- Nordic states average at the highest level of women in parliament, with 42.1 per cent representation, while the Arab States report the lowest at 11.1 per cent

—Statistics from the Inter-Parliamentary Union. Data as of July 2010

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What you didn't know about your body

Features Editor **Laura Sedgwick** shares fun facts and research that have been conducted about the human body with research from Dr. Jordan Peterson, Dr. Andrew M. Simons, Mary Roach and others

Eye spy

Dr. Jordan Peterson, psychology professor at the University of Toronto, said in a televised lecture that seeing is impossible. He reasons this based on the fact that boundaries between objects are unclear. Furthermore, why can we see on the scale we do and not on a micro or macro scale? Real life experiences, on the other hand, suggest that we can see.

Most people have three colour cones in their eyes and thus, for these people, there are three primary colours. Some people, however, have a fourth colour cone in their eyes and thus see four primary colours. Many birds have four colour cones.

For those of us with three colour cones, the most visible colour is char- treuse, a yellowish green. It is the most visible because it is in the middle of the frequencies of visible light and makes more receptors in your brain fire than any other colour.

Why do men have nipples?

According to an article published in Scientific American by Dr. Andrew M. Simons, a biology professor at Carleton University, "Like all 'why' queries, the question of why men have nipples can be addressed on many levels."

In regards to why men have nipples he writes, "In a now-famous paper, Stephen Jay Gould and Richard C. Lewontin emphasize that we should not immediately assume that every trait has an adaptive explanation. Just as the spandrels of St. Mark's domed cathedral in Venice are simply an architectural consequence of the meeting of a vaulted ceiling with its supporting pillars, the presence of nipples in male mammals is a genetic architectural by-product of nipples in females."

"So, why do men have nipples? Because females do."

What's the point of your appendix?

Though your appendix, which is located in the lower right quadrant of your abdomen, produces some white blood cells, it is mostly useless. For this reason, most people can function fine if they have it removed.

Other mostly useless body parts include pinkie toes, the coccyx, wisdom teeth, the male uterus and the female vas deferens.

Your largest organ

Skin is your largest organ and it makes up about 16 per cent of your body weight. It is made up of three main layers: the hypodermis, the dermis and the epidermis.

In a period of 24 hours, your skin loses approximately 10 billion dead skin cells. This amounts to about two kilograms per year.

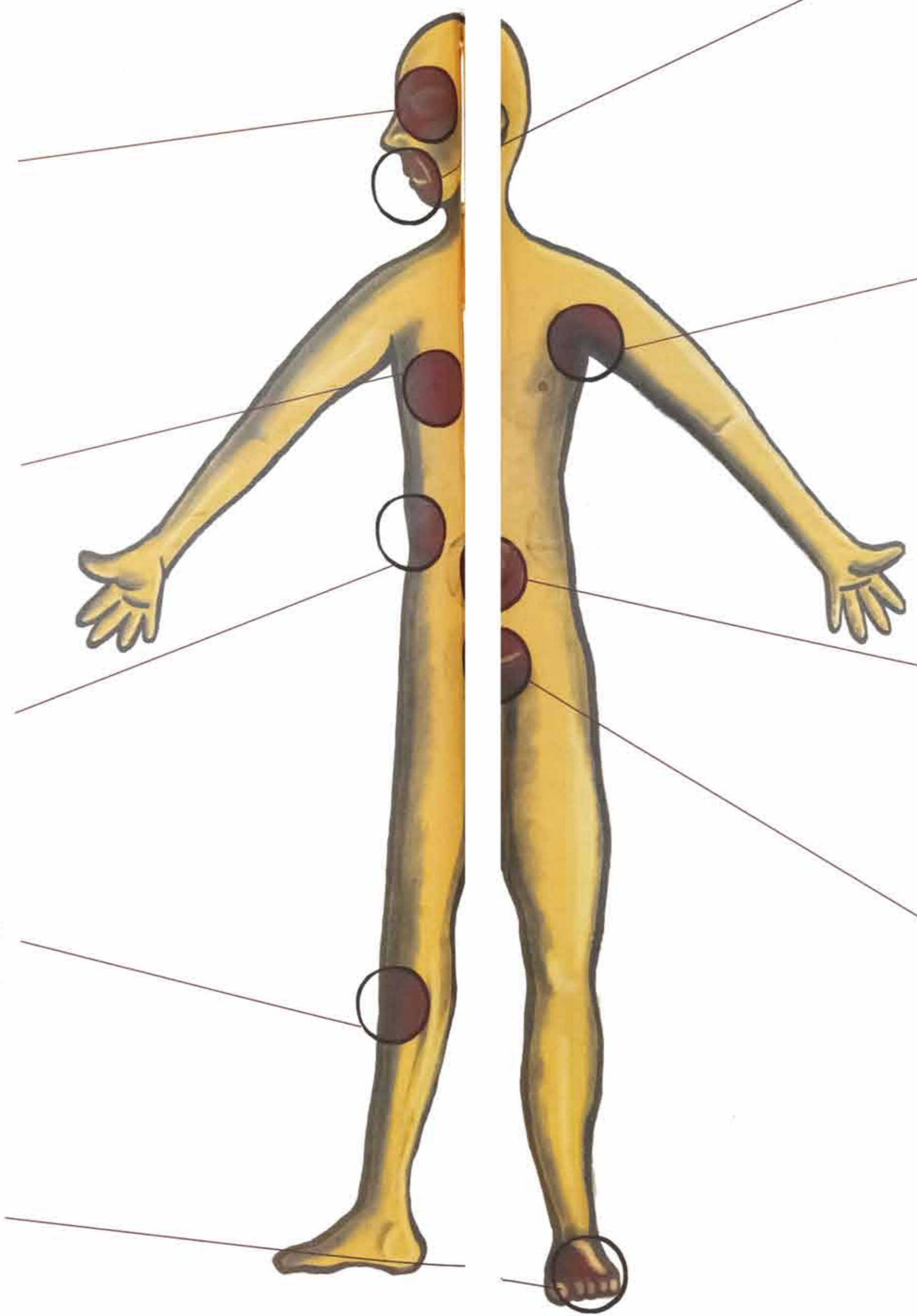
Your thinnest skin is about one millimetre thick and is on your eyelids. Your palms and the soles of your feet have the thickest skin which is approximately three millimetres thick.

Your skin acts as a container for your innards. It is a protective barrier from the outside world that guards against bacterial invasion. It helps to regulate your body temperature and provides a waterproof barrier to keep your internal liquids inside and the environment's liquids outside.

You're unique

No two people have identical fingerprints or toeprints, not even identical (monozygotic) twins. Like fingerprints and toeprints, everyone has a different pattern on his or her tongue and would make different teeth marks.

This means that your fingerprints and teeth marks are not exclusively a result of your DNA because, if they were, monozygotic twins would have identical fingerprints and teeth marks because they have identical DNA.



THOMPSON GRAPHICS EDITOR

Let's talk about it

"The Definitive Book of Body Language," by Allan and Barbara Pease, mentions that kindergarteners laugh about 400 times a day where adults only laugh about 15 times.

Another study suggests that women smile more than men and that a positive correlation exists between smiling in school yearbook photos and having successful careers and marriages.

According to an American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) survey, 80 per cent of people are, ironically, not happy with their smile. AAP also found that smile enhancement procedures outnumber eyelid surgeries five to one.

The average American women says approximately 20,000 words a day. That is 13,000 more words than the average American male.

According to an Internet article by Marvin Mansky, "People who feel good about themselves take good care of their mouth and people who have a poor self image generally do not take good care of their mouth."

Using hormones to grow body hair, that's your business

Most body hair is now useless. There are various theories as to why we evolved body hair and why we have lost some, but not all of it entirely as we evolved further.

There are two types of body hair: cranny hair, found in your armpits and pubic region, and androgenic hair, found on your arms and legs.

Likely (and, perhaps, ironically), cranny hair has to do with sexual attraction. This is because, according to zoologist Desmond Morris, cranny hair behaves as a net that holds the body's pheromones that attract mates who are sexually compatible.

Androgenic hair, on the other hand, likely developed to help regulate body temperature. This is also why men have more body hair than women. That is, men needed body hair because they were out hunting and so their body temperatures were in constant flux whereas women's body temperature didn't vary as much because females were mainly nurturers and gatherers.

Facts about fat

Although body fat does not become hazardous to one's health until it reaches levels of over 35 per cent of one's weight, it is generally suggested that men ought to have less than 18 per cent body fat and women should have 23 per cent or less. Women generally have more body fat than men because it is required for childbearing and other hormonal related functions.

Two types of body fat are visceral (fat that surrounds your organs) and subcutaneous (fat that is beneath the skin). On average, subcutaneous fat makes up about 80 per cent of all your body fat.

Essential fats (such as fat that is stored in places such as your bone marrow, heart, lungs, muscles), is required for normal physiological functioning.

A pound of fat is equivalent to about 3,500 calories.

You don't need to have genitals to have an orgasm. You don't even need to be alive

According to a Ted Talk where writer Mary Roach presented on orgasms, you don't need to have genitals to have an orgasm.

"An orgasm is a reflex of the autonomic nervous system," she said. "The orgasm reflex can be triggered by a surprisingly large range of input."

There have been reports about people who can achieve orgasm by having someone stroke their eyebrow, rub their knee or brush their teeth.

There have even been reports about someone who could think herself to orgasm in about one minute.

You can also trigger orgasms in brain-dead individuals by stimulating certain nerves on their lower spine. This is possible because, as mentioned, an orgasm is a reflex. Furthermore, men don't have to have an erection to ejaculate. This is because an erection is controlled by the parasympathetic nervous system whereas ejaculation is controlled by the sympathetic nervous system.

ARTS

Sarah Murphy • smurphy@thecord.ca

Political films find home at Laurier

Chinese documentary about classroom democracy comes to WLU as part of Cinema Politica

ALEXANDROS MITSIOPOLOUS
WORLD EDITOR

This past Thursday, Laurier successfully held the first event of Cinema Politica — a media arts network dedicated to the screening of independent films with a political component.

Derek Hall and Dr. Tanya Richardson, of the Laurier political science and anthropology departments respectively, are the Cinema Politica co-ordinators for the Kitchener-Waterloo area.

The feature film *Please Vote for Me* was directed by Weijun Chen and explores the dynamics of a grade-three classroom in Wuhan, a prosperous city in central China.

The students at Evergreen Primary School have been asked to elect a new class monitor, a prestigious position that holds a considerable amount of authority over the rest of the class.

Typically, the class monitor is selected by the teacher.

This year, however, the children would decide by means of a democratic election, the very first of its kind.

Three candidates are chosen to run for the position, two boys, Cheng Cheng and Luo Lei, and a girl, Xu Xiaofei.

Each must endure three trials to exhibit their qualifications as the new class monitor.

The first trial consists of a talent show.

Second, the candidates must engage in a debate by which they

attempt to expose the faults of their opponents whilst bolstering their own qualities.

Finally, the candidates have an opportunity to appeal directly to their classmates for their votes in a speech directly before voting commences.

The candidates each struggle with their campaign, hoping to delicately balance the stress of running for class monitor.

The film depicts each candidate's home life and explores the pressure they endure to succeed.

Back in the classroom, each child faces adversity as they struggle with varying interpersonal relationships and self doubt.

Speaking on behalf of the film's intriguing nature, Hall said, "The film was so gripping, you almost forgot it was a documentary sometimes."

Inevitably, this movie addresses the concept of democracy as a universal truth.

The director toys with the idea of democracy in China and the challenges of its implementation.

Please Vote for Me mixes candor with comedy as the children struggle to understand their role in the democratic process.

"One of the things that the movie makes us think about is the relationship between democracies and elections. Do you have to have elections to have democracy? And if you have an election, does that mean you have democracy?" Hall speculated.

While banned in China, the movie has been well received all over the world.

Please Vote for Me is one installment in a series entitled "Why Democracy?"

The series is comprised of ten documentaries taking place in ten different regions of the world and captures modern democracy as it exists today, not as how it should exist.

Following the success of *Please Vote for Me*, Cinema Politica intends to screen three more movies this semester.

Up next is a British documentary depicting the consequences of overfishing the oceans entitled *The End of the Line* debuting on Oct. 21 at 7:00pm in Arts 1E1.

“Now it's time to vote. You decide who will be class monitor. You are master of your own choice. Think about it seriously — voting is a sacred matter.”

—Ms. Zhang, teacher at Evergreen Primary School

Upcoming screenings

The End of the Line
Oct. 21
7:00pm
Arts Building 1E1

H2O11
Nov. 11
7:00pm
Arts Building 1E1



Three students compete for the position of class monitor in Weijun Chen's documentary.

CONTRIBUTED IMAGE

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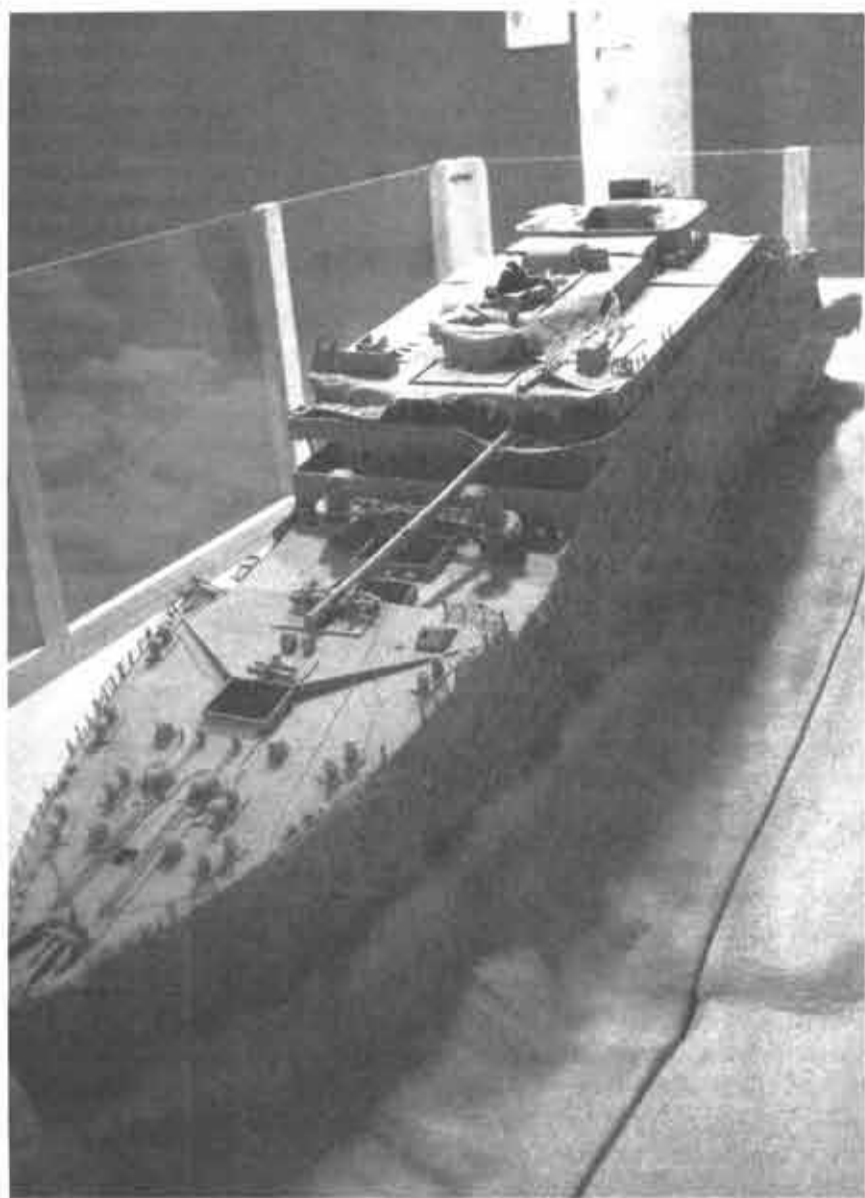
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YEARBOOKS!

Rediscovering the Titanic a century later

The Museum launches grand new exhibit featuring artifacts from the supposedly unsinkable vessel



ELLI GARLIN PHOTO MANAGER

JAIME HORN
CORD ARTS

On the evening of Sept. 23 The Museum, located on King Street in Kitchener, opened its new exhibit "Titanic: The Artifact Exhibition".

As most are probably aware, perhaps in part because of James Cameron's epic 1997 film *Titanic*, the RMS Titanic was the largest passenger steamship in the world.

It launched April 10, 1912 from Southampton, England.

Though it was thought by many to be "unsinkable" as a result of its innovative design, the ship and hundreds of its passengers tragically perished in the middle of the North Atlantic four days after its launch when it collided with an iceberg.

Now, 98 years later, over 150 artifacts from the tragic wreck are displayed for the public in a compelling, educational and often heart-wrenching way.

Indeed, The Museum CEO David Marskell calls it a "very personal exhibit", offering not only artifacts, but several heartbreaking stories regarding different passengers, ranging from first class to the ship's crew.

One of Marskell's favourite things about the exhibit is the Boarding Pass museum-goers receive, each bearing a different name of a real passenger aboard the ship.

Visitors then follow along on that person's journey and ultimately find

out if they survive or perish after the collision.

Pieces from the shipwreck on display range from things as small and personal as a man's cufflink, to functional pieces integral to the ship's performance such as a port-hole, ship rivets and a huge wrench.

Also on display among the vast range of objects is an abundance of crockery and cooking pots.

Of these artifacts, many were still very well preserved, though enough are in disrepair for one to get the overwhelming impression of how much deterioration the objects were subjected to from thousands of feet under the ocean.

Other artifacts include those belonging to a perfumist, an amateur musician, Macy's owner Ida Straus and many others.

Displays include replicas of first and third class sleeping quarters. As the night came to a close, it was clear that the inaugural crowd was genuinely impressed.

The exclusive evening was topped off with authentic (and delicious) Cornish pasties, an Irish band and even Irish dancers, all reminiscent of the Titanic's third class culture and atmosphere.

Enthusiastic guests were not only in attendance for the opening of a fantastic exhibit, but also celebrated the brand new name of the institute, The Museum, formerly named The Waterloo Regional Children's Museum.

In this respect, The Museum under CEO David Marskell hopes to inspire and teach all demographics in the community including children, adults and university students.

In Marskell's terms, he hopes that The Museum will serve as "a piece of the cultural puzzle" in our growing community.

The Museum's tagline is "Ideas transcending objects," a motto which is upheld by their splendid new exhibit surrounding one of the most compelling tragedies of the past century.

Though many guests of the opening night were adults, the exhibition should be a success with patrons of all ages.

The Titanic exhibit runs until Jan. 23 of next year.

Peter Katz plays Maxwell's

MEGAN CHERNIAK
PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

Last Wednesday, singer/songwriter Peter Katz visited Maxwell's Music House where he captivated the audience with his intriguing lyrics, catchy guitar tunes and soaring vocals.

"Waterloo has always been a very friendly place for me," Katz stated as his reason for choosing Maxwell's as the place to try out some new songs.

Katz debuted a couple songs while mixing in songs from his new album *First of The Last to Know*, released this past April.

Winner of the CBC Galaxie Rising Star Award, Katz has performed in some unconventional places, from small towns in northern British Columbia, to summer camps in

both Canada and Europe, as well as many visits to college and university campuses.

"Anywhere people want to hear my music is a great place to be," said Katz.

The crowd at Maxwell's was very receptive to Katz's material, both new and old.

With Katz being joined by a member of the audience for a cover of Glen Hansard's "Falling Slowly" as well as occasionally stepping away from the microphone to fill the room with his unaided vocals, the show was certainly memorable.

To read more of this story and see photos from the concert visit:

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Festival sparks community's interest

Spark in the Park Music Festival took over Waterloo Park to showcase Canadian music and sustainability

DREW HIGGINBOTHAM
CORD ARTS

The first annual Spark in the Park Music Festival was held this past Saturday, providing an active and engaging opportunity for young people in the community to come together.

Held in Waterloo Park, the festival was an all day event showcasing Canadian musicians, while encouraging environmental stewardship, sustainability and social justice.

Sponsored by radio station 91.5 The Beat, the event was headlined by Kae Sun and Zeus.

Volunteers from the local organization Reaching Our Outdoor Friends (ROOF) spent time explaining to festival-goers how their organization has assisted homeless youth in Kitchener-Waterloo for 22 years.

ROOF's various programs, like the Lunchbox program, have not only provided practical skills to homeless youth but have also given them work opportunities making lunches for businesses in the downtown core.

A uniquely symbiotic way of helping marginalized youth learn valuable skills and gain employment, the program simultaneously provides a service for establishments in Kitchener-Waterloo.

Other groups like the Sustainable Technology Education Project (STEP), which is part of the University of Waterloo's Sustainability Project, were there with an innovative human-powered bicycle

generator.

The bike generator was meant to provide people with a better understanding of how difficult it is to produce energy by demonstrating the grueling effort it takes just to power one string of lightbulbs.

The demonstration had volunteers breaking into sweat well before producing the first bits of light.

Arguably, the best part of the festival was the musical acts that played throughout the day.

One group from Toronto called Jumble got the crowd enthused with their outrageous stage antics and over the top outfits.

They brought to the stage a unique brand of energized pop-rock with notable musical influences from Serbian and Ukrainian culture.

Other bands, like Guelph's Dance Hall Free for All, entertained the crowds with some funky hard rock grooves and environmentally-minded rapping, preaching the importance of protecting the environment and human rights.

After these opening acts had performed, the unexpected cold weather and rain subsided in time for headliners Kae Sun and Zeus to wow the crowd.

Toronto based singer and songwriter Kae Sun was first up, promoting his latest album *On the Lookout*.

Originally from Ghana, Kae Sun's musical style and performance reflects his culture.

Borrowing from an array of musical genres like soul, reggae, hip-hop, folk and rock, his style has been

described as "urban folk."

Kae Sun played the title track from *On the Lookout* – an energetic song showcasing his hip-hop side, then quickly switched over to songs like "Lion on a Leash," featuring the acoustic guitar and a more laidback reggae-folk sound reminiscent of artists like Bob Marley.

Soon after the sun went down, Zeus took the stage and got the crowd heated up with their loud and gritty alternative indie rock.

Formed in Toronto, Zeus have garnered attention for touring with artists like Jason Collett and Bahamas.

They played a number of songs from their album *Say Us* including

"Kindergarten" and "I Know".

Not to be underestimated, Zeus' live performance is really what sets them apart.

Intricate piano and guitar work combined with seamless transitions between songs made their set a memorable one.

The music sounded crisp and exciting, while the band members' talent was highlighted as all three front-men swapped between the piano, bass and guitar.

The Spark in the Park Music Festival was an innovative and educational way for organizations to connect with the community, while delivering an evening of great fun and entertainment.



MEGAN CHERNIAK PHOTO MANAGER
Zeus' set closed out the night.



MEGAN CHERNIAK PHOTO MANAGER
Toronto-based "urban-folk" singer Kae Sun performed at Waterloo park on Saturday Night.

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l • s • p i r g [el-es-purg] (el-es-pûrg)

abbr. Laurier Students' Public Interest Research Group; a student funded, student-oriented organization that provides opportunities for Laurier students to create social change.

CLASSIFIEDS

Advertising Manager Angela Foster • angela@wluasp.com

Cord-o-scopes

Get ready for fall: This week's Cord-o-scopes predict how your month of October will pan out. Be ready.

Scorpio Oct. 22 to Nov. 21

♏ It's three weeks into the semester and you're already finding it difficult to get up for those early classes. Take a break and sleep in; you've earned it! After all, effectively procrastinating can be exhausting.

Sagittarius Nov. 22 to Dec. 21

♐ You've finally made it down the long line into the bookstore and used your grocery money for the next two months to buy textbooks, and now you're expected to read them as well? Not to worry, you'll have lots of fun later cramming for those exams, and it will give you an excuse to finally buy an espresso machine.

Capricorn Dec. 22 to Jan. 19

♑ The planets have arranged for you to experience some good luck love! You will meet someone who is funny and good looking. Hopefully those planets don't shift too much next month, guess you're going to have to wait and see if they think it can last.

Aquarius Jan. 20 to Feb. 18

♒ You set yourself a goal before the start of this school year to head to the gym at least a few times every week; it's already paid for anyways. Now you realize how long the walk to get there each day is and are rethinking your plan. Isn't irony cruel?

Pisces Feb. 19 to March 20

♓ You came to Laurier this year with high expectations about what the university experience would bring. Unfortunately you were a bit off, discovering that your song and dance numbers are not as well received in these crowded hallways as they are in *Glee*.

Aries March 21 to April 19

♈ Mars and Venus will cross paths with your sign, revealing your true hopes and dreams for the future. It's the epiphany you have been waiting for, until you realize it has nothing to do with what you've spent the last four years studying.

Taurus April 20 to May 20

♉ The stars have aligned in your orbit this month and luck is on your side. Prepare for a wealth of good fortune. It's a shame that the month comes to an end in two days.

Gemini May 21 to June 20

♊ You have decided to finally get organized this school year and mapped out all of your classes, tests and assignments on your calendar. Unfortunately just looking at the immense amount of work has left you not feeling well and now you don't even want to get out of bed.

Cancer June 21 to July 22

♋ After working hard all summer to build up your savings for the school year, you can't wait to enjoy the benefits of all the hours you put in. Too bad that noise violation from your big party during O-Week has dried up your spending money.

Leo July 23 to Aug. 22

♌ Homecoming is just a few days away and as you prepare for the big celebration your body has decided to prepare for its yearly bout of the back-to-school flu.

Virgo Aug. 23 to Sept. 22

♍ Neptune has made you environmentally conscious this month, so you're leaving the car behind and riding your bike everywhere. You're sure to make a lot of friends arriving in class sweaty and out of breath.

Libra Sept. 23 to Oct. 22

♎ Jupiter is spelling out romance for you in the next few weeks; expect to hear "I love you" around the 10th from someone you haven't seen in a while. It's better if you overlook the fact that it's likely to be from your great aunt visiting for Thanksgiving, you know, the one that smells like beets.

Andrea ate a magical squash, giving her the ability to see into your future.

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,

What the fuck Laurier. Get your internet shit together. I have been in class for two fucking weeks and so far I haven't been able to connect once to Laurier Wifi.

I would try connecting to Laurier Wireless, but what the fuck, the settings changed over the summer and I can't fucking connect to it!

I only go to class for two things to take a vague semblance of "notes" and to delve deeper and deeper into the nether-regions of the internet. Your fucking lack of anything resembling IT at this school is hindering both of these goals.

Sincerely,
It's 2010, get your shit together fuck heads.

Dear Life,

Please, thank you and excuse me go a long way, feel free to say it when ever it feels right. Also, take your sunglasses off inside, this isn't Jersey Shore.

Sincerely,
Did your parents raise you right?

Dear Life,

Why do so many people care what I wear to class? This isn't high school anymore. Leggings are comfortable and I enjoy wearing them and that's all that matters. Who are these people to preach to me what I should and should not wear? I don't care what other people wear to class and it's about time everyone else stopped caring as well. Also, pretty sure my butt is always covered by a long shirt.

Sincerely,
I will continue to wear leggings, partly just to spite you

Dear Life,

The profs are slowing me down. Post your damn notes online in time. Sincerely,
Student that actually needs to study

Dear Life,

To whoever wrote "I Don't Need to See your Borders and Boundaries," will you marry me? Leggings are not pants and your bum is your business, keep it to yourself.

Sincerely,
Buy a pair of jeans

Dear Life,

I don't see what the problem is with leggings. I look good in them, you don't, so you wear your sweatpants, I'll wear my leggings.


Sincerely,
We know your butt is saggy under those sweatpants.

Dear Life,

Don't we pay Laurier enough to have air conditioning in the Peters building classrooms? It's hard enough to sit through a three hour lecture WITHOUT the feeling of being in a sauna.

Sincerely,
Would rather go to the gym to sweat!

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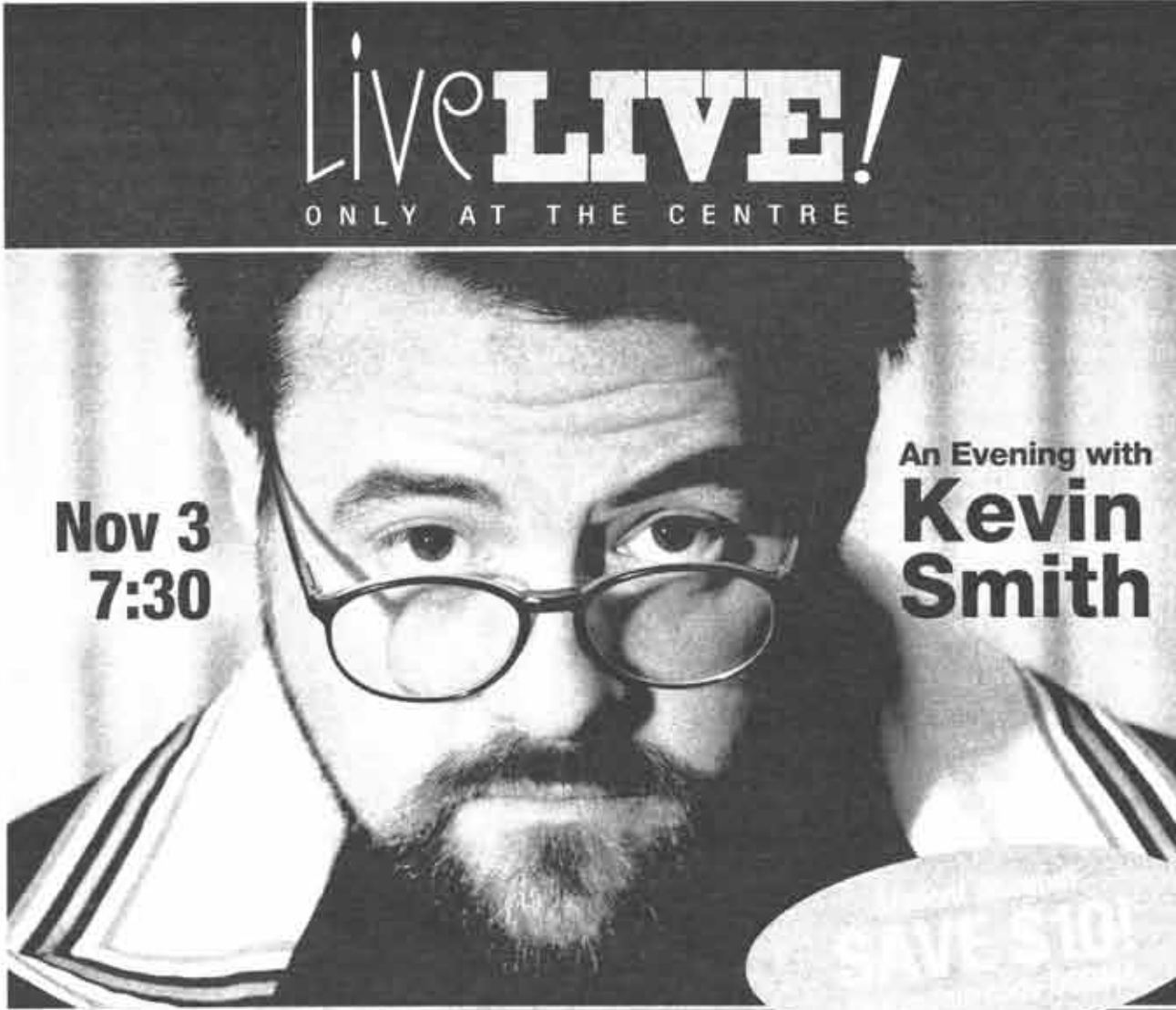
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EDITORIAL

Opinion Editor Eric Merkley • emerkeley@thecord.ca

G8/G20 spending shows contempt for taxpayer

In June the editorial board commented on the G20 security crackdown calling for a public review. The issue has re-emerged lately with the release of detailed costs for one quarter of the money spent on the combined G8 and G20 summits.

Suffice it to say what was found was not impressive. Even before the release of the numbers it was clear to most where the government had erred. Originally both summits were to be hosted in Huntsville, but the government failed in the early stages to determine that the town, in fact, did not have the infrastructure to host the G20.

Tony Clement had to have his pork barrel buffet though, so the G8 stayed and the G20 was moved to downtown Toronto, a security nightmare, increasing the costs exponentially.

Due to the two summit locations there are an estimated \$200 million in cost duplications. For example, the building of two security fences at a cost of \$4 million each. Additionally, reports came out of lavish spending to spruce up Tony Clement's riding of Parry Sound-Muskoka, including, among other projects, renovations to the North Bay Airport which was never used and public washrooms and gazebos many kilometres away from the convention site.

In this context the recent report is hardly a surprise. Some of the highlights include \$14,000 spent on glow sticks, more than \$300,000 for sunscreen and insect repellent and \$85,000 for snacks at the hotels. Even more disturbing is prominence of sole source contracting.

Again, the Conservative government shows its contempt for the taxpayer with lavish spending and the bill will be footed by young people for years in the future.

—The Cord Editorial Board

LSPIRG must reflect values of all students

Friday was the last day to opt out of the \$5.11 per term fee for the Laurier Students' Public Interest Research Group (LSPIRG) though an online form. Like all fees at Laurier it is important for students to be aware of what their money is being spent on and that it's used to positively enhance the university experience for all students.

When judged by the measure of accessibility to all students it's hard to see how LSPIRG levy is justifiable. Allegations by groups on campus such as the Campus Conservatives are that LSPIRG spends student money to serve an ideological agenda. Scanning the list of recognized groups by the organization that receive funding seem to indicate that this is clearly the case.

While LSPIRG maintains it is "non-partisan" and because of that it "doesn't take sides", they are clearly twisting the truth. While they may be non-partisan in that they don't support a political party that does not mean they are not ideological.

This is clearly shown by LSPIRG's stance that all groups have access to LSPIRG funding if they convince the Board of Directors that they will spend the money on "social change": a vague phrase which has ideologically left-wing connotations. Student money should not be spent in such a vast amount to serve the agenda of one ideology, whether it is right-wing or left-wing. The money is coming from all students.

It is also very concerning how very little is known about how LSPIRG spends the money they receive from students. The university administration admitted to not tracking expenditures of the organization. They simply remit the money, consistent with the terms of the contract. Furthermore, there is no easily accessible publication of LSPIRG's finances for students to see. This lack of accountability and transparency should disturb students, who collectively are out approximately \$150,000 to fund them.

Students should be concerned about how their money is spent by LSPIRG. They should ask hard questions and if necessary call for a referendum.

—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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Lack of student participation in academic life embarrassing



ALANNA WALLACE
letters@thecord.ca

As an avid attendee of on-campus lectures, I have always been astounded by the chronic lack of turnout for academic-related Laurier events.

Over my last five years at Laurier, what I perceive as being a dramatic increase in student population has not subsequently meant any increase whatsoever in the attendance of academic on-campus events.

During my previous four years at Laurier, I covered academic lectures on Islam and the crisis in the Gaza strip for The Cord.

Neither are areas of my expertise, or even interest, but attending these lectures forced me to step outside the learning boundaries I had established.

The attendees of academic-focused on-campus events has turned into a small group of individuals who feel the need to immerse themselves in dialogue and get exactly what they put into their university experience.

The majority of the student population somehow seems to think guest speakers and events are a burden — just one more way to exercise their minds — and that's relegated to a time-wasting category.

But in attendance at those lectures were professors who saw my commitment to learning outside of the classroom — something for which I was consistently rewarded.

I learned valuable lessons about networking in a realm I had never entered: the academy.

Each empty seat at a lecture is a missed opportunity by a Laurier student.

Time after time I sit amongst a sea of vacant seats at events like this past week's reading by Lawrence Hill in the concourse or the Grandmothers to Grandmothers Stephen Lewis Foundation event in the Senate and Board Chambers. Cinema Politica, held in 1E1 last week, barely filled the first few rows.

I'm constantly embarrassed to stare at empty rows of chairs in front of prize-winning authors and lecturers. It's humiliating to watch hordes of students talk loudly as they pass by events in the concourse.

Next time, stop and see what events some people in the Laurier community are interested in.

Why does one pursue post-secondary studies if not to engage in a community that encourages thought-provocation, trying to get more value for the truckloads of money we all dump into this institution.

I'm not saying it's easy. I was fortunate enough to have Romeo Dallaire and Stephen Lewis come to Laurier during my first and second years on campus.

These two groundbreaking Canadians fed my love for campus events and showed me that Laurier had great academic experiences to offer me outside the classroom.

Sure, Laurier doesn't always garner the attention of world leaders like other institutions and I can't promise that every event you attend will leave you with a feeling of euphoria.

However, spending two hours on a Monday night to hear first-hand accounts of AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa or to discuss Chinese politics with professors outside of their office hours is time well invested.

Think of it as just that — an investment. Whether you like it or not people recognize you. I see the same faces at the events I attend on campus and in the

Or whatever — sit at home and watch *Jersey Shore*. I wouldn't be surprised.

community.

Those who are ready to engage and put the time and effort into reflecting and learning as part of the academy will be that much further ahead of their peers in the classroom.

The majority of the Laurier population has become lazy and full of individuals who seem to believe that doing the bare minimum and getting a piece of paper at the end of four years means they have engaged in some sort of higher learning.

Immersing oneself in the culture and community of the academy is done in a range of ways.

Next time you see a poster for a speaker on campus, make the conscious decision to refuse to waste your time at university solely on the 15 hours of class or so that you are enrolled in.

Step out of your intellectual box, network, exercise your mind amongst academics and take charge of your own learning.

Or whatever — sit at home and watch *Jersey Shore* instead. I wouldn't be surprised.

THE FORUM

Opinion Editor Eric Merkley • merkley@thecord.ca



NICK LACHANCE FILE PHOTO

Policy shift needed for greater PSE accessibility



SAAD ASLAM
letters@thecord.ca

In the last few weeks we've heard a lot about skyrocketing tuition rates and what it means for students. I'm going to share a bit of my past, my journey to Laurier and the childhood friends that were left behind due to the cost barriers associated with obtaining a higher education.

I spent the last few years of my childhood in the Riverdale neighbourhood of the east end of Hamilton. The neighbourhood features a high immigrant population and a high poverty rate. Starting at a young age I was fortunate enough to be constantly pushed by my parents towards attending university.

However, despite knowing for most of my childhood life that I was going to attend university, I did not put much thought into how I would fund it. It wasn't until grade 11 that I conducted some research into how much it cost and the options available for me to help pay for school.

The thought of having a significant amount of debt follow me around for the next few years after finishing my degree made me second guess enrolling. I even stuck around for a victory lap under the guise of wanting to play varsity football for an extra year while in

truth it was to be able to save up more money for university and take an extra year to make a decision. Although that's my personal experience and the experience a few of my friends went through, some didn't even come close.

Not only did most of my friends not end up attending college or university, but for most the thought never even entered their minds. This is not atypical as low income students are more likely to have parents or guardians who also didn't attend post-secondary education (PSE). Parental influence is the leading factor as to whether or not one decides to continue with higher education.

A significant amount of the population that did attend university or college chose the affordable commuter option in McMaster or Mohawk. Otherwise, after graduating high school, they went straight to the work force into whatever opportunities they could find. This is highly problematic as over the next ten years, 70 per cent of the jobs in Ontario will require some sort of post-secondary education.

I'll be the first to thank the provincial government for the significant investments they have made in post-secondary education in the last few years. However, despite the increase in seats at institutions the participation gap between the highest income quartile and lowest income quartile has not changed. In fact, since 2003 this gap has actually increased.

In order to alleviate these issues we need to make several public

policy changes. There must be a shift from tax credits to up front non-repayable grants, an increase in the awareness of financial aid programs, presentation of PSE options to students early and often in high school and target low income neighbourhoods with holistic early outreach programs.

If we are truly going to create an Ontario that is prosperous, open and accessible, especially for those who are ensnared in the cycle of poverty, we must make these changes immediately.

Letters to the Editor

Copyright fees stifle knowledge in school

RE: Copyright fee could rise, Sept. 15
In this day and age, there is no more copyright, only copyduties. Open access and fair use, especially when it comes to an educational setting like Wilfrid Laurier University, should take primacy rather than gouging students for more than twice the rate for copying as is. What is the value of a copy exactly?

Does copying not do away with the exchange-value of the work (already somewhat problematic) and, by extension, proffer the importance of use over value once the work is written? Be it with e-books or journal articles, films or MP3 files, what can be copied is limitless, emancipatory. Ironically, institutions like Access Copyright (and analogues like the RIAA, MPAA, and so on) are the real thieves, proposing such a blanket tariff. It is sharing, not stealing.

Students would be more likely to return to authors and theorists, and most likely pay to read them, pending they have the opportunity to be exposed to them without financial reproach. Works under a creative commons license already engender such eagerness to develop new ideas within electronic communities, so long as intellectual credit is provided (do we not do the same thing when we cite when writing essays?).

Why not treat journal databases or e-libraries the same way? This is the network of knowledge-founding

now. "It's not where you take things from—it's where you take them to." Yes, let us stunt the possibility of new and inventive forms of knowledge because there is profit to be had. Bravo.

—T.A. Pattinson

Fluoridation is vital

RE: Water fluoridation is public health issue, Sept. 17

As someone who likes my teeth without cavities and not rapidly degrading, I'm all for the fluoridation.

Check your facts and especially talk to your dentist. They put fluoride in wells in developing countries to help improve basic oral health... it's vital!

—Edward

Continue the debate online at thecord.ca

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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OPINION

Opinion Editor Eric Merkley • emerkley@thecord.ca

Federal government's F-35 fighter jet purchase called into question

Point: F-35 procurement allows Canadian air defence to enter the 21st century



KEITH MARSHALL
letters@thecord.ca

On July 16, the government of Canada announced that it would be purchasing 65 new F-35A fighter jets from Lockheed Martin to replace Canada's aging fleet of CF-18 Hornets.

While critics raised concerns over their long-term \$16 billion cost, and a perceived lack of a competitive bidding process, the purchase of these F-35s is the best long term choice for Canada to protect our airspace and to fulfill our North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) and North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) commitments.

The principle competitors to the F-35, the Eurofighter Typhoon and

Boeing F/A-18E/F Super Hornet, do not possess the versatility or unique capabilities of the F-35.

The Super Hornet is a more advanced, stealth enhanced version of the F-18, the aircraft that Canada is currently using. However, its stealth capability is not as advanced as the F-35, which has a radar signature the size of a golf ball.

The other major available option for Canada is the Eurofighter, produced in co-operation between the UK, Spain, Germany and Italy. Unlike the Super Hornet, the Eurofighter is a modern aircraft that was first produced for Germany in 2003.

The Eurofighter, though, lacks a number of innovations available on the F-35 that are crucial for use in the Canadian climate. The modernized heads-up display shown to the pilot through their helmet allows pilots to be able to attack moving targets while in adverse weather conditions, and use its advanced sensors to allow it to accurately detect and defend against threats even at nighttime.

The F-35 also features a number of advanced reconnaissance systems over the Super Hornet and Eurofighter. These include cameras mounted across the aircraft that allow the pilot through their headset to see a 360 degree real-time view of their surroundings.

This is useful in Canada and abroad because it gives the pilot an opportunity to visually confirm a target and provides them with multiple methods of monitoring their surroundings.

As Canadians, we like to think that our aircraft will never need these capabilities.

However, the importance of having an advanced fighter aircraft for our national defense cannot be understated.

In May, CF-18 fighters were scrambled out of CFB Comox in response to a bomb threat on a Cathay Pacific passenger airline flying from Hong Kong to Vancouver. While the threat was later found to be a hoax, having the capability to quickly scramble our fighter jets is crucial.

The F-35 has a range of 2,200 kilometres, the ability to be refueled in flight and advanced tracking and detection systems that are highly accurate at night and in bad weather.

With these features, the F-35 is the best fighter jet available to Canada to be able to intercept, escort, and if necessary, provide lethal force to deal with a commercial airliner hijacking in Canadian airspace.

It also has the capacity to carry just over 900 kilogram of bombs internally, as well as air-to-air and cruise missiles, making it more than capable of fulfilling a wide range of duties within the Canadian Forces.

It's not enough to purchase aircraft suitable only to the current actions Canada is undertaking, but to cover the wide spectrum of potential missions in the next 30 years.

If we do not upgrade our current jet fighters, or if we fail to predict our defence needs in the future, we will once again be relying on the United States for defence as the current set of CF-18's are set to expire.

While the cost is large, it is a

To not act now will be to saddle our Canadian Forces with outdated equipment and incur a larger cost in the long-run.

long-term investment. To not act now will be to saddle our Canadian Forces with outdated equipment and incur a larger cost in the long-run, similar to the scrapping of the Sea King helicopters by the past Liberal government.

A failure to upgrade our air force will compromise Canada's sovereignty. It's time for Canada's air defence to enter the 21st century.

Counter-point: Canada needs to realign foreign policy, fighter jets a step backward



JOSEPH MCNINCH-PAZZANO
letters@thecord.ca

Parliament is missing the point in the debate over the acquisition of new F-35 fighter jets at a cost of \$16 billion. Government members have argued that our ability to stand with NATO allies in air defence rests in our possession of the fighter jets.

Opposition critics have pointed out that the fighters were not acquired through a competitive process, that Ottawa has not laid out any specific missions that the F-35 would be useful for, and alleged that the Conservatives have overstated the ability of the F-35 program to bring jobs to Canada.

This, however, is not an isolated

debate about jets and we shouldn't regard it as such.

In 2005, the Canadian Institute of International Affairs released a report entitled "Making a Difference? External Views on Canada's International Impact."

In it, 40 political actors from 19 different countries were asked to analyze Canada's impact in the world.

The results were less than stellar. Over the last 15 years, the report found that Canada's role in international security and development deteriorated and our impact was found to be marginal.

Prime Minister Harper seems to recognize this. Over the last several months, the Conservative government has spent heavily to influence others in the United Nations to give Canada another turn on the prestigious Security Council.

Just last week when speaking of Canada's moral imperative, Harper told the UN that "It is essential that

we strive to make a significant, actual difference in the lives of the world's most disadvantaged people." The allocation of jets seems to be another attempt by Harper to build that global image.

Yet, the semantic debate about the finer points of this jet purchase exists in a very small corner of the bigger picture.

This is about a fundamental decision about the future of military funding in this country and what kind of role we want to play in the world.

Does sitting on the Security Council with an arsenal of fighter jets in our pockets change the findings of the 2005 report and let us begin to stake a meaningful place on the world stage, or do we need to do something more fundamental?

Canada used to be the peacekeeping nation of the world. We had a perfect record of contributing to every single UN peacekeeping mission and we lost over 120,000

peacekeepers in the process. In 2001, we were still spending almost \$100 million on peacekeeping operations.

Today, we spend \$15.6 million (that's less than one per cent of the \$16 billion allocated for jets). We rank 57th in the world in peacekeeping and have less than 100 Canadians deployed as traditional peacekeepers.

Ghana and Zambia currently have more people deployed in peacekeeping than we do. We have lost a crucial bedrock of Canadian foreign policy and we stand to push it further and further in the background with a \$16 billion jet purchase.

Furthermore, the Harper Conservatives have frozen Canada's contribution to foreign aid. And it's not like we were really breaking the bank with foreign aid before.

Our contribution stood at a measly 0.3 per cent of our annual Gross Domestic Product (GDP). A freeze means that as our economy and

GDP grows, that percentage will only go down.

We now rank 29th in aid effectiveness, and of 22 wealthy countries, we rank 18th in overall aid contribution.

The threats of terrorism are real, and we must stand with our NATO allies. However, we must not follow blindly in pursuit of our very own military industrial complex.

There is a much greater opportunity here to achieve the moral imperative Harper spoke of last week. Hypothetically, if we could cut the jet purchase in half and spend the \$8 billion leftover on more aid and peacekeeping, it would put us on par with other world leaders in foreign aid spending.

That's an attractive moral spotlight on the international stage. Instead of debating endlessly on the details of the F-35 acquisition, we need to have a fundamental discussion on the direction of Canadian foreign policy.



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SPORTS

Sports Editor Justin Fauteux • jfauteux@thecord.ca

GOLDEN HAWK UPDATE

Week of
September 27 -
October 3, 2010

RECENT SCORES

09.26.10
M Baseball 5 - Waterloo 4
M Baseball 0 - Waterloo 1
W Soccer 2 - York 1
M Soccer 0 - York 0
W Lacrosse 7 - Queen's 5
W Volleyball 3 - Toronto 0
W Volleyball 0 - Western 3

09.25.10
M Football 68 - York 14
M Baseball 5 - McMaster 6
M Baseball 5 - McMaster 6
W Soccer 3 - Brock 1
W Volleyball 2 - Brock 3
W Hockey 0 - Mercyhurst 7
W Lacrosse 12 - McMaster 1
W Volleyball 1 - Cape Breton 3

09.24.10
W Rugby 20 - York 78

09.22.10
W Soccer 0 - Western 0
M Soccer 0 - Western 0
M Baseball 6 - Terriers 0
W Hockey 5 - Toronto Jr. Aeros 3

UPCOMING HOME GAMES

09.29.10
M Baseball vs Terriers
Bechtel Park, 7:30 p.m.

09.30.10
M Volleyball vs Guelph
Athletic Complex, 7:00 p.m.

10.01.10
M Rugby vs McMaster
Knight-Newborough Field, 7:30 p.m.

10.02.10
Homecoming
M Football vs Guelph
University Stadium, 1:00 p.m.
M Baseball vs Queen's
Bechtel Park, 1:00 p.m.
M Baseball vs Queen's
Bechtel Park, 3:00 p.m.

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Hawks steamroll Lions

Football team evens record at 2-2 before crucial Homecoming game vs. Guelph

JUSTIN FAUTEUX
SPORTS EDITOR

After the 0-2 start that few predicted, everything has gone according to plan for the Wilfrid Laurier Golden Hawks men's football team in their past two games.

Sept. 11 saw the Hawks hand a 37-6 thrashing to the winless University of Toronto Varsity Blues, while this past Saturday the purple and gold crushed the York Lions — another perennial last-place finisher — 68-14.

"Today, our football team showed up," said manager of football operations and head coach Gary Jeffries after the York game.

"I don't care who we play. We've just gotten better. [York] played Guelph really tough and they've got some really good athletes and we came out and competed; I'm really proud of our kids."

Saturday's game was a blow-out in every sense of the word. The Hawks out-gained the Lions 436-138, forced five turnovers and took a 54-7 lead into the locker room at half-time.

Laurier quarterback Evan Pawliuk, who was starting in place of an injured Shane Kelly, led the team down the field and made it 7-0 before the game was two minutes old, hitting Mark Surya with a 42-yard touchdown strike. Pawliuk would add another passing major, racking up 149 yards on nine completions before giving way to back-up Dan Daigle at half-time.

From there, the running game would take over as second-year Anton Bennett would record a pair of touchdowns, while Shamawd Chambers, Josh Pirie and Isaac Dell would each add one.

Fourth-year linebacker Mitchell Bosch would lead a defensive effort which saw the Hawks only surrender nine first-downs all game, with York not crossing mid-field until late in the second quarter. Bosch also added a blocked punt which went for a touchdown in the first quarter.



ELLI GARLIN PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

Laurier defensive lineman Andrew Heely (63) just before stripping York quarterback Darren Frank of the ball. The Hawks held the Lions to just 138 total yards, while putting up 436 of their own.

Led by runningback Rashad La Touche — who ran for 75 yards on 12 attempts — Laurier's back-ups took over in the second half, adding 14 points.

"It felt really good to get out there," said La Touche. "I feel like I was able to really get my legs under me and show the coaches that I can run the ball and help this team win."

With what will likely be the easiest portion of their schedule now behind them, the Hawks gear up for a crucial game next week versus the 3-1 Guelph Gryphons at Laurier's

Homecoming. A win would pull the Hawks into a tie with the Gryphons and tighten up the provincial standings.

"It's going to be a hell of a game," said Jeffries of the match-up with the Gryphons.

"[Homecoming] is absolutely my favourite week of the year, this place will be rocking and we're going to be ready."

The Gryphons coasted through the same Toronto, York, two-game set as the Hawks earlier this year but then knocked off the defending Vanier Cup champion Queen's Gaels

and held the Western Mustangs to 15 points, looking solid defensively in the process.

The Hawks should get a boost this Saturday from the return of Kelly. The American pivot dislocated his shoulder in practice prior to the York game but is confident he will be back to play Guelph.

"It's looking like next week I should be back in action," said Kelly. "With the week off, I was able to take some time to rehab it and get my strength back and I'm really looking forward to playing against a really good Guelph team."

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ELLI GARLIN PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

Laurier's Heather Malizia (4) shrugs off York's Felicia Turone (9). The Hawks downed York and Brock on the weekend, moving to 7-0-1.

Soccer Hawks still perfect

ANDREA MILLET
STAFF WRITER

The Wilfrid Laurier women's soccer team had their stamina tested this past weekend with back to back games, kicking off against the Brock Badgers on Saturday and against the York Lions on Sunday. The Golden Hawks proved their strength, coming through the weekend with their undefeated record, now showing 7-0-1, still intact.

"York didn't play yesterday, we played yesterday, so that was a factor in the game as far as energy levels," said head coach Barry MacLean after Sunday's match.

"I didn't think it was our greatest performance but after going down a goal and to fight back the way we did, it was a spectacular finish."

On Saturday, the Hawks stepped out into the rain and immediately took command of the game against

the Badgers.

Rookie midfielder Amanda Mithrush netted an early ball, putting the Hawks up by one in the first ten minutes.

Brock would level the score, drawing goalkeeper Tristin Vogel out of the 18-yard-box before slipping the ball past her into the net, but the Hawks eventually came back with two more goals to win the game 3-1.

Taking the field Sunday with minimal changes to the starting line up that had played just 24 hours earlier, the Hawks had not only the York Lions to take on but also their own fatigue.

"Soccer is so taxing physically and to play two games back to back is really tough," said MacLean.

Despite conceding the first goal of the game well into the second half, the Hawks came back and secured another victory just minutes before

the final whistle to walk away with a 2-1 win.

"I think they showed a lot of guts to come out and play the way they did and when we went down, to really push the game after that is amazing," said MacLean.

The Hawks' first goal was the result of a scramble in front of the net, with forward Ali McKee finally putting it in, followed less than ten minutes later by third-year Krista Cellucci firing one past the Lions keeper.

"It was kind of surreal at first," said Cellucci about scoring the game-winning goal. "It felt amazing, I was so happy."

Despite her role in securing the victory, Cellucci declines taking too much credit, pointing to her teammates as having been just as important.

"It's more of a team effort, it wasn't just me it was everyone,

everyone putting in 100 per cent, winning their one on one battles, that's key in playing a really good game."

MacLean credits the team's unity, and their ability to communicate and work together on and off the field with helping the Hawks remain undefeated.

"We as a group right now are incredibly well united and we've got a massive group of leaders."

"When we come out on the field we believe we are going to win, we have the confidence and I think that everybody has a great self belief in each other."

After playing five games in nine days, MacLean feels that his team has earned a well-deserved rest before beginning preparations for their next game.

On Sunday Oct. 3 the purple and gold will travel to Windsor to face the Lancers, kicking off at 1:00 p.m.

Men's soccer team unbeaten in three

KEVIN CAMPBELL
STAFF WRITER

Hugo Hernandez's name didn't show up on the score-sheet in Saturday's 3-0 Golden Hawk victory versus the Brock Badgers, but without him, the men's soccer team's offence would have never been resuscitated after going three games without a goal.

On a routine play, with the ball almost leaving the zone in midfield, heading towards the rain-soaked spectators, the third-year pulled off a gem of a sliding kick to keep the play alive.

The ball sailed to midfield and found a wide open Spencer Cawker who buried a lethal strike past a diving Badgers keeper Jake Sweetzer to give the Hawks the early lead which would never be relinquished.

And just like that, the nondescript potential ball-out had evolved into the decisive tipping point that an offensively-talented but goal-starved Hawks squad had so justly deserved.

"I don't know," the Markham native responded when asked what prompted the herculean effort on the seemingly insignificant play.

"We usually try to go all out for every ball and try not to give up and get things happening."

If that's the mindset on the team, head coach Mario Halapir should be extremely proud of the work ethic he's instilled in the team.

A veteran on a young squad, Hernandez has exemplified the type of season the team has had on the pitch so far.

"I haven't had any issues with [a lack of hustle] this year," Halapir noted.

"The last few years we've depended on being organized defensively and working really hard but controlling the game has been hard to come by. This year, we have a lot more of an ability to control the ball."

One area of the Hawks' game where Halapir has noticed improvement is in time of possession.

"Every [previous] game this year, I would say there wasn't one time where we haven't had the ball more than the other team," he explained.

"Even including York and Western [who employ] a different type of soccer, they're the more physical, run and gun, hard-nosed teams, but we're able to play with them."

Laurier knotted the premier teams in the province, Western and York at 0-0 in both games last week.

Hernandez found himself flat on the pitch once again later in the second frame on a more sinister note.



ELLI GARLIN PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

Laurier's Ben Clifford (3) steals the ball from York's Alon Badat (19).

"Well I got punched in the stomach, so I was really angry... I came off at the end, I didn't want to do something stupid," a smiling Hernandez said. "It's good to keep Brock behind us."

Opponents failed to put one past Laurier goalkeeper Jarrett Humphreys in all three matches.

"He wasn't tested a lot but this was by far Jarrett's best game (Saturday). He took control of the penalty area and he led today from the

back," said Halapir.

Ben Clifford and Sandro Stojakovic added goals for the Hawks against the Badgers, as they now sit fourth in the Ontario University Athletics (OUA) west division with a record of 4-2-2.

"They're ranked third in Canada," said Hernandez of Western, who the Hawks tied 0-0 last Wednesday. "But it really means nothing. At the end of the season, that's where it all counts."

Women's lacrosse improves to 4-1

ELIZABETH BATE
STAFF WRITER

The Wilfrid Laurier Golden Hawks women's lacrosse team edged out a win Sunday morning, ending their match against Queens 7-5 after beating McMaster 12-1 the previous day.

Coming off of last week's 2-1 loss to Guelph, head coach Lynn Orth was happy to see practice paying off for her team.

"This game was totally different than the game we lost last week," she said. "We did not play our game last week. We did not want to win the small battles and as a result we lost the big game."

Ashley Rutz, a first-year player for the team, having transferred from Lasalle in Philadelphia, had a huge weekend for the Hawks, picking up 10 points over the two games.

High off the win, Rutz said the team was starting to get the hang of it.

"We're really coming together on the field," she said. "We're really one as a team, we're like a family."

Shouts of "Move your feet Laurier, move your feet!" could be heard from the sidelines throughout the game, however, emphasizing that the team needs to continue to work hard to improve.

Both Orth and Rutz credit this win to the team's defensive skills, but know it will take more to get them through the season.

"We need to work on our offence," Orth said. "We're working on the things we need to do; it's just a matter of executing."

Next week the team will have a double-header in Kingston playing against University of Toronto and University of Ontario Institute of Technology. Orth knows Toronto will be a force to be reckoned with.

"U of T is always a force. They have a great pool to draw from because of all their grad schools and so you can never count them out," she said.

Orth is unsure of what to expect from UOIT because they are a new squad. "It will be two interesting games."

Orth has been focusing on trust and teamwork in practice and doesn't expect to alter that this week.

"It's a matter of the team gelling and people getting to trust their teammates and where they're going to be and what they are going to be able to do."

No playoffs for men's baseball



MEGAN CHERNIAK PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

The Wilfrid Laurier Golden Hawks baseball team has been struggling to maintain the success of their 2009 Ontario University Athletics (OUA) silver medal season.

For the second straight weekend the Hawks went 1-3 in their two doubleheaders, and consequently lost any chance of playing in the post-season.

-Tieja MacLaughlin

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