

THE CORD WEEKLY

The tie that binds since 1926

The Cord takes aim at Michael Moore's Fahrenheit 9/11... page 11

Protest and terror - countdown to Athens ... page 7



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SBE ICE Week error leaves students questioning admin

Unsigned email accuses administrators of lying about selection process of ICE groups

BRANDON CURRIE
Production Manager

It appears that the puzzle pieces aren't quite fitting together for this summer's Integrated Case Exercise (ICE) Week.

Instead of being partnered with group members outside of their Core for the week-long event, Business Co-op students were surprised to find in an ice-breaking activity last Wednesday night that their puzzle pieces matched up with students they have known for the past three months.

In previous years ICE week participants had worked with students whom they hadn't known before, to give them a more authentic real-world experience and an opportunity to network with other SBE students. However, without any notifica-

tion to the contrary, students found themselves inexplicably paired with familiar faces.

"It really decreased the professionalism of the exercise," remarked one senior BBA student, speaking on condition of anonymity. "Instead of being with new people, we just joked around with our friends all week."

"I made a mistake. For the first time in 25 years I made a mistake."

- Carol Litwiller, Program Advisor of Undergraduate Studies

According to several SBE students involved in ICE week, the real disappointment was not their surprise group members

but the administration's handling of the situation.

An unsigned email sent to ICE week participants levied serious charges against ICE week administrators, accusing them of knowingly lying to students to cover up a simple computer mistake that caused the misalignment of the groups.

Last Thursday morning, approximately 30 ICE week participants confronted administrators in the SBE office demanding to know why they hadn't been paired with the correct people, at which time Program Advisor of Undergraduate Studies Carol Litwiller allegedly explained that the move was intentional.

However, this was contradicted later in the day by Dr. Cheryl Harvey, who admitted that the move was indeed unintentional and proceeded to take a show of hands to indicate whether people were happy with their groups or not in an attempt to reconcile the mistake.

"It was totally inappropriate, what the hell kind of democratic

method is that?" opined another ICE week participant, "Who's going to vote against your own group members when you're sitting right beside them?"

Harvey then proceeded to take blame for the incident, saying "if you want to blame someone, blame me." She declined to discuss the issue with The Cord Weekly based on the ongoing confidentiality of the ICE Week case.

Speaking to *The Cord*, Litwiller also readily admitted that "I made a mistake. For the first time in 25 years I made a mistake." She declined to comment further on the charges of previously lying to cover up the mistake.

It is clear that whatever the cause of this summer's ICE week debacle, the losers were ultimately the students.

"They've been hyping up ICE week for three years, and now we get cheated out of the real experience. We should have expected it from this administration," said another SBE student.

Student enrolment "copacetic," Rosehart, ensures

Expected to hit target with ease

COLIN DUFFETT
Staff Writer

This year Wilfrid Laurier University is trying out something new in terms of their first-year enrolment and residence situation. No longer will Laurier be home to the triple rooms, which plagued the 2001 - 2002 school year or the overenrolment disaster that came with last year's double cohort students. This year, Laurier has hopes of being on target.

Each November, the Ontario government provides post secondary institutions with an enrolment target that they must attempt to meet for the following year. This year's target of 3150 students is one that the University feels it will reach come September or at the very least in November when the final numbers are announced. As it stands now, the University has received approximately 3170 acceptance letters from roughly 15,000 students who applied to WLU.

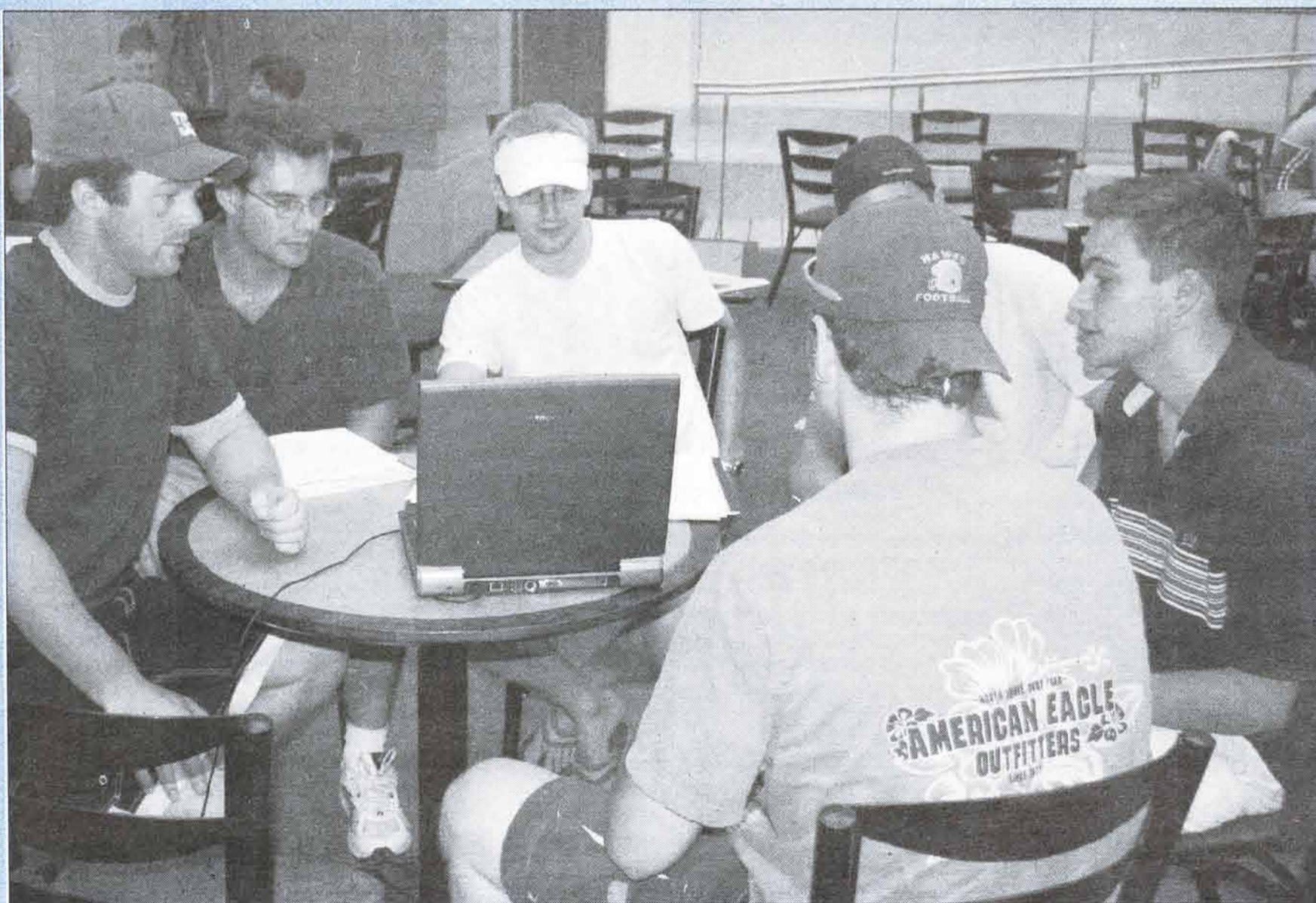
"We'll be comfortably full come Labour Day."

- Chris Dodd, Manager of Housing Services

Dr. Robert Rosehart, President and Vice-Chancellor of WLU, believes that the admissions numbers will be very close to the given target by November. Rosehart noted that the University will probably receive 50 to 60 more acceptance letters during the summer but also noted that the University will lose between 50 and 60 students during the course of the first semester to leave the administration hovering around their desired mark.

Even though the University as a whole is on pace to meet its targets, some of the university programs are above their targets, while some are falling short. Although the exact numbers weren't available, President Rosehart was able to say that the Business Administration and Science programs have been unable to meet their targets, while the Arts program has already exceeded its target for the upcoming year.

Old ICE helping new ICE



Caitlin Howlett

Fourth year Business students and ICE Week veterans (left), help the two ICE Week rookies (front and right). Despite a mix-up in the distribution of groups for the third year ICE Week competition that left many students angry and writing anonymous letters to administration, these students were hard at work on the ol' laptop.

- Please see **Enrolment**, page 2

Biochemistry and Biotechnology program new to Wilfrid Laurier

Innovative program will apply chemistry to industrial products

APRIL CUNNINGHAM
New Editor

Test tubes and Bunsen burners will be exploding as Laurier prepares to introduce its third new science program in recent memory.

Biochemistry and Biotechnology will see its first big influx of students in the fall of 2005, while some science students will begin the highly anticipated program as early as this September.

"The whole area of biotechnology is just expanding and needs a large number of highly qualified personnel."

- Dr. Arthur Szabo, Dean of Science

The new program, which is based in the Chemistry Department, follows the new Financial Mathematics and Photonics programs.

Dr. Arthur Szabo, Laurier's Dean of Science, says the new

program is expecting 50 students next fall, with a total of 180 students after four years.

He says that the small program will have qualifications "a bit higher than normal" for incoming students. They will be looking for marks in the 80 percent range.

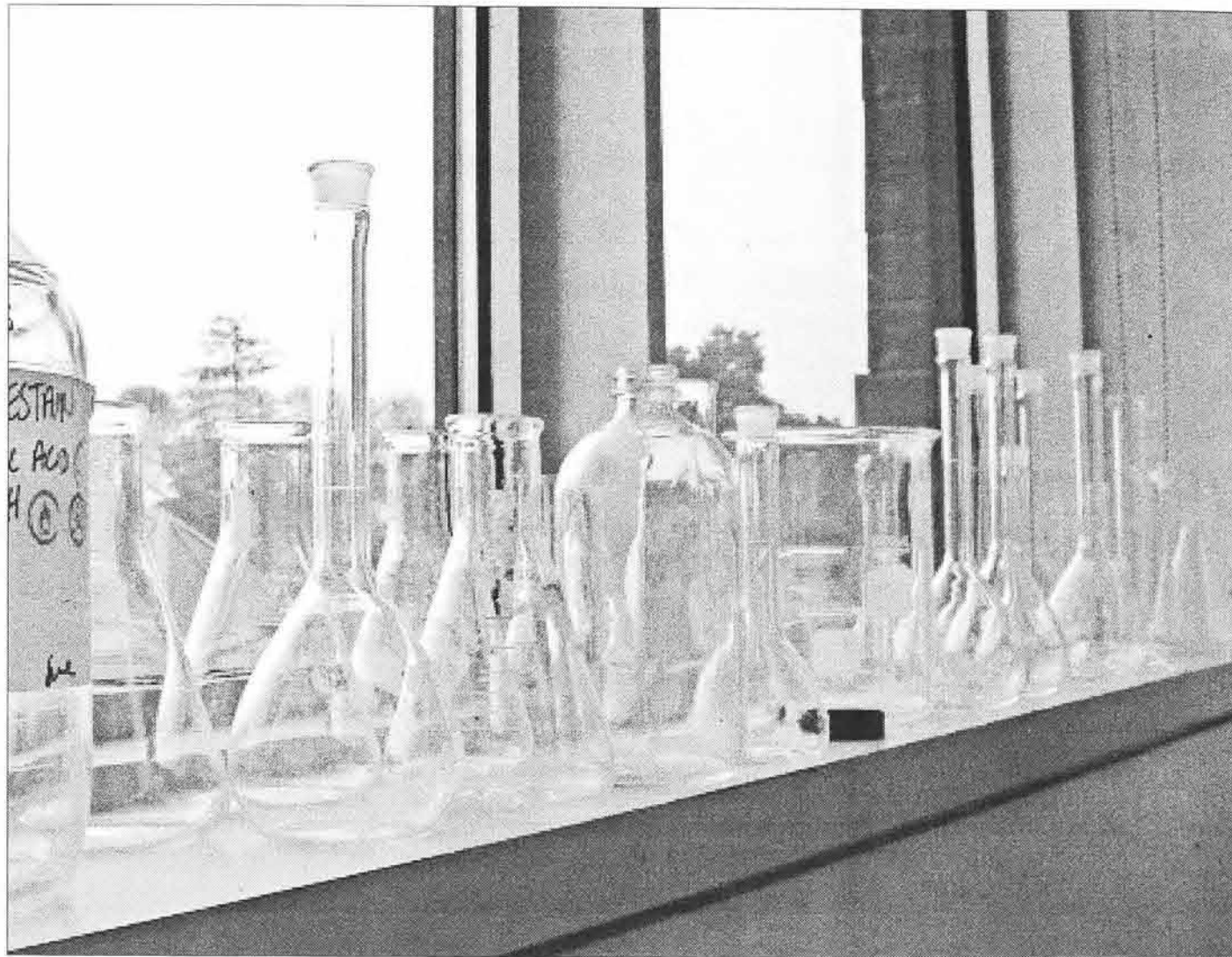
"We don't know what the cut-off average will be," he says. With only 50 spots available, "it will be competitive," says Szabo.

But that shouldn't deter applicants.

"There's huge demand for this kind of program in Ontario," says Szabo. "Virtually every university that has a biotechnology program is getting large numbers of applicants."

"The whole area of biotechnology is just expanding and needs a large number of highly qualified personnel," he says.

The growth is part of Canada's high tech industry boom. According to Statistics Canada, the number of Canadian biotechnology companies nearly doubled from 1997 to 2002, with 416 by that point. Szabo says there is a huge concentration of



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The Laurier Science Department's newest program, Biochemistry/Biotechnology will be offered to a class of 50 students in the fall of 2005.

these companies in Toronto and Montreal.

Careers are abundant in drug industries, health-related industries, and health science programs.

And universities have not been slow to act on this opportunity.

"It's been recognized for several years so we're just responding to this demand," says Szabo. He says Laurier's program has been modeled from what has been developed at other schools.

However because of its small nature, Szabo says the program will be distinctive, and its niche-like focus will be "keeping with that Laurier tradition."

Nevertheless, the Chemistry Department is expecting more funding and will be hiring more staff. Szabo says this will open up opportunities for student

employment as well.

The new Science Research Centre, which sits adjacent to the Science Building on Bricker Street will be used by Biochemistry/Biotechnology students in their fourth year research projects.

"We see that it's going to strengthen the Chemistry department and allow it to do other things."

- Dr. Arthur Szabo, Dean of Science

The whole concept behind Biochemistry/Biotechnology is applying the science of chemistry to industry.

"Chemistry tends to deal with fundamental processes and interaction between molecules," explains Szabo. He says that Biotechnology is merely "turning that knowledge into industrial products."

Szabo hopes the new program will help boost the lack of interest that has been evident in Photonics, which he says is a "much harder sell."

"We see that it's going to strengthen the Chemistry department and allow it to do other things," he said.

As for continued growth in the Science Department, Szabo hinted that something in the area of health sciences in the Biology Department may be developed in the near future.



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This young Laurier scientist appears quite excited about the new Biochemistry and Biotechnology program. She likes Bunsen burners.

CORD clippings

NATIONAL

After a heated federal election, Liberal Paul Martin was elected Prime Minister on June 28. It is the first time in 23 years Canadians have seen a minority government. The Liberals elected 135 members to Parliament, the Conservatives 99, the NDP 19, the Bloc Québécois 54, and one seat went to an Independent. It has been speculated that many Liberal seats were lost, especially in Quebec, due to anger over the sponsorship scandal.

PROVINCIAL

As of July 1, the Ontario Health Care Premium was reduced from workers' pay cheques. The premium is part of Premier Dalton McGuinty's plan to boost health care in Ontario. Depending on their income, between \$60 and \$900 will be deducted from Ontarians' salaries annually.

LOCAL

Conestoga College passed a budget deficit of \$1.4 million for 2004 - 2005 on June 29. The school's website claims that the deficit is partly the cause of "chronic underfunding" on the part of the provincial government. It provided \$2000 less than both universities and school boards on a per-student basis. As a result of the deficit, several student activities and services will be cut along with a reduction in program hours.

Enrolment intact

- Enrolment, from cover

As a result of the Arts program overenrolment, the university administration has had to come up with money that was not accounted for in the budget. Dr. Rosehart commented that "there has already been one position made not budgeted for," and that further changes will be required.

In comparison to last year's double cohort numbers, Laurier budgeted for 3350 students but ended up with 3670 students, an increase of nine percent.

John Morris, Media Relations Officer at the University of Waterloo, says that Waterloo is also in a position to meet their target of approximately 5200 first year students.

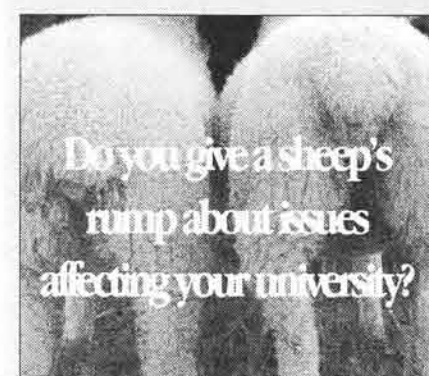
It doesn't appear as if the first year housing situation will be as exciting as it has been in past years. Chris Dodd, Manager of

Housing Services and Residence Life, feels comfortable going into the upcoming school year in terms of space for first-year students in residence.

"There has already been one position made not budgeted for."

- Dr. Robert Rosehart, President of Wilfrid Laurier University

Dodd says there are about 100 beds remaining in residence but that Residential Services are still receiving applications for residence from students, leading Dodd to note that, "We'll be comfortably full come Labour Day," and Dr. Rosehart to claim that "everything's copacetic."



Do you give a sheep's rump about issues affecting your university?

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Contact
APRIL CUNNINGHAM
cunn4890@wlu.ca

Literature-loving VP traded for lady economist

Brantford Campus, Co-op Programs, Graduate Programs and Laurier International among new VP: Academic's key interests

APRIL CUNNINGHAM
New Editor

A woman with a passion for economics will take Laurier's academic reigns when Dr. Rowland Smith concludes two five-year terms as Vice President: Academic. On August 1, Dr. Susan Horton will take over the position.

Smith, who has worked with Laurier's various faculties in programming and planning since 1994, says he is looking forward to returning to his own academic background as he enters his new role as Dean of Humanities at the University of Calgary.

career in his area of interest.

"I've very much enjoyed my work as a professor of English," he says. "And I think that the connections I have made internationally and nationally have been very fulfilling to me."

Among several impressive achievements, Smith has published four books, over 90 articles and taught and worked at Dalhousie University from 1967 to 1994. He is currently the Chair of the Ontario Council of Academic Vice-Presidents, a Director of Opera Ontario and sits on numerous academic committees in the country. Smith was born in South Africa and did not become a Canadian citizen until 1972.

But through all of his academic involvement he believes that "administrators should still be scholars."

At Calgary, Smith has no set agenda but to adequately represent the humanities.

"People in humanities tend to feel unloved and unwanted, because of necessity, money goes to technical faculties," he admits. "Any dean of humanities must see it in his or her role to keep in the forefront of the public's attention what it is we do, why it is important and why we are crucial."

Calgary will be quite different from Laurier's community atmosphere, despite the changes Smith has seen take place over the years.

"I think universities tended to be more inward looking ten years ago," he says. Since then,



Ken Jones

Dr. Susan Horton is leaving the University of Toronto's Scarborough campus to take the position of Vice President: Academic.

Smith has witnessed the development of niche areas in order to remain competitive among other schools. And because of this, the Laurier 'community' has also changed.

"There isn't one Laurier community," he says. "What is lamented is when everybody knew everybody else and they all had common interests. I don't think that's feasible anymore."

He says he believes universities should be comprised of a series of communities.

"I think it is important that women are represented in all levels."

- Dr. Susan Horton, incoming Vice President: Academic

"The variety of interests is growing... not everyone does share something called the Laurier spirit."

But for Dr. Susan Horton, Laurier's incoming VP: Academic, WLU's intimate campus represents an intriguing change from the University of Toronto.

"I come from a very big university that doesn't have that hallmark," she says, adding that in her own undergrad experience a sense of community was a very positive thing.

Horton has just completed her time at the University of Toronto's Scarborough Campus as its interim Vice-Principal (academic) and Dean. With education from Cambridge and Harvard universities, this professor of Economics came highly recommended.

She says coming to Laurier looked like an interesting opportunity, particularly in program development.

"The double cohort provided the opportunity to introduce some new programs, which is an exciting thing to do, as opposed to cuts," she says.

The Brantford campus is another interest. "I'm very keen to visit Brantford," she says. "I've come from one of the smaller campuses so I understand some of the issues." She would like to understand their needs and see where they'd like to go.

Although she "is not coming in with any preconceived ideas,"



BREAK, ENTER & THEFT 06 July 04

Custodial staff reported that a vending machine in Conrad Hall had been broken into. Investigation revealed that a number of machines in the building had been broken into and considerable damage had been done. It appears that the person responsible cut themselves in the process. Regional Police Forensic Identification Unit was called in for fingerprinting and to take blood samples.

door lock at the main entrance to Bricker Residence had been damaged.

ASSIST POLICE 0040 HRS Sun July 11/04

Officers observed some suspicious behaviour by two male individuals in lot 2. The two individuals left the area and when a vehicle parked in the lot was checked it was found to be stolen. Regional Police were contacted.

THEFT UNDER \$5000 1700-2100 HRS Sun June 27/04

Person(s) unknown entered a vehicle parked in lot 1 and removed some CDs.

SUSPICIOUS PERSON 1350 HRS Tue June 29/04

Residence staff reported that someone had left some luggage in the basement of the building and they suspected the owner may be unauthorized to be in the residence. Investigation revealed that the luggage belonged to a legitimate resident. No further action taken.

TRESPASS 1043 HRS Wed June 30/04

Officers responded to a report of a suspicious looking female wandering around at 232 King. The individual was located and stated that she was looking for washroom facilities. She left without incident.

MISCHIEF 0220 HRS Sun July 04/04

While on patrol an officer found that someone had moved one of the soccer nets from Willison Field to the edge of the roadway by King Street.

THEFT UNDER \$5000/ MISCHIEF 01 July 04 - 04 July 04

Between July 01 and July 04 four vending machines were found broken into.

MISCHIEF 0030 HRS WED July 07/04

While on patrol, an officer heard breaking glass. The sound came from a house owned by the University on Bricker Street where the officer observed two males standing by the living room window. Investigation revealed that one of the individuals ran up to the window and pounded on it to get the attention of the occupants causing the outer pane to break. Restitution is being made.

MISCHIEF 2020 HRS WED June 07/04

While on patrol an officer observed that person(s) unknown spray painted a portion of the wall at 65 Lodge St.

THEFT UNDER \$5000 1245 - 1830 HRS Thu June 08/04

Two bicycles were stolen from the bike rack on the north side of the Peters Building. The locks in both cases had been cut.

THEFT UNDER \$5000 Fri June 08 - Sat June 09/04

Person(s) unknown broke into a vending machine at Willison Hall.

MISCHIEF 1600 HRS Sat July 10/04

Security received a report that the protective cover over the

she enjoyed bringing new co-op programs to U of T's Scarborough campus and would like to investigate where Laurier's could improve. She also understands and shares Laurier's interest in graduate program development.

As an economist, Horton believes her experience making hard budgetary choices and developing policy will benefit Laurier.

Contributing a woman's perspective to senior administration will also be a fresh change.

"I think it is important that women are represented in all levels," she says.

The Vice President: Academic manages planning and program development with the deans of Arts, Science, Business, Social Work, and Music. The VP also works with department heads to oversee Graduate Studies, the Library, Registrarial Services, Academic Services, Information Technology and the Brantford campus.



April Cunningham

Dr. Rowland Smith has reached the retirement age in Ontario and will continue his academia at the University of Calgary in Alberta, where there is no retirement age.

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"I'm in a glass case of emotion."

- Ron Burgundy, Anchorman: The Legend of RB

CONTRIBUTORS

Dr. Don Morgenson, Chris Clemens, Tyler Williams, Brad Skelton, Cindy Eadie, Pam Oliver, Brendan Jones, Nicole Wilker, Colin Duffett, & Mike Morris - I hope I didn't miss anyone.

Why did this take so damn long! It's only 12 pages, a dozen freaking pages and still here at 4:39am. Work will come too soon and so will death. Thanks to Brandon for a first long, but fun Production Night. Hope you're enjoying the pizza right about now. At least we didn't make a mistake, right? April - love the Bunsen Burners, Jenn - Gelato greatness and experience in the MAP department, Bryn for his obscenities, Kris for dating Pam, Carly and Clemens are you dating?, Bryan for trying and still producing the funniest section, Stefan for always sounding like the world is coming to an end when his section is under control (love the article BTW), Michelle for offering to help and even came up. Angela for answering all my questions again and hosting some wicked BBQ soon.

ICE week for a great cover story and Brandon for doing it, iTunes, Wendy's, my brother Mike who bought the Wendy's, the new Gelato place because your ice product is so tasty, Tanya for taking me to Rebel Creek, the guys on the cover who were very concerned that they wouldn't make it on, Dr. Wern's KP 441 - one of the best classes I ever took and the reason behind the Feature, Cindy for coming through with a great piece and going to the Olympics, Kelly for company on the balcony, Bryn's parents for letting us retreat in their house, Wilbur, Ali, Ali's gf and Brandon's friends for eating the pizza (thank god), Tim Horton's, the classic rock station, all the people who helped with this issue.

And finally, the most important men in my life: Vince Vaughn and Ron Burgundy. Vince, I love you and one day I will marry you. RB, you made us laugh till we cried - thank you for entertaining me. Two down, who knows how many left to go. This Cord EIC diet is great. Smooch! CH

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All letters to the editor must be signed and submitted with the author's name, student identification number, and telephone number. Letters must be received by 12pm Tuesday on disk, or via e-mail at letters@wlusp.com with the subject heading of 'Cord letter'. Letters must be typed or easily legible and may not exceed 350 words. The Cord reserves the right to edit any letter for brevity and clarity. Spelling and grammar will be corrected. The Cord reserves the right to reject any letter, in whole or in part.

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

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

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Sick and tired of no mayonnaise on our sandwiches

Under-funded means students are losing out; must push for proper distribution of money in Ontario

If you search the federal Liberal website, ironically enough "Post-Secondary Education" is an inaccessible key-word. So is anything with even a tangential connection to education. It's time to bring higher education to the forefront of the federal government's agenda and push them to set up the funding supports that a strong university and college system needs.

Our education is beginning to resemble a sub without mayonnaise. Hey, just give us the bun and some mustard, we'll deal.

While students and other members of the post-secondary education (PSE) lobby have been widely regarded as one of the most ungrateful and whiniest in Canada, we still find ourselves struggling to tread water in the funding debate. If we want any hope of getting out of this whirlpool, then we need to press the federal government for more fund transfers.

The provincial Liberal government led by Dalton McGuinty handcuffed university administrators in Ontario by freezing tuition levels this spring. Although he lived up to his campaign promise, he didn't ante up enough cash to offset the rising cost of education.

As a result universities, while unable to dump this cost on to our tuition invoices (good), are instead forced to put their budgets on a strict diet (bad). Our education is beginning to resemble a sub without may-

onnaise. Hey, just give us the bun and some mustard, we'll deal.

Laurier, as one of the most dramatically under-funded universities in Ontario, gets to see this skimping first-hand. The Board of Governors approved a one percent budget cut across all departments last spring as well as the deregulation of the School of Business and Economics program. Both were attempts to rustle up cash inside the university to help pay off the significant amount of money that should be, but isn't being, funded by the province.

A large part of the university funding problem revolves around the interaction of the provincial and federal governments. The federal fund transfers are typically geared to high-tech and advanced science research programs like Genome Canada which just received \$60 million while the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council gets the bun and mustard treatment. This would perhaps explain the condition of the Dr. Alvin Woods Building versus that of the Science Building for example.

The provinces have legislative control over all levels of education and do provide the bulk of the funding. Despite this, they often point a finger at the federal level whenever criticism comes their way... like now. McGuinty is dealing with a large budgetary deficit from the PCs so the spotlight turns to the feds.

With Martin's new federal minority government, students must push to see more response from him. In particular, the likelihood of Martin's dependence on the New Democratic Party (NDP) or Bloc Québécois, who ran solid pro-student campaigns, has the potential to play favourably for universities and colleges.

NDP leader, Jack Layton, pointed out in his platform that over \$4 billion was cut under the Liberals in the past decade, one in which tuition increased by five times the inflation rate. While this minority government coupled with the NDP or Bloc isn't necessarily an instant meal ticket for us, they may start listening to us like never before.

With the new minority government, students must push to see more response from Martin.

During his campaign, Martin told students that the Canadian Social Transfer will be divided to give Canadian universities and colleges "seven to eight billion dollars." The Canadian Federation of Students (CFS), a federal PSE lobby group, has brought attention to this off-the-cuff promise and has begun pushing for Martin to own up to it.

Currently, WLUSU is a part of the Ontario Undergraduate Student Alliance (OUSA) but hasn't joined a federal lobby group like CASA or CFS. It's critical that we encourage both levels of government to work together so that adequate levels of federal dollars are properly spread in the province. With Martin's more fragile minority government, now is time for WLUSU to join the federal lobby efforts and take a leading role in holding the government to its promises and responsibilities. Because no one likes the bun and mustard treatment.

Editor's Note: This is the second unsigned editorial written and agreed upon by The Cord Weekly Editorial Board of 2004 - 2005. The opinions contained in this editorial in no way reflect those of other volunteers of The Cord Weekly, or WLUSP.

Letters to the Editor

cord@wlusp.com

There's a world around you, WLUSU

If a person wants to give their time to help another (volunteer some might call it) let them for Christ's sake. Don't charge them to be a good person, and don't turn them away! STARR must be one of the more aggravating blunders of the Students' Union since it measures the degree to which an individual is

a friend doing it, your day has been well spent. But for the love of Christ there is a world in need beyond student services. Here's an idea: have the student service coordinators start an off-campus volunteer project. Get your cronies working in Kitchener. There's lots of social work to be done there and it would look great on WLUSU's reputation. Better yet just e-mail me, frye_18@hotmail.com, and I can give you lots of places to volunteer. I give myself to this project.

Michael Morris

Wilf's new bling won't change the scene

Just tell me one thing. The Wilf's kitchen renovations are going to produce better food right? I don't care if they send me crap on a plate at top speed, it's crap shit. Some how I feel as though \$501,000 spent on the campus pub won't change a thing

about the Laurier night-life either. It will still be a jim-jamboree of the usual suspects jerking each other off with their undergraduate status at our second-rate university. The bar might look different but the people will be the same. A million dollars could be spent to make the place look different but under the surface the same back-flip-for-frosh-week louts will be there; whom I avoid like the plague.

Better luck next time WLUSU.

P.S. spend the little extra to clean the taps so I might drink my way to a good time.

Michael Morris

PLEASE WRITE LETTERS:

350 WORDS MAX
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VALID NAME

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I am insane

Co-op student and former editor Clemens describes his descent into schizophrenia

Chris Clemens
Opinion Columnist



I am insane. This is probably a result of sitting in a largely abandoned office on the morning after Canada Day, watching the phones that never ring and waiting for company visitors that never come. Nobody wants to split a long weekend by working on the Friday, but here I am, the co-op student, holding down the fort in solitude. I am damn good at Solitaire: black ten goes on the red jack, jigga.

In spurts of motivation I design marketing materials: pens, brochures, logos. I write technical documentation, which is as boring as it sounds. I make a sign for the refrigerator stating that employees who bring their own drinks to work rather than purchasing from the company pool are aiding and abetting in the slaughter of innocent kittens.

I love my education with the understanding that the only tangible reward at the end of the journey will be a piece of paper.

I interview myself.
Normal Chris: Well, well. Look who's become an industrious member of society. Now what the hell is with that stupid blue collared shirt?

Proletariat Working Chris: It's -
NC: It's stupid, you bastard! Remember that I'm asking the questions around here. Now what motivated you to take a tech job? Didn't you watch Office Space?

PWC: Well, yeah. I liked the part where they stomped on the printer and there was badass rap music. But that's not what office jobs are really like - not really.

NC: Whatever. If you can't destroy computers then I don't even see the point. Did the school make you do this? That evil bureaucracy...I knew we should've gone to McMaster!

PWC: Actually we should've gone to Sheridan. Then I might have actually gained some useful job skills instead of constantly hearing about hegemony. It's a good thing that we were a big nerd and self-learned all this technical stuff back in the day, huh?

NC: Speak for yourself buddy, I got laid like a champ. So what

you're basically saying is that a Communications and English degree at Wilfrid Laurier is effectively useless in the job market?

PWC: Pretty much. But does that really surprise you? Everyone jokes about Arts degrees getting you a sweet job at McDonald's after you graduate, but it's pretty much true. If you don't back that BA up with some kind of actual skill, you're basically just a freakishly intelligent source of menial labour. You can tell your migrant co-workers about Sartre while you stack boxes in a warehouse.

NC: Okay, okay. That office job is starting to look a little better I guess. It still doesn't seem very punk rock of us to be sitting in front of a monitor all day, though.

PWC: Fuck punk rock.

I stop interviewing myself because having multiple personalities is starting to scare me, especially when one of them sounds like a Conservative. They're right though - if I hadn't spent my younger years experimenting with web design and my filthy pirated version of Photoshop, I wouldn't be here among the ranks of Canadian intelligentsia. While Wilfrid Laurier has provided me with co-op, which in turn landed me the job, the school has provided me with zero tangible skills.

I love my education (for the most part), but I love it with the understanding that the only visible reward at the end of the journey will be a piece of paper. This piece of paper will put me at eye-level with thousands of other university graduates, an elite group which chatters and complains quite eloquently as college grads sail on by to take all the jobs. Hey, it's only fair - they know how to do stuff that we can only discuss in abstract terms.

But maybe we don't really want their jobs. Maybe we've been inundated with enough disillusionment in culture and society that nothing seems satisfactory anymore. Maybe we're stuck, empowered with knowledge but crippled by a lack of experience. It would certainly explain the mass exodus of graduating Arts students to faraway lands to teach English. I will one day join them, but for right now I'm sitting in an office, pretending to be a Business student. I am insane.

Care to opine on this article? send letters to cord@wlusp.com

A healthy sleight of mind

Dr. Don Morgenson
Professor Emeritus



As all young children do, we practiced the most obvious tricks of magic, purchased at a novelty shop just off South Broadway. The tricks, I am sure you'll remember, involved deception at a very crude level. "Pick a card. . . any card!" Or when we would soap a quarter coin to the back side of a knife, then cut an orange and voila - a coin was miraculously found in the orange. Constant practice never seemed to help us pull it off successfully, but even in our failures, we realized that every one of us loves a mystery when disguised as magic.

Today we know what compels such fascination. Magic and mystery allow us to transcend the finite limits that bind us to our earth, those stubborn, frustrating often tragic limitations. Legerdemain transports us out of such chains into a world where anything can and does happen... just watch.

The magician's assistant is stretched across two chairs when, lo and behold, the chairs are removed and the assistant remains suspended in the air. Staring in disbelief, reality too, is suspended and we enjoy the respite from the boundaries of reality, this short spell of mystery when even our own dreams may come true.

And what magic there is in fairy tales: Rumpelstiltskin's smokey disappearance at the sound of his name; Cinderella's transformation from house-hold drudge to princess at the hands of her vigilant fairy godmother; Jack's foolish bargain - five beans for their only milking cow

- but at the top of that beanstalk lay great treasure.

Children often feel somewhat powerless in our complex world, but through magic they can gain some small bit of vicarious power. And this hunger for the mysterious appears to be as universal as it is ancient.

Regrettably, there is a dark side to this ineluctable hunger for magic, this yearning for mystery. People have been able to use this yearning in manipulative ways. Commercials and advertisements exploit our taste for magic and its supposed transformative power. Get-rich-quick schemes, lotteries, casinos, all testify if testimony is needed, to the use of magic to suspend reality and take advantage of the gullible.

Yet we remain ever eager for a flight from truth to magic.

Yet we remain ever eager for a flight from truth to magic. Linus, a Peanuts character once said: "I have a philosophy of life and it is simply this: There is no problem so great or so complex that you can't run away from it." Former Harvard University president James B. Conant once warned first year students that, "Some of humankind's most terrible misdeeds have been committed under the spell of some magic words or phrases." And such names come to mind: Adolf Hitler, Joseph Stalin and Pol Pot. Disciples of these genocidal tyrants sacrificed reflective or critical thinking through absolute idolatry and invited disasters of mammoth propor-

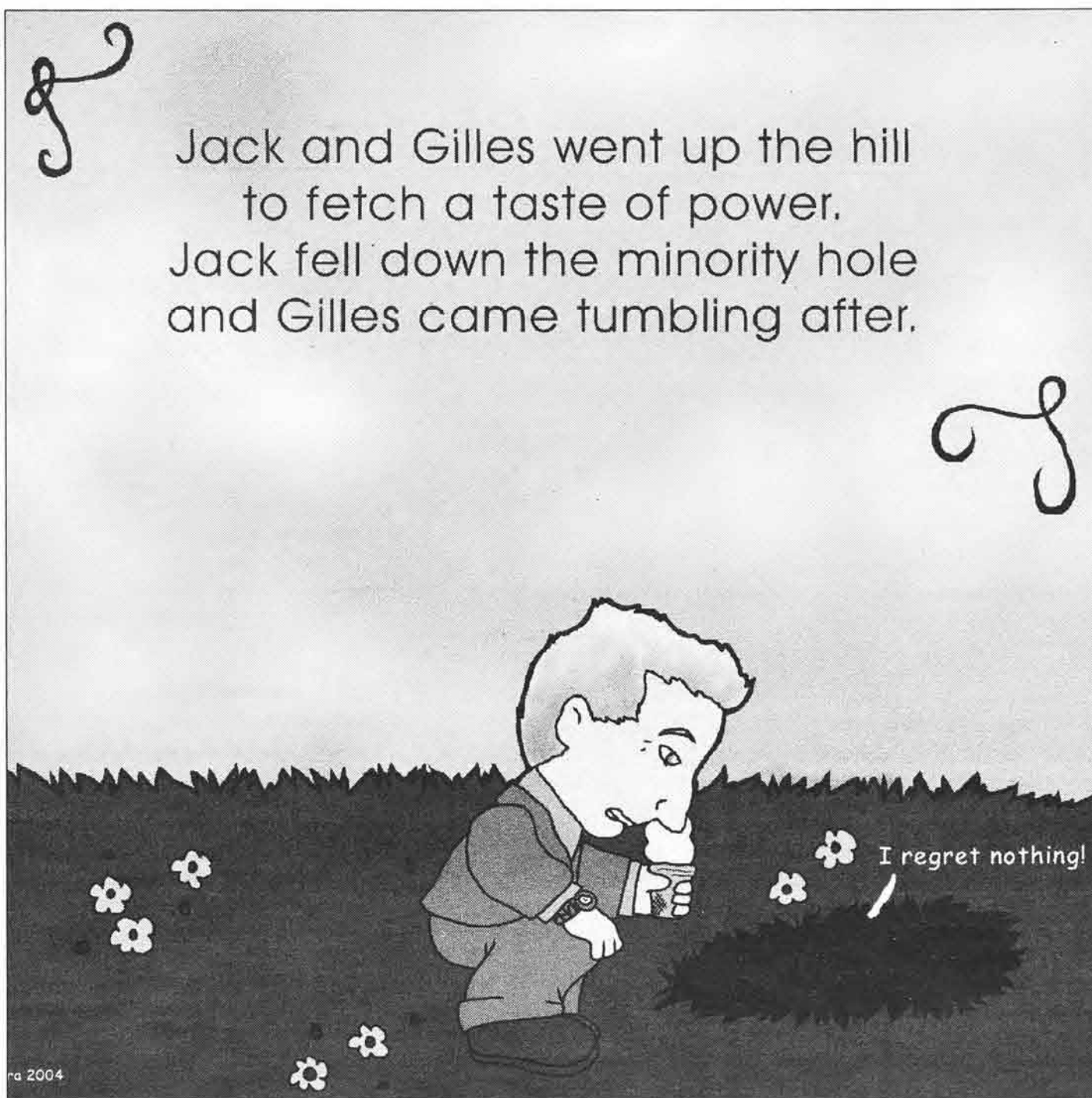
tions.

We live in a world of technology which can quickly amplify the consequences of such devotion; consequences representing "clear and present dangers." Captain Ahab (Melville's Moby Dick) of the ill-fated Pequod, suggests some of the dangers when he said: "All of my methods are rational; only my ends are insane." And herein lies the central and urgent importance of education. Education (as opposed to "credentialing") can be a release from the tyranny of our fears and our anxieties. The liberal arts, ideally suggest ways of liberating people to think critically, to pursue wisdom and act knowingly. And the best education occurs in a gathering of reflective critics, a correcting and corrective community.

This is the freeing process a liberal education provides - a sensitivity to our own experiences and to those of others; a grasp of the nature of the world in which we exist; a growing sense of history freeing us from the bondage of the past and present. Whenever this occurs, education has fulfilled its destiny and presents us with the real magic we so urgently need.

We no longer need to trade in sleight of hand because we have found a reality more compelling than fantasy. We have found, to paraphrase Thomas More, "The ultimate armor against terrors and tragedies is a sense of selfhood without resort to the self-delusion of magic."

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Hong Kong takes to the streets

People take to the streets of Hong Kong to protest appointment of top officials

KRIS COTE
International Editor

More than half a million people took to the streets of Hong Kong on July 1 to demand the right to elect their top officials. The people of Hong Kong believe that their 'one country, two systems' agreement with China, which allowed Hong Kong to remain a capitalist state after the 1997 handover of power between Britain and China, is being violated.

Financial consultant, Chris Mak, took to the streets because he wanted "Beijing to give us universal suffrage." Only then, he believes, "will Hong Kong have a stable environment."

Despite the protests, China's ruling party, the National People's Congress, does not plan to reform Hong Kong's political situation. A ruling in April 2004 concluded that direct elections

would not be held in 2007, and no political reforms were to be made.

Since China took over administration of Hong Kong, Tung Chee-hwa has been the highest ranking official in Hong Kong with the post of Chief Executive. Tung was appointed by the Chinese government, and has been an unpopular leader to his people.

His term is set to end in 2007, and the protesters hope that their efforts will reverse China's decision, and allow direct elections to choose his replacement.

A spokesperson for the National People's Congress warned the protesters that "it is unwise to try to achieve what is unachievable." He also remarked that "such demands are against the current atmosphere of dialogue and communication in the society."

Those participating in the



Massive street protests in Hong Kong on July 1 were sparked by Beijing's reluctance to implement democratic reforms.

demonstrations hoped that their efforts would prove as fruitful as they did one year earlier, when another large demonstration reversed a proposed ruling by the Chinese Government. Article 23 would have disrupted the balance of power between Hong Kong and China, essentially giving China complete control over Hong Kong. Protests on July 1 2003 forced China to withdraw the proposed article.

with concerns over the economy and the war in Iraq. Bush is also struggling against Sen. John Kerry in the November elections. Additionally, the U.S. military is bogged down with commitments in Iraq and Afghanistan, with critics stating that it is over-extended. The prospect of immersing itself in another civil war in a poverty-stricken African nation, especially with the memory of failure in Somalia all too recent in people's minds, is not palatable to either the American people or the military.

Even if by some miracle the U.S. decides to take firm action against the rebels in Sudan, the logistics of supporting a sizable military effort are nearly insurmountable. The roads are mostly dirt, the climate murderous, and the communications network almost non-existent. Combine that with the fact that Sudan is not in an area with American

interests, nor do the Americans have sizable financial or oil interests within the country and it becomes very unlikely that action will be taken.

The UN has called on the Sudanese government to disarm the rebels who are allegedly engaging in ethnic cleansing of the settled farmers, who are overwhelmingly black. At the same time, complaints against the government's alleged complicity in the mass murder have increased. Several African nations have managed to convince the Sudanese government to stop bombing Darfur, however to what effect that will have on the continuing genocide and forced relocation of tens of thousands of citizens is not clear. What is clear, however, is that unless the UN wants another horrific repeat of the Rwanda massacre, it needs to take concrete action that goes beyond mere words.

Free Speech Silenced

KRIS COTE
International Editor

Russian authorities have succeeded in their 'war on journalism,' shutting down the last mainstream avenue of independent journalism. The show Free Speech, broadcast on Russia's NTV network, was seen by many as the country's last avenue of independent journalism. NTV is the only independent news corporation to broadcast across all of Russia's 11 time zones; the other two companies are state-owned.

The show's host, Savik Shuster, also a Canadian citizen and graduate of McGill University, believes that the move was politically motivated. "It seems to me that this is political," he responded in a phone interview.

Since 2000, the Kremlin has waged war against independent journalism, dismissing this aspect of the democratization process. NTV's former owner,

Vladimir Gusinsky, has been repeatedly harassed since 2000. His houses, and NTV's offices, have been subject to repeated police searches.

Since Vladimir Putin came to power in 2000, all the major media companies have aligned themselves with the Kremlin. Those companies not aligned censor their own work to ensure they do not receive similar harassment to that of NTV.

Since 2000, Vladimir Putin has waged a virtual war against independent journalism

Shuster's show was aimed at an intellectual audience, and was often the center of controversy. Shuster attacked Putin and his party for refusing to send a guest to his July 1 show, which many believe was the last straw. Previously, he had criticized the

Italian hospitality



www.globeandmail.com

KRIS COTE
International Editor

For the past week the Cap Anamur, a rusty ship owned by a German aid group, has been anchored off the coast of Italy with thirty-seven African refugees aboard. The men were rescued by the Germans after their ship wrecked while crossing the Mediterranean Sea. The men, thirty-six of whom are from the Sudan, while the other is from Sierra Leone, are seeking asylum in Italy.

Thirty-seven men remain stranded off the coast of Italy

Italian authorities have refused to allow the ship to land, despite increasing pressure from both aid groups and foreign governments. The Italian Interior Minister, Giuseppe Pisanu, made a statement which claimed that his government was "recognizing the delicate humanitarian nature of this case." Yet, he continued that, "a request for asylum by the presumed refugees must be presented in the port of first recourse, in this case Malta."

Italian authorities fear that should they allow the men to land on their shores, more refugees would be encouraged to follow suit. The Mediterranean Sea is often used by African refugees to gain access to Europe.

The UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has urged Italy to take the men ashore for humanitarian reasons. "Right now they are off the coast of Sicily so that is probably the place we would like them to be taken ashore," spokesperson Ron Redmond told reporters. Redmond added that, "failure to disembark the group will simply add to the hardship they have already suffered."

government for applying to host the 2012 Olympics while money is desperately needed for health care and pension reform. After the 2002 hostage taking at the Moscow Theatre, Shuster criticized both NTV and his own show for their coverage, which he felt was much too sympathetic to the government.

The move demonstrates that Putin is no longer concerned with the facade of independent journalism and free speech, argues Nikolai Petrov, a media expert with the Carnegie Centre in Moscow. Previously, "in all discussions about mass media and freedom of speech, the Kremlin would point to this program as evidence of the absence of any censorship or pressure on big media." With no such programs left, democratic Russia has reverted to communist-like news coverage.

Sudan Another Rwanda?

The UN must act decisively to avert crisis

Tyler Williams

Staff Writer



Millions of refugees are fleeing a war-ridden country to escape persecution. Reports are leaking out of systemic genocide and government denials. Critics are warning of a massive humanitarian crisis. Sound familiar? If it does, it's because a similar pattern is emerging as the one that played out eight years ago in Rwanda, which ultimately ended in tragedy.

The situation in Darfur, a western region in Sudan, is moving toward a "genocidal conclusion," according to US Secretary of State Colin Powell. Yet, nations will not call the situation genocide, since under the 1951 United Nations Treaty, any situation deemed genocide forces UN members to act.

The chances of the UN intervening in Sudan are unfortunately slim to none. Just like the

Rwanda crisis of 1994, internal difficulties and hand wringing plague the UN and prevent it from acting decisively. Several countries, such as Pakistan and China, have expressed opposition to UN intervention in Sudan. Most recently, on July 8, France announced its opposition to UN sanctions being placed on Sudan.

While the reasons for the French opposition are somewhat unclear, a possible explanation is that France has extensive oil interests in Sudan, and therefore has an interest in keeping friendly relations with the current Sudanese government. While the effectiveness of sanctions on a belligerent nation is questionable, the point is that sanctions would have been a clear-cut condemnation of the human rights abuses that are taking place, and would form a concrete commitment from the UN to take action.

With the UN hindered by uncertainty and internal debate, many people feel that the onus for action now falls on the United States. However, the chances of the U.S. taking action are unlikely.

U.S. President George W. Bush already has more than enough problems on his plate



Animal-rights activists successfully thwarted California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's attempt to slash spending on animal shelters. In order to save \$14 million from his budget, Schwarzenegger proposed reducing the waiting time for euthanizing animals from seven days to two.

Arriving at Athens

Olympic Games just weeks away: remembering and anticipating protest and terror in sport

CAITLIN HOWLETT
Editor-in-Chief

The Olympic Games are fast approaching.

With approximately \$800 million being spent on security, the Athens Games hope to be a few weeks of peace and a spectacle of sport. The question remains, will the endless preparations and unprecedented dollar amounts be enough to protect the Games? Participants, organizers, officials and citizens of the World will wait and watch nervously.

Historically, the Olympic Games from their modern inception in 1894 by Pierre de Coubertin were designed to promote peace through sport. However, throughout the twentieth and twenty-first centuries, politics and terror have made uninvited appearances.

Memories such as the 1972 Munich Massacre, along with more recent threats including the Centennial Park bombing at the Atlanta Summer Games in 1996, make anticipation of the Athens Olympic Games apprehensive for many.

Here's a look at some of the issues organizers are facing right now:

BLACKOUT IN ATHENS - CAN THEY HANDLE THE POWER INCREASE NEXT MONTH

News just a few days ago on July 12, 2004 that Athens had experienced a major power failure along with the Southern half of Greece left critics wondering if

Athens will be armed and ready to host the Games from August 12 to 29.

The source of the problem appears to be an imbalance of electricity flow, according to senior government officials. Five more generators are already planned to be operational by the start of the Games to accommodate power increase and reduce the possibility of blackouts.

While the blackout experienced in Greece and the one last summer on the Eastern seaboard of North America, was an inconvenience for most, future blackouts could leave the Games extremely vulnerable not only to program disruption but spur of the moment terrorist attacks.

POSSIBLE RELEASE OF SUSPECTED TERRORISTS

In the remaining weeks left before the Opening Ceremonies, Greek Authorities are worried about the possible release of three suspected Revolutionary Popular Struggle (ELA) terrorists, currently on trial. The Court will be forced to release the suspects unless a verdict is given in the first week of August. The suspected terrorists are charged in connection with two assassinations and dozens of bombings. Their poorly timed release could be a public relations fiasco for Olympic organizers and Greek authorities, having to acknowledge the five suspected ELA members roaming the city while the Games are running.

AUSTRALIAN OLYMPIC COMMITTEE POSTPONES NAMING ATHLETES

Australian cyclist Sean Eadie was charged on July 12 with drug trafficking a banned substance and has forced the Australian Olympic Committee to postpone Olympic selections, according to ABC news sources.

The AOC must wait until the Australian Sports Drug Agency is able to conduct background checks, before naming any other athletes. Men's and women's basketball, and men's volleyball were among the sports to be announced this week, now indefinitely postponed.

If convicted, Eadie will be forced to comply with a two-year ban and his bronze medal won in Sydney could be stripped. Eadie continues to deny the allegations, "Never used them, never imported them, never even thought of or tried to import them or use them," he said.

ATHENS OLYMPIC FIGURES AND FACTS

The Emblem

The emblem for the 2004 Olympic Games consists of a kotinos (olive wreath) and was the original award for Olympic champions in the ancient Olympic Games. The colour choice represents the white and blue shades of the Greek countryside.



Medals

Since the Games of 1928 at Amsterdam, Olympic medals depicted the goddess Nike seated and holding an ear of corn and a wreath. From now on, Olympic medals will identify the Greek character of the Olympic games from their origin and revival. Nike is now seen flying into the stadium in front of the Panathenian stadium; the Games were renewed here in 1896. The opposite side of the medal will illustrate the eternal flame, the opening lines of Pindar's Eighth Olympic Ode and the Athens 2004 emblem.



Mascots

Phevos and Athena, the official Athens 2004 mascots, are brother and sister. Their creation was inspired by an ancient Greek doll and their names are linked to Ancient Greece, yet the two siblings are children of modern times.

Pictograms

35 pictograms will identify the sports in the 2004 Summer Olympics. These pictograms refer back to the origin of the Olympic Games and the traditions associated with them. Their image and outline are inspired by elements of ancient Greek culture.

Interesting Figures

301 medal ceremonies will take place over 16 days
28 sports represented in 38 venues
10,500 athletes and 5,500 team officials from various National Olympic Committees will participate
21,500 members of the media will be in attendance to cover the Games
More than 45,000 security personnel will be working: 25,000 police, 7,000 military, 3,000 coast guards, 1,500 fire-fighters, 3,500 private security contractors, 5,000 volunteers



All facts and figures courtesy www.olympic.org

OLYMPIC JOURNAL



Cindy Eadie, Women's Softball: a Golden Hawk insight into the anticipation of the Games and how she's remaining humble amidst all the hype

So, here we are 42 days away from the beginning of "the big show" and everyone around us is getting pretty excited. I can't say that I feel the same way yet because it still doesn't seem real. I mean, we're so busy preparing for our next phase, which is the Canada Cup in BC, that we sometimes forget about the fact that we're all going to the Olympics later this summer. For some it's a dream come true, and for others it's something fairly familiar...

We have three former Olympians on our team who have been around the bases a few times in their day. I remember it wasn't too long ago that I was only 10 years old and the provincial championships was something worth counting down to. Then as I grew older and a lot whole lot lankier, I stumbled upon all of this national team business not really knowing what I was getting into.

I always assumed that national team athletes trained hard and lived a different lifestyle (wait... I didn't mean LIFESTYLE lifestyle, but just to clear things up that is definitely just a stereotype) - but I had no idea how

much work and dedication it takes to become an elite athlete in women's softball. I found out in a hurry in 2001 at a training camp we all fondly remember as "fat camp." We basically played, ran and lifted so much that it felt like our parents sent us out there to lose five to ten instead of to play the sport that we love.

Once I fell into the routine around here I started having the time of my life. I couldn't ask for better teammates, who are now some of my closest friends. Everyone here keeps the Olympics in the back of their minds, but generally we feel like it's still really far away. We know it's coming but we're not going to totally focus on it yet because we have three major tournaments before

the Games start. It's kinda like graduation in a way. I know it's coming but I have to make sure I go to at least a few classes and maybe write a few finals before it sinks in that I am graduating soon. I hope that doesn't mean I have to get a real life though. It's so darn easy to get used to playing ball in beautiful countries while receiving free equipment and clothes. It's also pretty cool when little kids ask me for autographs just because I'm wearing the maple leaf on my chest. Staying humble is such an easy task though because most

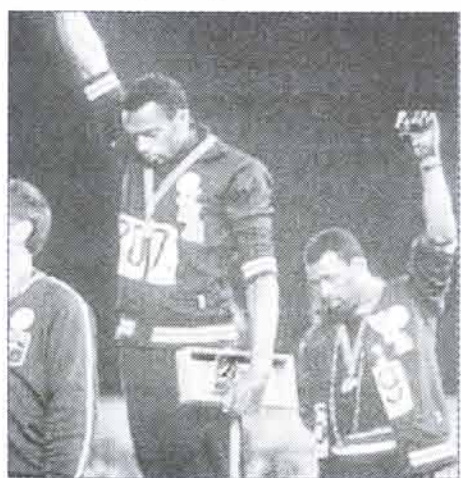
Just yesterday a man came up to me and asked if fastpitch was kinda like volleyball.

people have no idea what fastpitch softball really is. Just yesterday a man came up to me and asked if it was kinda like volleyball. I was thinking, "Well buddy I don't think you could have guessed a sport more unlike softball," but I told him that it was more like baseball except with underhand pitching and smaller field dimensions. Of course, then he assumed it was slo-pitch like some beer league. Oh well...

The bottom line is that I love what I do and I'm in for an experience (and hopefully a performance as well) of a lifetime this summer. The Olympics in Athens: does it get any better than that?

Protest and Terror

Powerful images of protest and terror at the Olympic Summer Games

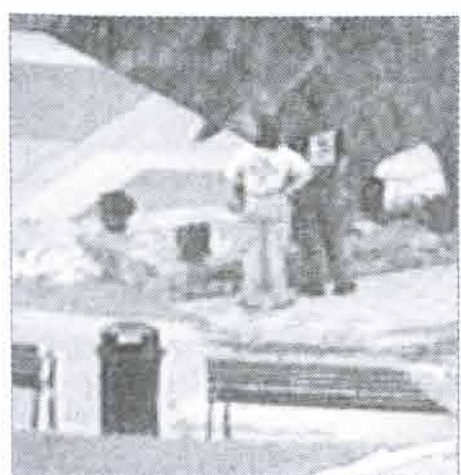


1968 BLACK POWER PROTEST
Tommie Smith and John Carlos, U.S. track athletes gave the Black Power salute on the podium during the playing of the national anthem after winning the gold and bronze medal respectively.

The two athletes were banned from the Olympic Village and forced to return to the U.S.

1972 MUNICH MASSACRE

PLO group Black September penetrated the Olympic Village on September 5 and took 11 Israeli hostages all members of the Israeli Olympic team. Botched efforts by German authorities to take control of the crisis left 9 Israeli and 5 terrorists dead.



1996 ATLANTA CENTENNIAL PARK BOMBING

An explosion early on the morning of July 27 wounded 111 people and killed Alice Hawthorne as a result of shrapnel. One other man died due to heart attack while running from the explosion.

Robert Rudolph was arrested in May of 2003 in connection with the bombing.

Morning after pill plan

Emergency contraceptive pill to be offered over the counter instead of through prescription; announcement made but decision still pending

JENNIFER ASSELIN
Student Life Editor

Controversy seems to forever overshadow contraceptives and the ideologies behind birth control and a woman's right to choose. A recent announcement made by Health Canada to proceed with a plan allowing the morning after pill (MAP) to be distributed over-the-counter in the near future will most likely stir up more said controversy.

Levonorgestrel, the medical term for the MAP, is currently only available through prescription within Canada except in British Columbia, Quebec and Saskatchewan. The MAP must be taken within 72 hours of unprotected intercourse or contraceptive accident in order to be effective and can cut the risk of pregnancy by as much as 89 percent.

Time in such emergency situations is a major factor in the decision to make the drug avail-

able over the counter.

From a student's perspective this is of importance because of the hours Health Services on campus may or may not be open.

"Personally I think it's probably not a bad idea as long as it's an appropriate situation. There are risks involved."

- Karen Ostrander, nurse and health educator at Health Services

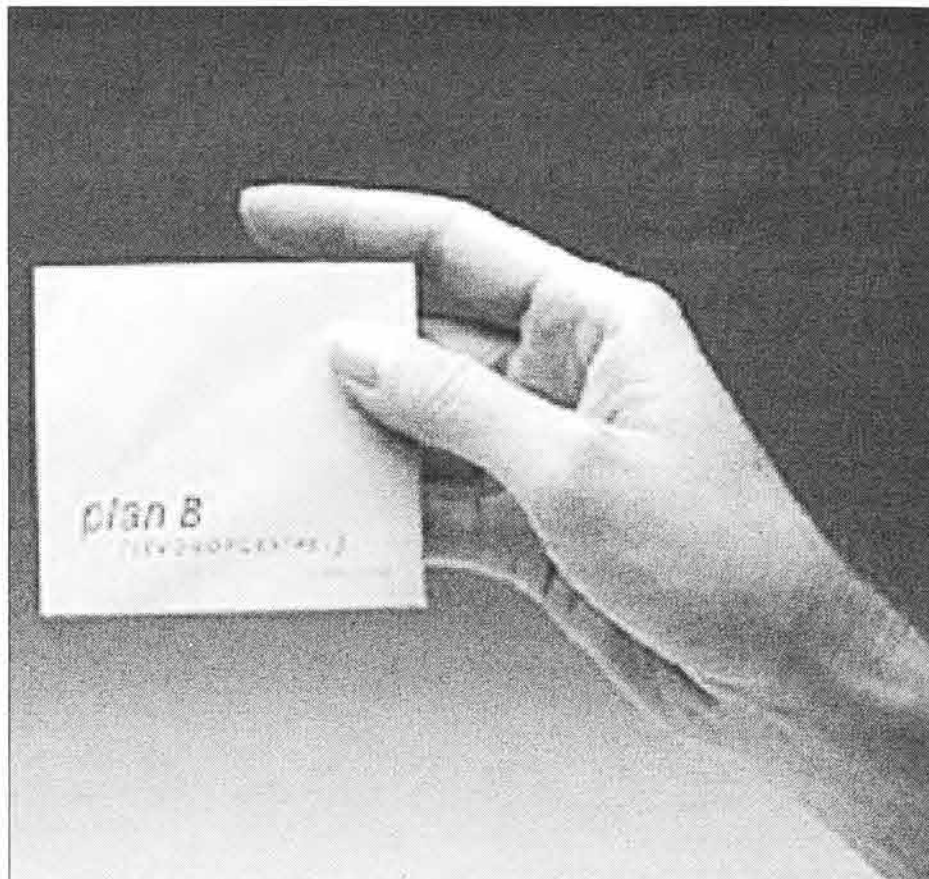
"The benefit is that because we don't have weekend hours, students could still get it," explained Karen Ostrander, a health services nurse and health educator. "Since it must be administered within 72 hours, the sooner the better. If it happens on the weekend students will be able to go to a pharmacy."

If passed, the drug will remain behind the counter in that a customer will have to approach a pharmacist where they may be asked a few questions to ensure the proper use of the MAP, however a prescription will not be needed.

There are certain risks with the pill explained Ostrander, just like any other form of medication which is why a customer cannot just pick up the MAP alongside the toothpaste aisle.

"There are a few questions that need to be asked in order to help determine what is appropriate for the patient like if they are already on the pill or figuring out the appropriate means of use," said Ostrander. "Personally I think it's probably not a bad idea as long as it's an appropriate situation. There are risks involved," she continued. "I think it's important to put that choice in a woman's hands."

Currently, Health Services



www.usatoday.com

A sample of what Plan B, otherwise known as the morning after pill looks like. Soon it might be as easy to get as condoms.

will dispense the drug after the patient has seen a physician and if need be, a nurse can also provide the pill after a standing process.

The plan to make Plan B, as the drug is generically called, available over the counter, is currently under discussion.

The great debate

Why Plan B seems to be an effective solution over-the-counter

Caitlin Howlett

Editor-in-Chief



Well it's about time.

In the past, women requiring emergency contraception had to go to their doctor, a walk-in clinic or even the emergency room, to go through an interrogative process about their need for the morning after pill (MAP). Long waits or limited access to health services on weekends along with the ordeal of having to use it, was enough for some women to forego the process and simply cross their fingers and hope that conception would pass them by.

Plan B, not simply a clever

name, is a more user friendly version of old forms of emergency contraception and the Ontario government is not afraid to help women obtain it.

Legislation to make Plan B available over-the-counter is a step in the right direction to improve the accessibility of the MAP. Pushing for the legalization to sell Plan B, a brand name MAP, will not only help prevent unwanted pregnancy, but decrease the hours spent waiting to get the prescription.

Here's why making the MAP over-the-counter is important, especially to a university population: people have unprotected sex more often than any of us will ever admit to. It's not a phenomenon that simply plagues a cer-

tain demographic, but a reality that people continue to have risky sex practices. If we know people are having unprotected sex and will continue to forego warnings more dangerous than an unwanted pregnancy, at least give them the means and the easiest access to prevent an untimely pregnancy. The MAP works best when taken within 72 hours of intercourse, therefore eliminating the need for a prescription enables women to take emergency contraception more quickly and improve its effectiveness.

Sometimes women have the choice, sometimes they are forced and sometimes their luck runs out. Regardless of circumstance, the option and the accessibility need to be there and that is why making Plan B available over-the-counter is an important step to provide women not only with the right to choose but the right to prevent.

Morning after pill is just another way to say "oops, I forgot"

Nicole Wilker

Cord Staff



"Our drive-thru is open late just for you," "Lose 50 lbs in 10 days," "Become a millionaire in less than two months, guaranteed." Maybe it's just me, but today's society is a constant bombardment of snappy quick-fix gimmicks and slogans. Too many times we are too lazy to get up and find more answers than those that are found further than our arms reach.

Many people may believe that the situation of the morning after pill (MAP) becoming over-the-counter is ideal to manage various embarrassing and sticky instances women may find themselves in after intercourse. These instances could range from situa-

tions say of a broken condom or worse, rape. With both though, the best bet is to still go to the doctor, not only to get the necessary pills to cease any chance of pregnancy, but also get tested for much more serious issues such as STDs or further damage.

For many, trips to the doctor, hospital or community centre includes embarrassment and humiliation, and even more fitting is the fact that the wait to see the doctor may get in the way of their busy schedule. This just instills the idea of "If only I could just run into the pharmacy and get my quick-fix drug on my lunch break, then life would be so much better. Oh and on the way home I can pick up some groceries for tonight and get my dry cleaning..." The responsibility is lost, and this speedy solution becomes commonplace.

Even more pressing is that tweens and adolescents may take this same cue and assume it is common knowledge and just add it to their vocabulary and mannerisms. The fear of having the pill so readily available is that these highly influential teens will become too dependent on it and less responsible for their actions.

I am by no means condemning such a pill, because I do believe it is an effective way of helping with unwanted pregnancy. What I do have a problem with is the manner in which it is being dispensed. Again, like many other aspects of society, it is a desensitized reaction to our actions.

The problem, as I see it, is that it will become more of a reaction instead of prevention. More effort and attention should be put on the alternatives and the preventative methods and not so much on the "Oops... oh well, I'll fix it in the morning, no problem" approach.

Great Gelata



Asselin/Howlett

King Street's newest edition to the food chain, Whole-lot-a gelata from outside (above) has delectable treats on the inside (below).

JENNIFER ASSELIN
Student Life Editor

Gelato, it sounds so sophisticated and the name just rolls off your tongue. The frozen treat is similar to that of its counterpart, ice cream, however it is essentially made with homogenized milk instead of cream.

The tasty delight is the specialty treat found at the King St. location of Whole-lot-a gelata.

An inexpensive dessert, gelatos range in size and price at

the sit down establishment but are around the \$2-\$4 range for a single serving.

There is also a wide assortment of flavours such as banana, chocolate and coconut. A new flavour is introduced at the restaurant every few days.

Also available are non-dairy gelato products called sorbetti.

The shop also sells specialty coffees and other assorted desserts.

Luciani & Brock recruit standouts

Gridiron Golden Hawks land two impressive recruits in the hopes of rebounding from a difficult 2003 off-season

BRYAN SHINN
Sports Editor

If there was ever a year when a weak recruiting campaign would have been expected, it was this year. With three players charged with a series of illegal activities ranging from aggravated assault to possession of illegal firearms last December, many wondered how the coaching staff could possibly attract fresh talent to a football program in disarray.

Any perceived doubt was washed away when Head Coach Gary Jeffries unveiled the 2004 recruiting class in late June. While each of the thirty-six names tell a story of collegiate

success, two names stand out and are proof that the Hawks are once again on track. Enter Dante Luciani and Wayne Brock.

In Luciani, the Golden Hawks score arguably the best quarterback available to Canadian universities while securing the quarterback position well beyond Ryan Pyear's two years of remaining eligibility. A prominent member of the Canadian Junior squad, Luciani played his senior year at Berkshire Prep School in Massachusetts.

"Athletically, Luciani will take a back seat to no one," explained Jeffries of the six foot, 185-pound Oakville native, "he is an absolutely superior ath-

lete." While Jeffries knows that his leader at the QB position is number seven, he believes that Luciani will most certainly compete for a role, thus improving the quarterback position as a whole.

"Athletically, Luciani will take a back seat to no one. He's an absolutely superior athlete."

- Gary Jeffries, Head Coach

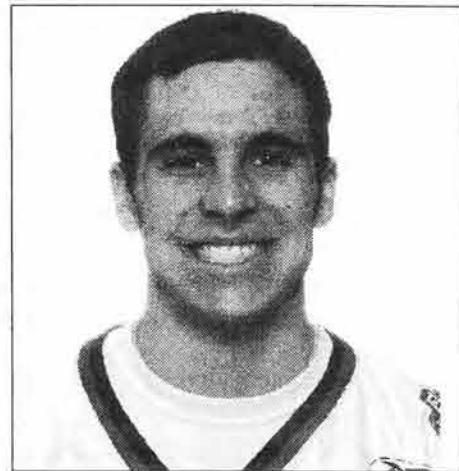
Brock, a hefty offensive lineman who pursued his secondary education at Markham District High School, took home Lineman of the Year in the Greater Toronto Area during his senior campaign. Unlike Luciani, Brock's impact on the Hawks' squad could be felt immediately.

"We got thin all of a sudden on the offensive line," Jeffries

said, referring to a shortage of quality lineman as opposed to the physical weight of the big men, "so [Brock] will definitely compete for a spot right away." Brock is currently playing for the Toronto Thunder of the Ontario Varsity Football League and is a member of the Markham Rugby Club in preparation for the fall season.

When asked if the actions of Ryan McGuffin, Jeff Melis and Derek Medler had an impact on the recruiting process Jeffries took a moment to reflect on an impressive recruiting list before responding: "I didn't see it affect us at all, it seemed that most of the high school students recognized that it didn't reflect the football program, but rather some unfortunate decisions that people make everyday," he reasoned.

Among other standout recruits are Joel Gooding, Brock



www.laurierathletics.com

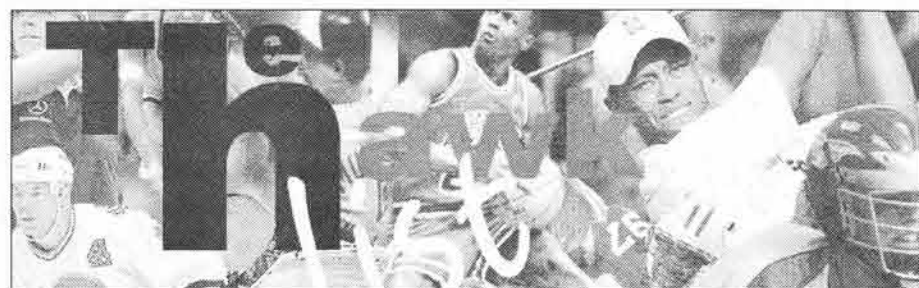
Dante Luciana, one of the Golden Hawks' top recruits.

Legein and Kitchener-Waterloo player of the year, Luke Pinder. The 36 recruits will bump the training camp numbers up to 105, a number which will be dwindled down to roughly 85 names when the season begins on September 6 against the University of Toronto.



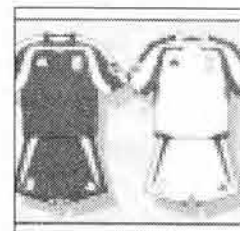
www.laurierathletics.com

Ryan Pyear (left), makes the pass. With only two years left, Coach Jeffries expects new recruit, Luciani, to fill the void eventually left by Pyear.



WHO GREECED THE VINE?

How does a group of relative nobodies dispose of some of the best European football talent in the world en route to a European championship? Sound defence, a strong team dynamic, and an Angelos Charisteas' header early in the second half on the team's only scoring chance. The one - nil victory over host Portugal (pronounced poor-TO-gal) rewrote destiny, while once again popularizing the head stretch among the entire soccer universe.



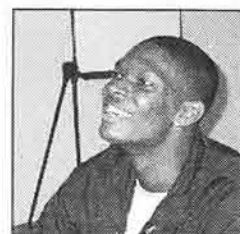
YOUNGSTER DIALS WILLIAMS TO SHINE AT WIMBLEDON

Maria Sharapova, a 17-year old Russian ace, showed us that age means jack when she beat Serena Williams to claim victor at the most famed tournament in tennis. The clearest indication that Sharapova is superstar material occurred just prior to the trophy presentation as the champ borrowed her father's cell phone to dial long distance. As she informed her mother of the triumph, the Duke of Kent waited patiently to hand over the hardware.



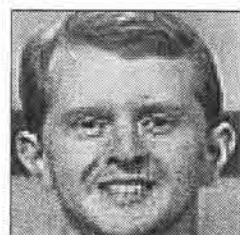
MAMMOTH ARAUJO TO AID DAINTY BOSH

When the Toronto Raptors took Rafahel Araujo with the eighth pick in the NBA Draft, it may have been Chris Bosh who cheered the loudest. Araujo's presence will allow the youthful-built Bosh to play power forward instead of the inappropriate centre spot he occupied last year. Such rejoice is eternally short-lived for Bosh knowing he would have won a national championship with Georgia Tech and been the first overall draft pick had he waited a year to enter the draft.



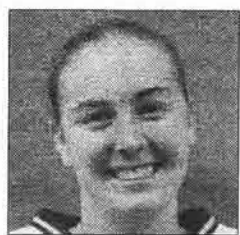
JENNINGS FOR ONE MILLION, ALEX

Ken Jennings has spent over a month and a half as a returning winner on Jeopardy. As he approaches a million dollars in prize money his profile grows and the comparisons to Ripken Jr and Armstrong become increasingly common. To be honest I'm sick of this quiz show virtuoso who is more apt with a buzzer than a hornets' nest. However, you can't but help but smile for old Trebek. The Sudbury native has, let's face it, been given a new reason to live after 20 years of quizzical monotony.



ANOTHER HOCKEY HAWKER TAKES TO THE DIAMOND

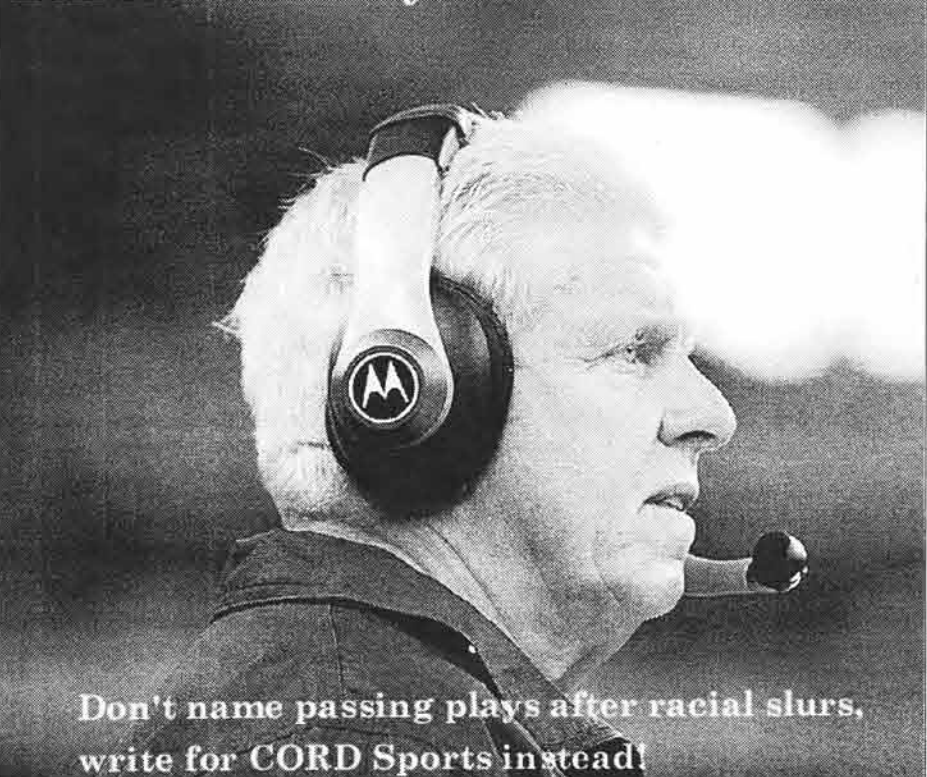
Just over a month after Cindy Eadie was invited to play Olympic softball another Laurier hockey hawk has cracked the line-up of a national baseball squad. Ashley Stephenson, an assistant captain on last year's victorious hockey squad, was named to the Canadian Baseball Team as a pitcher and 3rd baseman. Stephenson's will be looking forward to the team's two major tournaments, the Women's World Cup in Edmonton and World Series in Japan.



SOME CALL IT SHAMELESS ADVERTISING FOR MULTINATIONALS, WE CALL IT - PHOTO OF THE WEEK

On Sunday, the McDonald's car, driven by Sebastien Bourdais, leaves the pits en route to a victory at the Toronto Molson Indy. In many ways, a picture of a reddened overweight male in a Daytona 500 1992 t-shirt and Brett Hart sunglasses complaining about yellow flags and minorities while admiring commercial blondes would have been more indicative of what occurred that afternoon.

Bill Parcels says:



Don't name passing plays after racial slurs, write for CORD Sports instead!

GOLDEN HAWK UPDATE
Home Openers: Fall 2004

Men's Baseball
September 5 vs. McMaster, 1:00 PM

Men's Basketball
October 10 vs. Bradley (NRS), noon.

Women's Basketball
October 13 vs. York (NRS), 7:30 PM

Men's Football
September 6 vs. Toronto, 7:00 PM

Men's Hockey
October 31 vs. RMC, 7:00 PM

Women's Hockey
September 16 vs. Cambridge (NRS), 8:30 PM

Women's Lacrosse
October 24 vs. Brock, 8:00 AM

Men's Rugby
September 18 vs. McMaster, 1:00 PM

Women's Rugby
September 18 vs. McMaster, 3:00 PM

Men's Soccer
September 12 vs. Western, 1:00 PM

Women's Soccer
September 12 vs. Western, 3:00 PM

Men's Volleyball
October 20 vs. Waterloo, 8:00 PM

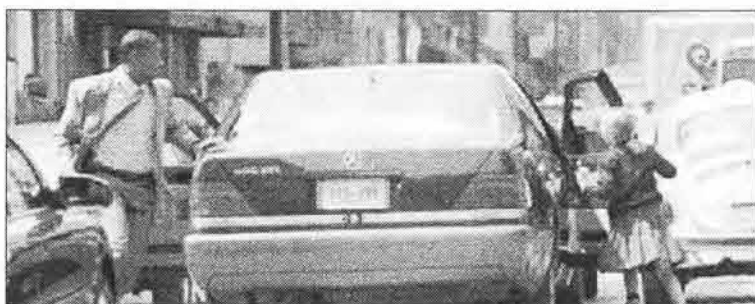
Women's Volleyball
October 7 vs. St.FX (NRS), 7:30 PM

NRS - Non Regular Season Game

Find home game locations and more information on Golden Hawk Athletics online:
www.laurierathletics.com

2004: The cream of the crap in film

Brad Skelton warns about the "poop parade" in theatres this year in the hope that he can save you from wasting precious time, brain cells and money



movies.yahoo.com

Van Helsing (left) overdoes it on the special effects, Man on Fire (middle) makes use of unnecessary camera shots and styles, while Passion of the Christ (right) has vividly shown how Christ died, but not why he died.

Brad Skelton

Staff Writer



The year is still young but there have already been some really bad movies. The parade of crap at the multiplexes sometimes seems as though it will never end, and the three abominations I list here are perfect examples. The only adequate defense we have against these unholy cinematic pantywastes is to avoid seeing them at all costs, but even the most strong-willed among us often get suckered into watching these wretched entertainment voids. As a result, one can only take out one's pent up hostility through nasty rants.

Van Helsing

Probably the most overwrought (and empty-headed) special effects movie we will see this year; yet another bloated, soulless Hollywood action picture. It's light on story, characterization, imagination, plausibility and logic, and heavy on battles and CGI. Not that there is anything inherently wrong with all that, but for an adventure film involving classic movie mon-

sters like Dracula and the Wolf-Man it doesn't feel very light on its feet. In fact, it's downright tedious. As a B-movie made 50 years ago it might have been fun. This is still very much a B-movie, but having been given an A-budget it loses its campy charm. And because the special effects are so clearly expensive it seems as though the filmmakers want to display on screen every dollar they spent, dragging the running time out to an excruciating two hours and 10 minutes (a movie like this should never exceed 90 minutes). One wonders if, during the editing, director Stephen Sommers actually cut anything out of his picture, or if he viewed the material and simply sat back, satisfied that he had concocted another masterpiece. The principle of "less is more" is lost on this guy.

Man on Fire

How did Denzel manage to get himself into this sleazy revenge flick? Perhaps he thought it would be a challenge to explore the darker side of his alcoholic sad-sack character, but the movie surrounding his character is derivative and witless. This is not only a half-baked, unredeemably violent movie, it is also made nearly unwatchable

by director Tony Scott's hyperactive, needlessly flashy MTV style of film-making. There are more jump-cuts, swish-pans, and shaky closeups than can be counted. The entire project is an eyesore. This style might be appropriate for a more conventional action/revenge thriller, even if it is annoying, but *Man on Fire* apparently has pretensions of becoming a serious drama (as evidenced by the

Man on Fire is made unwatchable by director Tony Scott's flashy MTV style of film-making.

film's somber tone). If indeed we are meant to take this movie seriously, then Scott should do away with the repetitive hyper-realism and learn to relax. As drama, this film is heavy-handed, predictable, and made in laughably bad taste. If I were Denzel, I'd either fire my agent for getting me involved in this grotesque project or subject him to multiple viewings of *Man on Fire*.

The Passion of the Christ

I've already bashed this

wannabe Biblical epic repeatedly, but Mel Gibson's blood soaked *Passion* play deserves another thrashing. This is quite possibly the most misguided, shallow, idiotic religious film ever made, and it certainly gets my vote as one of the most appalling big star vanity projects of all time. Of all the boneheaded mistakes Gibson makes, the most severe is his failure to understand that how Christ died is not nearly as important as why he died. Such sentiments are probably not shared by an extreme fundamentalist like Gibson, who apparently has a sadist's urge to focus on all of the most negative aspects of Christianity. Granted, the crucifixion is a central part of the iconography of the Christian faith, and this is a film about the *Passion*, but Gibson uses this as an excuse to present endless scenes of torture that are given little or no contextual framework within the movie. Christ's desire to suffer and die for our sins remains wholly ambiguous as he passively accepts his fate, but Mel graciously throws us a few nuggets of Biblical reference via trite flashbacks (to the Last Supper, etc.); in a film about Christ's *Passion* one should either provide more detail with the flashbacks or omit them alto-

gether. The point is that this is a film made only for the devout. If you don't already share Mel Gibson's views of spirituality then there is no reason for you to see this film, nor will you gain any kind of enlightenment if you do see it. Many have said that we need to view in great detail the brutality of Christ's scourging to understand his sacrifice, but this is exactly why the film fails so completely: it ensures the destruction of any real historical referent and turns the crucifixion into a series of free-floating cultural signifiers that refer only to themselves. *The Passion* is now therefore nothing more than an image ready to be adopted and manipulated by anyone for any purpose. Look at the way Gibson has used the medium of film to manipulate the *Passion*, using unimaginative slow-motion sequences and extreme closeups of torn flesh to (attempt to) induce a state of spiritual reverie in his audience; in cinematic terms this is not unlike the methods used by pornography to stimulate ecstasy. *The Passion* tries to mask a lack of ingenuity and cinematic vision with piousness, and is as close to S&M porn as any religious film is ever likely to come.



Ill Bill

out of a possible 5 fudgicles

Title: What's Wrong with Bill?
Label: Psycho+Logical Records

vowed to release a staggering 10 albums in 12 months. If that weren't enough, Necro will be producing every track of every album, an unprecedented feat in the music industry today. Ill Bill, Necro's older brother, and one third of Non-Phixion, was the artist chosen to have his album released first and he does not disappoint. Bill's flow has always been well respected throughout the hip-hop landscape, but his subject matter is the most impressive feature on *WWWB?* On *American History X*, Bill attacks the folks in the White House, both from the past and the present, with shockingly solid results.

WWWB? also boasts a healthy roster of guests, with Goretex and Q-Unique both delivering memorable verses. While Bill definitely shines on the mic, the real star of this album is undoubtedly Necro. His beats are flawless; each one is perfectly crafted and catered to Bill's unique style. One can only hope that after 10 albums in 12 months, Necro can keep his beats as fresh as the gems con-

tained on *What's Wrong With Bill?* As far as debut albums go, Ill Bill's ranks among the best. His lack of commercial appeal will not endear him to the MTV crowd but his talent is undeniable. Necro recently released a statement on his website stating that in 2004, he will "destroy his competition." If all 10 of his releases this year can match this effort, he may just be right.

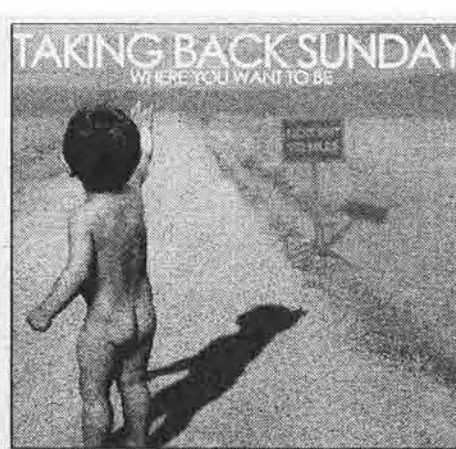
-AJ Iafrafe

Taking Back Sunday

out of a possible 5 fudgicles

Title: Where You Want To Be
Label: Victory Records

Taking Back Sunday's new release may be titled *Where You Want To Be*, but after several years of leaning heavily on their phenomenal debut, one has to wonder whether the band really intended to end up here. Faced



with the difficult task of creating a sophomore album capable of rivaling *Tell All Your Friends*, the quintet evidently decided to stick with a formula that worked.

The result is a disc that features the same hooky melodies and intricately layered vocal medleys as its predecessor, but lacks the songwriting punch. While it's an unspoken assumption that every mediocre emo-punk band has to play a cover of the oh-so-trendy "You're So Last Summer," no song on *Where You Want To Be* is likely to attract the same obsession.

That said, the album isn't painful to listen to and certainly doesn't do Taking Back Sunday any grave injustice. Its only crime lies in being unremarkable in the face of towering, perhaps unrealistic, expectations. The emo (God I hate that word)

genre is crowded and restless, full of clones jostling for precious seconds of sinister attention. Unless MTV adopts Taking Back Sunday as their latest pet, *Where You Want To Be* is unlikely to thrust the band back into the spotlight.

Definite highlights of the album include "One-Eighty By Summer" and the ballad-y "New American Classic." Unfortunately, the band has already selected "A Decade Under the Influence" to be the first single, a weaker track with a potentially precognitive chorus: "I've got a bad feeling about this." Amusing irony aside, the album's lyricism isn't too bad - one part wistfulness and one part relationship rage - but once again lacking the power to make any of it memorable.

While the aptly titled *Tell All Your Friends* sparked a forest fire word-of-mouth fan following, naming the sophomore release *Where You Want To Be* isn't likely to be enough to convince listeners to stay for long.

Afterword: I let a random girl from New York Pita listen to a ten-second sound bite of the album while I was waiting for my chicken caesar. She said it sounded like "a blend of Good Charlotte and Simple Plan." I was appalled. -Chris Clemens

For those unaware, 2004 has been unofficially proclaimed the year that Psycho+Logical Records takes over the underground rap scene. The label is the creation of NYC underground legend Necro, who has



Fahrenheit 9/11 breaks thermometer

The Cord's summer staff reviews the first ever summer blockbuster documentary

Stefan Sereda
Arts Editor



For those of you who thought you knew George W. Bush as the loveable, goofy, choking-on-pretzels President of the United States, think again. *Fahrenheit 9/11*, Michael Moore's documentary which tries to bring facts about America's involvement with Saudi Arabia, Afghanistan and Iraq before and after the terrorist attacks on New York and Washington in 2001, depicts George-Boy in a slightly different light. Less goofy than downright lazy, incompetent, and

treacherous, less loveable than despised, Moore's Bush is the one we all remember winning office: the snowblowing ex-cokehead who ran off with the American Presidency with a little help from his friends.

Indeed, Moore's scathing criticism of America's recent foreign military and economic policy and the people responsible is so concerned with dredging up facts, exposing harsh realities and connecting the pieces of an overwhelming puzzle that it leaves little room for his own presence in the picture. Moore, who's 2002 film *Bowling for Columbine* brought him a considerable amount of notoriety, limits his involvement in what is happening on the screen to

mainly commentary and narrative, as if he had the unfortunate duty of being the announcer for the last four years of political mind games.

Moore's near-absence from the film has beneficial and adverse affects on the movie. On the plus side, it creates yet another space wherein Bush can be portrayed as an illegitimate and untrustworthy president, and it lets very powerful images tell his side of the story, easily persuading the audience.

But to the chagrin of fans of Moore's television show *The Awful Truth*, there is less outlandish activism wherein Moore attempts to make direct changes to an unjust system while displaying the hypocrisy of corrupt

institutions. When Moore is on camera asking congressmen to volunteer their children for the war in Iraq, the movie is at its most entertaining. It is also quite apparent that these schemes have made Moore the bane of some politicians: one congressman fled, refusing to talk to him.

Maybe the thorn in Washington's side wanted to avoid anything too over-the-top

Outside the Saudi Arabian embassy, Secret Service Officials came by for a chat. Maybe the thorn in Washington's side wanted to avoid anything too over-the-top like his harassment of Charlton Heston in *Bowling for Columbine*. Allowing the present story to stand on its own reflects a significant departure from his earlier work.

Overall, the film is still incredibly left-wing, which can be expected from Moore's liberal-humanitarian leanings. Rather than attacking all the soldiers fighting the war, Moore looks at the tactics used by institutions and the circumstances which have bred deplorable behaviour in Iraq and garnered support for the war back home. After watching the movie, I felt misled by *Fahrenheit 9/11*'s title, complaining that most of the film abandoned the topic of the terrorist attacks on 9/11 altogether. Someone much wiser than myself noted that this is precisely the point: Moore exposes how caught up America was in the fear these terrorist attacks created that much of the population simply ignored the circumstances leading up to it, and allowed the government to return violence onto scapegoats.

Caitlin Howlett
Editor-in-Chief



I learned how to be critical for the small price of \$13.00 and an overpriced Diet Coke.

Fahrenheit 9/11 is a lesson in clever editing. It is a testimony of the anger and the dissatisfaction of members of a nation and one driven producer, director, and writer. And it is a frightening look at US political power that is arguably killing people of many nations around the World.

I laughed. I gapped in disbelief. I cried. I questioned. I learned. And most importantly, I became concerned – and yes, I did it in that order, with no original intention of rhyming.

If there is one thing *Fahrenheit 9/11* did fairly, it prompted the less informed to ask more questions.

Michael Moore is undeniably a master of the edit. He cuts and pastes in his sleep. A lover of the long panning shots that show a President or a Defense Secretary waiting to address a nation, he capitalizes on personal moments and facial expressions that make those in charge appear as though they have no idea what they are in charge of. Footage of a President stuttering and trying to find answers in his own words to prove that what he is doing and where he is doing it is indeed warranted, is just one of the clever clips Moore entertains us with.

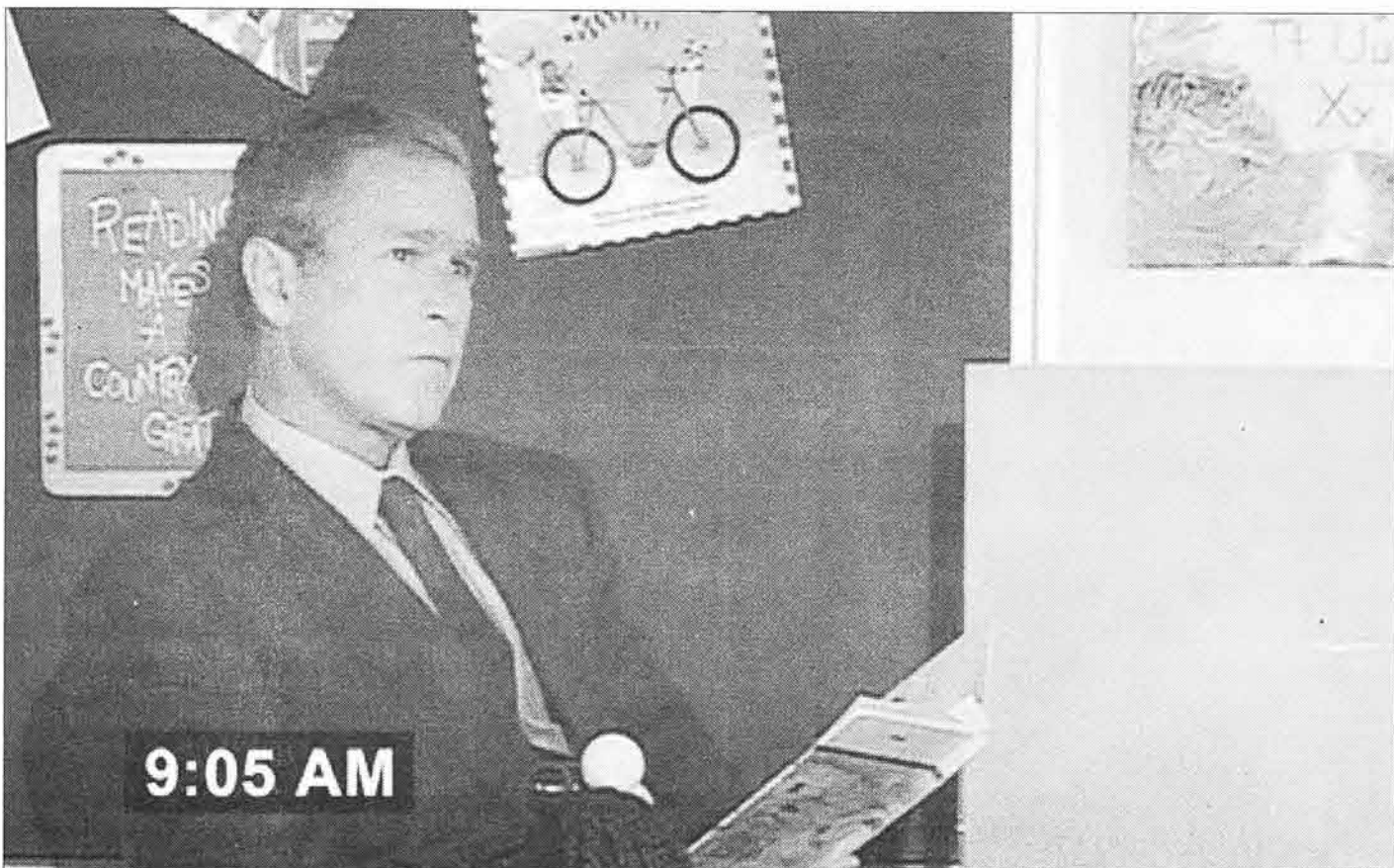
Preying on the less educated, Moore grabs some cheap laughs. The audience I sat with, the same audience that sobbed uncontrollably, was also the same audience that laughed exactly where Moore intended them to laugh.

War footage made people squirm, jump and ask the person next to them for a tissue. Convincing members of Congress to enlist their own children in the War, Moore poked fun at officials who were willing to send other people's families to war, just not their own.

I haven't seen *Bowling for Columbine*. However, watching *Fahrenheit 9/11* has made *Bowling for Columbine* next on my list. This is my first Moore experience, and to be honest I was more proud at the fact that I turned a critical eye toward the movie and its points, rather than turning a double thumbs up like so many have done already.

There is much to argue in this film and there is just as much to question. It is for this very reason everyone who wants to understand what is going on needs to see this film, not because they will get answers, but because they will start to demand them.

Going into the film you're toughest question will be "Is the popcorn combo worth it?" Exiting the film, you won't be debating the possibility of a refill on your popcorn.



Moore ponders "What was George thinking?" on the morning of September 11 as he found out the second World Trade Centre had been attacked. He was attending a Grade 1 class in Florida at the time.

Brandon Currie
Production Manager



After every Michael Moore film, I am always left wondering "Where the hell did he dig up this footage?!"

After reading both of Moore's recent literary diatribes against the Bush regime, *Fahrenheit 9/11* was not really a grand rev-

elation for me, but damn did it have style. Even if you disagree politically with the film, watching Bush make an ass of himself on film is more than worth the price of admission.

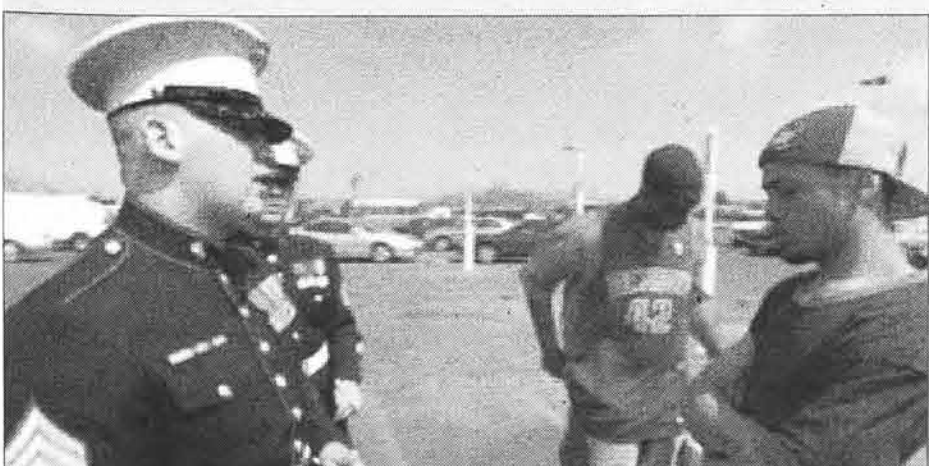
Moore's sardonic use of pop music is always a cornerstone of his films, and his ode to the Bloodhound Gang's "The Roof is On Fire" during the siege of Baghdad is right up there with The Beatles' "Happiness is a Warm Gun" in *Bowling for*

Columbine.

Since *Roger & Me*, personally my favourite Moore film, the substance has changed but the style has stayed the same. Some call it docu-comedy or docutainment, and that it certainly is.

Moore is at his best when showing the "Two Americas" of John Edwards fame, and *Fahrenheit* is no different. Contrasting the "haves and have-mores" in the Bush camp with poor minorities being relentlessly recruited for the Marines, Moore makes his most powerful and least obvious point that the Bush regime has been polarizing the nation politically and economically.

The most glaring flaw of the film is the absence of any kind of counterpoint to Moore's argument. *Roger & Me* soared when Moore opened up the microphone to GM brass to justify the lay-offs that crippled his hometown of Flint, Michigan. Although their assertions were subsequently torn to shreds, they were at least presented.



US Marines actively recruit local youth in Flint, Michigan. Just some of the crazy white people featured in the film.

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