

THE CORD WEEKLY



I eat vegeterians: they're very healthy page 14

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Students dying on campus

Protesting civilian bombing around the world, students play dead

ANDREW DUGGAN
Staff Writer

Last Thursday a small group of about 20 Laurier students took part in a "die-in" to raise awareness for victims of bombings around the world.

The protest took place around the school, including the Concourse, Dining Hall, Torque room and the Terrace. It began with a loud bang, at which point the members of the group would fall "dead" and lie on the ground for ten minutes.

The die-in was "an action to raise awareness more than a protest."

-Matt Street, die-in organizer

Each student involved in the "die-in" had a sign taped to their chest, which read: "I represent one of millions of civilians who have died from bombing."

According to Matt Street, one of the main organizers, the event was designed to "bring the horrors of bombing to light and promote the idea that civilians dying for peace is wrong."

Students from a variety of clubs participated in the event including Laurier4Peace, Amnesty International, LSPiRG as well as a number of global studies students.

Students who saw the "die-in" had mixed reactions about its effectiveness. "I thought it was all a bit weird," said Ryan Murdock, a first year history student.

"Our school needs more protests like that," said Scott Cowan, a first year geography student who also witnessed the event. "No one knew what was going on and everybody was very curious about the protest."

"Everything went silent and I think we got our message across," said Street, who also added that it was "an action to raise awareness, more than a protest."

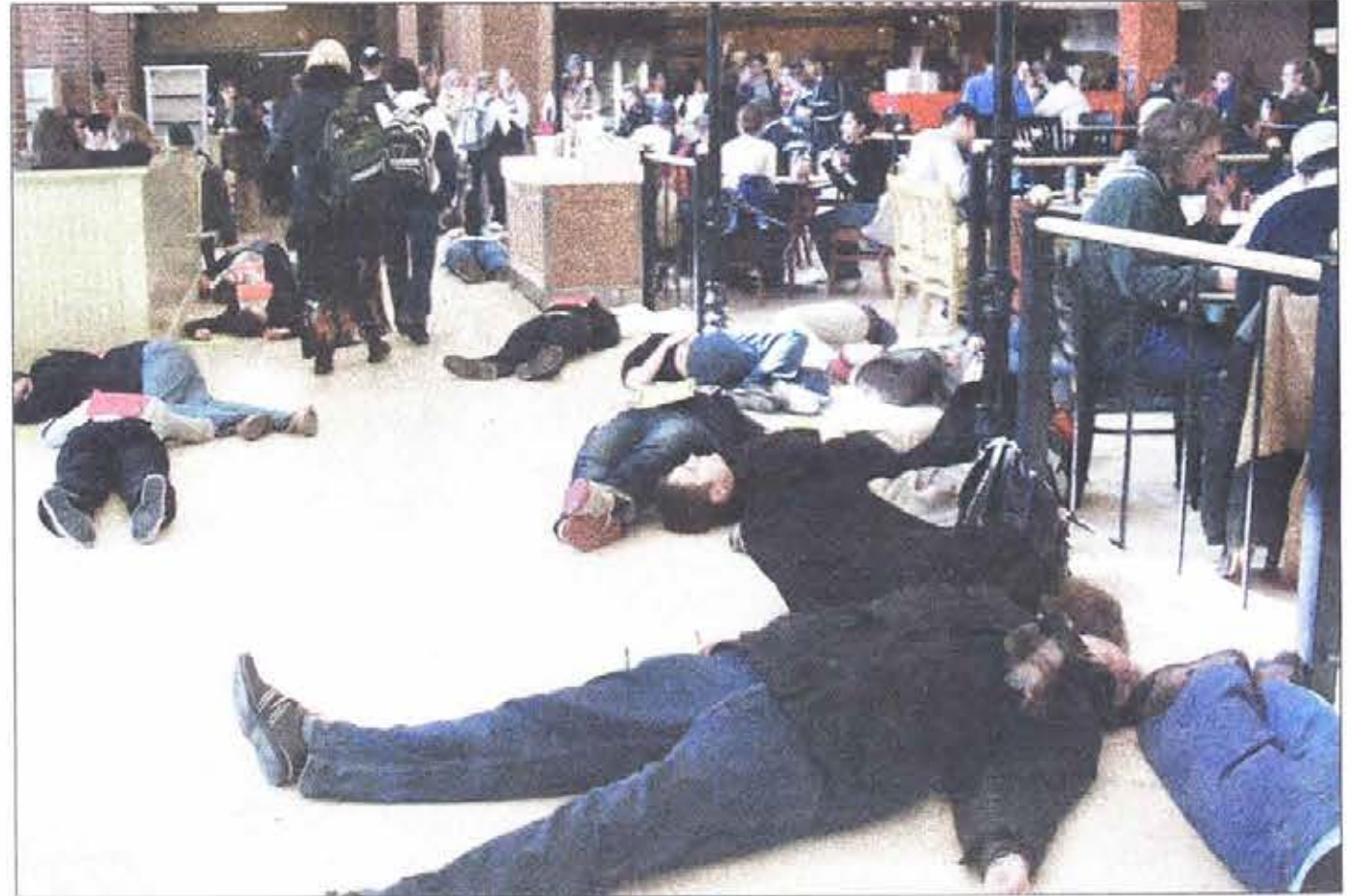
Campus Security officers were very tolerant of the protest and just made sure that the participants were not blocking the path of other students and not getting trampled on.

The "die-in" was also meant to be an advertisement for the Peace Walk that took place this past weekend. The original plan was to hold the protest on Friday but when organizers realized that this would disrupt Laurier Day, they changed it to Thursday, which happened to be Alumni Day.

The Alumni who witnessed the event weren't too upset about the interruption to their day and some even gave their support to the cause.

The idea for the "die-in" was originally formulated in a fourth year global studies class where students decided that more had to be done to educate the population of Laurier about bombing around the world and the horror that it causes.

Street added that "it's just not right to bomb" and hopes that students who saw the event will take civilian bombing more seriously and educate themselves more about the subject.



Caitlin Storey

Die-in participants try to promote awareness to students in the Dining Hall as they lay motionless for 10 minutes. The act symbolized the millions of civilians who die as a result of bombing.

Scholarship cuts

APRIL CUNNINGHAM
News Editor

WLUSU is making reductions to entrance scholarships offered to first-year students. Most notably, Arts, Music, and Economics programs will be limiting scholarship money to students entering with averages above 85%, where in previous years they were provided for students with entrance averages above 80%.

The only programs that still offer entrance scholarships for averages above 80% include Computing, Science, and Arts on the Brantford campus. Scholarship amounts differ among programs and specific grade ranges, but all have shrunk.

"We have to watch we don't give everybody a scholarship," says Dr. Rosehart, President of Wilfrid Laurier. He says that entering averages are continuing to rise

with the increase in entrance cutoffs, so more and more scholarships are being given out.

But WLUSU Director-Elect, Tudor Costache, is concerned that the reductions will affect students' accessibility to post-secondary education. He brought up the issue during a 2004-05 BOD meeting two weeks ago.

"They shouldn't be taking money away from student scholarships right after passing deregulation," says Costache.

Dan Herman, President of WLUSU, says that the cutbacks are rooted in the university's budget deficit concerns.

"All of the budgets in the university have been told to cut back," says Herman, "and enrollment is an area that they look at as a very visible target, because it's 'soft money' as opposed to essential services or faculty." "The unfortunate thing is

they'll cut from somewhere else if not here," says Anthony Piscitelli, VP: University Affairs elect.

"They have to choose between two bad situations."

Herman thinks it is important for people to distinguish the real purpose of these scholarships.

"They're meant as an enticement to come to Laurier, not as a primary means of financial aid," he says. But he has calculated that cuts will leave 304 incoming students who would have previously received scholarships without them. This amounts to almost \$300,000 in cuts to last year's scholarship grid.

Herman says the cuts to the grid correlate with areas where there is an excess of students and where it is easier to get students to apply. It also relates to competition between other schools.

Continued on page 4

Neziol elected

Brantford gets new Campus Commissioner

JENNIFER ASSELIN
News Editor

After a win of 162 votes to 45, Sara Neziol was elected as Laurier Brantford's new Campus Commissioner over her opponent Kevin Adams, last Thursday.

"I'm extremely excited and I can't wait to get in there and start working," said Neziol, a third year student at the satellite campus taking Contemporary Studies with a major in Communication Studies.

This is the first time the position, which acts as a liaison between the Brantford campus and the Waterloo campus through Laurier's Students' Union, has been filled via an election.



Sara Neziol will take over as campus commissioner May 1.

Neziol has had previous experience within WLUSU Brantford as this year's administrative co-ordinator.

Neziol's two main concerns brought up in her platform are, first, communication at the Brantford campus as well as between campuses.

Continued on page 4

Program	Entrance Scholarships 2004-2005			
	2003-2004	2004-2005	2004-2005	2004-2005
Arts-Waterloo	95%+ \$5000 (up by \$2500)	90%+ \$2000 (same)	85%+ \$500 (down by \$500)	
Arts-Brantford	95%+ \$5000	90%+ \$2000	84%+ \$1000	80%+ \$750
BA/Bed-Brantford	95%+ \$5000	90%+ \$1500		
Business	95%+ \$5000 (up by \$2500)	90%+ \$1500 (down by \$500)	87.5%+ removed	
Computing	95%+ \$5000 (up by \$1750)	90%+ \$2750 (same)	84%+ \$2000 (same)	80%+ \$1500 (same)
Kinesiology	95%+ \$5000 (up by \$2500)	92.5%+ \$1500 (down by \$500)	90%+ \$750 (down by \$750)	87.5%+ \$500 (down by \$500)
Music	95%+ \$5000	90%+ \$2000 (down by \$500)	84%+ \$1000 (same)	
Psychology BA	95%+ \$5000	90%+ \$2000	85%+ \$500	
Science	95%+ \$5000 (up by \$1250)	90%+ \$2250 (same)	85%+ \$1500 (same)	80%+ \$1250 (down by \$250)

MALDEN EVENTS CALENDAR

Legal Resources Wed. March 24



Guest Speaker Seminar Series Paul Martin Center at 4:00pm

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For more info Contact: Legal Resources at ex. 3440 or on the 3rd Fl. of the FNCC



EARTHROOTS presentation

Thursday March 25th

The Environmental Awareness Committee presents a presentation and discussion about Ontario's threatened wolves and forests.

**Paul Martin Centre
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Wilbur McLean

Starting at 11am Tuesday, student volunteers began 50 hours of staying awake as part of "Awake for Kids' Sake". All money raised from the event will go to kidsLINK, which aids families with children who have behavioural problems or mental challenges. The group's goal is to raise \$3,000 for the charity.

10 questions with *The Cord's* Editor-in-Chief

Wilbur McLean sits down to discuss the past year at the newspaper

JENNIFER ASSELIN
APRIL CUNNINGHAM
News Editors

1. a) What was your biggest challenge this year?

Balancing so many things and never being able to know how people react to what you're writing or printing.

b) Can you give an example?

Something as seemingly harmless as printing that the line-up in the dining hall is too long or that prices are too much, we did that in the top ten and a chef got quite mad at me. We never would have anticipated something like that. And other things like printing what's going on at the local gym and then we were waiting weeks for a response and we hear nothing. So the greater challenge is not knowing what's coming at you next.

2. What was the biggest story of the year?

The biggest news story would be the charges against the football players in terms of everyone in the school knew about it and it got so much attention in the community. The biggest story that we did that got people talking would obviously be the Gay Escapades. It's not very often that *The Cord* prints something and people are talking about what we did, not just the event.

3. a) What was your motivation behind the Gay Escapades story?

To show an aspect of a culture that's not really looked at. While homosexuality is more accepted now, especially amongst people our age, it's not accepted to the point it should be. There are still certain aspects that are taboo. You know, while we accept that there may be two men holding hands in the street, we don't want to accept that they're having anal sex. That's still like

'plug your ears, don't talk about it'. So another aspect is the nightlife. Homosexual nightlife is obviously different than going to Louie's so the idea was to explore that. I think that's what we did and contrary to what many people believe, I think that we did that, in that a lot of people who had no idea or didn't want to know, now know based on what we experienced in there.

"Pressure is being an eight-year-old having to shoot your mother or something"

-Wilbur McLean, EIC

b) How do you feel about the way people reacted to the article?

I was happy to get a reaction. I wasn't expecting such a strong reaction. I know there were a lot of students who liked it or kind of got the point but you never hear from those students, you hear from the students who are very angry.

c) Looking back would you have done anything differently?

Possibly, the only thing I would have done differently is have told GLOBAL [Gays, Lesbians or Bisexuals at Laurier] beforehand, not ask them to go with us, just tell them we were going and our intentions so that they wouldn't be so surprised.

4. What are your feelings on how the WLUSU Administration has handled WLUSP's move?

They haven't handled it and that's the problem I have with it. They bring it up in one of their board meetings one day that they're kicking us out

and that's not the way to handle things. Yes, it is in our lease that we are to be gone by now but they are also fully aware that the building we were supposed to move into in three years was cancelled on us and they didn't give us a chance to try and find something else. What kind of a Students' Union boots out the student newspaper that serves 10,000 students each week? I mean not every student reads us but at some point every student will probably pick up one paper in the year.

What are they really going to do with the space? Make their offices bigger? What they're going to do with the space will probably not serve students in the way that we serve the students being in this space currently. We understand that they need this space eventually but when our backs are against the wall, they shouldn't say "Oh look, firing squad" and then shoot us. I'm very disappointed in them for that.

5. a) Similarly, what are your feelings on how the WLUSP Administration has handled the situation?

Their backs are against the wall in a different sense because we all thought we were moving into the new building but then one day it was canceled and three days later we're out of this office so in terms of that they handled it as well as they possibly could. They tried to talk to the Students' Union - they were clearly defiant. Then they went above them to the University administration who at least understand our purpose in the school unlike the Students' Union and so they were very helpful. Ultimately it would have been better to have a back up plan if the building got cancelled but it's not really realistic to have 16 back up plans for what you think is a good thing.

b) If the building had gone through, it would not have been ready May 1st so WLUSP would have still had to have made some arrange-

City plans

Waterloo Council looks at student housing options

FRASER KING
Staff Writer

A City of Waterloo Development Services study on student accommodations was presented to the Waterloo City Council and groups of concerned citizens and students Monday night. The goal of the study was to highlight solutions to what was described as a student-housing problem.

"The goal of the city is to work away from lodging houses," said Anthony Piscitelli, Wilfrid Laurier Students' Union director as well as Vice President: University Affairs-elect, who spoke at the council meeting. Of the six possible solutions Piscitelli says, "none are perfect."

The six solutions are:

- The Status Quo Plan which means leaving things the way they are
- The Dispersed Model which promotes accommodations further away from the university
- The Uptown/Downtown Revitalization Model which is similar to the dispersed model but will mean moving students to high density

ments for a place to move in the mean time.

The Students' Union gave no indication at any point in time that they were going to kick us out before the building was ready. In October Laura and Tunde, the [WLUSP] President and VP: Finance, went to Dan Herman [WLUSU President] and Steve Welker [WLUSU VP: Finance] and submitted an intention to renew our lease. At that point they could have said "I know you're in this new building but we want you out before that anyway." They didn't say a word. Knowing that we had this new building in three years, at what point were they planning on telling us we weren't going to be in here for the next two years while we waited? When the bulldozer came in? I don't understand.

6. How do you feel you have

areas particularly in Kitchener

• The On Campus Model where all students would live on campus

• The Student Precinct Model where all students must live in one area

• The Neighbourhood Preservation Model, where the 75-metre rule, which refers to the area that needs to be met between student housing, increase to 150-metres

Of these six possible solutions the study outlines, only the fifth and sixth were given serious consideration.

Both Piscitelli and Fraser McCracken, WLUSU director-elect, were unimpressed with options that were presented as viable.

"What really needs to be looked at is the restriction on the height of buildings along University Avenue," Piscitelli noted.

"I think it is unfair that the city of Waterloo doesn't appear to appreciate the students that make up a large part of the community," said McCracken of his concerns with the lack of consultation of students.

With students making up approximately 27% of the population in the Waterloo area, McCracken told *The Cord* "I feel it is important that the city of Waterloo work with students to find a solution that is beneficial to both parties."

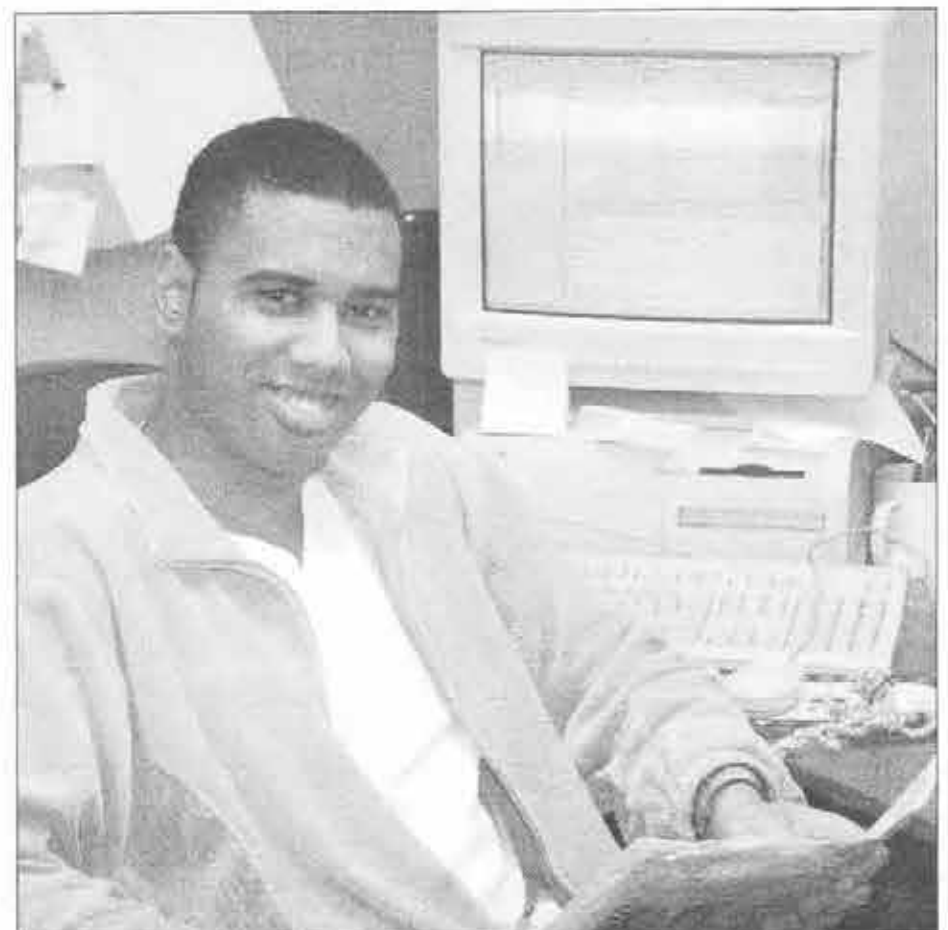
put your own mark on this year's *Cord*?

After last year's instability, the editor-in-chief being fired and the ridiculously high staff turn over, my goal this year was to create a foundation to build from because the paper was basically in shambles and I think I've done that. The paper looks professional and while we aren't always professional, it at least looks that way. Other than that, internal things. I fixed the hiring policies which were in shambles.

7. a) Did being Editor-in-Chief live up to your expectations?

Yeah, I think it did. There are a lot of problems that you don't foresee occurring, but I mean that's part of it but I enjoyed it thoroughly.

Continued on page 4



Wilbur McLean, *The Cord Weekly's* quirky but talented editor-in-chief takes the stage and answers the questions on students' minds.

Wish-washy Forecast: April showers are on the way...

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Cloudy periods High 7°C Low 2°C P.O.P. 40%	Scattered Showers High 13°C Low 4°C P.O.P. 40%	Cloudy with showers High 13°C Low 4°C P.O.P. 60%	Variable cloudiness High 7°C Low 3°C P.O.P. 30%	Light Rain High 14°C Low 6°C P.O.P. 100%

Grid to change

Continued from cover

Herman thinks the core problem with the decrease in entrance scholarships being awarded is that it will create more financial need among new students.

"We have to make sure the money for students in need is not touched, or at least increased," he says. He would like WLUSU to continue to contribute money to the endowment fund, a pool set aside by the Union which is matched by the government to provide bursaries for students with financial need.

Piscitelli thinks the university should be allocating the previous entrance scholarship funds towards more in-course scholarships. These awards are granted to students who achieve averages above 80% in upper years.

He also believes bursaries are important to maintain.

"Scholarships are one thing, but I think bursaries would go a lot farther," he

says.

Piscitelli noted during the WLUSU board meeting that entrance scholarships are also being affected by grade inflation by high school teachers and guidance counsellors.

"Grade inflation is pretty much there," he said at the meeting.

President Rosehart agrees.

"People have agonized over that for years, but there's nothing we can do."

But students like Costache are still concerned for the future of students' education.

"It's not a matter of making budget cuts," he says, "it's a matter of taking money away from students that should be getting it."

"If financing and accessibility of universities is undermined, it creates a very negative learning environment in the province as a whole, and I think that's something we've got to combat."

Questions cont'd

Continued from page 3

7b) Any disappointments?

Yeah, there were some things that I wanted that didn't happen. I think I had too high standards for what I wanted and those had to be lessened as the year went on because I realized they weren't going to happen.

8. How do you think the lack of interest in WLUSU Administrative positions (i.e. people running for positions), affects Student Publications as a whole and *The Cord* specifically?

A lot of the positions within WLUSU are expendable. So [some of the] positions really are irrelevant, they just don't matter, we just go around the person, above the person, below the person, it doesn't matter. In terms of our board of directors, it affects it in some ways because they don't really know what the volunteers want and need. They

just come in and do their thing but they're not really part of what is going on.

9. Did you feel pressure in putting out the paper each week?

No, I don't really feel pressure that much. I mean pressure is being an eight-year-old child having to shoot your mother or something, that's pressure. I've never been in that situation. I don't feel pressure in having to put out a newspaper every week.

10. If you could have dinner with one person dead or alive who would it be?

Jesus Christ because there are so many questions surrounding religion in general. And to talk with this dude who's supposedly the son of God depending on who you talk to, I think you could get a lot of answers out of him. That is if he's willing to tell it straight and not use all those damn parables.

Brantford election

Continued from cover

"A lot of people in Brantford didn't know what WLUSU even was," commented Neziol.

Secondly, her concerns also lie in acquiring a student building. "Not only do we pay a \$70 building fee, we don't even have any space after 10pm to do work," she said.

When asked about her thoughts on the commissioner having no voting power within WLUSU, Neziol replied, "I'm happy with who I will be working with next year especially with Steve and his concern with

Brantford. I think if I have any concerns that I will be able to go to him."

WLUSU President-elect Steve Welker was very satisfied with the results, as he will be working one-on-one next year with the commissioner.

"Throughout my campaign I think I stressed the importance of experience and Sara definitely has that," he said. "I look forward to working with her."

She also mentioned a good working relationship with WLUSU director-elect Jodi Dam and Nick Murphy who reside at Brantford campus. "We'll definitely work togeth-

er." Murphy was also quoted in last week's *Cord* as having concerns with the election as a whole. He mentioned his distress with regards to the monitoring of the election and lack of notification of the students on certain events such as the open forum.

"I think [the concerns] were very valid," commented Neziol. "I don't want to point fingers though, it is the first time we've had an election. I'll make sure this doesn't happen again next year."

Neziol will begin her term on May 1.

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Fellow Students,

I am seeking your support for my bid to represent you on the Board of Governors. I'm not going to try to sway you with promises of actions and radical reformations; the actual influence of the student reps is very limited. With this in mind, I see the role of the student representatives as liaisons between the Board and the student body. What you need, therefore, is a representative who has the confidence to make the position of the students his or her top priority, and who cares enough to keep the lines of communication open. You need someone who has the confidence to confront the Board in the interests of the students. That representative is myself. I have no personal stakes in, and no personal gains from, being elected to this position. I simply want to have the opportunity in my final year at Laurier to give something back to future generations of students. I trust you to make the right choice.

Fellow Students,

I am seeking your support in my bid for election to the Senate. As a student representative, I will be in a position to fight for the issues that directly affect you, the students. However, I am not going to tell you what the important issues are; you are going to tell me what should be on my agenda. This having been said, there are two issues that I have come across during my three years as a student that I feel need to be changed: professor evaluations and a more consistent and predictable marking schematic within each department. I will do my best to initiate reforms in these areas, but the rest of my efforts will be devoted to your issues. I'm going into my final year. I am not doing this for any personal benefit, I'm doing it to help make Laurier the best that it can be. I'm willing to challenge the administration on your behalf, but I need you to do your part to make this happen.



Jeff Gadway

My name is Jeff Gadway and I am running for Senate and Board of Governors. Laurier needs to maintain its standing as a first rate institution in today's changing educational environment. As a representative on the Senate and Board of Governors, my priority will be to ensure that all decisions are made in the best interests of WLU, and its students. Some of the issues which I feel are on the forefront of student concern are: the implications of the rapidly growing student population, accountability of administration in terms of expenditures, the development of Laurier's Brantford Campus, and increased facilities and funding for students. If the aforementioned challenges are to be addressed in an effective way, the voice of Laurier's students must be heard.

Vote for me, Jeff Gadway for Senate and Board of Governors.



Sanjay Pottinger

I am Sanjay Pottinger and I am running for WLU Senate and Governor. In both roles someone is needed that has a strong voice for students and has the ability to ask administration the tough questions. I feel that I am the best person to fill these roles, with my experience of being on many Senate committees and financial experience through class and in WLUSU as Finance and Building Chair. I will make decisions made in both these arenas that effect student's public. I will fight to make sure the money gained from the deregulated Business programs goes to improve the Business program. I will fight for ways for the arts to get proper funding. I will also fight to make sure that over enrollment is stopped. Vote Sanjay Pottinger for WLU Senator and Governor.



Diana Spadafora

My name is Diana Spadafora and I am a second year Honours Political Science student. Over the past two years I have involved myself in different areas of this campus from the Student's Union, to Residence Life to Athletics. It would be an honour for me if I were given the opportunity to take the skills and knowledge I have gained and apply them to being a member of the student caucus on the WLU Senate and Board of Governors. My priority is simple: Putting Students First. I have witnessed on far too many occasions the administration sacrifice the enhancement or benefit of student life to achieve other ends. If elected I am committed to using the student leadership bodies already in place to mobilize our campus in an effective and efficient manner. If you share this same passion, then I urge you to Vote Spadafora on March 24th -26th.



Board of Governors

Andrew Pike

Hello, my name is Andrew Pike and I am running to be your student representative on the Board of Governors. The role of Governor is one not to be taken lightly and should be the top priority of the students involved. I am running solely for the Governor position available so that I can concentrate my efforts to the sub-committee of the Board to which I am appointed, be it the Audit & Compliance Committee, Executive & Governance Committee, or the Finance & Physical Resources Committee while holding all other committees accountable to their mandate. I have the experience and dedication to be a strong student voice. I am in my third year of an Economics degree with the accounting option and I have the necessary tools to be an effective Governor. Vote for experience. Vote for a strong student voice. Vote PIKE for BOG.



Senate

Lyndsey Jones

Hello! My name is Lyndsey Jones and I am running for WLU Senate. The Senate is responsible for the academic governance of Laurier, and as such it is important to have the voice of a strong, experienced student representative speaking for you on this governing body. As a Senator, I will use my years of proven experience from the WLUSU Board of Directors to advocate an improved quality of student life on campus. Whether it is through continued pressure on the administration for increased academic accessibility, pushing for more student space on campus, improved library resources or fighting for better course selection, I will work with my fellow student representatives to ensure that YOUR voice does not go unheard on Senate. On March 24, 25 and 26th, Vote for experience. Vote for a strong student voice. VOTE LYNDSEY JONES FOR WLU SENATE.



Shirley Mahn

Hello Laurier! My name is Shirley Manh and I would like your support in representing you on the WLU Senate. As this governing body affects the academic environment at Laurier, I am dedicated to listening to the concerns of students and being a strong voice to better our educational experience.

In an institution with a distinct commitment to enhancing intellectual life, I will work to ensure that the Senate uses fair and consistent methods of evaluation to ensure academic quality. Assessment based on objective criteria will no doubt enhance access to scholarships and improve academic equity. I will fight to develop and advance course evaluations, ultimately improving the quality of student life. I am committed to building positive relations with administration, faculties, and fellow Senators for the betterment of the entire Laurier community. Vote for experience. Vote for a strong student voice. Vote Shirley Manh for WLU Senate.



Fraser McCracken

Laurier, my name is Fraser McCracken and I am asking to be your representative on the WLU Senate. As students, it is our programs and our degrees that are affected by the decisions of this body, and thus it is extremely important to have strong student representatives who will make your voices heard.

With looming budget cuts, these representatives need to ensure that the academic quality Laurier offers will not be compromised. As a student senator, I promise to be that strong representative. I will work to improve academic quality and ensure that every Laurier student has the opportunity to fully take advantage of this institution. I will effectively utilize my position as a 2004-2005 WLUSU Director to coordinate efforts between senators and the Union so that we can more effectively represent students.

Vote for experience. Vote for a strong student voice. Vote for Fraser McCracken.



Jason Shim

My name is Jason Shim and I am running for re-election to the WLU Senate. This past year, I have served as your representative on Senate and on the Academic Planning / Information Technology subcommittees. I have voiced my opposition to deregulation and have helped to develop a policy that allows students to hand in assignments during the last week of classes (in the past, this was not permitted). I shall continue to provide a strong voice for students on Senate. The combination of my experience as Co-Chair of the Students' Arts Council and as a Senator will help in establishing an Arts Endowment Fund. This fund shall ensure that students in the Faculty of Arts will have access to the resources they need in the future. I shall also look into similar initiatives for other faculties.

Vote for experience.

Vote for a strong student voice.

Vote for Jason Shim.



THE CORD WEEKLY

The tie that binds since 1926

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"Reparations."
-Stefan Sereda, in reference to the quarter he gave Wilbur McLean after calling him a "darkie"

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Thanks to Yogianna, Nick, Russ, Lilla, Gay, Bill, Welyshka (in Ukraine), so I should know how to spell (Lilla, Russ, Welyshka) also, but the other this week, which will help me play in the future, whenever it happens, and I'll be right here for you, my dear, I'll be right here for you, my dear, and Jackie for helping me a bit and getting us with my little a bit.

-Stefan and Co.

Year-end thanks part 1: RP&P for being an friendly every Wednesday morning... The jolly guy who delivered The Record on especially late Wednesday nights... Liz Montoya of The Record for her frequent help with the polycourt system... Asad for being a friend first year who'd only been at Laurier for three weeks as his sports editor... Daniels for introducing me to production and for her continued support... Marenath for going against the grain... Allison Adams for all the free movies... Jess for 2+ years of unwavering support... My parents for reading every issue... My sister for taking care of August... Dr. Margerson for his compliment... The Staff's production staff for their critiques and compliments... Just I left, WLF

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

All letters to the editor must be signed and submitted with the author's name, student identification number, and telephone number. Letters must be received by noon Tuesday on disk, or via e-mail at letters@wlusp.com 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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Scarborough citizens not ghetto superstars

Scarborough resident Lauren Thompson dispels the myths that relate her city to gangs, guns, and life in the ghetto



Student Life Editor

Lauren Thompson

"Where are you from?" is a question that is commonly posed to me whenever I meet a new individual around campus.

Usually, I instinctively respond that I am from Scarborough. Unfortunately, within the past few months this answer has not come as naturally to me. It is not a secret that Scarborough has come under heat recently but as a life-long resident, I have also been affected.

It was just a couple of weeks ago that I was watching the news, passively listening to the newscaster when a story caught my ear. "Three men dead in twenty-four hours, all within the same region," was the introduction.

Upon hearing this tragedy, four words repeatedly ran through my mind. "please don't be Scarborough," until the dreaded words were uttered and I knew this would not help the tarnished image of my beloved birthplace.

Too often people correlate Scarborough with danger. Nowadays when I tell people where I am from, I receive comments as to the region growing

into a ghetto, which causes me to question whether these people have ever visited Detroit. I have visited Detroit and it has ghettos but in comparison, Scarborough does not.

I am often the victim of Scarborough jokes, and truthfully, I become greatly insulted with teasing remarks that characterize my city in a negative light. I will be the first to admit that Scarborough has many problems, but what metropolitan city doesn't?

This misconception has come to the point that the city has become widely referred to as "Scarlem." I am guessing that this is in reference to the New York borough of Harlem, a predominately black area that has long been plagued with crime. So these people who have now labelled Scarborough as "Scarlem" are under the perception that the two are similar. Despite what many people believe, Scarborough is not predominately black but prides itself on being significantly multicultural, and its crime rate has grown to be considerably exaggerated.

I was born and raised in Scarborough and even today I am not afraid to walk its streets or roam its malls. Sure, I lock my car doors, but this is a safety precaution that I keep with me even within the supposed safety-net of Waterloo. Everyone is vulnerable to robbery and this has been the

case since the beginning of civilization. There is always going to be that one "bad apple."

This is also true of the few murders that have occurred within the borders of Scarborough. A few "bad apples" have tarnished the otherwise safe city as a murderous playground overwhelmed with gangs and guns. While it is true that there are gangs in Scarborough, the majority of the individuals that belong to these groups tend to be adolescent males trying to prove their manhood but are simply wannabe-gangsters. There are a few real gangs and members within the city but the violent crime that takes place as a consequence are among rival gangs. Many of the victims of such gang violence are anything but innocent.

I take offence to the verbal bashing Scarborough frequently endures because too often the primary bashing offenders have not even touched one foot on Scarborough soil. Individuals who have rarely visited the city and have no statistics to support their assertions spread these "ghetto" stereotypes. The fact is that bodies are not littering the streets, guns are not the common play toys of children and gangs pose a minimal threat. I may not have had a choice to live in the city initially but I do today and I choose to stay. It is sad that subconsciously I think twice about answering Scarborough to the question of where I am from, in fear that I will be associated with what Scarborough is thought to represent.

WLU
Read this article on
http://www.cbbd.ca/cord

Letters to The Cord

letters@wlusp.com

I'll get you, Bazooka Joe

Under the person who put gum to the table in the computer lab; what sort of person are you? Could you not find a better place to dispose of your gum? Now it's in my pants and will likely be there for quite awhile. I hope you feel good about yourself.

This isn't the first time that this has happened to me. Earlier this semester the same thing happened in the Science Building. I must have incorrectly assumed the level of maturity of most university students.

Chris Stewart
3rd year sociology

Risks no longer just for board games

I often hear people expressing their dissatisfaction. "I don't like this or that" and "What am I doing here anyhow?" We all think such thoughts time after time, but why do we do this? Why aren't we ever just satisfied? Of course, to some degree, these attitudes are simply a normal part of life. I realize that no matter where we are, there will always be certain things we find "wrong" with a particular day or certain situation we involve ourselves in. Achieving one's goals is not always easy, that's for sure. Everyone knows that sometimes it takes everything you've got to pass a course or to get that dream job you've been counting on for as long as you can remember. But if you are one of those people who realizes your displeasing thoughts are mounting, and you persistently feel that things aren't going how you want them to, stand back and

think about this: perhaps you just aren't taking the risk.

No one is getting any younger. That trip you wanted to take, that job you wanted to apply for, that book you wanted to write, that person you wanted to meet: whatever it may be, do it now. Stop waiting until tomorrow, and stop putting off what you want. It's okay to satisfy yourself, as long as your actions aren't hurting others, of course. Taking a term off school if you want to pursue something else should not be looked down on. Go and sign up for that club you were too shy to join in the first place. Take a loan out if necessary. Make the necessary arrangements as best as you can. Just remember that if you keep making excuses, you'll find yourself back at square one, basking in a pool of regret. You may be surprised after you force yourself to make that first shaky step. Before long, you'll be taking strides.

Jennifer Steele
2nd Year
Honors Business Administration

Apparently, Borrelli is bitter

I'm writing to express my "utter amazement," but mostly puzzlement over Jeffrey Hawkins' article about the BOD Open Forum ("Open forum lacklustre," *The Cord Weekly*, March 17, 2004). I never spoke to Mr. Hawkins after the Open Forum, and, in fact, I can't recall ever meeting him. But nevertheless, he took it upon himself to interpret something I said or did (or didn't say or do) at the Open Forum to mean that I was "satisfied" by our WLUSU Directors' responses.

Make no mistake, I shared

many of the same thoughts and concerns that you did Jeff, and it was definitely not satisfaction you were seeing. I realize you used the qualifier "apparently" in front of "satisfied," but in the future, if you'd like to gauge my reaction to something, feel free to come up and talk to me. That way you can eliminate the "apparently" part, and report something based in fact, not interpretation. Also, I'll have the opportunity to defend my reputation as a bitter ex-director who is never satisfied by anything.

Thanks in advance,

Michael Borrelli
Bitter ex-Director, 2003-04

Over-zealous Zionists

Bryn Boyce's article, "The boy who cried anti-Semitism" (*The Cord Weekly*, March 10, 2004), and the two letters in response to it and the cowardly assassination of Sheikh Ahmed Yassin prompted me to write today.

I would like to commend Bryn Boyce for his courage on the issue of Zionism, knowing that anyone who dares to criticize Israel is labeled an anti-Semite by the Zionist lobby. Monday's assassination of Sheikh Ahmed Yassin only confirms what we all know - Israel is a rogue state that refuses to follow international laws. In fact, the Zionist state is in defiance of over sixty-five United Nations resolutions.

As for the response by Tamir Bar-Haim: the problem is not in the religious and ethnic states. Instead, the problem starts when the supposedly divine rights of one people infringe upon the

Continued on page 8

Telemarketing terror

Not even fast food employees irritate McCullough as much as telemarketers who can't pronounce his name



What were you thinking?

Sven McCullough

A few months ago one of my oldest friends got a job at a telemarketing firm. I knew there were bad jobs out there, but I never really thought someone I knew would ever do something as despicable as telemarketing.

There are many types of workers that I can't stand, like the people at Subway who forget that I asked for lettuce, tomato and two sauces by the time they drop a handful of lettuce on my sandwich. Maybe they forget because there are supposedly two million different combinations of subs and toppings and they're too busy thinking of the other 1,999,999 possibilities. And I'm probably expecting too much from the sandwich artist.

Remembering four things is quite the task, even though only five seconds have gone by. They must all have that thing when you forget the stuff... I want some peanuts. I have to run into incompetent workers everyday, and I'm probably one too. That's why I never work the counter at McDonald's, but at least I don't have to deal with these folk at home.

But I'm not as safe as I think, because those conniv-

ing telemarketers have the telephone at their disposal to bring their incompetence to my house. So when one of my own friends told me he was part of one of the groups I hate more than any other, I couldn't believe that he would do something so foul.

I asked him if he hated being bothered at home by the same people he had gone to work for, but he assured me that he was only calling Americans. That was a bit more acceptable. But I remembered hearing that telemarketing was now illegal in the U.S. and only people who put their names on a list could be called. Everyone else was not to be bothered. My friend told me that law only applied to companies trying to sell a product, and charities, like the ones he called on behalf of, were exempt from that rule. How incredibly devious: not only have they found a loophole that allows them to continue making harassing calls, but they are raising money for charity which is much more sinister.

Remembering four things is quite the task, even though only five seconds have gone by.

Here in Canada we have no such legislation and are subject to assault by both

types of telemarketers: the ones who sell and those who beg for my handouts. I hate everyone who calls my house that doesn't have a real reason. That includes wrong numbers to the unemployment office and the mysterious message a few years back that simply asked, "Hi, how are ya?" But telemarketers are the worst of all. You'd think that since they actually need people to give them money they wouldn't be so irritating, but they are.

From the first sentence they speak they have already screwed up. It seems that nobody who has ever called my house has ever got our name right. "Can I speak to Mr. or Mrs. Mucklug?" "NO! The Mucklugs don't live here!" And my mother has been living in Norway for ten years so anyone who asks for Mrs. Mucklug obviously has no idea who they are calling. I've heard some interesting bastardizations of McCullough over the years. McCooluge. McCluh. McLaughlin. "I didn't know my name ended in an 'n'." Sometimes the only thing they get right is the "M". I don't know what's so hard about McCullough. Muh-cullough(as in cough, dough, plough, through or tough.) It's uh.

As much as I hate telemarketers, the different ways of ending the call can be quite entertaining. There's the hang-up when they say the company's name, putting them on "hold" and just hanging up, or saying they sound hot and asking them out. I can't stand them, but the satisfaction I get from telling a telemarketer off usually manages to make my day.

Maestro Fresh Dave

He may not be Chuck D, but left-minded columnist David Alexander is rapping for the common good



Idealist at work

David Alexander

To anyone who's been reading my column this term, the following revelation will not come as a surprise: I vote for the New Democratic Party. Jack Layton is one of my heroes. The following is my Jack-Layton-NDP-Hippie-Environmental-Social-Justice-Hope Rap:

If we pay attention we can see the tension, suspend pretension, revenge is not prevention...

I realized Saturday, at the Candlelight Peace Walk, that when we talk, community evolves; we break down walls. We share goals, share tolls, poke holes through the barriers keeping us from seeing other perspectives.

If we pay attention we can see the tension, suspend pretension, revenge is not prevention. We attempt to mention that we can end these wars. They use people like whores; cold bodies, cold

cash; still burn like ash.

They shout: "War on Terrorists!" Hypocrites shake fists. They make mist, sell guns, and say "we won't take this!" But anger swells and swells until we're all in hell; used to alarm bells and harm used to charm news and defuse demonstrations that threaten the state of the Nation. Salvation! Salvation! It could be the way we say "civilization". Incorporation or Co-operation? Shouldn't we try to stop AIDS or starvation?

Why are we working, for Love or for Money? We run the Economy Church and our steeple in the name of the People; but how much do we know? We open the doors to find fine-ancial statements. Our evolution depends on replacement of what's under the pavement; the planet we pay with.

To treat the cause, we must rewrite the laws; compensate for our own flaws and solve social problems with non-violent solutions (to stop killers take bullets). Make friends, free exploited, stop polluting the air (lots of toxic emissions) but obtaining permission to build a wind turbine takes six whole years.

We're driven by fear and by gallons of gas. It costs us a lot but we go really fast. Everyone needs their own car (full of gas) and a good place to park it. The Market decides if you're needed for

stuff, do you work hard enough? "If you lost your job, tough. Everything that you endure is your fault, tough." This is enough! Culture fills eyes with lies; they fill up skies with altars and logos; we buy more Coca-Cola than ever before. Is this what we work for? Is this our humanity? Look down to your feet. People living on streets; others with utilitarian motors. Are we good voters? Do we compare their motives? Do we make sure that they do what they said, what they told us?

...we attempt to mention that we can end these wars. We use people like whores; cold bodies, cold cash; burn like ash.

They've seen what happens when we take action, so they pretend it's fashion and forget compassion; it's class action, it's posture. We have satisfaction. We gave up on hate; know it isn't too late to pursue change; can't afford to cause more pain. Am I too vain?

We put effort into common goals; interpersonal resolutions. You vote with your feet; we won't stand for defeat; we've been out on the streets demonstrating alternative value systems. Listen: These things cause hope; we are lovers, not fighters.

Shifty's TOP 10 most irritating professions



10. Yeh, telemarketers are annoying... even though I telemarketed in my lost years



9. Cord opinion columnists. Yes, Sven, I understand that this is a volunteer job, not a profession.



8. The people who make the videos that play while people sing karaoke at the Spur.



7. Anyone who works to bring Nascar and the WWE to the public. Look closely at the back hair.



6. Sports announcers, especially the ones who make really obvious comments. Sorry, Madden.



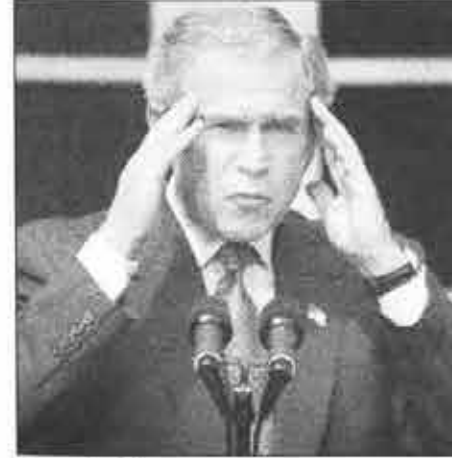
5. Anyone who ever sang, danced, acted, modeled or otherwise performed in a GAP ad



4. Imperial stormtroopers. Their terrible aim and bastardly abuse of Ewoks upsets me greatly.



3. Bouncers. No one power trips the way these guys power trip, except maybe...



2. ...dictators.



1. Any job where people go to work looking like this scumbag.

Letters to The Cord

Continued from page 6

rights of another. I find it ludicrous that the Zionists today label every anti-Zionist an anti-Semite. Today's Zionism to the Palestinians is what Nazism was to the Jews, and when Israelis rummage through the refugee camps slaughtering the young and the old, the help-less Palestinians see the similarities. If anyone, it is the Palestinian people under Sharon who understand the pain and suffering of the Jews of Europe under Hitler.

To Adam Wiseberg: when Jews were persecuted in the Middle Ages, the only safe haven they found was in Muslim Spain and the Ottoman Empire. When the state of Israel was created by displacing millions of Palestinians the Jews in the Middle East and many other countries found a new land to call home. There are more Jews in the Middle East today than a hundred years ago, the only difference being that they are concentrated in the land that once belonged to the Palestinians. Mr. Wiseberg, I suggest you study the treatment accorded to the Jews in the courts of Muslim rulers and you will see that they were treated justly and equitably. That treatment is certainly more fair than what we can say about Israel today.

To suggest that all Jews are Zionists is wrong. I love the Jewish people as I love all human beings, but it is the Zionists who have not given me any reason to appreciate Zionism.

Junaid Mirza

Keep Student Publications on campus

It concerns me that the Students' Union is not willing to renew the lease for WLUSP's office space. WLUSP, *The Cord*, and volunteers who give so much of their time are being forced to move by "The Corporation" across the hall. The Students' Union claims WLUSP should have been prepared despite the University's recent decision to cancel the construction of their future office space. I expected the Union to react sympathetically rather than be so eager to put up the

eviction notice.

Obviously our compact campus is tight for space, but groups must work together to make good use of space. We don't need a larger 24hr lounge - just spruce it up a bit. WLUSP can surely get by on the space they already have. And *The Cord* can't write a quality paper from across the street so it must stay on-campus.

More than 12,000 students pay \$9.00 a year to fund WLUSP. This \$110,000 should be enough of a reason to prove WLUSP's on-campus importance. We make this investment because we value WLUSP. Minimal student input has been gathered on this hot topic. Ask us if we agree to expand the 24-Hour lounge at the expense of losing our campus newspaper that we pay \$110,000 a year to have. I certainly do not agree.

There are still two chances. Either the current or incoming WLUSU BOD can renew the lease. I want to see the names of the directors from both BODs that vote to evict WLUSP to be printed in the next *Cord*. WLUSP is too important to risk losing and I beg every director to re-evaluate their position. Don't let Herman walk you into a legacy known as the "Government who kicked out the media."

Jessica Horton

Get to work

This letter is in regards to Jennifer Asselin's article, "Election concerns in Brantford" (*The Cord Weekly*, March 17, 2004). I do agree with certain comments made by Nick Murphy, such as his concern about the election not being properly promoted and communication needing improvement. Unfortunately, many students were not informed about the election in Brantford.

However, I do believe some of Murphy's comments were out of line, especially since it was not included that he is the editor of *The Sputnik* (Laurier Brantford's student newspaper). The article only mentioned Murphy as a student and WLUSU Director-elect. Communication has been a huge problem at Laurier Brantford, which is why the WLUSU Executive in

letters@wlusp.com

Brantford developed the Bi-weekly Hawk to get information out. It was developed since *The Sputnik* has not been published once this semester and was only published twice last semester.

Before Nick Murphy opens his mouth and accuses people (Jill Promoli and the Elections Committee) of what they may or may not have said in an interview, he should take a good look at himself and what he's done with the publication of *The Sputnik* this year. In regards to his comment about "This is their job and they're not doing it," his job is *The Sputnik* and he's not doing it. I hope WLUSP is planning to advertise and hire the position of *The Sputnik* editor for next year because as a past editor of the paper I am extremely disappointed at what has happened to it since Murphy became the editor.

I agree that the first Brantford Commissioner election was poorly organized and could have been executed much better. However, *The Sputnik* should be published and distributed for Brantford students, which would help solve many of the communication problems in Brantford. The questions I have are: where has the budget for *The Sputnik* gone this year? Why wasn't someone hired and put in place to make sure it was published? What changes will be made next year?

A student newspaper is a very effective tool of communication. It's too bad that Murphy, as the editor, doesn't see this and publish the paper since he complained about a lack of communication in Asselin's article last week. It's disappointing for Brantford students that they pay their fees and only receive issues of *The Cord*, when we could have our own newspaper published which would be oriented towards the students at the Brantford Campus.

Jessica Rypma
Campus Life Coordinator
4th year student at Laurier
Brantford

Igor & Luda



Sweet Deals

Len Ball

"Music is the essential ingredient of a civilized life. It has nothing to do with the glitter of the occasional gala", he said. "You need it as you need bread."

Well, we all need this kind of bread. So at what point did politics, administration, and marketplace achieve priority over music? These are mechanisms for organization and control, not faculties of humanity, and as such, the shift in priority invariably occurred when money took precedence over art. Social space outside of governmental control is perceived as a threat to administration because it can be transgressive, music being one of the most divergent and expansive social spaces for expression. This is why there should be concern regarding the force of control policy exerts over the music industry, and that the music industry, in turn, forces over music.

The cloned insanity currently pervading the music industry further encourages venerated representations of music itself. Sodomizing public consciousness in this manner appears a desperate attempt of irrational persuasion, methodically consuming, distributing, and expelling identical forms of virtuality in hopes that no one will pay attention. Well of course, we'll be too busy spending money on shit we don't need.

Many aspects of modern life are now being reduced to code and data; inevitably, the world is becoming more and more digitized, increasingly focused on speed, efficiency, and distribution rather than content. With an index finger and a mouse, anyone with a computer and the skills to use it can locate and down-

load the music of almost any artist's recordings. When exploring Kazaa and other widespread filesharing and downloading networks, it is both intensely fascinating and disconcerting to realize that the entire works of Russian composer Igor Stravinsky can be obtained in the same amount of time and in the same fashion as the latest popular tracks by Ludacris. There is little distinction between Stravinsky and Ludacris in terms of code or data.

Evidently this can affect the meanings or sense of creativity that each possess, regardless of the conditions, context, effort, thought, or skills that were involved in the creation of either artist's material. This is not a pretentious rant of elitism, but an attempt to point out the manner in which meaning can be constructed through digitization and the outlined focus on material social convention instead of artistry or musicianship. Some people argue that having fun and listening to popular tunes is not something that one can criticize. Fair enough, it is completely unreasonable to judge people for their musical likes or dislikes. And fun is not necessarily a bad thing, but having oblivious fun with something dangerously manipulative destroys the capacity to understand its nature. It has little to do with people, and more to do with intellectual property, as the mind of an individual should never be restricted by the music he or she buys into.

When corporations convert 'music' into the 'music industry' (and subsequently 'music industry' being identified with 'music'), it bypasses one of the central premises of music. Namely, that music is a universal human language, not a commodity for propagating agenda-driven, hypothesized truths and suspicious imagery as an instrument for advertising the hollow foundation of consumer-driven economics.

It's your last chance to send letters to *The Cord*. So send them: letters@wlusp.com

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Ontario: stingy today, recession tomorrow

WLUSU President Herman compares the money students put into Ontario's economy with what they get in return



Opinion Editorial

Dan Herman

Over the past decade students in Ontario have seen the cost of a university degree nearly double. But while students have paid an increasing amount for their education, the Ontario government has systematically reduced its role in post-secondary funding. In 1992, a student's tuition represented approximately 22 percent of a university's funding. The remainder was funded

through government operating grants. Today, our tuition payments cover 45 percent, while government funding continues to decrease. To make matters worse, universities across Ontario are now pushing for the deregulation of tuition fees as a final push to combat decreasing government funding.

Now, while no one will dispute the high personal yield one may obtain from a university degree, the spiraling costs will continue to make university more of a dream than reality for many students across Ontario. Furthermore, the increasingly prohibitive nature of tuition has forced the majority of students to take on large debt loads, as evidenced

by the Ontario average student debt load of \$22,700.

Yet while the costs borne by students have progressively increased over the past decade, the benefits experienced by both our local and national economies continue to flourish. Across the province we see examples of the massive economic impetus provided by universities and colleges. U of T and its population of over 65,000 students, faculty, and staff injects an estimated \$4.5 billion into the Toronto economy. U of W contributes approximately \$1.1 billion to the Kitchener-Waterloo area.

Closer to home, students at WLU inject approximately \$200 million into the local economy to cover direct hous-

ing and essential needs. Take into consideration the additional millions spent shopping and eating in our local establishments and that number grows substantially. And don't forget the thousands of visitors that are attracted to the area due to the presence of our three local post-secondary institutions.

our community. Yet despite these very decisive economic figures, our provincial government continues to neglect funding post-secondary education. Ontario ranks in last place in Canada and second worst in North America in terms of government funding. Only our friends in Alabama are more poorly funded than us.

And while we fully realize the budgetary implications of a \$5.6 billion deficit, Dalton and his Liberal colleagues cannot continue to short-change the future leaders of this nation. The Liberal Party must finance an increase in operating grant funding in order to maintain accessibility and quality at our public post-secondary institutions. Anything less will be a harsh blow to our country's economic potential and our position in the global economy.

Students at WLU inject approximately \$200 million into the local economy.

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Thousands of Sudanese flee

The Darfur peninsula said to host egregious war crimes and organized rape

KRIS COTE
Staff Writer

Allegations have emerged that ethnically motivated, Rwanda-style killings are taking place in northern Sudan. Mukesh Kapila, the United Nations humanitarian coordinator for Sudan, has called on the UN to monitor the deteriorating situation.

Kapila claims that "what is going on in Darfur today is tantamount to war crimes," and that there are "villages being razed to the ground, mass movement of population [and] organized rapes." The BBC reports that nearly 100,000 people have fled across the border into Chad, but are still being attacked by cross-border raids. The Chadian army has responded to the raids and there is a fear that the engagement of the two countries may destabilize the region.

The Sudanese government has responded that the human rights allegations by Kapila are "a heap of lies" and have asked the UN to recall him, since he "deviated from the virtues which a resident representative should have, that is neutrality, and transcended to open political work."

The Sudanese civil war has raged since 1983, and has pitted the north against the south in an essentially Muslim vs. Christian battle. To date, more than two million people have been killed. Sudan is rich in oil reserves and Western oil companies have been criticized for their past involvement in the country. Sudan is also one of the world's largest sources of slaves.



Contributed Photo

These families are held up at the Sudanese/Chadian border on the Darfur Peninsula while seeking refuge from violent uprisings and rapes.

While peace talks have occurred during the past year, the ceasefire was broken by rebel northern Christian groups who claim that their interests are not being represented by the northern government. The predominantly Muslim government was prompted to form militias to deal with the rebels but as of late they have lost control of these armed militia groups. As well, government soldiers regularly bomb and burn villages that

are suspected to house rebels or support their cause.

"What is going on in Darfur today is tantamount to war crimes."

-Mukesh Kapila,
UN Humanitarian coordinator

The United States has stepped up pressure for the northern government and

southern representatives to come to a peace agreement. Three northern regions, the Abyei, the Nuba Mountains and southern Blue Nile, are claimed by both sides. US Special Envoy for Peace John Danforth announced the US proposal that would see the Abyei fall under southern control and see the region share 2% of the north's oil profits.

The UN is concerned that the current conflicts could jeopardize any peace agree-

ment. Humanitarian groups are calling on the UN for greater support since they are unable to deliver aid to large parts of the country without being attacked. Some fear that the attacks against the northern Christians are being conducted in order to ensure a homogeneous Arabic northern Sudan once the peace agreement has been reached.

The Middle ground

Ambitious British plan for Middle East peace derailed by recent attacks

KRIS COTE
Staff Writer

Since the Second Intifada broke out between Palestine and Israel, numerous peace initiatives have been attempted and have failed. Palestinian suicide bombers have only strengthened Israel's resolve, while the incursions of the US-cradled Israeli Army prompt retaliation from Palestinians along with condemnations from abroad. Peace accords have drawn up 'roadmaps' but peace has yet to be resolved. However, Britain has initiated a practical new solution that it hopes will evolve the peace process.

The new British plan is in its pilot stage, but it brings together the various Palestinian Authority (PA) forces (police branches) in an attempt to increase their effectiveness. The US has demanded that the PA be reformed and centralized and Israel often dismisses the PA as ineffective.

British diplomats established an 'operation room' last week in Ramallah. It has brought together the various PA branches, which are often

at odds with each other, in an effort to centralize and coordinate their activities. The only costs so far to the British have been the purchase of the building and supplies to equip it. If the project is successful, Britain has pledged to send experienced security staff and to help rebuild the destroyed security infrastructure, which includes police headquarters and prisons.

The goal of the pilot project is to satisfy at least one of the Israeli demands of the PA. These include getting weapons off the streets, shutting down smuggling and acting on Israeli tip-offs of suicide bombers and suspicious bank accounts. Under the latest roadmap agreement, if the PA were to increase its role in security measures then Israel would be obliged to ease its restrictions on Palestinians.

The recent targeted assassination of Hamas Spiritual Leader, Sheik Ahmed Yassin, has fanned the flames of Middle East tension. The leader was assassinated on Monday in an early morning helicopter raid in the Gaza Strip that claimed another

seven lives. Yassin has a history of masterminding suicide bomb attacks in Israel.

Much of the international community has condemned Israel's actions. Canada's Foreign Minister, Bill Graham stated that "the extra-judicial killing of Sheik Yassin is simply unacceptable and contrary to Israel's international obligations. We condemn this attack, which will only inflame tensions in the region and create yet another obstacle to achieving a peaceful resolution to the conflict."

Since the assassination of Yassin, a meeting that was to be held this week between Palestinian Prime Minister, Ahmed Qureia and Israeli President Ariel Sharon has been called off as much of Palestine fears for President Yasser Arafat's life. These developments aside, Israel remains skeptical of the British initiative. While the US has remained neutral, the EU has endorsed the British steps toward peace. Britain, along with many international observers, hope that the initiative will kick-start the stalled peace process and accomplish what Norway could not in the ravaged Middle East.

-IT TAKES ALL TYPES TO MAKE A WORLD-

Three-headed frog enthralls children

BRYN BOYCE
International Editor

The residents of Weston-super-Mare, England now have something to be proud of. Their quiet little city made its way into international news after a six-legged, three-headed mutant frog was found near a local nursery.

The frog, creatively named "Froggy" by the children of the Green Umbrella Nursery, has researchers scratching their heads. There have been many reports of mutant frogs (and turtles), but never has one been found with such an odd physical appearance.

Charlotte Williams, an employee at the nursery preferred to call the frog "The Good, The Bad and The Ugly." I bet she thought that was pretty clever of her... given that you know there are three of them...

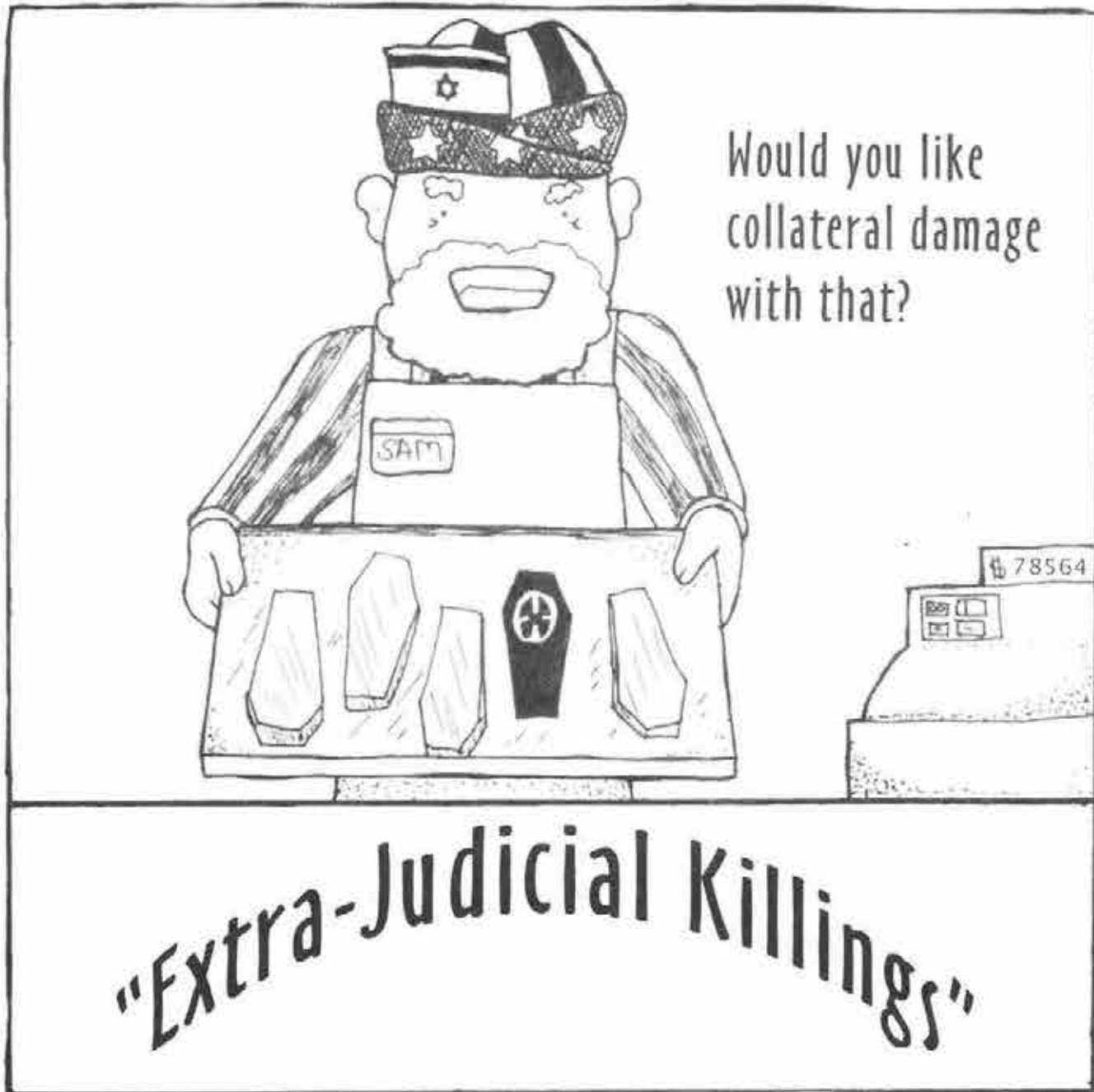
Professor Tim Halliday, a biologist from Open University, is astounded by the find and believes that pollution and parasites are most likely to blame. "Chemical pollutants tend to reduce a frog's ability to resist parasites, so there



could be a connection between the two," said Halliday.

It's not clear whether the frog is able to eat out of all three of its mouths but it seems that all six of its feet and eyes do function 'normally'. It was originally hoped that the frog, which was captured at the nursery, would be kept for research purposes but the tank that originally held the frogthing was insufficient.

Froggy apparently called upon the strength vested in all six of its legs and shot up and out of the aquarium tank in the night because the following morning it was nowhere to be found. Nursery employees have speculated that since it is spawning season, Froggy may have booked it to find a lucky mate to get kinky with.



Sarah Graves

Let's call a spade a spade in the Middle East



International Editor

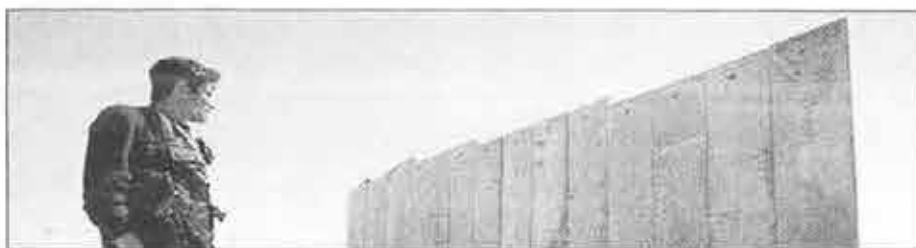
Bryn Boyce

A rose by any other name would smell as sweet. Maybe it's not exactly the most fitting analogy but in any case it's becoming clear that terrorism by any other name is indeed still terrorism. Israel is increasingly incorporating symbolic terror tactics into its military repertoire and, in doing so, encourages a redoubling of suicide efforts against them.

It goes without saying that the suicide bombings, the attacks on Israelis in Jerusalem and the clashes with IDF forces qualifies Hamas and Hezbollah as terrorist organizations. They're fueled by nationalist hatred that has boiled over through years of repression and indoctrination. But it's becoming increasingly more distressing to watch Israel, purportedly the bastion of liberal democracy in the Middle East, take on state-terrorism and shuffle toward the same dark avenue.

Everyone talks about state-sponsored military action as if it has some miraculous implicit justification. Fewer real distinctions can still be drawn between the 'legitimate' methods that Israel employs and the 'illegitimate' ones employed by Palestinian extremists. In reality, there is no denying that military action and terrorism yield the same results: fear and death. Extra-judicial killings are just another form of state terrorism that, while politically popular, work to erode Israel's credibility.

Hamas leader and undisputed radical, Sheik Ahmed Yassin was assassinated by Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) while leaving to a mosque on Monday. There is not a shred of doubt in my mind that the



Sheik was a terrorist and should be punished. That said, a helicopter rocket attack is possibly the worst way for Israel to go about it.

Even if you argue that he deserved death, it would be nothing short of hypocritical to advise that it be administered unilaterally and without legal due process. Moreover it would be barbaric to argue that the seven other Palestinians that died in this same attack deserved to meet their ends as well. Targeted killings, a fairly euphemistic term for terrorism, have been a popular tactic of Israeli President Ariel Sharon and Defense Minister Shaul Mofaz and have claimed far more innocent lives than militant ones.

Extra-judicial killings are just another form of state terrorism that work to erode Israel's credibility.

Much of the international community has vehemently opposed the recent assassination of Yassin including harsh opposition from Canada, the European Union, Spain, Japan, Venezuela, Vatican City and Egypt among others. America, however, has flip-flopped on its view of targeted killings. The Bush administration stated in October 2001 that they were opposed to it but have now decided to align with Israel's policy of extra-judicial killing based on the idea that it "has the right defend herself from terror." Of course America itself is not without blood on its hands

from similar policies of pre-emptivism.

Even the often-quoted Harvard law professor, Alan Dershowitz, threw in his two cents saying, "I am overjoyed at the killing [of Yassin]. I'm critical of Israel, and I think it deserves to be criticized [but] this is an area where it deserves to be praised. This will save many lives."

The cruel irony of the Israeli attacks on militants is that they have only served to fuel the fires of the virulent anti-Israel and anti-Jew movement. Yassin was largely seen as a moderate Sheik in Hamas and already his much more violent replacement, Abdel-Aziz Rantisi, took the opportunity to fan the flames of hatred and praise the now martyred Yassin. "My people, we must unify under the umbrella of resistance [to] teach this Zionist occupation a lesson."

The imagery of these recent Israeli tactics is what gives them their state terrorism feel. The ineffectiveness of assassinating Yassin, a 67 year-old man in a wheelchair, shows the more psychological side of war that Israel is looking to exploit.

States have stood behind their policies and looked out from their armoured tower of 'legitimacy' with disdain. They criticize others for terrorist actions without looking at their own so-called legitimate acts of violence. Whether it's a bomb blast in Jerusalem or rocket attack in Gaza City, terrorism in the Middle East is not the one way street that Israel makes it out to be. Although it sounds nice, "fighting fire with fire" doesn't have any safe applications in the fight against terrorism.

Windows to the World



OTTAWA, CANADA

Contributed Photo

Stephen Harper ran away with the newly-formed federal Conservative Party leadership on Saturday. Harper, a long time economist and Reform Party policy-nut, took 55.5% of the vote in the first ballot to seal the win over his competitors, Belinda Stronach and Tony Clement. The former CEO of Magna Corp., Stronach, was the real story in the leadership race taking the Party by storm and posting a 35% second place finish. The next Federal election has yet to be scheduled by Paul Martin, but with Harper leading the new Conservative Party the Liberals will have their hands full for the first time in over a decade.



PRISTINA, SERBIA

Contributed Photo

After several years of relative peace, Serbians and Albanians are a step closer to resuming hostilities in Kosovo. Kosovska Mitrovica has seen many of its residents take to the streets after two Albanian boys were chased into the Ibar River by Serbs and drowned shortly after. The photo above shows the mother of one of the boys at his funeral. Riots broke out between Serbs and Albanians after the funeral for these boys and top UN officials feel that the riots were premeditated and served political purposes for radicals on both sides. NATO and UN forces rushed back into Kosovo to help mediate the conflict but not before 28 people had died and another 200 wounded.



TAIPEI, TAIWAN

Contributed Photo

An incredibly close election in the small island of Taiwan has spurred some serious protests in the streets of Taipei and other major Taiwanese cities. Now President, Chen Shui-bian, won by only 30,000 votes or 0.2% of the vote. The 330,000 spoiled ballots have become a sticking point to the opposition who have demanded a recount and received it. Mobs stayed up late into the night protesting the election results which concluded a tumultuous campaign that saw Chen avoid a near-assassination only days earlier. The riots were kept down by the police and the recount will take place in early April.

IRAQ

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The world is worse off



The Old Continent

Ruben Gu-Konu

October 12, 2002, downtown Bali, Indonesia. An exploding device rips through a night club filled with mostly Australian students. The final death toll reached 202 with another 300 injured. Over 25 men were arrested, all with ties to Osama in Laden's terrorist network al Qaeda.

May 17, 2003, downtown Casablanca, Morocco. A violent discharge takes the life of 45 people and injures another 90. Eight men are arrested in conjunction with the bombings and intelligence services link them to al Qaeda.

March 11, 2004. Several exploding devices placed on trains explode through rush hour in the main train station in downtown Madrid. Two hundred people lose their lives and over 400 are injured. The Spanish terrorist group ETA is blamed but the size of the act points straight to al Qaeda. In the following days, the international intelligence community announces with great certainty that Osama bin Laden's organization is responsible for the attacks.

When in March 2003 the Bush administration decided to launch an offensive attack against Iraq, the world rose to protest. This was coming after months of UN inspections and talks between the United Nations, the Iraqi government and the US and its allies regarding weapons of mass destruction that Saddam Hussein was thought to be concealing.

In the United States millions of people took to the streets, broadcasting networks and internet to demonstrate to the Bush administration that the decision to go into Iraq may not be the answer needed to address the issue of terrorism, especially since the United States is a prime target.

In other cities including Madrid, Spanish people protested against the invasion of Iraq and the fact that the Spanish Prime Minister was to send troops to support the US and British ones already in the region. Polls both in and out of Spain showed that over 85% of the Spanish people were against the conflict and labelled the war as "unnecessary and pointless".

This week, a year after the invasion of Iraq, the world is in worse shape than it was prior to the War in Iraq.

A few months ago, I recall writing a response to an article in *The Cord* where the author praised the US action and valued the ouster of Saddam Hussein as a definite sign of a safer world. But for me, if anything, the world was far from being safer because Saddam Hussein was gone. For me, the British and US governments did nothing but create a bigger gap between the Muslim world and the Western one.

This enlisted more suicide bombers who are all too willing to give their lives to see American, British or Spanish citizens die. For me, the Iraqi weapons of mass destruction that Colin Powell referred to before the UN General Assembly had nothing to do with the imminent terrorist threat that Osama bin Laden presented and still does

today. After last week's bombing in Madrid, the Spanish people realize that going after Saddam Hussein and his weapons of mass destruction is not a solid move against the people behind the September 11 terrorist attacks.

Today, more than ever, terrorism is present. The terrorists are stronger and more fearless and their actions are without boundaries, apprehension or limits. This is what the world should be most concerned about.

There is no evidence to contradict the fact that Saddam Hussein was a ruthless dictator. There is no question that the former Iraqi ruler did kill thousands of his own people but he did not represent the immediate threat that the US made him out to be and was certainly never supposed to become the centrepiece of a campaign against terrorism.

This week, a year after the invasion of Iraq, the world is in worse shape than it was prior to the war. Osama bin Laden is still on the run with a terror network that seems to get stronger every day.

The billions of dollars that were awarded to the conflict in Iraq should have been directed towards capturing the world's most wanted man and dismantling, if not stopping, his organization. As the Spanish mourn their victims and as Europe braces for further attacks, it becomes clear that their fate rests in the hands of the international community. More precisely, it rests with the United States to shift their efforts towards seriously tackling the issue of global terrorism without having to concentrate on their domestic agendas. The domestic agendas that today have the Spanish asking why they went to a war that did nothing to improve their security - a security they could have used a week ago.

A glorious success!



Bitter Ex-Director

Michael Borrelli

Well. It has been one year since bombs righteously rained down on Baghdad and since America, the land of the free, began its quest to rid Iraq of tyrannical rule. Since then, the world has become much freer, safer, and a better place for all humanity. Ever since George Bush and his glorious administration sent the cruise missiles, bombers and hundreds of thousands of troops into Iraq, terror has receded to an all-time low. I won't bore you with statistics or details but I will briefly go over the many successes that the world's freest and greatest nation has achieved over the past year.

Let's be clear though, these successes were not achieved unilaterally. No, they were achieved by the international cooperation embodied by the mighty "Coalition of the Willing", an alliance unrivaled in world history, consisting of the superpowers of Italy, Poland, Afghanistan, and Estonia, to name a few.

So today, where do we stand? Firstly, Terror, and all of its cousins, Evil, Fear, Tragedy, Undemocratic Regimes, etc... have been

driven back by the gleaming, diamond sword of Freedom.

We have discovered Weapons of Mass Destruction in Saddam Hussein's basement, something that naysayers denied the existence of. We captured Saddam Hussein. And just as he was about to press the red button that would have sent a mushroom cloud over the skies of every free city in the world too. Predictably, Osama bin Laden and al Qaeda were there too, manning machine gun turrets loaded with biologically weaponized bullets. We caught them too and now a fair and even-handed procedure for their detainment, torture and eventual trial is being administered to them at Camp Freedom in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

Terror and all of its cousins have been driven back by the gleaming, diamond sword of freedom.

For the people of Iraq, the last 365 days have been spent rejoicing and welcoming American troops and new overlords. Amazingly there has not been one attack on American forces, as Iraqis are too busy building monuments to their newfound liberty and specifically, its harbinger, Donald Rumsfeld.

With freedom came MTV, CNN, booze, porn, and Iraq's people couldn't be happier. Order is restored and the seeds of a healthy free market, unhindered by any of the state's power, have been planted.

The American presence in the region has also had a calming effect on other countries, most notably the almost complete reduction in Palestinian suicide bombers killing their benevolent rulers in Israel. No further terrorist attacks have been perpetrated on any other country's soil, whether in the Middle East or in Western Europe. Members of the Coalition of the Willing, such as Spain, are safer than ever and their people and leaders still standing firmly behind a war that was both just and moral.

I will end with a simple acknowledgement of thanks to the brave US President George W. Bush. Thank you Mr. Bush. Your country has done a great service to this world in ridding it of evil. You cannot understand how much we the citizens of the world trust you and appreciate what you've done.

While our support for your war was around 95% before, its successes have done nothing but boost our confidence in you and your administration. So here's to you, Mr. Bush! To four more years, to peace around the world and to America's greatest export, Freedom!



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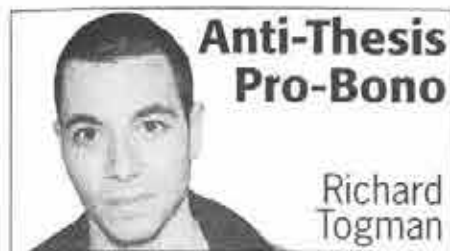
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So you want a revolution?



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Richard Togman

War, globalization, nuclear weapons, corporations, AIDS, drugs and poverty. These are just a few of the things that it is easy to be against in today's 'Anti' world. It is extremely easy to be against something. To criticize, to hate, to shout slogans and to throw in the tired clichés is very easy to do.

Anyone can state that poverty should be eliminated or that nuclear bombs should be banned and spout the usual rhetoric and score a few easy points with an audience. Some may even convince themselves of their righteous cause to be anti this or that. However, once it comes down to it, that is all you are: anti. To destroy is easy but to create is hard.

Being pro something is infinitely more difficult than being anti. You say you are anti-poverty, OK. But the real question is how to be pro-prosperity, how to be pro-growth. How do you build something from nothing? These are the hard questions that need to be asked.

Anti-war? Great, so am I, but so is everyone. The question is, how do we build peace, build trust and build societies that cherish life, liberty and freedom above all else? Do we do battle with the tyrants and dictators of the world or do we hope that somehow it will all work out as long as we say we are anti-

war?

Hate the capitalist greed machine. Fine, then tell me how to change it and build a greater society. Where will people work, live and play? How do we accomplish this and where do we start?

I want to see less anti-anything rallies and see more pro-something demonstrations. I want people to come up with a plan that will lay out how they intend to build, create and prosper. Not just politicians, but anyone that can read and has an opinion. That is what democracy and liberty are all about. Don't just settle for being anti-war, tell me how to be pro-peace, pro-prosperity, pro-freedom because it sure as hell won't happen by being anti.

The future is waiting for someone with a plan. All great societies and revolutions were originally launched by being anti-something, whether it be anti-taxation-without-representation or anti-capitalist, however, they were built by being pro something: pro-liberty and representative government or pro-Communist utopia. The easy part is the criticism and destruction but the hard part is rebuilding and growing. I challenge every protestor and naysayer to do one better and become a planner, a visionary and a builder.

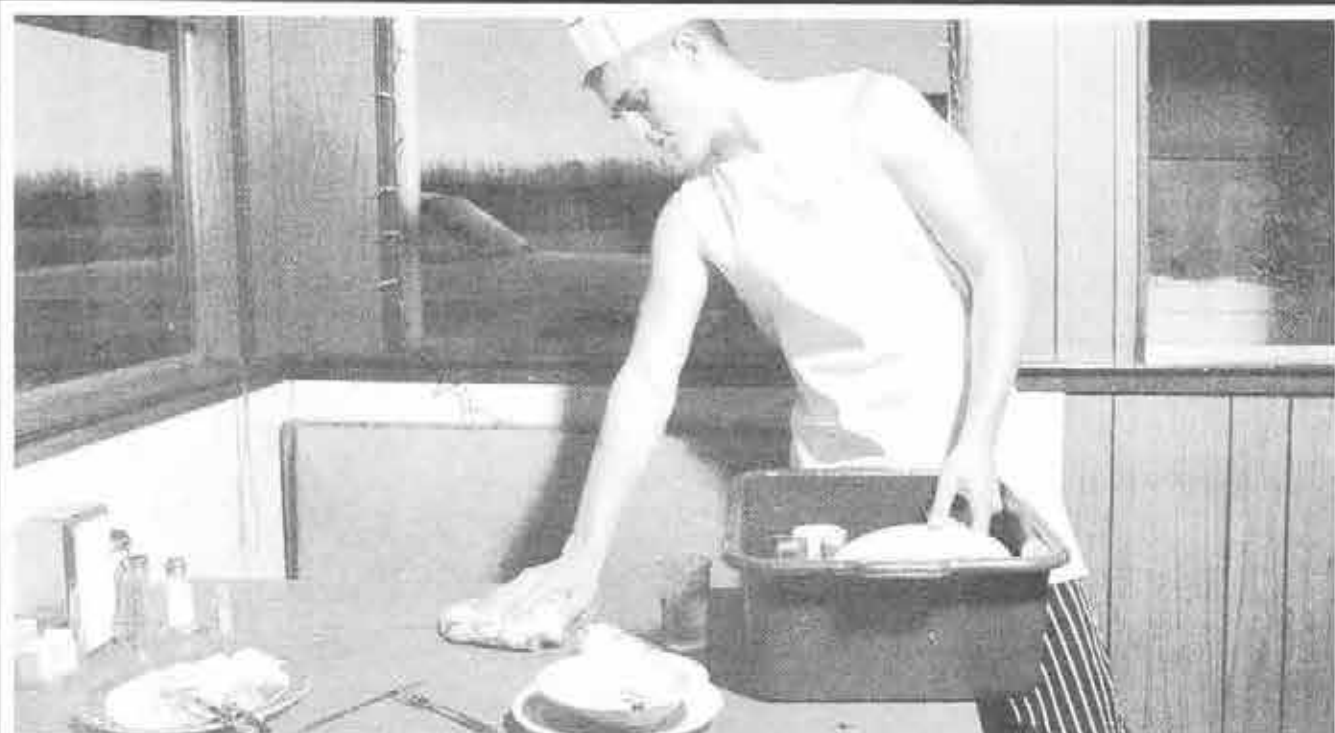
Don't just be against but be for a plan to make the world a better place. Think, be creative and use your mind to shape the world in your image. Imagine the perfect world and then tell me how we get there. Do what is hard and achieve what is great. Plan for a brighter future.



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So 'Veg' or go home



Here are four basic reasons why people consider adopting a vegetarian lifestyle. This list is by no means exhaustive but hopefully it will be a starting point for further exploration into vegetarianism for anyone out there considering going 'veg'.

Health
A vegetarian diet contains all the vitamins and nutrients the body needs and allows for a greater exploration of different foods and food combinations. Vascular diseases, including heart diseases and strokes, are caused by the blockage of arteries by fatty plaques that build up on the artery walls. A vegetarian diet reduces the amount of fat and saturated fat in your diet, reducing the risk of these diseases and health problems as compared to an excessive meat-based diet. Furthermore, while all

animal foods contain cholesterol, no plant foods do. In fact, antioxidants and folic acid in plant foods protect arteries from plaque formation and the potassium in plant foods may reduce hypertension.

Hunger
Enormous tracts of land are cleared out on factory farms to raise cattle, pigs or sheep. Instead of using all of this land to raise a few thousand animals, it could instead be used more efficiently to grow grains or soy in quantities able to feed many more people. Furthermore, a mass quantity of grain is wasted on factory farms in order to feed cattle, when they could be put to better use feeding the world's hungry.

Environment
Factory farms are notorious for polluting lands around them due to runoff from pesticides and enormous amounts of animal waste.

Also, thousands of acres of forests are often clear-cut in order to create room for cattle grazing. Even more alarming is the fact that in some developing countries, many small farmers are resorting to raising cattle in order to make a living and thus have to cut down forested areas around them which in turn causes the land to be uncultivable in the future.

Animal Cruelty
Every year, ten billion animals in the US alone are killed in factory farms. The vast majority are subject to mistreatment by being caged, mutilated, burned and

constantly impregnated in tiny metal 'gestation stalls', until they are ready to give birth. The natural nursing period of twelve weeks is cut to 2-4 weeks so that the sows can be impregnated again. Chickens bred for egg production undergo a sex selection at birth. The males are dumped into plastic bags, left to suffocate slowly, and ground up for chicken feed. The females are de-beaked with a hot iron to prevent stress-induced cannibalism.

With information from meatout.org and globalhunger.net.



abused. Cattle are castrated, dehorned and branded with no anesthesia. Breeding sows are kept

A healthy veggie

MELISSA LOWE
NICOLE BARKER
Cord Features

You may have considered vegetarianism once or twice in your life only to be deterred by your lack of knowledge about how to get the necessary nutrients from a meat-free diet. However, there are many types of food out there that can give you everything you need in a day without requiring you to eat meat.

Many people think that meat is the only source of protein and that vegetarians don't get enough. However, North Americans have a tendency to eat too much protein in a day, not too little. The daily recommended intake of protein for a 140 lb person is 50g; for a 180 lb person it's 65g. Here are some meat-free alternatives to ensure you get the protein you need for the

day:

- Cheddar Cheese (1oz., a few slices) - 15.5g
- Egg (1 medium) - 5.7g
- Tofu (4 oz.) - 10g



- Broccoli (1/2 cup) - 2.4g
- Peanut Butter (2tbsp.) - 8g
- Yogurt (8oz.) - 8.3g
- Beans are also a really good source of protein.

You may think that red meat and spinach are the only sources of iron but iron can be obtained from other sources. When eating iron-rich food, try drinking a glass of orange juice. Vitamin C will double the amount of iron you absorb. The recommended daily intake of iron for a female age 11 to 50 is 15mg and for males over 18 it's 10mg.

Here are some alternative iron sources so that you can cut out the red meat:

- Raisins (1/2 cup) or dried apricot (10 slices) 1.7mg
- Black-eyed peas (1/2 cup) 3.8mg
- Lentils (1/2 cup) 3.4mg
- Kidney beans (1/2 cup) 3.3mg
- Lima beans (1/2 cup) 2.9mg.

For those who want to cut out animal product entirely, calcium may seem to be a

problem. But with calcium-fortified tofu, juices and soy drinks in addition to broccoli and kale, you should be able to cut the dairy out of your diet.

If you're trying to make the switch to vegetarianism/veganism, here are a few helpful tips:

- Make a gradual switch: decrease meat per meal, then only eat meat once a day, then once a week, and eventually not at all.
- Try veggie meat: it tastes remarkably good and it tastes even better if you haven't had meat in a while.
- Visit health food stores for the best selection of vegetarian foods.
- Sample vegetarian foods from other cultures
- Experiment and keep an open mind.
- You don't have to eat salad every day; there are tons of tasty recipe books out there you can test out.



Vegan by choice



Looking back on that Sunday not too long ago when I chose to seal my dietary fate, I really wish I had indulged in some grilled cheese the night before. I decided to one-up my vegetarian friend and become a vegan.

It should be noted that most people become a vegan after many years of vegetarianism. I, however, had never been a vegetarian and I became an overnight vegan. I'm not dead yet, so I must be doing something right.

As a vegan, it is much easier for me to explain what I do not eat as opposed to what I do. I do not eat meat (chicken, beef, pork, lamb, etc.), dairy products or eggs.

However, I chose to bypass one of the vegan cardinal rules—thou shalt not eat honey—because I don't view bees as animals. Thus, I am left with one of the few pleasures in life.

The lack of vegan food options at Laurier is frustrating, particularly at the dining hall. Do you like soup and salad? How about fruit? That's sometimes the only thing you can get if campus food facilities don't offer any other vegan options. Most of the time, however, you can get soy burgers or tofu in

your stir fry (if you like that sort of thing). The Terrace tends to have more vegan options than the dining hall does but there's still a pretty small selection.

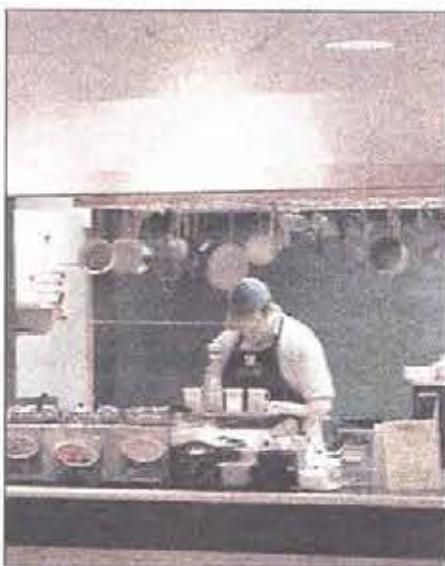
I realize that the vast majority of readers will be wondering what could possibly motivate me to willingly subject myself to this torture. I don't view it like that.

For me, veganism is not something I adopted so I can stick my nose up at other people and relish in the coolness of saying "I can't eat that, I'm a vegan." One day I simply decided that I didn't want to have anything to do with animal products and I re-adjusted my lifestyle to suit my newly acquired vegan needs.

To be blunt, being a vegan at Laurier sucks most of the time, but I can sleep soundly at night knowing that I am not participating in the systematic torture and killing of little chickens, lambs and all the other animals that end up on dinner plates. That, and beer tastes so much better than milk ever did.



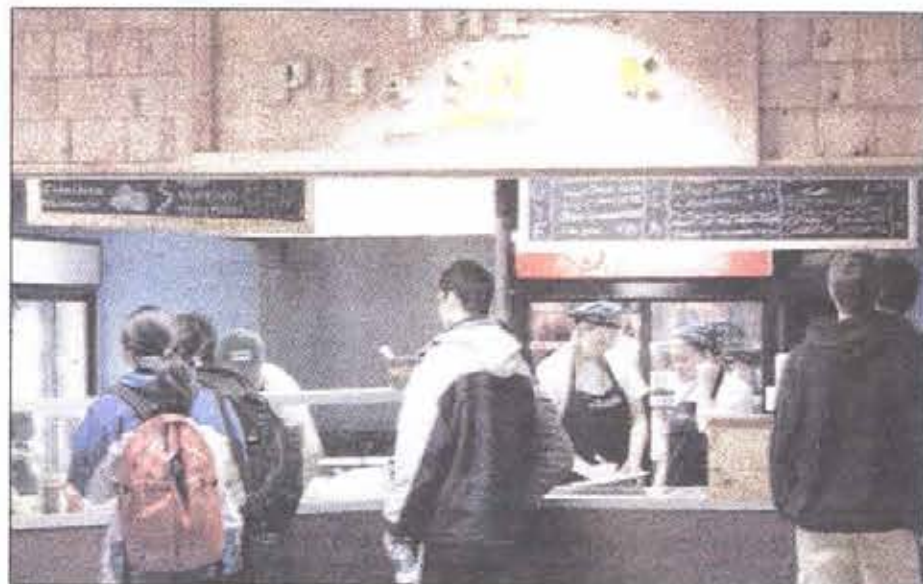
Harvey's has limited options for vegetarians, with the veggie burger being the primary option. Salads, both garden and caesar, are also available.



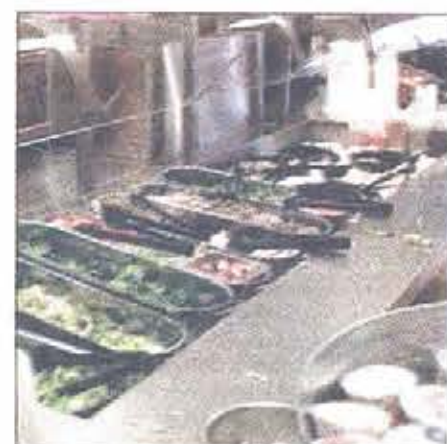
Union Market offers the most vegetarian and vegan options on campus. They offer cheese, sandwich meat, and milk made from soy. There is also vegetarian quiche, chili, lasagna, and soups.



Pizza Pizza offers vegetable and cheese pizza slices. For vegans, the only real option here is pasta. Luckily, they offer meatless pasta sauce.



The Pita Shack offers many different vegetarian pitas, just a few of which are the tofu, hummus, and portabello mushroom pitas.



The Dining Hall offers soy burgers, stir fry with tofu, the salad bar, and vegetarian soups and chili. As well, there are often other vegetarian options available that change daily. Please note that although the soy burgers and tofu are not always advertised, they are usually available. Just ask for them.

Reviews by Sonal Pala

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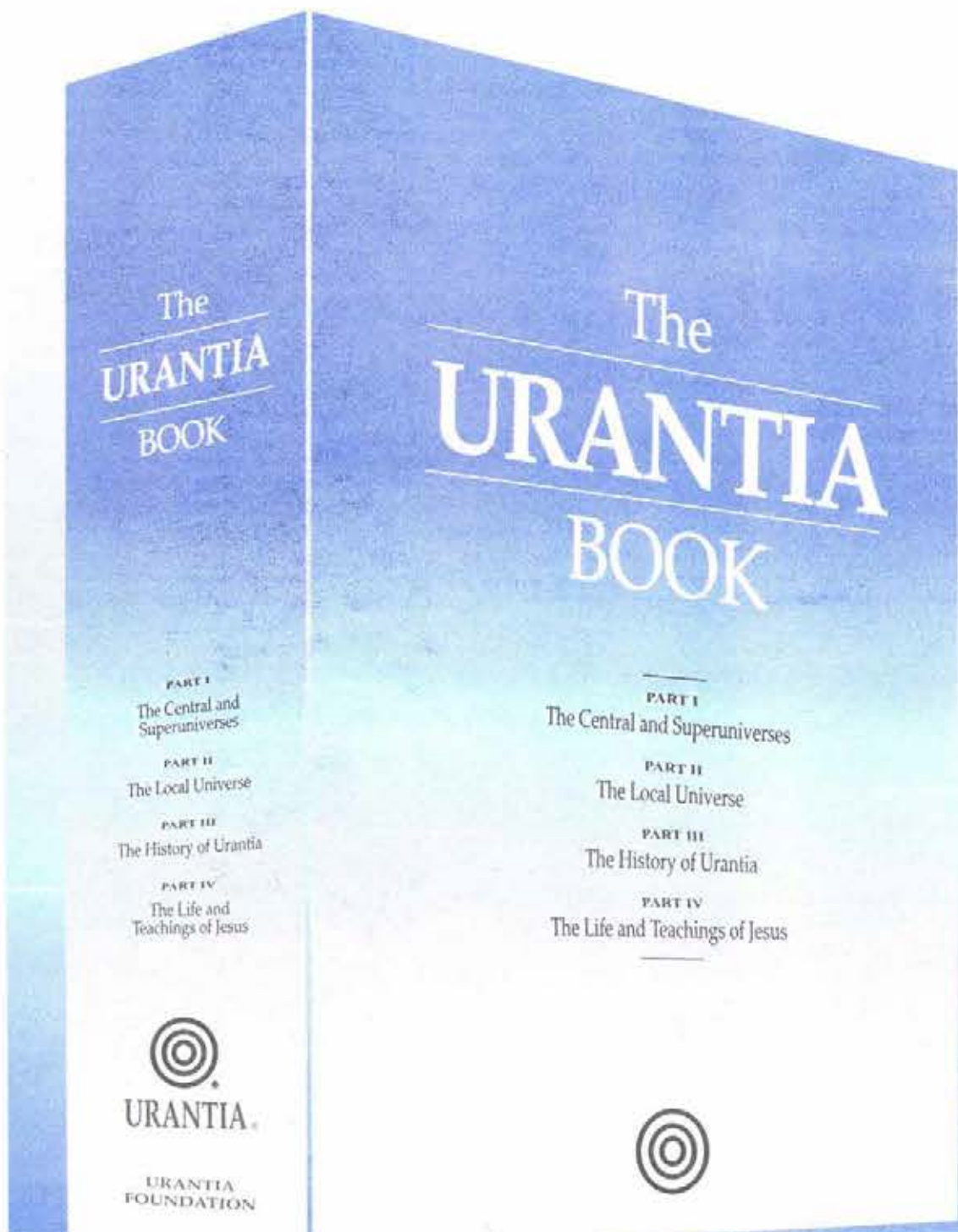
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Can money buy happiness?

Money is a tool of capitalist society that is used to control the masses



Live without it

Erika Ivanic

Money, created for the ever-increasing efficient society, has evolved into a system of control that is gradually consuming the human species. Day after day after day, people are succumbing to the impossible promises offered by purchasing power.

All students have been a victim of it at one time or another, endeavouring to find satisfaction through the act of buying itself. Whether it was a new shirt, pair of shoes, phone, television, car or some other ambiguous new item, it induced a temporary wave of absolute delight. Perhaps it was an intense shade of blue and had a crisp packaging or extra features that promised to increase this or minimize that. The fact is, you wanted it so desperately that you couldn't imagine ever surviving a life without it and easily gave in to that much-anticipated purchase. Until there came a day when the appeal was lost amidst the chaos of the universe.

On that day, something with even more extra features was released into the marketplace with the potential of stimulating even higher levels of bliss than ever before. Your original purchase was easily forgotten in this sudden contagion that held the promise of happiness in its grasp. Again, you needed it and just 'had' to buy it, feeling that there was no longer a choice in the matter.

And so the system of entrapment begins. Money is a cage, creating a perpetual cycle of dissatisfaction through a yearning for something that can never be fully attained. One purchase is never enough to satisfy increasingly complex desires

of material wealth.

There is always a better car, a bigger house, something that always lies just beyond reach. It is so close that you can see it and you can even touch it but only for sudden glimpses of time that rapidly slip from beneath your grasp. Once the initial excitement is replaced with a sheer sense of boredom, a better model comes along which has the capacity to fulfill all of your wildest dreams.

Only there are always better models, appearing at increasingly quicker intervals that are impossible to keep up with. Meanwhile, old purchases become outdated and either gather dust at the back of closets or are thrown into the garbage only to join landfills of similar human waste. There is something undeniably wrong here.

While it is easy to dream of finding a small island somewhere off the coast of the Atlantic and starting a new community free from monetary pressures, the reality is that someone already owns that island and it would have to be bought first.

Our society is one of consumption that is driven by the forces of profit. We are conditioned to believe that nothing is worth our time unless it has immediate monetary value. The essence of this problem is that money is inescapable in the current state of our society. We can't feasibly live as students without money to pay for tuition, rent and food at the very least. We need money, however, it need not control us.

Even with money becoming ever pervasive and ingraining itself into the core of everyday life, everyone is given a choice. Consider what is actually 'needed' beyond basic necessities and that ultimate control over what is bought is possible. Find happiness instead in life itself, in nature, in learning, in relationships, in everything that is free and good. You are a human being, not a commodity.

Money is a necessity of life and hated only by those who don't have it. Who needs love when you have money?



Life is green

Lauren Thompson

The fact is that money makes the world go round. Without money it is difficult to attain happiness. With money comes a certain degree of comfort that offers the time necessary to enjoy the benefits of life like sailing off the coast of the Florida Keys or strolling through the halls of the Louvre.

This enjoyment factor has become quite evident while living my life as a university student. Those with money do not have to wrack their brains attempting to determine where the money for this month's rent or next semester's tuition is going to come from. These students are able to enjoy all the fun times that university life has to offer.

It was The Beatle's hit that sang, "Money can't buy me love." No it cannot buy love but it is better than love.

With enough money in their possession, a student can drink as much as they wish, eat a decent three meals a day and attend any events of interest. A person that is lacking monetarily does not get the chance to enjoy these benefits and is forced to utter "no" to invites that cannot be afforded but would like to be attended. There is a great discrepancy between the experiences that a student with a liberal bank account can partake in than a student with a scarce one.

Obviously money does not automatically result in hap-

piness but it allows the time to enjoy any happiness that may arise. Whenever a person has to continuously stress over their tuition payment, even those times that should be enjoyable are overshadowed by the subconscious stresses of money that are permanently engraved in the mind and cannot be put aside.

The truth is that students enrol in university and work hard to attain good grades for one reason. This reason is to obtain a good job upon graduation. A good job usually means one that will be paid a high salary so all the material goods wanted in life can be purchased, such as a nice house and decent car. People dream of attaining this end and it has been drilled into the heads of today's youth that the best way to reach this desired end is with a post-secondary education. Most people do not attend Laurier purely for the personal satisfaction of greater knowledge.

Even those people who argue that money doesn't equal happiness must secretly admit to themselves that the gaining of just a few more dollars would make life a little easier, which would lead to just a little more happiness. It is agreed that money will not lead to ultimate happiness but who in this world will achieve this impossible end? Poor and rich alike share the common disadvantage of being human beings, there is never enough. No matter how happy, wealthy or loved an individual is, they will always strive for more, sometimes to compete with what the next person has and sometimes for their own personal self-worth.

Money has come to be a measurement of an individual's success. Therefore, a person responsible for his or her own monetary blessing is often considered successful,

which wouldn't really lead to unhappiness. I am sure that there are individuals in the world who feel that success should not be measured in terms of a person's wealth.

Money is not the sole indicator of success although it is the primary indicator in a capitalist world. It is complemented by other indicators such as aiding the world's poor and oppressed. However, even here it can be argued that only with money can an individual have the ability to donate money towards such a worthy cause or have the luxury of time to contribute. And from these charitable acts emerges a different kind



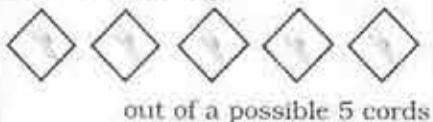
of happiness, personal satisfaction.

It was The Beatle's hit that sang, "Money can't buy me love." No it cannot buy love but it is better than love. It does not cheat or betray, which would make anyone happy. There is as much a guarantee that you will be alone with money as without, so why take the chance of being alone without any money? That would leave no room for contentment.

Food for Thought

Restaurant: The Charcoal Steakhouse
Location: 2980 King Street East at Fairway Road.
Phone: (519) 893-6570
Type: Steakhouse

Cord's Rating:



out of a possible 5 cords

DAVE BONE
Restaurant Reviewer

There are a few different places in the KW area where you can get a steak, and even fewer places that specialize in that area and would call themselves a steakhouse. That being said, there seems to be a consensus that the best steak in town can be found at The Charcoal Steakhouse.

I visited this establishment, located just off highway 8 beside their sister restaurants Martini's and Del



Try this delicious Surf and Turf, A 7 oz. filet and lobster tail.

Dente, to see what all the hype was about. Walking through the faintly lit dining room towards our large table dressed with fresh white linen and bathed in candlelight, there was a certain elegant feel that exuded from our surroundings. This mood was aided by classic décor and great art, all of which were complemented by

the massive fireplace that warmed up the room.

Our server was prompt and professional, greeting us immediately and offering suggestions and advice, a trend that would continue throughout the meal. I started off with a glass of red Australian Shiraz from their extensive wine list and a bottle of sparkling water that I shared with my friend while we perused the dinner menu.

There are many choices for starters dependent upon one's mood. The Charcoal offers warm breads like bruschetta (\$7.15) or the traditional garlic bread (\$6.15) to an array of salads like the tomato, bocconcini and prosciutto salad (\$8.95) and the Mediterranean style Cyprus salad (\$5.25-\$6.95).

We chose to stay away from salads and went with a serving of the baked camembert (\$7.95), which was wrapped in phyllo pastry and served warmed with a berry compote. The cheese was deliciously smooth and went well with the grilled

flatbread it was served with. I also ordered the Cajun garlic shrimp (\$8.75), which were sautéed in butter, chopped garlic and Cajun spices, a healthy serving that tasted great.

Other options were available such as house smoked Atlantic salmon (\$8.95) and

the German style house favourite roasted pigtail (\$5.25). After a fine start, we moved onto the real reason we visited. According to the website, "a Charcoal

continued on page 18



www.charcoalsteakhouse.ca

OneCard mysteries

In the near future, music can be downloaded legally with the OneCard

MICHELLE PINCHEV
Staff Writer

Five years ago, the student ID, library card and meal card were all separate, unrelated entities. Wilfrid Laurier University has since evolved; now there are OneCards and Laurier students can look forward to many changes down the road.

The OneCard was the making of Dean McMurray, Dean of Students and Mike Belanger, Director of Residential Services. After a couple of years, a website was created to provide information and give students access to their accounts. Now, students can buy books, meals, tanning sessions, cabs, photocopies and use the library with one simple card, the OneCard. You can manage your account online or through the OneCard office located beside The Hub, both of which are run and operated by Nick Tomljenovic, the Laurier OneCard System Manager.

"In the five years since we've set up the program we've come a lot further than other universities," says Tomljenovic. "We went from having no program to being able to do all sorts of things effectively."

Outside of the meal plan, which consists of prime dollars for the Dining Hall and alternative dollars for the Terrace, students also have a convenience account, where we can apportion spending for places and things like Waterloo Taxi, the C-Spot, Laurier's bookstore, Beach Bunnies, laser printing and photocopyers on campus, The HUB and residence laundry

facilities.

For those who find the allotment senseless and confusing, there is good reasoning behind dividing meal cards into prime and alternative accounts. According to Tomljenovic, when the OneCard just started out, 80% of your meal plan was meant for dining hall spending, leaving only 20% for alternatives. "As time went on and operations diversified, we began to read just those splits. Before, you couldn't even carry meal plans over year to year."

Now, students have a lot more freedom and a much greater selection but the school must still ensure a certain amount of dollars flow through the dining hall each year.

The dining hall has to pay for a variety of expenses such as utilities, food and labour; the business would not be lucrative unless they could ensure a certain amount of revenue. This way, the school could have a much clearer idea of what to expect in terms of sales every year.

While most people thought prime dollars were there to keep us away from always consuming Harvey's and pizza, in fact "we don't tackle health issues at that level," the System Manager tells us.

It isn't only first years who use the meal plans either. Even if students run out of funds after first year, they can still come back and put more money on their OneCard, reaping the benefits of convenience and saving on taxes (GST and PST). You won't have to scrape up spare change to use the vend-

ing machines and soon enough, all of Laurier's laser printers and copiers may only accept OneCards.

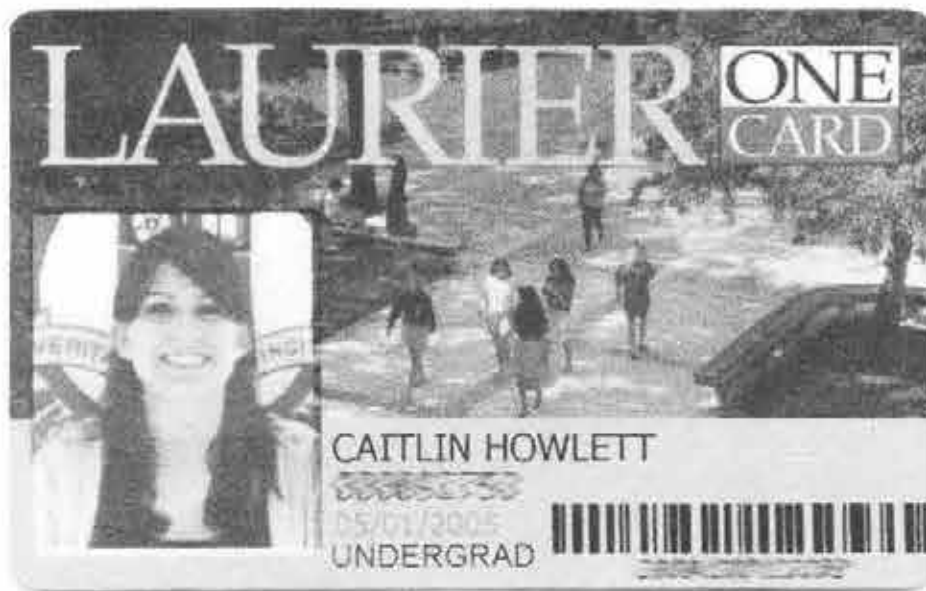
In addition to all the conveniences on campus, there are a few popular off-campus spots that accept the card, including Swiss Chalet, The Rude Native Bistro, MacDonnell Village and Angie's Kitchen. It seems like a good enough selection but frequently enough, the students complain.

"Rude Native Bistro and Angie's Kitchen are great but what about students on the other side of campus?" asks Natalie Friedman, a first-year student in non-traditional residence. "It's a shame that we can eat at a fine bistro in downtown Waterloo, but Quizno's across the street isn't covered." Students also complain about the fact that grocery stores aren't covered, aside from Farah Foods, with their near-criminal overpriced foods.

The school will be adding two more venues to the OneCard but unfortunately no one can say what they're going to be

The decision-making process behind which vendors do or don't fall under the card is left to two committees: the Food Services Management Board (half WLU/SU and half University administration) and the OneCard committee (half students and half administration). The system works in that students provide the suggestions but the final say really lies with the Board. They can veto anything, and in the case of East Side Mario's and Quizno's, they exercised this power.

The reasoning behind this is competition. Nick Tomljenovic



Wilbur McLean

Everything you need, but not yet everything you want... on OneCard

explains that "it comes down to our philosophy of getting businesses on the card that are not competing." East Side's could really hurt Wilf's sales, for instance, and the same goes with Quizno's, which competes against Mr. Sub. Next year could be a different story, however, depending on the Board.

As for being able to consume alcohol with cards, this is a pretty definitive case as students can not purchase alcohol with the OneCard. The school does not wish to encourage over-consumption of alcohol and parents don't want to see money intended for their child's food and supplies squandered on inebriating themselves on a school night. Tomljenovic comments that in his day at the University of Guelph, meal plans covered alcoholic beverages. Needless to say, accounts were emptied out very quickly and students had no money left for food.

Regardless, Laurier students have a lot to look forward to. This past week, an automatic deposit machine was installed in the hall across the OneCard office for after hours.

Laurier has also embarked on e-commerce, expanding the online "OneMall" which currently sells posters and clothes. According to Nick, the site is shortly going through a "facelift." They have partnered up with businesses

such as Pizza Pizza, which will allow students to order pizzas online and be charged directly via OneCard. They are also hoping to add a flower shop to the deal.

Perhaps the most innovative idea, however, may be the online music website. Laurier is collaborating with puretracks.com, a legal music downloading company which soon will be accessible through the OneMall website. Laurier students can download music legally and be charged directly off their student cards.

"We're really excited about that," says Tomljenovic. "Especially being the first to do that anywhere."

In addition to this, the school will be adding two more venues for next year, only no one can say yet what they're going to be.

Next week in the concourse, the OneCard committees will be polling students about current services, our likes and dislikes in regards to the card and just general questions about what we'd like to see in the future. This gives Laurier students a chance to have a say and let frustrations be heard. If you want to be represented, they will be in the concourse Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday next week.

Leadership 101 speaker series

Any person can change the world

KEVIN KLEIN
Cord Student Life

If you asked every student at Laurier for a definition of leadership, you would get hundreds of different answers. It was with this diversity of opinion in mind that Inter-Residence Council (IRC) launched their Leadership 101 Speaker Series.

Consisting of four speakers, each with a distinct perspective on leadership, the series was designed to expose residence students to differing styles of leadership and to challenge them to develop their own. Speakers included current residence life Don and IRC Leadership Coordinator Eric Mallia, former Ontario Premier and current Laurier Chancellor Bob Rae, best-selling author on leadership Jim Clemmer and Laurier alumni and current member of the Waterloo Regional Police Mark Crowell.

Mallia kicked off the series in February with a presentation on "Leading from the Grassroots." Coming from a student perspective, it was a high energy presentation, focusing on the little things people can do to make a difference. He mentioned grassroots leaders like Martin Luther King Jr., Lance Armstrong and Mother Theresa.

"I wanted students to realize two main things. First, that they have the potential to change the

world right now and second, that most of them are already changing the world right now" said Mallia. "It can be the little things that make the biggest difference and I wanted to get that message across."

The second speaker in the series was Laurier Chancellor Bob Rae. The presentation took on a political and historical tone, with Rae reflecting on universally accepted great leaders of the past including Winston Churchill and Franklin Roosevelt. Bringing his own personal experience as Premier of Ontario, the speech was personal and reflective.

Following Rae was leadership expert Jim Clemmer, author of the best-selling books *Growing the Distance* and *Leader's Digest*. With a wealth of experience to draw on, Clemmer provided inspiration and ideas for the future leaders in the room.

The series wraps up Wednesday, March 24 as Crowell discusses Terry Fox, someone who led by example.

"There is such a positive leadership vibe at our school right now and such an interest in learning more about leadership," said Mallia. "I'm just happy that IRC could provide this series for the students in residence and the student leaders."

To date, over 220 people have attended a Leadership 101 speaker and a majority of those have been to all three. Anyone who attends the Rae, Clemmer and Crowell event will receive a certificate of completion.

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28 at 6 p.m.
Niagara Falls, Ontario - Americana Inn
8444 Lundy's Lane

SATURDAY, MAY 1 at 10 a.m.
Burlington, Ontario Holiday Inn
3063 South Service Road

SATURDAY, MAY 8 at 11 a.m.
London, Ontario - Best Western Lamplighter Inn
591 Wellington Road South

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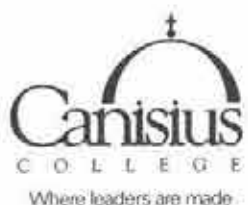
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He Said / She Said



Mixing money, friends and alcohol is often regretted the next day and can lead to a friendship's demise

Dear He Said/She Said,

My problem is twofold, having to do with both money and friends. The end of the year is drawing close and I don't have a lot of cash to spare. I have a friend who owes me money and I don't know how to get it back. Actually it's a little more complicated than this; he doesn't even think he owes me.

Here's how it happened: a few weekends ago we were out at the bar, drinking heavily, and he asked to borrow some money since he had run out for the night. I didn't think it would be a big deal so I agreed. But when I mentioned this fact to him a few days later, he said he didn't remember borrowing the money and that it must have been someone else.

Now I am short on funds and running out of ways to try to get my friend to pay me back. The issue is starting to create a sore spot between us because I think he is lying about not remembering. What should I do?
- Broke Like a Joke

**He Said...
DAN ROTH**

If you didn't need the money so bad my suggestion would be to trick your friend into buying you stuff until the debt is paid back. Basically you'd make him your sugar daddy. However, since you're in a financial crunch right now you need to have a serious talk with him and try to get him to remember borrowing money from you.

Ethically, I think it's

If he insists that he hasn't borrowed any money from you, you may just want to forget about it, it's just not worth it

appropriate to be honest about this situation. If he's a close friend I'm sure he'd understand. Try to get him to remember events from just before and after you gave him the money. You never know what may trigger him to remember he has borrowed from you.

You may want to try to talk with the other people you were with that night and see if they remember anything about it. Perhaps they

will be able to vouch for you. You want to be firm about this issue but you don't want to drag it on.

If he insists that he hasn't borrowed any money from you, you may just want to forget about it. Squabbling over any amount of money isn't worth ruining a friendship.

A final solution is to borrow from someone else to get you through the month and chalk it up as a lesson not to lend out money when judgement is impaired.

**She Said...
LAURIE VANDENHOFF**

I think you need to figure out whether this so-called friend is lying to you or not. However, my hunch is that your instincts are correct and having cheap friends is never fun, especially when they take advantage of your generosity. Hopefully you've learned never to lend money to this person again. Next you have to decide if you really want this person as a friend at all, since it appears that he has no respect for you.

If you feel he is worth keeping around, then I would try to blow off the situation as a lesson learned. Pressing the issue might create even more bad blood between the two of you and it

More yummy

Continued from page 16

steak is centre cut from perfectly marbled Ontario Grade AAA corn fed beef, well aged for extra tenderness, seared on an 800°F radiant grill, butter brushed and seasoned". As a steak lover, that description excited me. I chose a Surf and Turf consisting of a 7 oz. filet teamed up with a Caribbean lobster tail (\$42.95) and drawn butter while my friend had the Stilton Tenderloin, which was another 7 oz. filet with an aged Stilton cheese and prosciutto sauce (\$25.95).

My steak was very good, topped by a gorgeous lobster tail that looked almost too good to eat as it would destroy the great presentation. My friend's steak was nice as well with a sharp cheese sauce that complemented the dish well. I chose the garlic mashed potato and my friend had the baked potato, both of which were quite good, along with a side of grilled vegetables. There were a plethora of other steak choices from the classic New York Striploin (\$22.95-\$31.95) to the massive 36 oz. Lumberjack Porterhouse (\$42.95).

A fabulous main course always calls for a sweet ending and it is hard to resist dessert when it is brought to you on a tray. I chose an apple tart, which was okay but my friend's fudge cheesecake was by far the better dessert and is almost worth coming back for on its own. The whole meal was superb along with the service and the environment. The Charcoal really did live up to its claim that they are steaks and so much more.

GOT A PROBLEM?

Hesaid/Shesaid will be happy to offer their advice. Email questions to:

hesaidshesaid@wluosp.com

Horoscope

WEEK OF MARCH 24-30

**Happy Birthday
Aries**

If things aren't going as planned, don't worry. Friends and family want to spend time with you and everyone wants to make sure you're happy on your birthday. But timing may be an issue for the next while, so be patient.

Aries
March 21 - April 19

Don't let the chaos going on get you down. You are so close to finishing everything and there is no sense in being tough on yourself. The best thing for you to do is plough through everything and focus on finishing your work.

Luckiest day: March 28.

Gemini
May 21 - June 21

It's going to feel as though you have to pick up the pieces of other people's messes this week. Things could get more chaotic as the week goes on, so make sure you stay on top of your work. Stay focused on what you want.

Luckiest day: March 29.

Cancer
June 22 - July 22

You may end up feeling trapped by all of your work if you don't stay on top of your projects. You must focus on what has to be done and finish without dwelling on it. All of your hard work is going to pay off soon.

Luckiest day: March 30.

Virgo
August 23 - September 23

You are going to have to make a decision regarding your career or your job. You have many options to think about. The best thing to do is to consider what you need over what you want. Ask someone close to you for their opinion.

Luckiest day: March 30

Libra
September 24 - October 22

You are going to have to make several decisions over the next while. Carefully examine all of your options and try to combine what you need to do with what you like to do. Don't let what others think affect your decision.

Luckiest day: March 24.

Sagittarius
November 22 - December 21

Money will be coming in as quickly as it will be going out, so make sure you are monitoring all of your accounts closely. Everything should go as you intend it to for the next while, so make sure your intentions are things you want to happen.

Luckiest day: March 29.

Capricorn
December 22 - January 19

Lots of unusual things are going to start happening to you. Make sure you pay close attention to any odd dreams. Your unconscious mind may be trying to figure out what is going and your dreams could give you clues as to what you're supposed to do.

Luckiest day: March 28.

Pisces
February 20 - March 20

You may want to put any plans on hold right now until the timing is better. You will be able to pick up where you left off so don't hesitate to give yourself a break from everything you've been doing in the past little while.

Luckiest day: March 28.

Taurus
April 20 - May 20

Don't let other people get on your nerves. Lots of those who are in close contact with you are going to want you to fix their problems. It's nice to help, but don't dwell on what's bothering them. Focus on what you want.

Luckiest day: March 25.

Leo
July 23 - August 22

Make sure you are paying close attention to any financial matters. If you let other people tell you how to budget you could end up getting ripped off. If you are looking for work, or a change of jobs, you'll find what you're looking for soon.

Luckiest day: March 24.

Scorpio
October 23 - November 21

Over the next while make sure you monitor your spending carefully. Don't buy anything that isn't a necessity. Even if your financial matters are good you could be in for a surprise cost. You can spoil yourself more in the late spring.

Luckiest day: March 28.

Aquarius
January 20 - February 19

All of your hard work is going to start paying off. Don't hesitate in giving yourself a pat on the back for a job well done. There may not be a better time to spoil yourself so go do something you really enjoy as a reward for all your hard work.

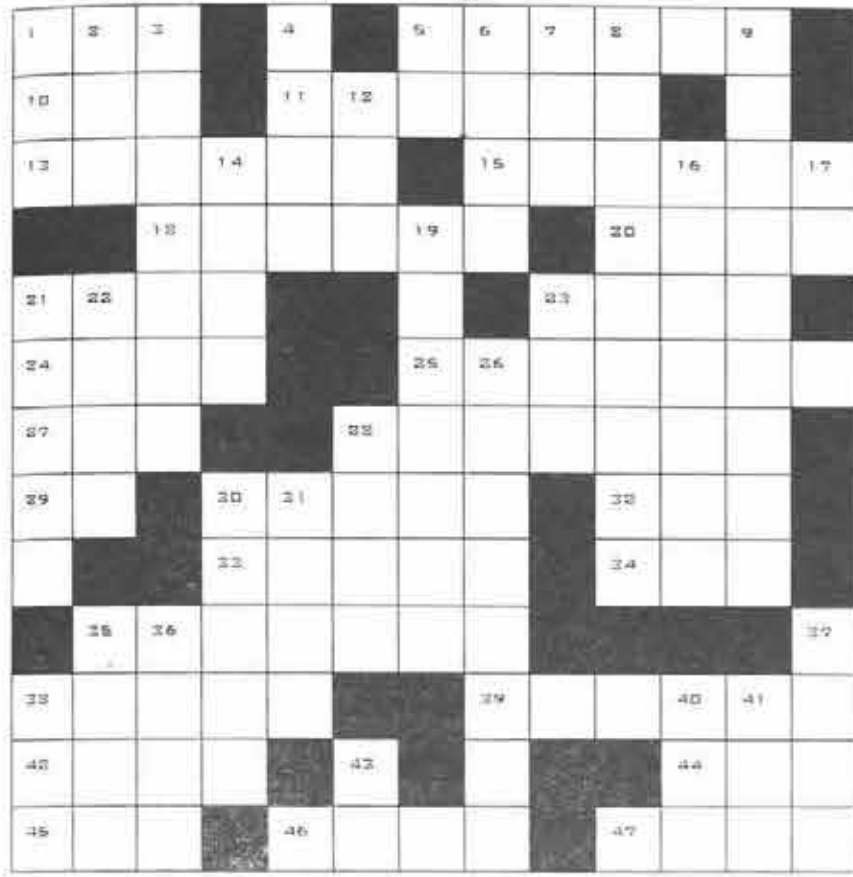
Luckiest day: March 30.

Daniel Roth is a Journalism graduate of Conestoga College and is currently a Communication Studies student at Wilfrid Laurier. He has studied Astrology and other topics of that genre for almost ten years.

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This Week's Crossword...



Random Crossword

BY: F. KING

Down:

1. Type of date for essays
2. USA Gun org.
3. Deer horns
4. ___ Ulrich, of Metallica
5. ___ for the hearing impaired
6. Bank machines abbrev.
7. ___ De Janeiro
8. Deviates from established norm
9. Pirate insult
12. Type of bread
14. Right, on the compass
16. Those that heal
17. Nazi org.
19. Local happenings
21. A fool
22. Plural of datum
23. Airforce military abbrev.
26. Creature that eats ants.
28. To come to the top
30. From Old English getra
31. Retired USA people
35. *At that time*
36. Body part on top of neck
37. Egyptian snakes
38. Female pronoun
40. USA domestic spy agency
41. Roofing material
43. The... en Français (M)

Across:

1. Genetic info carrier
5. Stroke gently
10. Vase for ashes
11. Cold, northern area
13. Restaurant
15. Cocoa coffees
16. Dr. Evil's sharks have these
20. Snaky fish
21. 15th day of March
23. Of, relating to, or near the anus
24. *The Yellow ___*, English student
25. Sexy new Ford EIC
27. It + is
28. Holt ____, designers
29. On or after abbrev.
30. Wall covering
32. Irish terrorists
33. Rapidity of action or motion
34. Type of geometry, abbrev.
35. Mother ____, now a saint
38. Things that bleed
39. Corrupts
42. Aural action
44. Drink, slowly
45. Final scene
46. Feeling of anxiety from danger
47. Famous Ogre Battle knight

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Weekly Bad Drawing
By Pete Cram

Note: the approximate distance Pete trusts a red head is 2.56 metres (drawing not to scale)

Pete, do you trust red heads at all? I mean really?

Celeste, I trust red heads about as far as I can throw them

Crossword Answers

C	A	T		S	T	R	O	N	G	S	A	D		
U	P	S					I			E	A	R		
R	E	E	L	S		B	L	E	E	D	S			
			I	O	T	A				D	I	O	R	
T	R	O	G	D	O	R					S	N	O	
A			H	O	R	D	E			A	M		S	
R			A	T	M	A		E	E	L			E	
A			H	E	Y	H	E	Y			L	A	S	H
N	E	E	R			P	O	R	E	S				A
T	I	A				T	Y	R		G	W	A	R	
U	R	D	U			D	O	E			R	E	N	T
L	E		S	O	O	N				J	O	L	T	
A			S	E	C	T						L	E	N

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SUB BEAT

Upsets, beer and basketball



Derek Iwanuk



Bernard Dawson



Mike Brown



Shawn Parker



Dan Wilson

It was a rough weekend for the Cord Sports guys. After four huge upsets including UAB knocking off number one seed Kentucky and Alabama slamming Stanford, the guys find themselves just above 500. The rookies Mike Brown and Dan Wilson lead the pack with both compiling a 32 - 16 record. The veterans of this competition lag behind like a bunch of wounded dogs.

Sweet 16 Mid-West/ East	Derek	Mike	Bernard	Shawn	Dan	Sweet 16 West/South	Derek	Mike	Bernard	Shawn	Dan
UAB vs Kansas	Kansas	Kansas	Kansas	Kansas	Kansas	Duke vs Illinois	Duke	Duke	Duke	Duke	Illinois
Georgia Tech vs Nevada	GT	GT	GT	GT	GT	Texas vs Xavier	Texas	Xav	Xav	Texas	Texas
St. Joes Vs Wake Forest	StJoes	Wake	Wake	Wake	St.Joes	Alabama vs Syracuse	Bama	Syra	Syra	Syra	Syra
Pittsburgh vs Oklahoma St	Pitt	OSU	Pitt	OSU	Pitt	Vanderbilt vs UCONN	UC	UC	UC	UC	UC
Elite 8 Midwest / East						Elite 8 West / South					
(UAB/KAN) vs (GT/NEV)	GT	Kansas	Kansas	Kansas	Kansas	(Duke/III) vs (UT/Xav)	Duke	Duke	Duke	Duke	Illinois
(SJ/Wake) vs (Pitt/OSU)	StJoes	OSU	Wake	Wake	St.Joes	(Bama/Syra) vs (Vandy/Conn)	Bama	Conn	Conn	Conn	Conn

Profiling Laurier's NHL prospect

KELLY WAMSLEY
Staff Writer

Andre Benoit is a second year student here at Laurier. But it doesn't stop there; this boy has more on his resumé than any NHL prospect dreams of. He is currently one of the top defensemen in the CHL, was invited to the World Junior Selection Camp here in Kitchener, was deemed one of the top 34 players in Canada, won a Memorial Cup with the Rangers last season and was invited to the Leafs camp earlier this year. So how does he find time for all of this, plus study at Laurier? Well I got to talk with the local celebrity.

C: First off, is it hard to be a Laurier student and a Kitchener Ranger?

AB: No, it's been working out really well for me, even though the Rangers are not a school team. Laurier has been helpful. If I have a game on an exam day they are very understanding.

C: How do you manage your time between the two?

AB: I only take a couple classes so it is not that bad. School has always been important to me so I have been taking the time to do my school work.

C: Being from a small town, how was the adjustment to the popularity you get by being on the Rangers?

AB: When I first came in the league as a 16 year-old, it was hard to get used to. All of these people wanted my autograph and came to see me play but after a few years I got used to it. And became more attached to the Kitchener fans who are always supportive and I am always looking to give back to the community.

C: Winning the Memorial Cup is probably one of the most momentous events that can happen to a junior player. Last May you guys won it, what was that experience like?

AB: It was unbelievable. When you work hard with 22 guys all year to achieve a goal and to finally reach that goal, it was probably the greatest moment in my career.

C: This past September, you were invited to the Leafs camp. Any comments about that to the raging amount of Leafs fans out there?

AB: It was a great experience even though the main camp was in Sweden and I didn't get to attend that. Any chance that you get to skate with players that have played pro is a great opportunity to learn from them and better yourself.

When a young player comes into this league, hearing things is one thing but seeing how it is done is another.

C: You turned quite a few heads at the World Junior Selection Camp. How did that experience affect you?

AB: It was a great experience even though things didn't turn out the way I wanted them to. Obviously when you attend the Canadian World Junior Selection Camp you want to make the team but they were looking for a different player. But at the same time you are skating with some of the best players in



kitchenerangers.com

Andre Benoit balances life as an OHL player and WLU student.

Canada, and being a part of that. It also gave me a chance to see some of the guys I played with in the under-17 tournament and under-18 tournaments.

C: This year your team is very young. How do you, as a veteran, take on a leadership role?

AB: I am not a vocal-type leader so I try to lead by example. When a young player comes into this league, hearing things is one thing but seeing how it is done is another. But as the season went along I realized I had to be more vocal in the dressing room and on the bench to hold the guys more accountable and that is something I have been working on.

C: What are your goals in your hockey career, and academically?

AB: Playing pro hockey has been a goal of mine since I started playing at the age of four. It hasn't changed since. I realize now that the road to get there isn't easy and that is why I have always worked hard at school. I am not sure what I want to do schoolwise. I plan on finishing up my university career when my hockey is done.

Random sports musings



Random Thoughts

Bernard Dawson

1. March Madness is just over a week old and I wonder who is more excited: the fans of Cinderella teams such as Nevada and UAB or casino owners in Vegas? You would be a moron to take either side but the true winner in the cash counting derby is, as usual, the NCAA.

2. The Todd Bertuzzi incident finally gave the NHL the US headlines the league has always wanted. Every major US sports columnist who had never seen a live NHL game suddenly fancied themselves an expert on the sport.

I'm not defending Bertuzzi here, what he did was despicable, but if it takes a broken neck to get the US mainstream to give the NHL some attention, then maybe the NHL needs to forget about expanding their fan base in the US. A good number of Americans do not care about the things that makes hockey great.

3. A couple of weeks ago Florida State football coach Bobby Bowden came to the defense of suspended Colorado coach Gary Barnett. Parents of Colorado players are also siding with the embattled coach.

I can understand holding off judgement until all the facts are in but if even half the allegations against Colorado players are true, Barnett should never coach again. We're talking about turning a blind eye to recruiting parties where women were raped

and the sexual assault of a female kicker, not winning an illegal March Madness pool.

4. I woke up the other day and saw something that truly frightened me: the Tampa Bay Lightning were first overall in the NHL. This might be one of the signs of the apocalypse. If the Brewers win the NL Central, then I'm moving to Montana and preparing for the end of the world.

5. Too bad the Jays play in the Skydome. With the weather we've been having lately, if the team still played outdoors Opening Day '04 could have been a replay of Opening Day '77.

6. Veterans Stadium was imploded the other day. I remember seeing a game there, almost ten years ago. The place was awful, one of those "Cookie Cutter" dual purpose stadiums with astroturf from the early '70s. The place was a hole but Philly fans seemed to love it. I guess every city has their own run down stadium that fans seem to love despite the lack of comforts.

7. Last month a US federal court ruled that the NFL could not bar players from entering the draft simply because they had been out of high school for less than three years. Now pretty much anyone can forfeit their college eligibility and declare for the draft.

Now that anyone can declare for the NFL draft it is probably only a matter of time before names from Bart Simpsons' calls to Moe begin to appear. Someone needs to start a pool on how many of them are drafted by the Arizona Cardinals.

Fixing the NHL

TIM BOWERS
Cord Sports

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Original Six or Heritage Division

- Boston
- Toronto
- Montreal
- Detroit
- New York Rangers
- Chicago

As a Leaf fan it would be great to see more games against the Blackhawks and Red Wings, a renewal of two great rivalries from the Norris division. The rivalries that have faded a bit as these teams play each other once a year now. Plus it's a great gimmick to reunite the original six.

Atlantic or Sans Fans Division

- New Jersey Devils
- Ottawa
- Tampa Bay
- Atlanta
- Washington
- Philadelphia

It seems the NJ/Ottawa rivalry has heated up in recent years and even more so after last year's playoffs. Philadelphia/Ottawa are also heating up the ice as these teams are in close proximity of each other and are all in the Eastern Time Zone so other rivalries could develop nicely. As far as the name of the division, with the exception of Philadelphia, all of these teams have had serious issues with selling tickets. For example, Philly was unable to sell out their first round playoff home games last year. The other benefit to this alignment is that Atlanta, Washington and Tampa Bay won't win a division title by default, as has been the case in the Southeast division.

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Pacific Division

- Colorado
- Vancouver
- Anaheim
- San Jose
- Phoenix
- Los Angeles

Once again, geography was a main consideration for this alignment. All of these teams fall under Pacific Standard Time, with the exception of Colorado (Mountain Time). The Colorado/Vancouver rivalry has been developing nicely as of late. As well, the two California teams could further develop their rivalry by keeping them in the same division. Revising the name for the division is more difficult, as geography seems to be the only thing teams like Colorado and Anaheim have in common.

Central Division

- St. Louis
- Minnesota
- Dallas
- Edmonton
- Calgary
- Columbus

Keeping the Calgary-Edmonton rivalry together is key. Adding the Dallas/Edmonton rivalry to the mix would make this division quite interesting. Not to mention the interest that would be developed with Minnesota and Dallas (new Minnesota team vs. the old one). With the exception of Dallas, all the teams have predominantly youthful line-ups which should make for some exciting hockey and hopefully make stars of many up and comers.

TEAMS THAT GET THE AXE

Buffalo

After all the turmoil that has surrounded this team and their lacklustre play on the ice for the last four years, there is little to no chance that this franchise could turn things around at the box office. Consider Buffalo extinct.

NY Islanders

This team has sold out about ten games in the last four years and hasn't been a team worth watching since their last trip to the cup finals 20 years ago. Between the Rangers and Devils, there is too much hockey without enough hockey fans. It's time to sink the Islanders. Sorry Captain Highliner.

Pittsburgh

Without Mario Lemieux and Marc-Andre Fleury the Penguins might be considered the worst hockey team assembled in the modern era. They play in the oldest dump in the league, which makes that experience of going to the rink even better. The attendance issues are what forced the team to get rid of stars like Jagr and Lang, who (for a time) were floundering in Washington. This team can't and won't turn a profit again, so why not throw this edition of the Penguins on a nice ice glacier and let it drift them back to the South Pole.

Florida

Two teams in the state of Florida is at least one too many. In their infancy, the team drew nice crowds and even managed an exciting run to the cup finals in their fourth season. Since then, things have been all downhill and the fan base has dried

up. The honeymoon period is over for the former Eastern Conference champs and it's time to put these cats to sleep.

Carolina

Who ever would have thought a hockey team in North Carolina seemed like a good idea? The fair weather fans came out in reasonable numbers when this team made an unexplainable run to the cup finals, but lost interest in their beloved 'Canes' once they were no

longer a Cinderella story. The name Hurricanes was very fitting for this disaster of a franchise.

Nashville

What do hockey and the epicentre of country music have to do with one another? I'm pretty sure nothing and I think they should have kept it that way. I suppose if they were to start holding rodeos at intermission maybe that might drive attendance up for the good ol' boys of Nashville.

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The Passion as pornography?

BRAD SKELTON
Staff Writer

It has been nearly four weeks since Mel Gibson's insanely violent film about the crucifixion went into wide release and while the movie and its director have been steeped in controversy, *The Passion of the Christ* has enjoyed unheard of success for a modern religious film. Is this really a healthy audience response though? Is it right for everyone to flock to a movie that revels in the torture and death of one man, disregarding nearly everything else about him and presenting this violent sensationalism as some kind of religious experience?

I would argue that it is not. I initially thought that attendance for *The Passion* would cool off quickly and that people were just curious about the advance hype and controversy (such as the ridiculous charges of anti-Semitism). But the fact that the film has remained in the top box-office spot for so long and is now approaching the \$300 million mark is a little disquieting. Had the movie failed I would have shrugged it off as an unsuccessful bit of propaganda; the fact that it is being taken so seriously makes it somewhat more insidious.

The more I think about it, the more it becomes clear



Contributed Photo

Actor James Caviezel ignores Mel Gibson's instructions on how to be the best possible Jesus in favour of God's personal telepathic advice.

that *The Passion* is not so much a narrative film as an instructional video on the subject of torture. I'm sure Mel Gibson's heart was in the right place, but he has made a film that takes the crucifixion and strips it of context, isolating it from the life of Christ and his teachings and instead focusing resolutely on carnage and mayhem.

Such a sensationalistic approach to Christ's death is frankly insulting. After reading an article by Peter Howell two weeks ago in the *Toronto Star*, I find I must agree with his assertion that *The Passion* is essentially a 2 hour snuff film: Gibson treats the crucifixion in the same manner as a porno director would treat sex. I realize I need to tread carefully here since some people will likely take offense to my labeling the film as "Christian pornography," but it is important to remember that pornography is not defined by content, but rather by the filmmaker's attitude towards the subject

matter they are dealing with.

Pornography seeks to shock and titillate audiences for the purposes of sexual gratification, and while *The Passion* has different purposes in mind it still seeks to shock and titillate through its exploitation of the basic materials the story provides.

In this case, we have a movie that wants to titillate audiences with a sensationalized version of Christ's death for the purpose of sending everyone out of the theatre in a mood of reverence for the son of God and his sacrifice. This is simply an exploitation film with more noble pretensions.

Even the story arc (if indeed it can be said that there is any arc: there isn't really a beginning, middle or end, but only one scene of torture after another) resembles that of a porno film, with the beatings and floggings replacing sex. Most disturbing is the fact that the moment of Christ's death is employed as the climax and

as the Roman spear pierces his side we see jets of blood spurting from his body. This moment is, for all intents and purposes, the "money shot," and is not unlike the money shot in a porno flick.

What really aggravates me about Christ's death as the climax is that this moment should not be used as the highest point of drama or emotion in the story. The resurrection should be the climax. The resurrection is not even handled by Gibson as a denouement but is instead thrown in as the equivalent of a footnote, perhaps because it wasn't violent enough to fit in with the rest of the movie. I hate to think that the choice to essentially omit the resurrection was as cynical as this, but based on the evidence provided, what else can we assume?

It is probably clear to you by now that I think this film is dishonest in the way it tries to manipulate the audience. I am surprised that all the people I have talked to about *The Passion* have found the need to tiptoe around the problems the film boxes itself

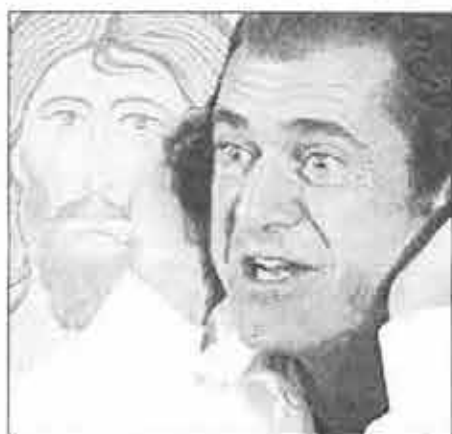
into, as though it would be in bad taste to criticize a filmmaker who obviously loves Jesus. But Gibson's reverence for our Lord and Savior is undermined by his own overwrought, gratuitously violent interpretation of the Passion. Martin Scorsese's *The Last Temptation of Christ*, a film I greatly admire, was also violent but Scorsese did not feel the need to go overboard into the realm of wretched excess. Does Gibson really feel that movie audiences have become so numbed, or that people in general are so starved of sensory input that he must slap us around with shocking images just to achieve whatever effect he's going for?

Here we have a movie that is, at its core, a piece of hyperactive exploitation masquerading as spirituality. *The Passion* seeks to be profound but is merely manipulative. However admirable his intentions are, Mel Gibson has made a film that cannot and should not be taken seriously.



Contributed Photo

How is the sordid act of crucifixion related to the lighthearted antics of hardcore pornography? Read the article, lazy.



Music. Weird. Why? Sexy zombies!



Trendy Trends

Chris Collie

It's seriously weird when you're watching music videos and a dude like Marilyn Manson with all his asexual plastic suits and totally off-the-cuff dental work seems completely normal. In fact, his appearance hardly causes a second glance while you're lying on the couch with a giant glass of chocolate milk resting on your lap. I find this intriguing. Would you ever speak to a dude dressed like this if he was standing next to you in the real world? I'd wager your answer would be HELLS NO.

You'd probably be a little scared and slowly start to move away as quietly as possible (that is, if you didn't already look like him in the first place...). But the truth of this paradox is that Marilyn Manson just so happens to be a giant freaking rock star, and not just some guy you would ever see walking through a party. Because of this, you'd probably be stoked if you were watching him from the 900th row of Ozzfest. I'd even wager that a lot of girls who typically wouldn't be into his variety of 'authoritarian fashion' would toy with the idea of making out with Manson if given the

opportunity. After all, he somehow snagged Rose McGowan.

His appearance just makes his whole 'being a rock star' thing more edgy and intriguing for everyone to watch, and besides, nobody really believes in his neo-Satanism death occult shtick that much anyways. So on the same premise, take a group like No Doubt. Their drummer makes a regular occasion out of wearing a giant diaper or tiny thong out on stage, and is ostensibly known to sport the most ridiculous amount of manlipstick I've ever seen. Now imagine the uproar if some fine gentleman was to show up in class wearing that diaper - it just doesn't happen too often in public institutions. But when someone like this guy is doing these things from behind a gigantic ska-rock band, it's perfectly acceptable.

Musicians can act and look as unruly as they want.

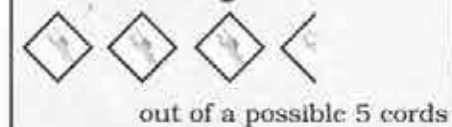
It's one of the rules when you belong to such an elite and rewarding profession: you can act, dress, and look however undomesticated as you want, and it's the right thing to do. It's the hyper-attitude, 'I'm weird' confidence that makes a lot of music stars great, because being a rock star is more like being an actor than anything

else. You must always assume a character and get into a role, even if the lines to your own true personality start to become blurred.

I once saw a documentary on Metallica where lead vocalist James Hetfield was complaining about how, when he gets offstage each night, everybody expects him to be this crazy wastepail and most of the time he just wants to go read some media theory or do something completely un-Metallica like. For people in the crowd, it's hard to separate the character onstage from the person backstage.

This is why it makes me a little upset when people like Marilyn Manson get blamed for events like the Columbine shootings in Colorado and scapegoated as the reason for the occurrence of such a tragic event. No. He's just someone who had an idea for a character, ended up with the right marketing department, and was dropped upon a giant population of depressed and disenfranchised kids who identified with the concept of 'Marilyn Manson.' His real name is Brian Warner, and he's just a guy who likes to play dress-up. Just because Manson chooses darker subject matter doesn't mean that the general principle is any different from that of a band like No Doubt. Whether or not he's become far too lost in his own creation, however, is another question entirely.

Film: Dawn of the Dead
Released: Mar. 19, 2004
Starring: Sarah Polley, Ving Rhames, Mekhi Phifer
Nutshell: Zombies...obviously
Cord's Rating:



out of a possible 5 cords

ERIC CHOW
Movie Reviewer

Dawn of the Dead is a remake of the 1978 horror classic where a plague infects millions of people and turns them into mindless zombies that roam the Earth (or in this particular film, the United States). As a result, a small band of survivors seek shelter in a Washington mall. The plot revolves around the notion that the survivors must defend themselves from the hordes of zombies that have discovered their hiding place and are headed straight for them.

Academic Value

This particular film is another definitive 'check-your-brains-at-the-door' horror film. To discover any academic value for this film would be more difficult than trying to find a parking spot on campus. But nonetheless, in the name of academia, I will venture an effort. One could argue that the zombies are a metaphor for our culture and how, as an MTV generation, we have turned into mindless-zombies roaming the earth seeking nothing but munchies for our stomachs, not our minds. We have spurned novels in favour of magazine articles that are shorter than this section of writing. We have spurned classes so that we can gain an extra half-hour of precious sleep even though that particular class is at 4:30 in the afternoon. And to complete this analogy, we are drawn unconsciously to a mall like bees to honey.

Continued on page 23



Contributed Photo

Graffiti is simply a dreadful problem in modern society.

Evil scary zombies!

Continued from page 22

Who should you see it with?

Bring Michelle Rodriguez. Failing that, bring someone from Foot Patrol so that they can hold your hands as you cower in utter fear.

My Take

Dawn of the Dead captures the 'spirit' of the cult classic, as it contains well done special effects, above-average camera work and decent acting performances by the survivors whose acting was overshadowed by the zombies. However, it must be noted that the director did a phenomenal job of creating much more suspense with

very intelligent camera work and playing with the lighting, camera techniques and angles rather than simply relying on music. Ving Rhames was his usual cool self, kicking some ass and asking questions later. I especially love his use of one-syllable words in his dialogue throughout the entire film.

After all, Ving did not want to be held responsible for injecting some intelligence into this film. The intelligence or lack thereof is utterly mind-boggling. Why on earth would any person try to run across a street filled with thousands of zombies just to try and save a dog? I am against animal cruelty but I have to draw the line somewhere. But nonethe-

less, as I watched this film I noticed that it had a *28 Days Later* vibe to it - the fear that was imposed upon the audience is refreshing and not clichéd, thereby giving this movie a somewhat original feel.

Cheeky Fact

Did you know that during the Gulf War, Sarah Polley was attending a children award show where she was seated with representatives from Disney? They asked her to remove the peace symbol chain that she was wearing, but she refused. Disney has blacklisted her ever since. Kind of puts being kicked out of the 7-eleven for not wearing shoes into perspective.



Contributed photos

In an astounding show of techno-power, zombies in the remake clearly look more zombie-like than those in the original (inset)

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Rah Rah Religion

Jason Shim

Hey, are you going to see The Passion of the Christ?
Nah, waiting for the DVD.

Why? It's out in theatres, just go see it now.

I hear the DVD has bloopers.

Special Edition DVD: The Passion of the Christ
NO! You IDIOTS
It's ****NAILS**** in the hands and ****SPEAR**** in the side!!!
And **THORNS** on his head! Not ****HORNS****!

Weekly Lyrics

"Alright, alright, alright, alright
Alright, alright, alright, Ok now ladies!
yeah?
And we gonna break this back down in just a few seconds
Now don't have me break this thing down for nothin'
Now I wanna see y'all on y'all baddest behavior
Lend me some suga', I am your NEIGHBOUR"

Do you know these outcast lyrics? How could you not? These are the easiest lyrics ever. I'm not even trying anymore. Be the first to send an email with the song and artist name to wlu-entertainment@yahoo.ca and I'll put your name in the next issue, plus you'll get a free CD... sweet Jesus Christ Superstar!

SuperExtremeMega Lyric Contest Finale!

Sweet mercy! Next week is the year's last issue of the *Cord* and my very last Lyric of the Week contest EVER! Consequentially I am giving away ALL the CDs I have left in a grab bag of "epic" proportions to the final winner next week in an admirable show of magnanimity. Go down in history as an ultimate winner! WIN WIN WIN!

Last week:
Amanda Branch was the first to correctly guess that the lyrics were from Story of the Year's melodramatic "Until the Day I Die." Sorry about that selection Amanda... Sam and Laura, you guys are spectacular but you can only win once.

- Chris, Entertainment Editor

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At least 3/5 bedrooms available at Village on the Green unit 75. Price starts at \$300 but is negotiable. Utilities included. 15 minute walk to WLU. Close to Zehrs. Free laundry, central air and free tennis court use. Sublet starts May 2004. At least 2 bedrooms available for 2004/05 school year. Contact Marianne at 416-231-5675 or Nick at 519-746-4317.

May to May Lease Wanted

Graduated girl working in the area seeks room for 1 with mature senior/grad students. May to May lease. Prefer 10 minute walk to King St. globalallison@hotmail.com Allison 342-1131

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1-3 rooms available. Newly renovated, clean, large living room and kitchen, balcony, parking, on-site laundry, 1.5 baths, 8 minute walk to WLU, seconds from 2 major bus route stops. Available May 1 to August 31. Price: BEST OFFER!! Call 885-7256 for more information. Ask for Gillian.

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2 Bedrooms for Rent

Ezra Street. Available from May to May. \$370 per month plus utilities. Two bedrooms in a five bedroom house. Call Sam at 579-5267.

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Summer Sublet 3 Rooms

Prime location, Up to 3 rooms available May 1st to August 31st 2004. House is located at the corner of Albert and University. \$275 including utilities. Contact Bobby 519-883-9756 or bryk1320@wlu.ca

EMPLOYMENT

Volunteer Position

Are you female and staying in K-W this summer? Interested in volunteering? KW Sexual Assault Support Centre is hosting a volunteer information night April 20th 7-9pm at 151 Frederick Street, Kitchener. We will present a general overview of the organization and volunteer opportunities. It is a chance for you to get to KWSASC and find out how you can be involved in serving Waterloo Region. Contact us at 571-0121 or volunteer@kwsasc.org.

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PERSONALS

Matt Street.

Thanks for all you do to make the world a better place. The candle-light peacewalk and events leading up to it were excellent. Congratulations!

Danielle Francois.

Happy Birthday Danban!! You are a wonderful woman and I love you with all my heart.
Love always, Anna N.

City of Guelph.

Notice of FF arrival. Please take note that FF will be visiting the City of Guelph over the upcoming weekend. Please be adequately prepared and ensure that there will be enough booze in the city.
Many Thanks, FF

City of Waterloo.

Notice of FF departure - thank goodness. However, please be advised that this will only be a two-day FF-free zone. Unlock your liquor cabinets, it's time to get wild.
Many Thanks, WW

Looking to start a band

I'm tired of banging on my pots and pans, please call me and join my band. Contact Carly (she's okay) for more band information at write_on27@hotmail.com. ONLY serious band people need apply. All instruments and voices welcome. Experience and natural talent preferred, but not required.

HOUSING pt.

Female Roommate Wanted

to live with 2 female students in newly reennovated 3 bedroom house. \$400 inclusive, May-May, free laundry (in house), backyard with patio. Must be relatively neat and tidy. Contact at 588-7459 or 501-2361.

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CineFrance triples the french fun

The Department of Language and Literature hosts annual film screening

THOMAS THOMPSON
Special Projects Editor

Parlez-vous français? Not necessary. This Saturday, the Maureen Forrester Recital Hall was host to the Department of Language and Literature's annual presentation of CineFrance, a screening of notable French films.

The first selection was an animated feature called *Kirikou and the Sorceress*, a movie set in an African village that has fallen under misery. Kirikou is born into a village that has no water, all the warriors except his young uncle have been 'eaten' by a sorceress, and she has demanded all of their gold. The villagers are despondent and hopeless in the face of the sorceress and her army of servant-like 'fetishes.'

Kirikou foils the plots of the sorceress and even saves the villagers and the village children from their own fool-

ishness. In the end, Kirikou comes out ahead, but in some ways he doesn't: he defeats the sorceress, is transformed into a man, and ends up declaring her to be his wife.

However, the villagers do not accept this. I enjoyed the film and the ensuing discussion I had with a friend regarding colonialism and modernity in Africa, based upon the fact that the 'fetishes' were actually the village men who had turned into servile machines.

The second film, *Ni Pour Ni Contre (Bien au Contraire)*, centres around Cathy, a lonely twenty-seven year old camerawoman who is seduced into joining the underworld of Paris. She is hired by a gang to videotape their heists, and for some reason she seduces their leader with her shyness and innocence. Soon she is one of the gang, giving up her own life and

identity to participate in their adventures.

Eventually, the leader proposes the heist of a lifetime, the robbery of a Brinks vault with millions of Euros in it, but the others are reluctant to go through with it. The gang dissolves and everyone goes their own way. Eventually though, they are dissatisfied with their personal failures. The gang is reunited again and they carry out the job, meeting disastrous results that include death, arrest and betrayal.

The final film of the night was Francois Ozon's *Swimming Pool*. Sarah Morton is a middle-aged English writer sent by her publisher John to summer house in Southern France. The catch is that his daughter Julie is staying there. Julie is a sultry blonde, a nymphomaniac who seduces a different man each night of the week, regardless of age or appearance.

The relationship between Julie and Sarah begins to

grow, but Morton starts writing a narrative about this vivacious temptress. The culmination of action in the film is the cover-up of a murder. Morton finishes her book and re-visits her publisher; she also asks the publisher to give a copy to Julie.

Without giving away all the secrets, the audience is ultimately left with the fact that the entire narrative and plot of the film was actually a false construct. The question that remains unanswered is what is real?



The first film gets things rolling off to a good clean start...



The second film of the night gets edgy: be very very seduced



Hmm... the third film of the night: be very very very seduced

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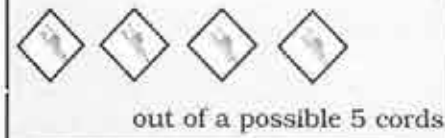
LA RIER
STUDENT ALUMNI

Darlin', gimme a head with hair

Laurier students put on a dazzling musical performance of *Hair* starring hippies, hallucinations, and uh... big hair.

Musical: Hair
Released: March 19th/20th
Starring: WLU Drama fiends
Nutshell: Hippies, drugs, fun

Cord's Rating:



JOHN MEDDICK & JOHN BOOREN
 Staff Writers

No, millions of citizens are not currently being sent overseas to fight Charlie in order to neutralize the Viet Cong. And no, the CIA is most certainly not training soldiers in an underground attempt to overthrow the Cuban government. However, if you were at Laurier's performance of *Hair* this weekend in the Turret, it is com-

pletely understandable why you may think you're back in the sixties. In fact, amidst all the singing and dancing during Friday's thrilling performance, we found ourselves contemplating why we didn't get more involved in the anti-Vietnam movement.

For those of you who waived on the opportunity to see *Hair*, it was most certainly a blast from the past and reminded us of what the sixties were all about: drugs, hippies, and hallucinations, peppered with three outlandish wigs.

Here is everything you ever wanted to know about *Hair*. It takes place in Greenwich Village, New York City and it features a varied collection of people: a tribe of hippies, cops, a transvestite tourist (who breaks out with the song *My Conviction* after being impressed by the tribes performance of *Hair* [the song] just for her/him), Abraham Lincoln, Ulysses S.

Grant, Buddhist monks and Catholic nuns, and a tribute to Scarlett O'Hara.

The first act provided us with an introduction of the characters in a manner only a musical could pull off - musically. Hey! Do you remember the song *Age of Aquarius*? Yeah, it's from here. *Hair* - the musical.

To be honest, I couldn't follow the story in the first half, but the music was great. I failed to pick up a program and my fellow reporter wouldn't let me see his, but luckily when people got up to stretch their legs at intermission I snatched their copies.

The cast and crew deserve credit; they did a great job given everything they had to work with. We'll say this though, the Turret is an inappropriate place to stage a musical. Sure, it provided space to perform, but for the amount of effort the students put in, they deserved a more appropriate venue.

Before the performance on Friday night, we had an opportunity to sit down with the director of *Hair*, Melissa Runhart. In questioning her about the various aspects of the play, Melissa told us that the musical was produced entirely out-of-pocket. Which means, the school didn't give them any funding whatsoever. I would have thought that given our large music program, surely they would have embraced the opportunity to assist our students in such a creative, musical production.

But they didn't. Ah well, maybe next year. Speaking of which, keep your eyes open for a new Drama/Music Club that these cast members hope to begin next year. They will definitely be looking for new members, especially guys.



John Booren

While the Turret may have been a tad small to perform *Hair*, the cast managed to put on a great show despite the limited space.



John Meddick

Travelling back to the 1960s with the cast from the musical *Hair*.

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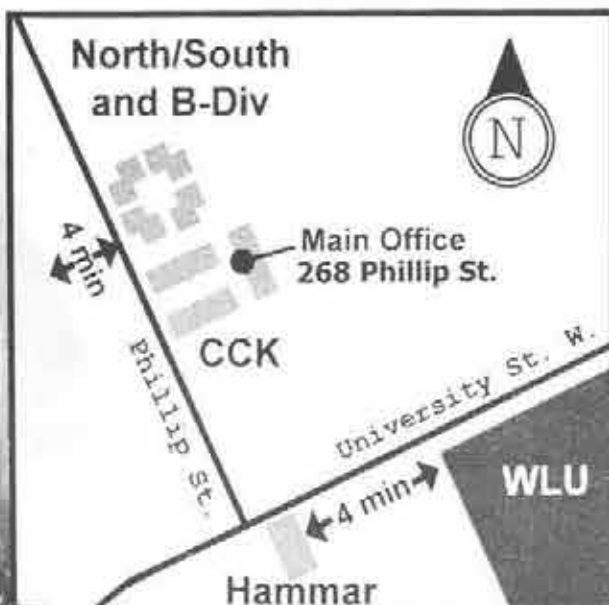
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If these walls could talk...

Langen Gallery opens up to students, staff and faculty for annual exhibition featuring dramatic, original pieces

KATIE WEST
Arts Editor

Wouldn't it be satisfying to have the Dean of Arts personally fund part of your tuition, or better still, net you a bag of chips and a coke? At Laurier's annual student/staff/faculty exhibition presently showcased at the Robert Langen Gallery, Dean Campbell had the prestigious honour of choosing his favourite artistic submission to hang in his office, with the intention of negotiating its price with the artist. The fact that he was so hard-pressed to choose a winner and instead chose three, was indicative of the impressive quality of the show's art.

Open to students in all disciplines as well as other interested members in the Laurier community, the Langen Gallery is currently exhibiting close to eighty pieces. Art Gallery co-ordinator Heather Redden-Greer

welcomed friends, family, and admirers to a show that has adjectives that include "voyeuristic" and "creative" at its heart. Artist and WLU Fine Arts faculty member Michal Manson gestured to the crowd and the artistic pieces with a proud, "so... look what we did."

Dean Campbell was hard-pressed to pick a favourite at this year's highly popular art exhibition

Although the exhibition was rooted in widespread appreciation and enjoyment, Dean Campbell did pick favourites: Rhoda Zacharias, Kate Gingrich, and Erin Hannoa-Watkinson. In nutshell that do not give artist or art near enough

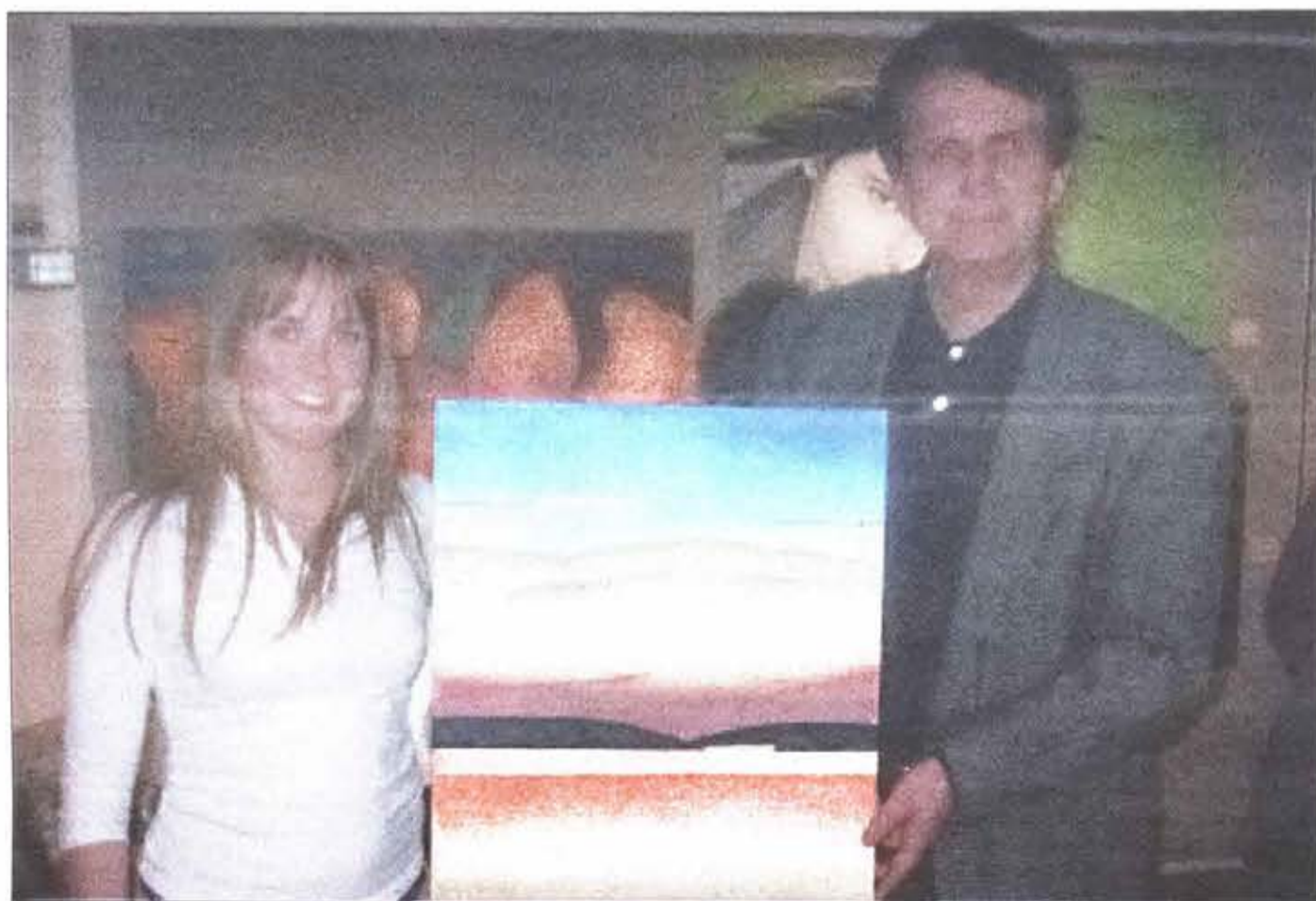
credit, the winners described the inspiration behind their pieces. Zacharias' piece, "Peach," was inspired by a descriptive reading from a second year class with Manson. Gingrich's piece "Harvest" was the product of a collaboration of photos and inspiring places, culminating in a picturesque view of a country landscape. And last but not least, Hannoa-Watkinson's work "Lookout" is a memorable view from Georgian Bay, illustrating the importance of simplified forms and colour.

Sponsored by the Laurier Bookstore, this open-call show in past years has offered work such as painting, sculpture, stained glass, photography, and mixed media works. The exhibition runs from March 16-27th. It doesn't matter if you're a computer science major or a veteran artist; the walls of the gallery are waiting.



Wilbur McLean

Rhoda Zacharias and the Dean are clearly pleased with "Peach."



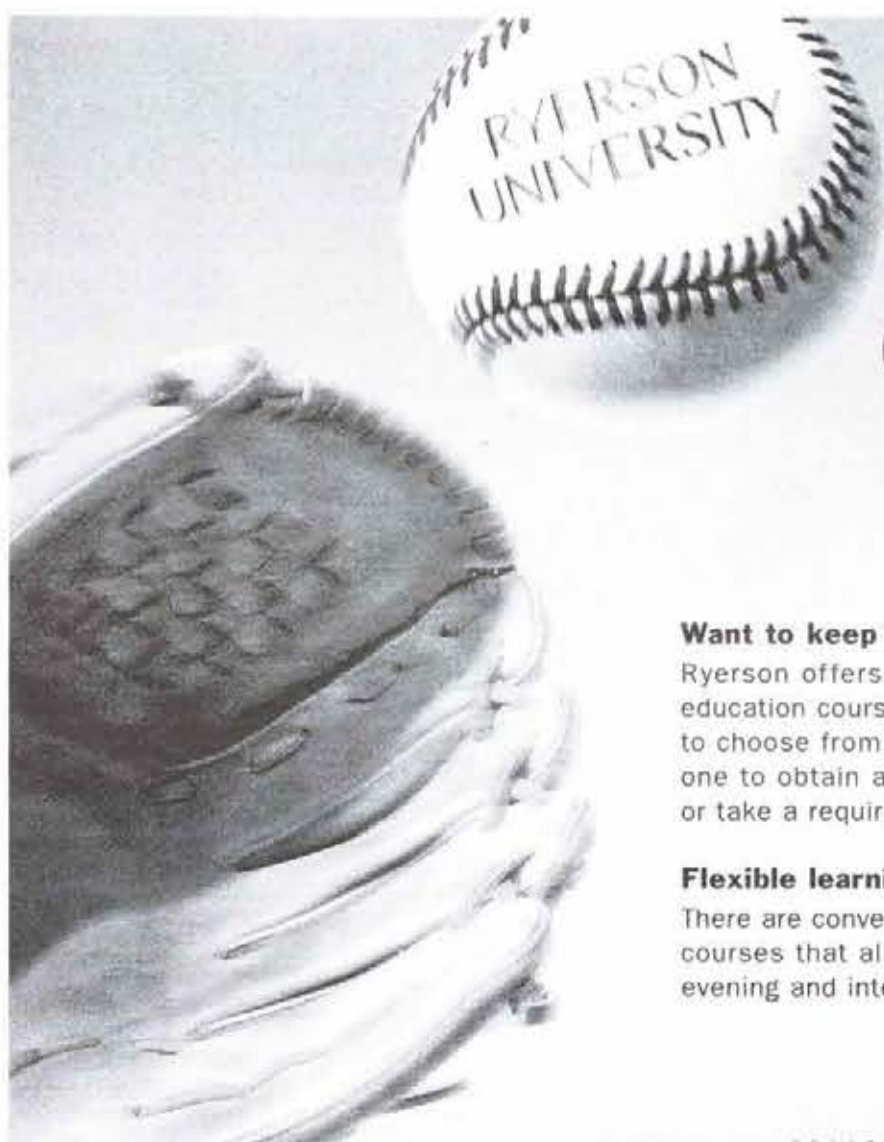
Wilbur McLean

Erin Hannoa-Watkinson and three-time buyer show us a sunset "Lookout" from Georgian Bay.



Wilbur McLean

Kate Gingrich and Dean Campbell bring in the "Harvest" together.



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