

THE CORD WEEKLY

The tie that binds since 1926



Cord Arts photo contest winner revealed... page 28

Crazy upsets in March Madness... page 20



Volume 45 Issue 26

Wednesday March 23, 2005

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Close-up with F'nM



Narges Bayani

Fashion 'n Motion took centre stage with this year's show, Close-Up. Full review page 17. Editorial reaction to this year's Fashion 'n Motion show can be found in the Opinion section on page 6.

Laurier a 'Lively environment'

Volunteers show off what Laurier has to offer high schoolers

ADRIAN MA
Cord Staff

Last Friday's Laurier Day Open-house event attracted many high-school seniors with parents in tow.

The University welcomed the visitors with blaring music, campus tours, demonstrations and plenty of the raucous cheering that Laurier excels at.

The environment was lively, with most of the school's residences reveling in the opportunity to compete against each other

for bragging rights as the most fun residence to be in.

The Euler residence used a Candyland theme and distributed sugary fixes to visitors, while Bouckert allied with Little House in a Survivor theme, featuring games and challenges. Macdonald House residence converted their lobby into an 80's playground.

"We're all 80's, we've got some hopscotch, some four-square, and crazy dancing," said Stew Wynne, who spent most of his morning giving people tours of Mac House.

He added that Mac House's proximity to the cafeteria was a big selling point to many incoming Laurier students.

Laura Sheridan of Bouckert noted that the energy of the touring guests nearly matched that of

the students showing them around.

She said: "I think people love it. There are a lot of people going around with a great attitude, lots of energy, lots of people seem really excited, and I think that's transferring to the people that are visiting today."

Glennice Synder, the Liason manager for WLU, isn't surprised by the positive reaction of visitors on Laurier Day.

The day is tailored to respond to the inquiries of visitors, and the school aimed to increase the public's satisfaction with its information sessions.

Speakers discuss Sri Lankan peace

RAMES PARAMSOTHY
Production Assistant

On Wednesday, March 16 the Senate Chambers were host to a presentation and discussion about the prospects for peace in Sri Lanka, with a special emphasis on the effects of the recent tsunami. The seminar was just one stop in a lecture series presented by the Forum of Federations, an organization working to encourage federalism worldwide.

Short presentations were given by Laurier Chancellor Bob Rae and Rohan Edrisinha, a law professor at the University of Colombo in Sri Lanka. Both

speakers spoke at length about the existing political and social situation in the island nation, as well as the prospects for a federalist state once peace is achieved.

Edrisinha addressed the needs faced by Sri Lankans in the immediate future; he emphasized that relief, recovery and restructuring were necessary elements in the aftermath of the December Tsunami. "How to deal with the foreign aid and reconstruction is a concern for the government," said Edrisinha.

- Please see **Laurier**, page 2

- Please see **Sri Lanka**, page 3

Community atmosphere attracts kids

Laurier, from cover

For this latest Laurier Day, changes were made that sought to promote Laurier's popular Psychology program, as well as the Photonics Department. By sectioning off these departments from the Faculty of Science, Synder hoped that prospective students came away with their questions answered thoroughly.

Synder, however, acknowledges that the real appeal of Laurier Day lies in the student-led tours that prospective freshmen participate in. She credits the volunteers at Laurier for taking the time to highlight the strengths of the school to the public.

"Our tour program is one of the best tour programs in Canada and that's just not coming from how we feel about it, it's taken from surveys."

According to national surveys, Laurier is top among universities in tour programs.

"That's why Laurier does so well. The passion and love for Laurier shines in every student here. We love our Laurier students."

Along with the enthusiasm of the student body, people were also impressed with the new King Street residence, and the current renovations being completed on the Athletic Complex.

Tour-guides noticed that the most common complaint about Laurier centred on the obvious lack of size in comparison to other major Ontario universities.

"Some people don't like



Erin Moore

Three Laurier ladies highlight and display their residence, in this case Laurier Place, at the FNCC Quad on Laurier Day. Both school administrators and student participants consider the open house a success.

small," commented Laurier volunteer guide Simone Swatika. "But the good thing about being in a small place is you've got that relationship with your profs, so you get to know each other on a more personal level."

Swatika also notes that Laurier's famous community mentality is a product of the

school's small size, and it was her personal goal on Laurier Day to show people that although the school is small in stature, it is certainly big in spirit.

CORRECTION: In the March 9, 2005 edition of *The Cord Weekly*, Poly Polydorou was misquoted in the Vocal Cord that appeared on page 16 in Student Life. The quote should have read: "Tossing the sausage in the bun." *The Cord* regrets this error.

RETRACTION: In the February 16, 2005 edition of *The Cord Weekly* on page 8, we ran an advertisement highlighting *The Cord's* General Meeting using a photo out of context from the MSW's tuition protest the same week, which included students Rachel Brubacher and Melissa Kingdon. The sign which was altered to read "Ban the Cord" should have read "In debt for life no doubt about it." *The Cord* did not ask permission to use the photo in its altered state. *The Cord* regrets any embarrassment suffered by Ms. Brubacher and Ms. Kingdon as a result.

Photographs of individuals taken in private or in a location that could be reasonably considered to be private are prohibited from publication without the individuals' consent. Photographs of individuals taken in public, however, are the sole property of the photographer, provided that the individuals are not in any way misrepresented by any alterations made to it.

Grad Blowout

Thursday, March 31

Grad Fair & FREE BBQ
4-7 pm - Concourse

Grad Party
9-2 am - Turret
Grad Priority Access 'till 11

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Ask about CONVOCATION

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Welcome to the ALUMNI ASSOCIATION!



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Join Molson for a NEW 'Kick'



**THE CORD WEEKLY'S...
5 DAY ACTION NEWS
WEATHER FORECAST**

Today		Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning: Mix of sun and cloud -5°C 20% POP	Afternoon: Cloudy 0°C 40% POP	Cloudy High 2°C Low -6°C 30% POP	Rain or Snow High 3°C Low -6°C 40% POP	Cloudy with rain High 4°C Low -4°C 60% POP	Sunny High 3°C Low 1°C 0% POP

Laurier bio students make newspaper

Newspaper to communicate students' research to Laurier public

FRASER KING
News Editor

The Cord may have some competition this week as the students of Biology 240 have put out their own newspaper, *The Cellulae*.

"One of the skills that I thought my students should develop was the ability to communicate their learning," said Jeremy Friedberg, the part-time instructor of the class. "We undertook this to teach other people on campus what the students have learned."

The biology students' newspaper was designed and produced by students with the help of Cord Editor-in-Chief Caitlin Howlett, who was approached by Friedberg to help make the paper. "[Friedberg] just called me and explained that he wanted to make this newspaper, but that he did not have the tools," explained Howlett.

"The goal of this exercise was to take something interesting to the students, then distill the information down into something understandable to the general public," noted Friedberg. "The best format we decided was to create a little newspaper, and to make it enjoyable for the readers."

Friedberg explained that the project was designed to not only help the students communicate what they had learned but to help bring science to the public.

"The media is the main outlet for science," said Friedberg. "Frankly, the media does not do a good job of bringing science to the public."

The Cellulae was an experiment for Friedberg and the Laurier Department of Biology – it will be the first newspaper put out by the Department.

"The department of Biology was wonderful and happy about



Pictured above is the cover of *The Cellulae*, the newspaper produced by Dr. Friedberg's cell biology class.

the project," said Friedberg. "It was lots of fun," said Howlett, continuing, "I enjoyed helping out the class." Howlett, laughing, also said, "I even found a few writers that I need to approach."

"It was very much a student effort," noted Friedberg, "and it was wonderful to see the students come together and get excited."

The Cellulae is a 12 page paper with four sections that will be available on campus where *The Cord* can be found this week only.

Presentation on peace in Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka, from cover

Both speakers discussed the possibility of a resolution to the ethnic conflict waged between the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) and the Sri Lankan government, that has battered the nation for over two decades. The LTTE is fighting for a separate state for the Tamil minority population in the north and east; they allege widespread discrimination against Tamils from the Sinhalese dominated government. Edrisinha was pessimistic about the prospects for peace in the short term, "Both sides are obsessed with control, which makes compromise difficult."

According to Rae, a renewal of combat is a very real possibility. If this were to occur, he believes, the violence would likely be far worse than previous periods of strife. A return to violence would not bode well for the already battered populace: "The population is exhausted by the war," said Rae.

Both speakers encouraged the establishment of a federalist government upon peace, believing this would be the best way to establish a lasting compromise between all sides. However, Edrisinha was not optimistic about the likelihood that a federalist system could be introduced, stating, "both the Sri Lankan government and the LTTE have different perspectives on the definition of federalism."

Ultimately, however, both speakers believe that no real progress is possible until after national elections are held in 2006; both sides will be more willing to make commitments

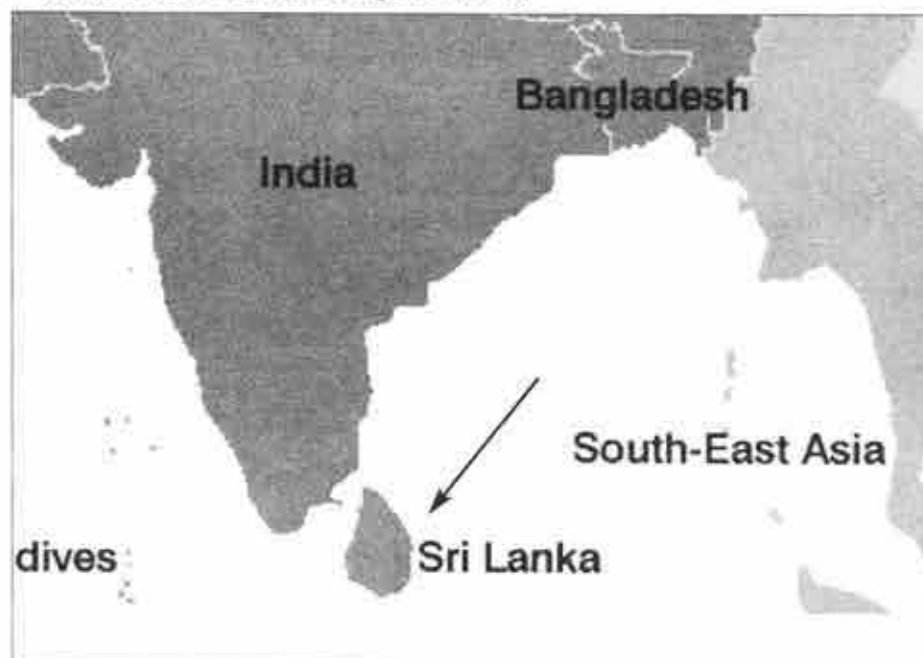


Rohan Edrisinha, law professor at the University of Colombo in Sri Lanka, addresses the Laurier Senate chambers as Bob Rae and Anthropology professor Amali Phillips look on.

once they have a real mandate.

The audience, heavily populated by Tamil students from Laurier and the University of Waterloo, was given the chance to ask questions after Rae and Edrisinha had spoken. Students used the opportunity to voice their concerns about the alleged unequal distribution of foreign aid between Tamil and Sinhalese areas as well as to discuss the existing political situation further.

The Tsunami was responsible for the deaths of over 30,000 people on the island; over 60,000 people have perished since military conflict was initiated in the early 1980s. Both catastrophes have led to the displacement of hundreds of thousands of civilians.



Contributed Graphic

Sri Lanka, identified in the map above, was severely affected by the December 26 tsunami. There continues to be conflict between the Tigers of Tamil and the Sri Lankan government.

CORD clippings

LOCAL Budd agrees on contract changes

Employees of auto parts company ThyssenKrupp Budd have agreed to contract changes in order to keep their biggest customer, General Motors. Approximately 70 percent of the companies unionized employees voted in favour of the new contract.

Budd is in danger of losing it's contract with GM, which represents 78 percent of its sales. To secure the renewal, they need to cut costs and increase productivity. After two weeks of meetings, the union came to an agreement that they feel will help keep the contract with GM.

NATIONAL Gretzky declines to run Hockey Canada

Wayne Gretzky has declined an offer to run Team Canada at the world championships next month, due to personal matters.

Gretzky, who put together the gold-medal team at the 2002 Winter Olympics, is very disappointed that he cannot be involved this year. He is quoted as saying "I will not be able to put in the 100 percent that is needed for Hockey Canada." Steve Tambellini will be the team's general manager in Gretzky's absence.

PROVINCIAL Physicians urged to reject Ontario offer

The Ontario Governments new proposal for doctors is under fire, after a team of specialists urged their colleagues to reject the deal.

The Specialist Coalition of Ontario fears that this offer will not help Ontario's struggling health care system. Dr. Bill Hughes, co-chairman of the coalition says, "We're concerned there are a number of physicians who are going to be economically worse off at the end of the four years than they are at the beginning. We don't see that as doing anything to help out the crisis of [doctor] availability in Ontario."

compiled by Sierra Leedham

THE CORD WEEKLY

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Local woman sought in assault investigation



Waterloo Regional Crimestoppers

Picture above is Margaret Squires, aged 26, standing 5'5" and weighing 100 pounds is sought in connection with a January 7 assault and robbery. In addition, on February 23 Squires broke into a Cambridge residence and struck a resident with a metal mitre box and took the victim's prescription drugs. Squires is considered to be dangerous and any person with information about her whereabouts should call Crimestoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).



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TAKE IT BACK THE CONCOURSE

Monday March 28th and Tuesday March 29th 2005 from 9am to 4pm.

T²

The Curret Goes to Sunnyvale

March 24

FRIED CHICKEN, CHICKEN FINGERS AND PEPPERONI MMM... GOOD EATIN'!

COME DRESSED AS YOUR FAVOURITE CHARACTER TO WIN PRIZES!



Laurier cleans up at the Kin Games



Contributed photo

58 Laurier kinesiology students went to the Kin Games, (a yearly contest of physical challenges and school spirit) and this year under the leadership of Andrea Duncan and Dave Munroe the Laurier team was led to victory, dominating in all of the competition. The Kin Games were held in Edmonton at the University of Alberta campus, and for their effort the kinesiology students claim the Shoe. The highly coveted prize for the games is seen in the picture above with the victorious Laurier team.

News Bite

Peter Erb, a professor of Religion and Culture at Laurier, has expressed his malcontent for *The Da Vinci Code*. The novel, which has sold 25 million copies in 44 languages, is full of anti-catholic bias, he says. Erb says that part of the book's success is rooted in such bias. Erb told *The Record* that people need to be aware that the book is fiction-based and should not be taken as history. "I have found one page with 14 historical errors on it," he said.

The *Da Vinci Code* is a murder mystery which takes place in the Louvre. The characters work to uncover secrets with clues found in paintings that have been protected since the days of Christ.

Compiled by April Cunningham

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THE CORD WEEKLY

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- ◆ Applications are available in the WLUSP office
- ◆ They are due on **FRIDAY APRIL 1**
- ◆ The Graphics Editor sits on *The Cord's* Editorial Board and will be chiefly responsible for *The Cord's* editorial cartoons
- ◆ **Candidates must be competent in sketching and drawing, knowledge in Adobe Photoshop is also an asset**
- ◆ The successful candidate will receive a \$400 honourarium



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THE CORD WEEKLY

Also wants writers for:

- News
- Student Life
- International
- Arts & Entertainment
- Sports
- Features
- Special Projects
- Cord History
- Summer Opinion Columnists

Applications are available in WLUSP office and due on **Friday, April 1**

THE CORD WEEKLY

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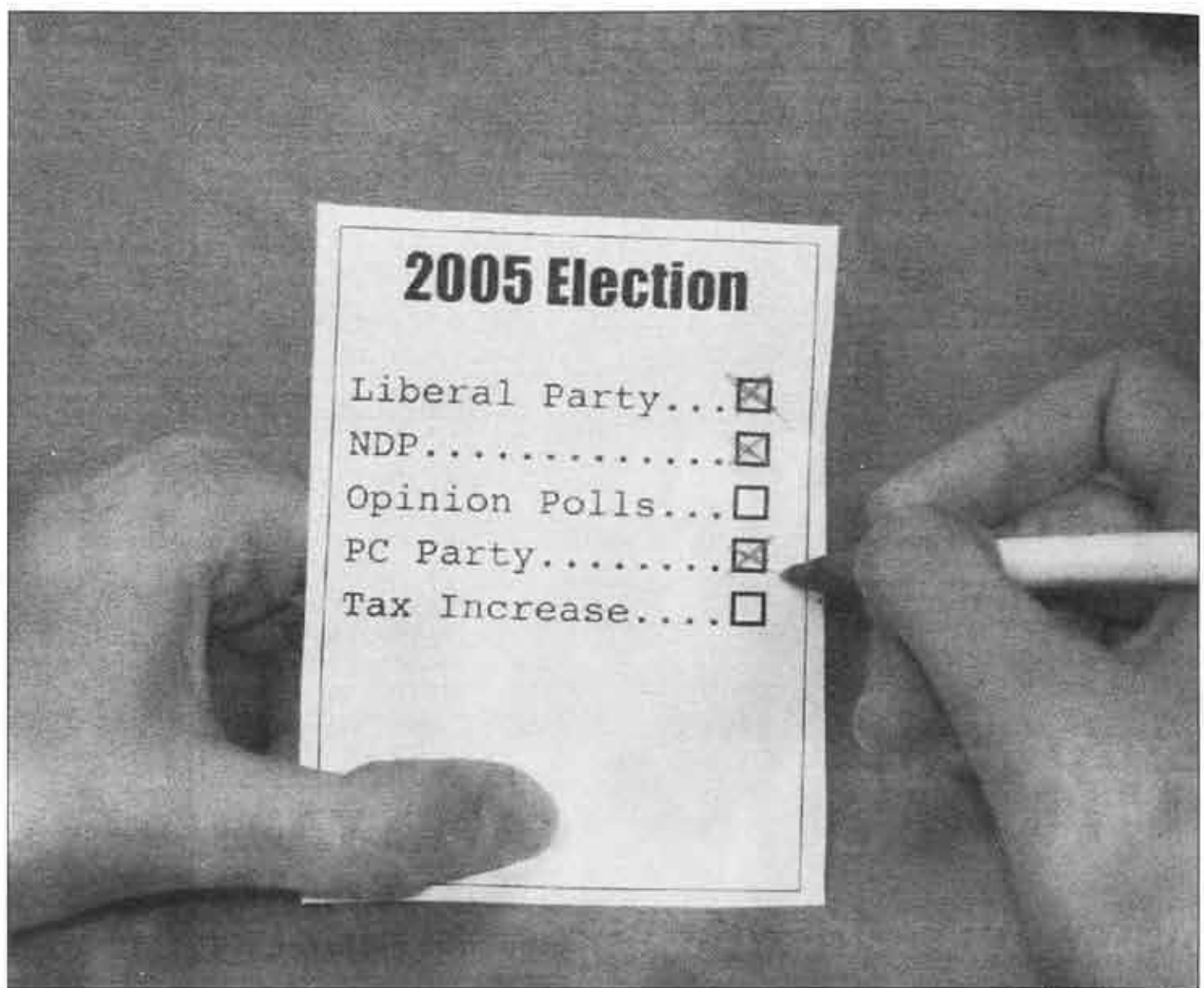
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Co-Quote Of The Week
"Don't you know what happens when you don't eat your cheese curds? You have normal bowel movements."
- Brandon Currie to Carly Beath, upon the non-completion of the curd component of her daily *News*'s justice.

Last Issue of the Year: March 30



Graphic by Fraser King

Pick who you want to win, not who you want to lose.

Save your life now

You need a Living Will, because Terri Shiuvo has told you so.

Terri Shiuvo has no Living Will. In all likelihood, she has no hope of coming out of her vegetative state and despite futile last-minute efforts by Republicans to have her feeding tube re-inserted, Shiuvo will now be able to go to a better place.

In 1990, Shiuvo's heart stopped for a short time, resulting in brain damage that has left her in a coma-like state for over 15 years. Her husband has waited by her side and watched painfully as her parents try to keep her alive. Shiuvo's husband knew his wife and he knew she would not want to be kept alive with no hope of recovery. Her parents however, like any concerned parents, were overly optimistic, hoping and dreaming of miracles that we see in the movies but rarely in reality. Would you keep your loved one alive if you didn't know their wishes? The answer is quite simply, yes.

If only Terri had a Living Will. Maybe she wouldn't have been in a coma for 15 years, and maybe politicians alike wouldn't have butted into her private life and private decisions. We're making an example of Terri, because it makes you realize the

importance of being prepared, and yes, even if it is for the very worst.

So what is a Living Will? A document (also referred to as Advance Directives), that sets out guidelines for dealing with life-sustaining medical procedures in the event of the signatory's sudden debilitation. A living will might include information that tells medical personnel not to provide "extraordinary" life-preserving procedures, when the signatory is unable to request or deny treatment themselves. The same would apply in the event of a terminal illness.

The question you must ask before you go after your Living Will, is do I want someone else to make the decision to end my life when I am unable? If the answer is no, then start now. Talk to your family lawyer or, contact a legal professional to provide advice about how to get your living will. You won't just be saving your self, but you'll be saving your families and friends from endless court battles and the time spent thinking "what do they want?"

Getting your Living Will probably will be the most pessimistic thing you ever do, but looking at Terri Shiuvo, it's the right thing to do. Don't be another 'I told you so.'

Take a bow F'nM

It's a good thing. Fashion N' Motion impressed the majority of the full house each night and afternoon, all the while supporting a good cause.

This year, like many past, Fashion 'n Motion receives a not-so favourable individual review (see page 17), but *The Cord's* Editorial Board disagrees. In fact, those who attended agreed that it was a pretty good F'nM as F'nM's go. Those members attending the show for their very first time were very impressed and wished they'd gone in years past. Those who have seen past shows were quick to note that the performances were good. Not Usher good but not Backstreet bad but good nonetheless.

Dance choreography is one of the show's fortes. The use of various props including scarves, Velcro tutus and even tribal-like staffs, was a powerful way to grab the attention of the audience and communicate the message of each individual dance. Blending scenes by keeping a dancer or actor on stage to continue the

scene was a unique and welcomed style to the show, and strayed from the typical enter and exit dance sequences.

Keeping the acting and scripts to a minimum meant that people truly enjoyed the flow of the dances and scenes, although the plot remained questionable at times. Even those parts that included some dialogue weren't too cheesy and were palatable by most of the audience.

Above all, it's the coordination of volunteers that truly makes this show impressive. Not everyone can dance, but who really cares, they were all having a good time and for the most part were able to illustrate that they spent countless hours practicing their moves and poses. The behind the scenes staff that you never saw until the very end proved that their job was just as important by putting together all the props, perfecting the lighting as well as the entrances and exists of all the performers.

Fashion N' Motion: we like.

Rock the vote, just don't split it

**No more election opinion polls!
Vote for the best candidate and
scrap the strategic voting jazz**

Carly Beath



A&E Editor

We've had quite a few elections in our vicinity the past year: our federal election, the U.S. presidential race (which you wouldn't know wasn't our own since it elicited more public interest from this side of the border than the Canadian election did) and on a lesser scale, the recent WLUSU and WLUSP elections (which you wouldn't know was on a lesser scale considering how some people act at election time around here).

Despite this recent proliferation of elections, I'm not sick of them - they remind me I'm lucky to live in a place where I have some sort of say (no matter how small) in who runs my governments. What I am sick of, though, are campaign polls.

Part of me can't believe I'm about to say this, with my far-left political leanings and the fact that I work for a newspaper, but I think they should be scrapped. I wouldn't normally advocate taking away reporting rights from the media, but this is a rare case where I think banning them from telling people something would be more in the public's interest.

The main reason I say this is because of the effect of campaign poll reporting on the outcome of elections.

The idea behind a democracy is that each individual is sup-

posed to go out and vote for the candidate he or she thinks would do the job the best; the person the most people like wins. Often, though, this isn't the case.

When campaign time rolls around, everyone starts reading the latest poll results in the paper or watching them on the news. Then, rather than casting their vote for a candidate, people start voting against a candidate instead.

I'm not sick of elections - they remind me I'm lucky to live where I do, but I am sick of campaign polls.

A clear example of this is last year's Canadian federal election. The polls showed the Liberals and the Conservatives as neck-and-neck. "What?" some lefties said. "The Conservatives might win? Well goddamn, I'd better vote for the Liberals, because no one else has a chance in hell of beating the Conservatives." So instead of voting NDP or Green Party or even Marijuana Party like they might have wanted to, they voted Liberal, leaving some people happy their party won and some people upset that their party lost - and some people kind of happy because the Conservatives didn't win, but also kind of dirty-feeling because they actually contributed to their

party's loss. When this happens, it becomes less about issues and more a game of strategy.

It's kind of like that friend who calls you when you're both getting ready to go out. "What are you wearing?" she asks. You tell her, and she dresses accordingly. Maybe she dresses to match you, or maybe, if she's a bad friend, she dresses to look better than you. If, one day, you stopped telling her what you're going to wear, she'd have to pick her clothes by herself - and without someone to measure herself against, she'd probably pick them based simply on her own preferences.

Maybe I'm being an idealist here, but if everyone didn't know how everyone else was expected to vote perhaps they would show up at the election booth armed with the knowledge of which candidate is best aligned with their priorities, and vote for that person. If politicians knew that people were voting based simply on their perceived aptitude, it might force them to focus more on improving their potential policies, rather than wasting time and money on attack ads and strategic performances.

An absence of campaign poll reporting might not get the NDP into office overnight (although that would be pretty awesome) but it just might slowly begin to erode the conventional notion that there are two parties worth voting for and paying attention to, and that everyone else is just a bunch of also-rans. People like Ralph Nader in the U.S. and Jack Layton here in Canada would be given a fair shot, rather than derided as election spoilers and vote splitters. Maybe we'd get just a little closer to a real idea of democracy.

Inquisitive peanut gallery

Chad McCordic



Life's questions: Why are 90 percent of spyware ads for spyware removal programs?

Some of my friends often wonder: "Why are things typed up but written down? Why is a 'spoon' called a 'spoon'? Where did this word come from? Who decided on that collection of sounds and why? (Goose=Geese/Moose=Mooses?) Are Business students actually different from Arts students, or is it all pride? Why are only Business students taught 'ethics'?" (Well, there's Philosophy courses on ethics... but then again, they're about the philosophy behind the ethics.)

"Who decided that it would be a 'Top 40' of pop songs on the radio? Why not a top 35 or a 50? Wouldn't it stand to reason to also have a 'Bottom 40'? What is it that you drop like it's hot? Has the estate of Charles M. Schultz, creator of Snoopy and the 'Peanuts' gang, ever contemplated legal action over 'SNOOP' Dogg's moniker?" (Did you ever wonder: Why are those comics called 'Peanuts'? Why, 'PEANUTS', Charlie Brown? Why?)

On my way to class the other day I wondered: Why are there still free *Toronto Star* newspapers in the Concourse (and *National Post* in the Peter's building) around Noon or 1 P.M.? How

large of a percentage of people take the newspaper for the crossword section...We all have on-ramps to the information super-highway in our rooms yet are probably among the least informed generations in recent memory... Then again, are we? Are we too informed in this Internet Age, that we don't have space for "regular, old" news? We do seem to have a lot on our minds these days...

Are we too informed in this Internet Age, that we don't have space for "regular, old" news?

...Fucking Internet... I just closed two random pop-up windows. Why are 90 percent of spyware ads for spyware removal programs... Of course, I don't have to leave myself online...Why do I automatically leave myself signed into MSN as "Busy"?

Which came first: chaos or order? If the world began in chaos, where did order come from? If I clean my room, and don't touch it for a week, it will still get dirty: dust will fall and bacteria will collect. Potentially: a tack could lose its hold in the

wall, bring a poster down, send a randomly leaking blue pen to the floor, only to have me step on it as I walk in, trip and well, there ya go, chaos. Could chaos and order be two parts of the same thing?

And as long as we're on this cosmic theme: Why is outer space called outer "space"? Shouldn't it be called "nothing"? It is a void after all. I can't help but think of space as something contained, with determining borders. "My room has lot's of space." "You know, there's plenty of space for some sweet lovin' in my back seat, and yes, there's even space for you, Mrs. Clemens." So what is containing space? What's beyond outer space?

How did our minds ever come up with the concept of infinity? There's nothing on this planet that is infinite, so where did we learn the term for it?

A friend just messaged me on MSN (even though I'm set to "BUSY"): Can you really live life passionately? (Is it even possible to live life dispassionately? How do you measure "living"?)

So: I'm about a month away from finishing four years of a university education, and all I've got is questions...

March: The calendar's anus

Krista Shackelford



Unshackled

I hate March. Judging by the atmosphere on campus, you hate March as well. You have to write three papers by next week. Your room is a mess of photocopies and coffee mugs. You are convinced that Laurier has the worst university library in Canada. And you are really, really cranky.

Instead of writing (or attempting to write) something intelligent, I've decided to explore the reasons why March is the worst month ever.

Sickness. Everyone is sick in March, students and professors alike. However, student and teacher sicknesses tend to be interpreted very differently. If a prof gets sick and cancels, it is an unfortunate but understandable event. If you get sick and cancel, you are an irresponsible flake who will never accomplish anything greater than amassing a complete collection of all the shot glasses ever made in Missouri.

Summer jobs. As if life isn't horrible enough, you have to worry about the potential horror of the future. "What am I going to do this summer? Will anyone hire me? Do I have any practical skills whatsoever?"

This of course leads to the other questions that keep university students up at night: "Why the hell am I studying music/computer science/dead languages?" Will I ever amount to anything? Will I ever find a job that doesn't involve serving food or sending faxes? Will I ever meet anyone who could stand being married to me, or should I start collecting cats now and save myself the bother?"

Lent. The church calendar was obviously not designed with students in mind. If you are a Christian student, this is not the time of year you want to think

about self-improvement and sacrifice. I don't want to hear "God wants you to stop complaining and being so self-absorbed." I want to hear "God wants you to skip class, eat chocolate and watch *The Royal Tenenbaums*"

St. Patrick's Day. As if beer isn't gross enough when it's the colour of horse urine. It now has to be green as well.

Even worse than St. Patrick's Day are the boastful drinking stories that inevitably follow. Wow. You got drunk on St. Patrick's Day, just like all the other 20-somethings in North America. Big fucking deal. If you really want to do something unique, why not get drunk at an unusual time, like the morning of your astronomy final? At least that might make for an interesting story.

Come to think about it, the other holidays in March are pretty annoying as well. Pi Day (March 14th for those who aren't in mathie circles) is a cool idea but the fact is I'm lousy at math and I don't really like pie. And then there's the Ides of March, a reminder that even your best friend can stand idly by while you are stabbed 23 times. And speaking of friends...

No one cares. Here in lies the worst thing about March: all of your friends are going through the same thing. This turns friendships into a competition of "Who's Life Sucks the Most?" I'm sure you know people like this: for every essay you have to write, they have three essays and a huge pile of llama manure to clean up. And because it is March and you are cranky, you really don't feel like hearing about your friend's llama manure.

So, on second thought, maybe drinking yourself into a stupor in March isn't such a bad idea. Too bad I hate beer. Excuse me while I go eat chocolate and watch *The Royal Tenenbaums*.

protesting against sweatshops." Any Rage fan would know that Zach de la Rocha is the singer and could never be mistaken for anyone else...or so I thought!

Ryan Grzesiak

Well Said, Marcos

In response to last week's opinion column by Marcos Moldes (March 16, 2005, "Those people can change") I would like to express my support for his argument that "people move on with their lives".

Chris Rock tells a story in his book *Rock This* about how a cab driver he ran into was "a white guy who used to spit in my face at school" who suddenly talked about how he "told everybody he went to school with [Chris Rock]". In print, Rock responds sarcastically by saying, "Why don't you show them the eye you kicked out of my head?"

- see **Letters**, page 8

Letters to the Editor

Punk'd? We think not.

While Bryan Shinn (*The Cord*, March 16, 2005) may feel that the BU 472 Chevy Cobalt Campaigns were an example of students being duped by the corporate world, we, the students of BU 472 strongly disagree. While we may have been assisting GM with their corporate marketing objectives and it may have created publicity for Laurier's BBA program, it was not at the expense of the students participating or partaking in the event. While to Shinn it may have seemed like a shameless plug, had time been taken to fully research the project it could have been seen that there was much more than a corporate promotion and students dependent on marks.

After almost four years of pretend campaigns, hypothetical situations and unlimited "fake" budgets, for the first time we were given the opportunity to go through the trials and tribulations of the marketing world, and more importantly, to gain real feedback. For months, 57 students have been working hard to design and create events not solely for the sake of marks but for the experience involved. What transpired took months of planning, preparing proposals, drafting and re-drafting promotions.

It took learning the nitty-gritty of what it takes to create a campaign, and the realization that what you are doing is actually happening, that it affects people and that if you make a mistake, the repercussions are much more serious than a bad grade. While there may be a final mark assigned to this project, and this is what students will take away. Instead of the typical semi-satisfaction of creating a hypothetical event and a report that received a good grade, for the students of BU 472, we have gained the satisfaction of knowing that what we have been doing for the last four years has been

worth it, that we have been able to successfully apply it, and that as we are now on the verge of leaving Laurier, we have developed the tools and skills needed in the real world.

BU 472 Students

Laurier still has a Business School

There are two sides to every issue. I feel that the article in *The Cord* last week entitled 'We've been punk'd' does not fairly address the two sides of the issue regarding corporate marketing versus real-world experience. Bryan Shinn criticizes GM for sponsoring a program that promotes their product. What he fails to address is the bigger picture of what this type of program allows business students to learn. This kind of unique 'real-world' experience running a comprehensive marketing campaign with no risk to the student (other than a letter grade) is almost impossible to learn anywhere else.

As a 4th year business student, I take particular offence to being considered 'cheap labour.' The article condemns Laurier for 'looking for legitimacy in all the wrong places.' The University of Waterloo is known for its engineering school, and, among other things, Laurier is known for their business school. No one is suggesting that Laurier should develop solar cars, except perhaps Mr. Shinn. Let UW do it, that's what they're good at. But someone has to market these cars. That is where Laurier comes in, and programs such as this allow students to gain 'real-world' experience in a much safer environment. That is the whole idea behind the case method of instruction that Laurier's business school prides itself on. I'm sure Mr. Shinn can sympathize with the idea of 'real-world' experience, after all he does write for *The Cord*.

My advice is for you to stick to writing for the sports section. That being said, the Kitchener Rangers won their final regular season game on Friday (where the Cobalt event was taking place). As the sports editor, perhaps that would have been a more fitting article for you to write about, but that's just my opinion.

Kevin Spahich
WLUSU Board of Directors

Common courtesy becoming uncommon

Now, I don't claim to be any sort of walking expert or door-holding doctoral student, but I do feel as though I've been transported a la Picard to a European school. I'm not sure what's difficult about walking on the right side of the hall, but we seem to have forgotten that the rules of the road implicitly apply to the halls of the school. In fact, people are taking part in a culture of occupying an entire sidewalk or hallway with a line of their friends oblivious to those attempting to pass in the proper lane! More importantly, we seem to have misplaced the skill that we learned in kindergarten, that being a simple 'thank you' when someone does something nice to you.

See, I'm not looking for a gold medal for my deeds, but I want you to know that it is not my profession to hold a door for you. I hold it because it's a common courtesy, because I like to make things easier for people... because that's what normal people do. And the number of people who can't utter a simple 'thank you' at this school is astounding. Additionally, the number of people who speed up their walk so they can slip through doors without touching them is impressive as are the many who neglect to stick out their arm for a split second and delay the door's swinging for others following behind.

Letter Policy:

All letters to the editor must be signed and submitted with the author's name, student identification number, and telephone number. Letters must be received by 12pm Tuesday on disk, or via e-mail at cord@wluwp.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.

Big government is no answer

Brendan Jones



Opinion Columnist

At Wilfrid Laurier University in 2001, Paul Martin pledged, "we will not accept second best." Yet now that is the very thing we are being told to do. We are instructed to put aside the peace, order, and good government that our country's founders intended. We are told to accept mediocrity, waste and scandal instead.

In Canada there's no left or right - just up or down. So which will it be?

You and I are told we have to choose between a right or wrong, where left is right and right is wrong. Well I'd like to suggest there is no such thing as a left or right. There's only an up or down. Up towards the dream of every human being: social safety for those most in need coupled with the ultimate in individual freedom consistent with law and order; the kind of Canada we were told about in grade school. Or down to the ant heap of corrupt, mediocre, paternalistic government. Yet they would have us choose the second course, the line they use is "Liberal Party values

are Canadian values."

There is nothing Canadian about terrorists getting away with bombing a plane, while our government does not see terrorist organizations as a threat. Canadians don't value their children being raised by the government, when we are denied the resources to do it ourselves. Canadians don't treat their closest neighbour with disrespect, while courting dictators like dignitaries. We don't value our hard earned money being sent to Russia, while our environment is left to deteriorate. We don't value our tax dollars being used to line the pockets of the Liberal Party's friends, while our own pockets keep getting lighter. We don't value criminals being given timely trials, while our sick are refused timely treatment.

But the thing is, our Liberal friends cannot see a fat man standing beside a thin one without coming to the conclusion the fat man got that way by taking advantage of the thin one. So they try to solve all the problems of human misery through government planning. Well, now, if government planning had the answer, and they've had over 40 years of it, shouldn't we expect government to read the score to us once in a while? Shouldn't they be telling us about the decline each year in the number of people needing help?

But the reverse is true. Each year the need grows greater and



the programs grow larger. Yet with all their taxing, and all their spending in 15 years, child poverty and after-tax incomes have not improved. Only the cost of living and healthcare has gone up. Now do they honestly expect us to believe that if we add another couple billion dollars to the untold billions we're already spending, one more program to the countless we have, do they believe that our problems are suddenly going to magically disappear?

Yet anytime you and I question the schemes of the do-good-

ers, we're denounced as always being "against" things. We're never "for" anything. But maybe that is also why they are so unwilling to debate these issues: They want to make you and I believe that this is a contest of one, that we can only choose their choice and not one of our own. Through demagoguery and deceit they have us trade our future, so they can stay in power.

But you and I have the ability and the dignity and the right to make our own decisions. You and I have the ability to stand up for our capacity for self-government,

for the hard-working spirit of private enterprise that built this country, for the path to destiny that only we can choose.

Together, you and I, we can have that Canada we were told about in grade school, that rendezvous with destiny. Or we can abandon the dream of every man, woman, and child and confess that a little intellectual elite in the backrooms of the Liberal party can plan our lives for us better than we can actually plan them ourselves.

Letters to the Editor

- from **Letters**, page 7

In reality, instead of lashing out or cold-shouldering his former foe, Rock gives the man a huge tip to "mess with his mind." He doesn't pretend to be unafraid or unhurt by the treatment he got, but he does leave the past exactly where it belongs - in the past. By trying to one-up people at their own dirty games, we don't really break away or rise above it all.

I've spent years at institutions where the strong ruthlessly attacked the weak, and the authorities looked on with indifference. When I got to WLU, I was free, but I didn't fully realize it. In the interim period, I engaged in numerous acts of self-sabotage that marred many relationships. I still feel that the people who try to drag others down into the gutter with them are beneath contempt. At the same time, when someone offers me their hand in friendship, I won't callously slap it away because of some self-obsession with my own existence.

I'm going to come out on top in life, just like everyone else who breaks his/her self-imposed chains. I wouldn't have made it this far if I didn't have the ability to forgive.

Brian J. D'Souza

Dear Sports Editor,

Kudos Bryan Shinn, after twisting the facts you have foiled GM Canada's evil plot to give Laurier students some real life experience. You failed to mention... (all the right facts.) The notable charities that we chose to support include the Canadian Cancer Society, which was chosen by the students as over 70 percent of the class had been touched by cancer's terrible

effects in some way (family, friends, etc.) and the "Out of the Cold" program, a largely ignored program, run by St. Andrew's Soup Kitchen that helps over 100 homeless individuals a week get a warm bed and a hot meal.

We invite you to come with us to the Cancer Society to present the cheque for the money raised at the Chevrolet Cobalt launch at the Kitchener Rangers game... you guys can bring all of the money *The Cord* has raised for this charity. This program was a tremendous opportunity for fourth year marketing students to gain real world experience, and apply the knowledge we have learned over the last four years.

Saying that we were "grade-dependent slave labourers" is the furthest thing from the truth. Our only concern was to develop a great campaign that we would be proud of. I am certain that everyone from Synergy Communications is extremely proud of themselves as we came together and pulled off a tremendous event in front of a sell-out crowd at the Kitchener Auditorium. In fact, one Kitchener Ranger fan was quoted as saying "This is the best day of my life!"

On a side note, the entire class of BU472 would like to thank Professor Shirley Lichti for fighting so hard to bring this program to Laurier and staying so enthused throughout. Even if no one else sees the value in this program, we certainly have. Shirley was more than just a professor, she was a teammate. Whether it was staying late after class to brainstorm ideas, or giving us tips and advice from her own experience, Shirley was there. Thank you. We appreciate all your hard work.

Synergy Communications

Last Chance Fancy Pants

Tuesday March 29, 2005 at 12pm is the last chance you will have this term to submit a letter to the editor about *The Cord Weekly* or any other student issue you feel is important. Don't miss your last opportunity before you leave for the summer, or FOREVER.

Email: letters@wlusp.com note: 350 word max boyeeeeeeeeeeeeee!

Bryan Boyce's Campus Pictorial



Caitlin Howlett

WATCH YOUR STEP: Nothing says 'Canadian Excellence' like stairs that would have any respectable safety inspector crap their pants when they see them. Perhaps a misguided attempt to look 'old and established,' these stairs have moved from decorative antique patina of shabby chic to the realm of ancient ruins. Come see the crumbling Acropolis of Laurier before this relic is lost to the sands of time. - Fraser King

Cord Opinion. Really pissing people off since this year.

Scholars and crimes against humanity



Don Morgenson



Professor Emeritus

It is a fact. When state terrorism, genocides, ethnic cleansing, and torture are made legitimate, such heinous policies were often supported and at times, perpetrated by scholars, professors and academics of those times. This sad revelation has always puzzled me: When torture was pursued, a physician present would assess the amount of further physical and/or psychological pain the tortured could sustain. Yet in the Hippocratic oath - that first lesson of the young in medical schools, it strongly asserts - Primum, non nocere. (First of all, do no harm)

Where was the Hippocratic Oath with the Nazi doctors? Olga Lengyel

(Five Chimneys: The Story of Auschwitz) writes of Dr. Mengele, SS physician at Auschwitz, how he observed all the correct medical precautions during childbirth, rigorously obeying all septic principles and half an hour later consigned mother and child to the gas chambers and on to the crematoria.

In his personal document, Dr. Miklos Nyiszli (Auschwitz: A Doctor's Eyewitness Account) spoke glowingly of the Institute for Race, Biological and Anthropological Investigation as "One of the most qualified medical centers of the Third Reich" though we know it was devoted to proving falsehoods. Clearly, it was their peculiar pride in professional skill and knowledge without any regard for moral implications which made them knowledgeable but dangerous.

Adolf Hitler's plan for a mammoth demographic restructuring of Eastern Europe and Western Russia was supported by university professors aimed at creating an "Aryan race's" crucial Lebensraum. The plan meant some racial groups would be exterminated while others would be deprived of their political and intellectual rights and enslaved.

On a broader note in his book Mirrors of Destruction: War Genocide and Modern Identity, Dr. Omer Bartov (Professor of European History, Brown University) argues during early encounters between Europeans and African cultures, such as the German genocide of the Herero (South-west Africa) there were "learned" discussions and scholarly debates in the German Reichstag all focused on the "dangers of racial pollution."

Some years ago, African-American psychiatrist Franz Fanon warned that colonized peoples are inevitably brutalized by the colonizer's policies and practices. The stratification of Rwandan society into Tutsis and Hutus, originally imposed by German and Belgian

colonists/missionaries, resulted in the acceptance of essential racial differences contributing to the "ethnic cleansings." Scholars from a variety of disciplines supported these ideas while the native populations began to perceive racial difference as a reflection of social and political reality.

Regimes in China, the Soviet Union and Cambodia enjoyed the support of academics and intellectuals - both nationally and abroad. It must be asked: How could an education received from the Sorbonne prepare the brutal leaders of the Khmer Rouge?

How could an education received from the Sorbonne prepare the brutal leaders of the Khmer Rouge?

In 1989, Zygmunt Bauman published an essay, "Modernity and the Holocaust". In it he urged his colleagues everywhere to reflect on the implications of their stubborn refusal to confront this profound intellectual and moral challenge. He reminds us that it required 50 years to acknowledge the complicity of German historians and other academics in the policies of the Third Reich and even then such revelations caused a scandalous response. Some experts refer to such a phenomenon as "institutional amnesia."

Echoing Franz Fanon, Hannah Arendt (The Origins of Totalitarianism) proposed a relationship between colonialism and genocide (The Origins of Totalitarianism). Only slowly have academics begun to acknowledge this vital link to understanding state genocide, torture and terrorism.

In Bosnia, the civilized world began to protest only after years of massacres which claimed the lives of 250,000 people. Even thought countries in the West stood quietly by while mass killings were reported daily.

In America, there were many scholars/academics that refused to stand up to the bigotry and demagoguery of "McCarthyism." French scholars only slowly confronted their own complicity in France's Vichy government.

University professors/scholars are in an enviably position to bring pressure on their governments when governments lose their way and impose brutal policies on their own people. According to Amnesty International, 60 "civilized" countries currently torture their own people.

Professors, teachers, doctors, scholars of all types must confront the past and as well as the current history of their complicity. What must occur is a revolution in thinking about force and violence and how such have become inextricably bound up in state policies the world over.

Laurier says "no" to diversity

Len Ball & Adam Biehler



Group Effort



What is a university education all about? First year students might unwisely believe that it's about organization, dedication, sex and getting hammered on the weekends. Fourth year students know better: it's about doubt, uncertainty, scamming your way to the top through deviance, constructive laziness and drinking on days with a 'y' in them to combat unwanted thought processes. Aside from this, it's about learning from other people and understanding the importance of diversity: it's important to be able to go to the bar and make fun of those damn biz kids and their advanced time-wasting classes, or laugh at those idiot english students who think that being able to write in double negatives will ever get them a job, etc. etc. Having many different people doing many different things while operating in the same environment is what makes a post-secondary community diverse.

The university is meant to be an environment in which a diverse range of cultural, ethical, gender, sexual and political views can share the same space and interact with others holding both the same and different views. But there is also an argument for 'what good is self-expression if it has nothing to do with my future job/career?'

Arguably, university is supposed to be more than simply setting up a career, although that is its main function; it should also teach you a lot about yourself and social behaviour in Western culture. But if this culture is limited and restrained, then self-expression might not in fact be important to a future career. If this is the case, then we could probably get the

same experience from sitting alone in a room watching TV for four years commenting on how Jen and Brad were 'meant to be' and that their breakup has forever changed our lives.

Tom Robbin's writes of Tanuki, a badger-like being, who tries to integrate himself into the human culture. His friend Kitsune (a fox) tries to teach him a lesson about the human species. "You idiot," Kitsune scolded him after Tanuki had bemoaned his woeful failure, "how could you be so naïve as to tell a human being the truth? Men live by embedding themselves in ongoing systems of illusion. Religion. Patriotism. Economics. Fashion. That sort of thing. If you wish to gain the favour of the two-legged ilk, you must learn to fabricate as wholeheartedly as they do. Actually, by sabotaging their static illusions, we can sometimes help turn their stale deceptions into fresh possibilities for their race, but that's probably a mission you're neither interested in nor suited for. So, just lie to people any way you see fit and reap what benefits you can - but do bear in mind that you should never lie to yourself."

Where we differ from Tanuki is that we have lied to ourselves. The individual is only considered special to the individual, or when we are told by authoritative voices that a particular person is important. It is because we are all different that makes us unimportant to others, and this is problematic. We try to make ourselves important by being like everyone else, or in trying to make everyone else like us. Tanuki knows he's different. We don't.

We choose to be similar to others because it is when we conform it's easier to reap benefits from those similar to us. It makes sense: if I am like you, you're more likely to give me what you have. Think about why we model much of our wardrobes after popular celebrity icons. Perhaps so that people of the opposite sex think that we look like sexy pop culture personalities and therefore can fool others into having sex with us. In doing so, these people confirm us as 'sexy', and so other sexy people might want to have sex with us, due to our previously identified 'sexiness'. We're always conforming for future considerations, and sex is an easy sell, one we frequently buy in to.

Oftentimes students hear about a case or example of how important it is to accept others because everyone is equal. This is in fact misguided; acceptance isn't really important; it isn't necessary whatsoever; in fact, acceptance can be more of a hindrance than a good thing. But tolerance is an imperative. As a university student, tolerance of different people's opinions and lifestyles is important in order to provide not only oneself with difference and new experience, but other students as well. The "welcome to summer camp but with booze... now backflip for school spirit" attitude of the Laurier community indicates that the student body collectively decides that self-expression can be relatively singular, making the very clear point that Laurier votes 'No' on diversity.

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180,000 have died of disease in Darfur

Security is still lacking outside of IDP camps; rape and murder are still prevalent

KRIS COTE
International Editor

Returning from a recent tour of Sudan, UN Emergency Relief Coordinator Jan Egeland estimated that death and disease have killed at least 180,000 people in the Darfur region of Sudan, and this does not include the previous estimates of 70,000 killed in the fighting.

Commenting on the peace efforts in Southern Sudan, Egeland noted that an ironic situation exists. In the South, political peace has been achieved but aid and NGO programs are severely lacking, thus hurting the prospects for peace. Yet in Darfur, NGO's and donor countries have launched a more robust humanitarian effort but political progress towards peace is absent.

In Darfur, Internally Displaced Person (IDP) camps have achieved a level of stability and security, and have raised nutrition rates to above pre-war levels. Egeland believes that "one of the myths in Darfur is that nothing is happening and the international community is not

responding to the situation." He points out that there are 10,000 aid workers in the region, and wishes that the African Union (AU) peacekeeping force could be raised to a similar level.

While Egeland believes that the AU force has done a good job, there are "simply not enough of them." Eighteen-hundred peacekeepers are currently on the ground, and the force is expected to rise to 3,000.

The problem exists outside of the IDP camps, where the peacekeepers have little power and the NGO's cannot monitor the situation. Widespread killing and raping are still prevalent, and despite its promises, the Sudanese government has yet to reign in their militias.

The Sudanese government has demanded that the UN prove that 180,000 have died of disease, and instead contends that only 7,000 people have died in total since hostilities broke out. The government maintains that rebels are responsible for initiating the violence, and that they are responsible for ensuring peace. The Sudanese First Vice



Contributed Photo

Women and children make up the majority of internally and externally displaced persons, and they are continuing to die at a rate of approximately 10,000 a month.

President, Ali Uthman Muhammad Taha, contends that conflict was "not genocide, but an unfortunate internal conflict... that has nothing to do with ethnic cleansing. We urge people to see the difference between the inno-

cents caught in the middle and the rebels who are escalating their claims to gain sympathy."

The UN Security Council is still divided over the Sudanese question, with the sticking points being the issue of sanctions and whether the matter should be referred to the International Criminal Court.

In Southern Sudan, Egeland

was discovered that only "five percent of [the funds needed] to implement the Work Plan for Sudan" have been delivered. "We've waited for a whole generation to get this peace agreement, ending one of the bloodiest wars of our time," Egeland pointed out, and now the lack of development funds threatens the entire process.

Students fight against the draft

TONY FERGUSON
Staff Writer

More than 250 Israeli high-school students, from some of Israel's most prestigious schools, are openly refusing to participate in the compulsory military service in which Jewish Israelis are expected to serve once they turn 18.

The students have petitioned leading Israeli politicians, and are basing their protest on the Israeli occupation of Palestinian territory.

"The occupation is something that has been going on continuously for the past 40 years, and nothing has been done," reads the petition. It was sent to the offices of Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, Defence Minister Shaul Mofaz, Chief of General Staff Lt. General Moshe Ya'alon and Education Minister Limor Lavat. The petition expresses the students' belief that there are other ways of contributing to society, rather than military service. The students "wish to contribute to society in an alternative way, which does not involve harming other human beings."

A seminar was held on Friday by New Profile, a group of activists comprised mostly of teens, who oppose "the militarization of life" and support Israeli adolescents who refuse to join up. New Profile targets teens of all political ideologies, and is openly critical of the Israel Defence Force's (IDF) infiltration of the education system and also, more specifically to the "Next Generation Program."

This program is concerned with military values among adolescents and plans to expand into a country-wide program to familiarize Israeli teens with the army.



Contributed Photo

Students from Israel are protesting the militarization of Israel and the draft.

The program has already introduced high-ranking IDF officers into 74 high schools.

Alex Cohn, an 18 year-old who helped orchestrate the petition, believes one of the purposes of the Next Generation Program is to take the burden of recruitment away from the government, since it is having trouble justifying to teenagers why they should be endangering their lives.

"This program is a sign that the army can no longer recruit adolescents in normative ways because of the decrease in motivation to serve, and this lack of motivation has to do with the occupation," he said.

Cohn said objecting was not an easy decision, and that he decided to do so only after months of deliberation. He could face a long sentence in a military prison just for sending the letter.

The letter was condemned by Matan Vilna'I, a Minister without a portfolio, and former police Inspector-General Schlomo Aharonishky. It was also condemned in an unusual act of co-operation by the heads of the Likud, Labour, Shinui and the National Religious Party's youth organizations. They resent any refusal to obey army orders.

- Please see **Draft**, page 12

LIPAC brings Israel to campus

MARY ERSKINE
Staff Writer

In our world we are often looking outward to countries beyond our own for the latest on events, conflicts, and perhaps even solutions to those conflicts. However, LIPAC, the Laurier-Israel Public Affairs Club, is one example of how those international happenings are more connected to our local world than we might have thought.

Like many other clubs on campus, a small group of people can make a lot of things happen throughout the year. For LIPAC, their activities led up to last week's awareness campaign in the Hall of Fame and the Concourse. Josh Snider, LIPAC vice president, commented on the group's goals for the week: "We want to bring speakers to the campus that match the goals and the interests of the club, which are mainly to show a side of Israel other than how it is seen in the news [the conflicts and surrounding politics]. Our goal is to portray Israel's culture, people and opportunities, as well as encourage discussion."

LIPAC's displays for Israel week included information on internships, school exchanges to work or study in Israel, and of course, travel information. Group members were there to answer any questions, and worked hard to put forward a secular tone as their group is not only non-parti-

san, but also non-denominational and not affiliated with any other group on or off of campus. "One of the most important messages we want to share," says Tom Chervinsky, president of LIPAC's parallel group at University of Waterloo (WIPAC), "are the many similarities that Canada and Israel have in common." He notes humanitarian efforts and active youth movements as only two examples of these commonalities.

Outside of Israel week, LIPAC may be out of the public eye, but they are still very active, holding regular meetings and events. These meetings include active discussion among a variety of members from all sides of any debate. While the conversations take place frequently consist of diverging viewpoints, Snider points out that no one is "looking to win an argument." Instead, LIPAC President, Ashley Waxman, describes the regular group meetings as discussions aimed to further awareness. This awareness is most important on the local level, such as our own campus, emphasizes Waxman.

For anyone who may have missed the displays during Israel week, or who have more questions, LIPAC welcomes any inquiries to be forwarded to wlu_lipac@yahoo.com.

This is not about democracy

Ruben Gu-Konu



Staff Writer

The British justifications for joining the invasion of Iraq fit on a single page, while American interests are still not known

More than two years into the American-led invasion of Iraq, global opinion is still strongly against the war. As was witnessed last week when hundreds of thousands of people around the world took to the streets, people are still not convinced that the invasion was justifiable or necessary.

In the U.S., John Kerry and the Democratic Party contend that diplomatic channels had not been exhausted when the invasion was launched. Head UN Weapons Inspector, Hans Blix, still believes that had he had more time, he could have proven that Iraq did not possess weapons of mass destruction.

In Britain, the Cabinet Secretary has disclosed that the decision to go to war was based on a single-page of legal advice from Attorney General Lord Goldsmith. The Cabinet spokesperson stated that Goldsmith didn't have enough time to prepare a full statement because he was asked to submit his legal advice rather "quickly," after it became evident that the U.S. would not seek a second resolution to use force against Saddam Hussein.

Clare Short, the former British International

Development Secretary, resigned out of protest before the invasion commenced. She has repeatedly stated that Blair deceived the British people into going to war in Iraq and believes that the invasion has destabilized the Middle East region.

Charles Kennedy, the Liberal Democrat leader, believes that the document is "an astonishing revelation which suggests utter confusion at the heart of government." The document "amounts to maladministration on a serious scale," according to Labour MP Bob Marshall-Andrews.

The last three months since the January elections have had the most civilian casualties since the invasion began. Clearly, the internal security situation is in a terrible state, and there is no indication that it will be improving any time soon.

New evidence and a failed investigation into the real reasons behind the Iraqi invasion have critics questioning the real motives of both nations. It seems that the Iraqi conflict was a rushed affair without real confirmation of the validity of the data presented before the UN. Weapons of Mass Destruction

have never been found and the perceived level of threat posed by Saddam Hussein was never substantiated.

Today elections have been held, and while U.S. President George W. Bush proudly proclaims that Iraq is entering into a democratic era, the so-called 'freedom' which the Iraqi people were supposed to have inherited has failed to materialize.

Each day, civilians are killed in car bombings and mass executions, while their American-led occupiers are unable to maintain law and order. Are the Iraqi people better off when major cities such as Fallujah and Mosul have been literally annihilated by American mortar rounds in the fight against alleged insurgents? Are the Iraqi people better off when it is not even safe to step out for food or to take public transit in fear of a possible terrorist attack?

Democracy has its price, and it's clear that Iraq is paying dearly, but when questions still remain as to why the invasion occurred when it did, one is left to wonder whether or not democracy could have been achieved by other means.



Intolerance in Saudi Arabia

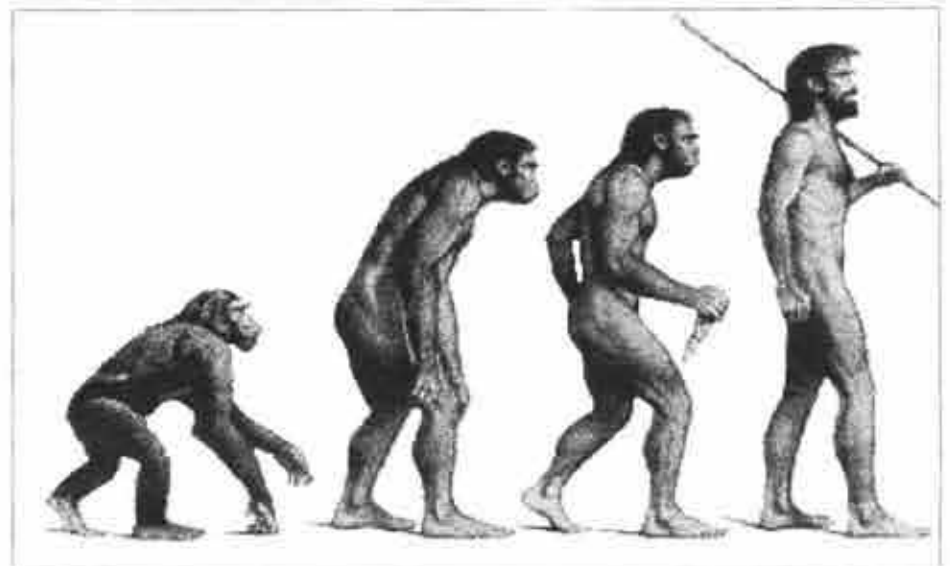
A marriage party was raided in Saudi Arabia, and 110 men were detained after authorities concluded that the men were all homosexuals.

Homosexuality is a crime in Saudi Arabia, and can be punished with death. Eighty of the men who were arrested were released without being charged, but thirty appeared in court to

face charges.

Investigators made the arrests after they were informed that the men were "behaving like women."

Most trials in Saudi Arabia are held in secret, and defendants are often denied access to legal council. In another incident last year, dozens of men were arrested for participating in a gay ceremony. None of the men have yet to be released and their status is still unknown.



What Would Jesus Watch?

IMAX theatres throughout the Southern U.S. have found that several of their new titles are seen as 'blasphemous,' so films that mention the theme of evolution are being shelved.

Cosmic Voyage, an animated movie about the universe, *Galapagos*, a film about the famous islands and *Volcanoes of the Deep Sea*, which examines deep-sea animals, have all been

met with outrage for their portrayal of the evolution issue.

In Texas, a viewer of *Volcanoes* lamented that "I really hate it when the theory of evolution is presented as fact."

James Cameron produced *Volcanoes* and admits that he is "surprised and somewhat offended" by the criticisms his movie has received. Cameron concludes that "it seems to be a new phenomenon, obviously symptomatic of our shift away from empiricism in science to faith-based science."

Aid will only help prolong despotism

Richard Togman



Staff Writer

Zimbabwe is at a crossroads. It has the highest child mortality rate in the world and one in every eight children will die before the age of five. In addition, Zimbabwe has the fourth highest rate of HIV/AIDS infection in the world and 24 percent of its population is currently infected with the disease. The economy is collapsing and Zimbabwe's social fabric is breaking down.

Humanitarian groups are calling for a massive aid campaign to be undertaken to try to alleviate the suffering of some 12 million people. Zimbabwe is not only in need of medicine to combat the growing epidemics but is also in need of food as the agricultural system is collapsing and unable to feed the people. Robert Mugabe, Zimbabwe's President, has publicly acknowledged for the first time the growing crisis in his land.

Despite the dire straits of the people of Zimbabwe, the international community should not give aid to the struggling country. Zimbabwe has been under the heel of Robert Mugabe since 1980, and he has rigged elections to maintain his hold on power through the ZANU-PF party. This one party system has completely dominated the political landscape and has not allowed any kind of political dissent or true political freedom. Mugabe has brutally crushed any kind of active resist-

ance and his youth gangs roam the countryside acting as a personal militia.

It is because of Mugabe's disastrous policies that Zimbabwe is in such need. He destroyed the farming system with his policies of forced land reclamation. The policy was intended to redistribute land from the rich, white farmers to the poor, black farmers. However, Mugabe used extra-legal means in seizing property and often killed any white farmers who protested. Accordingly, most white farmers fled the country and took with them any capital they had. Mugabe's subsequent redistribution scheme failed as the seized property was given to party loyalists instead of the poor.

The farming system collapsed

The people of Zimbabwe must be forced to bear the brunt of the disastrous government that represents them.

as the new tenants had little experience in farming and the redistribution did not take into account the quality of land or the ability of the new tenants to properly care for their new possessions. Food shortages became the norm in a country which had previously been a food exporter.

Any subsequent aid that did arrive in the country was seized by the ZANU-PF and distributed

to the people on the basis of their loyalty to the party. Moreover, Mugabe banned aid organizations from the country a few years ago stating that Zimbabwe was self-sufficient and not in need of foreign help. This was done, despite the glaring need of its people, as a political tool to attempt to bolster the image of his party and to support the claim that the land redistribution program was a success.

In addition, the majority of the funding for education and health care was redirected to the army and the intelligence organizations. As well, the corruption in the state bureaucracy bled dry any funding or aid that was directed at the broad masses.

Aid should be denied to the state of Zimbabwe. Its corrupt and despotic government will interdict aid shipments and use them to its personal advantage. As well, the people of Zimbabwe must be forced to bear the brunt of the disastrous government that represents them. Only in this manner can we hope that the people will rise up and overthrow the despots and criminals that have been ruling over them. By forcing accountability on the Mugabe leadership we can hope that a domestic response will arise to his rule and the people will take their destiny into their own hands and create a government that will be of the people, by the people and for the people.



Protests erupt

Following last month's parliamentary election, demonstrations have broken out in several cities in Southern Kyrgyzstan, after opposition leaders denounced the election as a fraud.

However, the head of the central Elections Commission has verified that the election results are valid, and the new parliament has opened. President Askar Akayev has dismissed the demonstrations as a foreign funded effort to bring about a collapse of society, and contends

that the unrest is a temporary phenomenon. U.S. and EU officials have called the election results fraudulent.

Meanwhile, the opposition leaders contend that they will soon take their protests to the capital city of Bishkek. They also contend that they are supported by the police and security forces. The opposition has taken control of the town of Osh, and several other small towns in the South.

Most of the people involved in the demonstrations are rallying around the issues of government corruption, poverty and the lack of economic opportunities.

Opposition mounting to World Bank appointment

KRIS COTE
International Editor

Opposition to U.S. President George W. Bush's nomination of Deputy Defence Secretary Paul Wolfowitz as President of the World Bank is growing, with outspoken criticism from key European nations, a former World Bank Chief Economist and even World Bank employees.

Wolfowitz is widely regarded as one of the senior Washington 'neo-conservatives' and he was a key architect of the invasion of Iraq. Wolfowitz has no economic training, but supporters stress that this is one of his strengths.

World Bank critic Allan Meltzer believes that "we don't need a development person, there are plenty of people at the bank who do that." Defending his nomination, Bush argued that Wolfowitz is "a compassionate, decent man."

Yet critics point out that Wolfowitz is likely to further politicize the World Bank, and they contend that the ongoing occupation of Iraq further diminishes Wolfowitz's credibility.

Joseph Stiglitz, a Nobel Peace prize winner and former Chief Economic Advisor to the World Bank, is worried that "the World Bank will now become an explicit instrument of US foreign policy."

World Bank employees share this concern. Since gaining power in 2000, the Bush administration has been trying to turn the World Bank's loan program into a grant system. World Bank officials contend that a grant system would make it "much easier to politicize grants," since "loans have to be economically feasi-

ble." Critics contend that the conservatism of the Bush administration, combined with the 'war on terror,' could mean that some countries would be denied World Bank assistance for political reasons.

Stiglitz helped to change some of the central planning structures of the World Bank during his four-year tenure, most notably its predilection for neo-liberal economic reforms. "In recent years, more moderate policies and an anti-poverty focus have won the bank much more respect across the developing world," Stiglitz believes, but "progress would be badly undermined" by Wolfowitz.

World Bank employees have been circulating emails and threatening petitions and demonstrations unless they are given a say in Wolfowitz's appointment. The World Bank staff believes that "when you work for the bank you have to be a compromise-seeker," and they contend that "everyone sees him [Wolfowitz] as a divisive figure."

German Development Minister Heidmarie Wiecek-Zeul believes that "the enthusiasm in old Europe is not exactly overwhelming," while British Prime Minister Tony Blair, Bush's key European ally, is less than supportive. An aide told reporters that Blair would "wait and see if there are any other candidates" before he made an official comment. Sweden's Foreign Minister, Barbro Holmberg, contends that she is "skeptical about the nomination."

France has not made an official statement on the nomination, but it is not expected to support Wolfowitz. Wolfowitz warned



Contributed Photo

Former Chief Economic Advisor Joseph Stiglitz warns that Paul Wolfowitz's appointment as President of the World Bank will lead to increased tensions and riots.

that France would "pay some consequences" for not participating in the invasion of Iraq, so French support is not expected. Non-governmental aid and developmental agencies such as Oxfam, AcionAid and Greenpeace have criticized the nomination, while the World Development Movement believes that Wolfowitz's nomination is a "truly terrifying appointment."

Traditionally the U.S. has had free reign in choosing the President of the World Bank, while Europe had similar powers in appointing the President of the International Monetary Fund (IMF). However, former U.S. President Bill Clinton vetoed Europe's choice of Caio Koch-Weser as President of the IMF in 2000. This factor, combined with general European opposition to Wolfowitz, could lead to a European veto.

Oil demonstrates our interconnectedness

Kyle Boulden



Staff Writer

As many of you may have noticed in recent days, gasoline prices have once again risen to absurd levels. Towards the end of last week, oil prices on the international markets reached an all-time high of nearly \$58 a barrel. Just six months ago, the world reeled as oil prices reached the fabled \$50 mark, and now most analysts believe prices will easily reach \$60.

A series of international political situations have been mainly responsible for this rise in oil prices. First and foremost the war in Iraq continues to plague hopes of a productive and secure source of oil for international markets. Other major producers in the Gulf of Guinea region of Africa, such as Nigeria, carry on with unstable and corrupt governments.

Iran continues to be a particular thorn in the Western World's side, especially due to their power as one of the biggest oil producers in the world. Iran, as you may know, was almost single-handedly responsible for the world's last great oil shock in 1979. They have the capacity to use their petroleum-based clout in the face of conflict. Recently, Iran responded to an Israeli threat of attack by simply threatening to mine the Hormuz Straits, where 40 percent of the world's oil is

transported.

Meanwhile, the Organization for Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), which includes Saudi Arabia and Iran, recently held a meeting and the members agreed to raise production. However, the reality is that OPEC is already producing above the quota they have just set, and their capacity is strained.

New ventures continue to arise in an attempt to satisfy the world demand for oil. Last week, the U.S. Senate narrowly approved a controversial plan to open up parts of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska to drilling. However, plans like these are stop-gap, and do not address the real problem.

I'm lucky in a sense, because my beat-up old Mazda Protégé doesn't tend to guzzle gas like so many urban assault vehicles on the road these days. But the fact is that people continue to rely more and more on oil and gasoline because they can; it may be expensive, but it's still the easiest choice.

In the mid-1990s, you may remember a much-hyped company called Ballard Power, who purported to be creating the solution to the world's energy problems: the Hydrogen fuel-cell. In the end, development stalled and the project never created a product that was economically feasible.

Firoz Rasul, a former CEO, blamed the company's failure on creating a fuel-cell that people would want to buy. He has said

that "I think it might take a crisis or a precipitous event. Some jolt that will cause people to say or think we cannot continue the way we've been living to date and using fuel and technology to date."

I suggest that this new mini oil shock may be the wakeup call that forces the world to actually get serious about reducing its unhealthy dependence on oil. The oil shocks of the 1970s forced the world to take its first steps towards reducing consumption and looking at alternative solutions. Personally, I'm cautiously optimistic that the next few years will see the next steps, where the realities of the market will be our motivation for more sustainable development.

- Draft, page 10

Israeli officers are confident that motivation to serve in the military remains high, especially for combat service. The Education Ministry plans on extending the "Next Generation" program to additional schools, and "strongly deplores any manifestation of refusal to serve in the army."

While these Israeli youth oppose the occupation in the West Bank, Prime Minister Sharon is set to meet with George Bush on April 11 at his private ranch. They will be discussing, among other things, a peaceful end to the occupation.

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THE ADELE SLATER AWARD FOR WRITING ON WORLD PEACE

Thanks to a generous bequest from the estate of Alyce Adelaide (Adele) Slater, Wilfrid Laurier University has inaugurated an annual student award, "The Adele Slater Award for Writing on World Peace."

The purpose of the award is to encourage and recognize serious and skillfully written student contributions that contribute to research and reflection on world peace and its promotion.

There are two \$500 awards, one for an essay of 3000-3500 words, and one for a shorter piece of prose or journalism, poetry, short story, etc. (up to 1000 words). The results of the competition will be attributed publicly and award-winners will participate in a related event at Laurier.

This competition is open to all students - undergraduate or graduate - who are registered at Wilfrid Laurier University. A jury has been appointed by the Dean of Arts and includes faculty members from Global Studies and English. The jury will look for original, independent and well written unpublished work. All submissions must be accompanied by an official entry form.

Additional information, including explanatory guidelines, evaluation criteria, and official entry forms are available on the Global Studies website. All entries must be submitted to the mailbox labeled *Adele Slater Award for Writing in Peace* located outside the Global Studies office, Room 3-205, Dr. Alvin Woods Building.

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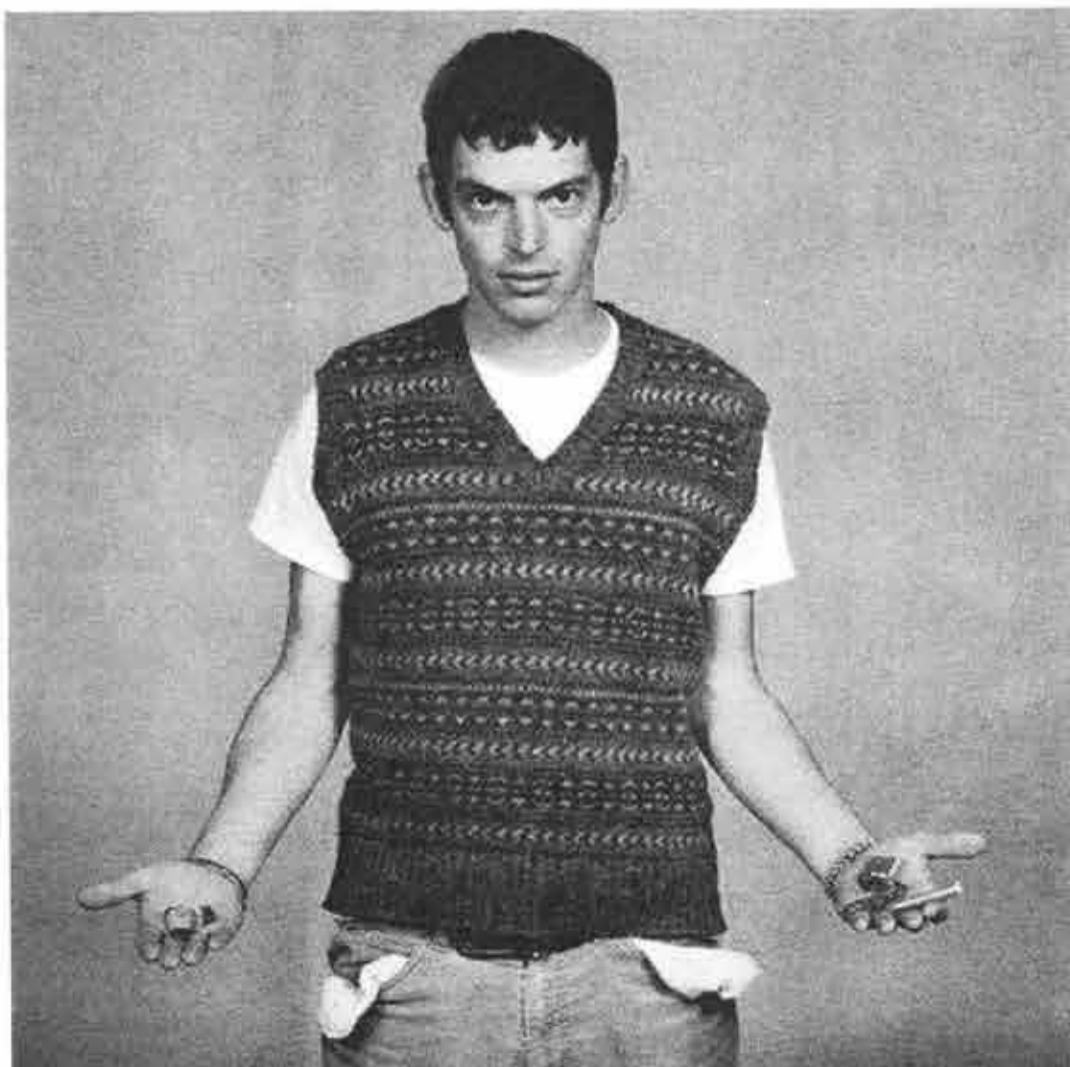
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Wednesday March 23, 2005 - The Cord Weekly

Score a corner spot in the Schlegel Centre...



Some students who either live in the science building or the FNCC haven't had a chance to explore the "business" side of Laurier. Two of WLU's best study spots are on the second floor of Peter's, right above Tim Horton's. The first area is a glass room with comfy white couches. This is great for discussions, meetings or even just lounging. Directly across, on the other side of the atrium is a semi-closed off area for more hardcore quiet studying.

The Schlegel Centre is well-lit and, unlike the Science Building, you don't need to wear your coat and mittens to keep warm while studying. If you go early enough, lock down one of the corner spots; they're great for meetings and group work.

Where to study on campus

by Michelle Pin

Book a room in the



While the fourth floor is great for socializing, if you actually want to get work done, you'll want to book a room. Located on every floor, they're well-lit with big tables that accommodate large groups and whatever else you could possibly need. All you have to do is go to the front desk and you get a key for three hours.

Bricker 4th floor: WLU's best kept secret



The elevator in the Bricker Academic building will only take you to the fourth floor if you swipe your one card- once you get there, you will discover what many student's have been keeping on the down low since it opened last year. Intended for language students, the fourth floor of the BA has several student lounges and conference rooms with whiteboards and huge conference tables- usually unoccupied in the evening. The best thing about this area is that few people use it. It has good lighting, temperature and comfortable chairs- great for group or quiet studying.



What's wrong with studying at home? Whether it's an infomercial or never-ending MSN conversations, home is full of distractions. There are the few strong-willed soldiers who can resist the temptations and even study with the television on. In fact, Laurier has a lot of places to choose from.

to study campus

by Michelle Pinchey

in the library...



u actually want to get some work done, book a room. tables that accommodate food (cold items only), lap- sibly need. All you have to do is fill out a little form rs.



? Whether it's an infinite supply of snacks, rowdy room- tions, home is full of distractions and opportunities to pro- willed soldiers who can block out all the background noise, y with the television on. For the rest of us who aren't per- choose from.



The science building's quiet study rooms



The science building may be loud and freezing downstairs, but on the second and third floors are quiet study rooms enclosed in glass with couches, comfy chairs and desks. The great thing about this spot is that it says "no group work" right on the door, so feel free to "shush" people.sbh

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Vocal Cord

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BUSINESS

"My laptop because I can take my work anywhere."



CHRISTINA MASCHING
SECOND YEAR
GLOBAL STUDIES AND POLI SCI

"My alarm clock because it gets me up in the morning."



DAYNA FERDINAND
SECOND YEAR
SOCIOLOGY

"My computer because of the internet, the ability to communicate and research, and write up assignments."



MELISSA UDVARI
SECOND YEAR
SOCIOLOGY

"My phone because with it I feel safe since there is always help on the other end."



BEV JOHNSON
FOURTH YEAR
COMMUNICATION STUDIES AND FRENCH

"My cell phone because I am never home."



MAX JOHNSON
SECOND YEAR
HISTORY

"Plumbing -sometimes I'll wake up from a dream where I'm in the desert and all I want is to drink water from the faucet with my hands. I love cold and hot water."

Horoscopes

Happy Birthday Aries (Mar. 23- Mar. 29)

Aries (Mar. 21-Apr. 19)

Expect a good time at even the smallest gathering. Celebrations are everywhere. People around you are going to want to spend time with you on your birthday. Don't be discouraged by things that have occurred in the past.

You are going to have to complete one task at a time before you can move onto the next problem. Nothing will be solved if you try and do everything at once. Success is not far off, you must keep working towards your goals.
Luckiest day: March 27

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

Taurus (Apr. 20-May 20)

Be careful who you confide in. Someone may not be all they seem to be. Someone could try and steal an idea of yours and take credit for it. Also be prepared to deal with a lot of gossip in the next while.
Luckiest day: March 24

Regardless of your situation, you must keep working away at your projects. It may seem overwhelming right now, but better days are just around the corner. You must keep working towards your goals and stay positive.
Luckiest day: March 26

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Gemini (May 21-June 21)

You will be rewarded handsomely for all of your hard work. Friends and family are going to be proud of what you've achieved. Take this time to enjoy the positive things going on in your life, don't worry about what could happen next.
Luckiest day: March 27

If you feel trapped in a situation just remember that it is only temporary. Better days are not far off, but you must keep a positive mind frame and keep working towards what you want. Expect a surprise in the next little while.
Luckiest day: March 27

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Cancer (June 22-July 22)

When you're working on projects try and incorporate a creative twist to whatever you do. Things will end up having a better result if you are less logical with your approach. Make sure you write your goals down.
Luckiest day: March 24

Don't let your workload get you down. If you keep plugging away at your projects and finish one at a time things will get done a lot quicker than if you were to try and pile everything together. Better days are not too far off.
Luckiest day: March 28

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Leo (July 23-August 22)

Now is the best time for you to be looking for a job. Things are going to be getting better for you financially in the next little while. Make sure you put money aside in case an unexpected expense pops up.
Luckiest day: March 24

Make sure you finish one project at a time. Don't try and combine your workload to get it done faster. It won't work. You must stay focussed on the task at hand, only you will suffer from not finishing what you have to do.
Luckiest day: March 27

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

You are going to be starting something new. If you are uncertain about your new position or surroundings don't hesitate to ask questions. There's no shame in double checking on how to do something.
Luckiest day: March 28

Success is not too far off. Your ability to schedule everything and stay organized is really going to be beneficial in the next while. Don't let others get you down, many people are grumpy as they are not as efficient as you are.
Luckiest day: March 27

Pisces (Feb. 19-Mar. 20)

If you feel as though you can't get anything done as there is too much to do, you must keep working. Better days are just around the corner. Don't hesitate to let your feelings out. No good will come from you bottling up your emotions.
Luckiest day: March 23

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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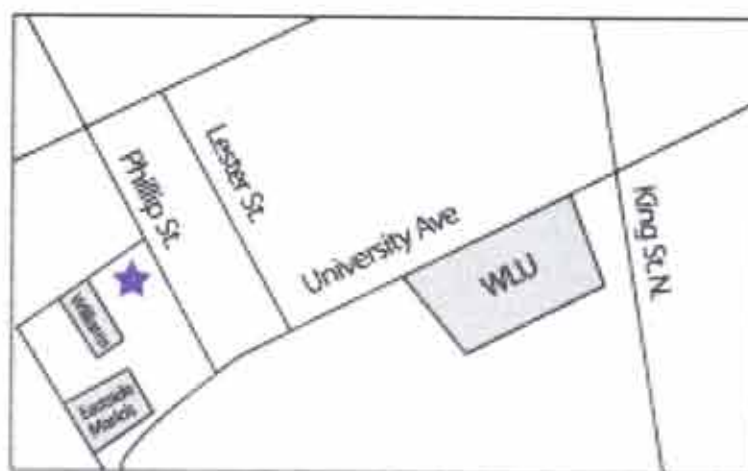
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Music, clothes and dancing for a cause

The Cord reviews WLUSU's annual Fashion 'n Motion which sees dancing, clothing and costumes come together to raise money for local charity KidSport

Fashion 'n Motion

2.5 out of a possible 5 clapping hands

"Close-Up"
Date: Mar. 17, 18 and 19

JOANNE SPANNINGA,
Fashion 'n Motion Reviewer

Fashion 'n Motion's theme this year was "Close-Up", but a close-up analysis of the content and performances was seriously "meh." This is not to say that it was terrible, but it wasn't great either.

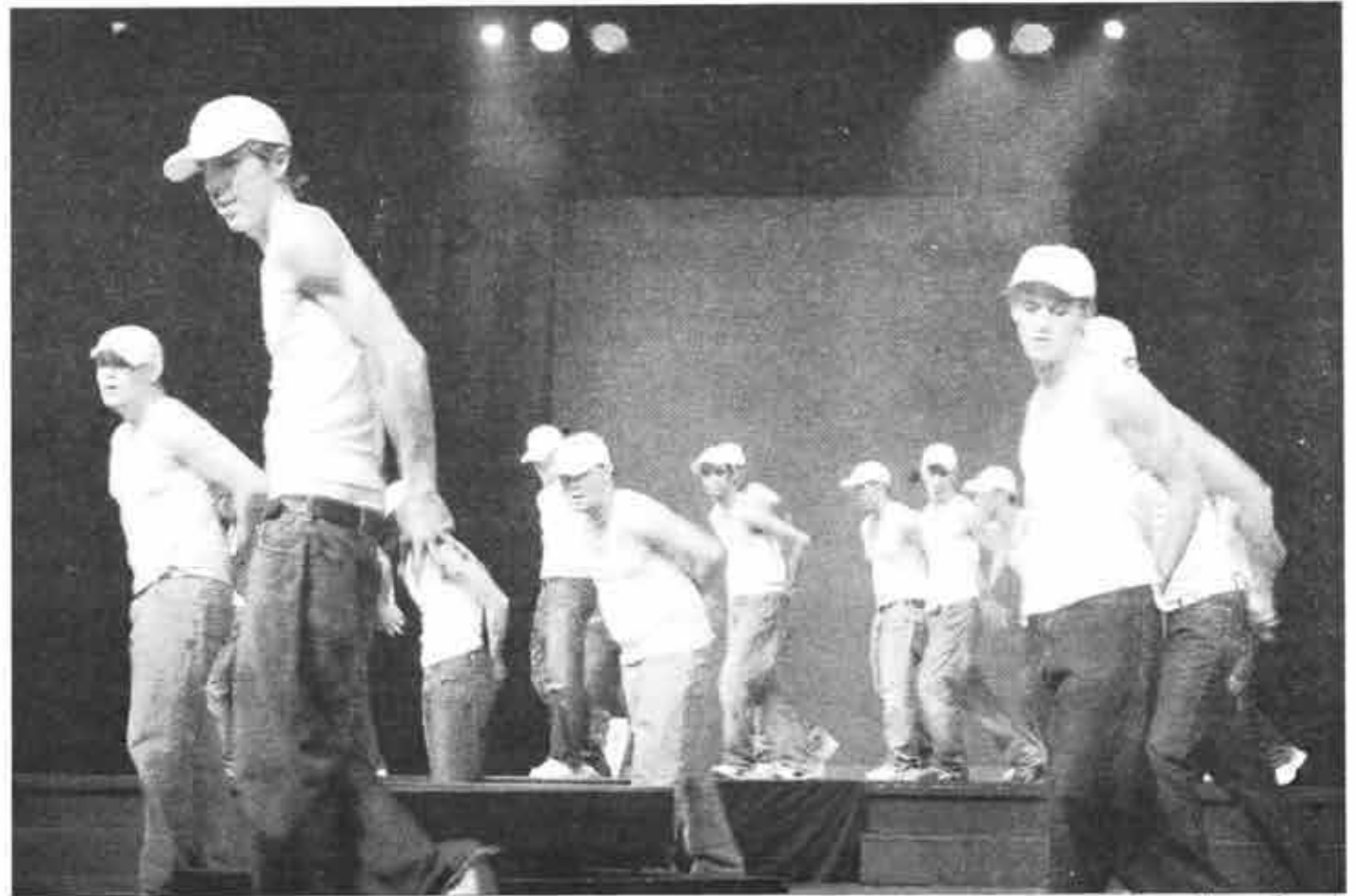
Certain elements of the show had their charm. Scenes featuring tap dancing, ballet and break dancing defiantly exacted the interest of the audience, even if only for a few moments. Compared to previous years, the introduction of ballet was a unique twist, and the tap dancing was pretty cool, but the break dancing was a serious disappointment. Perhaps all of the people who break dance at Wilf's and in the Concourse during their spare time aren't on Fashion 'n Motion's dance squad, but the dancing that we see around the school raised the expectations for the on stage appearances, which were minimal.

The thing is, last night I watched the movie *Honey*. There

is no doubt that the acting in "Close-Up", which there was plenty of, was of a higher calibre than in this low budget film. I was, however, disappointed to note that in such a terrible movie, one that I am almost embarrassed at having seen, the overall dancing was more in sync, and the break dancing more elaborate than it was in this year's Fashion 'n Motion production.

Some specific scenes were interesting, well choreographed and captivating; these deserve some recognition in comparison to some of the others, which were on the more boring side. Session one featured tribal dancing and costumes; a very unique dance sequence on many different levels. Other sessions that caught and maintained my interest were sessions 10 and 11 where singing, umbrellas and ballet were unexpected.

Without mentioning specific scenes, some of the drier aspects of the production were clapping and repetition. Yes, I said it, clapping. It is genuinely ridiculous that every member in the audience paid money and sat down for hours to see a group of well-dressed individuals clapping their hands at the same time. Whoops, I forgot to mention that there was also a lot of foot stomping. Clapping and foot stomping seem to me to be the habits of toddlers, and the fact that approximately 15 individuals can do it simulta-



Narges Bayani

In one of the scenes of this year's production "Close-up", the boys take centre stage as they dance their hearts out to songs by boy bands while wearing some fashionable clothing. Allan wasn't dead.

neously to a beat is not impressive in the least.

There was also a lot of repetition. I do understand that it may be difficult for each choreographer to come up with a substantial amount of unique content. Every scene had its "wow" moment, the trouble was that there were very few of them. The majority of the sessions featured the one-legged spin. We get it, you can spin. Many a scene also required every participant to lie on the floor, raising an arm or a leg or something, for effect perhaps. In the first scene which they appeared, these sequences were amazing, in the last ones, boring.

Chelsey Willis deserves recognition of her own for doing such a great job with the clothing

coordination. Specific admirable mentions go toward sessions three, 10 and 12. The fashion segments this year were well done, a little runway action with a few props is always entertaining.

One last thing that I need to mention is the theme of this year's show. Was there a theme? I mean, the pamphlet says "Close-Up" and there was something about a subway crash early in the production and it came up again maybe twice, but every now and then a random actor would appear onstage and pretend to be an actress, or a girl bullied by her peers. There would be someone who was mourning the death of someone who had never been mentioned in the production, or a girl who treated her

boyfriend like crap. Who were all of these people? Where did they come from? How did they fit in? And how did they tie the scenes together? These were questions whispered in various sections of the audience and bouncing around in my own head.

Fashion 'n Motion 2005, was a little disappointing. It was definitely entertaining, and no dance moves that I could perform would ever hold a candle to what I saw on stage, although I am pretty good at clapping and stomping. It is because I saw the productions of the last two years that I must admit my expectations were a little high. I walked out of the auditorium this year thinking "meh;" not amazing, not terrible.

Filing income tax - it's a party

JOHN MEDDICK
Staff Writer

So you wanna talk taxes? Well then we've got some hot tax tips that should leave just about anyone on the edge of their seats.

As most have probably realized by now students don't typically generate large sums of money from year-to-year. Unfortunately, that doesn't render them exempt from paying income taxes; students are still required to declare all income. This includes working all those part time jobs, realizing any gains on investments as well as any financial assistance of up to \$3,000 that was received.

Luckily students are entitled to certain tax breaks and other write-offs in order to help lower the taxable income; this may be the next best thing to having Arthur Andersen file our returns.

The most common deduction is tuition; students are entitled to deduct tuition payments, which include such items as admission as well as any other necessary fees that are required by the university. However, this does not include common luxuries such as transportation, parking or meals.

Students will also find that other items such as moving expenses, child supervision as

well as portions of student loan interest payments can also be deducted, resulting in less tax – and more cash.

The most sensible tax break that any student could take advantage of would be towards an RRSP contribution. Not only do they serve as a suitable deduction, they will also work to generate interest for students in future years. For anyone interested in discovering other potential tax breaks and write-offs, look into www.canadaonline.about.com for further information.

Considering that paying taxes is an essential part of life, it may be wise for students to experience the thrilling world of taxes early. It would be beneficial to learn to file for a return on your own at a younger age before the process becomes increasingly complex.

As far as personally filing your own return, QuickTax is available on CD-ROM and even more recent is the online version QuickTaxWeb at <http://www.quicktaxweb.ca>. This useful tool makes doing taxes both easy and fun. All that's necessary is setting up a personal account and answering questions as the program takes you through a series of questions.

As shown by the recent federal government sponsorship scan-



Contributed Photo

TurboTax is just one of the products you can use to file taxes.

dal, students should be more aware of taxes as well as tax spending. Along with voting, taxes are a student's direct link to the government. The contributions students provide work to support the social programs that are used daily, everything from universal health care to post-secondary education subsidies.

So with just over a month left to send in your returns, students better get started before having to experience the dual thrill of both exams and income taxes. Happy tax season!

Technology takes hold

VERONICA HUGHES
Staff Writer

On a normal school day places on campus like the Torque room, the KPMG lounge in the Schlegel Building and the Science Building fish bowl are littered, not just with garbage but with students using laptop computers, iPods, cell phones, Blackberries and Palm Pilots. State of the art technology has become as essential as textbooks for students and Laurier is no exception. With wireless Internet in many common areas such as the Concourse, business and science buildings, as well as technology rental programs like PRISM and STEP, Laurier students are well equipped with the latest in technology.

Although iPods and camera cell phones are not officially essential to a university education they are convenient for staying in touch with roommates and friends for study groups and those occasional evenings out. As well, handheld music devices are nice study aids as well as convenient for the gym.

Dr. Loren King, a new professor in the political science department, says he is quite content with the multimedia offered in Laurier classrooms, but there are always ways to improve. "Interactive lessons on a local

network in classrooms would be nice."

Elena Samardzija, a second year business student and PRISM worker, says the service offers business and economics students a wide range of technology to rent such as laptop computers, digital cameras and video rentals, as well as four computer labs. The cost is included in tuition. The laptops are one of the more popular items for students and are often gone by mid-afternoon.

This week being the business program's "Ice Week", where third year business students take on a real life case study, each group is assigned a laptop to record their reports, graphs and presentations. According to Samardzija, "It's really convenient if none of the group members has a laptop, and then they can work on it at school."

The science department runs a program similar to PRISM called STEP (Science and Technology Endowment Program) where technology, like laptop computers, can be rented out for a fee that is included in tuition.

Without a doubt, Laurier and its students are well furnished with the latest in everything technological. Fortunately, the school is keeping up with the pace of students with multimedia classrooms and e-mail communication.

Food for Thought



Yukiko's Cafe and Bistro



5 out of a possible 5 fudgies!

30 William St. West
Waterloo, ON
Tel. 519.576.9424

Laurie Sadowski
Food Critic

And the winner is... After sampling so many restaurants this season, I unknowingly saved the best for last.

There's a hidden gem in Uptown Waterloo, still within school-perimeter walking distance, but tucked away from the hustle and bustle of King Street life. Yukiko's Café and Bistro is a small, quiet, friendly bistro that deserves the only designation of 'five out of five fudgies'.

Atmosphere

A recording of early classical music was lightly playing. Small tables were set up with crisp white linens. The aromas of the kitchen were floating through the air. An impressive dessert viewing glass case was also accessible.

Health

Not only did our server clarify that everything is trans-fat free, but they also don't use a deep fryer. Everything is homemade (including dressings) and they received a Health Smart award (namely for certain dishes, like their black bean soup).

Food

Currently featuring a 'winter comfort food' menu, Yukiko's will be switching to more of a springtime flair in the next few weeks. They have an impressive wine list featuring a distinct collection of reds, whites and rose. They also carry a number of cocktails and beers.

Appetizers

Soup - \$5 each

We started with the two soups of the day, which change regularly. Today featured cajun sweet potato and black bean (one of their staples). It came with bread (melt in your mouth fresh slices of home-baked rosemary and multi-grain). The cajun sweet potato was very rich and creamy, with an afterthought of a Cajun kick. The richness was powerful, but necessary to combine all the strong flavours. The black bean was hearty, pureed to a fine soup, but with enough large pieces of black bean to keep it thick and substantial. Slightly sweet, the black bean was incredibly delicious.

Salad - \$8

We ordered a signature warm salad with chickpeas, sundried tomatoes, feta, garlic and spinach. This was topped with a dressing devised from extra-virgin olive oil, white wine and herbs. The salad was warm and the spinach was crispy. It was served with grilled foccacia bread, which was fresh and warm. The Mediterranean flavours each pronounced them-

selves and perfectly balanced. A combination of this and a soup would be a great light lunch.

Other notable appetizers are their quesadilla of the day, a baked brie and Greek salad.

Entrees

\$13, \$17

Choices include one each of steak, chicken, pork, salmon, or shrimp and scallops. In addition, there was an array of pastas to choose from (some solely vegetarian) and two specials (today included chicken and salmon).

My guest had the Chuckwagon pasta (\$13), a hearty mixture of pasta, red and green peppers, onions, ground beef and cheddar cheese. This oven-baked pasta was huge and the taste resembled that of lasagne. The mixture was evenly dispersed - a number of vegetables and a large serving of beef topped with a generous amount of cheddar cheese. It was delicious and filling - perfect comfort food. It, like all of the other pastas, can be topped with chicken for an additional \$3.

I enjoyed one of the feature items grilled chicken breast with rich red wine mushroom sauce (\$17). Beautifully presented, the chicken was atop roasted potatoes and a medley of green beans, asparagus, eggplant, zucchini and mushrooms. The chicken was adorned with portabello mushroom caps and a sautee of mushrooms in the wine sauce. The wine sauce was rich, and a perfect portion was poured onto my plate - enough for the delicious taste, but not enough to over-



Contributed Photo

Given the best review of the year, try Yukiko's for something new.

power the perfectly tender chicken or delicious vegetables.

Desserts

\$5

Yukiko's case of dessert was a sweet-tooth's dream. Unfortunately, having given up desserts and junk food for Lent, my guest got all the glory for this round. Choices included Bailey's cheesecake, a lemon poppyseed cake, brownies, crème brûlée and many more. These desserts change often, but a staple of Yukiko's is the banana chocolate cake, so my guest tried that.

A huge serving, the moist cake was right up his alley. The bottom half was a moist, soft banana cake separated by a layer of fudge icing and a chocolate cake sitting on top. The whole thing was smothered in fudge

icing - not too much to overpower the other flavours. He described it as "melt-in-your-mouth goodness. There are no other words." Jealous as hell, I decided I would be back there immediately post-Lent. It was nicely presented on a dessert plate with a powdering of cocoa surrounding the huge mass of deliciousness.

I must deem it a shame that I hadn't been here earlier. I feel as though so many other restaurant excursions have been wasted. Every aspect was excellent and the prices were much more student friendly than that of most bistros in the area. A must-do before you leave for home for the summer.

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Ice gold highlights winter in Waterloo



www.laurierathletics.com

Women's hockey and volleyball lead the varsity cause in early 2005, while mens' squads endure a different fate

WOMEN'S HOCKEY
17 - 2 - 2 - 1
CIS Champions

A+

The ladies' season was nothing short of spectacular, as Coach Rick Osborne guided the Hawks to their second consecutive OUA championship and the school's first ever CIS title in women's hockey. With the nation's top defence, the Hawks skated to an OUA-leading regular season record of 17 - 2 - 2 - 1. In 5 playoff contests, all of which pitted them against nationally ranked opponents, Laurier outscored opponents 19 - 3 and ended Alberta's 110-game undefeated streak in attaining CIS gold. Cindy Eadie, Ashley Stephenson, Laurissa Kenworthy and Fiona Aiston were all honoured as OUA All-Stars for their efforts in Laurier's season of utter dominance.

MVP

Cindy Eadie, goaltender. Eadie benefited from a defensively responsible system to post unparalleled numbers between the pipes, including a record 13 shutouts and her second career selections as OUA Player of the Year and CIS All-Canadian. With a career record of 57 - 5 - 7 at Laurier, she will be sorely missed.

2005-2006 PROJECTION

The losses of numerous key players, including Eadie, veteran playmaker Jessica Singh, and, conceivably, All-Canadian Ashley Stephenson, the Hawks will rely on younger players to fill the holes. With an extremely talented young core that already knows how to win and the return of Osborne's meticulous coaching staff, the Hawks should remain contenders for years to come. In order for a repeat of CIS gold, finding a goalie to fill the

gaping void left in Eadie's absence will be of the utmost necessity.

MIKE BROWN

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL
15 - 4
OUA Finalists

A-

This season was an outstanding one for the women's volleyball team. The ladies posted a record of 15 - 4 in the regular season to finish second in their division. Highlights of the impressive campaign included jumping out to a 9 - 0 start and also finishing the season with five straight victories. The team managed to defeat Windsor in the opening round of the playoffs and subsequently dropped York in the OUA semifinals. Unfortunately, the final game of the year was a 3 - 0 loss to the Western Mustangs. In obtaining the silver medal, the ladies made Laurier history in being the first women's volleyball team to accomplish this feat.

MVP

Danielle Walker, left-side attack. Walker was named to the First OUA All-Star team and was a leader for the Golden Hawks all season long. Walker, a second year Kinesiology student, registered an OUA leading 245 kills during the season.

2005-2006 PROJECTION

The team and coaching staff are looking forward to the 2005 - 2006 season. The core of the squad will remain intact, as only three players are lost to graduation. The talent is obviously there, and the confidence gained from this season will work to their advantage in the near future. Bench boss Dave McIntyre plans on enforcing a strong work ethic in the off-season and hopes to be back in the OUA playoffs next

season.

MARK HOPKINS

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
15 - 7
Third in OUA

B+

The women's basketball team had the unique opportunity to head back to the National Championships for a third time in a row this season. It had been one of the many goals that the team had put in place at the beginning of the season. The first half of the season was a dream come true for the ladies. Their schedule was made up of games against teams from the weaker east division and as a result, the Hawks were on top of their division with nine wins and only one loss. The second half of the season would not start off well for the Golden Hawks. They lost starting Point Guard, Sarah Zagorski for the remainder of the season to a serious leg injury. The ladies would finish the season in a four-way tie for second place, only to lose in the OUA semifinals to the eventual OUA champion, Guelph.

MVP

Meaghan McGrath, guard. While the Golden Hawks possess many strong players, much of their success can be attributed to the play of All-star McGrath. She was a team leader on the court and led the team in a number of categories. McGrath also was among the league leaders in three-point categories and points per game.

2005 - 2006 PROJECTION

How the team does next year will depend largely upon the desire of the backups to step up and take on a starting role. The ladies are losing Zagorski, guard Maire Guiney and forward Dee Channer, all of whom were starters on this year's squad. If Head Coach Stu Julius can find suitable replacements to support McGrath and forward Dana Poder O'Born, then the ladies will have another successful year.

COLIN DUFFETT

MEN'S HOCKEY

12 - 10
Tied for 3rd in OUA West

B

From what they may have lacked in talent, the Golden Hawks sure made up in showing lots of heart in their first season under head coach Steve Martell. The Hawks, clinging to a .500 record the most of the season, made a strong push into the post season by winning five of their last eight games including an upset of the eventual OUA Champion Western Mustangs. Unfortunately, the Hawks suffered a heartbreaking first-round elimination at the hands of the Waterloo Warriors, losing two games to one. The season did provide some additional highlights though, which included second year forward Chris DiUbaldo matching his rookie-year goal output with 13 tallies, and the continued strong play of Justin Day between the pipes.

MVP

Nick Vukovic, defence. Possibly the best Hawk this year in terms of consistency and performance was fourth-year blue liner Nick Vukovic. Vukovic was named an OUA All-Star for the second time in his career and proved his talents well enough to receive an invite to represent Canada at the University Games in Austria.

2005 - 2006 PROJECTION

Next year's squad, while losing some key veterans to graduation, will maintain a strong nucleus of players. Provided that the team's 'grinding' work ethic on the ice remains consistent throughout the campaign, the Hawks could very well improve on their 12 win season. The aforementioned Day and DiUbaldo, as well as Richard Colwill and ex-Kitchener Ranger Matt Grennier will quite possibly lead the Hawks deep into their fourth consecutive post-season appearance.

DAN POLISCHUK

MEN'S BASKETBALL

10 - 12
Third in OUA

B-

The Hawks had a disappointing season on the hard-court, limping to a 10 - 12 regular season record behind inconsistent play. Without a definite go-to guy, Laurier relied on different players from night to night and struggled mightily when no one stepped up offensively. With strong play from OUA All-Rookie Matt Walker and hot shooting down the stretch from veteran guard Wade Currie, the Hawks were able to salvage respect with a playoff upset of McMaster. However, it prolonged the season only long enough to see a 93 - 61 thrashing at the hands of the vastly superior Brock Badgers in the West semi-final.

MVP

Todd Cooney, Wing. Averaging 9.1 PPG and leading the Hawks in steals and assists, Cooney was also an emotional leader on the floor; much of his offence came in late game situations and he led the team defensively all year.

2005-2006 PROJECTION

It's difficult to know what to expect from next year's squad. The potential is certainly there, with the entire roster eligible to return to complement incoming talent. Moreover, rookies Walker and Joseph Dako took great strides this year, looking very sharp towards the end of the season. Ultimately, it will be up to the Hawks to do a little soul searching, buy into the defensive system, and establish a couple of consistent offensive threats if '05-06 is to be a successful season.

MIKE BROWN

MEN'S VOLLEYBALL

3 - 17
Ninth in OUA

D+

Well, at least they tried this time around. A year after it appeared, the team had all but shut it down midway through their one-win season, the men's volleyball team never gave up, upping their win total to three for this year's cam-

Welcome to Upsetville: population everyone

'Tis the season to be miserable for big shots Syracuse, Wake Forest, UConn and Kansas, all of whom said goodbye to the madness

MARK D. HOPKINS
NCAA Insider

The 2005 edition of March Madness has had a little bit of everything and huge upsets have been in abundance. Few people would have expected Vermont to knock off Syracuse in the opening round or anticipate the defending champion Connecticut Huskies losing in the round of 32.

Viewers have been treated to some outstanding basketball thus far, despite the fact that most fans' brackets are in disarray. Upstart West Virginia knocked off heavily favoured Wake Forest in one of the most dramatic contests in recent memory.

Although all four number-one seeds are still around for the sweet sixteen, only two second seeds, one third seed, and one fourth seed are alive. This tournament is always a prominent display of heart, hustle and a fight to the finish. This year is no exception.

(1) Illinois vs (12) Wisconsin-Milwaukee

After upsetting Alabama and Boston College in their first two games, the Panthers will likely be toppled by the top ranked Fighting Illini. Expect a big game from the Illinois star guard Dee Brown as the backcourt of Illinois should prove to be too much for the Panthers to handle. This Cinderella run will end.

Prediction: Illinois

(2) Oklahoma St. vs (3) Arizona

This is the marquee match-up of the regional semi-finals, with an intense battle down low with Joey Graham of Oklahoma State and Channing Frye of the Wildcats. The game also features

Picks: from sweet to elite



Contributed Photo

Ronny Turiaf of Gonzaga reflects on a second round loss to Texas Tech. The Bulldogs were just one of a half-dozen high seeds to fall through the cracks of the NCAA national tournament.

one heck of a coaching match-up as well, with Eddie Sutton and Lute Olsen. As Salim Stoudamire's three balls go, so too do the Arizona Wildcats. Expect this game to go down to the wire. Expect Stoudamire's hot shooting to lead Arizona to the elite eight.

Prediction: Arizona

(1) Washington vs (4) Louisville

Both teams have a lot to prove here. Washington will attempt to show that they deserve the number one seed that they received, while Rick Pitino's Louisville

squad will want to show they were shafted with the number four seed. Cardinals' guard Francisco Garcia has arguably been the best player in the tournament thus far and will likely continue this trend and lead his team to the next round.

Prediction: Louisville

(6) Texas Tech vs (7) West Virginia

Want stress? Try going to double overtime against powerhouse Wake Forest in the second round or try slipping by coach Bobby Knight after committing a turnover. The Tech backcourt of Jarius Jackson and Ronald Ross is one of the best in the nation and will prove it against a team that has already played their best game of the tournament, in West Virginia.

Prediction: Texas Tech

(1) Duke vs (5) Michigan St.

The Blue Devils have not played

up to their potential thus far. This should be a concern for Tom Izzo and the Spartans. Expect Michigan State to hang around until the second half when J.J. Redick lights it up from behind the arc. Also, who does Michigan State have to contain Duke centre Sheldon Williams in the paint? That's right, no one.

Prediction: Duke

(2) Kentucky vs (6) Utah

This is the sixth time in recent memory that these two schools have matched up in the tournament. The Wildcats have taken all five of the previous meetings, but don't be surprised to see a change of fate here. Kentucky lacks consistency and Utah's centre Andrew Bogut is a force in the middle for the Utes. Utah will ride Bogut's dominance to a birth in the elite eight.

Prediction: Utah

North Carolina vs (5) Villanova

This should be the most lopsided game of the regional semifinal round. Villanova has had a nice ride thus far, but it is very hard to justify a Tar Heel loss here. Raymond Felton, Rashad McCants, Sean May, and Marvin Williams are four of the top talents in the NCAA, and they all wear white and baby blue UNC jerseys. Enough said.

Prediction: North Carolina

(6) Wisconsin vs (10) N.C. State

This is an interesting match-up here. Neither team appears this far on most fans' brackets, but both have been impressive in the first two rounds. The Wolfpack were outstanding in knocking off defending champion Connecticut, and they will ride the Julius Hodge attack into the elite eight.

Prediction: N.C. State

Walking in a winter wonderland

-From **Winter**, page 19

paign, winning the additional two back-to-back in their final games. Considering that the last time the Hawks won two straight regular season games was in the 1999-2000 season, this will definitely be something the team will look to build on.

MVP

J.P. Wikerd, right-side. As a rookie out of Rockway Mennonite

Collegiate in Kitchener, J.P. Wikerd performed quite well, coming in the top five in every statistical category for the Hawks. The 6'10" right-side hitter's presence on the court also earned him accolades in being named to the OUA All-Rookie team.

2005 PROJECTION

After a year in which the team's handful of rookies were getting an understanding of the heavy

competition in the OUA, the Hawks might challenge for the final playoff spot in a pool of 11 teams. Libero, and team captain, Cameron Smellie will also be back along with Jamieson Bodarenko to provide a veteran presence. As the team continues to rebuild its program under Shayne White though, there most likely will continue to be plenty of growing pains ahead.

DAN POLISCHUK



KING JAMES AND HIS COURT JESTERS
Lebron James, at 20 years old and in only his second NBA season, has shown from day one that his hype has major substance. On Sunday afternoon, James added fuel to his case as the best basketball player on earth, with an inhuman 56, 10 and 5 performance at the ACC. Unfortunately, James' supporting cast has fallen faster than Robert "Tractor" Traylor on a hamburger binge and Cleveland's once-assured playoff spot is looking not-so-assured. To address the issue, management fired Head Coach Paul Silas on Monday, and promoted Brendan Malone to "coach" the team, but as everyone knows, when the King's on the court, the King's in charge.



NASCAR READY TO GET CANUCKED
For Canadian stockcar fans, a group largely made up of hillbillies, rednecks, white trash and inexplicably, my father, there is good news on the homefront. After the success of a recent event in Mexico City, the government body of NASCAR has announced plans to survey possible sites in Montreal and Toronto as part of their masterplan of spreading their GOP-lovin', leg-slappin', burnt gasoline-smelling shindig to every corner of North America. Translation: Them fast cars oughta be headin' to this here country real soon. Wadda you say, Eli? Let's gas up Dolly and head 'er down to the big city.



SIDNEY 2010
In case you haven't heard, Sidney Crosby is one hell of a hockey player. The Rimouski Oceanic star, who will turn 18 in August, recorded 11 points in just 3 games last week to take home Player of the Week honours for the fourth straight week, and seventh of the season. Crosby has been straight-up blingin' lately, signed his first shoe/skate deal with Reebok - which situates the star appropriately between Allen Iverson and 50 Cent. On a side note, if TSN uses the phrase "The Crosby Show" to showcase one more time, I'm going on a killing spree. Thank you.



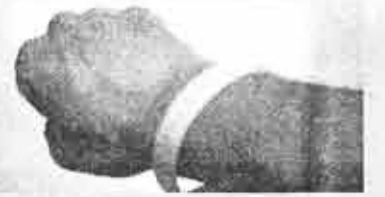
SENATOR GIVES BASEBALL THE BUSINESS
Republican Senator John McCain is mad. Why you ask? Well, because steroids have tampered with America's favourite past-time, of course. McCain, who, with mafia-like concern, told ABC that baseball could not be trusted and suggested that Mark McGuire find himself another lawyer, is just another politician getting neck-deep in shit that doesn't concern them, while avoiding things that actually matter. To consider the source of these complaints we must remember that this is not the same McCain responsible for fruit juice or those delicious tasty tatters, but rather the presidential nominee that lost to Bush.



Hawk List compiled by Bryan Shinn



"Aww, man. My yellow bracelet says 'livestock.'"



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Crossword

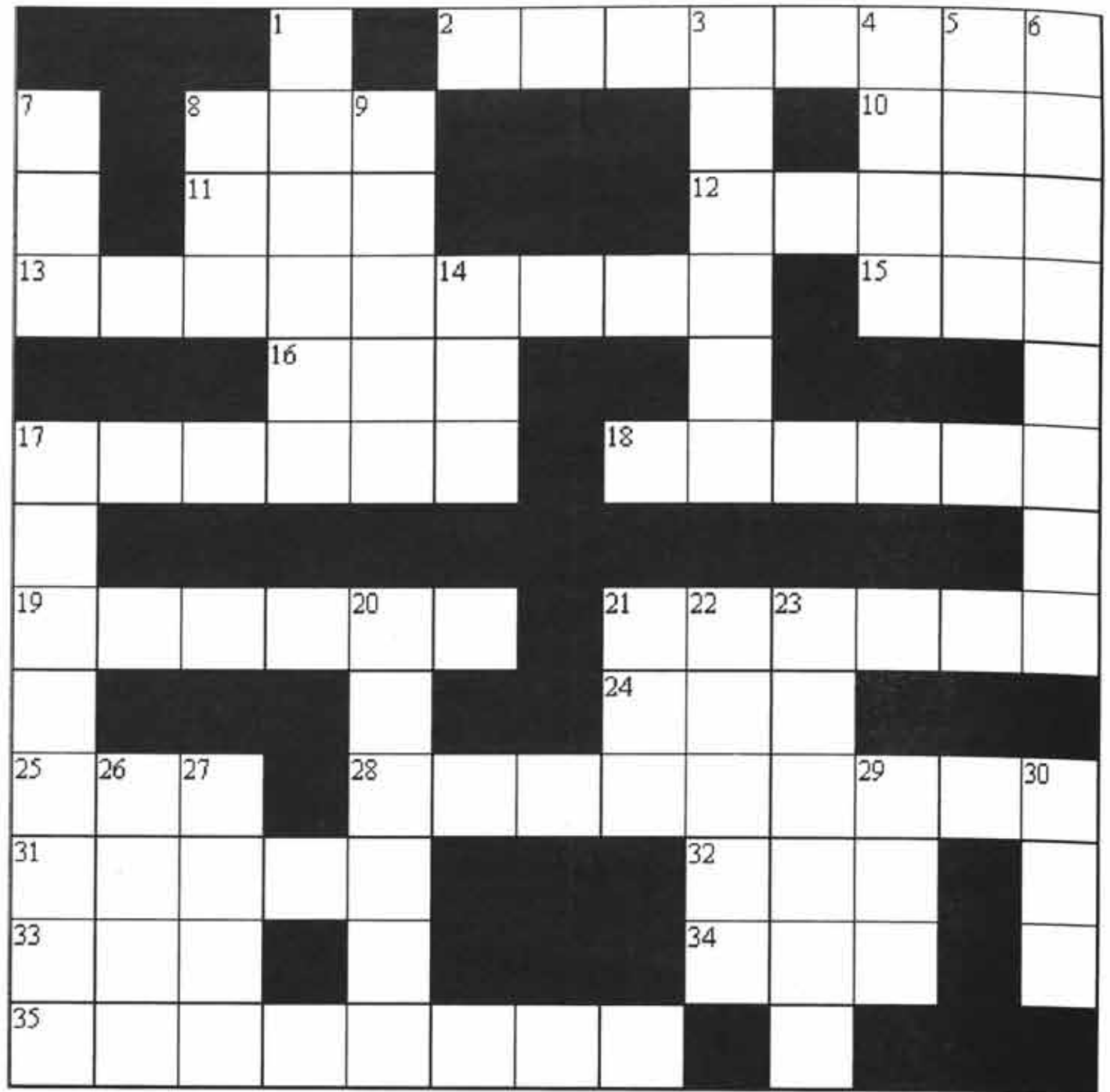
BY FRASER KING

Across:

- 2. Something that cannot be eaten
- 8. Paramedics
- 10. Greek goddess of the dawn
- 11. As compared with km/h
- 12. Age and rank equals
- 13. To become florescent
- 15. A charge or bill
- 16. A small collection
- 17. Money in Ghana
- 18. Cycle-based nature
- 19. Hands on hips position
- 21. To divert or avoid
- 24. On the sides of the head
- 25. After April
- 28. Non-removable ink
- 31. To win or prosper
- 32. Brewed beverage
- 33. NPC from *Fallout 2*
- 34. What fire leaves behind
- 35. To withstand through time

Down:

- 1. To assert rule
- 3. The act of duping
- 4. Cow meat
- 5. What *the Raven's* protagonist was reading
- 6. The intrinsic or indispensable properties that serve to characterize or identify something
- 7. What Legolas is
- 8. Like an ostrich
- 9. Like a mouse
- 14. The seventh letter of the Greek alphabet
- 17. Playboy has one as month
- 20. One who bails property to another
- 21. Makes honey
- 22. A city of southeast Ukraine in the southern Crimea
- 23. Catholic holy person
- 26. Cosmetics company
- 27. In front of a house
- 29. _____ humbug!
- 30. What birds lay



Last Week's Answers



SCRAMBLOR, LORD OF ALL JUMBLES: EASTER!

Unscramble the four scrambled words and use the circled letters to answer the question on the right.

Y S D U N A

H R S C I T

N U B Y N

H T L A E C O C O

WHAT IS EASTER ABOUT?



Last Week's Scramblor Answers

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THE CORD WEEKLY

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GIVE US FUN!

cord@wlp.com

Weekly Bad Drawing Gram

Frisky Knickers Gets some Frozen Yogurt

By Pete Gram

Frozen Yogurt

Hi, what would you like in your yogurt ma'am?

Uhh, I think I'll have some blackberries. Oooh and these bananas look good as well thanks

Frozen Yogurt

What about you sir, what would you like in your yogurt?

I'll go with kiwi, pineapple and some blueberries too please.

Frozen Yogurt

Hey Frisky Knickers, what flavours are you feeling today dude?

Shit Ramone, I totally forgot my wallet, do you think you could...

Uhhhh, I think I'll go with the oats, throw in some carrots and what the hell, another scoop of oats.

Hey, no problem man, just kick some ass next time I'm at the track.

What are you guys lookin' at? I'm headed back to my stable right after this Jesus.

HOUSING

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PERSONALS

Early Production Notes:
At 4:06pm, this is easily the earliest I've ever done shout-out. Thanks to Anathan for theoretically not contributing anything as of 4:15pm, Sarah for being patient, Janet for the usuals and Rames for doing stealthy feature production. Ed. Board thanks go to Carlii for finding a subletter and worrying about a "big gaper" in her section, Bryan for an extended Monday night guy-talk, Fraser for going it semi-alone, Pril for her familial obligations, Jen for her spring pastel pink, Pinchy for the mid-production naps, and Cote for *Anchorman*. Non-WLUSP thanks go out to the High Street bum that loiters in kitchens and frighteningly taps on Leo's window, Clemens for "having good times", everyone who's lovingly embraced my beautiful racks, Fraser and Anthony for deceitfully supporting said racks and all my other initiatives. Finally and most importantly, thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Boyce for even entertaining the thought of hosting this summer's Ed. Board retreat. We promise that we'll atone for Bryn's adolescent indiscretions with your humble abode. One more to go! Look out for the production year in review next week, it promises to be stunning. - BC

5-4-3-2-1:

Fraser, you make me laugh and I'm sure next week you can put whatever you want in your little box o' thanks. Pril, thanks for coming in after your week o' not fun. Brandon, thanks for working so hard on the feature. Jennifer for helping with the unsigned, Kris for finishing so god damn early. Pinchy for referring me to your landlord, B-shinn for your ridiculous reference to McCain foods and last but not least to Carly whose fashion and craftiness makes me wish I was fashionable and crafty (damn I like those shoes). Sierra thanks for all your hardwork. Craig for all your retraction help. Congrats Mahn (wink). Myles you ate an entire pizza (haha). Sarah and Cait well done on the long jog. Goofball let's go on a vacation (paaaallease). Congrats to my Nan whose play won everything (NanTASTIC!). Mom, Dad, Tine and Mikey (love to you all). This is the second last notes from the chief (insert tear). Thank you to all the love-haters. It's been a blast. CH

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hahahahahahahahahahahaha
hahahahahahahahahahahahaha
hahahahahahahahahahahahaha
hahahahahahahahahahahahaha
...it was a nice thought...

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Lindy hits gold at Starlight show

SIERRA LEEDHAM
Cord Intern

The music industry will always have its trends and fads. Certain styles of music may be all the rage one year, and passé the next. There are certain things that will never change. There are styles of music that are as resistant to trends as music itself. A true entertainer will always be appreciated and well-received. Currently, the exceptionally talented and amusing musicians go under appreciated. When you find them though, you have hit gold. Lindy is that gold.

On St. Patrick's Day, I walked into the Starlight feeling like a gold miner. It turned out to be a night filled with endearing and amusing conversations, and lovely, eccentric performances.

Lindy proved himself, once again, to be a natural on stage. "I like to say my parents forced me into this, I'm glad they did 'cause I really enjoy it," he says. When Lindy turned four, his parents took him out on the road as part of their travelling musical family. Now, as an adult, he is very grateful for the experience he had as a child.

As per usual, Lindy's performance began slowly, with beautiful songs that soared. He

was joined by his bass player Sally and drummer Paul, and the three complimented each other very well. Paul held the perfect backbeat and fit in so flawlessly you didn't even notice him. Sally added a very sweet side to the show. She strummed along adding supporting rhythm, but she really shined in her backup vocals. One of the highlights was "On My Mind", where Lindy and Sally blended perfectly. "Look at the Way the Wild Wind Blows" had an amazing build up to a crashing end. The performance of "Lover/Sister" was very endearing. Other favourites were: "Picture of You", which opened the show, "Dreams", "Important", "After All the Rain Falls", "I Do, I Do, I Don't" and "Witness".

Every concert has its high points, and this was no exception. A notable moment was when Lindy commented on the chicken wire in front of the stage, adopting a stereotypical hick accent. Given the St. Patrick's Day festivities, Lindy jumped in and spoke to the crowd in a charming Irish accent, which was very well received by the crowd.

The biggest highlight of this show, as with almost any Lindy show, was the performance of "Hockey Night in East L.A."

After the supposed last song, I began to wonder where this usual fan favourite was lurking. Lindy announced that they were planning not to do it, but Sally insisted they did. I am sure everyone was thankful for Sally's perseverance as Lindy told the tale of sex, lies and dirty scandals. With adopted accents, exaggerated facial expressions, wild screaming and a performance ending on the ground, the audience appeared to be very pleased.

Lindy is a songwriter at heart, and says that when writing songs "personal experience is definitely a factor, although it's not specific to certain experiences, but a cumulative experience." He says that "usually, you come up with an idea, and it's really exciting. The idea behind the song is tied to how it affects me and how I perceive it will affect others."

With a steady tour schedule, it is easy to catch Lindy live and it's an opportunity that should not be passed over by anyone. He believes that "when you record a record, you spend the next year learning how to play it better."

His newest album, *Suspension of Disbelief* is available in stores, and for stream at www.lindymusic.com. You can see him March 30 at the Jane Bond, and expect to find gold.



Contributed photo

Lindy will be playing at Jane Bond on March 30.

DJ demo, documentary and competition

Events highlight hip hop culture

CARLY BEATH
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Fans of the art of DJ'ing are in for a treat in the coming weeks.

On Wednesday, March 30, Laurier students can drop in on two events related to DJ'ing - a demo performance and a screening of a documentary on DJ'ing.

The demo takes place in the Concourse from 12:30pm - 4pm and features two Laurier DJs, DJ Teelo and DJ Phokus, as well as local DJ Pangea Delphi. The three DJs will be performing and there will be skill-testing questions to give the audience a chance to win prizes. The trailer for the evening's film will be shown as well.

The film, *Scratch*, will be screened in the 24 Hour Lounge at 7pm. The movie is the original version, released in 2003, of a documentary about the history of DJ'ing. An updated version of the film is playing at the Princess Twin Cinema on April 21.

These events are the lead-up to the main attraction. On April 23 at the Starlight, the regional Technics DMC DJ Championship will take place. A number of local DJs will take to the stage for six minute sets, which will be judged on various criteria ranging from technical skills and tricks to originality to stage presence. The judges, including Mocha from 91.5 The Beat and RadioLaurier DJ Sarasa Miyazaki aka DJ Silverboombox, will choose the winner, who will then go on to compete in the Canadian national



Contributed photo

Check out local DJ talent at the Concourse demo and Starlight competition.

event in September.

"It's important to realize the magnitude," says Elijah Walsh, one of the event's organizers. "It's a widespread culture and these guys look forward to these events every year... It's their chance to make it to the top." The winner of the Canadian national title goes on to compete in the World Championship, the winner of which receives a gold mixer and turntables.

For any aspiring DJs wanting to take a shot at glory, the deadline for applications has been extended until April 8. To apply for a spot at the regional championships at the Starlight visit www.dmccanada.com, e-mail streetlightmedia@hotmail.com or drop in at Orange Monkey at 5 Princess St. W.

Be Cool not worth your time

Be Cool

2 out of a possible 5 records

Actors: John Travolta, Uma Thurman, Vince Vaughn
Synopsis: Entertainment industry spoof

CHRIS CLEMENS
Staff Writer

Be Cool isn't nearly as cool as it wants to be.

Set in the glitz-glam world of Hollywood music and movie production, this sequel to *Get Shorty* wraps a bevy of big name stars into a mediocre plot and prays that they can carry the film through two hours of ho-hum self-referential humour. They can't. Nobody could.

Be Cool comes off like director F. Gary Gray desperately wants to be Quentin Tarantino and Guy Ritchie - fine influences, to be sure, but a hackneyed PG-

13 rip-off of their respective styles is hardly acceptable. Uma Thurman and John Travolta dance, as they are wont to do, but the style and passion isn't there. A parade of ridiculous cameos (Steven Tyler from Aerosmith) is a painfully obvious distraction from the plot that hobbles alongside them.

The film has its moments, I can't deny. The Rock is bizarre, if nothing else, in his role as a gay bodyguard who wants to be a starlet, and I was moderately amused by Vince Vaughn as a "thinks-he's-black" pimp/manager/thing. Andre 3000 of Outkast fame adds a bit of spice as a clueless gangster who just wants to shoot somebody, anybody.

Be Cool operates as a parody of the music and movie industries and, at times, delivers on its promise. In one conversation, Travolta cleverly notes that the word "fuck" can only be used once in a film for it to retain a

PG-13 rating... and true enough, nobody else says fuck for the rest of the movie. Cedric the Entertainer, a suburbanite rap mogul who rolls with a posse of gang-bangers in SUVs with spinning rims, showcases the conflict between "the streets" and affluent success. There are moments worth a second glance.

But these sparkling instances are no excuse for the blah plot and overly predictable 'twists' that dominate *Be Cool*. You'll feel raped by the blatant product placement that paid for this ineptitude and bewildered by the snide back-references to *Get Shorty* - a movie that came out, what, like 10 years ago? Quite frankly, you'll probably want your money back.

Be Cool is actually pretty lame and, if I were equally lame, I might suggest that this movie take its own title as a valuable piece of advice. But that would be way too obvious.



Contributed photo

The Rock and Vince Vaughn in *Be Cool*: the best part of a crappy movie.

Saturday night orchestra

Dan Guillemette



Staff Writer

Saturday night at the Maureen Forrester Recital Hall featured "A German Baroque Easter" with the Kitchener-Waterloo Chamber Orchestra, the Renaissance Singers, and a few extra vocal soloists. Only steps removed but worlds away from the eardrum-bashing hijinx of Fashion N' Motion, there were 90 people in attendance at most.

The first performance was a cover of "Christ lag in Todesbanden" by Bach. The conductor had decided not to turn the lights off so the audience could read along to the words being sung, and this made the performers seem closer to us, more like real people if you can imagine. As the piece started, the effect of this was transformative, as it seemed almost unreal that human beings so close to us could release this powerful sound from their bodies. The music started off sounding eerily close to "Carol of the Bells", with that Christmas Eve around midnight feel when a strange quiet descends waiting for the magic to happen. Just like Christmas, this strange quiet did not last, as the opening impact was lessened considerably by the bass soloist who fell flat, something that would afflict most solo performances that evening.

Suddenly, the faces and actions of the performers began to overshadow the music, one violinist looking disdainful during the solo, a trumpeter disappointed at the empty seats. To have a good performance, the

performers have to care. Milling around earlier, I heard a Fashion N' Motion pump up speech: "The audience feeds off your energy guys!" They were right.

The piece carried on, rising and falling, from clanging wonders to quiet lulls. During the lulls, I flipped through the program to find out this interesting fact: In Bach's time, "Music was the science of the relationships between numbers; the proportions." At one point, the voice of the mezzo soprano melted with the cello and clarinets to create a surreal effect, which was a needed jump away from Bach's order. At the finale, the pace quickened, the choir's voices rose further and further, each spectacular peak sounding like tomorrow and tomorrow and tomorrow.

The start of "Christ lag in Todesbanden" sounded like Christmas Eve around midnight, when a strange quiet descends, waiting for the magic to happen.

After intermission, Pachelbel's "Christ lag in Todesbanden" was performed. It was light spirited, and I scanned the words to see what they were singing about. "The scripture has announced/how one death ate the other/death has become a mockery/Alleluia" and "Here is the true Paschal lamb, sent by God/that is roasted in hot love on the cross's staff." Wow. The music was about the exact opposite of these words, which is a cool idea. Near the end it became Christmas midnight again, and I

was blown away by the fact that so few instruments can be so full and captivating.

Sadly, the third piece, "Heut Triumphiert Gottes Sohn" by Buxtehude has not translated well into the twenty-first century. Only watching one soprano soloist, whose technical brilliance was magnificent, and the conductor's frantic actions, got me through to the piece's incredible finale, where the choir just poured it on. It appeared that my theory really was correct, that if the performers become indifferent, so does the audience. I asked the uptight couple beside me what they thought. "It's more her thing" and "It's good I think," were the responses.

Finally, the night capped off with another Bach piece "Nun is das Heil und die Kraft", which only featured the choir and the orchestra, so it was not bogged down by the soloists. This one followed the similar good/bad/good pattern of the others, except the dullness could be blamed on Bach, as the performers were really given'r, especially the cello player whose skill was astounding.

I left feeling about ready to go home. But I saw an old man walking out by himself. Might as well do the journalistic thing one more time. Did he enjoy the performance? "Oh yes", he grinned, his eyes sparkling their confirmation. Looking at his overjoyed smile I realized that it does not just matter if the performers are indifferent, but it also depends on my capability to appreciate what was offered to me. Fashion N' Motion was wrong! The universe made sense again! "Thank you, old man," I thought.

Minor Cords

Shots fired during Nas concert

BBC News reports that during a Nas concert in London, England, two bullets were fired. The show was stopped, and the venue was evacuated. Authorities are unsure of who fired the shots. It is assumed that they were fired towards the ceiling. There was said to be a high level of security at the show's venue, Brixton Academy, and it is unknown how a gun made it into the building.

Sarah Jessica Parker dropped from Gap ads

Sex and The City star Sarah Jessica Parker has been dropped from Gap advertisements. Gap is going to use British singer Joss Stone as her replacement.

Parker, who has earned \$38M for her endorsement, is reportedly stunned that Gap would drop her for a lower profile celebrity.

-compiled by Sierra Leedham

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IN THEATRES APRIL 1ST



EAR CANDY



The Mars Volta



3 out of a possible 5 songs

Title: Frances the Mute
Release Date: March 1, 2005
Label: Universal

The new Mars Volta album is, like all their music, an experience; it's often hard to know whether it was a good or bad experience because you're confused and a little dizzy from the shocking electro-funk prog that they specialize in.

In a further attempt to weird its listeners out, Mars Volta has jettisoned the traditional notion of a "song" on *Frances the Mute*, and divided the album into five songs which are further subdivided into esoteric nonsense like "Cygnus...Vismund Cygnus: A. Sarcophagi". Each of these uh,

movements are quite gigantic. Song #5 is 32 minutes long. Even their radio single is buried under two minutes of unbearably heavy distortion.

But you see, the thing is that all this mumbo jumbo has an effect on you. You clearly know these guys are full of their own arty pretensions, but you can't help but get sucked into its impenetrability. "Twenty five snakes pour out your eyes/ Twenty five snakes are drowning!" WTF?! But it puzzles you, and you can't help but be curious about what the fuck they're talking about. It's mesmerizing... and all this is to say you should probably smoke a bowl* before trying it.

Their music is just as odd; it's honest about its noisy fracas. You're meant to focus your attention on it. Sounds begin and trail into other sounds and your brain is molested until it feels like a lumpy steak tartare.

Buried under all this weight and importance, are the songs themselves, and the beating acid-frenzy rock that makes Mars Volta seem to have taken all their influences and played them at once and then let melody wash over the grave ambience. Latin lyrics on Latin-American rhythms layered with raw guitars

that screech complex time signatures and heavy electronic beats pulsating below a punk rock ferocity - all these divergences combine to do something unnatural to your senses. It's cleverly effective, overloading your brain until you crave some more. It's very much like brain-rape.

But why is Mars Volta fucking your mind? Because they want to tell stories. Except even those are hard to figure out alone, away from the symphonic chaos. "Cassandra Geminni" is apparently about a transvestite prostitute, but how do the "25 snakes" eyes fit in?

And it's at this point that you like it or you don't. You accept it for what it is and it rewards you with gratifying multiple listenings, or you say "No, thanks." It challenges you to make a choice, because it is what it is, and that is uncompromisingly confusing.

So how do I write about this album then... hmmm... I have reached an impasse. Perhaps it's because I have been listening to the CD as I'm writing this and I took my own advice*. But the CD is over now, so I guess I can get on to writing this review. But for some reason I feel confused and a little dizzy...

-Chad McCordie

Plaskett a legend in the making

REGAN WALSH
Copy Editor

This is something I feel strongly about. It's important for you to witness a man of Joel Plaskett's calibre at least once in what may become your miserable and short life. He's a Canadian legend in the making, putting together strong songwriting and the ability to make the crowd feel like they're all his best friends. We're all lucky he hasn't opted to start a cult. Yet.

Whether you remember Plaskett's old band, Thrush Hermit (and sometimes cry at night when you're alone, wishing they had stayed together so you could hear them play "The Day We Hit the Coast" one more time), or first heard of him when you saw the video for "Come On Teacher" on Going Coastal last year, you must know this above all: It's better live.

I've seen him at a few venues. The Joel Plaskett Emergency's gigs opening for The Tragically Hip felt nearly as open and intimate as their shows at The Starlight at half-capacity. However, in Waterloo you don't have to listen to drunken 45-year-olds in faded T-shirts shouting "HIP! HIP! HIP!" while you sit on a blanket in the grass at the Molson Amphitheatre. At the Starlight, too, you can get drunk and throw yourself at the lanky Haligonian (seven feet tall and 106 lbs.), shake his hand and mumble incoherently about how you're secretly in love with him and he should come back and play here soon.

And it will work. We're all

phenomenally lucky that Plaskett shows up so frequently in our town. I had seen him thrice in less than a year when, Monday night, I showed up to see him play a solo show for the Jane Bond's tenth anniversary.

Eavesdropping on other, better-informed patrons revealed that Thrush Hermit's prodigal son was to be accompanied by the now-defunct Local Rabbits' remnant Peter Elkas.

The surviving members of the finest, most underappreciated Canadian bands of the 1990s stood eight feet in front of me.

I nearly shat my trousers.

That night the surviving members of the finest, most underappreciated Canadian bands of the 1990s stood eight feet in front of me and played solo sets for a house so packed we couldn't get to the bar.

The people at the front who couldn't get seats were courteous enough to sit cross-legged on the brick floor.

Elkas opened with songs from his 2004 solo album *Party of One*. They're low-key, lost-love pop with lyrics about Montreal landmarks and they show his considerable skill -- both with guitar and the Hohner Pianet balanced across barstools in the ad hoc stage area. He seemed friendly but reserved, visibly nervous about standing out there armed

only with a telecaster and facing a crowd who couldn't mouth along with the vocals and secretly wanted him to bust out "(Sally Ann's) Style Denial" and other gems from his Local Rabbits days.

Plaskett appeared much more relaxed and in control of the crowd. He has a stage manner that lends itself very well to such small venues and audiences. He is a story-teller, both in his songs and in his stage banter, isn't afraid to break out of a verse to give a brief, witty quip. Especially memorable are the tales of his childhood experience with Billy Joel's "Glass Houses" and his assumption of Bill Gates' identity in a story of driving across West Texas during a tornado warning.

He formulated his set list practically on the fly, mixing in material from all four of his post-Hermit days. There was, of course, considerable time given to his new album, *La De Da*, released February 22. He attributes the folkish finger-picking on the new record to the influence of fellow Halifax musician Al Tuck, who also provided guitar and vocal assistance on *In Need of Medical Attention*, Plaskett's solo debut.

During the encore he began taking requests, which led him to dig back into the Thrush Hermit catalogue for the most haunting rendition of "Maybe We Should Just Go Home" I've ever heard.

It was a good show, and I'll be heading up to see him play in Toronto when the Alone Together Tour returns to Ontario next month.

Winning infinite

Winning Eleven 8



4.5 out of a possible 5 balls

System: PS2/Xbox

Release Date: February 4, 2005

WILBUR MCLEAN

Video Game Reviewer

For those few Canadians who can differentiate between a pitch and a kit and understand that relegation only occurs to those at the bottom of the table, living in Canada can be a cold, lonely place with few others to share their love of "The Beautiful Game".

Luckily, however, Konami has released a refuge for soccer fanatics on North American shores.

Winning Eleven 8 is not only the best soccer game to ever be released (sorry every iteration of FIFA in existence) but is also arguably the greatest sports game ever.

Stepping onto the pitch, the first thing that's evident is the game's atmosphere. Crowds roar excitedly at every touch and stadiums are replicated well with shadows falling perfectly onto the pitch.

The graphics are also tight, as many of the most popular players are instantly recognizable and animations flow into one another without a hitch. One drawback, however, is the fact that many of the lesser-known players look exactly alike.

Beyond the aesthetics, how-

ever, the game is untouchable by any of its video game peers. Every nuance, from the fluidity of the passing to the intelligent AI, is excellently replicated. Notice the way strikers start their runs at just the perfect second and the manner in which the ball bounces realistically off player's heads, chest and feet. The feeling is one of exhilaration that is rarely experienced in video games.

The game's modes are plentiful. One can play a quick exhibition match, set-up and participate in a number of different cups as well as playing a season in a league, be it the Spanish La Liga, Italian Serie A or Dutch Eredivisie. For those hoping to play in another league, however, you're out of luck as once again the biggest knock against Winning Eleven is a lack of licenses. English Premiership? Nope. French Ligue Un? Uh-uh.

Considering EA's FIFA has every league and every player anybody could possibly want to play as, it's disheartening that Winning Eleven is only able to provide three completely licensed leagues.

That, however, is one of the few problems with Winning Eleven 8, which seamlessly intertwines tight gameplay with one of the most immersive franchise modes in sports game history.

Anybody with even a passing interest in soccer owes it to themselves to pick this game up. With Winning Eleven, there's simply no need for soccer fans in Canada to feel lonely anymore.

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Honourable mentions



Heather McDonald



Graham Duggan



Greg Smith



Greg Logel



Amy Rogers



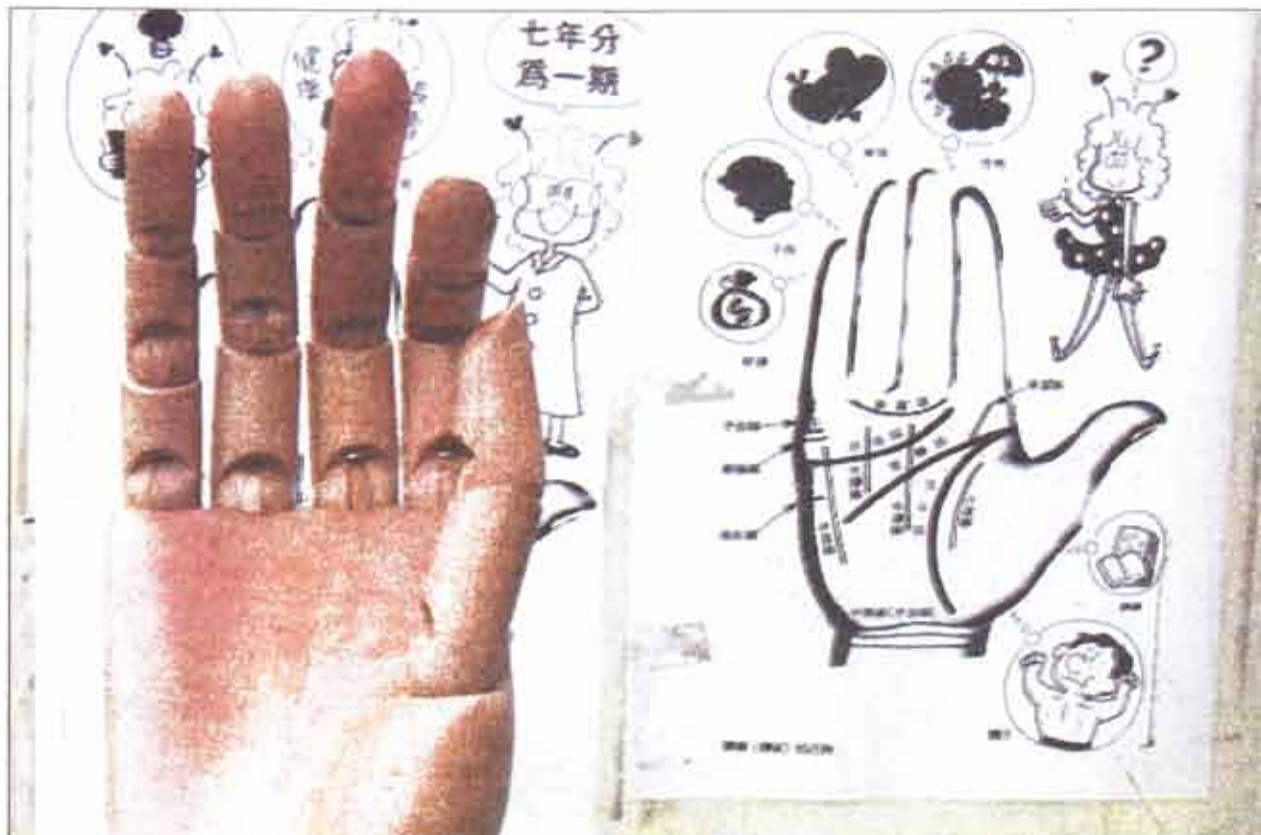
Jenifer Cahill

And the winners are.....

Cord Arts & Entertainment held a photo competition, and we received a variety of entries which were each fantastic for their own reason. Here are the best of the best.



First Place: Andrew Duggan



Second Place: Tudor Costache



Third Place: Graham Duggan