

THE CORD

The tie that binds Wilfrid Laurier University since 1926

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NICK LACHANCE VISUAL DIRECTOR

A struggle for ideals

Kitchener-Waterloo community present throughout weekend protests

ALANNA WALLACE
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

After a chaotic weekend, during which a large number of individuals from the Kitchener-Waterloo community were involved in the G20 protests, stories and evidence of both destruction and compassion have begun to emerge.

The community had a large presence in Toronto during the demonstrations, with a number of people involved in

different capacities.

"We're pretty sure on Saturday there were at least 60 people from Kitchener-Waterloo," said Laura McDonald, who graduated with a BA from Wilfrid Laurier University in 2006 and a master's degree in communications last year.

Laurier alumnus Dan Kellar was arrested in the early hours of Sunday morning while peacefully protesting outside the temporary jail on Eastern Avenue.

"People had been oppressed, had been put down," said Kellar. "They were abducted from their communities, thrown into cages and treated like sub-humans, treated like someone would if they hated their dog."

The *Globe and Mail* reported that last weekend marked the largest mass arrest in Canadian history as approximately 900 people were detained in the city of Toronto while world leaders met in a fenced-in area of the city.

Reports continue to surface regarding a suspicious property law allowing the arrest of anyone that approached the G20 summit's security fence along with personal accounts of police brutality, illegal searches and detentions. Some groups have called for a public inquiry into the events that transpired during and throughout the lead-up to the summit. The Facebook group "Canadians

National, page 8

Frosh enrolment growth continues

MIKE LAKUSIAK
CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR

First-year students arriving in Waterloo in September will once again be surrounded by a greater number of peers than in previous years. Over two hundred more students will attend the Waterloo campus this fall compared to September 2009, for a total of 3,842 new first-year Laurier attendees.

More than doubling in size in the past decade, Wilfrid Laurier University has dealt with increased first-year enrolment on a yearly basis, with growth surpassing predictions in many cases. This year, 257 more students than were expected by the registrar's office will enter first year at Laurier.

"Is it a big surprise?" president Max Blouw responded to the situation. "There's no question that Laurier remains attractive to students from across the province, and that's a good thing."

The process of applications, offers of admission and student choice of whether to accept a university's offer creates a great deal of uncertainty in predicting how many students will begin university at WLU each fall.

"It's always a difficult thing to predict, the behaviour of seventeen-year-olds," Jim Butler, VP of finance. This year, there were nearly

20,000 applications submitted to Laurier with over 70 per cent of applicants receiving offers of admission. Slightly more than one in four students who received offers chose to attend Laurier.

When enrolment has surpassed expectations in the past, the foremost concerns have been residence spaces and increased class sizes. From a residence standpoint, the university is coping well with the incoming first-years.

"We're stretching a little bit to accommodate them in different ways ... but at this point we'll be ok," said director of residence services Mike Belanger. "It's a little hard to tell looking beyond this year though."

Lease arrangements are in place, allowing residence services to house students in buildings surrounding campus. A new building provides 120 spaces at Lodge and King streets and joins other leased apartments at 325 Spruce and 345 King.

In 2008, when faced with what is still the largest group of freshmen in Laurier history and over four hundred more students than projected, residence services placed students in bunk beds and housed two students together in single rooms.

"We don't have to go anywhere quite that extreme," Belanger explained.

Campus, page 4

3585

projected number of first years, Waterloo campus fall 2010

3842

actual first-year enrolment fall 2010

1981

number of first-years, fall 1998

193 per cent

growth in first-year enrolment in the past twelve years

UW football cut

JUSTIN FAUTEUX
SPORTS EDITOR

In the wake of a steroid scandal that has been referred to as the largest in Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) history, the University of Waterloo announced earlier this month that it would be suspending its football program for the 2010 season.

The action comes as a result of nine players on the Warriors' roster testing positive for performance enhancing drugs in a team-wide test conducted by the CIS and the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (CCES) on March 31.

"This has been a very difficult and measured decision," said UW's athletics director Bob Copeland. "We need to take a step backwards before we can move forward and consider many broad issues beyond the program itself."

What prompted the CCES to perform the tests was the arrest of former Warriors' wide receiver Nathan Zettler for trafficking steroids this past March. Since Zettler's arrest, former Warriors Eric Legare, Matthew Valeriotte and Brandon Krukowski have also been charged in

Sports, page 22

Inside

Disaster in the Gulf

Questioning what's next for the oil industry and profiling the spill

World, page 10

Israeli flotilla crisis

Opinion columnists Josh Smyth and John Kennedy debate the use of force in last month's crisis

Opinion, pages 20-21

Navigating first year

Professors, students and administration offer their advice

In Depth, page 12



Editor's Choice Golden Hawks at a glance

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Editor's Choice South Africa 2010: 'France got what they deserved' thecord.ca/blogs

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

This Week in quotes

If someone hated their dog they would treat them in these conditions."

-Dan Kellar, Laurier alumnus on the treatment of those detained during last weekend's G20 protests



Well, you also have lint in your pocket, it doesn't mean it's useful, right?"

-WLUSU Director John Pryce, while questioning the new WLUSU smart-phone application

The thing that no one has clued in to in all of this is that Brantford is a mecca for global tourism."

-Defender of Brantford heritage buildings Erich Davies on the the potential tourism industry in Brantford

"That's coming out of the Student Life Levy, so all of the students are paying for that." -Kyle Walker, WLUSU president, on the \$48,000 approved for purchasing eight LCD screens to be installed in the Fred Nichols Campus Centre

"I believe we're running Bill's feed through Hawking's synthesizer." -Paul Wells, Maclean's blogger, regarding technical difficulties in hearing Canadian press reporter Bill Graveland calling from Afghanistan via Skype

"I have no friends. I'm a journalist." -Patrick Martin, Middle East bureau chief for the Globe and Mail.

Summer reading list

The 8 books you should read before starting class this September

- Pride and Prejudice, Jane Austen; Heart of Darkness, Joseph Conrad; Guns, Germs and Steel, Jared Diamond; 1984, George Orwell; The Communist Manifesto, Karl Marx; Freakonomics, Steven Levitt; Stephen J. Dubner; Outliers, Malcolm Gladwell; The World is Flat, Thomas L. Friedman

From the archives

June, 2003 - 500 extra students accepted Despite being a small number by today's standards, Laurier accepted an extra 500 students in 2003, pushing the number of undergraduate students in attendance to close to 10,000. 3,441 students accepted their offers with only 3,020 spaces available for first-years.

June, 2006 - Theme residence hits WLU 20 new Laurier students were housed in a new residence that was designed to foster a "leadership environment." The Regina Residence hosted the Living Learning Community (LLC) and was meant to give students a high level of involvement in their first year.

September, 2008 - Turret bans undergrads Those under the legal limit were no longer allowed into what was once an all-ages club on campus. Problems with liquor licenses and underage drinking were cited as reasons for the change.

September, 2008 - Meal plan changes Starting in this year, students were only allowed to carry forward a maximum of \$500 on their OneCard, which expired at the end of their first semester of second year.

June, 2008 - Single rooms converted to doubles Residential services was forced to convert some single bedrooms in Bricker Residence into double rooms to accommodate a rise in first-year attendees. Typically the school had 2,556 applicants for residence and only approximately 2,275 beds. Other accommodations including converting living rooms into dorms and moving international students to off-campus housing also accommodated the increase in students.

Golden Hawk must-haves

VICTORIA CRAIG CORD FEATURES

LIANNE SALO STAFF WRITER

Munchies

Before you know it, eating will become the highlight of your sometimes lecture-and-reading-filled days so keep these notables in mind for future reference: Any kind of sandwich from Quick Sandwiches on King St. - even better than Subway. Chicken Quesadillas from Union Market in the WLUSU Terrace - best kept secret. Chicken Fingers from the Dining Hall - absolutely phenomenal. The brand new Starbucks in the Concourse - budget your OneCard accordingly. Spinach Dip (aka Spin Dip) from Wilf's.

Golden Hawk T-Shirts

Whether they say "WUCK FESTERN" or "ROCK OUT WITH YOU HAWK OUT", a Laurier T-shirt is one of those staple items for Saturday football games. They go fast, so for \$10, just buy it when you see it.

Poster Sale

Hundreds of posters set up in the concourse for your viewing and purchasing convenience - whether an artistic Eiffel Tower shot, a classic of the Beatles or two kissing girls tastefully clad in their knickers - there is a poster for everyone to make residence feel just like home! Remember, they don't take debit cards.

A-Team Events

Between your favourite local bands, comedy nights and Tony-Lee the X-Rated Hypnotist (YouTube it, trust me) there's never a dull moment!

O-Week

We know all you ever hear about is how amazing it is yada yada...but it actually is one of the best weeks of the year. So get out there and cheer your heart out.

Vocal Cord

What's your advice for first-year students?



"Get involved.. with everything you possibly can on campus." -Andrew McKay Third-year history



"Have good time management." -Shaunese Hoek Fifth-year geography



"Come in with an open mind... you'll be able to adapt." -Vincent Chih Third-year business



"Don't fall behind on your readings." -Chelsea Plante Graduate student (International Public Policy)

Compiled by Linda Givetash Photos by Nick Lachance

THE CORD

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Colophon

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

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

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Preamble to The Cord constitution

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

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

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

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

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

Quote of the week: 'There's not enough blood in the body to operate this and all that.' -World Editor Alex Mistropoulos pitying men with unnaturally large penises

NEWS

News Director Linda Givetash • lgivetash@thecord.ca

Students' union approves spending

Focus on technology to engage students, bartending system, renovations comprise major expenditures

LINDA GIVETASH
NEWS DIRECTOR

On June 12, Wilfrid Laurier University Students' Union board of directors met to evaluate the capital expenditures budget for the 2010-2011 academic year.

Seven projects were presented and approved by the board, amounting to a total cost of over \$250,000 to be funded by the union and the Student Life Levy (SLL).

Digital additions

The most debated item presented to the board was a proposal for a WLUSU smartphone application. This initiative was proposed as a response to last year's market research results that found students did not feel they were a part of the union.

WLUSU president Kyle Walker explained that the app would provide students with alerts on the activities and events that they choose to receive.

"We live in a day and age where people expect information to be brought to them," explained Walker. "Whereas our website right now, they have to go find that information."

As this was the only project to pass with two votes against it, Walker attributed some of the concern to the uncertainty of its results.

Director Jon Pryce, who voted against the project, explained he did not believe that a smartphone application would improve WLUSU-student relations at the moment.

"What we have to do is first try to gain the trust of our customers, which is ... the undergraduates at Laurier," he said.

Pryce cited the figure that only 54 per cent of students have smartphones and noted there was no guarantee that they would be interested in the application.

"They continuously said that it will be right in your pocket, information right in your pocket. Well, you also have lint in your pocket, it doesn't mean it's useful, right?" said Pryce.

While Walker claimed that the cost for such a project would only increase in time as the demand for similar projects increased, Pryce disagreed arguing that technology prices only go down over time.

"I just think that if the price did go down and there was a larger market then we would be able to have a more efficient application economically and effectively on campus," Pryce concluded.

Walker however echoed the approval by the rest of the board and management, saying, "The price we're paying is good value for what we're probably going to get out of it."

Another digital addition that received unanimous approval from the board is the installation of eight new LCD screens in the Fred Nichols Campus Centre (FNCC).

"It was something I talked to Kyle Walker about as soon as I got the proposals because I thought it was interesting because he was against these LCD screens during the election and then sort of flip flopped and now he's on board with them," said Kyle Hocking, chair of the board.

Seen as a mechanism to improve WLUSU-student relations by providing information on the union and campus partners, the project funded by the SLL was well received.

Alcohol management

"Wilf's and the Turret, neither achieved their cost budget for liquor service for over the last year," stated Mike McMahon, general manager for WLUSU.

In light of the losses in liquor sales, an alcohol management system was approved for both bars.

The system will dispense alcohol through hand-held guns with the liquor supply attached separately, calculating the amount of alcohol being poured for sale and preventing any dripping or spilling.

"We have to use the technology available to make sure that we meet our costs and take the pressure off our servers," explained McMahon. "The system is literally paid for by those savings if we just meet our budget."

The new system will also increase the speed of service, which the union anticipates will increase sales.

Renovations

The most costly project at \$74,580 of which \$39,000 will be funded by the SLL are renovations to the third floor of the FNCC.

Part of the project will incorporate the addition of a collaborative workspace, adding eight computer stations with over-sized monitors, beside the Foot Patrol office.

Much like the existing computer labs on campus, the workspace will be available for all Laurier students to use.

The WLUSU offices will also receive a renovation, specifically to improve the finance department and move the staff lunch area. The

changes will temporarily remove the offices for the general manager and chair of the board for the year, requiring them to work out of the marketing lab.

This will be corrected with anticipated renovations in the following year to make the union offices more inviting to the student body.

"The next phase will go to next year's board, and that's where we're going to revamp the entire office space and make it more open concept, so no closed doors, no offices, and working modular stations floating in the middle of the area," explained Walker.

Second phase plans for the renovations will be researched over the course of this year and brought forward to the 2011-2012 board.

Less extensive renovations include improvements to the Pita Shack by moving the front counter and adding a steaming oven to keep chicken warm to improve the business's efficiency.

"We found that with the revamped counter that was installed in the last reno, there wasn't enough room behind it for the staff to work," explained Walker.

New seating on the back stage of Wilf's will be added to accommodate large groups such as residence floors to improving the speed of service.

All the projects passed at the board meeting will begin immediately in anticipation for completion by the fall.

"Really what we're calling them now is summer projects because there's no reason why all of these can't be done by the end of the summer," said Walker.

\$36,000

Smartphone app development

\$48,520

Alcohol management system

\$48,722

LCD screens for the FNCC

\$74,580

FNCC 3rd floor renovations

Campus web experience improved for fall

MIKE LAKUSIAK
CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR

Over the last several months, plans have been put in place for the future services provided by Wilfrid Laurier University's information technology services (ITS) and some changes have already occurred.

By the fall, the computer interfaces that students interact with as well as the network foundation of those services will be revamped in an effort to increase utility as well as performance.

"We're looking at complex and multi-year projects to rebuild our network," assistant VP of academics Tom Buckley explained. "We're looking at some pretty complex fundamental changes and heavy investment; we want to make sure we get it right."

The entire network, including Laurier's wireless network offerings, will be redeveloped with an emphasis on security, he added.

Laurier's online learning management system WebCT is being replaced. Multiple internet-based services will be incorporated into a central MyLaurier portal with a single password and there will be changes to Laurier's email system.

Buckley has been involved with the planning and development of changes to the IT system since last fall, including the co-ordination of a student advisory group that met with students to discuss possible modifications to ITS services.



NICK LACHANCE VISUAL DIRECTOR

Laurier's entire network, including its wireless internet service is currently being updated. Email and online learning will also change.

"It was about looking forward and what we need to do to address some challenges that people face and really bring the network services up to where they need to be," Buckley said of the planning process and changes that have been made as a result thus far.

While he could not provide specifics on the cost of the overhaul, Buckley said, "We're still planning but it will be measured in the million [dollar]-plus range for the network [changes] alone."

Laurier's administration approved

a one-time budget allocation for the project last year. Students are also directly contributing funding to some of the work through an allocation of \$54,200 from last year's student life levy that has been directed at developing the new MyLaurier portal.

Online Learning

Laurier's current online learning management system, WebCT, will be replaced with a new system for the fall term. The Desire2Learn learning environment, which has

already been used in Laurier graduate business programs, will take over as the interface for online components of classroom courses and online-only offerings.

"We felt that in terms of where Laurier is going with our [online learning] needs it was a really good fit," remarked director of teaching support services Sandy Hughes, who added that she feels the system is more flexible and accessible than WebCT. "We think it's more intuitive in terms of the controls for all the users, especially students."

Hundreds of courses at Laurier have already been converted to the Desire2Learn system, which was developed by a local Kitchener firm.

Programs at the Universities of Guelph and Waterloo already utilize this platform, as do many American institutions.

MyLaurier

Students will be able to access all the online services they use at Laurier through a single site in September when a new mylaurier.ca is set to launch.

"All the things that students have to access on a regular basis are being centralized through this central gateway," explained director of student services Dan Dawson.

Currently, students at the university may require up to eleven different logins and passwords for various required services from course registration to checking the balance on their OneCard.

The new site will allow students to log in once and access all of these services through a single point of entry.

"It's going to be a one-stop shop for students," WLUSU president Kyle Walker said. "I think a lot of students will set that as their homepage."

Email

Replacing Laurier's current Novell email system with one from a third-party provider is being examined.

"We're in the final stages of negotiating and finalizing plans for a new web-based email solution for students," Buckley said, adding that as well as being more cost-effective, the new service "will greatly increase service, storage availability, the whole nine yards."

Negotiations are underway with one of the two main web-based email providers, and while Buckley would not discuss specific service providers, Walker indicated that Google and Microsoft had been considered.

"Gmail was brought up," he said, pointing out the popularity of Google's offering. "Now more research has been done and Microsoft is another player in that."

"Storage space will increase by a factor of close to three hundred," Buckley said, adding that the new system will be as functional and responsive on par with a service like Hotmail or Gmail.

CAMPUS

Campus News Editor Mike Lakusiak • mlakusiak@thecord.ca

Opera legend dies

LINDA GIVETASH
NEWS DIRECTOR

On June 16, former chancellor to Wilfrid Laurier University, Maureen Forrester, died at the age of 79.

The world-renowned contralto vocalist put Canada and Laurier on the map for producing quality musicians.

"She always took an interest in what was going on here musically and was very proud of being associated with the school," said Lorin Shalanko, accompanist and coach at WLU, who was a student during Forrester's years as chancellor.

Beginning her professional career in singing at the age of 21, Forrester would go on to have countless performances with major orchestras and choirs around the world including the Toronto Symphony and the New York Philharmonic.

"Her association with Wilfrid Laurier is really unfathomable," said WLU associate professor Kim Barber on Forrester becoming chancellor in 1986.

"We had a big name associated with us and her presence here made us all feel more legitimate," echoed Shalanko, also noting that the music program at Laurier was still developing in those years.

Barber, who knew Forrester both personally and as a mentor, reflected on the impact Forrester had on her career.



COURTESY WLU PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Internationally-recognized Canadian vocalist Maureen Forrester.

"She supported me and encouraged me in what I was doing and that was enormous for a young singer," said Barber.

Forrester encouraged and inspired countless musicians who admired her work. Barber noted that it was her international acclaim that allowed "Canadian artists to believe that we can make an impact outside our borders."

Serving as chair for the Canada Council of the Arts, Forrester was able to contribute to the music community, expressing her desire for philanthropy.

"She was really influential in keeping grants and not having cuts made to the arts and ensuring the artistic integrity of Canadian musicians would be supported for the years to come," explained Barber.

The combination of great performance and advocacy defines the legacy Forrester has left at Laurier.

WLU president Max Blouw commented on the strong heritage of the voice program that she fostered, fulfilling the positive influence the role of chancellor entails.

"She must have been an enormous presence on the stage conferring the degrees on students who convoked in those years," said Blouw.

Shalanko, who received his degree from Forrester, confirmed the effect that she had on the graduating class.

"When we had a chance to get our diplomas from Maureen it was great to stand beside someone who was a great Canadian and a great success," he reflected.

Forrester's scores, speeches and photos are kept on archive at WLU with the permission of her family to celebrate her legacy.

"She's a great Canadian," said Shalanko, "She'll be missed."

"We're exacting a cost from our faculty..."

—cover

Larger rooms that would normally only accommodate one student will be occupied by two and some living rooms in the Laurier Place residences will be converted to bedrooms to compensate for extra residents.

With more students comes a focus on the class sizes, especially large first-year lectures. "In terms of classrooms, we're thinking we'll be okay," registrar Ray Darling said.

"Business was an area of concern but they'll add on some sections if need be."

While business programs will see less than fifty extra first-years in September, the sciences, psychology specifically will experience more substantial growth.

"Last year we had 1,850 seats available in psych 100," department chair Rudy Eikelboom pointed out, "we'll have 2,250 available this fall."

There has been strain on instructors as the methods they are able to use to evaluate larger groups of students are limited. "We have a lot less writing than we'd like in those first two years," Eikelboom said.

"With faculty, we've been able to meet demands placed on us," he continued, "but I think we're exacting a cost from our faculty."

He also explained that no new faculty have been hired in the department to correspond with growth, and that upper-year classes have been limited based on not being able to physically fit more students in lecture halls.

"We're not pleased with it, it's not something we're happy with, but it's where we are," said Eikelboom.

Increased demand in the sciences is not surprising according to Blouw.

"It seems to me what it reflects is that incoming students are keenly aware of where employment prospects are most likely to be," he said.

Darling explained that growth is by no means uniform in different disciplines. "Conversely, the humanities aren't doing well at universities."

He pointed to program cuts in arts at the University of Guelph despite the popularity of that university's science programs and at other universities across the province. "I think you can get into almost any arts program in Ontario today with a 75 per cent average."

While first-year entrance into the faculty of arts at Laurier did increase this year by about 75 students, problems could arise if less demand for arts programs drives admission requirements lower, a correlation that Darling confirmed.

Admitting students with progressively lower high school grades has negative connotations, he said, as students may struggle to cope with university-level work and not progress through programs. "The higher the cutoff the better in terms of student success." Despite this potential problem, he denied that degree devaluation could be an issue, as professors typically do not decrease academic requirements, and as a result less incoming students may complete their degrees.

"Our retention rates are pretty solid, but we could run into problems if that cutoff drops any lower."

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thecord.ca

Laurier Aboriginal Program Council established
by Linda Givetash

WLU's centennial celebration planning underway
by Elizabeth Bate

Brantford expands amid protest

While extensive development at Laurier's Brantford campus is underway to prepare for future growth, uncertainty surrounds a row of buildings currently under demolition, and what could be built in their place

MIKE LAKUSIAK
CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR

Wilfrid Laurier University's main campus in Waterloo has seen exponential growth each year of the past decade as the number of students attending Laurier has more than doubled. According to university administrators, who highlight the possibilities afforded by the satellite campus that Laurier opened forty minutes to the south in 1999, this kind of growth cannot physically continue in Waterloo.

The target for growth has shifted to the Brantford campus, which has seen a great deal of recent development to prepare for the sort of rapid increase in student numbers that the Waterloo campus has experienced and can no longer support.

"The longer-term plan is to not grow [in Waterloo], we think we're at a good size," registrar Ray Darling explained. "Eventually Brantford might grow to the same size as Waterloo's campus."

In fact, by 2014, Brantford is expected to double in size to over 4,000 students, according to Darling. "We need to get some good, solid programs in place there if we're going to expand there in the next five years."

"We'd like to add residence space, we need dining hall facilities, we absolutely need recreation facilities and athletic space," noted Laurier president Max Blouw regarding Brantford. "We should be in good shape to grow the campus in Brantford to 4500 or 5000 students with the current developments that are underway."

Brantford, which had been hit hard by industrial decline, welcomed the establishment of Laurier Brantford among the derelict buildings of its downtown.

"Laurier has revitalized [the area] with the students coming in, and has been the prime thing to drive the city and drive the downtown,"

Brantford city councilor Mark Littell said. He pointed to development by the university currently underway totalling nearly \$60 million.

Set to open in September is the first wing of the \$40 million Brantford Research and Academic Centre, which will house a bookstore and classrooms. The university has also renovated the former CIBC building to create space for a future business program to be offered on the campus. As well, a former strip club is currently being gutted in order to house more classroom space and faculty offices.

As such large-scale development of the area takes place, a substantial group of people continues to protest the demolition of buildings that could possibly make way for the campus athletic facility.

Forty-one buildings along Colborne St., some pre-dating Canada's confederation, had been slated for demolition for some time and were expropriated by the city for that purpose a year ago. Though there is no official commitment by the university at this time to build on the site, it seems to be a likely candidate for the new athletic complex, and has been discussed as a possibility by administration and city council.

"Discussion has taken place but no agreement has been made," said Laurier Brantford principal acting VP Lesley Cooper about the facility being built on the site. "I think it is more than just implied." She added, "All of this will be a decision by the council, it is their land."

Approximately half a million dollars in funding is in place for the planning stages alone of the shared athletic facility that Laurier would construct in partnership with the YMCA, Nipissing University and Mohawk College. The project received over \$250,000 from a federal government development program and some of the \$1 million donation to Laurier Brantford from the SC Johnson Company will also aid



MIKE LAKUSIAK CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR

41 buildings being demolished along Colborne St. in Brantford have been defended by a group citing heritage concerns. It has been suggested that the site may house Laurier's new recreation complex.

in planning the construction of the facility.

"We will be hiring an architect, [the funding] was to do some preliminary community consultation around the athletics centre," Cooper said. "It's very preliminary but it's where we're at."

Erich Davies is one of those opposed to the demolition that got underway along Colborne in mid-June. According to Davies and others, the heritage value of the buildings has been overlooked by the city council.

"Nobody is considering the heritage," he said. "You can't replace this stuff once you've destroyed it the way it's being destroyed."

The movement to save the buildings has been fuelled in large part by groups on Facebook that fought against the demolition before it actually began several weeks ago. Some Laurier Brantford faculty

members were involved in the movement as well.

"There's so much good stuff on that street," Davies continued, "the kind of stuff that cities all over North America are trying to replicate because they've already destroyed it."

Blouw explained that he doesn't comment on the Colborne St. situation, but said, "I think it's very clear that Laurier has demonstrated a very high adherence to heritage values."

"It's not our decision, we need to be separate from that decision," he said about the demolition and redevelopment process.

Blouw added that funding the actual construction of the facility is another issue altogether and that it is possible to build it elsewhere. "There are possibly other sites downtown but we need to take

guidance on what's available relative to when we secure the funding."

Laurier will continue to expand its Brantford operations in the coming years as it is forced to shift its focus away from simply the Waterloo campus, including the possibility of another satellite campus in Milton. Planning for development in the next decade was done on the premise that Laurier Waterloo will not exceed 15,000 students.

While the development of an athletic complex is considered essential in light of Laurier Brantford's growth, how, where and when the facility will be built all remain questions. The public response to its potential location is another thing.

While demolition is already underway, Davies remained determined. "This advocacy is going to continue," he said. "We're going to need to rebuild what's been lost."

News in brief

Laurier successfully challenges commuters

In a week-long competition in early June among workplaces across Canada to reduce carbon emissions through commuting in more sustainable ways than driving, Wilfrid Laurier University placed in the top five nationally in its size category and first in Waterloo Region. 121 Laurier staff and faculty participated in the Canadian Commuter Challenge by walking, biking, taking public transit or carpooling to campus. In its ninth year of participating in the challenge, the university's efforts avoided the production of over 3000kg of greenhouse gases, a sharp increase over last year's result. Among local universities, Laurier fared especially well - the University of Waterloo had only 14 members of its workforce participate while 23 individuals from McMaster University and 77 from the University of Guelph took part.

Dual credit program enacted

Approved by university senate in the spring, an agreement to offer high school students university credit for economics courses held in high school was signed June 28. Waterloo Regional District School Board students will now be able to take a course equivalent to EC120.

2010-11 WLU budget avoids cuts, but development depends upon government

While last year Wilfrid Laurier University narrowly avoided cuts in all areas of operations, the 2010-11 budget approved by the Board of Governors June 17 projects that similar cuts will not occur for the next two years. The capital budget for the next year contains \$200 million in spending on major projects including development at the Brantford campus and gradual implementation of the master campus plan in Waterloo, though VP of finance Jim Butler noted that the actual construction of projects including the Centre for Global Innovation Exchange building on the current St. Michael's campus is wholly dependent upon federal and provincial funding. "Nothing much is going to proceed unless we get government funding," Butler said, adding that as a result, no major construction is expected immediately. "Things are quiet for this fiscal year."

—Compiled by Mike Lakusiak

For a link to the 2010-11 Wilfrid Laurier University budget check out

thecord.ca

Some changes to OneCard use

JACQUELINE DOBSON
CORD NEWS

The Laurier OneCard can serve as anything from a bus pass to a meal voucher for students at Wilfrid Laurier University.

In recent months, changes to the OneCard system have been suggested and in some cases brought into effect, leaving some confusion as to what students can expect the card to do for them.

The Cord examines the rumoured modifications to a system that all students have encountered and some use on a daily basis.

OneCard still accepted at the bookstore

After the bookstore announced in late April that payment by OneCard would no longer be allowed, there had been speculation that the outlet would no longer accept the card due to a loss of profits.

After meetings and a reworking of the OneCard agreement, the bookstore has agreed to continue to accept the OneCard in the upcoming fall and winter terms. While the arrangement will continue for this year, uncertainty remains as to whether students will have this option in years to come.

"We are going to use this year as a

trial," stated Dan Dawson, director of student services.

More choices

Food outlets on campus, including Tim Horton's in the science and business buildings, will be upgraded for September and there may be more choices available to students in the area surrounding the university as well.

The OneCard office has begun a process to update and possibly expand the vendors off-campus that allow students to pay for purchases with their cards by issuing a public call for proposals. Dawson speculated that this could draw businesses nearby campus to adopt the system. "[It] really opens up a fair opportunity for businesses to bid," he said.

Summer pause to the OneCard reward system

Originally conceived by the former OneCard and bookstore managers, the OneCard reward system has allowed students to accumulate points based on OneCard purchases with money on their 'convenience' account. The original intention was to promote purchasing loyalty at businesses on campus.

"The program has now become problematic," Dawson explained, as students have stocked all of their

rewards points to be used at the end of university. Typical purchases with these points are electronics and expensive items at the Laurier Bookstore which have a very low profit margin.

The rewards system has been paused for the summer. A consultation with MBA students last term resulted in a proposal to replace the program for incoming students with an instant rewards system for depositing money on the OneCard.

This would no longer allow students to accumulate massive amounts of points, and would provide incentives for students to pay via OneCard as opposed to debit and credit cards.

Current students will most likely retain the old rewards system and still be able to redeem their collected points.

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LOCAL

Local Editor Paula Millar • pmillar@thecord.ca

Oct. 25 municipal election preview

As Waterloo's election season looms, Staff Writer **Praveen Alwis** interviews Ward 6 and Ward 7 candidates

Mike Connoly

With a resume that boasts eleven years of service as a regional councillor for the City of Waterloo, Mike Connoly is the most experienced of the candidates on a municipal level.

As a candidate in Ward 6, Connoly acknowledges Northdale as a dominant issue and points to civic failure as a major factor in the neighbourhood's current state. Connoly explained, "What's happened in Northdale is that houses were being sold and made rental units without licensing them. The city had a good rule that you couldn't build one licensed house within 125 yards of another one. That hasn't been kept." It is lack of complicity with city regulations on the part of builders and landlords and poor oversight by the city that Connoly believes has led to a lack of demographic diversity in the area. In his opinion, insufficient licensing has affected not only the balance of the area, but the living conditions for students. Essentially, the "city can't control some of [the houses], because some of the people don't license their houses and we can't check if they're safe."

Anne Crowe

As a 30-year resident of Waterloo and current Ward 6 local, Anne Crowe understands the issues in

Northdale on a personal level.

The family doctor who was the first to enter her name in the race attributes her decision to run for office with the increasing problems in the area. "I don't think the current situation is fair to students and I certainly don't think it's fair to current residents," she remarked, noting the increasingly diminished local population and living conditions in the area. "When you get to a certain point, students start to feel that this is a student neighbourhood so certain behaviours which would normally be unacceptable almost become the norm," Crowe said.

While holding her own neighbourhood in contrast to Northdale, Crowe explained, "Our street has probably three-quarters of the houses occupied by students and we don't have the same problems as Northdale because the students can respect the fact that there are still permanent residents in the area."

Outside of Northdale, Crowe proposes plans of community beautification and environmental sustainability. "I'm very interested in creating a healthy community, from bike trails and walking trails to greening the community" she said, drawing upon her experience as a physician. "I think that fits in well with the university, making the area

healthier psychologically and physically in a broad holistic sense"

Jeff Henry

As a University of Waterloo (UW) graduate who is currently employed as the academic integrity officer within the UW's faculty of mathematics, Jeff Henry believes he is familiar with the student perspective in a way which the other three ward candidates are not. "[Students] should consider who will be able to best represent and listen to their voice, and understand where they're coming from. It's not too long removed since I was representing student interests," Henry said in reference to his position as VP of education for UW's Federation of Students (Feds), which he held from 2004-2006.

Emphasizing his desire to integrate the student viewpoint, Henry assured, "What I can promise off the bat is to always be willing to sit down with the [Wilfrid Laurier University Students' Union] and the Feds on a regular basis, and listen to what their concerns are and to be able to balance some of the neighbourhood's longer term resident voices with the student voices ... we need to be able to listen to both equally."

Henry has yet to put forth a

comprehensive platform or to propose any projects, stating that he plans to complete a process of neighbourhood canvassing and research before coming to specifics. He concluded, "Really, it's up to folks to let me know what they're particularly interested in doing, so that ... [it's] something that the community is picking because they think it's important."

Ed Korshewistcz

Local businessman Ed Korshewistcz enters the race with a degree of skepticism about how council has managed the Northdale question thus far. "I'm a businessperson, so I look at this whole situation and I say how can council be making any decisions when they don't have an official plan?"

The solution Korshewistcz suggests relies on the construction of intensified, high density housing developments. In order to facilitate this, Korshewistcz argues rezoning as a course of action which will benefit not only builders and students but also residents who have been unable to move out of the area due to zoning restrictions. "Some of these builders are paying about \$700,000 for a single family residence, but across the street because it's zoned for single family dwelling

the guy can't even sell his house."

He clarified that if the city is to simultaneously diversify the area, and encourage an influx of young professionals, builders should not be allowed to construct student apartments unregulated as they have been doing so for the past several years. While making reference to the proliferation of 5-bedroom apartments in the area, which are generally unappealing to non-students, Korshewistcz explained, "Zoning can do it. However, there needs to be some very stringent bylaws and restrictions on that zoning."

Erin Epp

Current Laurier student and sole Ward 7 candidate Erin Epp recognizes the importance of student involvement in the local community and doesn't subscribe to the prevailing belief that students are entirely transient with only seasonal roots to the Waterloo area.

"I don't really buy into the fact that students are 100 per cent a transient population, they're not. A lot of times, students stay after they complete university here," she argues. "I think that a lot more can be done in terms of engaging with students and making them feel like more a part of the community."

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Transit improvements slated for Waterloo

Region is the recipient of provincial funds

LINDA GIVETASH
NEWS DIRECTOR

On June 28, the province announced that it would be contributing \$300 million towards the foundation of rapid transit in the Region of Waterloo.

This initiative will include light rail transit (LRT) in Kitchener and Waterloo as well as a bus rapid transit (BRT) system stretching to Cambridge.

"It means first of all, it will help us put in place our intensification plans to try and stop rural sprawl," said regional chair Ken Seiling, further discussing the environmental benefits.

The provincial government's contribution, however, fails to meet the estimated \$790 million cost of the project.

"There is quite a significant shortfall," stated Brenda Halloran, mayor of the city of Waterloo, whose transit plan incorporates the regional initiative.

"We still have another hurdle to get through and that's the federal government to see what their cash contribution will be because ... we need it make this a go as well," explained Seiling.

Once funding is announced, construction can begin as early as 2012 to install the LRT system that will have a stop at the University of Waterloo, between Columbia and University avenues, and near Wilfrid Laurier University, at Seagram Drive.

Nancy Button, project director for the region's rapid transit, further explained that bus lanes and controlled traffic signals would also be implemented for the BRT system to improve traffic in areas outside the LRT route.

For the city of Waterloo specifically, the initiative will provide benefits to the high tech and business industries as well as the universities.

Halloran reiterated those benefits, stating, "For us we look at the opportunity to attract people who might be living in Toronto, Milton, other areas, that they would commute in to Waterloo, because we have so many jobs outstanding in the high tech sector."

The high concentration of workers and residents in the areas surrounding the Research and Technology Park and the universities requires alternatives to driving to provide efficient transportation.

"You want to make sure you're able to get around the city because most students don't have another method of getting around," said Saad Aslam, vice-president of university affairs for the Wilfrid Laurier University Students' Union.

LRT through Kitchener-Waterloo will be operational by approximately 2015 according to Button, if the remainder of funding is received in the near future.

Looking forward to the results of the project, Halloran expressed, "I think it's going to be very positive for this city and our future growth."

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NATIONAL

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PAULA MILLAR LOCAL AND NATIONAL EDITOR
At the summit's final Sunday press conference, U.S. President Barack Obama commended the G20's consistent progress.

Hosting the world on Canadian soil

The G8/G20 look to Canada as a pillar of economic success

PAULA MILLAR
LOCAL AND NATIONAL EDITOR

TORONTO, ON— From June 25 to 27, Canada played host to the world's largest economic powerhouses in back-to-back G8 and G20 meetings – a move which confirmed suspicions of a world order in flux.

In the days leading up to the twinned summits, the media honed in on the event's billion-dollar security price tag and lavish niceties for the international press. During the closely guarded talks, however, stories of peaceful demonstrations turned sour consumed the headlines. Nonetheless, tales of Toronto's tumultuous streets were reduced to that of a circus sideshow as concluding G20 press conferences got underway.

Late Sunday evening, as Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper and U.S. President Barack Obama addressed media at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, the public was finally afforded a glimpse of just what the elite club had been up to.

During the final press conference, Harper spoke of the group's successes since the November 2009 Pittsburgh Summit, as well as established firm targets for the November 2010 summit in Seoul.

Behind the closed doors and shielded from the media's glare,

Harper said that the leaders had agreed to a "50 per cent debt reduction by 2013 and a debt-to-GDP ratio that should be on a downward trend by 2016." On the controversial topic of bank levies, he explained that such a decision would be left to the discretion of individual countries – to the joy of Canadian bankers.

In the news conference that followed, Obama reiterated the group's progress and, in response to renewed fears of economic collapse, he assured that "we have pulled ourselves back from the brink."

However, the diverse nature of the G20 member countries ensured that agreement in the boardroom was no easy feat. Today, while the United States is targeting soaring unemployment levels, Germany and France lobby for greater financial regulation. As Japan struggles to pay down its deficit, Britain's newly elected Prime Minister tries to quell fears of minority rule in the United Kingdom. Echoing this very sentiment, Obama admitted that for G20 countries, "our challenges are as diverse as our nations." Nonetheless, he explained that as "a financial crisis for one country can have consequences far beyond its borders," the world's economic powers must work together.

"History teaches us that growth

and prosperity is never guaranteed," Obama furthered, "it requires constant effort and it requires specific leadership."

As the three-day world summit marathon drew to a close this Sunday, Canada appeared quite comfortable in its new position of power. Interestingly, Canada's hosting of the G8 and G20 Summits came at a time when the country is uniquely poised in relation to its global peers.

Throughout the summits, the country was hailed as a shining success story – a testament to the Canadian economy's resilience in the face of last year's global economic crisis. In fact, as it stands today, Canada continues to lead the G8 in achieving growth as the global economy recovers.

The G20, according to Obama, is now the premier forum for international economic cooperation. "We represent East and West, North and South, advanced economies and those still emerging," he said. Together, the G20 also represents 85 per cent of the global economy. In November 2010, the group will reconvene in Seoul, South Korea.

G8 Issues

As G8 member countries arrived in Huntsville, Ontario, they weren't in for a typical cottage-country jaunt. Instead, maternal health in Sub-Saharan Africa, governance in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, North Korean hostility and Iranian nukes, amongst others, were on the to-do list.

G20 Issues

In Toronto, the group ballooned to 20 and the focus shifted from development to economics. As the second round of talks commenced, world leaders discussed financial regulation, bank levies and deficit reduction. Further, the G20 member countries laid plans for their next summit – slated for November 2010 in Seoul.

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"Compared to other jurisdictions, Ontario has one of the most generous student assistance programs in the country" -Annette Phillips, director of communications MTCU

Students confused by loans, study

ELIZABETH BATE
CORD NATIONAL

For most students, navigating student loans may be like navigating a minefield, blindfolded.

In a recent report released by the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA), one in three students failed a financial aid literacy test that asked just seven basic questions about student loans.

While the necessary information is available to students, Alexi White, executive director for the Ontario Undergraduate Student Association (OUSA) and partner in the 2009 survey, explained that it is not presented in an easy-to-find and easy-to-understand way. "We have to make the system less complex," he said.

The study revealed that students will turn to family and friends for information over trying to navigate the government's overly complex system of delivering information.

Less complex is exactly what the province's Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities (MTCU) is hoping to achieve with its new website and application platform that was launched in early May.

Annette Phillips, director of communications for the MTCU, said that the new website, which received more than 6.5 million hits in its first week, is more user friendly.

For the rest of this story check out thecord.ca

Protestors allege mistreatment at Toronto's G20 Summit

-cover

Demanding a Public Inquiry into Toronto G20 has already drawn over 17,000 supporters.

Two groups associated with Laurier were present at the protests: the Radical Choir is an LSPiRG working group, and AW@L, while no longer officially affiliated with the university, stands for Anti-War @ Laurier.

Another WLU alumnus, Janice Lee, attended the protests as a medic, while Keren Gottfried housed numerous protesters at her home in downtown Toronto during the protests.

What remains unbeknownst to many observers is the way in which protesters at the summit organized themselves. Buses from KW to Toronto held many "affinity groups" which paired with social groups that share similar feelings regarding protests. These sentiments range from peaceful to the violent, as was executed by the Black Bloc, who attack corporations and symbols of capitalism, specifically organizations.

"We all agreed that we believed in completely peaceful tactics and that we wouldn't do certain things like we wouldn't de-arrest someone if we saw someone getting arrested," explained Laurier graduate Jen Holden of her affinity group.

"We buddied up with people with similar comfort levels ... so we were safe because we knew going into it that things could get bad."

Groups like AW@L and the Radical Choir, among other members of

the community marched together on Friday under the banner of the Kitchener-Waterloo Community Centre for Social Justice Block.

Not only were those members of the community present at the marches, when arrests were made over the weekend and crowds began accumulating outside the temporary jail on Eastern Avenue, many locals assembled. Despite the heavy rain, Gottfried said about a third of the crowd huddled outside to greet those released were from Kitchener-Waterloo.

"I was so proud of us for staying for so long in the pouring rain," McDonald said.

The crowd helped those released from the jail by providing them with Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) tokens, food and rain gear. Others gathered to offer rides and let those released borrow their cell phones so they could phone home.

Conditions were more severe inside the makeshift detention centre, where Laurier alum Dan Kellar was held for 20 hours with other members of AW@L and Kitchener-Waterloo citizens.

Given only hamburger buns with cheese and about 500mL of drinkable water, Kellar explained that, "The entire time in there I never got to speak to a lawyer."

Now, Kellar and the rest of the AW@L group have legal battles on their hands, as numerous members of the group continue to be held on

“

[Protestors] were abducted from their communities, thrown into cages and treated like sub-humans..."

-Dan Kellar, Laurier alumnus

charges such as "intent to create mischief."

"For the next little while obviously there's some tough legal stuff so there's going to be a lot of fundraising, a lot of court solidarity [and] court support," said Kellar.

For many of those who were in attendance at both peaceful protests and those that turned violent, as well as those who attended the jail solidarity, the weekend's trauma and their experiences have created mixed emotions.

"It was intense and quite frankly I just haven't really processed it yet and I haven't really dealt with it yet," explained Gottfried.

Kate Klein, a master's student at Laurier is holding a debriefing session on June 30 for those who participated in any capacity or were present during the protests and aftermath of the arrests.

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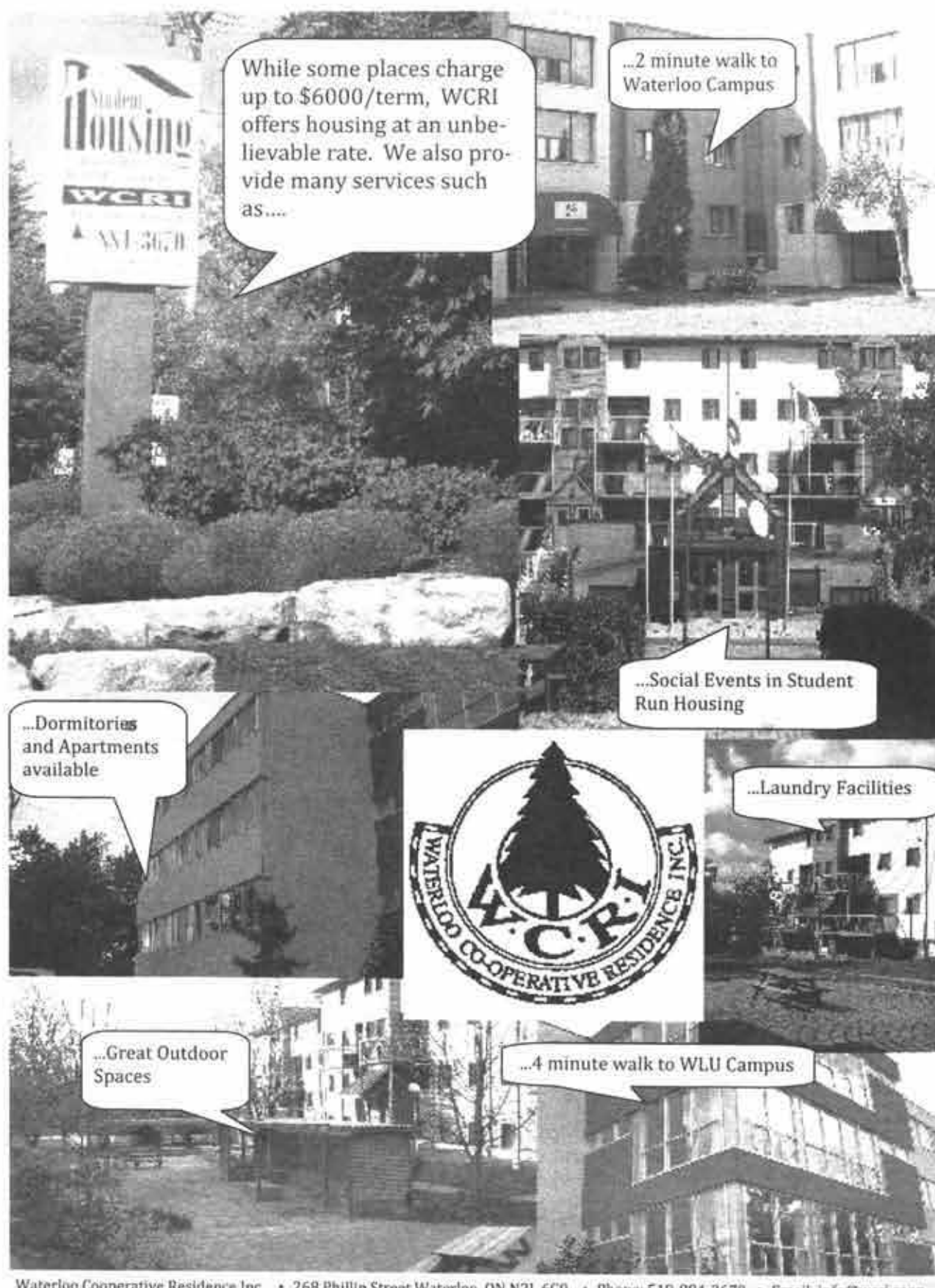
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WORLD

World Editor Alex Mitsiopoulos • amitsiopoulos@thecord.ca

Ethnic violence erupts in Kyrgyzstan

While the Kyrgyz Health Ministry tally casualties close to 200, Interim President Roza Otunbayeva said there may be ten times as many dead; UN estimates 400,000 displaced as a result of the fighting

DEANNA SIM
STAFF WRITER

Intense fighting ended in tragedy in the Central Asian nation of Kyrgyzstan as many endure continued violence between ethnic Kyrgyz and Uzbeks. The instability between Kyrgyz and Uzbeks in Osh and other southern cities has prompted the military to instate a rigid curfew to ensure peace, however fragile it may be.

Kyrgyzstan is being urged to take action to end the violence. A prominent goal for Kyrgyzstan is to have displaced persons safely return to secure homes. This issue comes two months after a political uprising in Kyrgyzstan where President Bakiyev was overthrown by the former Foreign Minister Roza Otunbayeva in April 2010.

Timothy Donais, global studies professor at Wilfrid Laurier University, explained, "It's hard to know whether this is the beginning of something much bigger or whether this is just an episodic spasm of violence that will eventually die down."

At the moment, the international community is not anxious to

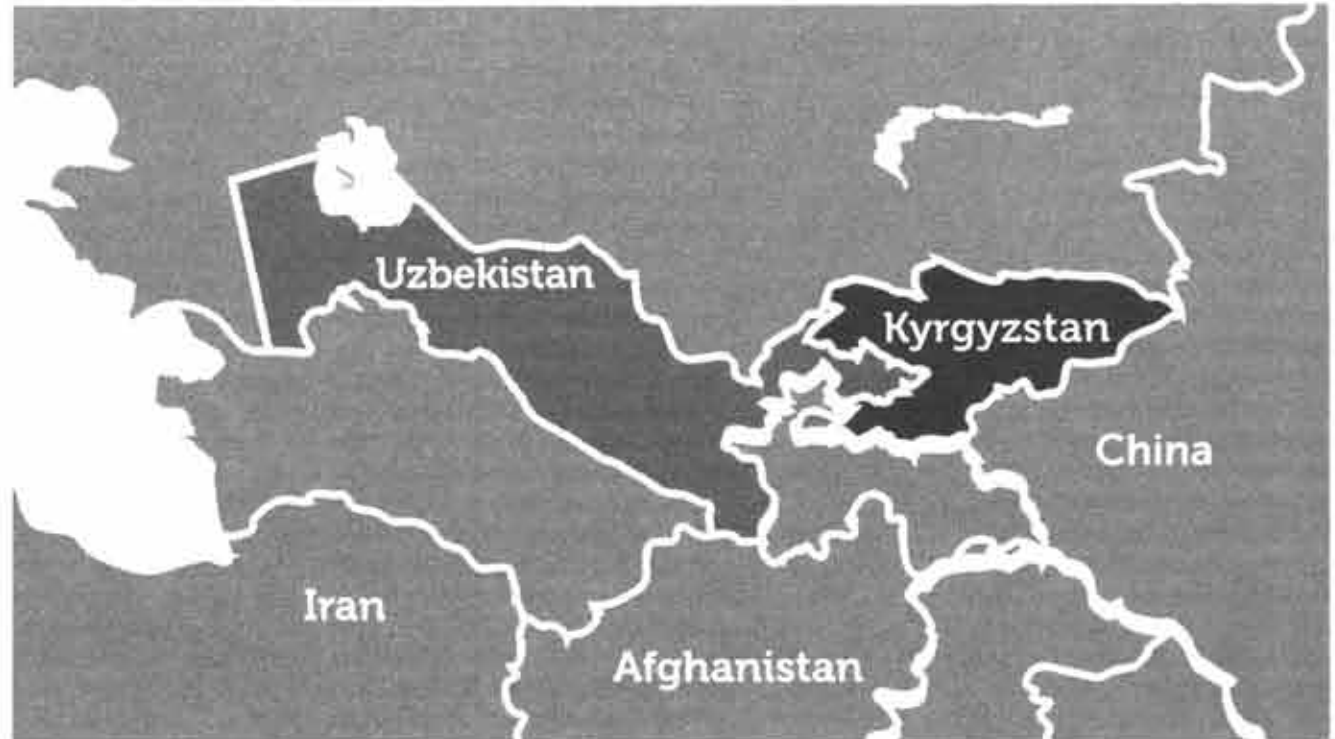
become involved. Donais noted, "It may be a reflection of peacekeeping fatigue that there are not a lot of countries lining up to send peacekeepers into Kyrgyzstan."

As Donais explained, there is speculation that Bakiyev, who was overthrown in April, has a stronghold in the South. His allies and those involved in the drug trade may have created the violence with the intention of destabilizing the government.

Unlike the genocide in Darfur, the issue in Kyrgyzstan does not entirely stem from a long historical conflict between the two ethnic groups. The issue in Kyrgyzstan has mainly revolved around the weak interim government. However, echoes of the old Soviet Empire have paid their dues. Alarmism is rampant as many are wary of the ties the interim government has with Russia.

On the topic of peacebuilding, Donais explained that in this situation, it would be difficult to decide where to focus efforts if there were to be an intervention by foreign nations.

Donais, an expert in post-conflict peacebuilding, is currently on a



Formally gaining independence in 1991, Kyrgyzstan has been wrought by two revolutions thus far.

research project involving Afghanistan. "There are echoes in Kyrgyzstan of a lot of the same things that are happening in Afghanistan... Afghanistan is a much bigger, complicated version of the same thing. For

the international community it's the same question: where do you start?"

"Do you try to promote reconciliation between the different ethnic groups, do you try to strengthen the government, do you focus on

law and order and dealing with the corruption, all of these things seem to be part of what's going on in this particular conflict," Donais concluded.



NICK LACHANCE VISUAL DIRECTOR

Panelists (from left) Martin Regg Cohn, Nahlah Ayed, Patrick Martin and Paul Wells discuss journalism.

Reporting from abroad

The Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI) hosts a discussion on the necessity of foreign correspondents

LINDA GIVETASH
NEWS DIRECTOR

"Foreign correspondence is the best type of journalism," said Martin Regg Cohn, the *Toronto Star's* editorial page editor, at a panel discussion entitled "Danger, Disaster and Deadlines."

The discussion, hosted by the Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI) and the Canadian International Council (CIC), featured moderator and *Maclean's* blogger Paul Wells and three other journalists sharing their reasons and experiences of reporting from abroad.

"Once you're out here it's like you're in a different world altogether," expressed Bill Graveland, Canadian Press foreign correspondent currently reporting in Afghanistan. Graveland utilized Skype to participate in the beginning portion of the discussion.

Graveland noted the difficulties in maintaining public interest in world issues, particularly in highly covered regions such as Afghanistan.

"The key is finding stories that are going to get their attention," he said, adding that often the most unique and personal stories are best received.

Nahlah Ayed, correspondent for CBC-TV, echoed this method of reporting. "To understand a region you have to cover the conflicts, but you have to cover the little stories too," she said.

The panel went on to discuss how the role of a foreign reporter has changed with technological advancements.

"What's changed is that we're doing a lot more with a lot less," explained Ayed.

Although the Internet has allowed for stories to reach the public instantly, it has also created the added pressure of producing stories more frequently, leading to less original and investigative material.

The challenges of competing with citizen journalists— or the "twitterati" as Cohn called them— were also discussed.

"More often than not it's not a representative picture of what's happening," said Patrick Martin, Middle East bureau chief for the *Globe and Mail*.

The panelists agreed that although citizen journalists provided insight into areas that may not be accessible, the information they provide is not necessarily reliable and provides only a small portion of

a story.

"Nothing is going to replace that person the news organizations have put in the field," Martin added. The panel argued that the information journalists provide involves more research than blogs or twitter posts to ensure that their stories are accurate.

"What I think a newspaper tries to do... is give people more context and more analysis," explained Cohn. Despite the rapid exchange of information online, Cohn expressed the role of journalists and particularly print journalists, "to give our readers a sense that you are there."

With media companies struggling to remain financially stable, concerns were raised regarding the future of foreign reporting.

"I don't know how long it will last," Cohn stated, listing the international bureaus that were shut down or downsized in recent years, specifically that of the *Toronto Star*.

The panel did convey the importance in having Canadian reporters present stories and information in a manner that creates relevance for the Canadian audience.

"It's the Canadian conversation that makes the job necessary," concluded Wells.

Forgotten conflicts

Under-reported conflicts are regularly omitted by news agencies

AMALIA BIRO
STAFF WRITER

It is a rare occurrence that the average citizen can identify important issues outside of regular media coverage. When asked about conflicts currently occurring around the globe, most people could name the most popular of issues.

The conflict in Israel-Palestine and the War on Terror are reported on frequently by the media. The current civil war in the Democratic Republic of the Congo or issues within Thailand and Somalia are reported on regularly.

But few people would be able to give details on conflicts in places such as Burundi, Nigeria or Yemen despite the multitudes of deaths occurring there each year. In Burundi death tolls equalled 140, in Nigeria over 500, and in Yemen it is estimated that the number reaches over 1,000.

The Armed Conflict Report compiled by the non-governmental organization Project Ploughshares tracks the number of conflicts occurring each year. These numbers however come only from direct fighting and do not account for structural violence that occurs from poverty, hunger and disease.

Edmund Pries, a global studies instructor at Wilfrid Laurier University, provided a potential reason for why some conflicts are often omitted by mainstream media reports here in the West.

"The amount of attention a conflict receives is usually directly related to the amount of economic investment the wealthy nations have in the particular conflict region," he explained. "The greater our investment, the more attentive our media

“

The amount of attention a conflict receives is usually directly related to the amount of economic investment wealthy nations have in the particular conflict region.”

—Edmund Pries, instructor of global studies

interest is also.”

Pries emphasized that human rights tend to take a backseat when we intervene in conflicts. "The right to life and right to live in peace are not considered as important as the economic wealth we can extract from that part of the world. That is one of the great moral issues that should trouble us," he said.

To sum up the West's approach to conflicts and therefore their media outlets' approach to conflicts, Pries quoted US Assistant Defence Secretary Lawrence Koth when the US and its allies initially invaded to free oil-rich Kuwait from Iraqi control in the First Gulf War. "If Kuwait grew carrots, we wouldn't give a damn."

thecord.ca

WORLD in brief

—Compiled by Alexandros Mitsiopoulos

Singapore, SINGAPORE
A Swiss man is facing five months incarceration in addition to three strikes with a cane for spray-painting graffiti on a train. Caning involves being struck in the thigh which may lead to scarring.

Tel Aviv, ISRAEL
The Israeli government has launched a spy satellite intended to spy on Iran's nuclear program. Authorities suspect Iran's civilian nuclear facility of secretly weaponizing nuclear materials.

London, ENGLAND
American singer Chris Brown cancelled his UK tour after being denied a visa due to a "serious criminal offence" on his record. The rationale stems from Brown's assault charge early in 2009.

Johannesburg, SOUTH AFRICA
Police have made arrests and subsequently deported what they suspect to be soccer "hooligans". These individuals were suspected of "disrupting the world cup."

BP bombshell: Worst spill in US history

After three months and nearly 250 million gallons of oil spilled, the Gulf has become an environmental dead zone

AMALIA BIRO
STAFF WRITER

It has been 64 days since the BP oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. Oil gushes out of the Macando well at a rate of approximately 795,000 litres per day at best.

The leak has become the biggest environmental disaster in United States history.

On April 20, millions of litres of oil began pouring into the Gulf of Mexico due to a blast on the rig Deepwater Horizon, just off the coast of Louisiana. The blast killed 11 BP workers and eventually sunk the Deepwater Horizon.

BP warns that the industry needs to change its operating procedure, but its competitors think that although new regulations are inevitable, if the regulations are too harsh they could have unintended consequences on the industry that need to be taken into consideration. Professor Alex Latta of the WLU Global Studies department agrees.

"It is certainly time to question the wisdom of deep-sea oil drilling, but doing this in isolation really just shifts the problems elsewhere," said Latta.

"The BP spill should remind us instead that it is time to rethink our addiction to an oil economy."

Finger-pointing, political debates and many attempts to plug the leak have become the focal point of the ordeal, with very little progress being made.

Immediately after the disaster, the Obama administration declared

a moratorium on deepwater drilling. This was recently overturned by Judge Martin Feldman.

The Governors of Louisiana and Mississippi agree with the judge's decision.

Despite the disaster, preventing more drilling would cause further economic damage to their already fragile states.

Initial plans to contain the oil including a procedure known as a "junk shot" using shredded tires and golf balls to stuff the leak and a "top kill" that involves stuffing the leak with heavy fluids, have all failed and may have caused more damage.

Finally a containment cap placed over one of the leaks on June 5 was removed June 23 due to growing concerns that gas rising from the holes in the cap presented an explosion risk.

Environmentally protected areas around Louisiana have become flooded with heavy oil and thousands of volunteers are now dedicated to the cleanup effort.

BP is an environmental disaster that nearly dwarfs all others in

recent memory.

However, it is not the only environmental disaster occurring. Latta, being critical of national issues, noted that "in Canada we have an ongoing ecological nightmare in Northern Alberta's tar sands."

Similar atrocities can be seen across the globe.

"In Nigeria, spilled oil – and corporate impunity – has become a way of life," said Latta.

"In Ecuador and Peru, remote indigenous communities struggle against a new wave of oil and gas exploration that threatens their material and cultural basis for survival."

BP has currently paid out an exorbitant amount of money to compensate those who have been affected by the spill and will continue to pay, a decision which Latta agrees with.

"Without a doubt BP should pay for cleanup and compensate those who have been affected by the ongoing spill, and a moratorium on offshore drilling is certainly a crucial first step," he said.

"But such learning can't stop at an investigation."

“It is certainly time to question the wisdom of deep-sea oil drilling, but doing this in isolation really just shifts the problems elsewhere.”

—Alex Latta, professor of global studies

April 20

Explosion and fire on Transocean Ltd's drilling rig Deepwater Horizon, licensed to BP. Eleven workers killed.

April 25

First attempts to contain the leak by US Coast Guard fail.

April 30

Obama aide declares no drilling. BP chief executive says the company takes full responsibility, will pay all legitimate claims.

May 9

Junk shot manoeuvre ultimately fails.

May 16

BP succeeds in inserting a tube into the leaking well, capturing some oil and gas.

June 17

Republican Congressman Joe Barton apologizes to BP.

June 29

Clean up crews estimate that their oil containment project absorbs 20,000 to 25,000 barrels a day.

April 22

Deepwater Horizon rig sinks.

April 29

Obama pledges assistance. Louisiana declares state of emergency.

May 2

Obama visits Gulf Coast to see cleanup efforts.

May 11/12

Executives from BP, Transocean and Haliburton appear at congressional hearings, blame each other.

May 29

Top kill manoeuvre fails, crushing hopes for a quick end to the largest oil spill in US history.

June 23

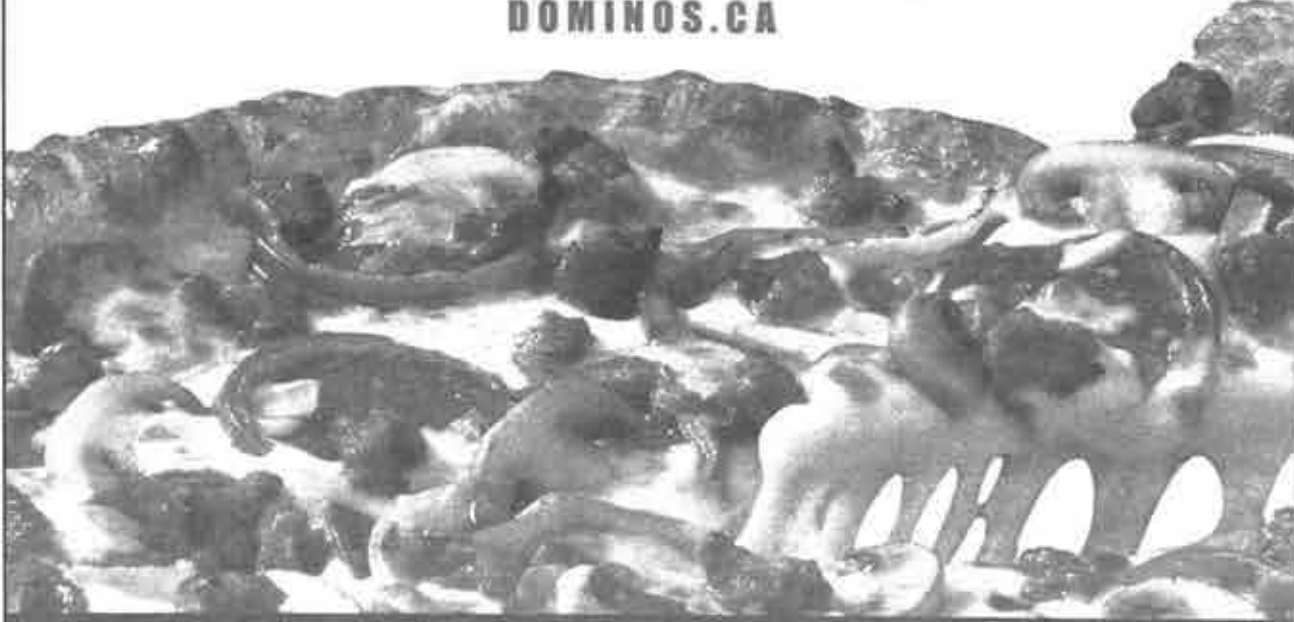
BP robot bumps cap being used to contain leak, forcing engineers to remove it. All gas previously contained releasing at rate of 29 000 gallons per hour.

Approximately 2.5 million gallons of oil is flowing from the site each day where the offshore rig exploded April 20th. This means at the end of this timeline, approximately 250 million gallons of oil has been released into the Gulf.

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FEATURES

Features Editor Laura Sedgwick • lsedgwick@thecord.ca

A first-year's guide to university life

The Cord's Features writers provide advice about the perils and joys of life at Laurier so that you can succeed as a freshman

LIANE SALO
STAFF WRITER

VICTORIA CRAIG
CORD FEATURES

Congratulations incoming Golden Hawks! Since you've just made one of the best possible decisions by choosing Laurier, it's clear that you all have pretty good heads on your shoulders.

Nonetheless, any little tidbits of wisdom you can gain from our experiences (and mistakes) can help make your university transition as smooth as butter.

Here's the breakdown on how to take first year in stride!

Things I know now

1 Get involved with extracurricular activities. It may be scary going to the first meeting by yourself but the worst thing that can happen is that you find out that the activity isn't for you.

The best thing that can happen is you make new friends, find a new interest and start making memories at university right from the get go.

2 A 'B' is an amazing grade, even if you're used to 90s in high school. The games have changed, so the curve is different.

Don't freak out when your grades go down a bit from what you were used to a year ago, it happens to everyone.

3 Dishes can ruin friendships. Dirty ones that are left on the couch, the counter, in the sink, or clean ones filling up the drying rack or dishwasher for days on end will drive you or your roommates nuts.

Figure out a plan that works for everyone who uses the kitchen and stick to it to avoid major blowups from long-term pent-up dish rage.

4 There's no need to worry about signing a lease on a place for second year in October.

There will be loads of places still up for grabs or just beginning to be advertised in January.

As the year goes on you'll get to know the people around you a little better and can make a better decision about who you can and cannot stand to live with.

5 Talk to your profs. They can be intimidating but it's worth visiting them because then you'll know what they want from assignments.

Also, they can provide you with specific sources or interesting information from personal experience about the topic you're studying and they can get to know who you are, which is good for

participation marks and when asking for references.

Things to avoid

1 The geese: Seriously, watch out! These things bite, chase, squawk and take no mercy.

2 Underage wristbands from Wilf's: Remember when you were little and had to wear the height restriction band at Wonderland so you couldn't go on all the cool roller coasters?

Well, these bright neon underage wristbands given past 9pm are just like that, only worse since they stop you from drinking.

Add that to the Xs crossed on both of your hands and you might as well stamp "first year" right on your forehead.

Be smart and hit up a kegger instead.

3 Walking on the Hawk in the Hall of Fame: don't do it. Ever.

4 The library, when New Venture is due. When the business kids have their first-year-project-from-hell, they flock to and take over the library for at least a week straight before each assignment deadline.

Simplify your life and just hit the books back in residence for a few days.



WADE THOMPSON GRAPHICS EDITOR

Residence and rooming

KRISTEN DUVAL
STAFF WRITER

Welcome to the life of having a roommate in the confined quarters of residence.

It's a time to meet new people, make lifelong friends and of course, the most exciting part, escape from the extreme annoyance of being under the same roof as your parents and having to follow their nagging rules.

For those of you who are moving in with a friend, prepare yourself to get annoyed with them endlessly.

However, also take this opportunity to make your friendship blossom into an even closer bond.

To those of you who are walking into residence blind to who your mystery roommate will be, there are four key words that must be drilled into your ready-to-learn brains: keep an open mind.

Expect the worst and hope for the best.

In the situation where you are paired up with someone who isn't quite your type, maybe he's a bit of a character or just someone you don't really click with, remind yourself that this time will end.

It is an obstacle and a learning experience, and you can and will overcome it.

This is a chance for you to really branch out and meet new people who aren't found in the walls of your bedroom.

Check out thecord.ca for some more helpful hints to make the most of what will hopefully be a ResLife match made in heaven.

Check out more advice at
thecord.ca

Technology must-haves

NATHAN CHAU
CORD FEATURES

Trying to balance your first year at university can be nerve-racking. Keeping up with the latest gadgets available to make the most of your experience at university without the added stress of technical glitches is a must for any first-year university student. Between juggling both your social life and academics, you'll need a little extra help. So here are the top five must-have tech gadgets to help you excel in both of these important realms of university life.

Laptop

A laptop is the most important tech must-have. This is where you work on your assignments, watch movies and, most importantly, use Facebook. The new Macbook Pro 13 inch at \$1,249 is the laptop to have. This is because it is packed with all the applications you need for work with Microsoft Office and lifestyle apps with iLife and no viruses to worry about, all in a beautiful and strong aluminum build body.

Smartphone

Cellphones in 2010 must have 3G mobile internet, MMS, email, multimedia, Facebook, Twitter, a decent camera and the ability to, well, make phone calls. Two smartphones that do all of this and more are the iPhone 4 at \$199 and the Blackberry Bold at \$99.

Printer and extra cartridges

Many of your classes will require you to hand in both a paper copy and an electronic copy of an assignment. A reliable printer with extra ink cartridges is a must for those late-night paper-writing marathons. The Lexmark Interact S605 does it all: copy, scan and print, with wireless printing at a reasonable \$229 price tag.

External hard drive

To backup your precious lecture notes and have extra storage for media content downloaded from DC++ (a local P2P program) you will need a reliable external hard drive. The Western Digital Elements 1.5TB (1500 GB) hard drive has all of that at an affordable \$119 price tag.

Wireless dongle

Laurier wireless on campus is well known for its random dropouts, and with ResNet being next to impossible to use at peak hours, you can avoid the hassle and stay connected with a wireless dongle like Rogers Rocket Stick priced at \$29 a month.



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Surviving the first-year

Staff Writer **Heather Gies** speaks to students, professors and university administrators, gathering useful academic advice for incoming students.

First year at university provides such an exciting, sometimes overwhelming, wealth of new experiences. And with the full agenda of meeting new people, spending time in residence, getting involved in extra-curricular activities and going to parties, the importance of academic commitments can sometimes get lost in the fray.

It is easy to lose sight of the fact that academics are what brought us here in the first place, and good performance in this area will keep us here for the next few years.

Academics are part of the first-year learning curve and can set the tone for the next three to four years of study.

For some students, the transition from high school to post-secondary education is a smooth one. For others, getting into the swing of the undergraduate program is a longer process.

Starting to hit the books

In an attempt to ease the secondary to postsecondary transition, psychology professor emeritus Don Morgenson provides his first-year classes with "The Secrets of an A Student," a guide which includes advice regarding course learning and exam taking.

One item on this list is actively reading the textbook. Morgenson recommends study tips such as reciting and recalling the chapter material to oneself.

Confirming age-old words of wisdom, third-year business student Matt Caruso emphasized the importance of keeping up with course work and readings throughout the semester.

"The university exam period is much more stressful than high school," said Caruso, pointing to post-secondary's breadth and depth of content, combined with the heavier weighting of final exam marks.

This combination of factors makes achieving high grades by cramming a lot more challenging.

Vice president of student affairs David McMurray noted that it is important for students to recognize that university is very different from high school. While it may have been easy enough to "coast" through grades nine to 12, university has different demands and expectations.

"If you don't have good study habits [and] study skills, you're going to struggle,"

cautioned McMurray.

Professor of communications studies Natalie Coulter, who has taught first-year communications course "Mass Communications in Canada," also emphasized the importance of doing course reading, commenting that "a big mistake is not realizing how important the text is in relation to learning."

"We teach from the perspective that the two are connected," said Coulter. "What they learn in the lecture comes from a position of having done the reading."

Business professor Laura Allan, who teaches a first-year business course, added that too many students fail to recognize that the first month of class in university is a critical period.

Whereas high school classes may have taken a few weeks to "ramp up," students should be starting to engage with course content from the beginning.

That being said, starting strong isn't enough on its own. Students should continue to remain academically committed throughout both terms.

"Keep improving and keep fine tuning and keep working at it," advised Allan, quoting the adage that students will only get out of their first year what they are willing to put into it.

Going to class

It's no surprise that professors also advocate for lecture attendance. We've all heard the monetary consequences – the dollar value lost with each missed class – which are sometimes used to encourage students to go to their classes. But according to our professors and fellow students, it really does pay off academically.

"I'm in my fiftieth year of teaching," said Morgenson, "and I know that my students who attend do significantly better."

Agreeing with Morgenson, fourth-year Global Studies and Sociology student Mero-pi Deligiannis advised, "Even when you're falling behind, that extra time you think you need is better spent in class learning."

Fourth-year English student Stephanie Land also acknowledged the benefits of attending lectures.

"Students think they can get away with not attending classes," she said, "but I think that's probably one of the most important things in order to reach your full potential in the course."

Lecture notes, for Land, are a valuable resource for assignments and quizzes, providing content that is easier to understand than the textbook.

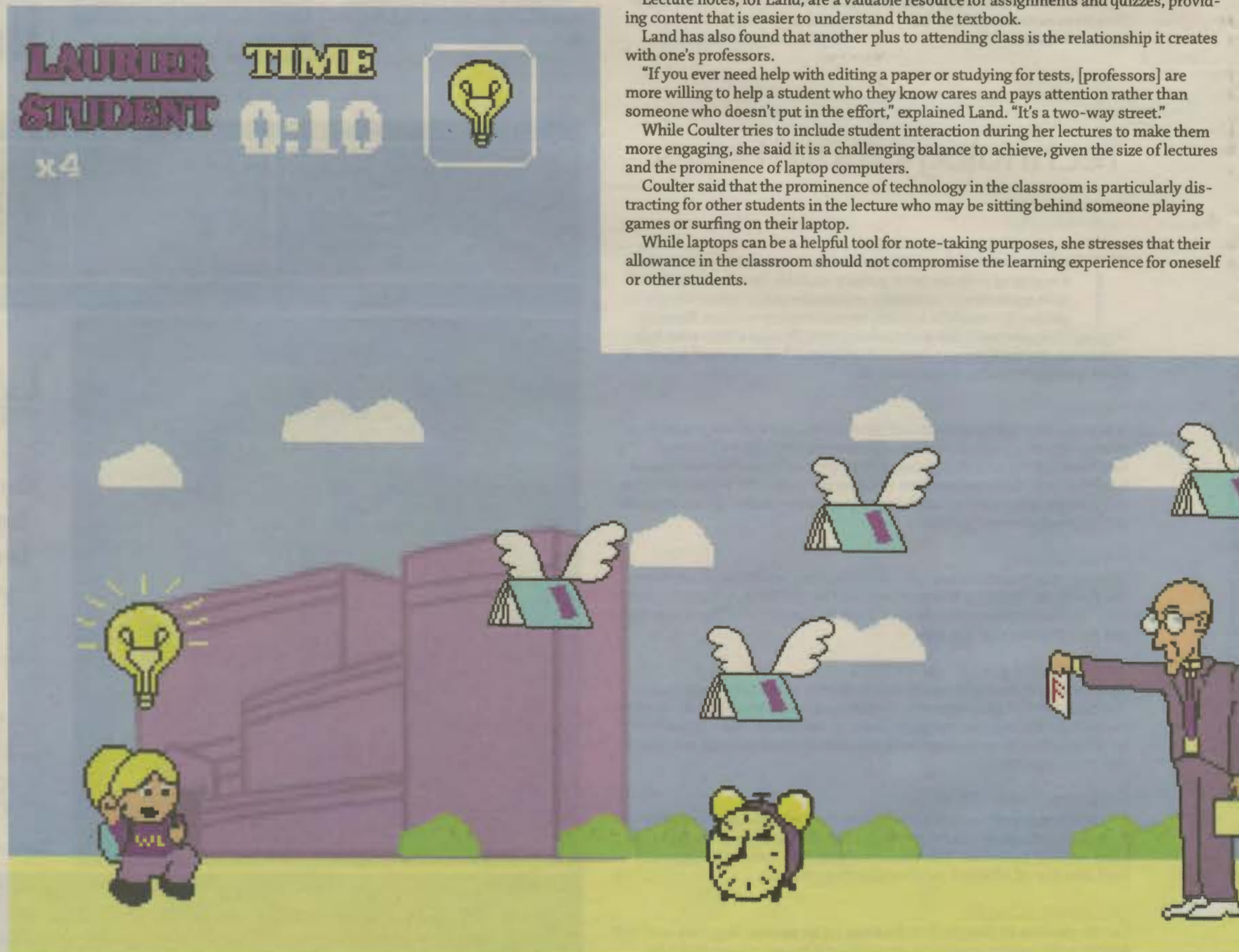
Land has also found that another plus to attending class is the relationship it creates with one's professors.

"If you ever need help with editing a paper or studying for tests, [professors] are more willing to help a student who they know cares and pays attention rather than someone who doesn't put in the effort," explained Land. "It's a two-way street."

While Coulter tries to include student interaction during her lectures to make them more engaging, she said it is a challenging balance to achieve, given the size of lectures and the prominence of laptop computers.

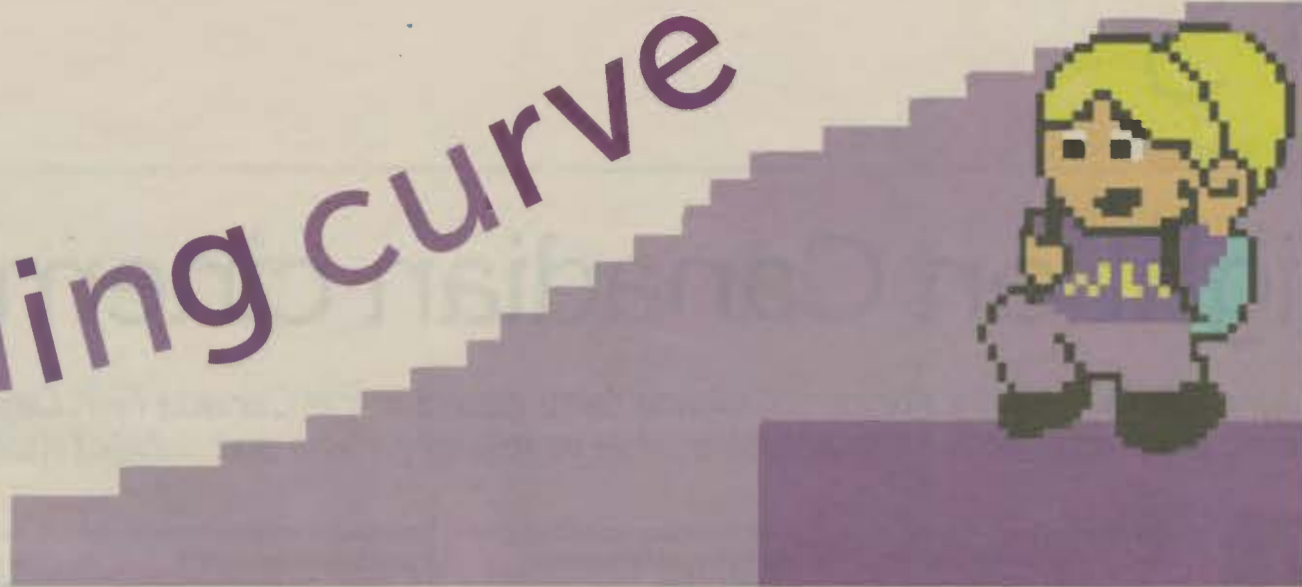
Coulter said that the prominence of technology in the classroom is particularly distracting for other students in the lecture who may be sitting behind someone playing games or surfing on their laptop.

While laptops can be a helpful tool for note-taking purposes, she stresses that their allowance in the classroom should not compromise the learning experience for oneself or other students.



learning curve

University students



Those little details

Global studies professor Ali Zaidi and Coulter both noted that their level of interaction with students outside the lecture hall is minimal due to the fact that TAs are students' primary resource for dealing with course material in large first-year courses.

According to Morgenson, whose first year classes do not have TAs, most students who visit during his office hours come with specific questions.

"A couple of students want to talk about educational issues, theories, philosophy," he explained, "but for the most part they are interested in what specifically [they] can do to get a better mark."

Zaidi has found that students often get hung up on specifics such as assignment length, which results in a lot of questions pertaining to format. In response, Zaidi said, "From a faculty members' point of view, we want them to focus on the quality of the content."

As a geography and economics major, Wilfrid Laurier University Students' Union President Kyle Walker has discovered that the details of formatting often come second to content, noting that it is easy to dwell on the former.

"The typical essay format we learned in grade 12 is not applicable to essay writing or paper writing at university," explains Walker, "and I think a lot of students struggle with that."

However, if students are struggling with a problem or specifics of an assignment, Deligiannis recommends that students take advantage of opportunities to talk to professors and seek help as soon as possible.

"It's much easier to say that you're having trouble before the due date and actually get help, [rather than] asking for it afterward."

Writing and reading

In regards to writing, Coulter, Zaidi, and Allan had similar opinions, highlighting this as a crucial area for improvement for university students.

"Faculty members across the board are complaining about the writing ability and level of first-year students ... and every year we've been hearing anecdotally that the writing is getting worse," explained Zaidi. "Somewhere along the line, people are not picking up how to express themselves articulately."

Coulter, too, expressed concern about student writing. She noted the importance of employing resources beyond the classroom since lectures are reserved for course material, leaving little time to teach writing skills in class.

"There is no question that there are deficiencies in writing," added Allan, commenting that it's not just grammatical issues that pose a problem but the overall approach to structuring a logical argument.

As a business student, Caruso has experienced the organizational challenges Allan identified. He noted that there are discrepancies between high school and university because the structure of assignments becomes a much more important factor at the university level.

"I found essays in university much more difficult to get good marks on than in high school," continued Caruso.

In exams, Zaidi identified a similar problem, finding that his first-year students often lack planning in their work. He emphasized the importance of organizing thoughts and ideas through preliminary notes before starting to write.

Both Zaidi and Coulter also linked strong writing with reading,

“

In first year every student is overwhelmed with the university experience. But as long as they keep their priorities straight and have a perfect balance between their social life and academics, then they should succeed.”

—Stephanie Land, fourth-year English major

stressing that students would benefit from acknowledging that the two really go hand in hand.

Coulter noted that students often don't read thoroughly enough to provide support for their written work.

"I think with internet culture, students want to read in pieces, and they don't read the whole," she explained, "so things get taken out of context."

As Zaidi said, "The very process of writing is helping you to think and to think clearly. When you can think clearly you can write clearly and when you write clearly you can think even more clearly."

Referencing her own dissertation as an example, Coulter stressed just how much work it takes to produce quality writing.

"I think what I really wish my first-year students knew is that writing is a really hard, hard skill," said Coulter.

Land emphasized how greatly she has benefited from giving herself time before a deadline to read over and refine her writing.

"It's most beneficial when you write your good copy and leave a few days in between to edit so you're not overwhelmed with last minute details and stressing about time constraints," explained Land. "It leaves you less worked up and with a better, well-rounded paper."

Achieving balance

Although Morgenson's "A Student" guide only includes course-related tips, he also stressed the value of balance, acknowledging how challenging it can be to achieve.

"In first year every student is overwhelmed with the university experience, which is totally understandable," said Land. Keeping priorities straight, including weighing one's social life and academics appropriately, is in Land's opinion, a key factor to success both in and out of the classroom.

In terms of fulfilling academic commitments, Kyle Walker explained that his experience has taught him the importance of understanding how to push yourself without going too far.

"You don't get a lot of work done when you're stressed, or pulling all-nighters, or you're exhausted or sick," said Walker. "Work hard, but know your limits," he advised.

Maintaining a healthy lifestyle was also a concern for VP: Academic Deb MacLatchy.

"That link between physical and mental is really important," explained MacLatchy, commenting that a healthy lifestyle requires budgeting time appropriately.

Deligiannis also noted the importance of prioritizing health and its impact on achieving academic success.

"It doesn't matter how much time you have in the world to complete an assignment," said Deligiannis. "If you feel terrible you will not be productive."

Reluctant to use the cliché of time management, Morgenson called attention to the fact that even the early Greeks argued for balance in life. He encouraged "finding a balance between social obligations and academic obligations and family."

Walker noted that beyond juggling academic, social, and extracurricular responsibilities, achieving a balance also means allowing for down time.

"Whether you're really involved outside of the classroom or whether you're not," said Walker, "there's nothing wrong with ... taking an hour for yourself."

Despite the convergence of much of the advice, there is no formula for achieving the perfect balance. As McMurray and MacLatchy both emphasized, this idea of balance is unique to each student.

"Different students have different balances," said MacLatchy. She pointed to the fact that the ability to effectively manage multiple activities while also achieving a desired level of academic success depends on the individual, and students should assess for themselves how much they can handle.

However, students shouldn't be discouraged by the apparent stress of this balancing act. According to McMurray, "A lot of students here are involved and they actually do better in school because they're managing their time and they're making commitments."

Beyond the basics

In addition to the concrete skills and techniques that can be recommended, however, more intangible and immeasurable characteristics are seen as assets by professors.

Morgenson spoke of a love for learning and pursuit of knowledge, noting that many students "lack that genuine curiosity, that desire to engage intellectually."

"They're here, going through the motions, and they'll leave having gone through the motions," he added.

Zaidi agreed, stating "The one thing we want students to have is curiosity. Aside from all the skills ... a real genuine curiosity to learn [and] wanting to engage. That would be the quality that would hold [students] in good stead."

—With files from Linda Givetash



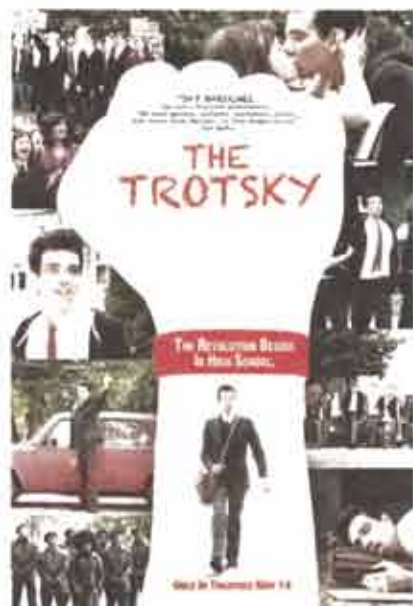
WADE THOMPSON GRAPHICS EDITOR

ARTS

Arts Editor Sarah Murphy • smurphy@thecord.ca

Spotlight on Canadian cinema

From May 28 - June 20, Waterloo's Princess Cinema participated in the Canada Film Days festival, showcasing Canadian films from across a wide variety of genres and subject matter



The Trotsky

Directed by: Jacob Tierney
Starring: Jay Baruchel, Emily Hampshire, Michael Murphy
Release Date: 14 May 2010

★ ★ ★

Jacob Tierney's *The Trotsky* is a comedy filled with everything you could expect from a teen movie, but it's smart.

The film perfectly portrays what every high school student would want to be a part of if they had a revolutionary as a peer who could

inspire the masses.

Jay Baruchel (*How to Train Your Dragon*, *Knocked Up*) effectively executes the role of Leon Bronstein, a high school student who believes he is the reincarnation of the 20th century Russian political leader Leon Trotsky.

In the aftermath of organizing a hunger strike at his father's Montreal factory, Bronstein is sent to public school where he joins forces with other misfits and the students' union - which to Bronstein's dismay doesn't actually fight for student rights, but instead organizes trivial events like dances.

While seeking to find the difference between today's youth and that of older generations, like the protest movements of the 1960s, Bronstein is forced to ask the question, is it apathy that characterizes today's youth or are they just bored?

Baruchel is incredible in the role, making you believe that he is not only an awkward high school student, but also an important historical figure that is destined for political greatness.

And while there are subtle references that only those who are fully aware of Soviet history and politics will likely understand, even for a viewer with only a basic interest in history, this Canadian-political film

is one of the most entertaining, engaging films of the summer.

—Laura Carlson

A Shine of Rainbows

Directed by: Vic Sarin
Starring: Connie Nielson, Aidan Quinn, John Bell, Jack Gleeson, Tara Alice Scully, Niamh Shaw
Release Date: 28 May 2010

★ ★ ★

A Shine of Rainbows brings to life Lillian Beckwith's Irish novel of the same name.

John Bell stars as Tomas, a young orphan who is picked on by his peers for his shyness and stuttering.

Taken in by the friendly Marie, Tomas grows wary of the new life he is about to discover.

Coldly greeted by Marie's husband Alec upon returning to the island, Tomas finds himself struggling to fit in.

Through the mother/son relationship that he develops with Marie, Tomas begins to gain confidence and finds himself making friends with the local children.

If the touching storyline is not enough to capture the audience's attention, the gorgeous visual impact of the film surely will.

The Irish landscape is stunning and ever-present with rolling hills,

castles and rainbows looming over the beautiful countryside.

Filled with heart-wrenching twists and moments with the power to make you cry, *A Shine of Rainbows* is a family film that displays the importance of love, laughter and acceptance.

It's a feel-good movie that provokes the audience to reevaluate what is really important in life.

—Meaghan Walford

The Wild Hunt

Directed by: Alexandre Franchi
Starring: Ricky Mabe, Mark Antony Krupa, Kaniehtio Horn
Release Date: 9 April 2010

★ ★ ★

As most Canadian film is recognized as either unduly reflective and sombre or irreverently goofy, it comes as a breath of fresh air to find an offering of local cinema which achieves a tone dabbling in both without overdosing on either.

In fact, director Alexandre Franchi's film delights in misleading its audience.

The Wild Hunt opens with a terse and exhilarating Nordic battle, only to have it interrupted by a participant whining, "Okay, are we done now?", exposing the film to be set in the world of LARPing (Live Action

Role Playing) - also known as fantasy nerds dressing up in Medieval attire and enacting staged combat.

But Franchi's trickery does not stop there, as comedic sequences follow, detailing the hapless but charming Erik (Ricky Mabe)'s bemused quest to reclaim his fled girlfriend (Kaniehtio Horn) from the ranks of the costumed performers who are led by Erik's gregarious brother Bjorn (played by the hilarious, show-stealing Mark Antony Krupa).

Franchi undercuts the seeming frivolity with continual flashes to mystical divine rites and eerie Nordic music, suggesting all is far from fine and dandy.

Naturally, things take a turn for the worse in a plot twist reminiscent of *Lord of the Flies*.

However, the real surprise is how quickly and deeply chilling the film becomes as it explores the feral violence allegedly at the core of each person and the worrisome disconnect between fantasy and reality in an isolated microcosm of chaos.

Nonetheless, Franchi's film remains ultimately just as fun a watch as an intense, thought-provoking one, neatly intertwining the two excesses of cinema into one highly compelling blend.

—Kevin Hatch

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Top 5 Performances at Bonnaroo 2010

5. Mumford & Sons
"Little Lion Man"

4. Regina Spektor
"Samson"

3. Edward Sharpe & the
Magnetic Zeros
"Home"

2. Weezer
"Buddy Holly"

1. Jay Z
"Izzo (H.O.V.A.)"

Festival update: Bonnaroo

From June 10 - 13 music fans came from far and wide to experience one of the fastest growing music festivals in North America and to see acts like Kings of Leon, Stevie Wonder, Jay-Z and Dave Matthews

SARAH MURPHY
ARTS EDITOR

For the ninth year in a row, an expansive farm in Manchester, Tennessee was converted into one of the biggest parties in the United States.

More than 80,000 people swarmed the Bonnaroo grounds to hear music, watch films and listen to the stand-up comedy of wide-ranging performers from all over the globe.

Fans scrounged for shade, showers and watering stations in the 100+ plus weather, but the heat didn't prevent the artists from putting on a weekend packed with phenomenal performances.

Day 1 (June 10)

Despite a later start to the day - probably to accommodate the hours-long wait to get into the festival grounds - Thursday night saw its share of memorable shows.

4:15 p.m.

New York band the Postelles took to one of Bonnaroo's smaller stages and played through songs off their upcoming debut album like "White Night" and "She She", introducing the crowd to their up-tempo brand of rock & roll.

7:30 p.m.

Swedish band Miike Snow may be known for having their tracks featured on shows like *Gossip Girl* and remixing songs for Kings of Leon and Vampire Weekend, but they got the crowd moving to fan favorites like "Silvia" and "Animal", proving that their original work stands on its own.

8:30 p.m.

Neon Indian's performance was one of the most talked about of the night.

Combining their indie electronica sound with a stage full of "neon Indians" wearing feathers, body paint and nothing else, the girls got as much attention as the music.

Songs like "Deadbeat Summer" and "Should Have Taken Acid With You" were a perfect match for the



COURTESY OF JEFF KRAVITZ
Jay-Z on Saturday night.

crowd of sweltering hot and most likely stoned fans.

10:00 p.m.

Australian band the Temper Trap provided one of the highlights of the night with their rendition of "Sweet Disposition" to a crowd of jumping, clapping festival-goers.

11:30 p.m.

Self-described as a "big debauched nightmarish of a mess" (in a good way), 8-piece Atlanta band the Constellations crammed in to one of the more intimate tents on site and played through a set of their soulful rock tunes.

11:30 p.m.

It can't be easy for the xx to try to live up to the insane amount of media buzz that's been surrounding them the past two years, but they gave it their best shot as one of the last bands playing Thursday night.

The crowd seemed overwhelmingly impressed, as the band (clad all in black) powered through songs like "Crystalised" and "Basic Space" from their self-titled album.

Day 2 (June 11)

With a packed schedule, Friday introduced crowds to the biggest challenge of the weekend - the dreaded double booking.

Conan O'Brien's comedy set was at the same time as Tokyo Police Club, Nas & Damien Marley were on at the same time as the *Gossip*, while Kid Cudi and B.O.B.'s late night sets overlapped LCD Soundsystem's.

Whether fans split their time and tried to see both, or sacrificed one act for another, Friday undoubtedly saw some incredible shows.

2:30 p.m.

Edward Sharpe and the Magnetic Zeros put on an extremely fresh, fun and memorable performance.

Their psychedelic, feel-good music poured out across a myriad of enthusiastic fist-pumpers, as well as mellow hippie folk lying in the grass.

"Home" proved to be absolutely anthemic, carrying on for nearly 6 minutes and getting everyone - even those who had never heard the song before - singing along, while balloons and beach balls bounced through the crowd.

5:00 p.m.

When Zoë Deschanel and M. Ward teamed up and started *She & Him*, the unlikely pair proved to be the perfect match.

Singles like "In the Sun" and "Why Do You Let Me Stay Here?" generated great audience responses, but when the duo closed with a cover of "I Put a Spell on You" a wave of awe overtook the crowd.

Deschanel transformed into a legitimate soul singer and showcased a set of vocals that no one was expecting, closing the set divinely.

6:30 p.m.

Conan O'Brien introduced the legendary Jack Black and Kyle Gass (aka Tenacious D) and the pair did not disappoint.

Bringing their trademark combination of comedy and rock & roll to the main stage with songs like "Wonderboy" and "Tribute", the crowd simultaneously laughed and rocked out through the entire set.



COURTESY OF C. TAYLOR CROTHERS

9:30 p.m.

Kings of Leon have a history with Bonnaroo. They've worked their way up from the smaller tents at the festival and were finally billed as headliners this year.

The show relied heavily on hits like "Sex on Fire" and their closer "Use Somebody," though songs like "Molly's Chambers" and a cover of the Pixies' "Where is My Mind?" livened up the set list, ultimately putting on a show that satisfied the tens of thousands of onlookers.

Day 3 (June 12)

With the early afternoon devoted to the England/USA soccer game and mellow songstress Norah Jones, festival goers were ready for another stellar line-up of rock & roll by the time evening rolled around.

5:00 p.m.

English band Mumford and Sons took to the stage and delivered a strong set of their bluegrass-inspired folk rock, which included fan favorites "Little Lion Man" and "White Blank Page".

Looking genuinely grateful towards and boyishly flattered by the crowd that was clapping, swaying and singing along throughout the whole set, Mumford and Sons put on one of the most authentic and soulful performances of the weekend.

They were even joined on stage by Dave Rawlings Machine for the final two songs - a cover of Bob Dylan's "Wagon Wheel" and "Roll Away Your Stone".

6:00 p.m.

The combination of Jack White and Alison Mosshart created an unlikely duo, but one that has proven to work extremely well.

Their band the Dead Weather played on the main stage and ran through a set of new, old, original and covered songs that included "No Horse," "Hustle and Cuss" and Dylan's "New Pony."

7:00 p.m.

Weezer catered to the massive audience and played crowd-pleasers like "Undone (The Sweater Song)," "Say It Ain't So" and "Beverly Hills," but the highlight of the set was their covers of MGMT's "Kids" and Lady Gaga's "Poker Face."

Frontman Rivers Cuomo entertained the fans with ridiculous dance moves, lifting up the amps

and sporting a long blonde wig for his Gaga song.

8:30 p.m.

Stevie Wonder. Enough said.

11:30 p.m.

In two hours, Jay-Z managed to deliver 29 songs and work up the undoubtedly rowdiest crowd of the night.

Newer tracks like "Run This Town" and "Empire State of Mind" sent the crowd into hysterics, but older ones like "99 Problems," "Dirt Off Your Shoulder" and "Hard Knock Life" got equally euphoric responses.

He even brought a fan from the crowd onstage and got the thousands of people in the audience to sing "Happy Birthday" to her.

By the end of the 120 minute set, nearly everyone had their diamonds in the air for Hova as he closed out the night with an explosion of lighters, glowsticks and cell phones to the tune of "Young Forever."

Day 4 (June 13)

For those who were able to fend off the hangovers, sunburns and dehydration, Sunday provided yet another amazing line-up of music, comedy and film.

12:30 p.m.

Japandroids played to a mellower crowd than they're used to, but with songs like "Heart Sweats" and "Rockers East Vancouver" even the hippie kids got riled up.

Banter between the duo about being Canadian and unable to handle

the heat got some laughs, but the water bottles they were throwing into the crowd were received with nothing but gratitude.

3:00 p.m.

Soviet-born, New York City-raised Regina Spektor wowed her fans with a flawless set that included hits like "On the Radio" and "The Calculation," as well as older tunes like "Samson," "Après Moi" and "Poor Little Rich Boy."

The combination of her innocent appearance and tendency to use profanities made for an endearing performance, while her musicianship really shone as she switched back and forth between piano and guitar.

7:15 p.m.

Parisian darlings Phoenix closed out the Which Stage on Sunday night with style - and hundreds of red and black balloons.

Songs from the band's latest album *Wolfgang Amadeus Phoenix* saturated the setlist, with hits like "1901" and "Lisztomania" transforming the sea of exhausted, foul-smelling attendees into the biggest dance party of the weekend.

9:00 p.m.

Veteran Bonnaroo performers Dave Matthews Band closed out the main stage and the rest of the festival grounds with covers of Neil Young's "The Needle and the Damage Done" and Dylan's "All Along the Watchtower," while festival-goers began to file out in droves, preparing to go home and rest up until next year.



COURTESY OF JEFF KRAVITZ

French band Phoenix close out the Which Stage on Sunday night.

Upcoming concerts

Uptown Jazz Festival
Waterloo Public Square
July 16 - 17

Wide Mouth Mason
Starlight
July 22

The Weakerthans
Waterloo Stage Theatre
Aug. 8

Juliet Lewis
Starlight
Aug. 9

Wintersleep
Starlight
Oct. 19

In review: New summer releases

Thank Me Later

Drake
Label: Universal Motown
Release Date: 15 June
Listen to: "Over," "Miss Me," "Light Up"
8/10

Less than a year and a half ago Aubrey Drake Graham was best known for his role on *Degrassi*. Last week Drake released his first album and the hype is completely eclipsing that of Eminem's *Recovery*. In overshadowing established artists like Eminem, the conclusion is obvious: Drake is calling the shots, and we're just along for the ride.

Thank Me Later stays very true to the style we have come to expect from Drake. The same crooning vocals over satiny-soft rhythms are audible on this album and running parallel to Drake's undeniable romantic side, songs like "Over" and the party-anthem "Miss Me" mete out enough frenetic rhyming to stop *Thank Me Later* from turning into an R&B record.

This album describes his obvious discomfort at being famous. "Fireworks" is a moody dissertation on impermanence, whether it's his un-

and down romance with Rihanna or the fleeting nature of fame, and "The Resistance" laments the loss of pre-fame Drake's privacy and personality.

Drake also seems to have managed to pry the very best out of his guest artists. "Unforgettable" reveals Young Jeezy's previously unheard-of soft side, while "Light Up" lights a fire under rap mogul Jay-Z.

Admittedly, portions of Drake's albums have been synthed to death, but he deserves a hearty round of applause for its production. His elegance in the studio is unrivaled and at only 23 years old, the future is looking bright for Drake.

—Robin Smith Esq.

Recovery

Eminem
Label: Aftermath
Release Date: 18 June
Listen to: "Not Afraid," "Cold Wind Blows"
6/10

Recovery marks Eminem's seventh studio album and the follow-up album to his 2008 album *Relapse*.

His new songs throw back to the sound he originally became known

for, which was sorely lacking on his two previous albums.

Opening with "Cold Wind Blows," Eminem appears to be back and better than ever, mixing his signature freestyle beats with harmonizing vocals.

As the album progresses, however, he appears to be clumsy and looking for his comeback in all the wrong places.

Differing from most of his previous albums, *Recovery* incorporates numerous collaborations, including: "Talkin' 2 Myself," "Won't Back Down," "No Love," "Love the Way You Lie" and "Session One," featuring Kobe, Pink, Lil Wayne, Rihanna and Slaughterhouse respectively.

Lyrical, the album appears to be composed of nothing more than a whining rapper insisting that he's the best.

Overdone with lyrics about the same thing, tired-sounding vocals and seemingly random duets, Eminem appears to be losing his touch.

The music itself appears to be catchy, but Eminem's transformation from rapper to pop star seems to be complete and isn't doing much for his reputation.

—Meaghan Walford

How I Got Over

The Roots
Label: Def Jam
Release Date: 15 June
Listen to: "Over," "Miss Me," "Light Up"
6.5/10

The Roots are back with their latest release since 2008, *How I Got Over*. The band has been jamming with late night comedy host Jimmy Fallon since 2009, raising doubts about their ability to produce new material and tour. The Roots crew silenced the rumours and delivered a finely honed hip hop album with an array of rap, rock, jazz and soulful influences.

The album bursts into action with tracks like "Walk Alone," "Dear God 2.0" and "Radio Daze," all featuring a range of outside musicians and former band members.

The title track is a bright song with a catchy chorus and reflects on the band's hope for a brighter future. The Roots are once again in their element with Questlove (Ahmir K. Thompson) slamming the drums and Black Thought (Tariq Trotter) rocking the microphone. The album showcases classic Roots with an

exceptional supporting cast of musicians behind them.

A few of the tracks, however, require an already established appreciation for The Fifth Dynasty's (aka The Roots') music.

Many of the tracks are obscured with a mixture of distorted voices and soul music (think T-pain meets Lauryn Hill).

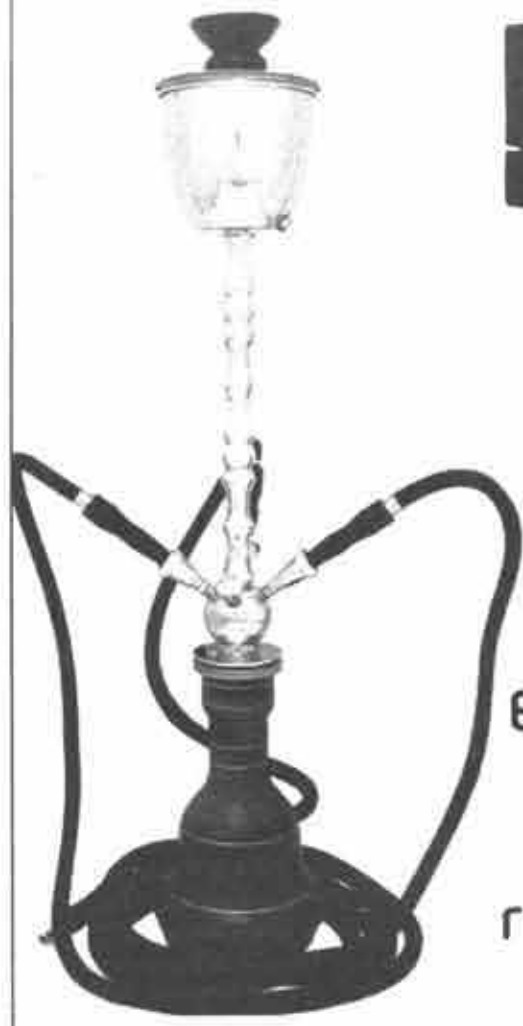
The album remains unmistakably Roots sounding through and through, but may be off-putting to those not so accustomed with their style and sound of music.

In the end, The Roots actually manage to pull it off and get points for creativity and keeping things fresh. The album shines with tracks like "The Fire" (feat. John Legend) and the aforementioned "How I Got Over" lives up to what can be expected from The Roots crew.

But is it purchase worthy? Unless you are a diehard Roots fan, it might not be a great investment.

How I Got Over may not rank as highly as previous albums *Things Fall Apart* and *Phrenology*, but why weren't the Roots able to produce another groundbreaking album? Perhaps Jimmy Fallon is to blame.
—Drew Hiaoinbotham

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The chronicles of Rick Mercer

The political satirist came to Kitchener and shared stories of his successful television career in Canada



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

DEANNA SIM
CORD ARTS

On June 13, at Centre in the Square in Kitchener, Rick Mercer was enveloped by thunderous applause as he took his place on stage.

As a part of the Magnetic North Theatre Festival, Mercer's show *My Adventures In Canadian Television* narrated his career as a political satirist.

Jokingly known as Canada's unofficial opposition, Mercer revisited some of his most memorable moments as a Canadian TV star, including his career-changing *This Hour has 22 Minutes* segment "Talking to Americans".

Speaking to the audience, Mercer not entirely unseriously, credited his success to his extraordinary ability to bullshit.

Over the years, Mercer has come face-to-face with many politicians whom, Mercer explains, share a "mutually parasitic relationship." From splitting a Harvey's meal

with former Prime Minister Jean Chretien, to hugging Stephen Harper, Mercer has been granted ridiculous opportunities to shed a unique light on Canadian politicians.

"Politics is like my sport," explained Mercer.

However, when asked if he would ever try his own hand in the political world, he warned that just because you can comment on and analyze a baseball team, doesn't mean you can actually play baseball.

He also mentioned that he would have a difficult time being a backbencher and not being able to have an opinion.

Throughout his career, Mercer has experienced a transformation from a Newfoundland enthusiast into a Canadian nationalist.

This transformation was encompassed by a video documenting his visit to Bosnia, where he gained a sense of appreciation and sacrifice that goes along with being Canadian.

Following his rehearsed routine, there was a question and answer period for the audience. Mercer was asked if he had any regrets, to which he responded: he doesn't speak French and he never graduated high school.

Despite these laments, he is extremely proud that *The Rick Mercer Report* has come to be considered a family spectacle that is enjoyed nationwide.

As one of the Canadian Broadcasting Company's household names, Rick Mercer has undoubtedly made his mark on Canadian television and continues to produce innovative, informative and hilarious content for his Canadian viewers.

CLASSIFIEDS

Advertising Manager Angela Foster • angela@wluwp.com

Cord-o-scopes

This week's Cord-o-scopes predict your first week at Laurier

Cancer June 21 to July 22
 Check out the Athletic Complex during your first week of class and be sure to keep an eye open for the hottie who will be chilling over by the treadmills. The stars have aligned for a little bit of lucky love. If that falls through, at least the exercise will be good for you.

Leo July 23 to Aug. 22
 Explore campus, but beware, they say the old Radio Laurier booth is haunted. You'll have nothing to fear on your ghost hunt if you're armed with the delightful scent of Wilf's spin dip.

Virgo Aug. 23 to Sept. 22
 Steer clear of the University of Waterloo, at least for your first week at Laurier. Your O-week will be far superior to theirs, and it just isn't fair for you to rub that in their faces.

Libra Sept. 23 to Oct. 22
 You'll easily make friends at Laurier if you're friendly, strike up conversations with people in your classes, and rep the purple and gold. You'll likely lose friends at Western if the purple and gold you're reppin' reads "Wuck Festern."

Scorpio Oct. 22 to Nov. 21
 You've been working hard and you deserve a break. What better way to reenergize than to gather a group of friends and show the world how stoked you are to be a Laurier Golden Hawk. Be creative.

Sagittarius Nov. 22 to Dec. 21
 You're super artsy and, let's face it, you've got a lot of time on your hands. Paint yourself gold and pretend you're a statue, striking a new pose every five minutes or so. You'll inspire people.

Capricorn Dec. 22 to Jan. 19
 Instead of sneaking into your friends' residence with the beer you hid from your uptight (I mean, really cool) don, spend O-week cheering at the events or playing touch football on Alumni Field. There will be plenty of time to booze once O-week is over and the res rules loosen up a bit.

Aquarius Jan. 20 to Feb. 18
 Do yourself a favour and lose that snarky attitude. Everyone knows O-week is about making a total fool of yourself. If you let loose, you'll have the time of your life, at least until next week rolls around and you discover even more of the joys of life at Laurier.

Pisces Feb. 19 to March 20
 Someone you hope to get closer to will soon have a dream about you. Hopefully it won't be about that really embarrassing moment where you got distracted by the shiny purple and gold tinsel and fell flat on your face in front of everyone.

Aries March 21 to April 19
 You'll regret what you don't do more than what you do. Go nuts.

Taurus April 20 to May 20
 Tauruses with mohawks notoriously do better in school than their non-mohawked counterparts. So ask yourself this, would you rather have good grades and cool hair or ... neither.

Gemini May 21 to June 20
 Your first week at Laurier you'll be united with your long lost twin. What? You already know your twin? Well, maybe it'll turn out that you're a triplet! Or maybe you'll just make a new friend or two.

Laura is able to see into your future O-Week because she fell down a magical well.

Dear LIFE

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Dear Life,
 The WLU bookstore no longer accepts OneCard. What if the souvenir shop at the Royal Canadian Mint didn't accept Canadian cash?
 Sincerely,
 Confused

Dear Life,
 How did you let me catch a cold in June?
 Sincerely,
 It's not winter

Dear Life,
 Why is it necessary to destroy the Toronto downtown core? You have no great struggle to look forward to, your life is perfect and this makes you angry. I get it. Just next time you want to wreak some havoc turn on the X-box mommy bought you and play some GTA. That way you'll spare honest hardworking people the misery you caused.
 Sincerely,
 Has lived more in the past five years than you ever will in your lifetime

Dear Life,
 That ball was totally in.
 Sincerely,
 Instant replay next World Cup

Dear Life,
 Remember when we used to be cool and go out all the time? Now we work all the time. Please bring back the old us.
 Sincerely,
 Workaholic

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EDITORIAL

Opinion Editor Eric Merkley • emerkeley@thecord.ca

G20 protest chaos must be investigated

This past weekend, G20 protesters got out of hand and destroyed public and private spaces along major streets of Toronto's downtown core. Those few individuals who broke the law during what was largely a peaceful protest must be persecuted for their crimes.

Outside of the violence created and perpetuated by small Black Bloc groups, there have also been accusations and evidence presented against security forces protecting the summit perimeter.

A public inquiry into the occurrences of this past weekend needs to be called for by the government. It is important that Canadians and the world see that the chaos that occurred outside the summit will be investigated so that lessons can be learned and future escalation of protests can be avoided.

Mass arrests of citizens not participating in protests in any form, the destroying and censorship of journalists and the beating of protesters cannot be ignored. There is far too much evidence to support the fact that certain members of the security forces stepped over a boundary towards violating the rights of individuals present in Toronto, whether they were protesters, journalists or simply passers-by. The right to dissent and for free speech and media was violated at certain points throughout the weekend and during the lead-up to the G20 and these incidences must be investigated for the sake of all Canadian citizens.

The conditions of detainment centres have also come under question, and an inquiry must attempt to answer allegations of minors being held and detainees not having access to legal counsel.

With a budget of over one billion dollars to secure the city of Toronto, questions must be answered as to why storefronts lie in ruin along main streets.

Regrettably, it seems as though everyone lost out last weekend. Peaceful protesting was trampled, power was abused by the authorities and international relations going on at the G8 and G20 were largely overshadowed.

—The Cord Editorial Board

WLUSU budgets leaves questions unanswered

On June 12, the Wilfrid Laurier University Students' Union (WLUSU) board of directors met to evaluate the capital expenditures budget for the coming year. Controversy has already erupted over the nature of certain spending projects designed to reach out to the student body.

The first is a series of eight new LCD screens for the Fred Nichols Campus Centre (FNCC) and the second is a smartphone application designed to make student union news easily accessible for students.

The Student Life Levy (SLL) will cover the \$48,000 for the LCD screens and the \$34,000 for the smartphone application.

It is important that WLUSU reach out to students to try to engage them and enhance their experience at Laurier. They should be commended for trying to utilize modern technology to achieve this goal.

With that being said, it is not clear how useful such spending projects will be in achieving that task. Setting up more televisions in the FNCC has the potential to increase communication between the union and students, but there needs to be follow-through from WLUSU to ensure useful content is broadcast.

Likewise, it is unclear how useful the student union smartphone application will be, not knowing what content will be broadcast, and also keeping in mind that only a little over 50 per cent of Laurier students actually have a smartphone. WLUSU should be cautious in using student fees from 100 per cent of students to benefit at most half of the student body, and most likely far less.

WLUSU should be commended for looking at ways to use technology to reach out to students, but as always, greater caution needs to be taken to ensure such projects are fiscally responsible and worthwhile in the long run.

—The Cord Editorial Board

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

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Students should embrace learning opportunities outside the classroom



ALANNA WALLACE
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
awallace@thecord.ca

Arriving in my Bricker Residence room on a sunny day in September of 2006, I was a bright-eyed, bushy-tailed first-year Laurier student who was eager to learn.

Somewhere between the stresses of moving and the excitement of a new-found freedom, I lost the zeal for learning I once had, which did not return until very late in my university career.

However, there are many ways to avoid the mid-university-career brain chill, where students often become bogged down with required courses, ever-growing class sizes and hundreds of pages of readings that seem unfulfilling and lack stimulation.

The majority of the counsel given to first-years encourages them to "experience the lifestyle of a university student."

All too often, advice regarding the academic component of post-secondary education falls by the wayside.

Having a worthwhile social experience during your four years at Laurier is an important goal, but it's not one that should overshadow the learning opportunities so many students fail to notice.

The main reason for attendance in post-secondary institutions is to achieve higher education – it's not something that falls into one's lap.

Continuing to be optimistic and motivated about learning is a goal one must take into their own hands early in

their university career, or else one may find themselves lagging behind in future years.

A student's time at university should be one of examination, reflection and critical inquiry. Despite its importance for graduates, this is rarely encouraged actively by anyone other than the university's faculty and administration.

Other than a few high-school teachers who scared me into thinking I wasn't prepared enough for university English classes, I had no idea what to expect from my continuing education.

Nevertheless, I jumped in with both feet, armed with a new laptop, notebooks, pens and sticky notes. My pre-ordered textbooks were highlighted during O-Week and I couldn't wait to take my position in the fourth (don't want to seem like too much of a keener) row of my first political science lecture, soaking up knowledge like a sponge.

However, there often comes a certain decrescendo of exuberance with university life, particularly when it concerns learning and certainly when it comes to the often-rigid classroom atmosphere.

It is at this point that students must be prepared to take extra steps towards enhancing their academic experience outside of the lecture hall.

Professors are continuously encouraging the attendance of guest speakers and extra lectures, but visiting academics are very often plagued by low attendance.

It's always a good idea to attend an extra lecture. When professors see you taking time out of your busy schedule to learn outside the lecture hall, they will reward you for it later.

If you become bored with the classroom, getting involved in academic groups on campus is a great way to continue learning. Model United

A student's time at university should be one of examination, reflection and critical inquiry.

Nations and the History Students' Association, among other faculty-related clubs, are excellent mediums for enhancing your academic experience at Laurier.

Finding a niche where one can flex their academic muscle amongst their peers is an important component to university life that many students miss.

Whether it's writing for the Cord, regular visits to a teaching assistant's office hours, becoming involved in student elections, or volunteering with the Writing Centre, students often forget the extra-curricular activities that involve the critical skills intended to be enhanced by the university experience.

Sometimes this means skipping a night of drinking, or scaling back on other extra-curricular activities.

Putting learning and education first does not mean that one has to miss out on the experience of life at university.

The best balance needs to be found between gathering skills outside of academics, while honing the critical learning abilities one needs once they graduate.

It simply means that when you leave Laurier as a bright-eyed, bushy-tailed but mature graduate, you'll have garnered a well-rounded, well-educated skill set that many of your peers missed out on.

THE FORUM

Opinion Editor Eric Merkley • emerkeley@thecord.ca

Loneliness: Terrible, but creative



DON MORGENSON
letters@thecord.ca

"The loneliness was terrible," Alex said. "I am rather shy and introverted." He spoke quietly.

"I spend the entire week going to classes, studying, chatting with classmates, then on weekends I am alone and lonely...and the loneliness is terrible."

Alex is just one of the 25 per cent of all Canadians who suffer from chronic loneliness, and for them "the loneliness is terrible."

We are just learning that loneliness, that most intimate and least congenial of companions, haunts our development, keeping a growth chart on its own.

And young adults such as Alex get lonely for strikingly different reasons at different stages in their lives.

There are different types of loneliness as well: transient loneliness (short lived); situational

loneliness - that resulting from a death in the family; and chronic loneliness - occurring for a two year period or more.

A recent study of university students suggests that what typically makes first-year students lonely is not homesickness, but rather a lack of friends.

And those first few months at university can be among the most dislocating and most dangerous period for depressed and lonely students who risk turning suicidal.

Some experts feel that there may be "attachment latency" in late adolescence. At the age of 17 or 18, young people feel ambivalent about relinquishing parental attachment and seem not to want to get too committed to new intimate relationships.

It is a self-protective strategy knowing these relationships are not going to last.

Female students, when compared to male students, fare significantly better. While showing lower immune function they do not suffer to the extent that men do.

Incidentally, women are readier to admit they are lonely, an admission men often avoid, because it can be seen as weakness.

There is some evidence for the "lonely personality": individuals who go through prolonged stretches of loneliness.

Researchers have placed such individuals in social settings. While they behave as others do, analysis indicates they asked fewer questions of others and demonstrated less interest in general.

Subjects spoke much more about themselves and they were more critical of others in the social setting.

Generally speaking, loneliness comes in two types: the loneliness of emotional isolation, which means the lack of an intimate emotional attachment, most often a partner; and the loneliness of social isolation, which often means a lack of friends, a community or social network.

Phillip Slater (*The Pursuit of Loneliness*) believes that loneliness is a problem caused mostly by our obsession with individualism.

He argues that we all have a deep and abiding desire for community, engagement and dependence. We want to trust and co-operate with others.

These basic needs for community and engagement are thwarted

in North American society because of the commonly shared belief that we all should pursue our own destinies with relative indifference regarding others and the roles they might play in our lives. The result is that loneliness affects 25 per cent of our population.

Slater writes: "Individualism is rooted in the attempt to deny the reality of human interdependence."

One of the major goals of technology is to free us from the necessity of relating to, submitting to, depending on or controlling other people.

Unfortunately, the more we succeed in doing so, the more we have felt disconnected, bored and lonely.

Admittedly, separateness is an essential condition of our existence, so the important question is how can we deal effectively with such aloneness?

Clark Moustakas (*Loneliness and Love*) distinguishes between loneliness anxiety and true loneliness by emphasizing the creative potential in being alone.

Loneliness is the pain of being alone, while solitude is the majesty of being alone.

Loneliness anxiety is a system

Loneliness is the pain of being alone, while solitude is the majesty of being alone.

of defense mechanisms distracting people from dealing with crucial life questions, and motivates them to seek activity with others often leaving them with an empty feeling.

True loneliness stems from the reality of being (ontology) and facing life's ultimate experiences - birth, death, change, tragedy - alone. True loneliness can be a creative force.

So when Alex returns, and I am sure he will, and he says once again: "The loneliness is terrible", maybe it will be helpful to speak to Alex about the creative, growth-promoting potential of solitude.

I certainly hope such a discussion will help.

Letters to the Editor and online comments

Ahmadi Muslims persecuted in Pakistan

Picture this. You are an Ahmadi Muslim.

By law you cannot call yourself Muslim.

By law you cannot greet others with "Assalaamo Alaikum".

By law you cannot call your mosque a mosque.

By law you cannot declare the Muslim declaration of faith.

By law you cannot proliferate your religion.

By law you cannot gather for the sake of discussing your faith. This is all punishable by imprisonment and even death.

Even if you refrain from all that, there's still nothing preventing a hate-filled fanatic hopping your fence at night and stabbing you to death.

There's still nothing preventing you from being ambushed while leaving work and shot dead alongside your brother and son.

There's still nothing preventing your home or business from being burnt by a violent mob.

Nobody in the country cares.

Police? Forget it.

Nightmare? - No, this is reality for Ahmadi Muslims in Pakistan.

On May 28, extremists stormed two mosques of Ahmadi Muslims in Pakistan, killing 94 - the biggest crime against Ahmadis yet.

The condition is worsening daily.

We must act now to save Ahmadis in Pakistan from a potentially looming genocide.

If we don't even try, then doesn't some of that blood lie on our hands?

- Ahmed Sahi

G20 an overblown photo-op

RE: Flaherty defends G20 costs, May 28 Should have held it at CFB Trenton or just had a week long event of teleconferences (to make up for

time differences).

Torontonians need a billion dollars of their taxes going towards developing a subway system. They don't need it wasted on an overblown photo op.

-Keith Marshall

City fails to act on Northdale issue

RE: A new vision for Northdale

I wasn't expecting much from that meeting so agreeing to make a plan that will make another plan at some undetermined future date sounds about right.

I was more concerned, however, that in a discussion almost entirely centered around students and an area heavily inhabited by students only UW decided it was important enough to have a representative from their student union present.

There was a great show of joint support from both UW and WLU administration yet absolutely no presence from WLUSU on behalf of Laurier students.

Perhaps it's time the Union start taking little steps like defending the image of students against a mob of residents all too eager to blame every problem in their lives on students...

Oh wait, that would actually be representation from our representative body... does the Union still do that?

-Asif Bacchus

Continue the debate online at

thecord.ca

Letter policy

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

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OPINION

Opinion Editor Eric Merkley • emerkeley@thecord.ca

Point

Another loss of legitimacy for Israel



JOSH SMYTH
letters@thecord.ca

As a political progressive who really prefers to just get things done, I've long shied away from the conflict in Israel/Palestine. So often I've seen rooms full of otherwise reasonable people descend into shouting matches. These always seem so much more personal than any other left/right division, so full of hate and closed ears and hurt feelings that I want to stay miles away.

That familiar old pattern has popped up right on cue as the debate rages over Israel's raid on the Mavi Marmara and the other ships of an aid flotilla bringing supplies into blockaded Gaza. On one side, you have supporters of Israel yelling that the boats were full of fundamentalists, or terrorists, bringing weapons to a terrorist regime and setting upon the soldiers with pipes and knives once boarded.

On the other side, Palestinian supporters argue that it was an innocent flotilla of aid on a mission

of relief that was set upon illegally in international waters, where nine Turkish protesters died.

As usual, there's much to doubt about both accounts. It is quite clear that the Israelis chose to use overwhelming force, and also quite unlikely that there was a shred of weaponry on that ship. At the same time, there are photos of the crews fighting back as they were boarded – the only question being, who fired first? It was certainly not just an aid mission, but also a political one to test Israel's resolve.

So how to deal with this conflict of accounts? Do we mark it down as another "they said/they said" story and leave it to the inevitable inquiry to deal with? Here, I don't think we can, because what has been happening in Gaza is not a blockade, and not a security operation, but a siege. It is worth keeping that in mind that those soldiers boarding those ships were helping to preserve what is an egregious violation of international law and common decency.

Gaza has been under siege. There is no other word to describe the strategy of indiscriminately inflicting pain on an entire population to hurt its leadership. Want to stop weapons coming through the border? Fair enough. But show me just one bomb built out of cement or

roofing tiles. From all accounts, the civilian population of Gaza has suffered deeply, even with the relief that comes from the smuggler's tunnels underneath the Egyptian border. They also, of course, bring in weapons – weapons that there was no evidence for aboard the Mavi Marmara and its compatriots.

And so we have one part of the aid flotilla – a real need for basic supplies. We see a prosperous, notionally democratic society deliberately crushing a population and we cringe. Fair enough. But what of the politics? Critics cry that the flotilla was a deliberate provocation, that it was run by Islamist groups with some sort of violent agenda, and that the supplies were going to a group that opposes Israel's very existence.

To the first, I think it's reasonable to say "So what?". That the flotilla was designed to provoke an Israeli response is beyond question. But that's exactly how protests make a political point – by exposing the moral bankruptcy of the forces they oppose.

Would we criticize someone who staged a peaceful sit-in and was beaten by the police? Not likely, as the police have by their overreaction lost any legitimacy. Israel's ham-fisted and brutal treatment of the

aid ships did this in spades.

But what of the other objection, that it was a fleet sent by Islamist groups explicitly to bolster Hamas? On the supply side, this is clearly something of a red herring.

Having Islamist views clearly doesn't invalidate the giving of humanitarian aid; there are plenty of religious charities with clear political agendas who operate freely all over the world, many of them Christian fundamentalists of one stripe or another.

Yes, this aid would have gone to a territory ruled by Hamas. Yes, Hamas is a violent movement, one often repressive towards its own people and murderous towards Israelis.

It is also a democratically elected government and a provider of social services, a dissonance not uncommon in the post-colonial world of resistance movements. To write off aid to the people of Gaza on the grounds that some of it reaches Hamas takes oversimplification to the point of brutality.

Thankfully, the Mavi Marmara debacle seems to have led to a loosening of the siege. It is up to both sides to help lift it further – and kneejerk defenses of Israel's absurd tactics get us nowhere nearer to that.

What is happening in Gaza is not a blockade... but a siege.

Historical Numbers

- June 2007: Start of Gaza blockade
- March 17, 2007: Formation of Hamas government
- Casualties in Israel-Palestinian Conflict since 2008: Palestinian 1476, Israeli 16
- Gazan unemployment rate: 38.6 per cent
- 70 per cent of Gazans live off a dollar a day
- Pre-blockade 3900 industrial factors with 35 000 workers, post blockade 90 industrial sites employing 860 people
- 46 per cent of agricultural land is inaccessible or out of production due to land blockade
- 2 billion in assets destroyed – between 600 and 700 businesses

starting Monday, September 13th.

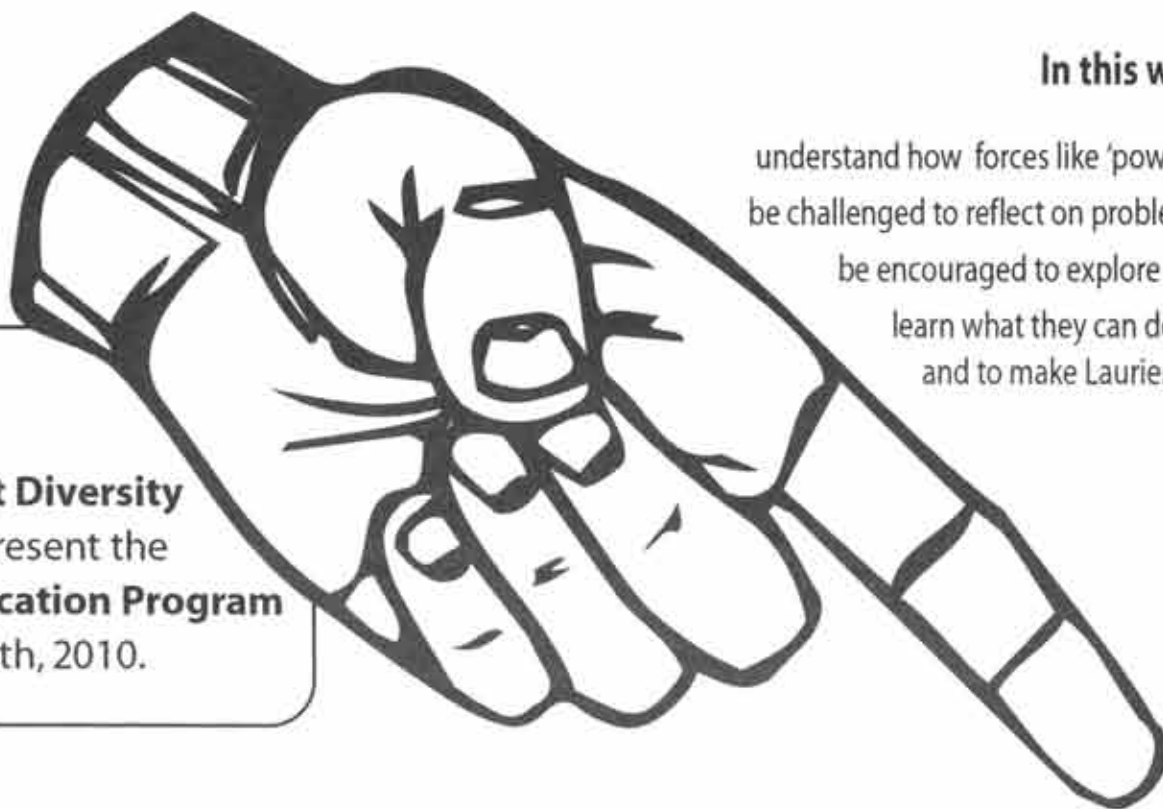
free to all Laurier undergrad students.

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Counterpoint

Flotilla was an attempt at provocation

Bias and hasty conclusions often cloud judgement on issues of international law



JOHN KENNEDY
letters@thecord.ca

Recent incidents have the world's majority condemning the Israeli state as "war criminals" and "human rights violators".

When it comes to hot-button issues like Israel's blockade of Gaza and the recent flotilla raid, everyone has an opinion, and everyone is an apparent expert in international law.

I'm sorry to have to point out that bias is what drives most opinions on this matter, not understanding of laws and rights.

The question at hand is whether or not Israel is justified in regards to its actions of implementing a blockade and enforcing it with the raid on the Flotilla. As much as many of you don't want to hear it, these actions were completely justified.

I'll start with the overarching issue of the blockade. The blockade was launched shortly after the

installation of Hamas as the ruling government of Gaza, which should not have come as a shock to anyone.

Why would Israel maintain open borders with a government that declares, in its Charter, that it seeks the nullification of the state of Israel?

Again, despite what many think, a blockade is not an illegal act or a crime against humanity, it is a legitimate war measure.

Israel still has control over the coastline of Gaza despite its disengagement of the region in 2005, which was a provision kept for security purposes to monitor what is imported to Gaza.

This is not unreasonable considering the amount of rocket fire that has come from the region to Israeli soil.

In terms of international law, Israel's blockade of Gaza follows all guidelines and protocols under the San Remo Manual with regards to armed conflicts at sea.

The blockade has not brought unnecessary harm to anyone nor has it been at all responsible for a humanitarian crisis in Gaza.

Many will be quick to dispute this point with figures that say only a

minute portion of Gaza's economic activity has been allowed since the blockade, but Israel's exponential increases in necessary aid, i.e. food, medical supplies, etc., ensure that the people of Gaza are getting the necessities they need.

In regards to the flotilla incident, it is true that international law proclaims that Israel not engage the flotilla ships until within internal waters.

Israel defied this protocol by engaging the ship about 120 miles off the coast of Gaza.

Any attacks on these supposed "humanitarian" vessels would be a strict violation of international law and even I would agree Israel would be in the wrong.

It cannot be denied, however, that there were other motives involved. The flotilla run was an attempted provocation of Israel, not a humanitarian mission.

Al Jazeera captured just how dedicated these passengers were to peace and humanitarian aid (note sarcasm) when they broadcasted footage of several passengers participating in battle chants against the Jewish people.

Israel's attempt to divert their

course to Ashdod in international waters was a necessary pre-emptive manoeuvre to prevent a planned and calculated provocation for political gains.

Why not just dock at Ashdod, have the cargo inspected and let it go?

The reason they were unable to do this is because it was not politically expedient for what they were really trying to achieve.

The resolve of the flotilla ships was to break the blockade and shed light on Israel's siege of Gaza.

The Israel Defense Forces (IDF) could have legally sunk the boats but boarded them instead. The result of the IDF boarding the flotilla resulted in nine dead and millions of diverged opinions.

These deaths were not acts of brutality or manslaughter, but of self-defence.

Numerous videos have revealed that these "peaceful activists" were beating IDF soldiers before they even landed on the deck.

Being surrounded by people swinging bats and steel rods would make any person fear for their lives and turn to their survival instincts. It is a shame that blood had to be

The IDF could have legally sunk the boats but boarded them instead.

shed, but it was provoked and a just result occurred.

The Israeli blockade of Gaza and the resulting Flotilla raid are both completely justifiable under the guidelines of international law.

The only real dispute is whether or not the flotilla ships were "humanitarian" in nature or they had more hostile motives, and I believe evidence strongly points to the latter.

What is unjustified, however, was the absolute condemnation of Israel, even before all the facts were made public.



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SPORTS

Sports Editor Justin Fauteux • jfauteux@thecord.ca

Warriors transfer to WLU

—cover

connection with the case.

Only two of players who tested positive on March 31st have had their names released -linebackers Joe Surgenor and Jason Meredith- as the other seven guilty parties have opted to appeal the result and have a second sample tested.

Both Surgenor and Meredith have received two-year suspensions from playing CIS football.

With the team shut down for the year, UW administration, along with retired chief of the Waterloo Regional Police Services Larry Gravill, will be conducting a full investigation of the program.

While the team's coaching staff has been put on paid administrative leave, the players have been left to choose between sitting out the season or attempting to transfer.

"There's no doubt that this [decision] has hit many of the players hard... and we feel for these players," said Copeland. "But we also understand why the university needs to take this course of action."

The players of UW have not reacted quietly, however. The day after the program was suspended, the players held a press conference at which they condemned the university's decision.

"We want to make it clear that we condone the suspension of the players who tested positive, but our question is why go further?" said Warriors' quarterback Luke Balch. "We could have set up outreach programs, we could have all done random testing throughout the season, our team would've done anything the university asked of us, if we were still able to play."

For Balch and a number of other senior players, the suspension of Waterloo's football program will mean the end of their football careers.



YUSUF KIDWAI FILE PHOTO

The Hawks take on the Warriors in week three of last season. 2010 will mark the first time since 1970 that the cross-town rivals will be unable to compete in the Battle of Waterloo.

"We're not able to transfer due to academic reasons, so that's it for us," he said. "This is my last day as a Waterloo Warrior, a name I used to wear with pride."

The players have now begun the task of attempting to obtain transfers to schools throughout the CIS. Being put in this position, the players of UW have garnered sympathy throughout the CIS football community.

"I feel very badly for the 90 percent - that's coaches, players, staff- that end up becoming victims of this decision when they had nothing to do with it," said Laurier's head coach and manager of football operations Gary Jeffries. "I certainly have a lot of compassion for them."

In addition to the testing of the 62 players at UW, the CCES also performed tests at Guelph and McMaster, where there have been no positive results so far.

The Golden Hawks were originally supposed to be among the teams tested, however, the tests never took

place.

According to Laurier's athletics director Peter Baxter, the CCES showed up at the WLU athletic complex on March 31 while the football team was practicing at University Stadium. It is CCES policy to keep the time of their arrival confidential prior to the testing, and the majority of Laurier's athletics department was therefore at the Waterloo Inn for the Outstanding Women of Laurier luncheon.

In the end, the CCES officials never made their way to the stadium and decided to, as Baxter puts it, "Abort the mission."

According to Baxter, the CCES is now testing players at their summer residences. Since early April, at least two Laurier players have been tested, with neither test coming back positive.

Both Baxter and Jeffries also confirmed that multiple UW players have contacted the Golden Hawks, and yesterday, 2009 OUA all-star receiver Dustin Zender,

and defensive backs Mitch Nicholson and Patrick McGarry became the first three Warriors to join the Hawks.

"The three kids that have committed thus far are all going to contribute," said Jeffries. "But there's no guarantees for any of them, we made it clear to them before they came here that they would have to compete for their spot."

The Warriors' withdrawal from the 2010 season has also forced Ontario University Athletics (OUA) conveners to redo the schedule. Each team will now receive a bye when they were originally scheduled to play UW, which has brought both good news and bad news for the Hawks.

"The good part is we get to have our rivalry game with Western," said Baxter. "The downside is we were supposed to play Waterloo in week three and we always look forward to the battle of Waterloo, and financially it's always a good gate for that game."

Sports in brief

Knox returning Laurier

The reigning CIS player of the year will be spending one more season in a Laurier sweater. Four-time all-star hockey goalie Liz Knox will be returning to the purple and gold this fall for her fifth and final season.

Knox has led the OUA in practically every goaltending statistic for the majority of her time at Laurier, and is currently tied or first on the CIS's all-time shut-out list with 30 in her career.

Ex-Hawks' coach wins AHL championship

Earlier this month, former Laurier men's hockey coach Mark French led the Hershey Bears to their second-consecutive American Hockey League (AHL) title. This was French's first season as head coach of the Bears -who are the Washington Capitals' AHL affiliate, - serving as an assistant coach since 2007.

French was the head coach of the Golden Hawks from 2002-04, and led the team to an overall record of 22-22-4, reaching the division final in both years.

Men's rugby coach hired

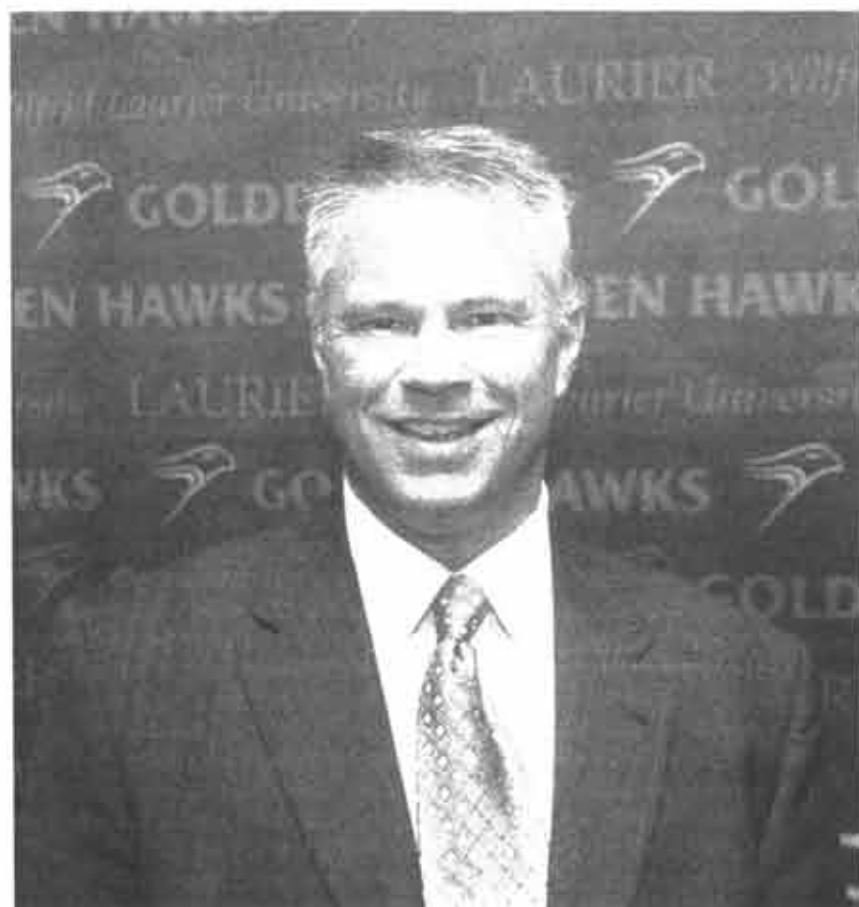
In late May, Laurier filled the vacant position at the helm of the men's rugby program by hiring Rob McQueen as head coach. The team had been without a coach since March, when Josh Windsor left to take the head coaching job at the University of Waterloo.

McQueen will be given the task of guiding a team after a tumultuous 2009-10 season.

First, the team lost its university funding in the summer, then it was put on probation due to a fight that involved some of the players, and finally in December it was rumoured that the school was planning on moving the program to Laurier's Brantford campus.

-All compiled by Justin Fauteux

Former Hawk joins coaching ranks



COURTESY OF LAURIER ATHLETICS

Greg Puhalski will look to have the same success he enjoyed as a player at Laurier as he takes over the men's hockey team.

DAVID GOLDBERG WEB DIRECTOR

Laurier's men's hockey team has a new man at the helm for the 2010-11 season. Greg Puhalski was named head coach at a press conference on June 17.

Puhalski is a Laurier alumnus who once wore the Golden Hawk crest himself, helping the team win back-to-back Ontario University Athletics (OUA) championships in both 1989 and 1990.

Puhalski was a scoring threat during his days in the OUA and still holds top spot on Laurier's all-time scoring list with 222 points and leads the club in all-time goals with 88.

"I am thrilled to have the opportunity to coach at Wilfrid Laurier," said Puhalski.

"It is a place that I remember fondly and I look forward to being part of the Laurier family."

The former United Hockey League (UHL) coach of the year with the Chicago Hounds spent his playing career with the Kitchener Rangers and London Knights of the Ontario Hockey League.

Puhalski was drafted 62nd

overall by the Boston Bruins in 1983, though he never made it to the big leagues.

However, he spent four years with the Toledo Storm of the East Coast Hockey League (ECHL), amassing 225 points in 123 regular season games before joining the Hawks in 1986.

When he left Laurier in the early 1990s, Puhalski coached his old Toledo team from 1994-1998.

From there he jumped to coaching in the UHL, winning a championship with the Fort Wayne Komets in 2003.

Puhalski joins Laurier after coaching two seasons for the Pittsburgh Penguins' ECHL affiliate Wheeling Nailers.

Peter Baxter, Laurier's director of athletics and recreation, contacted Puhalski in late May about the open position.

"Greg brings a wealth of experience from the professional ranks to our hockey program," said Baxter. "His knowledge of the game earned while both playing and coaching gives him invaluable insight into the sport. We want to welcome him back to the Golden Hawk nest."

Men's hockey is in the midst of

a championship draught, not having won since Puhalski played for the team.

He hopes to coach the Hawks back to being a perennial force, challenging for the OUA championship.

"Our play is going to be a quality home brand," said Puhalski. "We're going to challenge for the Ontario championships year in and year out...we're not going to win every year but we want to give ourselves the best chance."

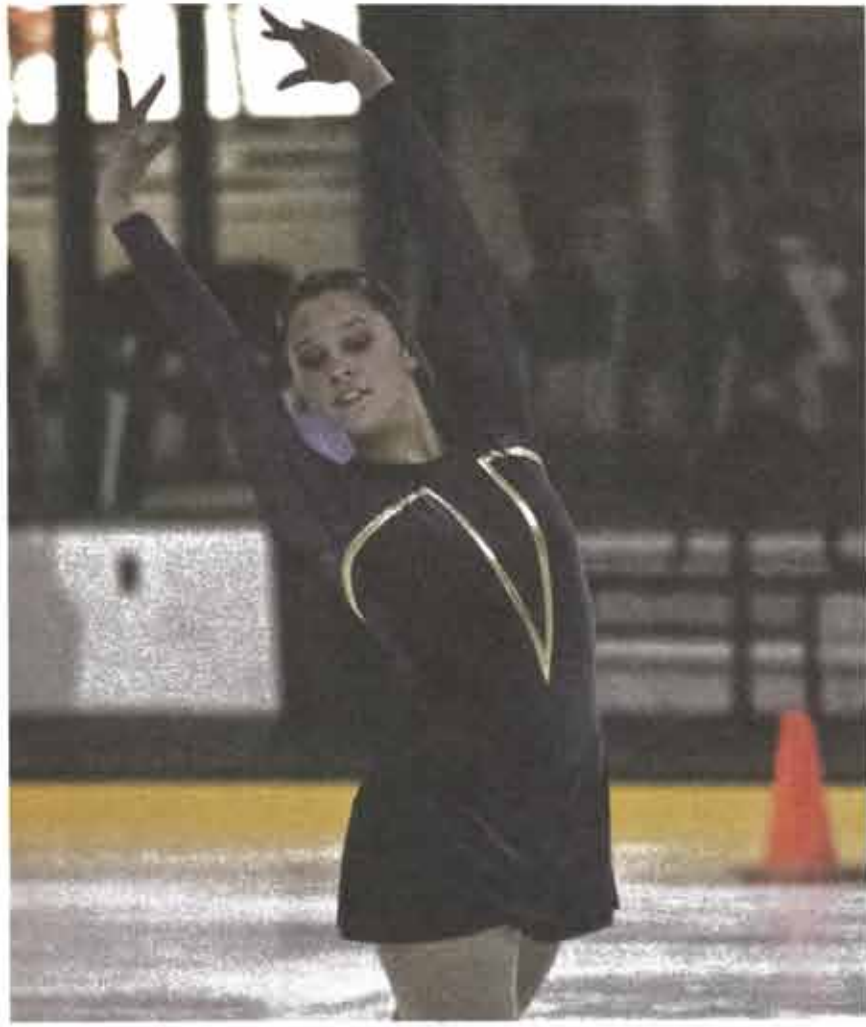
Puhalski was actually offered the Laurier coaching job eight years ago, but he declined and Mark French, who now coaches the Hershey Bears of the American Hockey League, took the job instead.

But the latest alumnus to become head coach of a Laurier team is excited to move back to Waterloo Region with his wife and daughter to see some familiar faces, having moved around so much the last two decades.

"I think the attraction for me is having a chance to move back to Canada...and I think going to a program where I'm familiar with the area and I have friends still living there - that's nice."

"We're just at a standstill because we haven't been told anything, so there's really nothing we can do at this point."

—figure skater Brittany Maksymyk



MYLES WILSON FILE PHOTO

2010 looks like it may be the end of Laurier's figure skating team.

Figure skating program in jeopardy

JUSTIN FAUTEUX
SPORTS EDITOR

The future appears to be bleak for the figure skaters of Wilfrid Laurier University. Over the course of the past year, they have lost both their funding from the university and their head coach and now it looks as though there will not be a team at all for the 2010-11 season.

"[The figure skating program] has very low numbers and it's a very high-cost sport, both on the coaching side as well as on the facility side," said Laurier's athletics director Peter Baxter. "So it looks as though we won't have a figure skating program this year."

Although the decision is not yet official, in the eyes of the athletes there seems to be little chance of their being a team this year.

"I don't see there being a team next year," said Brittany Maksymyk,

a third-year figure skater. "And it's really come a surprise because at our end of the year meeting, [the athletics department] seemed optimistic that we were going to have a team next year, and it wasn't until the summer that I began to consider that I wasn't going to be able to skate next year."

Problems started for the figure skating program last summer when they were among the eight varsity teams who lost their funding provided by the university as a result of school-wide budget cuts. This meant that the team had to pay for their own ice time, coaching and equipment, which added up to a fee of approximately \$1400 per athlete.

Following last season, the program was dealt another blow when head coach Carolyn McEwen stepped down from her position. According to Maksymyk, the athletes were willing to help in the

search for a new coach. However, they had little co-operation from the athletics department.

"Everyone is really frustrated because we were prepared to do a lot of work this summer and try and get a coach ourselves," she said.

"And now we're just at a standstill because we haven't been told anything, so there's really nothing we can do at this point. There's nothing we can even try to do because [the athletics department] hasn't told us anything."

As for the future of the program beyond this year, it isn't out of the question that the team could return, although it does seem unlikely.

"Once you cut a team, there's a big loss of interest and it's hard to get people to come back," said Maksymyk. "I still hope there'll be a team sometime in the future, I just don't know how likely it is."

How many blown calls will it take?



JUSTIN FAUTEUX
SPORTS EDITOR

After the pair of blatant missed calls in Sunday's World Cup round of 16 games, the question must be raised: How many times will FIFA allow themselves to be embarrassed before they get themselves out of the stone age?

Both Frank Lampard's non-goal in the England-Germany match and the goal that was clearly offside in the Argentina-Mexico game could have been very simply corrected through the use of video replay.

Every single other sport in the world uses video review to correct calls that the official may have gotten wrong, and it has improved the quality of every one. Home runs are no longer missed in baseball, pucks that cross the line are always called goals in hockey and players can contest line calls in tennis.

Yet, FIFA has decided to keep soccer years behind the times and simply ignore technology that could make the sport better.

The main argument that FIFA seems to have against bringing replay to soccer is that they want to avoid bringing lengthy delays and making matches longer. But the whole world could see that Lampard's shot was, in fact, over the goal line within 30 seconds of the play happening.

Reviewing that goal would not be like reviewing a hockey goal, where the net is smaller, the puck is smaller and there are likely two or three players in the net. In the case of Lampard's goal—and in the case

of most goals that are missed in soccer—only one angle was needed to see that the ref had blown the call.

From a logistical standpoint, instituting instant replay in soccer would actually be easier than most sports.

Not only are all of the necessary angles already covered by TV cameras, but the refereeing staff even has a fourth official who doesn't do much more than hold up an electronic board with how much time will be added at the end of a half. Couldn't he take a quick look at a monitor, see the call was missed, and correct it?

Almost more infuriating than the fact that these blown calls continue to happen, is FIFA's painstaking silence on the matter. From Thierry Henry's blatant handball that knocked Ireland out of World Cup qualifying in November, through to the number of missed calls in this year's tournament, FIFA has been embarrassed on a massive international stage, and they seem to have nothing to say about it.

While FIFA took a step in the right direction yesterday by admitting that they were wrong and apologizing to England and Mexico, they are still only willing to look into video review. Odds are that we will once again see a lot of talk and little action.

Blown calls that could easily be overturned have directly led to teams getting knocked out of the World Cup or not even being able to take part in the competition in the first place. At this point the question is, what needs to happen to make FIFA wake up?

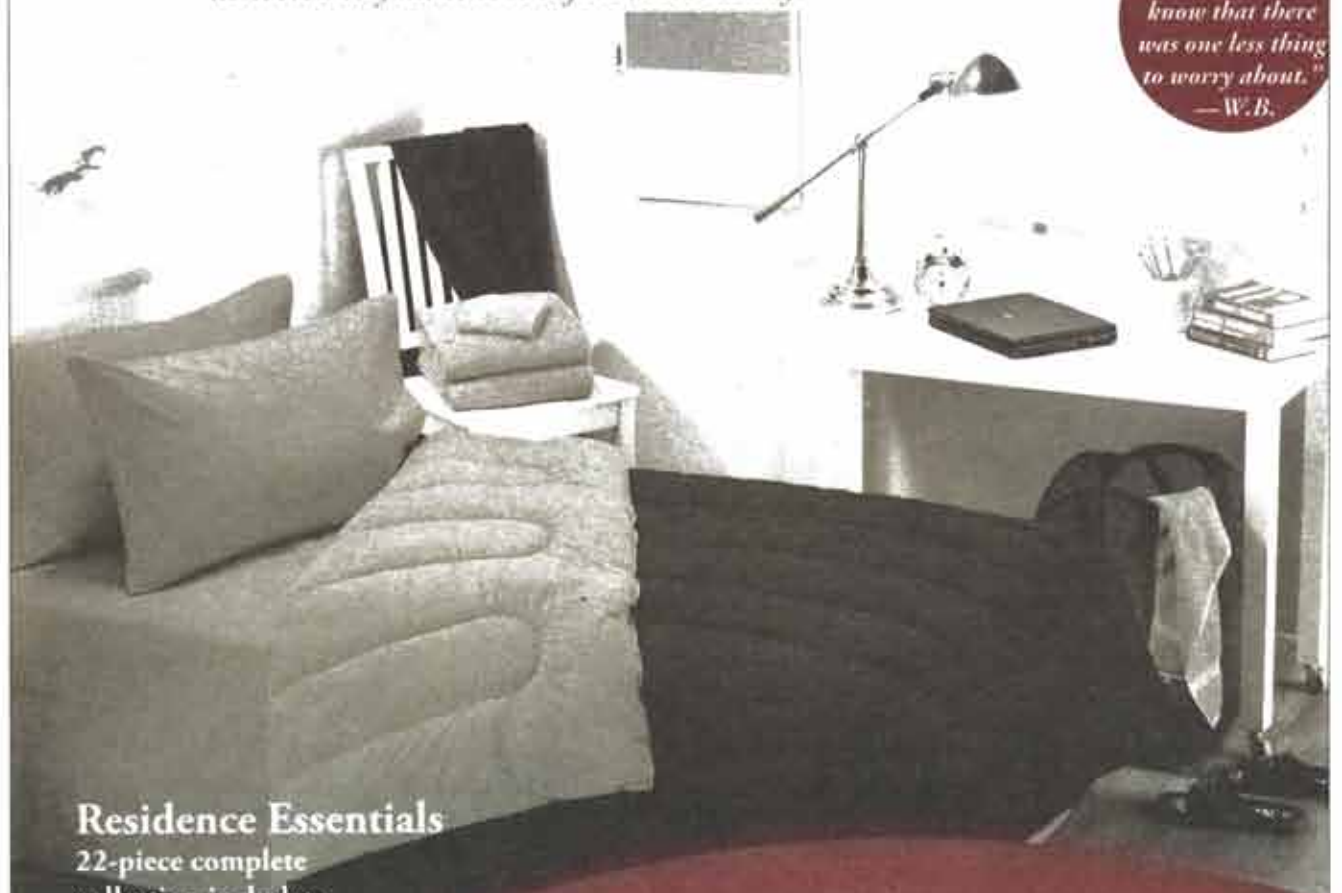
Will it have to come down to the World Cup champion being decided by a misse hand ball or an offside goal? Given FIFA's resistance to change, it will still be a long time before we see video review in soccer.

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Golden Hawks at a glance

Sports Editor **Justin Fauteux** provides a first-year's a guide to enjoying athletics at Laurier

Football

Last season, Laurier's men's football team finished the regular season 6-2, with their star-studded defence leading the way. With at least eight starters returning on that defence and receivers Dillon Heap and Alex Anthony looking primed to build on breakout 2009 seasons and lead the offence, the Hawks should once again be amongst the contenders coming out of Ontario.

Hockey

Women's

Since 2000, the Hawks' women's hockey team have won eight provincial titles – with the last seven coming consecutively – adding a national championship in 2005. Although the team lost some key players to graduation last year, they will get a huge boost from the return of Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) player of the year Liz Knox, and should once again dominate their Ontario University Athletics (OUA) competition.

Men's

The men's hockey team will be starting a new era in 2010-11 under recently hired head coach Greg Puhalski, who will look to help the team overcome its recent struggles in the playoffs. The key this year will be team captain Jean-Michel Rizk returning to the form he showed in his 54-point season in 2008-09.

Baseball

Last year the men's baseball team overcame losing their funding from the university and posted the best season in team history, coming away with the OUA silver medal. The Hawks will once again boast solid pitching this season with the return of 2009 OUA rookie of the year Andrew Greenberg and 2009 OUA all-star Josh Robinson and should be considered a threat to challenge for the title again.

Soccer

Women's

After dominating the regular season last fall – posting a 9-3-2 record – Laurier's women's soccer team came up short in the playoffs. This year they will look to recapture the glory of the 2008 season, which saw them win the OUA championship, and with veterans such as 2009 All-Canadian Heather Malizia and leading scorer Ali McKee returning to provide the leadership core, things once again look good for 2009 coach of the year Barry MacLean's squad.

Men's

The Golden Hawks' men's soccer team stumbled in 2009, failing to reach the playoffs for the first time in over 13 years. Dealing with numerous injuries throughout the season, the Hawks staggered to a 3-6-5 record, finishing second last in the OUA west division. However, a large positive came from last season; the emergence of rookie goalkeeper Jarret Humphreys, who was named to the OUA's second all-star team.

Volleyball

Women's

This season, Laurier's women's volleyball team will be looking to break a two-year playoff drought. 2009-10 saw the Hawks finish second-last in the OUA west division, posting a 6-13 record, the team's worst since 1997. A notable bright spot for the team was the play of rookie Julie Gordon, who led the team with 143 kills and 17 blocks, on her way to an OUA rookie of the year award.

Men's

2009-10 saw an inconsistent Golden Hawks' men's volleyball team fall just 2 points shy of the playoffs, posting a 9-11 record. A large portion of the Hawks' struggles last season can be attributed to inexperience, as the team did not feature a single fourth- or fifth-year player.

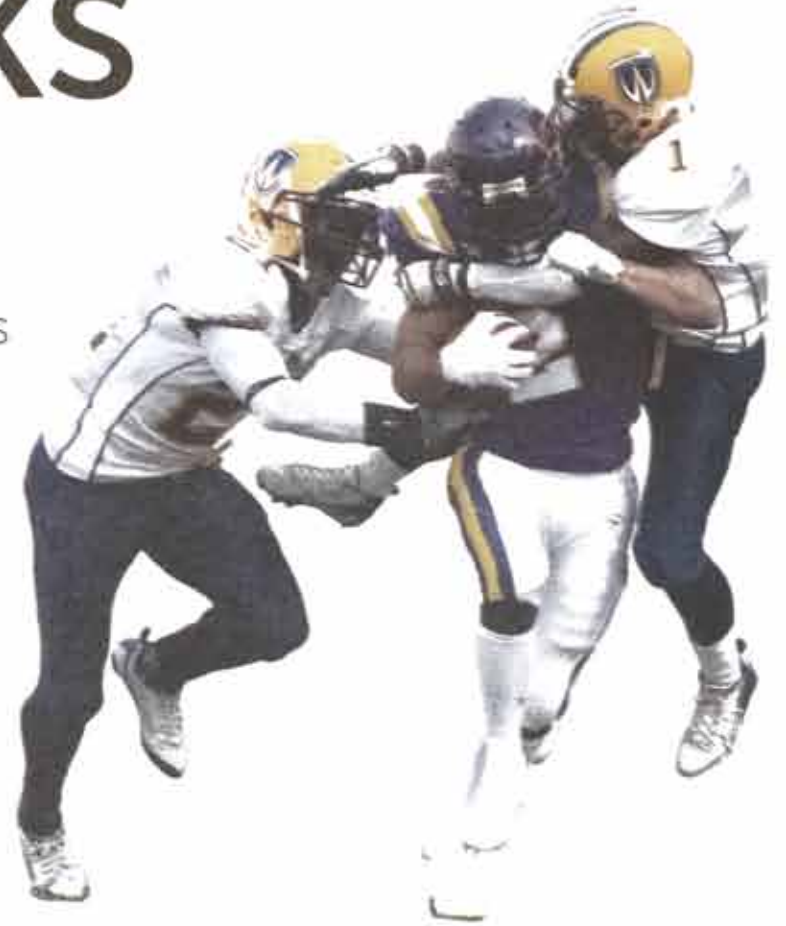
Basketball

Women's

Last year, the women's basketball team were eliminated in their first pre-season contest by the Lakehead Thunderwolves. If they are to go deeper in the playoffs this season they will need another stellar season from two-time OUA west defensive player of the year Renata Adamczyk, as well as continued development from players such as third-year Amber Hills and second-year Alena Luciani.

Men's

Laurier's men's basketball team have posted similar results recently from year to year. They always seem to hover around .500 during the regular season and then exit the playoffs within the first two rounds. In 2010-11, former CIS rookie of the year Kale Harrison and last year's breakout rookie Max Allin will look to lead the team further into the post-season.



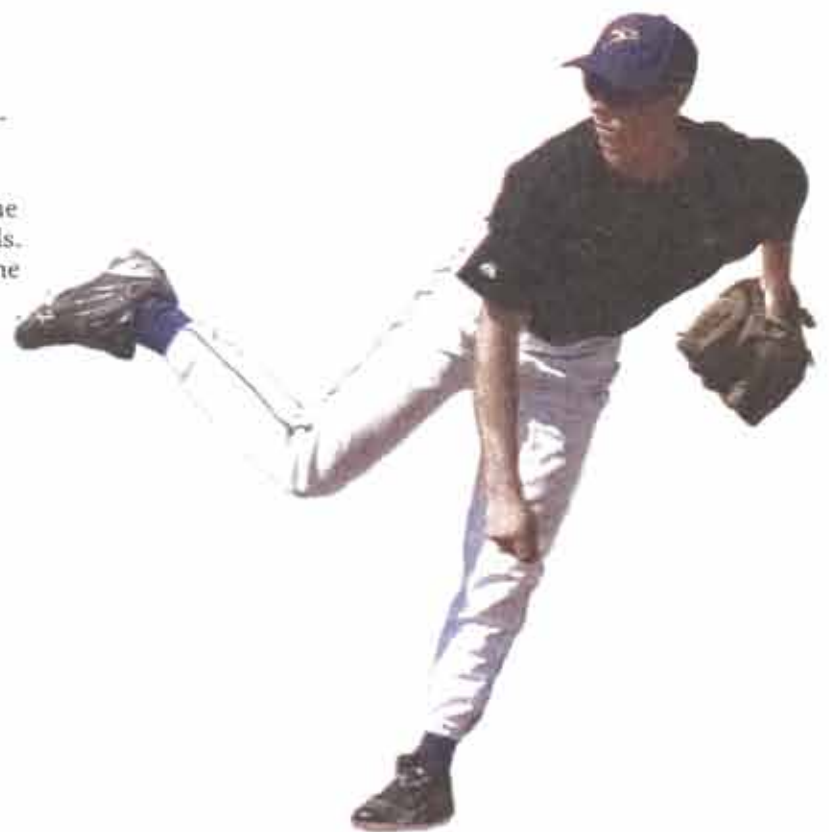
Lacrosse

2009 was a bit of a strange year for the Golden Hawks' women's lacrosse team. An early season loss snapped a winning streak that stretched over 29 games and three years. However, the inexperienced team managed to rebound and come away with the OUA silver medal – the first time in seven years that the Hawks didn't win gold. This season, the purple and gold have almost their entire roster returning and should be a threat to claim the OUA gold.



Other varsity sports at WLU

- Curling
- Rugby
- Swimming
- Golf
- Cross Country
- Indoor Track



Five things a sports fan must do during their time at Laurier

Play intramurals

Whether it's indoor soccer, flag football or dodgeball, playing intramural sports is not only a way to stay in shape, but it can also be a way to get your mind off of essays and midterms (for an hour a week, at least).

Go to the homecoming football game

Get drunk the night before. Get drunk the night of. Hell, get drunk the morning of. Just make sure you make it to University Stadium for Laurier's homecoming football game, and join in the electric atmosphere.

Hate Western

Whether it's wearing a "Wuck Festern" t-shirt, chanting offensive things at their cheerleaders, or making the trek to a Hawks-Mustangs football game decked out in Laurier gear, do whatever you can to show your disdain for our rivals from London. Hey purple and gold beats the hell out of purple and silver doesn't it?

Use facilities

Want to avoid the freshman 15? Everything you need to do so is right on campus. Work out at the gym, swim at the pool, throw a Frisbee around on Alumni Field (hey, in first-year you're allowed to be a cliché), just get out of your room and get some exercise. You're paying for these things anyway, might as well get your money's worth.

Support your Hawks

There are hundreds of truly elite athletes at this school and too often do they play in front of crowds that are largely made up of their parents and siblings. Laurier's teams deserve your support, so why not take a couple of hours on a Sunday afternoon to take in a game of hockey, soccer, basketball, or volleyball?