

THE CORD WEEKLY



Thinking of going
vegetarian? Page 13

Oh my! Rosehart has
a knife! Page 2



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Musical reflection: Euphonium tubas took centre stage on Thursday in the Maureen Forrester Recital Hall where Dave Csinos, Corey Remple, Matt Minnielly, Tim Norman and Darren Kools "oom-pah"-ed for the small crowd. The highlight of the night was a rendition of the theme from the Super Mario videogame.

Leaked WLUSU Presidential Election Breakdown

	Music	Science	Concourse	Schlegel	Co-op	Brantford	TOTAL
Tudor A. Costache	8	63	112	19	0	9	211
Dan Herman	26	185	405	272	0	32	920
Lindsay Markle	17	92	401	232	7	51	800
Ryan Vogel	14	39	145	130	1	6	335

Voting information leaked

Christine Cherry

Technology can be a tricky thing, as the Chief Returning Officer for the 2003 WLUSU/WLUSP elections, Vic Truong, is discovering the hard way.

Spreadsheets for last Thursday's election results were left on the hard drive of a PRISM laptop used by Truong; the sensitive information was not deleted prior to being returned to PRISM. The spreadsheets included the vote tally of the first round of ballot counting for WLUSU President and CEO, WLUSU Board of Directors, Quorum check (in an incomplete form) and WLUSU Referenda vote tally. These spreadsheets show a breakdown of votes by faculty and polling station, including those for Brantford and co-op students, as well as information on spoiled ballots.

Jon Gilbank, a first-year business student and PRISM Certification Instructor, signed out the laptop for the weekend.

Gilbank noticed files entitled "Ballot Counting spreadsheet.xls" and "Ballot Counting.xls" under the laptop's default save setting. Curiosity got the better of him, and he opened the files. Realizing what they were, Gilbank took a copy of the information to Cord News Editor and WLUSU BOD elect, Bryn Boyce.

"I believed I had discovered privileged information that would otherwise be unknown to the campus community," Gilbank commented. "I was shocked that I had discovered something of this magnitude on a public computer."

WLUSU President Andy Pushalik stated that "(the spreadsheets) shouldn't have been left on the laptop." Pushalik promised that he is "going to look into the matter and talk to the CRO."

Truong wouldn't speak directly to the Cord, instead Pushalik acted as Truong's media contact making the statement that "Vic felt that he had erased (the spreadsheets) from the laptop but obvi-

ously he hadn't."

While technically students can have access to the tally information "traditionally just the overall totals have been released" Pushalik offered. According to Pushalik, if anyone had come to him to discuss the breakdown of votes by faculty he would have given them that information.

Questions arose as to PRISM's culpability in deleting files from their laptop hard drives, however, Sean Lichty, PRISM Help Desk Manager, pointed out that under the current system PRISM does not have the resources to do this. Students would likely have to pay much more for this to be an added service of PRISM.

"We warn (students) that if you leave your project on the computer it is subject to plagiarism," stated Lichty. "It is the students responsibility to erase any of their information."

When asked for his comments on the spreadsheet error, WLUSU President-elect Dan Herman declined to speak to the Cord.

Herman victorious

Stefan Sereda

A witch's brew of mixed emotions exploded in Wilf's last Thursday just before 2:00 am. Deafening shouts of triumph drowned out quietly accepted loss, when next year's Students' Union President was announced after hours of anxious waiting.

With 920 votes, the victorious Dan Herman will now be adding the title "WLUSU President" to his list of accolades. Herman, a former Residence Life Don and manager of The Turret, received 120 votes more than his closest running-mate, WLUSU VP: Human Resources Development, Lindsay Markle.

Both candidates acquired significantly more votes than nominee Ryan Vogel, who mustered 335 ballots, and Tudor Costache, who garnered 211 votes. Herman's largest support came from those voting in the Schlegel Centre, where he received 172 more votes than his fellow business major, Ryan Vogel. However, Herman's dominance was shown even more clearly in the Science Building, where he crushed the competition. Markle received more votes from co-op and Arts students than Herman, and Markle's total at the Brantford Campus equaled the total amount of ballots cast for the other candidates.

Although Herman remarked he was "confident going into it," he



also commented "the nerves were incredible." Herman alluded to the risk of "putting yourself out there," and mentioned he had "never worked so hard at something, so to have it turn out as it has is so rewarding."

"The biggest thing for the next two weeks is putting together a good team," Herman continued, in relation to selecting VPs. The new president elect wants a "team that can be trusted," noting the incredible effort put forth by his campaign team and the confidence they gave him.

Serving with Herman when his term begins on May 1 are the 15 Directors selected by the student body. Connolly Aziz received the most votes, drawing in three more votes than Herman himself. Mark Walhout was given the second-highest amount of votes, with 768.

(continued on page 2)

2003 WLUSU Election Results

WLUSU President

Dan Herman – 920
Lindsay Markle – 800
Ryan Vogel – 335
Tudor Costache – 211

WLUSU Board of Directors

Connolly Aziz – 923
Mark Walhout – 768
Andrew Pike – 712
Sanjay Pottinger – 705
Lyndsey Jones – 623
Bryn Boyce – 559
Lisa Miller – 550
J.D. Muir – 545
Diana Spadafora – 518
Michael Borrelli – 495
John Crowell – 493
Colin Shonk – 493

Anthony Piscitelli – 491
Rishi Kumar – 487
Andrew Howell – 469

Kevin Spahich – 453
Nicole van der Wolf – 442
Michael Morris – 439
Kadie Gorman – 432
Myles Wilson – 422
Candace Ramshaw – 407
Sherry-Lynn McKeever – 403
Sean Simpson – 393
Jennifer Schaub – 389
Mark Teeple – 376
Jessica Waitman – 375
Adam Stevens – 360
Robert Demille – 351
Gregory Smith – 341
James McKay – 318
Michael Overholt – 275
Thomas Thompson – 274

Student Services enhanced

Bryn Boyce

Next year's Students' Union volunteers headed by Dan Herman, will have big shoes to fill. Andy Pushalik and Dean of Students David McMurray presented their Student Service Operating Procedures Agreement (SSOPA) to the University's Board of Governors for approval this past Tuesday.

The tripartite agreement, between WLUSU, The Wilfrid Laurier University Graduate Students' Association (WLUGSA) and the University Administration, is a renewal and extension of a previous agreement signed in 1999.

The new document was described by McMurray as a "living document," one that is amendable and adaptable to student needs. The agreement was already approved by both WLUSU and WLUGSA and only needed the approval of the Board of Governors, which it received today.

The management of Student Services will now fall under the control of the Student Services Advisory Council (SSAC). The council is composed of six WLUSU members, two WLUGSA members and eight university employees under the Dean of Students. "This is a really important agreement because it gives the students a 50% say in how services are delivered and managed," said Pushalik.

Some of the new additions to the agreement include a \$1 million Capital Contribution to be put toward the enhance-



Bryn Boyce

Rosehart leads with the knife not the cake, Andy looks forward to graduation.

ment of the Athletic Complex and Co-operative Education & Career Services.

Heath Services and Counselling will receive new funds and a Centre for Accessible Learning is set to be created within the next two years. The centre will provide space for the Special Needs Office, the Women's Centre and a resource centre for the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered community. Other groups may also receive space in the new centre.

Dean McMurray stated that the new agree-

ment has "raised the profile of Student Services at Laurier."

So where does all this money come from? Well 50% comes from the students. You may have noticed the \$130 fee on your Laurier University invoice. The fee is called the Comprehensive Student Services Fee (CSSF) and it accounts for half of the funds allocated for the development of student activities and initiatives.

The other half of your Student Services are paid for by the university. The universi-

ty is required to match the CSSF's contribution; however, if in any year the total revenues collected exceed 50% of actual expenses that extra cash is funneled into the Reserve Fund. The fund is unique in that its distribution is governed entirely through the two student organizations.

This shared cost system is revered by Laurier's student groups as it means that students don't just pay fees, they also have partial say in the distribution.

Laurier is considered to have one of the most powerful student unions and Student Services programs in Canada. The agreement continues this trend and now attracts high praise from the Ontario government for being the "best practice in higher education" (2001).

A celebration in the Dining Hall, held on Tuesday, was scheduled "to recognize and thank the students for their contributions" said President, Dr. Robert Rosehart. Two large cakes were cut and served by Rosehart, McMurray and Pushalik as they praised the cooperative relationship that has led to the comprehensive new agreement. The day also served as an opportunity to showcase the new additions to the campus and an "informal grand opening of the new dining hall," said McMurray.

The agreement renewal is good for five years, between 2003 and 2008, and Dean McMurray's contract was also renewed this past Summer, putting Laurier in a favourable situation with regards to Student Services.

Sehdev Sues WLUSP

Bryn Boyce

One day after the first anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, another culture-shaping event took place. This time, the casualties numbered in the mid-single digits. Maneesh Sehdev, Editor-in-Chief of the Cord, was terminated and five editors resigned in a blaze of historical fury. The towering Cord newspaper was brought down to the foundations; forced to rebuild. Well, (debatably) five months later, the Cord has recovered and Sehdev has launched a small claims lawsuit against Wilfrid Laurier's Student Publications (WLUSP). Dave Field, President of WLUSP, was served the Plaintiff's Statement on January 23. Field was unwilling to comment on the specific nature and claims of the suit.

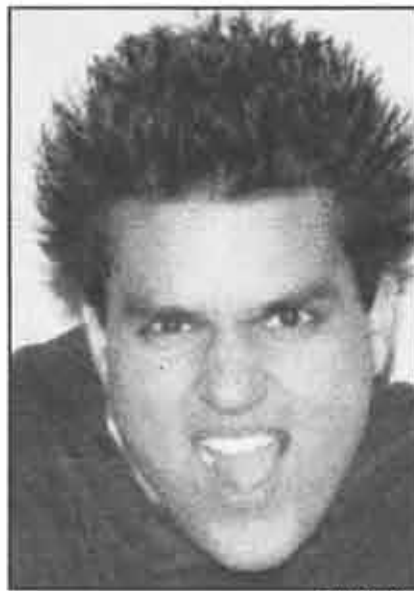
After Sehdev's termination there was considerable backlash from the editorial board. Five resignations ensued and there was more ill will toward the Board of Directors' decision. Current Entertainment editor Melissa Allen pointed out that "none of the Board members were actually here this past summer, none of them knew if any of the claims against Sehdev were true, it was all based on hearsay and they bought into it."

The decision was based on a

unanimous vote held the WLUSP Board and according to Field there were "letters of warning and meetings" to document Sehdev's failure to fulfill his job requirements. "We all came to a conclusion one day that things couldn't continue this way," said Chair of the WLUSP Board, Lynette Clark.

Typically it requires at least a 2/3 majority vote in the Editorial Board and the Board of Directors to terminate an Editor-in-Chief based on content. This vote never reached the Editorial board because according to Field the termination was not based on content issues. For all other issues termination only requires a 2/3 Board of Directors vote. "The Board members were completely ignorant to the real situation. The Cord was [Sehdev's] life and just like that they took it upon themselves to fire him based on absolutely nothing," explained Allen. The court date has not been finalized although Field believes it will be scheduled anywhere in the next 2-4 months. This causes some confusion because the newly acclaimed WLUSP administration is set to take over on May 1, 2003, which potentially could occur before the court date.

Newly acclaimed WLUSP President and current Board



File Photo

Sehdev: getting a little irate

member, Laura Jardine, assures that the current administration will deal with the situation. Many details concerning the termination and most importantly the reasons behind the action, are still considered in-camera and therefore confidential.

Field believes that a fair outcome to the lawsuit would be one that sees the case dismissed from small claims court. "This lawsuit just rehashes the issue," says Field, who states firmly that there is nothing illegal about the termination at all.

Sehdev has declined to comment on the lawsuit.

Dan's win cont'd

(continued from cover)

Returning to the Board for another term are Andrew Pike and Sanjay Pottinger, who placed third and fourth respectively.

One third of next year's Board of Directors will include five members of the LAND and LS4PIRG organizations. Nine members of the Laurier New Democrats and Laurier Students for a Public Interest Research Group ran, with the leaders both getting elected. LAND President Anthony Piscitelli was "really happy that more than half of us [the LAND PIRG candidates] got elected." He also suggested that even the candidates who did not achieve a spot on the Board were happy that there was "more of a voice for a PIRG."

Among the other LAND PIRG Directors are Bryn Boyce, Rishi Kumar, J.D Muir and LS4PIRG head Michael Borrelli. "Our goals are all the same, but we think differently," stated Borrelli, on whether or not they will vote in a block. "There's no party whip," Borrelli said. "At some point, Mike and I will disagree," Piscitelli added.

The two are already setting up plans to meet with Dan Herman to discuss their ideas, and Piscitelli suspects the BOD will agree to instituting a Public Interest Research Group at Laurier. They also dispelled any rumours that their campaign was funded by the New Democratic Party, and Piscitelli confirmed the rumor that he is running for Chair of

the Board.

In response to any concern over such a large portion of the BOD being dominated by one ideological group, Borrelli stated, "The only worry I have is that there's going to be some kind of institutional resistance to change. My first goal on the BOD is to separate those who really want to do something from the resume padders." Piscitelli noted, "If people do have a concern, I think they'll feel a lot more comfortable if they come out to a PIRG meeting. They're Fridays at 2:30 in the Board Room."

"People are already worried...that we are taking over," Borrelli comments. "Come on, we got elected, we don't have the world in our hands or anything."

All in all, 23 percent of Laurier students voted in the election, which is a five percent drop from last year. Also, 330 of those votes were proxy votes, a smaller number than last year, but still very high. According to Chief Returning Officer Vic Truong, there were less proxy votes this year but more proxy holders, suggesting that there was an increase in soliciting for proxies. This figure indicates that approximately 14 percent of the votes were cast through proxies.

While many of the newly elected officials have plans to carry out, and those who were not elected will have to find other avenues for establishing their goals, Herman hinted that the first thing on his mind is "getting some sleep."

Fill your educational void...

Bryn Boyce

What has my education at Laurier not given me? Or what have I not given my education.... A panel discussion was held in Maureen Forrester Recital Hall to discuss these questions this past Tuesday. As it turned out most faculties and departments were poorly represented at the thought-provoking forum because, well, who can be bothered right now anyway? I mean, I don't even have the time to write this article let alone talk about the merits of extracurricular endeavours. This article is finished.

Okay, wait, that's not fair.

The discussion boiled down to a few central themes ranging from the impersonality and anonymity in class to the importance of a genuinely involved student body. Right away it became apparent that the audience was there to discuss, not just absorb any Colesnotes-style facts that the panelists uttered.

The diverse panel consisted of Dr. Debora VanNijnatten, Undergraduate Coordinator of Political Science; Rob Alarie, a third year Honours Economics major and President of Laurier's Economic Association; Beverly Harris a Lawyer and Vice-Chair of Laurier's Board of Governors and Dr. Rowland Smith, Vice President: Academic.

Immediately Smith explained that the goal of the forum was to discuss extracurricular activities on campus and other issues that you may not have been introduced to in BU115 or CS100.

Harris broke the ice by describing her educational experience and more specifically her feeling that she may have "missed a bigger slice of the world" in her undergraduate studies. She explained a growing trend in education one of "eye on the prize." VanNijnatten later supported Harris' argument



Bryn (NOT A REAL PHOTOGRAPHER) Boyce

Laurier panelists: Nothing gets chocolate out, but get involved anyway

by stating that education should be "an end and not a means." This theme of income-driven education dominated a large part of the discussion despite being labeled "not new" in the area of campus issues.

Lindsay Markle, recent WLUSU Presidential candidate failure, introduced the idea that our generation has had their education influenced by destabilizing labour issues at several levels. She argued that this could be a reason why students seek security in the working world and neglect extracurricular involvement.

Many students and faculty in the audience related their views on the difficulties of "differentiating" themselves from the crowd in such a competitive world. Smith, VanNijnatten and Dr. David Docherty all affirmed that much of their hiring practices revolved around less tangible characteristics. Smith said he "wants someone who won't bore me when they're 50," and Dr. VanNijnatten stated that a most recent position in political science was filled by a woman who had charisma and a

sense of humour above and beyond her academic proficiency. Kristi Edwards, Executive Vice-President: University Affairs, also noted that while these intangibles are important, grades still seem at the forefront. She explained hypothetically that a B+ student who is actively involved might get overlooked for an A+ hermit when trying to enter the School of Business. Smith glibly remarked that this might be "salvation."

It was generally agreed that extracurricular involvement was indeed important if not crucial in a strong education. Alarie opened by saying, "at Laurier you get what you put in," an important view that places the onus more on the students that on the university to enhance their education.

The discussion did not come to any concrete conclusions or business strategies. It didn't prove a thesis or substantiate a hypothesis. It's was an informal discussion and it only provoked more discussion, something that you can't get from your expensive powerpoint presentations in the Schlegel Centre or 1E1.

**I am a pitbull on the pantleg of opportunity
-George W. Bush**

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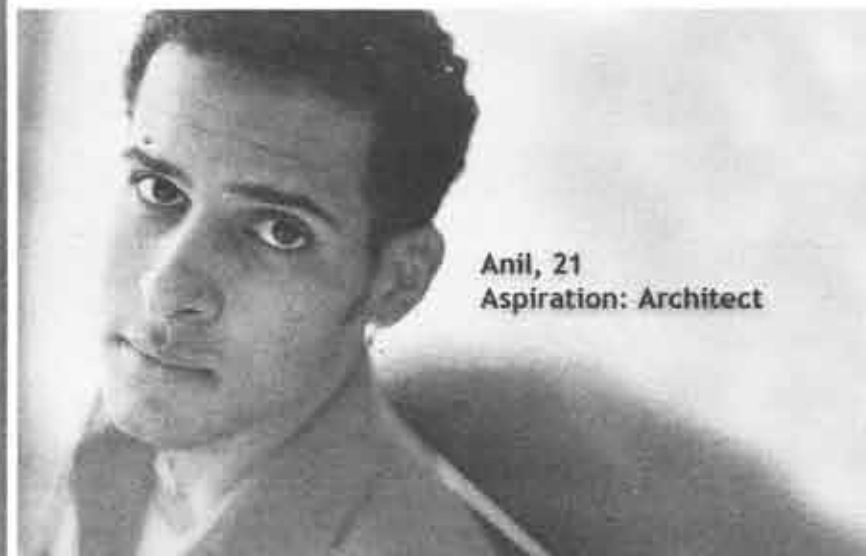
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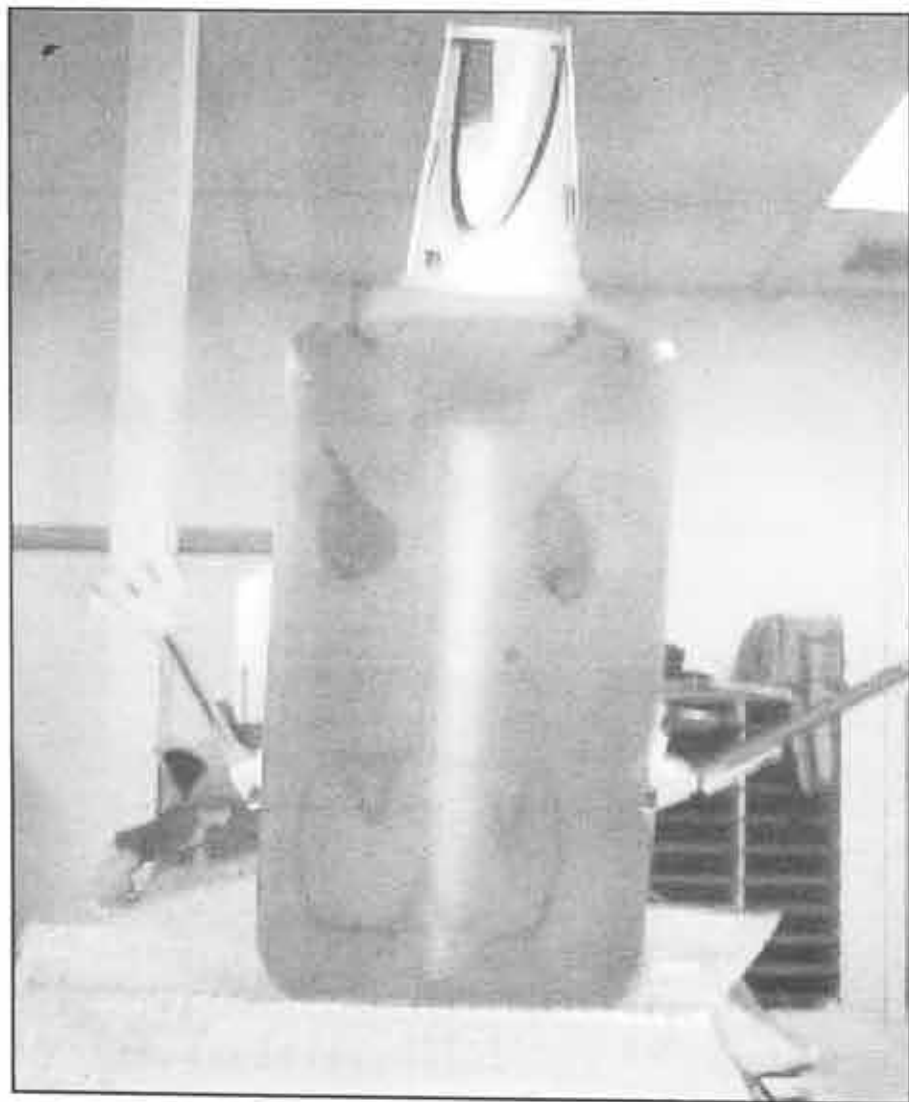
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Zambia's Book Club

Local student sends Zambia books; Oprah gets no piece of action or pie this time

Caitlin A. Julio Howlett

Is Canadian Business 5th Edition overcrowding your room? Did the book swap send you home crying when they said, "We're using the most recent edition of the text." How about donating your books to a better cause rather than your own personal profit centre?

Fourth-year biology student, Shivani Ruparell, is spearheading a pilot project at Laurier to send books to needy school children in Africa. Having conducted a similar project four years ago in Calgary, Ruparell saw the potential to raise both money and the books to send to a resource library for a new school in Ndola, Zambia.

"In 1999, the school [in Africa] was overwhelmed by the support," explained Ruparell, who admitted that it was the school's reaction that spawned her recent effort to support the learning of those less fortunate. "It's also a good base to start teaching kids with the books."

Ruparell is hoping to raise 16 000 books to fill a large shipping crate

that will be carried overseas on March 1, 2003. The cost of shipping is approximately \$7500, but Ruparell is confident that the monetary donations she has received will cover the cost.

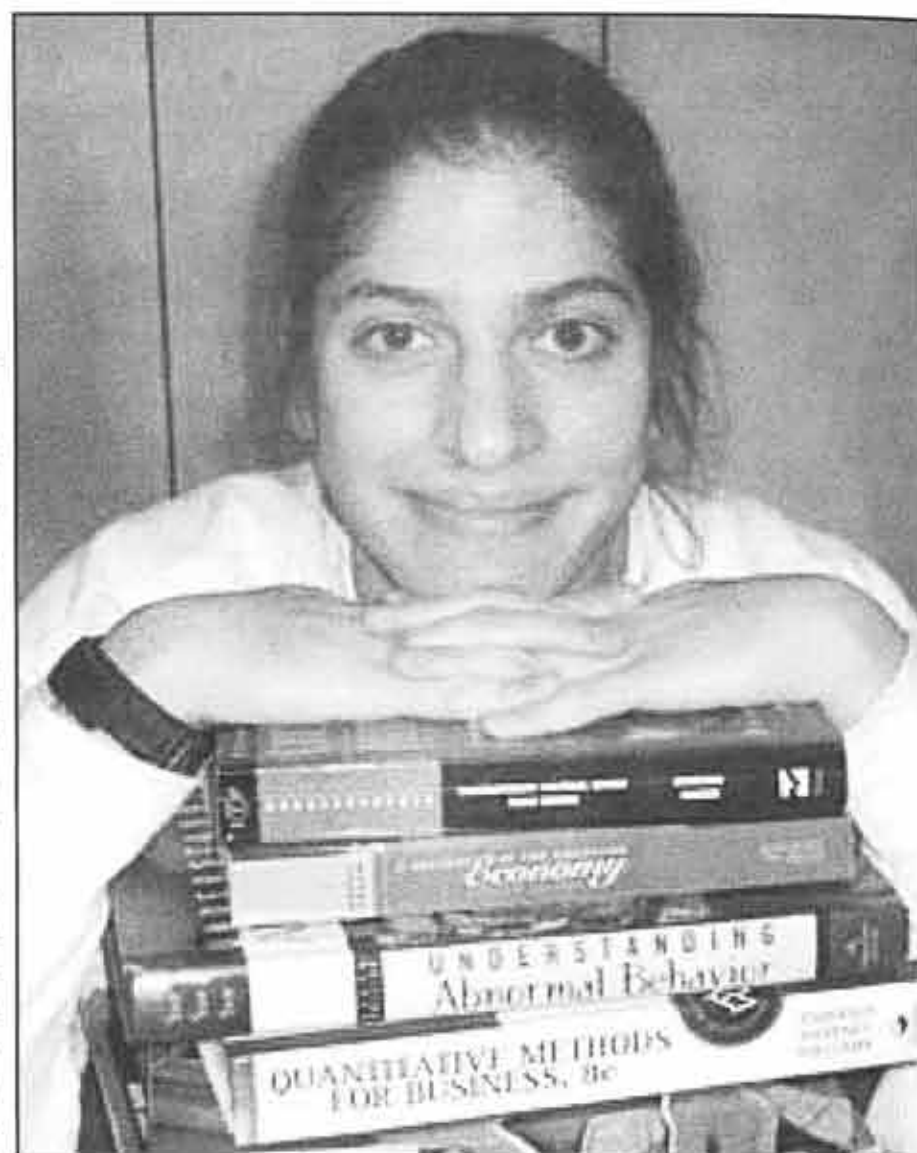
The book drive has drawn support from both Laurier based groups and the local community. "The Lettermen Club has been my biggest supporter," said Ruparell, who explained that the conglomerate of male athletes have donated \$1000, the largest monetary donation thus far. "They [Lettermen] are getting together and giving me man power," said Ruparell, who mentioned that carrying thousands of books is no easy task. Lettermen President, Trevor Eaton, will be assisting Ruparell over reading week by aiding in the transfer of books from Laurier to the shipping canister. Other WLU based supporters include the Dean of Students, Dr. Rosehart and the Distance Education Office who has donated 200 textbooks to the cause.

Despite a minimal marketing campaign that, "really marketed itself after the initial email,"

explained Ruparell, word of mouth and emailing have drawn a lot of interest from members of the WLU community and the KW area. "A member of the community emailed me with a donation of 40 books and minutes later emailed me again saying he was giving me a cheque for \$1000," boasted Ruparell. Publicity in an article in the KW Record published this past Friday has brought forth a gargantuan amount of inquiry; "I've just been inundated with phone calls since that article ran."

When asked whether or not the project will continue in future years at Laurier, Ruparell was quick to say that she would be organizing a similar project in the Toronto area next year, which hopefully will draw many more donations. "Someone would need to step up to take on the task if it is to be continued at Laurier," said Ruparell, who also explained, "Laurier is a small place and it is difficult to draw lots of donations, hence why I will be moving it [the drive] to Toronto."

Textbooks, novels, and encyclo-



File Photo

Ruparell sends books to Zambia, Turret expands into vacant library space

pedias (elementary to university level) are currently being accepted, unlike magazines and condensed works. The Turret will be hosting a bar night where in lieu of a cover charge, a book dona-

tion will be accepted, and is slated to happen sometime in the week following Reading Week. To make a donation, or to acquire more information email: book-splease@hotmail.com

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**APPLICATIONS DUE
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4:30 PM.
IN THE DEAN OF STUDENTS OFFICE**

Bag o' crime

THEFT UNDER \$5000 0110 HRS TUE FEB 04/03

Four students were found in possession of line up control equipment for Wilf's. The matter will be forwarded to the Judicial Affairs Council.

MISCHIEF 0222 HRS THU FEB 06/03

Person(s) unknown broke one of the gate arms at lot 20 again.

BREAK AND ENTER 0130 HRS - 0415 HRS SAT FEB 08/03

Person(s) unknown gained entry through the rear of 232 King by smashing windows. Once inside, fire extinguishers were discharged and other acts of vandalism were done. Regional Police Identification Unit was called in to examine the scene for fingerprints etc.

FALSE FIRE ALARM 2200 HRS FRI FEB 07/03

Person(s) unknown caused a fire alarm at the Science Building by activating a pull station. No sign of smoke or fire was found.

TRESPASS 0143 HRS SUN FEB 09/03

A UoW student was arrested and charged for trespassing at the entrance to the Turret when he refused to leave after being denied access due to his intoxicated condition. He was issued with a provincial offence notice and a written trespass notice.

FALSE FIRE ALARM 0100 HRS SUN FEB 09/03

Person(s) unknown caused a fire alarm at the Science Building by activating a pull station. A second false alarm was caused at 0230 hrs. There was no sign of smoke or fire in either instance.

CAUSE DISTURBANCE 0145 HRS SUN FEB 09/03

Officers responded to a report of a fight in lot 16. The combatants had already been separated on arrival. The matter will be forwarded to the Judicial Affairs Council.

MISCHIEF SAT FEB 08.03 - SUN FEB 09.03

Person(s) unknown smashed a window on the main floor of MacDonald House.

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CORD NEWS!

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WHAT'S ON TAP...

Monday - Jam Night
Tuesday - Matt & Chad
Wednesday - Kill Cupid Party & Coyote Ugly Night

randomTIME

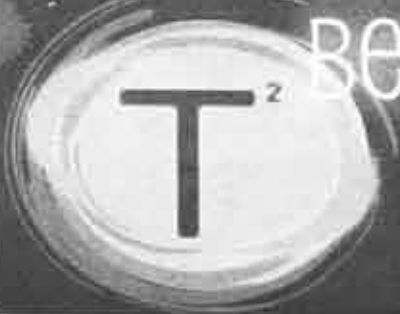
(featuring Matt&Chad)

& Room Without a View



Wilf's will be closing for reading week at 3:00pm on February 13th

Feb 13th LAST Turret NIGHT
Before reading week!



MARCH 7th at the Turret



SAM ROBERTS

THE CORD WEEKLY

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"Get the fuck up, you big dick bastard."
- Random female in Pause for Porno

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Melissa Allen

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

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

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

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Stefan will never be 'successful'

Stefan J. Sereda



News Editor

Determining success isn't as precise as counting your change, no matter how many people equate the two. This form of measurement is like arbitrarily winning a blue ribbon for greatness in a popularity contest.

So many people conform to the same ideas of success within their respective cultures. They are brought up to value certain social ideals, as can be expected of any society. Unfortunately, these ideals become thrust upon individuals as motivators and become life goals. At this point, everyone starts reproducing the goals of previous generations, and preserves them so the following generations can live by these values.

For most North Americans success is decided by income and social status. These consummate goods overarch nearly everything which guides Westerners through life. Our education serves the purpose of ensuring acceptable monetary and social circumstances for our selves. We learn along the way, but we are also reminded over and over again that we should continue our education to achieve a better job, and that math has practical applications apart from filling our tax returns and balancing our chequebooks.

Today's ubermale sees out his education, learns about Locke and property rights along the way, builds a good reputation and buys a rack to hang his power ties on, before settling into a good occupation.

He finds a well-polished wife to put on a shelf in his well-maintained house, which he leaves to win more trophies playing golf. Meanwhile, he raises his kids to do the same, while rising in the company ranks because he's a straight shooter. He earns enough to buy a nice practical car, but not the one he dreamt about back when he was a kid, with a head was full of "ideas." He will spend his life preparing for what comes next, and his life will be seen as successful, since it passed him by while he was busy planning it out.

Joining the male in this Norman Rockwell painting (or American Eagle shirt) is the perfect woman. While her goals may differ from the man's along the way, her drive is still rooted in money and recognition. She will marry Tom Cruise instead of Nicole Kidman. She will get a decent education, take care of her decent home and family, and hold her own in a profession which proves that she is equal to men everywhere.

On the long road to the success advertised on six dollar motivational posters, titles help win respect from the people you meet. Accolades such as "Doctor Chief Executive Officer Imperial Majesty Oprah Winfrey Saint" tend to draw attention away from the individuality of your name, but help to fit you in to categories where you can easily gain recognition. They help your cronies distinguish you from everyone else in the grey, uninteresting world.

Hording titles and measuring your success in the thickness of your wallet and the quantity of your friends is not a bad thing, since "success" is something relative to the person, and not something that can be reduced to and generalized in an income bracket. In fact, all of the above ideals are not necessarily disagreeable, especially if the intent to start a family or get a job springs forth from some genuine impulse. For example, becoming a heart surgeon to help people, not just to tell the ladies at

Ethel's that your sheets are lined with \$1000 bills, is an admirable cause.

Conforming to cultural standards of accomplishment is fine, but these standards become problematic when they marginalize those who seek to achieve other ends, through different means. Should we scoff at "starving artists" because they are consumed by their craft rather than obsessed with consuming as many goods as possible? Do we reject every idea that is impractical, and defies the norm?

Why bother working towards "success" which has been predetermined for you? In this sense, real achievement is overlooked in favor of securing a spot in the creamy middle. The cookie outsiders may require more chewing, but it's better than melting into your society like lukewarm vanilla ice cream. Greatness comes from how well one meets the challenges set before them, and what the experience gained through such challenges produces. Many would argue that graduating from their educational institutions and vying for a spot at the top of the community-bearing professional pillar is a challenge in itself. Still, does this require the same amount of passion and balls that dropping out of school at an early age to live your life does? Bill Gates could have stayed in school and got a good job fixing old Commodore 64s, instead he started a technological revolution.

A quote in Cameron Crowe's film *Almost Famous* bluntly states that "the only true currency in this bankrupt world is what you share with someone else when you're uncool." Real wealth and historical status is generated by taking risks at life's gambling table, not through the inheritance of social values, which are immediately hidden away in a safety deposit box. Successful people catch a buzz even when the chips are down, because they know they've laid their cards on the table.

French Bench

Books are better than boys



Jacky Drouin

What's the probability of a political science student finding true love? In a world of bounded rationality and realists, where Cultural Studies clash with Marxist ideology and mathematical equations are formulated to determine how strong your feminist beliefs are in relation to the rest of the population...is there any way of knowing whether or not we can continue to believe in 'true love'?

The school of bounded rationalists are no fools; in this hectic world where individuals are expected to successfully manage a career, a family, a social life and pay

the bills, we're too busy to search for 'the one'. We cut corners, find someone we can converse with and are fairly attracted to, and leave the sizzle and spice of life up to reality TV.

The Marxists, meanwhile, will tell us to either wait for the revolution or point out that the class struggle permeates into the dating scene. The best we can hope for is respect from our fellow comrade. And an autographed copy of *Das Kapital*.

The realists in love are probably the same people that offer dating advice in *Cosmo*: divide and conquer and be prepared to bring out the heavy artillery. Weekends at the cabin, fancy dinners and red lipstick. Laugh a lot and pretend to be interesting and interested. But never, ever, for one second let him/her out of your sight because the world is filled with desperate and hungry single people waiting to pounce. Love conquers all and we mean that only in the strictest and most violent

interpretation of the saying.

Part of me has to agree with the feminists, telling me that I don't need a man to control my life, that relationships are intertwined with the perpetual power struggle between men and women. Society has not only defined what is 'true love,' but what is 'sexy,' 'desirable,' and 'acceptable' to bring home to meet ma and pa.

Great. You're all against me. Have these past four years at university taught me nothing of the real world? Am I doomed to struggle continuously trying to figure out who I am, what I want and what social theory accurately describes my views?

For all the times that the books have failed me, I turn towards life experiences to figure things out. Judging by my shelves, I like books, and maps of China. I also know that the last time I fell in love was on some highway in Michigan at an old convenience store in the middle of nowhere. I might have dreamt the whole thing but

I'm pretty sure on that day I was two seconds away from getting into this truck and leading a new life down in New Mexico with a home and kids.

But I didn't get into the truck. I changed my mind, and for this reason I have to question whether any of us really want 'true love,' or the baggage it comes with. We're moving away from the traditional 'lineage theory' towards a 'legacy theory.'

I don't want the married life with kids. I want my name to be kept alive, in bright red lights, like everything else in this country that's great. Tim Hortons. Pizza Pizza. Jacky.

Me, me, me because I need a reason to rationally justify why I'm in Waterloo right now, and not down in New Mexico. I'm in school for the mad cash-flow a degree in Political Science offers. And because deep down inside we all know that books make the best companions.

I'm going to cry

Valentine's Day Massacre



Chris Clemens

So, February's arrived and I honestly think we're in the middle of the worst month in the entire calendar. Everyone's sick of snow and cold once the thrill of December holiday consumerism has subsided, and the bitter realizations that you're broke, hungry and have to face another semester of midterms and essays hits you with the force of a speeding freight. Toss in the stress of finding next year's living accommodations and the beginning of the summer job hunt and you've got yourself 28 days of bad news bears. The universe even feels it necessary to deliver one parting kick in our backside by tossing in an extra day every four years. February sucks. I hate you, February!

But hey, to make up for all the shit that we go through we have been granted the ultimate reward in the form of Valentine's Day, a holiday which blossoms the flower of true love in happy couples and bestows us with a shower of chocolate pieces, cartoon hearts and cutesy cards which read "I choo-choo choose you!" Sounds great, right? Unfortunately not, and it looks as though Cupid might be losing his pinpoint aim because I'm beginning to notice a rising swell of dissatisfaction and bitterness surrounding the celebration throughout our love-filled campus. Maybe he's practicing his head shots at Laurier, bored with the mundanity of piercing hearts with his arrows.

As I was walking through Conestoga Mall the other day I couldn't help but notice the jewellery and card stores were cashing in on Valentine's Day to the full extent of their power, marketing products with slogans like "Show that you care with a diamond" and "Buy your woman this teddy bear or she'll schlock your best friend and mail you pictures afterwards." Unhappy-looking guys are using the last of their laundry money to purchase overpriced, gaudy-looking trinkets, with the hope of winning their girl's heart, while

females view the same merchandise distastefully wishing, furtively that such crappy gifts will not be aimed in their direction come Feb. 14, while realizing its inevitability. Valentine's Day doesn't look fun for couples.

Back at the Laurier campus, all I heard were complaints. "Being alone sucks, I'm going to drink a 40 of Jack Daniels to myself and watch Care Bears." "Nobody's giving me a Valentine because I am a horrible monster and I pray for death." "I'm having Valentine's knee surgery!" An overwhelming sentiment of hostility towards Cupid's festivities seemed to be predominant. Valentine's Day looks depressing for single people, too.

I remember when Valentines were fun, back in the third grade. Everyone got a boatload of candy and if one person was given a funny cartoon card everyone else in the class had to get one too. It was the rules and it worked well. Nobody went home feeling excluded and everyone ate chocolate and those pastel, chalk-tasting hearts with dumb slogans on them until they were fat and bloated. Good times.

Not so much anymore. Guys don't generally mind being exempted from Valentine's Day because it means we don't have to

blow all our money on flowers and more stupid stuffed animals, but I've heard more envious, bitter comments from single girls in the last few weeks than ever before. They're not missing much. Valentine's Day has been essentially reduced to showing someone how unique and special they are to you by giving them a generic teddy bear holding a gigantic red heart that says "I love you" ... which is also being received by millions of other girls at precisely the same moment.

I realize that I'm being extremely cynical here. I know people who have had great and meaningful Valentine's Day experiences in the past, and the idea of a specific day where you show someone special that you care is a fundamentally great idea. However, I think that Valentine's Day in its current form, with its merchandising tie-ins and incredibly high media-generated expectations, causes more harm than it's worth and generally contributes to the horror that is February. Let's trade in Cupid for something new.

Put the money where it counts

Our university is being funded incorrectly, says Anthony Piscitelli

Anthony Piscitelli

According to the MacLean's survey rankings, the pre-eminent and most authoritative annual study on the subject, WLU ranks third-from-last in Canada in terms of per-capita operating budget.

To put things in perspective, Trent University, a school roughly comparable in size to Laurier, spends about \$2000 more per student than Laurier does yet charges the exact same tuition.

Since money makes the world go 'round and allows this institution to operate, this issue should be extremely important to all of us as Laurier students.

Our operating budget directly affects the quality of our education, as it is required to pay for such trifling luxuries as professors, buildings, staff, and computers – indeed anything and everything imaginable on campus.

These are all things that we come to expect from our university experience and no matter how much we gripe about professors lecturing on and on for hours at a time someone told us that it's an important part of a degree.

So why are we so poor? WLU derives its revenues from three principal sources: our tuition, which we all pay every year (reluctantly and grudgingly); donations from alumni, business, parents, and so forth; and the provincial government. This funding comes on a per-student basis,

however, and due to the arcane peculiarities of the 'funding formula'; large chunks of the Laurier student body are 'un-funded'. This means that WLU collects only tuition from these individuals (roughly \$4000/year) and does not receive any government funding (usually another \$4000 or so) for each of them.

The nature of our university leaves us not only with many unfunded students but also with less money for most other 'funded' students than is the case at other universities. This is due to the skewed academic concentrations here – science majors and graduate students, for example, draw significantly more funding than arts students.

Thus the high percentages of arts students at Laurier are not only impoverished themselves but are in a sense the source of the university's impoverishment. Also notable is the fact that other schools of similar size and composition such as Trent and Lakehead obtain special operating grants to offset this effect.

Right now preliminary operating budgets for next year see us running a \$500 per-student deficit. Unfortunately the character of our Board of Governors is such that this deficit will almost certainly not be allowed, which begs the question: which services will we have to give up next year if the provincial government refuses to pick up the funding shortfall?

With the double cohort looming just over the horizon, Laurier will soon face a critical year. If we truly wish to remain "Among

Canada's Best", forceful and focused student action is the best way to ensure that the funds required to maintain and improve

the quality of education at this institution are guaranteed.

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...or Ozzy wouldn't go on stage that night...



Caitlin Howlett

Del Preston once said, "In the event of capture, I will distribute cyanide capsules to be placed under the tongue like so." "But what does it all mean Basil?" "The beer has gone bad, nobody drink the beer!"

Quoting movies (QM) is the forgotten past time, well maybe it is not forgotten, just underused. It is the art of reliving a cinematic moment that you deem highly entertaining, important enough to duplicate in front of friends and strangers alike, but in the end comes down to one thing; a good, hearty, much needed laugh.

What is it about QM that is so enjoyable, so thought provoking, so utterly ridiculous that we find personal amusement in generally fictitious reenactments of not so quotable quotes? Is it because someone was able to conjure up knee-slapping phrases that we could claim to be our own and use at will, over and over again? "Carnies - nomads, smell like cabbage...small hands!" Or is it the ability to make an inconsequential link between you and a friend by enjoying similar one liners from Can't Hardly Wait or Spaceballs, "92% yo," or "That's gonna leave a mark!"

Regardless of why we do it, QM is an art form. You simply cannot quote a line from a movie and expect a movie quoting connoisseur such as Stefan J. Sereda to fall on the floor laughing so hard his wing tips bust off. Quoting movies requires patience. It necessitates a backbone to watch a movie a minimum of five times, so as to suc-

cessfully quote the gun rack clip from Wayne's World. "A gun rack? A gun rack. What am I gonna do with a gun rack? I don't own a gun, let alone many guns that would necessitate an entire rack. What am I going to do with a gun rack?" Notice the punctuation throughout the lengthy quote. If the punctuation is not articulated when reciting this quote, you have done an injustice to the art of movie quoting and the cinematic classic, Wayne's World.

Lest we forgot the art of the follow up quote. Once again using the gun rack quote as an example, those accompanying your quoting quest should be able to respond with, "Fine, you don't like it. You know Wayne, if you're not careful, you're going to lose me!" And conversely, you would reply, "I lost you two months ago. Are you mental?" There is nothing, and I mean nothing, more satisfying then being able to ascertain the follow up quote to the follow up quote. I suggest you forward examples to letters@wlup.com.

And as Sereda pointed out, you cannot quote someone like Arnold Schwarzenegger without replicating his voice. "Remember when I said I'd kill you last? I lied." If you are going to quote someone as famous as Schwarzenegger, you have to insist that you deliver the quote

with the correct accent. This would also apply to actors who use different accents in various films; example Hanz Gruber in Die Hard, as portrayed by Alan Rickman. "Yippie kiyi moder fuck!" Obviously, when quoting Rickman lines from Dogma, you would not use the same German accent as used in Die Hard.

Of course, you never want to pause during a full-fledged quoting session. If you don't know the quote inside out, you have missed the point entirely. It is no different from completing a math problem or scoring a goal in hockey. You don't remove numbers from a math question, or otherwise your solution is incorrect. You don't close your eyes when you take a slap shot, or you miss the net. A simple hesitation will rape the innocence out of the quote you had originally intended to spew forth. I present to you exhibit A (and know, it is not OJ's glove): "that's cold..." and the follow up, "So is your mama's bed." Had the novice quoter not been well versed in the movie Bad Boys, it could have been "That's hot..." and the follow up, "so is your father's duvet."

Quoting movies brings to life the lost cinematic classics of your choice. Sure, you may detest The Princess Bride, but then again, you might love Robin Hood

Prince of Thieves almost as much as Sereda does, especially the part where the peasant shrieks "to the Trees!"

Whether you laughed at the quotes, or the pure ridiculousness

of this editorial, I remind you to yet again, consider the lighter side of life. "No one step's on a church in my town."

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The war is wrong, so what can we do?

Dr. Peter Eglin

The opinion of the majority of the world's people, including in Canada and the US itself, is opposed to a US-led assault on Iraq. The reasons are obvious to any fourteen-year-old: such an assault would be inhuman, immoral, illegal and irrational. I'll come back to the reasons. But because the one superpower's mafia don and his family of henchmen want the war, it's going to happen. So what can I do, say my students. Here are some suggestions.

First, join the local protests. They were announced in last Friday's Record. It's an excellent way to see that you are not alone. In fact you are the majority. Show it to yourself, and thereby to others.

Second, use the democratic process. Your local MP is probably already on side with you but needs your support, or your persuasion, to vote 'no' in parliament. Tell him or her what to do as your representative. Do the same at Waterloo and Kitchener city councils. Get them to pass motions opposing the assault.

Third, use email, the internet and your imaginations, and insist that Chretien and Graham announce our non-participation loud and clear. This is not a diffi-

cult task. Ideas are out there already.

Fourth, get your union, professional association, employer, workplace, school, college or university to adopt the same resolutions, and announce them. I am working on the WLU Senate.

Fifth, since time is really short, probably less than a couple of weeks, while pursuing steps one to four, close down your workplace, school, college or university. Refuse to conduct business as usual. I will not teach as usual at WLU.

Sixth, and somewhat more difficult, how about getting something like the City Directory or equivalent list of the names of residents of Baghdad, and publishing it here? Photographs would be useful. This way we would be able to put a human name, if not a face, to the men, women and children who our leaders are going to help kill in our name.

Why? Well, look at your brother, your sister, your grandparents. Imagine their heads coming off, their bodies dismembered, their bones vaporized, their skin burned off. That's what

'we' have in store for 'them.' But the people of Iraq are my brothers, sisters, grandparents. How can I visit on them what I do not want to even think about for me? Such a thing is inhuman.

Obviously. We shouldn't do it.

Our leaders created Iraq in 1920 out of three provinces of the Ottoman Empire and imported a Saudi king to rule it. They supported Saddam Hussein in his war with Iran (1980-88), provided him with

the means to make weapons of mass destruction, did nothing when he used them to gas 5,000 Kurds at Halabja in 1988, encouraged the northern Kurds and the southern Shi'ites to rebel in March

1991 then stood by while he massacred them, and imposed such severe sanctions on Iraq since 1991 that some 500,000 children have died as a result. Our leaders' monstrosity already shrieks to the heavens for redress. How can we contemplate escalating it? Such an action is profoundly immoral. We know it.

Whatever the UN Security Council decides, it is blatantly obvious that any war-like assault on Iraq would be illegal. The UN Charter forbids states to use force except in immediate self-defence against actual attack. September 11 notwithstanding, the idea that the people of the US are under attack by Iraq is ludicrous. The situation is clearly the reverse. Thus, the US and UK are already indictable before the International Criminal Court (ICC) for planning and preparing a war of aggres-

sion. The offence is called a 'crime against peace.' It's what Hitler's cronies were hung for at Nuremberg. It's what Saddam Hussein should be tried for before the ICC for attacking Iran and Kuwait.

Finally, if you are not into humanity, morality or legality, try rationality. The answer to Osama Bin Laden's prayer is a further 'western' assault on 'Islam' (as he would see it). Guaranteed to turn more Muslim people into his supporters, the war would insure further terrorist attacks against 'the west.' It would cause the opposite of what it intends, that is, further insecurity for Americans.

Barbarous do-gooders like Bush and Blair (and Chretien?) can be stopped. Let's do it.

Dr. Eglin is Professor of Sociology at Laurier.

"Look at your brother, your sister, your grandparents. Imagine their heads coming off."

-Peter Eglin

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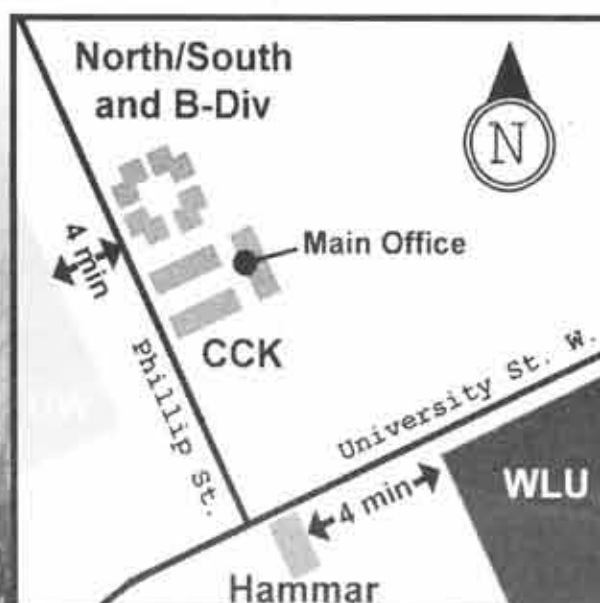
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Happy house hunting

Dan Sennet

There are so many other things to worry about before beginning to look for a place to live next year. First of all, midterms are starting up again, papers, assignments and presentations are due and you need to decide where you're going on Saturday night. With all of these decisions to make, who has time to think about next year? Well, the time has come and whether you like it or not, you have to sit down and, yep, you guessed it—plan.

The most important question you have to ask yourself is who you want to live with next year. Ask yourself if, by next March, will you be sick of the person/people you have chosen. If you take nothing from this article, take this: don't live with those people if you answered yes. Make sure you find the right people; people with whom you are comfortable, that you would do favours for and would expect to receive in turn. Your home next year is your sanctuary, your domain and nothing should ruin that. So just like the Wise Knight said to Indiana Jones, "choose wisely."

Now that the huge decision of whom you are going to live with is done, it is important to note that you shouldn't make under-the-table deals with other people. Your choice to your original friends is your commitment and you should stick to it. For the next two months, those people who you have become friendly with, not necessarily friends with will ask you if you want to live with them. Politely tell them you are already committed and try not to give them false hope.

That was the hard part – congratulations, you have passed the first and most difficult obstacle. It is now time to find a house. Although house hunting is a tedious job, there are many options available to students.

First of all, a very effective way of finding potential accommodations is to simply take a day either with family or with the group of people you are currently living with or want to live with and canvas the neighbourhood. Choose the area you are interested in living in and walk around, just writing down phone numbers. Houses everywhere have "for rent" signs in the windows. Find the ones that appeal to you and write down the numbers and call as soon as you get home to guarantee that they won't already be taken. The worst they can say to you is "no" and at best, you will find a house that is comfortable.

The next option lies in who you know. If you know of any fourth-years moving out or other students simply seeking to get a change of scenery, they are perfect for finding places. If you know them, you can rely on them to give a truthful account of their house such as if the place has mold or creaky floors or is expensive in terms of utilities. The other advantage is that these people have been through the search before and can tell you who is a good landlord or property manager, and who isn't. Connections mean the world here at Laurier and if you have 'em, use 'em.

Many people have found great accommodations through the guide that Student Housing puts out every year. The list was put out on February 10 so the information is still fresh. In it, there is a listing of landlords, their accommodations, the rental price range and the contact number. There is a small \$1 cost, but it's worth it as it could cut down your worrying time. The only problem is that most of your buddies have the same book and there are only a finite number of listings. As well, there are many landlords who didn't get their names in.

There are also a number of websites you can go to. By trying the major real estate webpages, like www.remax.ca, you can find a list of great looking homes, but for sale as opposed to renting. As an entrepreneurial idea though, it is quite sound. Getting your parents to buy a house and having you act as the landlord should always turn a profit, as there is a shortage of housing and a plethora of students looking for it.

In the classified sections of every major paper, including The Cord and the University of Waterloo's Imprint and The Record, there are many ads for roommates or entire houses. This is a great source of information and can be checked on a daily or weekly basis for new information. In the same manner, there are many ads put up around campus looking for roommates. Again, check out some of these houses, it's worth the half-hour, just to familiarize yourself with the process.

So once you've found a good location and an ostensibly decent house, what next? Have you really found what you're looking for? There is more than meets the eye in most homes. You should check first with the previous tenants about how much utilities will run you. Older houses have less insulation and will cost more in the winter months to heat. On average, you're looking at \$40-\$60 a month in utilities, which



Jennifer Asselin

Lookin' for a humble abode? Why not try here?

includes phone, internet, cable and the necessities like water, heating and gas. This price range applies to the average home shared with five or six people. If you are living with less, expect to pay more.

You should also check for mold in the bathroom or behind the fridge, in the kitchen and most importantly, in the bedrooms. People have gotten really sick as a result of mold. In truth, the most reliable opinion will come from your parents. They are the most honest people and they know exactly what to look for. A landlord, property manager etc., is trying to sell to you and will give you a biased opinion. When you think you've found the right home, have your parents come up and approve it if time allows.

You have so far picked your roommates, picked your house and checked for mold, now what? First, make sure you clearly define which roommate gets which room. Most houses have different size rooms and most will charge varying amounts. Work this out between yourselves before you decide to sign the lease. The only fair way, if you can't agree is to draw straws or flip a coin.

Signing the lease is monotonous, but one thing that this article will stress is to make sure you read it over, don't just sign it out of necessity. People have gotten stuck with so many ridiculous clauses, like no sleepovers or a "lights out" clause. If you

have any questions regarding your lease and your rights, go to Legal Services on campus, they are a tremendous and unfortunately, underutilized asset. The last thing about leases is that they are not set in stone before you sign. Each term is open for negotiation with the landlord. If a term is unappealing or you would like to add one, discuss it with your landlord and come up with a settlement you both agree on. Most leases start either in May or September and last for 12 months.

For co-op students, there are a number of landlords who deal solely with four-month leases. Use the above suggestions to find them or ask around and see if anyone knows of landlords that do rent out for four months. The property management people are a tight clique and they all know each other.

Overall, the process of finding the right home is brutal but necessary. When you think about it, it's probably only for eight months and you can't help but wonder if it's worth all of the fuss. But, if it's a good house, it could be home for three years and it's where you come home to after that long day or after that brutal exam when all you want to do is sleep, then why shouldn't you sleep somewhere that makes you comfortable and happy?



Food for thought



Carly Beath

If you're a vegetarian here at Laurier, you've probably been frequently frustrated with the lack of vegetarian options on campus. The Rain Tree Café, located in the same plaza as Phil's, is an excellent change of pace. While not exclusively a vegetarian restaurant, it is certainly very vegetarian-friendly. The diverse menu has more than enough choices to satisfy any meat-eater.

The first thing you notice about the Rain Tree Café is the atmosphere. The restaurant is comprised of two levels, with the top level looking down over the bottom. A beautiful mural of trees extends up the entire height of the restaurant, and unique artwork hangs on the walls. As a final touch each table is lit by a candle and soft, pretty music plays in the background. Making for an earthy, yet elegant atmosphere in which to enjoy your meal.

Four of us were seated promptly after our arrival, despite the fact that we didn't have reservations. We ordered our drinks, including excellent fruit smoothies, and then embarked upon the difficult task of choosing our meals. As a vegetarian, I am not usually afforded such a variety of choices in restaurants. The menu offers two types, each, of vegetarian wraps and sandwiches, three meatless entrees and various

soups, salads and appetizers. For non-vegetarians there are also many wraps, sandwiches and entrees, including a mermaid wrap which is described as thinly sliced smoked salmon, sun-dried tomatoe, caper cream cheese, greens, sprouts, and shredded carrot in grilled flour tortillas, steak sandwich and grilled chicken quesadillas. Also, available is almost all of the vegetarian choices with the option of having chicken or shrimp added for an extra \$2.95.

We finally decided to start by sharing an order of venus dip (\$5.95), which is made with garlic, artichoke hearts and asiago cheese, with toasted pitas (fresh bread and grilled foccaccia are also available). The dip was excellent, and was devoured quickly. Someone commented that it tasted like caesar salad, but in dip form.

The service at the Rain Tree Café is fantastic, and we didn't have to wait long for our meals. Our entrees were served to us by the chef himself, as were those of the other patrons.

This portion of the meal consisted of a trailblazer salad, a caesar salad, grilled veggie wrap with chicken, and Thai ginger mango stir-fry.

The trailblazer salad consisted of a mix of greens, including pea sprouts and radicchio, and cheddar cheese, apples and sun

flower seeds. It comes with citrus mango poppyseed vinaigrette, and is a different, delicious and "heartly" salad.

The caesar salad (\$6.95 for a large, as is the trailblazer) was tasty, but slightly hard to eat because of the large size of the lettuce leaves and croutons.

I was told that grilled veggie wrap (\$7.95 plus \$2.95 for the chicken) was very good. The wrap is filled with grilled vegetables, feta cheese and pesto, and is served with salsa. The Thai ginger mango stir-fry (\$12.95) was uniquely served on top of a banana leaf and contained fewer vegetables than expected from a stir-fry, but the noodles were perfectly cooked and the sauce was deliciously spicy, but not overly so.

The food here is an excellent value for your money, as all of the portions are very large. The salads were meals in themselves and the stir-fry was enough that I had not only supper, but the following day's lunch as well.

Despite the fact that we were stuffed, we ordered dessert. The chocolate raspberry truffle cake, triple chocolate truffle cake and pecan tart were all amazing and was the perfect way to finish an excellent meal.

The next time you're looking for an escape from the Dining Hall, or endless boxes of Kraft Dinner, check out the Rain



Carly Beath

Tree Café. The food is impressive, the atmosphere relaxing, and the service led my friend to comment that "it was nice not to be treated like a typical student." Everyone will be satisfied, vegetarians and non-vegetarians alike.

The Rain Tree Cafe
220 King Street North
Waterloo
884-4953

Cord's Rating:



Cupid's arrow: a hit or miss?

Jessica McLaughlin



Love it

Valentines Day, it's the ultimate day to celebrate love. Flowers, chocolates, teddy bears and jewelry, it's a day full of showing others you care. Whether it's your significant other, your best friend, or your mom, Valentines Day is an opportunity to tell someone you love them.

Typically, Valentines Day is marketed towards couples and I personally don't see what's wrong with this. Any romantic will tell you that falling in love is indescribable. It's one of the most awesome emotions you can experience. After dating somebody for a while you can start to take him or her for granted and Valentines Day serves as a reminder to express emotion. What man can honestly say they don't appreciate February 14 if only for the reason that it provides an easy opportunity to be mushy without fully adapting to an overly sensitive persona?

With all that's going on in our lives it's easy to forget to do the small yet important things in a relationship like spending time alone together, complimenting your partner and the simple but frequently forgotten telling them that you care. Being in love is an amazing thing, and it should have it's own special day to celebrate it.

Too many people dread Valentines Day because they get hung up on the idea that it's only for couples, a day that flaunts being alone in the single person's face. Single people get bitter and resentful of couples on

this day because it makes them feel alone. But can't Valentines Day also be for celebrating any close relationship? I know lots of females who love Valentines Day even when they don't have boyfriends. It's a day for celebrating friendship as much as intimate relationships.

Valentines Day should be an occasion to pause and appreciate love in one's life. Give your best friend some chocolates or send your mom some flowers. Everybody appreciates being indulged, so go ahead and give someone you care a thoughtful token.

Celebrating Valentines Day is a positive thing if people focus on the bigger meaning instead of getting caught up in the commercialized buying game. Too many people think buying their partner an expensive piece of jewelry is going to mean more than a heartfelt letter and in turn get them laid. The truth is that most genuine people (who refrain from being gold diggers), would be happy with a single rose and a card that contains a message longer than six words (Happy Valentines Day, I love you).

Instead of being pressured into buying your significant other some costly and unnecessary gift, try being creative and getting them something thoughtful that doesn't completely drain your savings account.

Need some ideas? How about making them their favorite dinner, giving them a framed picture of the two of you, going ice skating, going to William's to share some cake, exchanging five buck gag gifts- you get the picture.

This Valentines just keep in mind that if you have even one person in your life that you love and loves you back (be them a boy/girlfriend or not), you are luckier than some other people. Enjoy Valentines Day, and spread some love.

Jennifer Asselin



Leave it

Valentines Day is for chumps. Now I know that's harsh but think about it - one day out of the whole year is taken up by this apparent need to express love for your significant other. Shouldn't we be showing our love for others every single day? Should we have to consciously remember that on February 14 we need to go out and get our boyfriend or girlfriend a gift or make a specific effort to say I love you? All I'm trying to say is that Valentines Day is extremely overrated as a day to tell the one you love just that, through manufactured gifts and money spent.

Like many holidays and special occasions nowadays the emphasis of the day is placed on how much you are spending and who got whom the best gift. Valentines Day, like Christmas, or Easter was not and is not celebrated to show the amount of money one is willing to spend on someone else. Unfortunately that is what it has come down to, especially in this case.

It's excruciatingly sad to see how couples who aren't in a healthy relationship will continue to stay with one another simply because they don't want to be alone on Valentines Day. There's also the confusion one faces when their relationship is fresh and they aren't sure exactly where borders lie with gift giving on the occasion. It all makes for a competitive and confusing experience that no one really wants or needs to be bothered with.

Although it may seem like it, I'm not

completely cynical of this particular day devoted to love. I understand the need for couples to share and show their feelings. All I want to know is why can't we do this every day? Why must we have a specific day set aside?

For those of you who have someone to celebrate with, then super, but for those who don't the constant reminder throughout the day, that you have no one, is ridiculous. If one is even considering going out to a restaurant to enjoy a meal on the fourteenth, beware that couples will be aplenty and that you will be continually faced with those kissy-face couples taking part in hand holding and the odd PDA.

People also comment that Valentines Day is not necessarily for couples but rather to show both friends and family that you truly do care for them. What a load of crap. Valentines Day is completely marketed towards couples as cards read, "To my Sweetheart" and lingerie stores hold specials throughout the month of February with the intention of enticing more couples to buy their product. You are not about to buy lingerie or most of the other products you see come out for Valentines Day for your "friends". I realize there are the odd "friend" related Valentines out there but that just goes to show how marketers are trying to find one more way to get the most money out of the most people.

I don't know, it all just seems so manufactured and consumer oriented as opposed to celebrating the simple act of loving someone. A day should not be set aside but rather the act of loving should be taken and displayed day by day. If you feel the emotion and want to express it then you shouldn't need a day to tell you that it's alright. Sure it's fun to celebrate and be romantic and spend time with one another on a day devoted to you and your significant other but really, you should cherish every moment you have with that person whether it be on the fourteenth or the fifteenth. Love is felt not bought - chumps.

In last week's Cord, Racquel Hamlet's name was erroneously misspelled on the cover of the newspaper.

The Cord Weekly apologizes for the error and acknowledges that we are the scum of the earth. Sorry Racquel.

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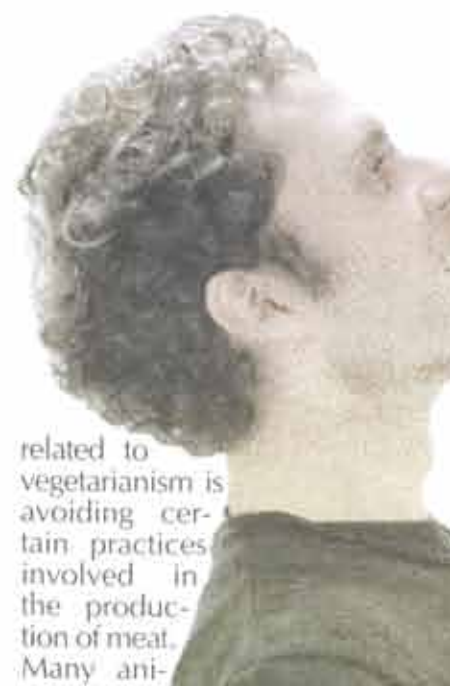
Considering the vegetarian lifestyle? Read on to learn more about it

Over the years vegetarianism has grown in popularity. It seems that wherever you go vegetarian options at restaurants are increasing, and there seems to be a growing awareness of vegetarian issues. Why is it that so many people are choosing this "alternate" lifestyle? In order to answer this question, let us first define our terms. A vegetarian is someone who doesn't eat meat, fish or poultry. Most vegetarians still eat dairy products and egg; however, some choose to avoid all animal products. These people are known as vegans. Vegans will also avoid wearing wool, silk and leather, and many won't eat honey. They will also avoid lotions with lanolin, as it comes from sheep.

The next big question then, why go vegetarian? For most people giving up meat seems like a huge sacrifice. Why do people do it? There are a number of different reasons, and no two people make the decision for the exact same reasons. However, there are a variety of themes that recur in regards to this subject.

The first concerns issues of health. Vegetarian diets in general contain less total fat than non-vegetarian ones. The smaller the quantity of animal products the diet contains, the less fat it usually contains. Fruits and veggies are on the whole very low in fat. Also, vegetarian diets are usually very high in fibre. Fibre is the part of the plant that is only partially digested in our bodies, and its benefits are numerous and very well-known. The other benefit for this type of diet is that while most vegetarians get enough protein, they don't overdo it. Diets that are high in protein, especially from animal sources, cause the kidneys to let more calcium pass into the urine. Eating more protein also causes more wear and tear on the kidneys. As a result, vegetarians have fewer kidney stones and less kidney disease than non-vegetarians.

Another main health issue



related to vegetarianism is avoiding certain practices involved in the production of meat. Many ani-

mals are fed hormones and other creepy stuff in order to bulk them up. If you think that these strange brews do not make their way into the meat that you eat, you don't know the facts. As well, milk and other dairy products become infested with the leftover hormonal blends. Another concern about eating meat related to contamination is mad cow disease (aka Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease). According to recent research, this disease was spread through the U.K. by the practice of feeding ground bone meal from dead cows to cows that were then marketed as food. Doesn't that sound appetizing?

Another main reason that people choose a vegetarian diet is for the environmental benefits. The meat industry is one of the hardest on the environment. For example, livestock grazing leads to desertification by eroding the topsoil and drying out the land. As a result, topsoil is depleted faster than it can be regenerated. Raising livestock also leads to deforestation, much of which happens in Central and South America, where

vast expanses of tropical rain forest (nicknamed the world's lungs for their importance in maintaining clean air) have been cleared away to make room for grazing cattle. In the wake of this deforestation many plants and animals are also wiped out.

When it comes to water issues other problems can be noted. The total percentage of the world's usable fresh water supply is miniscule. It is located in aquifers deep below the earth. This supply, however, is dwindling rapidly because so much is being used to irrigate cattle farms from which we receive a relatively small amount of food in return. It is estimated that in the US, livestock production accounts for more than half of all water use. This is a troubling statistic in the wake of the recent water negotiations between Canada and its southern neighbour.

Water is a hot commodity but not for good reasons. As well as problems with the supply of freshwater, pollution of all the water worldwide is a problem to which animal agriculture is a major contributor. Pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers used to grow animal feeds are contaminating

our water supplies. In addition, nitrogenous fecal waste from the animals is washed into streams, rivers, lakes and bays. As a result, we have less clean water, and creatures that live in the water become contaminated or are killed by pollution. Not only animals are affected either.

Remember Walkerton?

Disproportionate amounts of the earth's natural resources are used to produce meat and other animal products. For example, the production of meat, eggs and dairy products requires intensive use of fossil fuels, including petroleum for transporting animal feed and the animals themselves, to running farm machinery and operating the factory farms where the animals are raised. The amount of fossil fuel required to produce one pound of feedlot beef will produce 40 pounds of soybeans.

Another main reason that people choose the veggie lifestyle is because they care about global issues like hunger. World hunger is a complex issue, but every little bit counts. When we eat food directly from the soil—fruits, vegetables, grains, legumes, nuts and seeds—we can feed many more people than if plant matter is fed to animals that are then used for food. For every 100 grams of protein consumed by a cow, only ten grams of meat are produced. For all of you arts majors out there, that means a loss of 90%. As well, the appetite of affluent nations for meat and other animal products means that developing nations choose to raise animals for export instead of raising less profitable crops that the local people could eat. Plus, the land is so depleted from these practices that it is no longer suitable for growing grain and legume crops.

Perhaps the most obvious reason for going veggie is the issue of animal rights. Many vegetarians are concerned with the ethics of raising something that can't defend itself, simply so that it can be slaughtered and sold as a product. There's a reason that there are no school trips to the slaughterhouse. Remember the Simpsons episode when Lisa goes

veggie and the school shows the video (hosted by Troy



McClure, who you might remember from other such educational films)? Remember how traumatized the little boy in the video is after visiting the slaughterhouse? The packages of meat that you buy in the grocery store aren't grown that way in the field.

There are other concerns as well. Vegans avoid all animal products because many animal by-products, like leather and wool, can be connected to the meat industry. The production of dairy products, eggs, etc., is seen by vegans as an exploitation of these animals. As well, many of the practices used by the animal industry are considered unethical. For example, male calves that are born to dairy cows are typically taken from their mothers and raised for veal. Chickens that are raised for their eggs generally live in factory farm conditions where they are subjected to things like debeaking, a procedure in which a machine is used to cut off the end of the chicken's beak. This procedure reduces the damage done when the chickens lash out at each other in a murderous rage, perhaps a result of their hopelessly tight quarters.

If you do plan on going veggie, make sure to do your research ahead of time so that you know you are getting the proper nutrients. You will probably need to change the way you think about meal preparation as our society organizes most of its meals around meat. You have to think outside the box and realize that veggies aren't just a side dish. You will probably think to yourself, if I take away meat, what else is there to eat? Well, the answer is, lots, especially if you live off-campus and do your own cooking. Veggie lasagna, pasta, any number of hearty soups, and my personal favourite, rice tacos, are all on the list. Those are just a few examples. Obviously, if you go vegan your options are more limited, but that doesn't mean that you'll have to go hungry. Proper planning is all that's needed, and this fact is no different with any diet.

The main nutritional concerns that people have on a vegetarian/vegan diet are iron, protein, calcium and vitamin B12. Iron is always a concern for young women, who lose blood every month with their menstrual cycles. However, iron doesn't only come from red meat. It is also found in eggs and dark green vegetables. Protein has already been discussed. It is found in eggs, dairy products, beans and legumes, soy products and nuts. Calcium is found in milk, but for vegans who don't drink milk, it's also found in dark green veggies (which really seem to be the wonder food). B12 is not a concern for vegetarians who eat dairy and/or eggs, but for vegans this is a legitimate worry, as B12 is only found in animal sources. You can get supplements, but some vegans are opposed to this on principle. The good news is that your body stores this vitamin in your liver, so you can live for up to three years on what's been stored. The bad news is that after that, you will most likely feel run down and exhausted.

If you have evaluated your options and decide to take the plunge and go veggie, make sure your reasons for doing so are clear. This will help you later when you get flak from meat eaters who don't understand your crazy ways. There are also a number of groups who will provide information and support, such as PETA. If you contact them, they will send you a free vegetarian starter kit. And remember: if you go veggie, you are in good hands. There are about a gazillion famous vegetarians... think of someone cool and they're probably vegetarian, or are linked to one within 6 Kevin "Bacon" steps.



Vegetarian Recipes

Christa's Roasted Beans

Ingredients:
6 cups cooked, whole beans (soy or chickpeas or green peas — not split peas)
1 large onion, quartered
2 stalks celery, cut into large chunks
3 tbsp extra virgin olive oil
salt and spices (to taste)

Directions:
1. After soaking your beans, cook them in fresh water with the onion and celery. Drain and discard the onion and celery.
2. Coat a cookie sheet with the olive oil, then toss the beans in the olive oil until well-coated.
3. Slow-roast the beans in a 200 degree F oven for 4-8 hours. Remove from the oven when crunchy, and toss in salt and spices (curry powder is great!)
4. Store in an airtight container in your fridge for up to 14 days. Great snack food!



Roasted Vegetable and Goat Cheese Pizza

Ingredients:
1 eggplant, cut into chunks
2 small zucchini, sliced lengthwise
1 red bell pepper, quartered and

seeded
1 green pepper, quartered and seeded
1 small red onion, cut into wedges
5 tbsp. garlic oil
1 pizza base, 10—12 inches in diameter
1 14 oz can chopped tomatoes, drained
1 4 oz goat cheese

Directions:
1. Brush vegetables with half of the garlic oil and roast in oven at 425 degrees for 30 min. Turn vegetables over at 15 min.
2. Brush pizza base with half garlic oil and spread drained tomatoes.
3. Arrange vegetables on pizza crust.
4. Cube goat cheese.
5. Bake for 10-15 min at 400 degrees.



Potato Gratin

Ingredients:
1 garlic clove
5 large baking potatoes, peeled
3 tbsps freshly grated parmesan cheese
2.5 cups vegetable stock
Shredded cheese

Directions:
1. Preheat oven to 400. Halve garlic clove and rub over the base and sides of gratin dish measuring

8 * 12 inches.
2. Slice potatoes thinly and arrange a third of them in the dish. Sprinkle cheese, salt, and pepper. Pour over some of the stock to prevent potatoes from discoloring.
3. Continue layering potatoes.
4. Bake for 1 hour 15 minutes

Side dish: garden salad, Greek salad, steamed vegetables, vegetable stir fry.



Mushroom Macaroni and Cheese

Ingredients:
Macaroni noodles
3 tbsp olive oil
8 oz Portobello mushrooms or regular mushrooms, sliced
4 tbsps all purpose flour
1 vegetable bouillon cube
.5 tbsps celery salt
1 tbsps Dijon mustard
1.5 cups grated Cheddar cheese
.25 cup parmesan cheese

Directions:
1. Bring water to a boil and add macaroni.
2. Heat oil in separate saucepan. Add mushrooms and cook on medium heat for 2-3 minutes.
3. Stir in flour and add bouillon cube. Stir once more. And again.
4. Add milk a little at a time, continuing your superior stirring technique.
5. Add cheese, celery salt and mustard.

6. Stir and simmer for 1-2 minutes.
7. Preheat a moderate boiler.
8. Drain macaroni and add sauce.
9. Broil until lightly brown.



Five Spice Vegetable Noodles

"Soft fried noodles contrasted beautifully with a subtle vegetable blend" -Stefen Serada

Ingredients:
8 oz dried noodles
2 tbsps sesame oil
2 carrots
1 celery stalk
2 zucchini halved and sliced
1 red chili, seeded and chopped
Spices: ginger, grated garlic clove, celery salt, chili powder, pepper...whatever you've got
4 sliced scallions

Directions:
1. Bring pan of water to a boil. Add noodles and cook for 2-3 minutes.
2. Drain noodles and return them to the pan.
3. Set noodles aside in bowl.
4. Add oil to pan and then the vegetables. Stir-fry for 7-8 minutes.
5. Add spices. Cook for 1 minute.
6. Stir in the noodles.



Carrot, Raisin and Apricot Coleslaw

Ingredients:
3 cups finely shredded white cabbage
1.5 cups coarsely graded carrots
1 red onion, sliced
3 celery stalks, sliced
1 cup raisins
3 oz dried apricots
8 tbsps low-fat mayonnaise
6 tbsps low-fat plain yogurt
2 tbsps chopped herbs (if you have a spicebox)

Directions:
1. Put cabbage and carrots in large bowl.
2. Add onion, celery, raisins, and apricot. Mix well.
3. In a small bowl mix together mayonnaise, yogurt, herbs and salt/pepper.
4. Add mayonnaise mixture to cabbage mixture.
5. Cover and chill for 2-3 hours.

Editor's note to you vegans out there: There are a variety of alternative products available to replace the ones in these recipes that involve animals. Wait a minute what the hell am I doing? This is Laurier for Christ's sake. Oh well. End communication.

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ELEMENTS

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'We're going to have a war'

'War wagon gaining too much momentum to be stopped': Dyer

Brandon Currie

Last Thursday, the Laurier Lecture Series brought in noted political pundit Gwynne Dyer to a packed 1E1 lecture hall to ask if the world had "turned upside down?" Answering his own question rather quickly, he began his lecture by casually telling the audience that "We're going to have a war, before the end of the month I think."

Stating that Bush would seek a second war resolution with the United Nations Security Council this week and evacuate Americans from Iraq next week, Dyer predicted that "the war then starts on the what? The nineteenth, the twentieth, the twenty-first?" Although Dyer's lecture was originally intended to shed positive light on globalization, he seemed much more apt to discuss the impending conflict in the Middle East.

Somewhat of an expert on the Arab world, Dyer outlined what he believed would be the result of another American intervention in the Persian Gulf. First, he contended that the human and monetary costs of invading Iraq would "be through the roof," describing how aerial bombing will flatten Baghdad to ease ground operations, killing "tens of thousands of civilians."

Secondly, he insisted that the most dangerous scenario for the region was not a US strike alone, but a US-Israeli coalition if Hussein decides to fire missiles into Israel as he did in 1990. Then, America forbade Israel from retaliating, Dyer explained. "But this time Israel will retaliate. Ariel Sharon has said so, and for once I believe him."

Not surprisingly, Dyer thinks that if Israel becomes involved, the situation could quickly spiral out of control, engulfing the region in revolt. "An Israeli-American alliance attacking an Arab state...How's that going to play out with the 'Arab Street'? Not well I think," warned Dyer.

He also forewarned that the pro-American Arab regimes will be the first to fall, especially

Jordan, where the pro-US King Abdullah tenuously reigns over a nation which is comprised of 70% Palestinians. "Abdullah will go down, and Islamists will replace him," said Dyer, who believes that the new Jordanian government would immediately cancel the Peace Treaty with Israel, which could be a defining moment for Palestinians living in Israel.

"In the chaos of a Middle Eastern war, Sharon could do 'transfer,' solving the Palestinian problem by eliminating them," Dyer said of a forced Palestinian exodus to Jordan. He also predicted that with the present Saudi King nearing death, revolution may also take hold in the birthplace of Islam, Saudi Arabia.

Turning from predicting future events, Dyer probed deeper into the Arab psyche, asking a question that he believes many Americans ignore: "What did the September 11 hijackers want to achieve?" Encouraging the audience not to think of them in Bush-like terms as simply "evil-doers" or "like the Joker in Batman movies," Dyer's quips aimed at Bush's rhetoric drew laughter from the crowd.

Instead, Dyer dissected many common misconceptions about the Muslim faith and offered a coherent explanation as to why the Arab world exists in a desperate situation today. From a historical perspective, he described how the last hundred years have been the "worst century ever" for the region.

Starting from European conquest, Dyer described how the Arabic self-image has been sundered to the point that "everything's wrong in the Arab world, we're getting into the territory of self-hatred here." Furthermore, Dyer described how US-backed undemocratic governments have bred a culture of hatred for some who have turned to Islamism.

"It's surprising that so few turn to political extremism, any area like this will produce extremists. People look around and ask, what are we doing wrong?" According to the extremists, the integration of Western ideals



Contributed Photo

Noted international journalist Gwynne Dyer offered his opinions on the US-led War on Terror.

into the Arab world is part of the reason why they think that Allah has forsaken them, but only 10-20% of Arab people accept this analysis Dyer explained.

As such, what Dyer called 'Islamist' regimes have never come into power in any Arab state, although they have engaged in extensive guerrilla warfare against their autocratic rulers. The problem for the Islamists, according to Dyer, is that "governments can't be overthrown just by terrorism." As a result, the proponents of Islamist regimes have resorted to international terrorism to convince the other 80-90% of the population to "come into the streets" and demand the demise of their pro-Western dictators.

Dyer pointed to al-Qaida attacks on American embassies in Kenya and Tanzania that convinced Former President Clinton to retaliate by "firing 50 cruise missiles into the blue," one of which demolished an aspirin factory in the Sudan. Seeing this blind retaliation, "al-Qaida said 'we can work with that; if we're lucky they'll go berserk [after 9/11]," explained Dyer.

"But the US didn't walk into the trap," said Dyer, who facetiously wondered if Bush "had a deep knowledge of the Middle East." He went on to explain that Afghanistan was a perfect target because it was non-Arab, harbouring terrorists, and its poorly defended. "But

Bush didn't quit while he was ahead," exclaimed Dyer, in reference to Bush's labelling of the 'Axis of Evil.'

Aside from poking fun at how Cuba was upset that it was not included, Dyer observed that "domestic electoral considerations" had a profound impact on going after the new 'Axis' powers. "[Bush] needed new enemies, so he rounded up the 'Usual Suspects' to have a war scare or a crisis."

The only problem with this is that the defence, oil, and Jewish lobbyists jumped on the war wagon, eventually gaining enough momentum that now it can't be stopped. Moreover, Dyer forecasted that "there's no way US interests come out ahead," referring to the impossible task of ruling a post-war Iraq adding that "no ruler has left power alive in the last 60 years."

As promised, Dyer did offer two glimmers of hope for the Arab world and international security as a whole. First, he said that unlike the Cold War, a conflict that embroils the Middle East in war has little chance for spreading anywhere outside of the Arab world. Second, he indicated that recent glimpses of free media, especially from Pan-Arab satellite station Al-Jazeera will be an important catalyst for change. "Positive political change is coming to an Arab nation near you," hypothesized Dyer.

'This time Israel will retaliate. Ariel Sharon has said so, and for once I believe him.'

-Gwynne Dyer

WAR ON TERROR WATCH

NATO in crisis

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization was in turmoil on Monday as France, Germany and Belgium blocked Turkey's request for Patriot missile interceptors and counter-germ and chemical warfare units.

Citing that arming Turkey with this aid package would "undermine efforts to end the Iraq crisis peacefully," the three European nations made a last minute decision to block the initiative. All three support a plan which would send more inspectors to Iraq along with UN peacekeepers.

The US ambassador to NATO called the move "a most unfortunate decision."

Iran developing nuclear program
Tehran admitted Monday that it has

begun to mine uranium in central Iran, moving ahead with a nuclear program that Iranian officials claim is only for energy.

Relying on Russia for refining the uranium, Iran has complied with the International Atomic Energy Agency in all stages of their nuclear program.

Iraq agrees to U-2 inspections

In a key meeting with weapons inspectors on Monday, Iraqi official announced they would allow aerial surveillance of weapons sites.

A major complaint of US critics, aerial surveillance was previously unallowed. Baghdad also submitted more weapons documentation to UN officials over the weekend, in an attempt to garner support to stave off invasion.

In a news conference Monday, French President Jacques Chirac and

Russian President Vladimir Putin expresses solidarity in preventing war in the Middle East. "This region really does not need another war," said Chirac. Both advocated the need to increase the amount of inspectors.

America and Britain have condemned their stance, saying that a "thousandfold" increase in inspectors would not guarantee disarmament.

Bush cuts social spending

Despite advocating more spending on the homeless and education during his recent State of the Union address, President Bush's proposed budget axed funding for children of army personnel and public housing projects.

"What [Bush] missed is you simply don't send servicemen and women off to the Iraqi theatre and as soon as they get on the plane tell

them, 'By the way, we are cutting education funding for your children, who will be back here at home,'" said Rep. Chet Edwards (D-Texas).

Terrorist threat level increased to 'orange': Ashcroft

US Attorney-General John Ashcroft said Friday that an "increased likelihood" of al-Qaida terrorist attacks have warranted the second-highest level of terrorist warning, level 'orange.'

Ashcroft cited intelligence reports that pointed to al-Qaida co-ordinating attacks to coincide with increased US presence in the Gulf and the annual Muslim pilgrimage to Mecca. Beginning last Saturday, the haj will see thousands of Muslim pilgrims travelling around the world which could be used as a cover for terrorism.

Orange is classified as a 'high risk of terrorist attacks,' and Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge urged Americans to "take time to prepare for emergencies."

'All options' open on N.Korea: President Bush

Continuing the war of words waged between Washington and Pyongyang, President Bush declared last Friday that America reserves the right to decide how to deal with the alleged rogue state.

His comments came a day after Pyongyang made bold comments against an American military strike, saying that any US intervention would incite "total war."

Compiled by Brandon Currie

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International Opinion

War with Iraq not worth it



Ruben Gu-Konu

The events of September 11 2001 are by far the most devastating terrorist attacks in the history of the modern world, given their political implications and impact on the

American economy.

Many companies, like American Airlines and other big shots in the travel industry, had to make major financial adjustments in order to stay in business and be competitive. A year-and-a-half after the disastrous attacks companies and businesses are still struggling to get back on their feet.

Today the hottest topic is the war on Iraq and how disarming Saddam Hussein would be the best thing to do "to secure the world" as George

W. Bush has insisted again in his State of the Union speech last week. Looking at the possible outcomes of a military action against Saddam Hussein, Mr Bush might be wrong, so wrong that his country might just suffer another dramatic blow to its population and economy.

If the US decides to invade Iraq, will that guarantee the elimination of terrorist threats? Does that solve the North Korean nuclear stand-off as Pyongyang is seeking an agreement that will benefit its economic agenda? Will Osama bin Laden finally be dealt with? If the intelligence reports from the British Secret Service and CIA are true that Osama Bin Laden possesses biological and chemical agents, wouldn't the war in Iraq be irrelevant?

These questions have not been

answered by any of the Bush Administration officials although they are vitally important to the rest of the world. It was after the declaration of the "War on Terror" that the focus was put on Saddam Hussein and the possibility that he has the nuclear capability to attack his neighbours.

However, it has been cited in UN weapons inspector reports that Mr. Hussein's nuclear and biological capacities have been close to non-existent. As it is quite difficult to trust Saddam Hussein, we must trust the findings of these trained professionals.

It is quite clear that if atomic energy specialist Mohamed ElBaradei and Hans Blix, head of the weapons inspections team, in Iraq have not found a 'smoking gun'. As

such, a potential war on Iraq will be useless and harmful to the credibility of international diplomacy, as the United States will go to war without the consent of the United Nations.

There are too many critical questions, too many variables, and too many lives at stake. A war on Iraq will only result in more civilian casualties, and drive up oil prices. These factors will further develop a strong sense of hatred and discontent towards the United States, fuelling future terrorist aspirations. And with the growing possibility of terrorist groups possessing biological and chemical agents, the Bush Administration's approach to the conflict against Iraq should be reviewed with discussion rather than military action.

Russia's war on terrorism



Egor Evsikov

used by Russian special forces to disable the terrorists.

There is a strong suspicion al-Qaida was heavily involved in aiding the Chechen rebels and organizing the terrorist attacks throughout Russia. Not surprisingly, President Bush's declaration of an international 'War on Terrorism' after September 11, 2001 was met with great enthusiasm in Moscow. For the first time since the Cold War there was talk about an emerging alliance between Russia and America.

Russia co-operated with the Americans in their pursuit of Osama bin Laden and al-Qaida in Afghanistan, arming the Northern Alliance and allowing Americans to move troops through Russia into Central Asia. However, as American focus has switched from Afghanistan to Iraq, Russian enthusiasm has evaporated.

There is hardly any logic in an attack on Iraq from a Russian perspective. Saddam Hussein may be an evil dictator but he is hardly the only one in the region, as most of the Middle East is being far from democratic. Nor is Iraq the only Arab nation suspected of developing nuclear and other non-conventional weapons; Israel, Syria and Iran are also developing next-generation arms.

It's true Saddam Hussein is known for notorious human rights violations, but what about Turkey and its treatment of Kurds? What about the Islamic regime of Iran or the absolute monarchy of Saudi Arabia or just about anyone else in the region?

The argument that the Iraqi regime is harbouring international terrorist networks such as Al-Qaida is even less convincing, while the links between Al-Qaida and Saudi Arabia are rather obvious, as 13 of the 19 September 11 hijackers were Saudi Arabian. It is hard to see how the regime of Saddam Hussein is any different from others in the Middle East, or what kind of immediate danger Iraq presents to the United States or its neighbours. The war in Iraq can only lead to great civilian casualties and further destabilization and radicalization of the Arab world.

For Russia, September 11 came in 1999. In August of that year, terrorist groups from Chechnya crossed into the neighbouring Russian Republic of Dagestan, led by notorious warlords Khatab and Shamil Basayev. Proclaiming Islamic jihad against Russia, the warlords unleashed a campaign of terror against the Russian people.

On August 31 a truck loaded with explosives drove into the Dagestani town of Buinask, detonating outside of a military building that housed the families of Russian soldiers. After killing 64 people in that attack, three weeks later terrorists blew up four apartment buildings in Moscow and southern Russia. The bombs were detonated in the early morning in order to kill the maximum number of civilians, many of whom were still asleep in their beds.

Following the bombings of residential buildings in Moscow, Buinask, Kaspisk and Volgodonsk, 422 people were killed and 1,158 were injured, many of them permanently disabled.

In the following months Russian troops moved into Dagestan and Chechnya, regaining control of the Republic. Vladimir Putin's government even talked about striking terrorist networks outside of Russia in Georgia and Afghanistan. The anti-terrorist Russian operation in Chechnya has dragged on for more than three years, and the bloody conflict has not prevented Chechen terrorists from committing further atrocities against Russia. Last October, Chechen terrorists occupied a Moscow theatre, rigged the building with explosives and started to execute the hostages. In a tragic rescue effort, many people died from powerful gas

Deafening silence

Joseph Farag



Staff Writer

"What have you done to us, you freedom-loving peoples, guardians of justice, defenders of the high principles of democracy and of the brotherhood of man? What have you allowed to be perpetrated against a defenceless people while you stood aside and let it bleed to death?"

Those powerful, eloquent words were spoken by David Ben-Gurion, the first Israeli Prime Minister. He was referring to the deafening silence over the Holocaust, but his words can be applied to silence over any injustice.

One of the biggest travesties in the massive butchery was the dehumanization of the victims. When one person dies, that person has a name, a face, a personality. In short, a human being. When 6 million people die, they become just that, 6 million people, little more than a number in the public consciousness. Perhaps it's because of the unimaginably staggering numbers, perhaps it's because we'd prefer to think that the human species isn't capable of such carnage.

We must not forget the silence which led to the senseless carnage of the Holocaust. Once again we are faced with an impending carnage of civilians in a war against Iraq; 80,000 Iraqi civilian deaths by some estimates. True, not of the magnitude seen in World War Two, but try telling an Iraqi mother whose infant daughter has just been crushed by a collapsing roof brought on by an "allied" missile that her loss is any

less egregious.

And yet, we are told that these civilian casualties are 'acceptable losses,' euphemistically called 'collateral damage,' in a war that is being fought for the liberation of the Iraqi people. The irony is that between the massive loss of life brought on by sanctions, cancer brought on by use of depleted uranium munitions, 'collateral damage' brought on by misguided missiles, and massacres brought on by Saddam, there may not be many Iraqis left to 'liberate.'

But don't expect to hear much of these civilian casualties when the war breaks out. During the bombing of Afghanistan, CNN sent a directive to its correspondents in the field instructing them to completely minimize coverage of civilian casualties and maximize coverage of allied casualties. Staunch self-censorship was prevalent in all other news outlets, yes, even in our Canadian media.

Lands unlawfully held by Israelis are no longer 'occupied' but 'disput-

ed,' illegal Jewish 'settlements' have become 'neighbourhoods' and the assassination of Palestinian rebels have morphed into 'targeted killings.' What wasn't censored by journalists out of cowardice or laziness to investigate was censored by the Pentagon. Freedom of speech indeed.

At times our media operates in a manner that would make even the leaders of the Third Reich or Soviet Union envious. Investigative journalism has become a misnomer, with journalists preferring simply to regurgitate State Department or Pentagon press releases. Journalists compromise their integrity out of fear of a disgruntled letter to the editor, like the one directed at me in this very newspaper (January 22, 2003).

The least we can do for the victims of our bombardment is to tell their stories truthfully. War is an injustice, but perhaps an even greater injustice would be to remain silent.

Department of National Assimilation



It's that time of year again

Jennifer Wilder examines resumes and offers tips to improve yours

Last Wednesday the annual career fair took place in the renowned RIM Park. Over 120 businesses set up booths to advertise for summer and full time job openings. The entire gymnasium was packed with hopeful students clutching their resumes in their hands and searching for that perfect summer job. In addition to this, students in the co-op program are starting to think about summer placement. Not only do they need to worry about acing their midterms, they have also got the stress of co-op placement, tough interviews, and resume writing. Workshops have been running on campus for the past week teaching students the finer points of these skills and in case students have missed these helpful classes, I've written up the finer points of resume writing here.

whether that person would be an asset to the business or not.

If your resume is unclear, confusing, or laden with errors, it will be immediately tossed into the proverbial garbage bin. It is imperative to paint a logical and comprehensive picture for the person who is reading it. Your resume is not supposed to be a puzzle for the reader to solve, so make it clear and relevant.

The second thing to remember is that your resume is being sent for a particular purpose. You are trying to obtain a job and so your resume should be targeted towards the position that you are applying for. Writing a resume is similar to writing an exam. The reader has a specific list of key words in their head when reading it. If you encompass these key words in your resume then the reader will chalk you up to having the



The Malletted Amy

"Jen has a stronger grip than I do!" squeals dainty Stefan Sereda

sure to use these words when describing your accomplishments. If you are applying for different jobs, or different positions in one company, then tailor your resume to suit each individual job. It may seem like more work in the short run, but it will lead to more interviews and a higher success rate in the long run.

Now that you know the two general rules to writing a resume, it is time to get more specific and discuss the proper layout that employers look for. After you give your contact information you must decide whether you wish to include an objective. If you decide to insert an objective into your resume, you must first give it careful consideration. If your objective is too broad then employers will assume that you either do not know what you want or are so desperate for a job that you will take any position that opens up. It is important to learn to restrict yourself when writing an objective. One brief, established sentence is ideal. Two sentences are the absolute maximum. If you have done your homework and know the position that you are applying for, target your objective to that position. If you are unsure as to which position you are applying for, or you are applying for a range of positions, you should leave your objective out.

The next thing that you should address in your resume is your previous work experience. You should only note the jobs that you have held in the past five years, unless you have a prior job that highlights your skills to a degree that your more present jobs cannot. Hopefully your work experience follows a

logical pattern. Recruiters and employees who are scanning your resume look for an overall consistency in your previous work experience. This means that your past experience shows a general increase in responsibility and skill. If your prior work experience has been sporadic it becomes more difficult to analyse your past positions in a favourable light. It is important to be completely honest in your interpretations of your work experience, even as you analyse it in terms of the position that you are currently targeting. It is also important to keep your job descriptions at a minimum. First create a context for the job you did (ie, size of company), then list your duties, and finally mention any special

accomplishments or recommendations. Make sure that the dates you worked, the name of the company, and your job title are all clearly highlighted in some way.

The next section of your resume should discuss your prior education. If you are a graduate with little or no work, you can include details of relevant courses. Otherwise you should only include the type of degree you have, the name of the college/university you attended, and the year that you graduated. This is also a good time to add any forms of recognition that you have received; such as "graduated with honours."

The final section of your resume can be a list of any skills that you possess which may be relevant to the position you are applying for. This section should only be a few sentences long, and should only be included if you have any skills that may influence the readers decision to hire you. The contents of this section should also be targeted to the position that you are applying for.

By following the previous suggestions and avoiding the common mistakes, you will produce a cohesive, logical resume that will surely impress any future employers. If you want a more detailed analysis of resume writing, check out the Laurier website for postings of resume writing workshops. Hopefully these tips and tricks will help make job-hunting a little less daunting this summer.

Things you don't want to do on your resume

Wilder says:

- Do not try to fit too much into a page. Confine your resume to one or two pages.
- Do not list personal information such as marital status, age, race, etc.
- Do not leave suspicious gaps in your work history.
- Do not include salary requirements (leave this for the interview).
- Do not put a picture on your resume.
- Do not include negative comments about past employers.
- Do not include references (these should be on a separate sheet and brought to the interview).
- Do not include reasons for leaving previous jobs (save this for the interview).

accomplish is writing a strong and effective resume. The resume is what gets you in the door of your dream job, and so special care should be taken to make sure that your resume properly represents your skills and personality. The average employer only takes eight seconds to scan a resume before reaching the conclusion as to

proper skills for the job. Therefore, the more general your resume is, the less likely you will hit on these key satisfiers and the less likely you'll be to getting the job. Be sure to know exactly what the position you are applying for entails and tailor your resume around this. If it calls for management and communication skills then be

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Men defeat cross-town rivals

Golden Hawks hockey clinches second place in the OUA Mid-West

Derek Iwanuk

The Laurier men's hockey team started the weekend off on the right foot beating the Waterloo Warriors 4 - 1 at the Columbia Ice Fields on Friday night. The win brought the team's overall record to ten wins and ten losses on the season.

The first period started off with some good Laurier scoring chances. At 13:41, the chances finally converted when Ryan Crombeen scored on a one timer from the blue line.

The Hawks had the offensive advantage most of the night. A couple more scoring opportunities were missed in the first period, the most memorable being Pat McCoubrey's rocket that hit the crossbar late in the first period.

As the period came to a close the rivalry began to show its ugly teeth. A little scuffle at the end of the period had Laurier shorthanded to begin the second.

The Hawks would kill the penalty and continue their offensive domination. At 17:28 of the



Colin Duffett

Laurier rookie Richard Colwill (#11) ties up the opposing centre after losing a faceoff in the Laurier zone. Colwill has 31 points on the season.

second period Tim Parsons scored to give Laurier a 2 - 0 advantage.

The offensive onslaught would continue as Kevin Corso tipped in a pass from in front of the net. The goal would be Corso's first of two on the evening and would give Laurier a commanding 3 - 0 lead.

The defense was solid throughout the period and first year goaltender Ed VanHerpt was a rock in net stopping 36 of 37 shots.

As the period came to an end, Corso knocked in his second goal of the night at 2:58 of the second period, all but assuring the Laurier win.

The beginning of the third period saw Waterloo finally get on the board, as Trevor Graham slid one by VanHerpt at 19:16 to cut

the Laurier lead to 4 - 1.

Things started to get a little heated between the two clubs as

the game saw both teams rack up 100 penalty minutes in the game. At one point during the third period, there were five Laurier players in the box at the same time, setting up a five-on-three situation for the Warriors.

The Laurier defense hung in there, killing the two-man advantage penalty. Near the end of the game, the rivalry showed its true colours when a fight broke out between Laurier's John Jarram and Waterloo's Tyler Tennant. Each player received a game misconduct. Waterloo received a two-minute power play as a result of a Laurier instigator penalty.

However, it would prove to be futile as the Hawks were well on their way to victory.

After the game, Laurier Head Coach Mark French had some concerned words for the team's diminishing play. "Well I thought the first half of the game we stuck

to what we needed to do. We got up and let the game deteriorate as the game went on and we were able to hold on."

Commenting on the team's overall position in the OUA and its progress, a mild mannered French seemed optimistic about his team's chances in the playoffs.

"Right now we are a five hundred team and I think that's what our talent warranted."

I think if we can come together we can make some noise in the playoffs."

The Hawks' next home game is this Thursday, February 13 against

the Guelph Gryphons. The puck drops at 7:30 pm at the Waterloo Recreation Complex.

"I think if we can come together we can make some noise in the playoffs."

**-Mark French,
Men's Hockey
Head Coach**

LAURIER 4, WATERLOO 1



Matt Benassi

Krissy Thompson (#7) tries a wrap around during the Hawks' recent contest against Queen's.

scoreboard.

The third period started with the Hawks up 3 - 1 and the Gaels hoping to come back from behind. Queen's looked visibly panicked, while the Hawks played steady and assured hockey. The Gaels' inaccurate passing, sloppy defensive coverage and continuous dump-and-chase attitude allowed the Hawks to dominate the ice and skate circles around the competition.

Despite some questionable calls by the referee that seemed to favour the hometown team, Laurier played well positionally and easily held on for the 3 - 1 victory.

"This is the worst case of refereeing I have seen in the OUA," commented Head Coach Bill Bowker. "The refs are too old...women's hockey isn't a place to retire," he joked.

"We played an exceptionally smart game and we followed our game plan," added Bowker on his team's cohesive display on the ice. "I think they (Queen's) have a very good team; however, they're too slow. We took advantage of our speed against their defense."

"I think we did a better job defensively," commented Assistant Coach Roly Webster. "I don't think they had as many scoring chances."

The Hawks knew they would have to play strong and they did not disappoint. Laurier now has a regular season record of thirteen wins, one loss and three ties, putting the Hawks in second place of the OUA. However, the Hawks have even greater challenges ahead. The Hawks travel to Toronto tonight to take on their biggest adversaries in the province, the U of T Blues, who currently own first place in the OUA. Laurier ripped the OUA Championship title away from Toronto last year and undoubtedly, the Blues will be looking to re-claim that status this year.

Although Laurier has been successful so far this season, things have really only just begun and there are many obstacles to tackle yet for the Golden Hawks.

Women's hockey second in province

Kristen Lipscombe

Although the Lady Hawks are leading the OUA West, it is the competition on the East side that Laurier should be most concerned about. Both the Queen's Golden Gaels and the University of Toronto Varsity Blues are nationally ranked teams that are plotting to steal the OUA title away from Laurier. Queen's is seventh in the CIS (Canadian Interuniversity Sport) and Toronto is tied for second. The Hawks are currently in sixth, and are going to have to fight their way through some challenging Ontario rival teams before they can hope to improve upon last year's second place finish at the National Championships.

On Saturday, the women's hockey team journeyed to Kingston to face-off against the Golden Gaels, a team that has improved by leaps and bounds over the past few years and now occupies a top three position in the OUA (Ontario University Athletics). The last time these two teams competed Laurier just barely edged Queen's for a 4 - 3 victory.

Knowing they would have to be at the top of their game in order to defeat the vengeance-seeking Gaels, the Laurier women stepped onto the ice focused and prepared in the first period and subsequently maintained the Golden Hawk momentum throughout the game. The Hawks came out strong, ready to demonstrate their superior hockey skills and smarts to a Gaels-supportive crowd.

Laurier's first two goals came from third-year centre Kate Macnamara and rookie winger Tracey Palinsky. The Hawks continued their offensive pressure throughout the second, which paid off at the 13:12 mark when second-year winger Lindsay Arbeau set up Candice Djukic for a stellar shot into the top right corner of the Gaels' twine.

Queen's became noticeably overwhelmed by the solid 3 - 0 Laurier lead and quickly called a time-out. Despite the bench talk, the Gaels continued to play scattered and unorganized hockey that the Hawks were easily able to capitalize on.

Laurier created many scoring opportunities on the power play and maintained consistent offensive control. Golden Hawk Ashley Stephenson carried the puck around the Gaels' net and let off a quick shot, while

Assistant Captain Alison Goodman managed some rock-

ets from the point.

The Hawks also played intelligent defense, while Cindy Eadie stood tall in the net and covered up many of the Gaels' rebound opportunities.

Although the Hawks played determined and strong hockey, one Golden Gael was able to break through Laurier's defensive unit for a breakaway. Goodman was unable to get back in time but nonetheless stopped her opponent from shooting by tripping her from behind. Unfortunately, the move cost the Hawks a penalty shot. Alison Baclay took the opportunity for Queen's and was able to deke out Eadie, sliding the puck into the net and putting the Gaels up on the

LAURIER 3, QUEEN'S 1

Hannah Snider balances sport and school

Rich Kawamoto

Some people are natural athletes, some are natural students and some are even genuinely great human beings. It is a rarity, however, when you come across someone who possesses all three of these amazing attributes. Hannah Snider is one of these rarities.

"It is one of the great joys of coaching to run into a person like Hannah," said Laurier women's volleyball Head Coach, Dave McIntyre. "She has all the tools that make her a wonderful person."

Snider, who is in her fourth year with the Golden Hawks, is this year's Co-captain for her squad. As the word 'leadership' is synonymous with her role, McIntyre believes she exemplifies it to a 'T', but does so much more to respect the position.

"Hannah is by far our hardest working player, and that's something you can't teach. She goes above and beyond what is required as Captain and is a leader on and off the court."

The Kinesiology and Physical Education student is humble about being selected as Captain this year. "I embrace the position (as Captain). I like the added responsibility because it pushes me to step up my game when others are down. It takes a lot of energy, but the team cohesion that has come

because of it has made this year absolutely incredible."

Snider's career with the Hawks can be summed up into one word: Success. Her four year record stands at an unprecedented 53 - 23, which is a .700 winning percentage. To most, that is a satisfaction that cannot be matched. But Snider is still looking for more.

"I'd really like to take it a step further this year. Last year's season (of 19 - 1) was like a dream but we didn't take that dream to the Nationals. It would be an unbelievable finish to take that final step this year and I truly believe it can happen."

With Hannah's relentless work ethic and her passion for the sport, the Hawks have as good a chance as they have ever had.

Although volleyball has played an important role in her university career, Snider is much more than just an amazing athlete. She is a three-time member of the All-Canadian Academic team. Her 11.34 GPA is a testament on how to effectively balance an athletic and academic life. The brains and the brawn is a double threat that makes her the fantastic person that every-

one sees her as.

So where will her academic successes take her once her university tenure is complete? "I've applied to Mac (McMaster University) for Medical School and to York for the MS Health Psychology program. I'm really interested in the holistic realm of health care, so I'd love to do something in that."

"I can see Hannah in the medical world somewhere in the future," noted McIntyre. "I also would love to see her with a role in education because she has so many amazing qualities that she would be able to bring out the best in anyone."

With all her successes in check, Hannah still has her head on her shoulders and has taken many valuable lessons from her four years as a Laurier Golden Hawk. "I was never one who enjoyed taking criticism of my play, but I've learned to accept it and use it as motivation to improve."

The benefits of being able to counteract criticism have pushed Hannah to make her one of the top Laurier student-athletes that the university has ever had. To be able to include sport and academia in her life and succeed in both shows just how mature this phenomenal person really is.

"Volleyball requires a commitment that is full-bodied— physically, mentally and emotionally. It adds to the overall context of

"Volleyball requires a commitment that is full bodied-physically, mentally and emotionally. It adds to the overall context of life."

-Hannah Snider, Women's Volleyball Co-Captain



Courtesy Laurier Athletics

Hannah Snider's team heads into OUA quarter-finals in London (versus Western) on Saturday.

life," said Snider

With all the tools to take her anywhere in life, this is neither the first nor the last time we will be hearing the name, Hannah Snider.

Women's Volleyball OUA West Standings:

Team	Wins	Losses	Ties	Points
Guelph	14	4	0	28
Western	12	6	0	24
Laurier	10	8	0	20
Brock	9	9	0	18
Mac	8	10	0	16
Windsor	5	13	0	10
Waterloo	1	17	0	2



Matt Benassi

The opposing attacker spikes the ball through the Laurier defence forcing them to scramble.

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B-man's got beef

Bernard Dawson



Completely Random Thoughts About the World of Sports:

- 1. Can FOX go one football/baseball game without plugging one of their crappy shows every thirty seconds?
- 2. How many years until the Super Bowl pre-game show is longer than the game?
- 3. Baseball is the only game on earth that always was better twenty-five years ago than it is today.
- 4. Can Court TV devote an entire weekend to the Portland Trailblazers? And when they advertise their season ticket packages, does the line 'As seen on COPS' appear anywhere?
- 5. I honestly feel that the world would be a better place today if the Dodgers had stayed in Brooklyn.
- 6. You know the NHL is in trouble when the Montreal Expos are more stable than some hockey teams.

- 7. Drunk people. Sex. Partying all night. Am I talking about soccer or Canadian University Debating?
- 8. To all the people who want to trade Vince Carter...have you looked at the rest of Raptors roster? Half of them are awful on a good day.
- 9. Go Leafs Go!
- 10. If the '92 Blue Jays and the '93 Blue Jays ever faced off, my money is on the '92 Jays.....WAY better pitching.
- 11. Does anyone care about US College Basketball until March?
- 12. I know it's good to have more black NFL head coaches, but the Bengals? I don't think it's what Johnnie Cochrane had in mind.
- 13. Am I the only Argos fan at this school?
- 14. I'm twenty years old and I've probably seen those 'Da Bears' SNL skits a million times, but I still laugh my ass off every time I see one of them.
- 15. I seem to like watching women's tennis even though I have no clue what's going on.
- 16. Ok, I'll admit it. I picked the Raiders in a blow out. Forgive me, I'm a Bills fan, I know nothing about picking a Super Bowl winner.

Coming in April... The Cord Sports Awards 2002-2003

Submit your nominations for:

- ~ Best Male and Female Athletes
- ~ Male and Female Rookies of the Year
- ~ Best Male and Female Teams
- ~ Coach of the Year
- ~ Biggest Disappointment of the Year
- ~ Biggest Sports Story of the Year
- ~ Biggest Surprise of the Year
- ~ Worst Team of the Year
- ~ Most Improved Team
- ~ Best Team You've Never Seen

E-mail klipscombe@laurierathletics.com with your nominations. Then check out Cord Sports in April for the final results!

Men's Hockey OUA Mid-West Standings:

Team	Wins	Losses	Ties	Points
York	15	6	1	31
Laurier	10	11	1	21
Brock	8	14	0	16
Guelph	6	15	1	13

Women's Hockey OUA West Standings:

Team	Wins	Losses	Ties	Points
Laurier	13	1	3	29
Guelph	11	7	1	23
Windsor	9	7	3	21
Western	2	16	2	6
Waterloo	1	16	2	4

Men's Basketball OUA West Standings:

Team	Wins	Losses	Ties	Points
Mac	14	4	0	28
Guelph	14	4	0	28
Laurier	10	8	0	20
Western	10	8	0	20
Brock	9	9	0	18
Lakehead	8	10	0	16
Waterloo	8	10	0	16
Windsor	3	15	0	6

Women's Basketball OUA West Standings:

Team	Wins	Losses	Ties	Points
Mac	14	5	0	28
Laurier	13	6	0	26
Western	12	7	0	24
Brock	12	7	0	24
Waterloo	7	12	0	14
Guelph	5	14	0	10
Windsor	4	15	0	8
Lakehead	3	16	0	6

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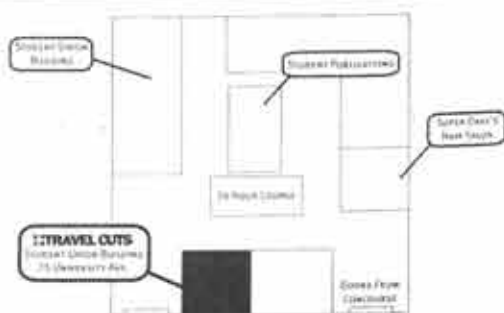
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Adaptation is amazing

Brad Skelton takes a nice, long nap, gets a snack and reviews Jonze's *Adaptation* - one of the best films of the year

Brad Skelton



Having been given the daunting task of writing this review, I find myself in even greater empathy with Charlie Kaufman, the tortured genius who labours over his screenplays. He procrastinates and makes excuses and berates himself in endless free-association, self-loathing monologues, but he cannot seem to wrap his mind around Susan Orlean's novel, *The Orchid Thief*, to turn it into a movie. This is one of the most difficult types of film to critique, so before I go any further I think I'll need a drink and perhaps a snack...

Now then, *Adaptation* provides an experience that is tough to put down in words; it's awkward even to discuss the "plot" in any meaningful way because, (1) there is no clear plot, (2) the movie makes leaps through time, space and reality with gleeful abandon, and (3) I wouldn't want to reveal the clever surprises and in-jokes that the filmmakers employ. This all works to the film's advantage since the less you know about it the more you may enjoy it. *Adaptation* is such an exceptional work of originality that the act of simply viewing it is enough to make even the most detached cynics giddy. The movie is a surreal, inside-out study of orchids and the process of constructing a screenplay, and it's a genuine pleasure to realize that the film knows a great deal about both of its subjects.

Nicolas Cage is Charlie, a brilliant screenwriter who seems to believe he must be in constant agony to create great art. He thinks it is a writer's duty to grapple with perversely difficult material and turn it into something poetic, and he refuses to put chases or sex-scenes in his stories, nor will he deal with characters who struggle to overcome adversity or who learn profound life lessons. Charlie Kaufman is the sort of person who carves a niche for himself in the peripheries of the Hollywood community even while he acknowledges just how stifling and intellectually bankrupt Hollywood is.

Living with Charlie is his twin Donald, who, despite his appearance, could not be more different from his brother. Donald is friendly, likable and outgoing, but not terribly bright; when Charlie that he accepted the chance to adapt *The Orchid Thief* because no one's ever made a movie about flowers before, Donald asks "What about Flowers for Algernon?" (thus proving his cheerful ignorance of literature and the cinema). Donald's also unemployed and decides it might be fun to become a screenwriter too. So, while Charlie toils with Orlean's lengthy passages about rare orchids, Donald effortlessly whips off the script for an unambitious formula thriller (thus proving he's a hack). The scenes in which

Donald pitches his story ideas to Charlie, and the way Charlie deconstructs Donald's would-be movie, provide some of the funniest moments in *Adaptation*.

The other major storyline in the film occurs in flashback, detailing Orlean's interviews with John Laroche (Chris Cooper). Laroche is a plant expert who exploits an ingenious legal loophole to help him poach rare orchids in the Florida Everglades. He is a con-man whose passion for orchids borders on obsession, and the fact that he is also confident and articulate is probably why Susan Orlean (Meryl Streep) becomes so drawn to him. Orlean, a writer for *The New Yorker*, goes to Florida to do a piece on Laroche and becomes fascinated by the man's passionate intensity. Soon her article develops into a book and her relationship with Laroche appears to have some romantic undercurrents, paralleling Charlie's own one-sided infatuation with Orlean which develops as he reads and re-reads *The Orchid Thief*.

All of these events unfold in the most bizarre and non-linear way. Charlie hopelessly tries to find an angle for his screenplay, a way of organizing Orlean's material into a cohesive narrative, but it is to no avail. He criticizes himself for being a fat, bald, sweaty, socially inept loser, and Donald sits around smiling and wondering why his bro is feeling so down. Meanwhile, as Charlie reads we see events apparently

taken from the novel, showing Laroche and Orlean having long discussions on flowers and the nature of life itself. What all of these characters have in common (with the exception of Donald Kaufman) is that they all seem to be possessed with obsessive personalities, and they are all, to a certain extent anyway, real people. *Adaptation* walks a very fine line between fantasy and reality: Charlie Kaufman is the actual screenwriter of this film, so he is literally making a movie about himself, and within the story he ends up writing himself into his own screenplay as well.

The actors seem to render comic distillations of their real life counterparts, but manage to create believable characters, nonetheless.

Orlean and Laroche are also real people, *The Orchid Thief* is a real book which Kaufman was really commissioned to adapt into a movie, and the film contains faked documentary footage from the set of *Being John Malkovich*, another film Kaufman wrote. This is one of the most self-reflective movies I've seen, but it pokes fun at itself in a subtle and witty manner.

Every scene in the movie is pitch perfect, as are all of the performances. The actors seem to render comic distillations of their real life counterparts, but manage to create believable characters, nonetheless. All of the events in *Adaptation* culminate in two sequences that are just about perfect. In one scene, Charlie takes his brother's advice (much to his own dismay) and participates in one of Robert McKee's seminars. McKee, played here by the great



File Photo

Meryl Streep shows off her feet...is she in the race for another Oscar?

character actor Brian Cox, is another real person the film uses to toy with reality; he is a renowned Hollywood script coach who teaches students not how to be better writers, but how to sell their screenplays and make money.

During the seminar McKee shouts and curses, interrupts Charlie's interior monologue with the single funniest line in the movie and is allowed to argue persuasively for his own style of writing. The other great sequence occurs at the finale, which I will not reveal except to say that it looks like it was slipped into the script by Donald rather than Charlie.

Having written all of this I'm still not convinced I have done the movie justice. It is probably impossible to adequately represent this movie in just one review, but suffice it to say that *Adaptation*

contains great quantities of information about writing and about movies, and it lucidly illustrates the dishonesty of most of the formula material that Hollywood produces.

Spike Jonze (the director) and Charlie Kaufman first collaborated on the film *Being John Malkovich*, which was one of the most brilliant, original and funny movies of the 1990s and now they have somehow created a film that is almost every bit as brilliant as their first. Their work is comparable with that of Luis Bunuel in the way it combines surrealism, social satire and human comedy. The more you know about movies, the more you are bound to love this one.



Matt Benassi

A Bricker resident (or guest of a Bricker resident) enjoys the free snacks and refreshments that were served buffet-style at the Bricker Residence Coffee House event that took place at Wilf's this past Sunday. There were a variety of performances, from poetry readings to acoustic guitar solos. There was something for everyone that night.

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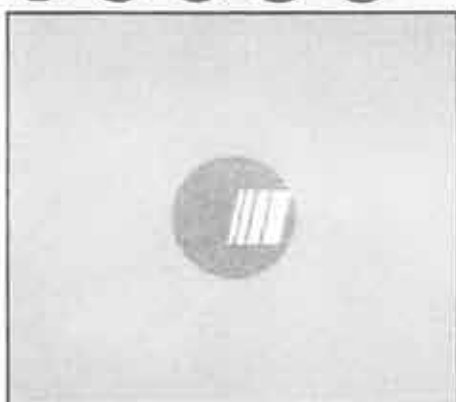
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ear candy

The Rapture
House of Jealous Lovers
12" (DFA)



Here I am wishing that at times the new wave/no wave revival would just die down because although I have liked quite a bit of what has been released, there has been too much utter garbage for one to handle. Take Blondie, Flock of Seagulls, The Cure and similar artists and give them instruments, bad haircuts and tight clothing and you will either have the rough equivalent of musical revival geniuses or wannabe musicians trying to capitalize on the next cool trend.

With the "House of Jealous Lovers" 12" single, it is proof that DFA Records, which is a studio based out of New York City, can take what was thought to be obsolete and out of the public eye and make it into danceable ear candy. The Rapture, a band that has been on some of the most prominent indie labels and are thought to be out of the picture have come back with some of the most danceable and enjoyable music. No matter what style of music you are into, this release breaks down the boundaries of dance, hardcore, funk, jazz, disco, rock and punk. It is as if all of the aforementioned genres have been put into a blender and set on puree, as this is exactly what it sounds like.

The A side of this release is the single "House of Jealous Lovers," which moves along in a poly-rhythmic tone, with somewhat shrill vocals, funky guitar licks and a solid rhythm section. There is also a remix of the single on the same side; one of many available, offering up a DJ rendered interpretation. The B Side of the single features the track "Silent Morning," which comes along at a snails pace, lush orchestration, drawn out vocals, again on the shrill side as only delivered by The Rapture. Best put, it reminds one of a tropical beach scenario, with subtle yet surreal music in the background.

Fans of The Rapture or interested parties should be advised to check out Black Dice, who were rescued from noise-hardcore obscurity by the DFA Records production team. This duo can take anyone, no matter their style, and deconstruct it piece by piece, upon at which point, they layer each piece of sound for a new dynamic. Definitely dance party material!

Eric Warner

Zwan
Mary Star of the Sea



It's sappy, sometimes too sophisticated and won't be liked by a lot of people but *Mary Star of the Sea* (MSS) is a beautiful edition to the dictatorship that is called Billy Corgan. Don't misinterpret that last sentence. The album's good but just really different from the usual soyent green I'm used to. Good, but not great: the Achilles' heel for MSS is that it's just too damn grown up. How are the kiddies going to understand a relationship that lasts for more than three months?

MSS resembles Beck's *Sea Change* because the song focuses on relationships. Unlike *Sea Change*, though, this album is about desire to really succeed and not remorse about past events and present failures. Since this is our first date with Zwan all of the ridiculous lyrics, guitar solos and over production gloss is completely justifiable but does hinder this album from being a revolutionary one. All the guitar solos, hooks and beats have been done before, but do have a nice familiarity which makes MSS a completely listenable album; just a practice round till the knock-out punch.

I didn't really want to mention the Pumpkins (but rather take Zwan as a new band and focus on that perspective) but since the very methodic and polished sound of *Melon Collie and the Infinite Sadness* appears throughout MSS, it had to be. Now, if

you're of the few that bought *Melon Collie* in '95 and still own that copy (like me) then you'll like the Zwan effort. If your copy of *Melon Collie* went to the local pawn shop then you'll like the effort but not dig the entire work and probably only be satisfied with the soon-to-be-released single "Come with Me" (one of Corgan's best).

MSS does have some serious flaws. Lyrically some songs are horrible. "Jesus, I" becomes preachy and almost unbearable if it wasn't for the ten min guitar solo follow up to "Mary Star of the Sea". The other songs are sappy but forgivable and a nice break from the usual angst of pop-punk and its mindless hate and misdirected anger.

Though, with almost 60 songs in the Zwan catalog I'd think the entire album could be focused on the anticipation of love - but what do I know?

Justin Sharp

Groove Armada
Love Box



If there's an album to prove that electronica is dead (and it is) then *Love Box* is the grass covering the grave. *Love Box* is slow, aged, methodic, perfected to an emotional lull, sometimes sombre and plays like bad jazz; it has no passion. Daft Punk's *Discovery* must have been the major influence but Groove Armada only falls flat.

Electronica being dead shouldn't come as a surprise. Eminem has preached about this for a long time and Moby turned the market into a pop factory.

Love Box is just another example how well a band can develop without really growing up. The first four tracks were a fantastic beginning but the creative juices just bailed on this Titanic after that. Last year I mentioned that *Goodbye Country (Hello Nightclub)* was a step further from the pop anthem "I see you baby" and other muddled releases but this album sounds like the b-sides

to an album that wasn't that great.

Love Box's major problems: "Madder" is one of the heaviest sounding songs on the album but only sounds like a temper tantrum; "Think Twice" is a boring swill reminding me of the terrible '80s Elton John; "Final Shakedown" is one of the worst songs I've heard all year.

Therefore, as a group:

- (1) They've matured.
- (2) They've forgotten the fun and passion
- (3) They rely on a Jamaican singer to awaken the listener instead of

keeping them awake with interesting beats.

(4) First four tracks - outlook really good, remaining tracks - toilet water

So yes, it started like Daft Punk's *Discovery* but ended like the scurvy ridden ship searching for the other side of the Antarctic. The album's ultimately forgettable and proves Groove Armada has had their 15 minutes.

Justin Sharp

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A Laurier Boy

Superman

"How could it be better than this?"
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Happy Belated Birthday Amanda

Sorry I was too drunk to understand what was going on all night.

News Editor SJS

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That opera was pure Money!

Wayne Money
Siobhan Bhagwat

William Congreve once said, "Music has charms to soothe a savage beast." After having attended the Opera Ontario's showing of Leo Delibes' *Lakme* I must agree whole-heartedly with Congreve. Despite my misconceptions about the opera I was pleasantly surprised. The performance was in French but with the assistance of the English subtitles I had no difficulty in following what transpired on stage.

Lakme is set in nineteenth century colonial India and portrays the story of forbidden love between Lakme, the daughter of a Brahmin priest, and Gerald, an officer in the British army.

Naturally, as in all forbidden love stories, death walks hand in hand with Cupid. The plot and acting of an opera are of little consequence, but rather the music and song are what try to set the atmosphere and tell the story. Duets such as "the Flower song" by Lakme and Mallika (Lakme's servant) telling of the girl's innocence, and aria's like Lakme's "Bell" song allow the audience to lose themselves in the music and further identify with the characters.

It is also interesting to note that Jane Archibald who played Lakme is a Wilfrid Laurier Alum. Lakme is her debut as a lead, quite a feat for an actress of only 25, an extraordinarily young age for the lead of such a grandiose performance. She has

performed recitals in Toronto's Glenn Gould Studio and Roy Thompson Hall. Following this performance she will debut as Poppea in Handel's *Agrippina* with the Chicago Opera Theatre and has also landed the title role in San Francisco's Opera Merola Program's staging of *Angelique*. She is a credit to both Canada as well as WLU.

Overall, for an experience I initially thought better suited to those of "high society" and boorish demeanors, my original connotations have been quite reversed. In truth I have come to enjoy the opera. The audience was diverse and ranged from all ages. If you should ever get the chance to experience an opera, accept an opportunity to expand your horizons, especial-



Contributed Photo

Jane Archibald and Stuart Howe declare their undying love.

ly if someone else is offering to take you, because the opera is not cheap. The tickets range in price from \$80 to over \$250. As students I am sure most of us could never justify spending so

much for an evening of entertainment, but it is definitely something to be experienced at least once in a lifetime.

Inside the Shop of 34th and Vine

Katie West

It's here. That time of the year when everything seems to turn shades of pink and red, and the world is transformed into a lovey-dovey Noah's Ark. Congratulations to those happily paired couples, but this page is dedicated to those of you who have yet to find romance with that special someone. Here are simple instructions for **Love Potion #9**, "how-to" guidelines for the drink that will make you simply irresistible, and relentlessly sought-after. Let us take you on a journey of lyrical romance as your cup of love is filled to the brim.



Siobhan Bhagwat

"Let's see what we can cook up between us..."

#1. Set the mood with candles and soft music if you wish; place a red or pink glass on a clean surface. You are now ready to begin.

"Whoa, whoa, when there's no communication/Whoa, whoa, it's a [win]-win situation."

#2. Fill the glass with warm water and add 1 Celestial Seasonings Cranberry Cove tea bag- 2 bags will produce a stronger effect. Extra caution should be exercised if using more than one tea bag. Stir tea bag gently, until the water is a light to medium reddish tinge.



"When we awaken to hear a songbird up above/Sounds of a sweet Sunday kinda love."



#3. Stir in a spoon full of honey (sugar, for those of you who want a more intense blend; sweetener for those of you who want the low-fat mixture).

"Oh my love my darling/I've hungered for your touch."

#4. Strawberries/mangos: dice the fruit, then add to the love mixture. These aphrodisiacs (1. adj. Increasing sexual desire. 2. n. a drug, food, etc.) will get everyone who takes a sip in the mood for romance...



"Cause every time I close my eyes, I see your face and wonder/When you close your eyes do you think about me?" (Soon, your answer will be "yes")."



#5. You may not like the taste, but add a peppermint leaf or cinnamon stick - the role of scent is important in this process, not just taste.

"Makin' me wild for you baby/Goin' wild for you baby."



"Like a rose under the April snow/ I was always certain love would grow."



#7. The chocolate finale! Add a square, a chip, or a spoonful of chocolate flavouring to sweeten up your mixture and release those endorphins.

"Fill my heart with song/Let me sing for ever more/You are all I long for/All I worship and adore."

#8. Sprinkle some of the tea on a photo of your beloved. Now sit back, sip and fall in love. Rest assured the object of your affection is already starting to feel the same way.



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Only individuals selected for interviews will be contacted.

