

## Mel's returns

LINDSAY PURCHASE  
LEAD REPORTER

Nearly two years after a raging fire in the Campus Court Plaza on University Avenue destroyed student-frequented eatery Mel's Diner, along with several other businesses, owner Jerry Smith is preparing to open a new location in Kitchener.

"So it'll be exactly the same feel and vibe and menu and people and atmosphere, but it's at the corner of Ottawa and Westmount in Kitchener," Smith outlined.

Although the location may be out of reach for many who frequented the Waterloo location, students can take solace in knowing that Smith has plans to rebuild at the University Plaza location as soon as possible.

Legal issues in addition to insurance complications have delayed the reconstruction of the plaza. Dates remain unknown for when building will begin.

"It's amazing that two years, almost two years has gone by, and they still have it sitting there because of some insurance problems that they're having," Smith commented with clear frustration. "So we can't build that [location]"

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#### Film prof up for award

Laurier's Philippa Gates nominated for the Edgar Allen Poe award for her recent book on detective fiction

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#### Shocking performance

Three years after Chris Brown attacked R&B artist Rihanna, Brown gave three performances at the Grammy awards

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#### Basketball Hawks stumble

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Attacks raise students' concerns

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NICK LACHANCE PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

“The challenge is that life happens outside of campus and as much as we sometimes are a bubble, we're not a bubble.

—Leanne Holland Brown,  
dean of students



## Labour talks fall apart

Faculty, admin head for mediation

JUSTIN SMIRLIES  
CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR

Just like many other students at Wilfrid Laurier University, Claire Charness, a first-year psychology student who set up an online petition, doesn't want a full-time faculty strike and encourages that they and the administration promptly settle on an agreement.

"I know for a lot of people that it will make it really hard on them, especially for us first-years. And that's one of the reasons why we started it, we're still getting used to it [university]," she said about her motivations to start the petition, adding that if a faculty strike were to occur it would have a substantial impact on graduating students as well.

The petition, as of press time, had approximately 1,460 signatures and comments from students.

Social media, in the realm of Laurier, has been flaring up lately with numerous accounts of speculation that a faculty strike may occur early March. These reactions, such as the ones expressed on Charness' petition, come after the faculty filed for a 'no board' report after negotiations broke down in the early hours of Friday morning.

Furthermore, on Friday, after 91 per cent of the Wilfrid Laurier University Faculty Association (WLUFA) who participated in the strike vote, were in favour of a strike.

If the 'no board' gets issued by the provincial government, which according to Kevin Crowley, director of communications at Laurier, could happen Wednesday, the faculty will have 17 days until they can legally strike. This means that March 3

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## Hockey Hawks gear up for playoffs



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NICK LACHANCE PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

IAN SPENCE LEAD VIDEOGRAPHER



## NEWS

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## University pledges funding

WLU promises \$2.4 million for velodrome

**JUSTIN SMIRLIES**  
CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR

In light of the 2015 Pan Am games in Toronto, the town of Milton — a community within the Greater Toronto Area — has come up with a business plan that will commit to the development of a new velodrome in their proposed education village. Since Wilfrid Laurier University has been eyeing that spot as a potential new campus, the school has agreed to contribute approximately \$2.5 million to the construction of the facility.

“[Milton] put together a business plan and that includes financial contribution from the host municipality and business plan for Milton, included a potential contribution of \$2.5 million in capital funding from Laurier,” explained Brian Rosborough, director of government relations at Laurier Toronto.

However, just like the potential campus itself, the contribution from Laurier is dependent on a number of things. Laurier has been waiting for the government to decide which locations they will give funding for a new undergraduate campus and if WLU receives that campus they would essentially “reimburse” or pay their contribution to the town.

“It’s [the velodrome project] dependent on the velodrome going forward and being built. It’s dependent upon us building a campus there and what the commitment is that if we do go ahead and get a campus there we will have the opportunity to buy into the project for that figure,” Rosborough added.

Though this decision isn’t definite, Laurier is still looking to use the velodrome — which may also include indoor courts and a fitness centre — as a possible athletics facility that can be shared with both the students and the community.

“If we get the green light to build a campus there we have the opportunity to invest 2.5 million dollars in capital funding which will make us a capital partner in the facility,” he continued.

Jim Butler, vice-president: finance at WLU, echoed many of Rosborough’s statements, “It will be a legacy from the Pan Am games and there will be other uses. It could be students and the community, not to unlike what we’re doing in Waterloo with the athletic complex.”

He added that he doesn’t know where it will exactly be located and none of the operating arrangements have been formulated. Exactly where funds will be taken from is also uncertain, and a decision will be made by the board of governors if this project is confirmed.

“That would be a decision that would have to go to the board of governors when this decision is made. So there’s no plan at this point as to where that has to happen,” asserted Rosborough.

As for the Milton campus as a whole, Rosborough hopes that this agreement with the potential velodrome builds the on-going relationship between the institution and the town.

“I think there’s a real synergy between these kind of facilities and university campuses,” Rosborough concluded.

“Pan Am facilities being built have a life after the Pan Am games, there’s a practise of putting them in place along with university campuses as potential partners.”

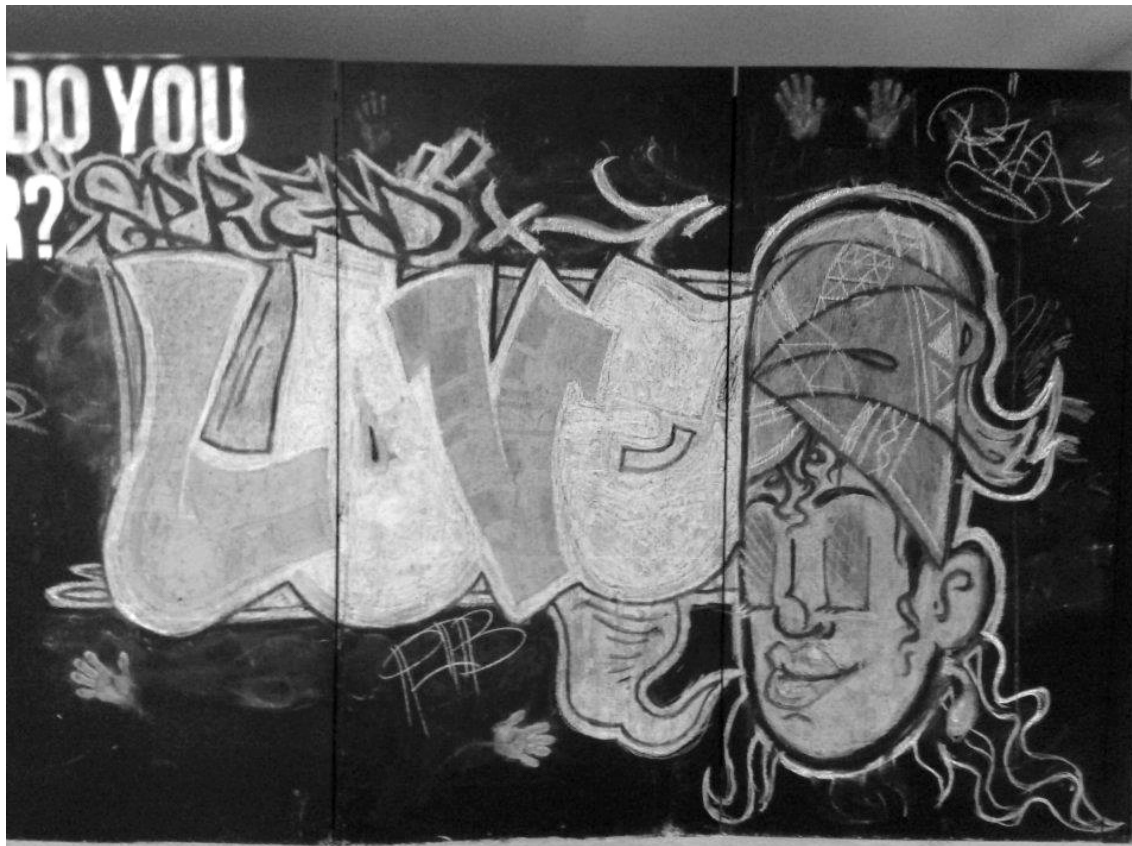


PHOTO COURTESY OF AARON LUN

This mural was painted on the ‘Project Laurier wall’ on Feb. 5 but removed the next day.

## Project Laurier art removed from wall

**ELIZABETH DICESARE**  
STAFF WRITER

Last week, the Project Laurier boards in Wilfrid Laurier University’s Concourse were wiped clean and painted back over due to offensive and inappropriate material being written on them.

Wil Schreiber, a second-year student at WLU who started Project Laurier, explained the boards were wiped clean in order to appease the WLU Bookstore. The boards technically belong to the Bookstore for advertising purposes while construction is happening, but Deborah Da Costa, the director of retail and printing services, gave Project Laurier permission to use them.

“We thought it was all good, but then some students went a little buck-wild with the chalk,” stated Schreiber. “Some offensive things were written. ... and the Bookstore was not pleased with that so [the boards] had to be erased.”

Schreiber continued, “[Da Costa]

felt what was written on the boards was not good for advertising and a lot of vendors that are coming to the Bookstore might see [the boards] and associate it with the Bookstore.”

The Bookstore declined to make a comment about the situation with the boards.

Similar problems occurred while the construction boards outside the terrace were used for the project, but no one else could dictate what was written on them.

Issues with offensive drawings and phrases has been prevalent since the start of Project Laurier, but Schreiber said everyone has been doing their best to keep it under control.

Aaron Lun, a fourth-year student at WLU, spent nearly five hours drawing an inoffensive picture on the boards on Feb. 5. He chose to this because he “wanted to put something positive up there, something beautiful.”

When Lun found out his design had been taken down, he was very

upset and angry.

“What had happened was a misunderstanding,” he explained. “The board was erased because of all the other crap. ... They ordered the custodial services to wipe [the whole board] and my picture got caught in the crossfire.”

Despite this misunderstanding, Lun plans on contributing to Project Laurier again in the future. “I think [Project Laurier] is a great idea,” he said.

“It’s something positive and nice ... [and] it’s a great opportunity to do something really big.”

Schreiber added that another question for students to answer with chalk will hopefully be posted later this week on the boards.

“We’re going to try again to monitor and erase stuff,” he explained. “But if it keeps happening [Da Costa] might send [Project Laurier] an e-mail saying she wants it to stop, because it is [the Bookstore’s] advertising space and we did have to run it by her to begin with.”

### More News: inside

## Inside the mind of a president



Northwestern prof psycho-analyzes George W. Bush

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## Skating in the square



Waterloo residents ‘skate and shake’ at the public square

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For news coverage throughout reading week, including strike updates visit

**thecord.ca**

## Lack of spring classes frustrates students

Despite 90 course offerings, enrolment options limited for those in upper years

**MARCIE FOSTER**  
LEAD REPORTER

Whether you want to finish early, broaden your academic scope, or just want to pick up an extra credit over the spring and summer, some students feel limited by the availability of senior-level courses in the spring or summer terms.

The Cord spoke with the director of teaching support services, Sandy Hughes, in order to find out how courses offered online and in class over the May to August period are chosen.

It turns out certain faculties only dictate what courses they want to offer, so Hughes helps mainly in a coordinating role. Her office then takes this information and assesses demand and budget in order to provide course availability for summer and spring.

“Last year, we did surveys over the summer, and that data showed

that most students would prefer taking online courses over those in the classroom. Maybe there was more alignment with what they were doing outside school,” Hughes said.

“Expect to see up to 90 courses available online this upcoming spring/summer term,” said Hughes. The most popular courses tend to be 100-level and language courses, with an online learning course in astronomy which was immediately almost full.

“Already this year we took a look at one course, which on the first day had a significant amount of people on the wait-list. We managed to find another instructor, so we were lucky there. There’s not a lot of flexibility as enrolment goes up every term. We’re offering as many as five or six new courses every year,” she added.

This is the first year that these courses have had a wait-list available. Hughes can take a look at how many students are currently

enrolled, and waiting to enrol, and try to find more instructors if necessary. The School of Business and Economics has an in-class term during the summer and offers the usual courses that students off co-op would take. However, some students are finding problems taking electives, especially at the senior level on campus, since most are done online.

Kristie Meiklejohn, a fourth-year business co-op student, has a busy summer schedule. She wants to take some electives in environmental studies, but is instead choosing to take them this fall because of limited availability.

“I prefer taking [the courses] in class. In third year business you’re in class at 8:30 a.m. until whenever so you’re pretty limited for electives. I wanted to take ES102 but it’s only available in the winter and it’s always full,” she said. “The other case with electives is that you never had

the prerequisites, there’s no open courses at the senior level.”

Christine Wolf, fourth-year psychology student, was upset enough when she found out she had to take a summer term. Now she is frustrated with the course availability.

“I don’t need any 100-level courses, it’s the upper-year courses that’s the problem. I also wanted to take some more courses to get ahead that were available as well,” Wolf said.

Hughes has had discussions before with the dean of arts, Michael Carroll, in order to come up with ideas to improve current and new selections, but she says that students can and should do more about their concerns. “If students are wanting to take a course that is full in the fall or winter term and want to take it in the summer but it’s not available, they should send me an e-mail [shughes@wlu.ca] and I can then compile a list of what the real demand is.”

# CAMPUS

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## Mediation to commence Feb. 29

—cover

would be first official strike day.

The faculty has also applied for mediation and according to Crowley the two sides will meet for mediation on Feb. 29 and March 1.

All these developments do not mean a strike is inevitable, and WL-UFA and the university administration both assert that a negotiated settlement will be reached — it's just unknown when.

"We felt we had a settlement in grasp, and I have to say, the university took it away at the last second, at two in the morning or whatever the time was on Friday," explained Judy Bates, president of WLUFUFA, adding that almost every bargaining agreement so far has gone to mediation.

"[But] the faculty doesn't want to be there [on the picket lines], I don't want to be there, administration doesn't want us out there, students don't want us out there."

"Nobody wants a strike, nobody," she repeated.

### The Issues

Discussed greatly the past few weeks of bargaining have been the issues of the pension plan, professor salaries as well as the new teaching stream that calls for profs to primarily focus on teaching rather than research.

Crowley maintained that the proposals made by the university are nothing out of the ordinary. While Bates stated that Laurier faculty salaries are one of the lowest in the province, placing 14th out of 16.

Crowley disagreed, "We look at those numbers and we don't see that. I don't know how they get those numbers. Because when we look at the numbers, we're right in the middle of the pact."

He added that other universities such as McMaster and Trent, have made substantial changes to their pension plan — an on-going issue for most employers in both the public and private sector.

Herbert Pimlott, a communications professor at WLU, stated that they have analyzed the university's financial statements and found some peculiar trends. "The administration keeps talking about

"It's a negotiation and negotiations can be very difficult, complex and perspectives may differ on the same objective reality."

—Chet Robie, business professor at WLU

budgets, but budgets are like weather forecasts, they try and say what things will be like in a year or however long," he explained.

Pimlott added that some of the information the administration has released conflicts with their reasons for cutting professor salaries. "A financial statement, I think it's a legal-type document that is posted every year. It doesn't give a lot of detail, but in the analysis that's been of the last three years, they've identified a very huge surplus that's been accumulated by the university," he explained.

"Every year we go through a credit-rating process, it's an independent assessment of the university's financial situation," said Jim Butler, the vice president: finance at Laurier. "Now having said that, the university has done really well in the last couple of the years, because we've had full funding for our growth and students."

Butler warned that situation may drastically change in a year and a half once funding from the provincial government begins to dwindle and cuts occur to both private and public institutions.

"So we're bracing ourselves for a very difficult, challenging couple of years. In senate finance and in our board committees we've got budget models that show that we're going to be in a negative position for 2012-13," he explained, adding if cuts were to happen it would occur the 2013-14 academic year.

### What this means for students

Most professors, while some being directly involved in the process, don't want students to feel anxious. Many assert that keeping informed is one thing, it's also the students

responsibility to understand.

"It's a negotiation and negotiations can be very difficult, complex and perspectives may differ on the same objective reality," explained Chet Robie, a business professor at Laurier. "We are anxious as the students are on the potential effects of this. We have skin in the game just like students do, we don't want a strike, we don't want to withhold our services."

According to Deb MacLachy, the vice-president: academic and provost at Laurier, if a strike were to occur, substantial changes will not be made to the semester, except the fact that full-time professors obviously wouldn't be teaching. Contract academic staff are still expected to teach and students may still be responsible for assignments and work.

"No university has ever lost a term due to strike action by faculty or staff," she said. "I think for the immediate time, students should focus on their day-to-day, longer term, focus on their assignments."

Both WLUFUFA and the administration don't want students to panic, despite the fact an agreement has not been achieved. However, Bates, in particular, wants students put pressure on both parties to get something done.

"We would like to see student support to push the administration to negotiate," she said. "We're ready to achieve a settlement, I'm not sure if the university is right now."

On the flip side, Butler thinks they've offered something competitive and satisfactory. "Rest assured in an economy where everyone is suffering, we've tabled, I think, a very competitive proposal."

—With files from Justin Fauteux

## Pryce to be next WLUSU chair

MARCIE FOSTER  
LEAD REPORTER

JUSTIN SMIRLIES  
CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR

The board of directors-elect had their first training session this past weekend, not long after chair-elect Jon Pryce and vice chair-elect Jordan Epstein were elected. Last Wednesday, the Wilfrid Laurier University Students Union (WLUSU) board of directors-elect voted who would serve as chair and vice chair for the 2012-13 academic year.

Jon Pryce was acclaimed to his role as chair of the board of directors, after placing first in his re-election as director.

"[The feeling is] incredible, we're going to do a fantastic job this year and I'm looking forward to hearing any new ideas that the director-elects have, and working with them on that," Pryce said Wednesday night at the meeting.

With only two directors who have been on the board before, Pryce has an extensive training program lined up, not only for the summer but also throughout the school year. When asked about the inexperience of some of the directors-elect, Pryce was optimistic.

"The thing is, all the director-elects are really passionate about the position, I've been communicating with them and trying to make sure they are all on top of what they want to accomplish during the year," continued Pryce. "I'm making it so they become confident directors, and I think that's a process that not only needs to end in the summer time but continues throughout the year."

He added that he'll be training the director-elects also on provincial and non-profit business law. To build on last year, Pryce also plans to fill the representational gap, especially with the students at the Brantford campus.

"The one thing I think I need to work on this is year is trying to fill the representational gap, so



CHRISTINA RUCCHETTA / CORD PHOTO  
Pryce is the next WLUSU chair.

reaching out to Brantford students more and to use more focus groups," he explained. "Really to ensure that all the concerns that we have are focused on the ends, because if we don't do that, then it's really just operational issues."

To prepare for the role himself, Pryce talked to past chairs, WLUSU administration and other members of the Laurier community.

As chair of the board, Pryce will be working very closely with the elected president for the 2012-13 year, Michael Onabolu. "We have a very good working relationship because of ACCESS charity, but other than that we've been good friends and I think it'll work towards our benefit," Pryce said.

Third-year kinesiology major Jordan Epstein was voted in as vice chair, after an entertaining question period.

"It's a great honour, I'm really excited. My goal is to by the end of the summer to be fully transitioned, and know how to run meetings and act as vice chair," said Epstein.

Pryce is extremely excited for the role next year, and hopes that next year will be successful. As for working with his roommate, current chair Chris Walker?

"I wear the pants in the house now, that's all I am going to say," Pryce joked.

## Revisiting the past

### Laurier and the Association of Black Students celebrate Black History Month

ALI CONNERTY  
CORD NEWS

Laurier's Association of Black Students (ABS) celebrated Black History Month during the first two weeks of February with events that commemorate the achievements of influential actors throughout the history of inequality of people of African descent.

"It is our vision that by informing the community, the efforts and contributions of Black individuals as well as Black culture will be recognized and celebrated by those of all cultures; not only within February, but throughout the year," Keneesh Mckenzie, president of the Association of Black Students stated.

One Seed, Many Roots: A Black History Month Celebration was held between Feb. 7 and 9 in collaboration with Campus Clubs at the University of Waterloo to raise awareness of Black History Month and celebrate Black culture. Events included "Rock Your Roots," a cultural fashion show, "Discover Your Roots," a Black History Month exhibit held at the University of Waterloo and "Showcase Your Roots," a

talent show featuring a diverse variety of performing artists.

On Feb. 13, the Association of Black Students also hosted "Black Think Tank," a discussion of Black History Month and its progression over time.

"Black History Month is important to ABS and those of African descent simply because it's a time to reflect on the past and be proud of how our people have progressed while enduring the consequences of inequality," Mckenzie said.

A current promotional campaign to raise awareness and provoke thought about Black History Month, featuring posters with insightful quotes made by Black historical figures, has been implemented on campus.

"We hope that the Laurier community learns that Black History is very much relevant to the building of society as we know it and that our culture is in itself a diverse and vibrant one; one for all to partake in," Mckenzie explained.

Black History Month is celebrated annually during the month of February in Canada and the United States.

## Last strike at WLU: CAS walk off the job in March 2008

On Mar. 19, 2008, approximately 365 part-time contract academic staff (CAS) walked off the job at WLU. This resulted in the cancellation of numerous classes.

After the collective agreement expired in August of 2007,

the university and the Wilfrid Laurier University Faculty Association (WLUFUFA) embarked on seven months of bargaining. Once a conciliator could not solve any issues, the CAS filed a 'no board' report and went on strike two

weeks later. Students expressed their dissatisfaction by conducting protests and rallies during the strike.

The strike eventually came to a conclusion in early April.  
—Compiled by Justin Smirlies



SAMANTHA KELLERMAN STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Dan McAdams, a professor at Northwestern University, speaks at the annual Hunsberger Lecture.

## Understanding the mind of Bush

Prof takes a look at the psyche of the former U.S. president

**JUSTIN FAUTEUX**  
NEWS DIRECTOR

The phrase ‘what was he thinking?’ was undoubtedly uttered many times during George W. Bush’s presidency. Dan McAdams took this question a step further.

McAdams, the chair of the psychology department at Northwestern University, recently published a book entitled, *George W. Bush and the Redemptive Dream: A Psychological Portrait*, which examines the psychological factors that affected the polarizing president’s controversial decision to invade Iraq in March of 2003.

On Friday afternoon, McAdams was at Laurier discussing the method behind his book as part of the annual Hunsberger Lecture. The lecture is set up by the WLU psychology department and the Faculty of Science Students’ Association (FOSSA) to honour the late Bruce Hunsberger, a psychology professor at Laurier from 1974-2003.

“When it comes to George W. Bush, people generally fall into two camps,” said McAdams, noting that some consider Bush an idiot, while others think of him as a saint. “I wanted to consider him from a purely psychological perspective ... I tried to present an objective study

without taking a side.”

McAdams broke down the psychological forces behind Bush’s decision to invade Iraq into three “layers”: the president’s psychological traits, his developmental goals and his desire to make his life into a “redemptive narrative.”

According to McAdams, Bush exhibits a high extroversion, low openness to experience personality, which means he is an extroverted person that isn’t very receptive to ideas that conflict with his own.

“These traits set him up to do something like the Iraq invasion, that kind of game-changing event,” he said. “9/11 gave him the perfect stage to act out these traits.”

McAdams went on to explain that Bush’s developmental goals revolved around following in the heavy footsteps of previous men in the Bush family. None more prominent than his father, another former president, George H.W. Bush. “George W. desperately wanted to be like his father, and with good reason, I’m a liberal democrat and I would want to be like his father,” McAdams joked.

“If you look at all the history, George W. greatly admired his father and deeply hated anyone who was against his father; more than anyone else, Saddam Hussein.”

Something that drew a lot of

debate when Bush invaded Iraq was whether or not he was trying to follow in his father’s footsteps and ‘finish the job’ by killing Hussein. For McAdams, this makes perfect psychological sense.

“It was deeply personal,” he said. “From the stand point of George W., ‘This guy tried to kill my father for crying out loud.’”

The final psychological force McAdams discussed was Bush’s desire to, “Reconstruct his life story.” Before becoming governor of Texas and eventually president, Bush failed in the oil business, while spending a large portion of his life as a heavy drinker.

According to McAdams, after kicking his personal demons and finding success as first a part-owner of the Texas Rangers and then becoming governor of Texas and eventually president, the next step was to eradicate “evil” in the world, and in Bush’s eyes there was no greater evil than Hussein.

McAdams maintained that though his psycho-analysis of Bush provides some background to why he decided to invade Iraq, there were obviously other factors at play. Noting the political and economic factors, McAdams said he was simply looking to, “See if these principles can shed some light.”

## Director resigns

Bill Papanastasiou leaves WLUSU board because of co-op placement

**JUSTIN FAUTEUX**  
NEWS DIRECTOR

For the third year in a row, a director has stepped down from the Wilfrid Laurier University Students’ Union board.

Bill Papanastasiou, a first-time director handed in his resignation to board chair and chief governance officer (CGO) Chris Walker last week, with the decision being made final at last Friday’s WLUSU board meeting in Brantford.

In January, Papanastasiou, a second-year double-degree student in Laurier’s BBA program, started a co-op term at professional services firm PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) in Toronto. This meant that he was unable to continue living in Waterloo.

“I wasn’t able to make any of the board meetings so far [in January] and I didn’t feel I could make any of them in the future,” said Papanastasiou. “Representation definitely comes into it, I was getting asked questions and I didn’t feel like I was able to answer them.”

Initially Papanastasiou was planning on not taking the co-op option, but deciding to do so after meeting with an advisor, getting the job offer at PwC was too good to pass up.

“I really lucked out this term with the job offer that I got,” he said. “When they offered it, I had to take it.”

Papanastasiou’s decision didn’t come as a shock to the board as he consulted with his fellow directors before resigning, including his brother Bill — who still sits on the board — and Walker.

“He and I had a talk about it in the fall and he had said at that point that he wanted to stay on the board and make a contribution if it was possible,” said Walker. “More recently we



FILE PHOTO

chatted and he said that he just felt like he wasn’t making a strong contribution anymore.”

Walker was disappointed to see Papanastasiou — who did not sit on any of the board’s committees — resign, but respected his decision.

“We never like to see a director resign,” he said. “But at least it’s more of a logistical issue, he wanted to remain on the board but he simply couldn’t whereas in the past, people have become disenfranchised or upset with the way things have gone.”

Walker added that the board would not be filling the spot left vacant by Papanastasiou and that it would continue to function with 14 members as opposed to 15. As the chair of the board, Walker holds the tie-breaking vote.

For Papanastasiou, though it ended earlier than he would’ve liked, being a director was a positive experience.

“I learned a lot from it and I met a lot of great people,” he said. “Overall, it was a good experience.”

Papanastasiou added that, should his future co-op schedule permit it, he would be interested in returning to the board in future years.

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## LOCAL

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SAMUEL CHENG CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## Mel's back in April

—cover

obviously until they give us the building ... but that's our intention, to rebuild there as well."

The fire, which occurred in April 2010, was designated as an arson, and four people have been held responsible. The blaze began in Tabu Nightclub when Daniel Campbell and William Schneider, who have since been sentenced, tossed Molotov cocktails through the window. It quickly spread, and Mel's Diner, along with Sugar Mountain and University Vision Centre, were razed to ground.

Campbell and Scheider were hired by former Titanium Nightclub owner Brent Campbell to destroy the rival business in order to clear a \$19,000 debt which Daniel Campbell had accumulated as a result of a cocaine addiction. The fire was allegedly not intended to spread beyond Tabu.

Campbell has been charged with arson and conspiracy to commit arson, and was released on \$100,000 bail last June. Lyntje Zinger, who drove the men to and from the scene of the crime, was given a conditional sentence.

The fire resulted in a devastating \$4.5 million in damages. Expressing regret for the circumstances which have occurred, Smith said, "I knew Brent Campbell. Not very well, but I knew him, and it's just a waste of a life for him to be sitting in jail, and it's a waste of the last two years of my life."

Although rumours abounded initially as people speculated the cause of the fire, he believed it was clear at the time that Mel's could not be implicated.

"I never concerned myself with rumours or credibility issues about it," Smith clarified.

However, feedback from the community after releasing news of rebuilding has very positive, he acknowledged.

As he waited for the opportunity to re-open Mel's, Smith teamed with owner of Uptown Waterloo's Ethel's Lounge Glen Smith to open the popular Frat Burger across the street from Wilfrid Laurier University.

While students have taken to Frat Burger, which is similar to Mel's, Smith, admit's not meant to be the same, many are excited at the return of the familiar eatery.

"Mel's Diner was affordable for students, and they had really good food," said Mabel Wong, a third-year global studies student at Laurier. "I really enjoyed the atmosphere of going there as well."

Although Wong only visited the establishment a handful of times, she regrets not taking the opportunity to go more often while it was there.

"It was unique to the area and it kind of gave a cool university feel to the plaza," added fourth-year Laurier student Hanna Johnston.

"It was just a great place to hang out."

The Mel's Diner location in Kitchener is set to open Apr. 1, 2012.

## Skate and shake in Uptown

Kdub hosted a skating event with DJ Ampz last Friday night



NICK LACHANCE PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

KATELYN CULLUM  
CORD NEWS

Despite the cold, dozens gathered at Waterloo Public Square on Friday evening for the Shake-n-Skate event, hosted by kdub.ca.

Featuring the musical talents of DJ Ampz and Eric Hoshooey, people of all ages were able to skate to the latest beats and enjoy the first snowfall K-W's seen in weeks.

"There's always something for everybody," Chrissy Letson, one of the organizers of the event, said.

Letson's fiancée started the event a couple years ago and after they got together, they both decided to keep doing it. "It's a fun, free, family-friendly event."

Arielle Dalley and Alex Pearce, both university students, agree. "It's a nice way to spend an evening, for sure," Pearce said, as she explained

that her and her friends had saw the posters around the rink last time they had come to skate.

"Yeah, it's pretty good. It's more interesting than skating around at night," said Dalley.

Those who chose to attend the event were offered flashing accessories to skate around with and there were colourful lights that lit up the outside of the rink.

The square quickly filled up as kids, teenagers, parents and grandparents all made their way to the sidelines to tie up their skates.

Everyone was bundled up and stayed warm by skating around the rink and getting their groove on as they sang along or danced to some familiar music.

The diversity of age was no problem, as both the young and the old enjoyed whatever was blasting from the speakers.

"The community aspect, [it is] nice to be outside and everyone is having a good time," said Ryan Marek, when asked what he liked most about the event.

Having driven by a couple Fridays ago and witnessed the Shake-n-Skate that was occurring then, Marek and his fiancée found out more information online and decided to come for the evening with some friends and family.

This is the third night for the Shake-n-Skate, having hosted two others earlier in January.

The final Shake-n-Skate is this Friday, Feb. 17 and the event runs from 6:30 p.m. until 9:30 p.m., featuring music from Mason Bach and Amber Long.

For more information about Shake-n-Skate and other events, visit kdub.ca.

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K-W in brief

**Doctor suspected of over-prescribing**

A Waterloo pain specialist is under investigation for over-prescribing narcotics, and, according to the *Record*, is reluctantly resigning from the practice of medicine. The Ontario College of Physicians and Surgeons accepted Dr. Frank Loy's resignation Monday. In return, the college withdrew allegations of professional misconduct.

A hearing into the allegations had been scheduled to start Tuesday in Toronto. However, the allegations were withdrawn before the college's discipline committee Monday. Last April, the college barred Loy from prescribing narcotics or controlled drugs at his pain management clinic on Westmount Road in Waterloo. The college alleged Loy failed to maintain the standard of practice of the profession and/or was incompetent in the care of 15 patients.

**Police identify dead mother and child**

Police have identified the two people found dead inside a Kitchener home Monday evening as a mother and her young child. According to the *Record*, Joanna Nowakowska, 38, and her daughter Bianca Nowakowska, four, were pronounced dead inside their townhome at 79 Mooregate Crescent on Monday evening.

Waterloo Regional Police said on Tuesday that investigators are not seeking any suspects at this time and do not believe there are any public safety issues.

They have also said the woman and the child were the only people inside the home at the time of their deaths. An autopsy was scheduled for Tuesday, and police have not yet released any information about cause of death. A day later, a small memorial comprised of a candle and a pair of red roses had been placed at the base of a tree on the townhouse's front lawn. —Compiled by Amanda Steiner



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

(From left) Raymond Louie, Brenda Halloran, Berry Vrbanovic, Brock Carlton stand together to receive Waterloo's community award

# Waterloo wins sustainability award

**AMANDA STEINER**  
LOCAL AND NATIONAL EDITOR

The City of Waterloo continues to show its excellence in not only advanced technology but advanced thinking when it comes to green initiatives and long term sustainability goals.

Last week, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) unveiled the winners of the 2012 Sustainable Communities Awards. This program recognizes municipal projects across Canada that demonstrate excellence in environmental responsibility. The Awards were announced at a ceremony during the FCM's Sustainable Communities Conference and Trade Show (SCC) in Ottawa.

Waterloo received the Sustainable Community award for its transportation sector, specifically in relation to the Davenport Road, multi-use corridor improvement. "It was a road safety community project," said Chris Hodgins, project manager for the Davenport improvement initiative.

Davenport Road used to be a four lane, semi-populated traffic area that separated the two communities on either side of the road. In 2005 there was a traffic study done that identified high speed, a lot of collision a lack of pedestrian and cycling facilities in the area, particularly

crossing the road. The people conducting the study recommended taking the road from four lanes down to two and to add bike lanes as well as turn lanes.

"A few years later," Hodgins explained, "We applied to the Build Canada Stimulus fund and we were successful with using that study as the basis of the application. That process allowed us to undertake the design and to capture those elements of the study — and actually we went over and above that."

Hodgins explained that the original study mainly referenced including only pedestrian islands. What ended up being part of the final project was this and much more. "What the finished article is," Hodgins said, "is really a lot of landscape medians so that's added to the aesthetics of the street."

The project also included a bike box, which Hodgins explained is the first of it in the region.

A bike box is a protected staging area for cyclists at the traffic lights

at Davenport and Lexington Road that gives cyclists protection when they're turning left, and gives them some priority over the cars since vehicles will have to wait behind them.

"We also put in what we call an open smart channel at that same intersection," added Hodgins, "Which is also safer for pedestrians and cyclists in that area when they're turning right."

Also included were what Hodgins called bicycle 'lay-bys' which is where the crosswalks and pedestrian walk ways link onto Davenport.

It's an area where cyclists in the cycling can safely turn left down to a side street and can stop there while waiting for a break in traffic if they're not comfortable moving into the left turn lane. "It's just another added device to try and relate to different experienced cyclists," Hodgins said.

In short, the four-lane Davenport area was downsized to a two-lane traffic district, which received the sustainability award due to the

elements of design that have improved the environment.

"For example, we reduced the surface footprint by at least ten per cent, and by narrowing down to two lanes we're using less road salt and less passes with the plow," said Hodgins.

"We greened the area — there's more than 300 native species of trees have gone in, which will absorb a large amount of carbon dioxide per year."

"As well," he continued, "Because of the active transportation shelters we put in [transit shelters, transit pads, bike lanes, pedestrian crossing facilities] all these will help to bring people to the corridor and across the corridor by biking or walking and increase [public] transit use, so that's all part of that green element."

Phase three of the project is hoped to be completed by this summer, and as of now, the projected and current costs of the project are all within budget, which is funded by the Build Canada Fund.

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# NATIONAL

National Editor  
Amanda Steiner  
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## Increased warm and cold periods

Canada's weather takes weird turns this season due to increasing climate change

**HIRRA GILANI**  
STAFF WRITER

The weather has been all over the place and Canadians are wondering what's happening? Is it a good thing or not?

Some spring and summer lovers might think so, but then there's the avid skiers and snowboarders who are tired of the grassy, wet hills this season.

Evan Fraser, associate professor of geography at the University of Guelph, gave his advice and a broader view as to how people are reacting.

"This year, one of the benefits is that municipalities aren't spending nearly as much money as they did last year for snow removal," he said.

"But if you're a person who depends on winter tourism then you are really, really suffering. In terms of other issues, the issues that I'm interested in [like] agriculture, [the situation] is worse."

As always, there are environmental concerns. In regards to agriculture, energy critic for the Green Party of Canada, Cathy MacLellan, is also very concerned, specifically with the effects on maple syrup.

"Maple trees require dormancy and low night time temperatures and warm sunny days in order for that syrup it creates," she explained.

"Being a maple syrup lover myself, I can imagine that the prices of maple syrup are going to be a bit more expensive for what might be an initial crop issue, though we don't know this yet for sure."

MacLellan also advocates for people to think more broadly in terms of the effects we are facing.

"If you're only thinking about your own life, then sure people obviously like the warm weather, and sure it's great, but it may be affecting global agriculture," she said.

"Drought [affects] the kinds of crops we can grow, which is very concerning."

According to MacLellan, there is hope to reverse the effects of climate change, involving even the meagere

things that individuals can do to make a difference. For example, the fairly obvious things like choosing to use public transportation as opposed to the comfort of one's own car.

MacLellan also pointed out that people are likely to suffer from respiratory problems due to the effects of climate change, so reducing exhaust and pollution can only be a benefit.

Jonathan Newman, director of environmental sciences at the University of Guelph, added his personal perspective on the matter with regards to the government making a difference, as opposed to individuals specifically.

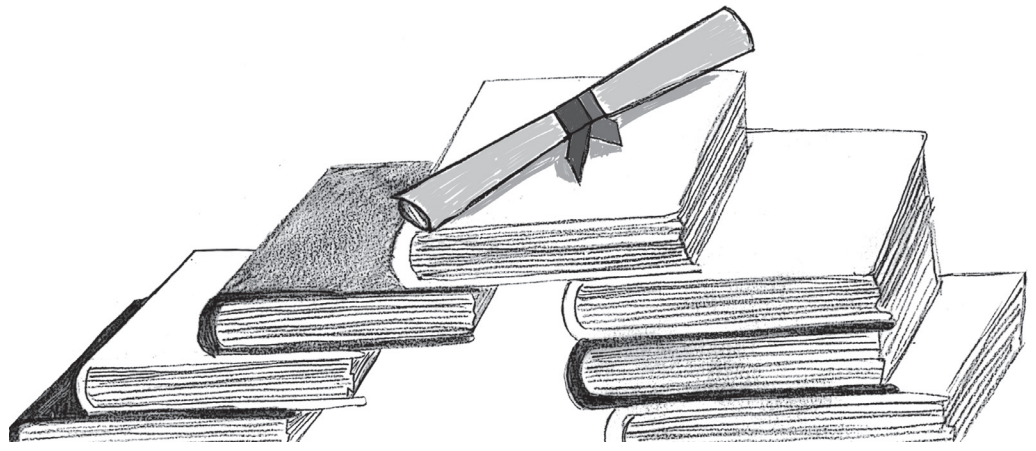
"We're unlikely to make the significant changes that we need without commitments from our governments," he said.

For Newman, "The things that we do as individuals are likely to be treated at a smaller level. We need concerned national efforts, an international agreement between countries to take this seriously."

Though, like MacLellan and Fraser, Newman agrees that people do need to think about how climate change effects not only production, but how the forces that lead to climate change themselves effect our food security.

**"We're unlikely to make the significant changes that we need without commitments from our government."**

—Jonathan Newman, director of environmental sciences



## Accelerated degrees

**LEE RICHARDSON**  
CUP ONTARIO BUREAU CHIEF

TORONTO (CUP) — Accelerated three-year degrees could eventually be seen at the University of Guelph, as a working group is currently in the early stages of studying their feasibility.

The potential three-year bachelor degrees would be equivalent to the current four-year degree, with an added possibility of adding another year to gain a master's degree in four years. The research group looking into the idea, made up of members of faculty, students and administration, will study into the practicality of bringing the three-year degrees to U of G.

"It's really exploratory at this stage," said U of G provost and vice-president academic, Maureen Mancuso. "But there's a lot of interest with what's happening in Europe, the United States and Australia with respect to the possibility of three-year degrees, or accelerated degrees."

As well as considering the shortened degrees, the group will study the provincial transfer credit system with the goal of streamlining the process for incoming students who have graduated from college.

"It's not very easy for a student to move between institutions, either way, from college to university or university to college, or even between jurisdictions," said Mancuso. "There's a lot of difficulties in making those transitions or those moves, so I think we need to help the students in trying to make it as easy for them as we can."

Over the past couple of years, there has been discussion with regards to reforming both the transfer credit process in Ontario — which

has led to colleges forming their own four-year degree programs — and whether bachelor degrees should have to be four years long.

While the Ontario government set up the Pathways Initiative in 2009 to streamline elements of the transfer credit process, there are still students who find that they have to repeat similar courses to ones they have already taken, or have to take more than the usual number of electives to fill out a program.

"It should be tied to your status. I think mature students shouldn't be forced to take a number of electives," said Colin Mitchell, who transferred into McMaster University with six credits, or three classes, after his graduation from Mohawk College in Hamilton.

"They could totally give you more transfer credits and let you bypass that stage."

In terms of the research being carried out at U of G, which has already been involved with the Pathways Initiative, there is no set date for research findings being announced.

"There's a lot of behind-the-scenes operational stuff that needs to be worked out if we're going to make this work," said Mancuso. "I would like to see some significant progress by the end of this semester."

Three-year degrees are widely accepted in many other countries, including the United States, where universities like Georgia South-Western State University, Arcadia University and the University of North Carolina at Greensboro all have established three-year degrees, and a growing number of universities are introducing the accelerated programs.

They are also common in

European countries, which agreed to harmonize their education policies under the Bologna Process. In the United Kingdom, there has been discussion by Vince Cable, the business secretary, in regard to switching to a two-year bachelor degree system in order to save the state money.

In Canada, though, outside of select universities like Athabasca, those shortened three-year degrees are virtually unknown.

"It's an interesting idea. I certainly think there [are] people who believe that we could be better off if we get down to three [years]," said University of Toronto economics professor Philip Oreopoulos.

"I'm not aware of any evidence that says one way or the other that it matters. If it doesn't make any difference to labour market outcomes, and knowledge and lifetime socio-economic outcomes, that's great — let's all go down to three."

But there is debate over what effect cutting a year from a bachelor's degree would have.

"One thing to consider is that a lot of graduate programs expect the bachelor degree to be a four-year degree," said associate professor at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE), Barrie Bennett.

"At [OISE], our graduate applicants must have a four year degree or have something that really sets them apart, so if the undergrad expects to do graduate work, they may put themselves into a difficult spot. "That said, if that three year program is going to be an incredible program; then three years of incredible beats four years of mediocre," Bennett added.

"Of course, as a parent, I would rather have four years of incredible."

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# Harper aims to strengthen Chinese ties

**AMANDA STEINER**  
LOCAL AND NATIONAL EDITOR

Prime Minister Stephen Harper's recent trip to China has attracted a lot of national attention, raising numerous questions as to the future connections with this major world power. Talk of a free trade agreement, economic gain and diversified trade have been filling newspapers and generating heated discussion as to whether or not this new partnership is entirely profitable for Canada as a nation.

"I'll start by saying the Prime Minister's mission to China last week was a resounding success," said Conservative Kitchener-Waterloo member of parliament Peter Braid. "And I think it takes our economic and diplomatic relationship with China to a whole new level."

China has been the fastest growing economy worldwide, but its trade has even grown faster, such that China is basically the largest export economy in the world today, which, according to Wilfrid Laurier University associate professor of economics Azim Essaji, was not a position that it had many years ago.

"China is just a really important trading partner," Essaji said. "In fact, ... China constitutes about 11.5 per cent of the world's exports, which means that it is larger than Germany and the United States — both of which were previously probably the most important trading companies in the world. So it's a really important market."

Braid commented on the importance of the partnership by saying that, "The reason trade with China has become so much more critically

important is for two reasons. One is that, by 2020, China will be the world's largest economy."

"Secondly, the key to economic success for Canada is to have diversified trading relationships. Because China is such an important emerging, growing world economy, we need to be well-positioned to take advantage of the growth of the Chinese economy and to diversify trading relationships around the world," added Braid.

The Chinese economy has been growing rapidly since 1978, when China began to open up to the rest of the world — with their exports growing tremendously.

"In fact," said Essaji, "China has been the fastest growing economy in the world, but its trade has even grown faster."

Though there are still many steps that need to be taken before reaching a free trade agreement with China, Harper does plan on expanding the trade of natural resources to China. Some of the resources that they will need are petroleum, petroleum products as well as pulp and paper, mining products and a host of other resources Canada already exports to other countries.

"I think an enhanced partnership between Canada and China is critical to Canada because it allows us to diversify our trading relationships and strengthen and grow our economy," said Braid. "And it can create jobs in Canada — which is our government's number one priority."

However, though the partnership does have many positive possibilities such as economic growth and potential employment increase, professor Essaji warns that there

could be possible drawbacks to this plan.

"I think that there is a danger," he said. "And this is something we have to confront as Canadians in terms of our long-term transformation into an even more resource based economy than we already are."

"That's not just due to China, it's due to a variety of sources that exist in the world that are driving but a major one of which is the demand for natural resources, which has increased dramatically over the last ten — 15 years."

Essaji expanded to describe the possibility that Canada might be placing one too many eggs in the same basket, to make a more simple description to this partnership. There has been an obvious expansion of Canada's resource-based sector, however it comes at the expense of our manufacturing base.

The question is "whether [or not] this is a strategy that is in the long term interest of Canada," Essaji said. "Which is to say, we'd become much more of a resourced-based economy relative to what we were 20 years ago, which is debatable. There are questions to whether this is a long term sustainable path for us to adopt."

A major concern by focusing on this sector is that many of the natural resources Canada exports are exhaustible.

"It ends up being an issue of what kind of standard of living we hope to enjoy going into the future," Essaji said. "And whether really we are starving industries that have the potential to make us more productive, more intelligent in the future in return for some short term gains

in the resource sector where clearly there are large gains to be made at present."

The question then becomes, what happens when resources dry up and Canada didn't back up other sectors or put in enough capital?

Putting money into other industries, such as manufacturing, as Essaji mentioned, won't necessarily make profit immediately but possibly long-term. With Canada just coming out of a recession and in a deficit, the partnership could potentially be a quick fix rather than a long term plan.

"This has been an ongoing process for the last number of years," Braid said. "The Prime Minister's visit last week takes it to a whole new level."

Last week there were over 20 commercial agreements signed, representing a value of over \$3 billion, with an emphasis in areas including clean technology, agriculture and an important area for Waterloo Region education. What did he mean by this? It will be beneficial across the board."



STEPHANIE TRUONG GRAPHIC ARTIST

## Canada in brief

### Lawful access legislation still in the works

The Conservative government is in the process of trying to push through the "Lawful access legislation." The government has been working on this since 2009, and if the bill becomes law it will give the federal government the jurisdiction to access Canadians' online usage data including: names, addresses and telephone numbers.

Presently this information is only available once a warrant has been issued by the court system. The law would impose monitoring software upon Internet service providers, adding additional burden to the smaller competitors that may not have the financial means to make the change. The financial burden would be covered in part by the taxpayers.

This increased attempt to censor and control the Internet has been an issue internationally as well, with the Chinese and American government making headlines in similar regards recently.

### F-35 fighter jets still going to be purchased

While countries across the globe, including Norway, Australia, Britain, Turkey and the United States have reduced or tentatively postponed their decision on F-35 fighter jet purchases, the Canadian purchase plan appears to remain intact.

The American government has decided to cut some purchases next year to save some money, and is proposing to postpone the over 170 F-35 purchases until after 2017.

Due to this reality, there are concerns of production slowdowns, and the price may end up totaling far more than the \$75 million per plane that the Conservative government originally projected.

As the issue becomes more heated, there have been proposals to purchase planes cheaper

than the F-35s to bridge the gap, once the current CF-18s go out of commission.

### NDP polls suggest Mulcair ahead in leadership race

More than 25 per cent of New Democrats have chosen Thomas Mulcair as the person they would like to see leading the NDP.

The poll, released by Paul Dewar's camp, showed Dewar as the second-place candidate.

The poll results were weighted to reflect the over 50,000 NDP members that exist across the country. Brian Topp's camp criticized the results of the poll, suggesting that he is very much a viable candidate in the race, in light of Dewar's poll suggesting Topp was in fifth place.

NDP leaders dealt with concerns this past Sunday on the issue of their party's decreasing popularity in the province of Quebec.

It does appear, that the NDP still does rank first among the federal parties.

—Compiled by Ravi Balakrishnan


### Request for marijuana legalization

Four former BC attorney generals are joining a coalition of health and justice experts calling for the legalization of marijuana.

Colin Gabelmann, Ujjal Dosanjh, Graeme Bowbrick and Geoff Plant have all signed a letter to BC Premier Christy Clark and BC NDP Leader Adrian Dix, asking the politicians to endorse legalization, taxing and regulating marijuana.

The former attorneys general suggested that the move would help reduce gang violence associated with the illegal marijuana trade, raise tax revenues and ease the burden on the province's court system.

—Compiled by Amanda Steiner




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# 'Be vigilant'

In the wake of more incidents of violence affecting students near campus, **In Depth** Editor Mike Lakusiak explores the issue once again



Check out an interactive map of incidents from 2007-2012 at [thecord.ca](http://thecord.ca) and [thecord.tumblr.com](http://thecord.tumblr.com)

GRAPHICS BY TAYLOR GAYOWSKY AND WADE THOMPSON

Walking home on Hazel Street at around three o'clock Friday morning, third-year Laurier student Taylor Stensrud had a similar experience to several others in recent weeks and months. He was mugged of some belongings, including his phone, by a group of individuals whose covered faces left little in the way of distinguishing features, beside perhaps one: they held a gun.

With five robberies involving a firearm since the New Year, the area immediately surrounding Laurier – Northdale in particular – is garnering a more ominous reputation among students and community members once again. In Nov. 2010, *The Cord* printed an In Depth article on the topic and in the more than twelve months since, not much has changed. If anything, the situation may have worsened.

## Benefit of experience?

"I've not seen anything like this here," Rod Curran, director of Laurier's Special Constable Services said. "The thing that's really scary about this situation is the gun involved – using a weapon."

"This is a rare [kind of] incident going on right now, which is why we need to catch whoever is doing this."

With this most recent rash of robberies including at least 15 distinct incidents of either robbery or attempted robbery occurring within a five-block radius of the university since October, there seem to be many questions and few answers beyond warnings to take caution. An uneasiness surrounds the situation – students are going to continue to live in these areas and these incidents are in most cases directly affecting students.

Taking stock of the situation, dean of students Leanne Holland Brown explained that Laurier is not isolated from these sorts of circumstances.

"The challenge is that life happens outside of campus and as much as we sometimes are a bubble, we're not a bubble," she said. "Things happen close to and on campus and we need to make sure that we are aware and as careful as we can be. Beyond that I'm not sure what more we can do, really."

Obviously this is not a unique situation to Laurier either, with many Ontario universities experiencing issues with areas that students live, often crammed in residential areas never designed with them in mind. Queen's University in Kingston has a somewhat notorious "university district," with regular break-ins accompanying the rowdy homecoming traditions that earned the university some unwanted attention in past years.

That said, speaking to Queen's Alma Mater Society municipal affairs commissioner, David Sinkinson, seemed to underscore that Laurier and Waterloo are facing a particularly fierce blight. "Armed robbery would be a very difficult thing for us to deal with," he said of Queen's. "University towns deal with certain issues and thankfully that's not one of ours."

Holland Brown explained that inevitably issues will arise, only the severity varies. "You need to look at the incidents that are happening at universities across Ontario to recognize that it doesn't matter where you are, if you are at a university that is a physical university in the midst of a city, there are always going to be challenges and issues that surface just by virtue of the community that is so close to the proximity of campus," she said.

"The gravity of the situation changes depending on the campus but there isn't a campus in Ontario, I think, that is exempt from safety issues."

## Caught in the middle

Jim and Ruth Facey have lived in Northdale since 1955 and describing the reported incidents from their Larch St. home, Ruth gestured up and down the street. "It's been happening all around us."

Jim, like many, struggled to put the pieces together. "This is new. I can't follow that they would go all the way to armed robbery to get an iPod or something. I can see them breaking into jewelry stores to get [a lot of money], but what's an iPod, a couple hundred dollars? There's more to it than that, I think."

The Faceys, along with their 'security system' – a 14-year-old dog

– didn't seem particularly troubled by the incidents as applying to them directly, but had other concerns. "We don't like it, but I don't feel nervous yet," Jim said. "I probably wouldn't walk around at three in the morning but we don't feel nervous in the house."

Their worry, shared with other long-time residents of the area, is tied to the status of the City of Waterloo's land-use study of the area and status of their home and property as it remains in limbo, the city and developers trying to figure out what to do with the neighbourhood. "This is not a good situation for us," Jim said. "I'm sure things like this aren't helping property values."

Ruth raised the issue of home invasions, which have occurred on both adjacent streets to Larch, as something that they are all too aware of. "Up until a few years ago we never used to lock the house – we do now," she said.

## Sobering accounts

Like Stensrud, fourth-year Laurier student John – who asked that his last name be withheld in print – was confronted with a gun near the gates of the university, in the area of Veterans' Green at Hazel and University Avenue.

"It definitely changes my perception of [the area]," he said. "I'm used to walking home either after the bar or whenever but I view it as more dangerous now because there have been so many other muggings as well."

What was particularly puzzling for John and others that spoke to *The Cord* was the fact that students, for one, aren't likely to be carrying anything much more valuable than a cell phone at a given time. Also, especially when returning from the bar, they don't often have much cash on them.

"I have no clue why this area is being targeted," John said. "Maybe because there are so many students around, but when they took my wallet, I had five bucks in it."

"That's what pissed me off the most, they mugged me over five bucks."

## Making sense

Waterloo Regional Police Service spokesperson Olaf Heinzel explained that the incidence of robbery has spiked across the region in recent months. "Since about August of last year, we've seen an increase across the region and I can't say specifically to this area, but across the region we've seen an increase in the types of personal robberies where items like cellphones have been targeted," he said.

He confirmed that a number of detectives had been assigned to investigating the incidents nearby the university, which had several similarities, and several sources indicated that more officers than usual were likely patrolling the area.

Curran explained that the Special Constables, who have police powers on campus but limited powers in areas that fall outside, had been circulating through the affected areas as much as possible.

"What I'm telling our people is to go down Hazel St. and all the side streets. The only problem is that if we see anything we can't do anything because it's off campus, if we see something we can get right on the phone to police though."

"I think all we can really do is reassure the students that we are watching, we have a full compliment on duty, [and] we're all patrolling along with WRPS," he added.

"Use the safety tips and that's the best you can do for right now. We are going to catch these people, it's just a matter of time, and we don't want to see anyone get hurt."

Any time incidents of this nature are reported or the university sends out a safety notice to students, as occurred last week, Foot Patrol sees a spike in use, according to co-ordinator Chandler Jolliffe. "[Sunday] night we came in just under 50 walks. 50 walks any day of the week is a decently high number but to have that on a Sunday is about triple what we would normally get," he said.

He noted that while the number of walks home given overall by Foot Patrol volunteers has increased and some progress has been made, a stigma still exists that prevents some males from using the service. "Although we see significantly, significantly less guys, we do

still get guys that use the service," he said. "We're trying to get people to understand that we're just here to get you home safe."

However, perhaps not surprisingly, students' paranoia after reported attacks tends to wane not long after.

"Our numbers shoot through the roof," he said, "it tends to fade out though, which is understandable but probably a little concerning as well."

"Students become really conscious of safety issues when something is happening but after a few weeks that safety consciousness fades off and they get back into old habits and may take fewer precautions."

## So, what now?

Because of the uncertainty surrounding many details of what has been occurring, police and Special Constables are urging anyone who overhears anything or has more information to come forward. "Police are investigating these, but we also need the help of the community to mobilize themselves as well and take reasonable precautions that will decrease their likelihood of becoming victims of crime," Heinzel said.

Curran echoed these sentiments. "Someone that's involved in these robberies is talking to someone and all we need is a tip to come in. You can give us a tip over the Campus Assist and it's anonymous, so if someone knows someone knows something they can give it to us that way and we'll act on the information."

For students who have been impacted first-hand, the fact remains that where they live makes being vulnerable to these sorts of things sometimes inevitable.

"I've told people that have to walk through there to keep an eye out and, if they can, to just avoid the street in general," Stensrud said.

"All you can do is just be vigilant."

## ARTS

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COURTESY OF NFB

# Cancer film eye opening

LINDA GIVETASH  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

"Slash, burn, poison," said Dr. Susan Love to describe the seemingly unchanged methods of treating breast cancer she has seen through her lengthy career.

This gruesome reality presented in the recently released *Pink Ribbons, Inc.*, was used to counter the upbeat, idealistic perception of pink ribbon campaigns and unveil their corruption.

The documentary *Pink Ribbons, Inc.*, screened at Waterloo's Princess Cinema on Feb. 9, is based on the book of the same title by Samantha King, professor of kinesiology and health studies at Queen's University. King, featured throughout the film, discusses the commercialization of breast cancer and the market driving the pink ribbon that has become detached from its assumed purpose.

Under the direction of Léa Pool, *Pink Ribbons, Inc.* assembles a cast of doctors, researchers and women that have or currently suffer from breast cancer to bring the truth of campaigns run by corporations including the Susan G. Komen for the Cure breast cancer foundation, AVON and Estée Lauder to light.

These countless corporations that organize walks, runs, rows and even jumps "for the cure" raise millions for breast cancer research – but whether that is being utilized effec-

tively is up for debate. Moreover, the focus of these fundraisers for many companies is the bottom line – selling more yogurt in the case of Yo-plait – rather than effectively discovering the cause and a real cure for breast cancer.

The hypocrisy surrounding pink corporate campaigns is astounding. Ads by Ford Motor Company for their "warriors in pink" campaign targeted to those "fighting" the disease seem ridiculous when later scenes feature women who were exposed to cancer-causing chemicals while moulding plastics that would be used on vehicles.

Even Kentucky Fried Chicken, in partnership with the Komen foundation, attempted to run a pink campaign to fundraise while also promoting their grilled products. The problems with the pink buckets go without say and the campaign was put to an end after thousands sent letters and e-mails outraged by marketing ploy, regardless of the fundraising attached.

After all the pink marketing and the funds raised, which in the case of Komen amounts to over \$1 billion, are not regulated in how or where they're spent.

Author Ellen Leopold attributes the failure to discover a cure to the fact that it is more marketable and economical for pharmaceutical companies to find drugs that extend survival. Furthermore, prevention, which involves finding a cause, is

not highly considered either, receiving approximately three to five per cent of all funding.

With the research that is done, Dr. Olufunmilayo Olopade, director of the cancer risk clinic at the University of Chicago, explains that it predominantly uses white, middle-class Western women for its samples.

This means that different types of breast cancer – which Dr. Love also referred to their being at least five – are going untested because the demographics it affects are not the popular sample.

A shocking statistics cited in the documentary reveals that breast cancer is becoming increasingly prevalent despite the years of research and money put towards finding a cure. In the 1940s, the chance of having breast cancer was one in every 22 women; currently the rate of breast cancer is one in eight.

Looking again to the problem of "Slash, burn, poison" treatments that fail to cure, Dr. Love adds, "That's what you do when you don't understand it."

Whether you've donned a pink ribbon, walked for a cure or simply have known someone suffering from breast cancer, *Pink Ribbons, Inc.* will be an eye-opener; not just for the sheer lack of understanding of the disease, but the public's deception by marketing campaigns exploiting hope.

# Grammys honour perpetrator of domestic violence

54th Awards glorify talents of Chris Brown on anniversary of Rihanna altercation, honour Whitney Houston

LIZ SMITH  
ARTS EDITOR

On Sunday night, Chris Brown took the stage at the Staples Center in Los Angeles during the 54th Annual Grammy Awards, not once – not twice, but three times. First, Brown performed a medley of "Turn Up The Music" and "Beautiful People," then accepted his award for best R & B album for *F.A.M.E.* and finally, performed alongside David Guetta, Lil Wayne and Foo Fighters.

On Grammy Sunday three years ago Brown viciously assaulted his then-girlfriend Rihanna, resulting in her hospitalization.

On an evening where the spotlight was so brightly cast on the tragic passing of Whitney Houston, who famously suffered domestic

abuse at the hand of ex-husband Bobby Brown, going on the struggle for years with substance abuse and depression, the Recording Academy found it appropriate to pay homage to the talents of Chris Brown three times. In such a public and influential forum, the music industry has re-instated Chris Brown with open arms; broadcasting to viewers and fans alike, all is forgiven. What message does this send?

To ignore that he hospitalized a woman the industry adores, three years ago to date seems too much of an oversight to escape comment. Bullying, a common issue in today's schools and society, is certainly perpetuated by such messages: the abuser is a hero and the victim ought to get over it. The young girls watching saw exactly how that

played out.

Jennifer Hudson honoured the late Houston with a rendition of her song "I Will Always Love You."

Otherwise, the 54th Grammy Awards, hosted by LL Cool J, had several great moments and even more moments which functioned to enforce what I already knew about the state of today's music industry: it's tragic.

Adele, the current poster-girl for musical talent, fulfilled great expectations, taking home the big three: record of the year for herself and Paul Epworth, album of the year and song of the year. By far the highest selling artist of 2011, Adele performed her song "Rolling in the Deep" – the very song which won her two Grammys that night, also winning best solo pop performance for "Someone Like You" and best vocal pop album.

Adele wasn't pitch perfect but definitely displayed the serious talent we know her to possess. The star-studded audience responded to her performance with one of the longest and more enthusiastic standing ovations of the evening. How many 23 year olds have received a standing O from Paul McCartney?

Another high point was the Beach Boys tribute. Aside from the initial hilarity of a group who would look more at home in rocking chairs than on the Grammy stage and brief moments of concern for their plastic hips, the band delivered a great performance, following a tribute in which Maroon 5 and Foster the People performed classic Beach Boys hits before joining the legendary band on-stage for "Good Vibrations."

Electronic music had tenfold the

presence of any previous year, reflecting the shift of the mainstream towards electronic, house and dub-step music. Skrillex took home two Grammys: best dance recording and best dance/electronic album for *Scary Monsters and Nice Sprites*.

In probably the most unexpected Grammy win of the night, Bon Iver's Justin Vernon accepted the Grammy for best new artist, voicing his appreciation for the "sweet hook-up" in his acceptance speech, also winning the award for best alternative music album, beating out both Foster the People and Radiohead.

Nikki Minaj offended a large chunk of the population of the Western world with her performance, in which she confessed her sins to a mock-pope and he attempted to perform an exorcism on her alter ego, Roman, after arriving on the red carpet in silk robes accompanied by her Vatican counterpart. Minaj was all gimmicks and no talent and doesn't merit further mention.

Foo Fighters front man Dave Grohl expressed controversial opinions on the importance of the "human aspect" of making music, stating "it's not about sounding perfect, it's about singing into a microphone," while accepting one of their four Grammy awards (best rock performance, best hard rock/metal performance, best rock song, best rock album).

Oddly, the broadcast panned out and cut to music at least five seconds before Grohl finished his speech, perhaps in an effort to avoid later controversy. Those who expressed appreciation for the sentiments via standing ovation were likely confused half an hour later,

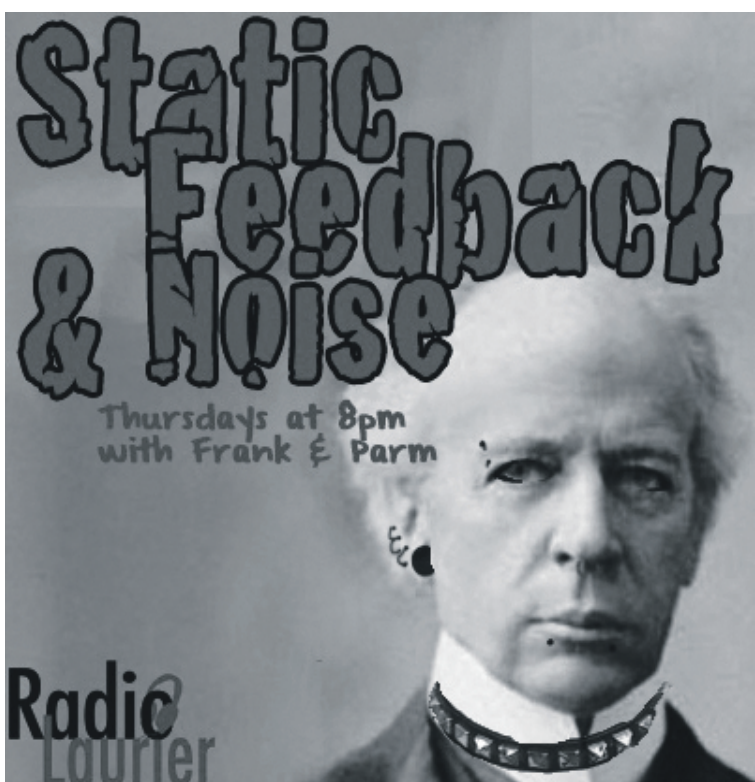
when the band took the stage to play "Rope" while electronic producer Deadmau5 Djed.

Kanye West's *My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy* took home rap album of the year, to the great happiness of many rap fans – the general consensus has seemed to be that West has been glaringly overlooked in past years and would be wrongfully overlooked had he not taken home the award in 2012.

West was honoured again when "Otis," with Jay-Z, won best rap performance and "All of the Lights" with Rihanna won both best rap/sung collaboration and best rap song. West and Jay were notably absent from the Awards, despite being multiple winners.

Famous ex-Beatle and current embarrassing aisle-dancer Paul McCartney performed twice during the broadcast and was joined in the audience by his new wife, New Yorker Nancy Chevell.

Tony Bennett won two Grammys, and performed a duet with Carrie Underwood, far exceeding her in vocal talent, at 85 years old.



Check out [thecord.ca](http://thecord.ca) for Jessica Groom's review of *The Faults in Our Stars* and Andrew Savory's reaction to *Chronicle*.



STEPH TRUONG GRAPHICS ARTIST

# Prof nominated for Edgar Allan Poe Award

LIZ SMITH  
ARTS EDITOR

“My mom introduced me to Agatha Christie novels when I was a kid and as a teenager my dad introduced me to *Perry Mason*, the old TV re-runs,” said Philippa Gates, associate film professor at Wilfrid Laurier, in an interview with *The Cord*. “I’ve always liked the crime genre.”

Gates, who published *Detecting Men: Masculinity and the Hollywood Detective Film* in 2006, followed up the book two years later with 2011’s *Detecting Women: Gender and the Hollywood Detective Film* which looks at the progression of the female detective in Hollywood cinema from the beginning of sound film.

*Detecting Women: Gender and the Hollywood Detective Film* was recently nominated for the prestigious Edgar Allan Poe Award, an annual honour awarded by the Mystery Writers of America to commemorate the best in mystery fiction, non-fiction,

television, film and theatre.

“The original project was to look at male detectives in the 30s and 40s,” Gates explained. “I found all these films that no one had ever talked about and I got kind of angry that here was this contribution to classical Hollywood film that women were making as characters, pushing the genre forward, that’s been largely unacknowledged.”

Gates ultimately decided to focus on female detectives in her second book, saying, “I felt like I had helped map out the history of the male detective but I was as guilty as anyone else of ignoring these women who represented an important shift in the genre.”

“We tend to think of feminist film beginning in the 70s so I became compelled to explore whether we could see these films in the 30s offering any feminist or proto-feminist message.”

On the progression of female detectives in film, Gates noted, “The

films of the ‘30s are in some ways the most progressive, they seemed the most ready and able to accept a female detective that was feminine and attractive to men but also in-credibly masculine in her ability to fight crime. That’s a combination detective fiction and film has really struggled with since the ‘80s.”

“From the ‘40s to today there’s an assumption that if the female is the detective, her professional and her personal life are going to clash. Can she be a woman, get married, have kids and a career that’s normally-what guys do. That is still the dominating film of contemporary film, as soon as you have a woman in a male role, can she balance her masculinity and femininity,” expressed the professor about the issue of gender roles in crime film.

“It seems a combination that just can’t work, whereas in the ‘30s it was embraced. Maybe that’s just because of the social era; I argue, that, because it was the depression,

“The films of the ‘30s are in some ways the most progressive, they seemed the most ready to accept a female detective.”

—Philippa Gates, associate film professor at Wilfrid Laurier

women did have to go out and get work, they had to put off getting married and having kids — it was a social reality. Maybe that’s why where was this time period where these female characters were embraceable to audiences.”

The Edgar Allan Poe Award winner will be announced on Apr. 26 in New York.



NICK LACHANCE FILE PHOTO

# Goon, the potential return of the sports movie

WADE THOMPSON  
VISUAL DIRECTOR

What in the hell happened to the sports movie? In the last decade or so the production of sports oriented films hasn’t diminished in quantity, simply, the few movies that have attempted to showcase the intensity and inspiration people watch these movies for have fallen down flat. They haven’t managed to evoke the same classic memories that films of predeceasing decades were able to.

In my mind, 2000 marked the last great year for the sub-genre. It was then that the world was treated to Shane “Footsteps” Falco leading a team of misfits onto the field in *The Replacements*. It was the beginning of Hollywood making films surrounding alternative sports with the fantastic cheerleader flick *Bring It On*. It was also the year Denzel Washington made sure the world would

never forget *Remember the Titans*.

Following that solid year of comedies, dramas and cult films surrounding athletics, Hollywood has failed to find the magic in their attempts to make a successful sports movie.

Now it can’t be ignored that there have been some valiant attempts. Movies like *Seabiscuit*, *Whip It!* and *The Rookie* have their own followers who would be eager to provide them praise. Then, of course, you have the rare Oscar bait which appeal to a specific field. *The Blind Side*, *The Fighter*, *Million Dollar Baby* and even this year’s *Moneyball* all received critical acclaim and notice.

But, as good as those movies are, they simply don’t carry the same aura as *Rocky*, *Bull Durham* or *The Hustler*. There appears to be less attention paid to the sport itself in these more recent pictures than the ones I grew up on.

Which is why I think there is possible hope sitting in the on deck circle. Next week marks the release of *Goon*, and based on nothing but trailers and hype, the filmmakers behind this movie look like they have a hit on their hands.

As a Canadian kid, hockey movies naturally held higher ground for me than any other sports movies did when I was growing up. I found as much joy watching a Leafs game as I did when I saw the Hanson’s “puttin’ on the foil” in *Slap Shot*. I was one of the few who actually liked *Mystery, Alaska*. And you can be damn sure that I wanted to be coached by Gordon Bombay as one of *The Mighty Ducks*.

It’s a wonder to me how there has not been a good hockey flick since the late ‘90s. Some will point to *Miracle* as the exception, but to me it was no more than mediocre. It was Americans glamourizing the

only exceptional moment they’ve ever had in the sport. Sure it’s a fun story, but being from north of the border, I wasn’t as into it as I might have been. There was no connection there.

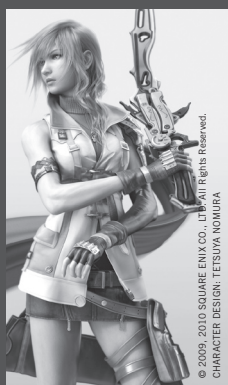
This brings us to 2012, to the release of *Goon*. Not since George Roy Hill’s immortal *Charlestown Chiefs* took to the ice in 1977 has a movie really focused on the controversial role of “enforcer” on the ice. Despite the reservations of some towards the violence involved in the position, the “goon” is often a solid character who embodies the fun and charisma of the game. There simply is no equivalent role player in any

other sport.

From what trailers have shown, the marketing team has me convinced that the movie will have the right balance of dark comedy and heart that will push it to another level — one we haven’t seen in far too long. If nothing else, the two Canadian kids who wrote it, Jay Baruchel and Evan Goldberg, are two recognizable talents that I’ll trust resolutely, until they prove otherwise.

*Goon* looks good — it looks like it could be the first real entry into the Sports Movie Hall of Fame in a long while. Here’s hoping it doesn’t disappoint.

## Time For A Study Break



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# EDITORIAL

Opinion Editor  
Shaun Fitt  
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## Budget negotiations must keep students' best interests at heart

With the potential of a full-time faculty strike at Wilfrid Laurier University, many students are worried about what will happen to their semester of work. Both the faculty and WLU administration are aware of these anxieties and assure the student body that, although there is a very complex nature to these negotiations, a solution is the main goal of both sides.

In the context of present economic realities the WLU administration's proposed budget is a response to increased competition as well as expected declines in provincial government funding in future years. Issues arise because of its effect on faculty pensions and salaries as well as its mandate that teachers must change to focus more of their work on teaching than research.

Although there are complaints that the WLU faculty is already paid at a relatively low rate compared to other Ontario universities, students feel that their interests should have more weight given the necessity of having had a reliable education for future success. Social media connection has allowed student reactions to filter into an online petition voicing their position against a WLU full-time faculty strike.

Given their voting results, WLUFA may seem to be interested in a strike, however the inconvenience that it would cause for thousands of students outweighs the faculty's benefits from its desired budget compromises. In the event of a strike students could still be required to complete course work without lecture assistance or, at worst, lose their semester's progress.

On the other hand some students may not suffer much from a full-time strike as classes that are run by part-time or contract staff will still be scheduled to run. This is where fears about full-time strikes stem from. The consequences on students are unpredictable and out of their control up until the news breaks and it is difficult to prepare for.

Negotiations ultimately require compromise from all parties. Both sides must keep students' best interests at heart — because, after all, that's why the school is here — and both the university administration and WLUFA should be ready to give up some of their demands in order to find a compromise and come to an agreement.

—The Cord Editorial Board

## Northdale violence reflects centralization of local security

Since October 2011 there has been over a dozen instances of violence within minutes of campus. Although most of these occurrences have been concentrated in the Northdale area, its indirect effects can be felt throughout the tri-city region. People feel that, while the frequency has not changed significantly, the nature of these encounters have become more dangerous. Victims have increasingly reported involvement of firearms and knives in altercations and this has caused fear to escalate. With Waterloo's student population continuing to increase it is inevitable that it will clash with local crime systems and create a market for more to flourish.

It can be argued that crime in the Northdale area is linked to its inefficient use of land. Like other communities of "affordable housing," financial sustainability is difficult unless land-owners crowd as many complexes together as possible. This results in an unbalanced ratio of space used for housing versus space used for things like shopping centres, libraries, recreational facilities, city parks, etc.

With this imbalance of infrastructure the community is centralized into various hotspots for daily traffic. For this reason, local security also concentrates its efforts to make the safety of these places a priority. Alternatively, areas outside of these centres tend to be neglected in terms of both maintenance and police presence.

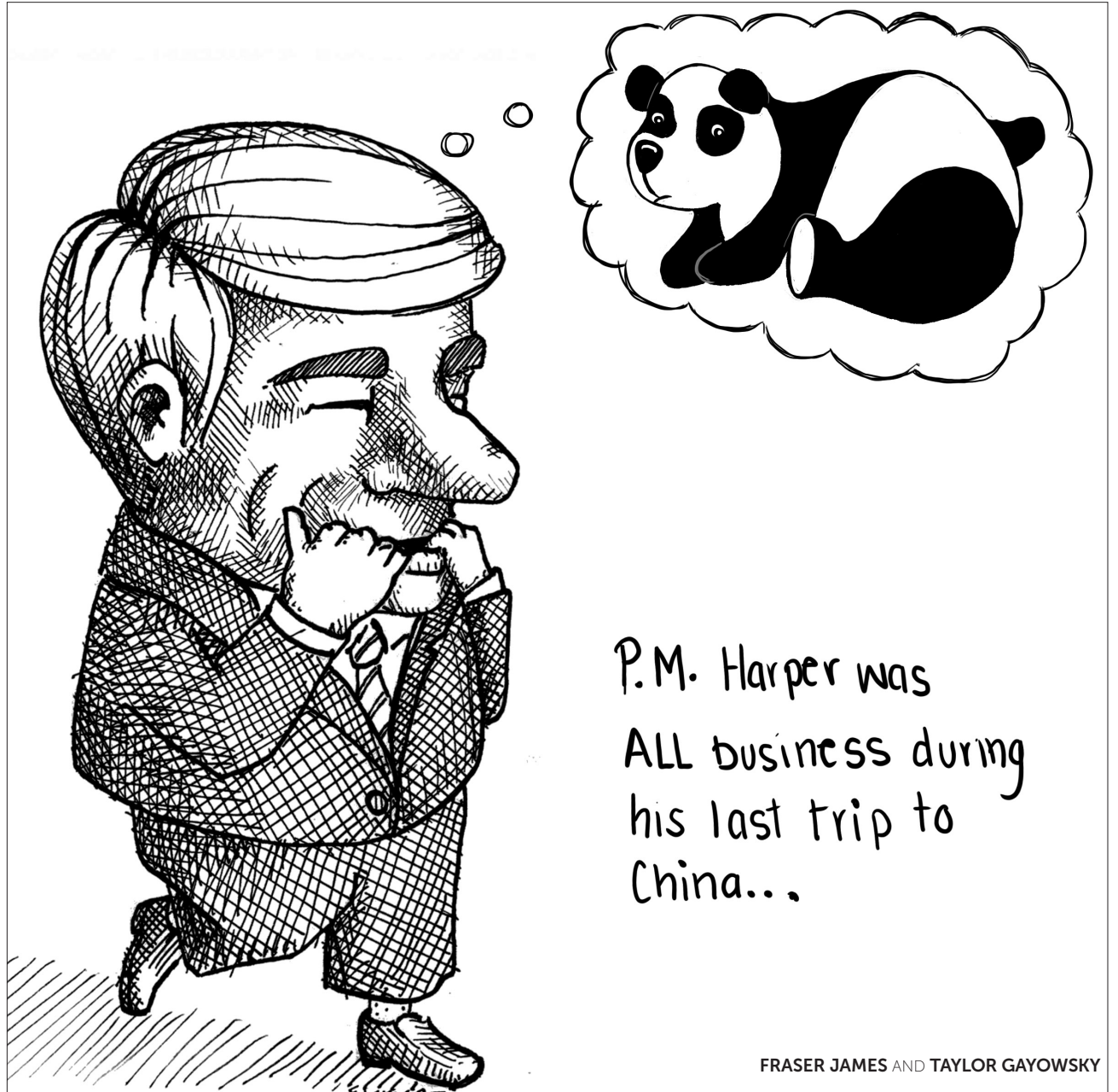
There can be no question that these increases in violence bring attention to a growing issue in safety. Unfortunately, this problem will probably not improve in the near future given the reality that Waterloo universities are still expanding and security is only bound to get more concentrated.

Students must change their perceptions of Waterloo as a city and become more conscious of the changing circumstances in their local environment. For individuals who grew up in smaller towns, a sense of communal security could be an obstacle in overcoming naivety and staying safe while living here. Anybody can be a victim of violence and students cannot assume that local security is perfect.

—The Cord Editorial Board

*This unsigned editorial is based off informal discussions and then agreed upon by the majority of The Cord's editorial board, which consists of 14 senior Cord staff including the Editor-in-Chief and Opinion Editor. The arguments made may reference any facts that have been made available through interviews, documents or other sources. The views presented do not necessarily reflect those of The Cord's volunteers, staff or WLUSP.*

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## Take advantage of post-holiday perks



TAYLOR GAYOWSKY  
GRAPHICS EDITOR

Holidays are great. Everything from the big ones like Christmas, to the trivial superficial ones like Valentine's Day, there is no denying everyone has some love for these occasions. Decorating, giving cards, eating food, spending time with loved ones, etc.; they're great. However there is one other thing that is often overlooked as a great part of the holidays — the day after.

We're often so caught up in preparing for that one day to celebrate. We buy decorations and gifts, we make cards and food and, there are so many things to shop for. When that marvelous day has ended, we take down the decorations, stop the love and wait for it to roll around next year. Why on Earth do we stop there?

We seem to have the right idea for Christmas, with the all so glorified boxing day where we shop around for really, really cheap things. Why don't we make a big deal out of the day after every holiday?

The day after Halloween is marvelous, all the bulk candy is on sale for 50 per cent off or more. You can stock up on a year's supply of candy for only \$30. Or if you're into decorating for the occasion, Halloween decorations are on sale too. You could even stock up on wicked decor for next year at super-sale discounts.

The same goes for Valentine's Day and Easter. Chocolates and heart-shaped things, all cheap, unexpired and waiting for you to treat yourself to seasonal luxuries. There is no reason to

“  
... as students, how  
can we ever say no to a  
thrifty way to celebrate  
the most materialistic of  
holidays?”

ever buy full price candy when you have Halloween in October, Valentine's Day in February and Easter in March/April.

There are plenty of occasions for you to keep yourself stocked on sweets and goodies for months. And the best part? This will allow you to eat cinnamon hearts in August and Mini Eggs in December.

When it comes to seasonal decorations, the same applies. Never again should you pay full price for another strand of Christmas garland, another Easter basket or a string of pumpkin lights. Be patient. Do a bit of day-after shopping to save yourself the cash.

Why not just celebrate the holiday a day late? If you're one to exchange chocolates with your friends on Valentine's Day, or buy each other candy for Halloween, or gorge on marshmallow peeps for Easter, hold your horses.

Give each other some verbal affection to pay homage to the day and wait to share the gifts. This way, you get the opportunity to gift things for each other on a budget and you get to celebrate the holiday twice.

Retailers know how people work, so you have to know how they work too. Obviously, they are going to set the price of holiday-special items at a cost that will allow them to gain the most

profit. Don't play into their games, out-smart the retail world and get them on the downside.

After the holidays they know people aren't going to be as interested in buying a Christmas tree or abundances of plastic Easter eggs, so they reduce their prices to get rid of as much stock as they can. Hop on this opportunity and get those really cheap Christmas trees and as many plastic Easter eggs as you can hold.

Is it really that big a deal to celebrate Valentine's Day on February 14th or Easter whenever Easter is? It's the sentiment that counts. There's nothing stopping you from taking the premise of the holiday and simply pushing it back a couple days, a week, or even a month. Really, any day can be your Valentine's Day. Make it a time when it's convenient for you and make it a time after-the-fact when you can.

Same goes with Christmas; why not wait to exchange gifts with your loved ones after Boxing day or better yet, get the bulk of your Christmas shopping done a year early. We're so caught up in celebrating at a specific time as though the sentiment will be gone if we wait. The sentiment won't be gone and you'll be able to get more bang for your buck. It really isn't in the physical day; it's in the atmosphere. Decorate your house for Christmas on January 5th, or give out your valentines on February 17th.

Don't neglect the day after the holidays. We spend all of our energy on building up to the one day and do nothing once it's over.

Treat yourself to bulk holiday candy, cheap decoration for the next year and a couple extra days of keeping the holiday spirit alive.

Make it a tradition with your friends to exchange gifts a week after-the-fact. Because as students, how can we ever say no to a thrifty way to celebrate the most materialistic of holidays.

# Ontario Child Welfare system lacks consistency



**KEITHANA SENTHILNATHAN**  
OPINION COLUMNIST

Recently, Canadian parents were charged in Jamaica after the body of their two-year-old son was found decomposing in a suitcase. What's more alarming is that these parents had been charged with the mistreatment of children before. The Warrens are the same parents who were guilty of leaving their eight-month old daughter "baby Angelica" in a cold Toronto stairwell.

These parents also had other malnourished and developmentally delayed children, all under the age of six. What was their punishment? The mother, Stephanie Warren, was charged with paying a \$300 fine under the Ontario Child and Family Services Act while the father was granted a two-for-one credit for serving 11 months of pre-trial custody.

There are a multitude of issues that come up with this story, but one of the most prominent is the efficiency of the welfare system. Is the welfare system in Ontario up to par? Will these children be placed in an effective system that will address their mental and emotional needs?

While the Ontario Child Welfare system is efficient in extracting children from environments of neglect and abuse, there are still very prominent issues associated with this system that must be resolved.

Firstly, there are many objectives that prove that our child welfare system is functioning in an effective manner. Following the transformation agenda from 2003-09, there has been an increasing importance on permanency and continued relations with the child's family. In addition, adoptions in Ontario have increased from 18 per cent in 2003-04 to 62 per cent in 2009-10, despite constraints in funding.

In some parts of Ontario this system is identifying vulnerable children at an early stage, enabling them to use a variety of services to ensure their care and addressing their mental and physical issues.

The strong community-based organization ensures that these children are not completely displaced from their communities. Lastly, with the poverty reduction and early learning strategies, Ontario is moving towards realizing a more integrated system of child welfare.

However, in terms of serving

children and families equitably across Ontario and early identification of vulnerable children this system still has a few issues to iron out. Firstly, there exists an inconsistency of legal processes within the Ontario legal system which greatly delay the work of child aid societies (CAS).

For example, due to the differences between local bars in different regions, there is insufficient supervision as well as a lack of appropriate psychological or drug testing of parents. Access to courts in rural areas also cause a large delay in legal proceedings involving these children in need. Secondly, there needs to be increased coordination between CASs. While there are many instances that illustrate collaborations between CASs on a local and provincial level, there is a lack of sector-wide focus.

These regionalized groups frequently look to the government to facilitate any sector-wide initiatives, which provide a more "working-group" setting rather than an efficient "team-based" approach. Like a team in any organization, these CASs must learn to work together and have an understanding of shared responsibility in order to increase the efficiency of the welfare system.

Another issue is the effect of child care in response to the needs of children within the child welfare system. After the global economic crisis, there was a significant decrease in funding towards children's mental health services. Many of these children come from troubled home environments and, as such, need those mental health services to continue integrating within society and building positive relationships with foster families. However in some areas, such as in rural Northern Ontario, these issues have become so delicate that CASs now needs to negotiate payments with mental health providers.

Ultimately there is a lack of overall discipline within the Ontario Child Welfare system. There are still issues due to the variability of system requirements such as consistency of the legal system, lack of coordination between CASs and providing mental health services.

In order to increase the effectiveness of this system there needs to be better coordination, financial stability between CASs and an increased emphasis on supporting the needs of these children from an early stage.

It is only by effectively supporting the lifelong connections and overall health and wellness of these children will this system prosper.



WADE THOMPSON VISUAL DIRECTOR

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## Letters to the Editor

### Online anti-strike petition biased against faculty

In response to the current WLU/WLUFA labour negotiations, a petition against a faculty strike has been circulated online. At the time of this writing, the petition has over 1000 signatures. However, the wording of the petition is extremely biased. Though intended to target WLU administration, it singles out faculty as the cause of this possible disruption. It fails to mention that WLU administration is just as much at fault for failing to produce a reasonable offer.

The comments made by those signing the petition are disheartening. One signer states "it is outrageous to think the students should be the ones who suffer because the faculty cannot come to an agreement with the administration." Perhaps negotiations would be more successful if the administration made better offers.

Students need to remember that deals that benefit faculty benefit students. The better salary and benefits the university offers, the more likely outstanding researchers from

across the globe will be drawn to Laurier to teach. As such, I propose the following alternative petition:

We, the undersigned, do not support a faculty strike, nor do we support a lockout. We urge both sides to come to a decision so students are not disrupted.

If the faculty does strike, students will lose. Furthermore, we urge the university to treat faculty fairly in their dealings and to work honestly toward an acceptable compromise. To do otherwise would be against the interests of students.

This alternative petition can be signed here: <http://www.gopetition.com/petitions/laurier-students-against-a-lockout-and-a-faculty-strike.html>

—Justin Amaral

#### Letter policy

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

date **FEB. 16 & 17**

place **CONCOURSE**

hours **9 - 8**

last day **9-5**

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# UK government ignores Turing's "moral innocence"

James Formosa discusses how legislators are worried about re-enforcing public awareness of judicial fallibility



**JAMES FORMOSA**  
OPINION COLUMNIST

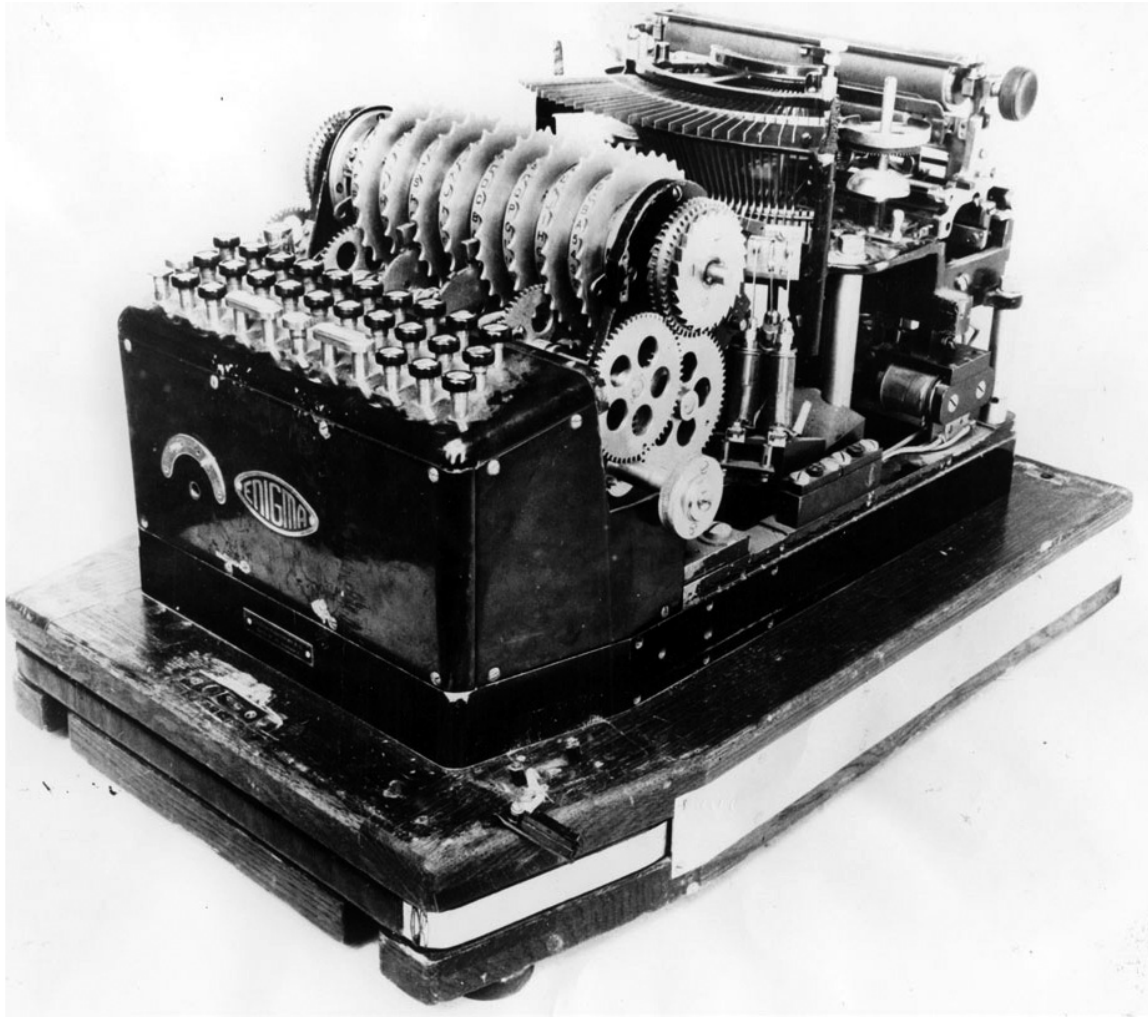
Alan Turing, an English mathematician, logician, cryptanalyst and computer scientist, is considered by many to be the father of computer science and artificial intelligence. Turing has been credited for his substantial contributions during the Second World War, in which he was instrumental in deciphering the Enigma Code for the Allied forces.

He also is largely responsible for the development of the first reprogrammable computer. Yet many of Turing's achievements remained classified until after his death, due to their pivotal tactical role during the war; that he never got the acclaim he deserved in life only makes for a more tragic outlook on the way he was treated in 1952.

This year marks the 60th anniversary of his conviction of "gross indecency" for engaging in a homosexual relationship, at a time when a draconian legislation dating back to 1885 still applied in Britain. Turing was faced with the options of imprisonment or "hormone therapy" that amounted to chemical castration.

Turing opted for the latter and, in 1954, he was discovered at home, having ingested cyanide. Turing's genius in the emerging field of computer science was well understood by his colleagues; at 41 years of age a career with unimaginable potential was cut short. The greater tragedy of course, is that this man was denied his humanity.

In 2009, Prime Minister Gordon Brown made a formal apology to Turing following a large public outcry and massive online support for a petition to this effect. Despite expressions of deep regret and acknowledging the



Alan Turing's greatest contributions to the allies during the Second World War were while working as a codebreaker. He used an Enigma machine like this one to decipher German messages for intelligence.

CREATIVE COMMONS

unjust manner in which Turing was treated, he never received an official government pardon.

In recognition of Turing's centenary a current petition is calling for this pardon; online it already carries nearly 30,000 signatures. The motion for this pardon was recently considered, and rejected, by the British government. Aside from the potential for

homophobic prejudice still existing within the government, there are other more disturbing possibilities as to why this happened.

Perhaps their concern sits with the precedent that this case will set for the future. Legislators are supposedly worried about having to give the same sort of pardon to thousands of elderly victims of this archaic law, as well they

should. In saying that pardoning Turing is inappropriate, the argument has been made that Turing rationally chose to break the law and offering his pardon would lend credence to a "civil disobedience" can of worms for any other current laws which society at large deems unjust.

Instead of focusing on righting past wrongs, the government is worried

about the current consequences of raising public awareness of their own fallibility. Yet imagine living in a time or place where there exists legislation that conflicts with fundamental aspects of your being; in this case, barring you from a consensual and loving relationship with your partner.

I do not think it absurd to question how anyone could reasonably stop themselves from being who they are. To be expected to forsake one's humanity; to be forcibly separated from forming such a bond with another person was the crime in this case. Another caveat made by opponents of the Turing pardon has been the very nature of pardon-grants in Britain. They are typically reserved for cases where the act was committed, but the persons involved are "morally innocent." This clause of moral innocence was used to posthumously pardon soldiers who were shot for cowardice in the First World War, for example.

I do not see a distinction here between the "moral innocence" of those who refuse to take another human life and those who choose to act on their love for another human being. This was not a case of Turing making a rational choice to break the law; the law was in itself, a broken one.

Granting Turing this pardon serves the purpose of recognizing that he was a morally innocent victim of an unjust law, as were the thousands of other men and women faced with imprisonment or chemical castration by virtue of an essential quality of their being.

As a pioneer of computer science and hero of the Second World War, the tragedy of Turing's final years has finally entered the public consciousness; thousands are rallying for the cause of recognizing the fact that governments are not infallible, and must atone for their transgressions. Hopefully, with mounting public disapproval for the government's handling of the Turing case, justice can be served once and for all for this man, and for every victim still living with the consequences of legislation borne out of prejudice and bigotry.

**OLEG the KNUCKLE**  
just checked in at  
Maro's Roman Baths



WADE THOMPSON VISUALS DIRECTOR

thecord.ca

## Human contact lost in a digital world



**SPENCER DUNN**  
CORD OPINION

You've heard the cliché over and over, "everyone's texting but no one's communicating!" We are communicating, and we are connected. In fact, we are more connected to world news and current events than ever before. With a click of a button we can check the weather in Bangladesh, update our status or on occasion speak face-to-face with our mothers via Skype.

The problem is the way we communicate. It's almost impossible for us to speak to one another without hiding behind usernames, screens or phone numbers. We've lost the face-to-face contact that we once had.

What we need is to take a bath. I'm not talking about the rubber ducky, lie in your own filth type of bath; I'm looking towards antiquity for this.

The bathhouse in Greco-Roman culture was a place of community. It was a place of communication and some argue that it was in fact the birthplace of democracy.

Men (sorry ladies) would strip down and enter the baths ready to relax and simply talk to their fellow citizens about the day, the local government and any raids they'd

recently been on.

The bathhouses weren't just occupied by upper-class men either. Men of all types were allowed into the bathhouse for discussion. It was an opportunity for the working class to meet their emperor, and vice-versa. This promoted conversation. It allowed groups of people to come together in a communal place and discuss issues.

Where are our baths? Some may argue that the local coffee shop is an outlet for conversation with 'old comrades.' But have you ever been in a Starbucks and not seen someone glued to his or her Apple computer? Or met with your mayor or member of parliament and discussed political ideas? I'm guessing the answer is no.

Perhaps the gym is a place where dialogue can take place? After all, the male locker room is eerily similar to the Roman bath house, and saunas are still an option at some gyms.

Have you ever been in a male locker room? Very little discussion occurs in there. Homophobic tendencies have created a stigma of "looking down and saying nothing" to avoid eye contact.

So where do we get our tête-à-tête? We can't even include tutorials, these too are filled with people only in the same stream of study, and do not allow for discussion with the upper or the lower-working class. Again, don't get me wrong; I understand there are exceptions to every rule.

My answer to the "where are our

baths?" question is simple. We don't have them. We don't have a true outlet of pure discussion with everyone. We don't have a place where a person can strip to their skivvies and discuss Harper's new legislation in a heated bath.

This whole idea may sound creepy, but when we're living in a digital age full of Internet porn, 4channers and memes, it doesn't seem so bizarre.

Perhaps it's time to find a place like the baths of ancient Greece and Rome; after all, Augustus didn't have a username and the Roman Empire lasted hundreds of years.

Come visit us  
online for more

Opinion columnist **Hayden Starczala**: "Pro-choice philosophy inconsistent with outrage towards sex-selective abortion"

Features Editor **Bree Rody-Mantha**: "You are more than 'M' or 'F' on your ID"

Community Contributor **Dr. Don Morgenson**: "Be my Valentine, please"

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# CLASSIFIEDS

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## DearLIFE

*Dear Life is your opportunity to write a letter to your life, allowing you to vent your anger with life's little frustrations in a completely public forum.*

*All submissions to Dear Life are anonymous, should be no longer than 100 words and must be addressed to your life. Submissions can be sent to [dearlife@thecord.ca](mailto:dearlife@thecord.ca) no later than Monday at noon each week.*

### Dear Laurier Memes

It's been a week and already you have become an afterthought, why are we all so susceptible to Internet fads? Are our attention spans so short it would make the family from *Little People Big World* feel good about themselves? You have gone the way of Like a Little, Overheard at Laurier, and Jenny Solda's campaign. Sincerely,  
Not a child of the ADD generation

### Dear Life,

Love is patient, love is kind. It doesn't envy, it doesn't boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, and it keeps no record of wrongs. Love doesn't delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails. Sincerely,  
1 Corinthians 13:4-8

### Dear Life,

Many thanks to the exceptionally cute waiter at Wilf's who decided not to charge me extra for my sweet-potato fries. You, sir, are a wonderful human being. Thank you! <3 Sincerely,  
Positive-Feedback

### Dear Laurier Memes,

Fr!nge already did that. Sincerely,  
Nice try, though.

### Dear Life,

Follow @LaurierGirlsSay Sincerely,  
#figureitout

### Dear Life,

I think my heart swelled two sizes the day that Wilf's re-opened. Good lord I missed going there. Sincerely,  
Buffalo Fingers Make Me Smile

### Dear Sunday Concourse Dancers,

Fuck off you talentless bag of never-has-beens. We're trying to study here because the library is packed to the tits. Go do Zumba at the Y. Sincerely,  
5-6-7-go fuck yourselves

### Dear Life,

Once again it's that time of year to celebrate Michael Jordan's Birthday. Happy 49th Birthday MJ. Buttttt you can't party with him cause he's busy owning a terrible basketball team in Charlotte. So as a consolation, come out to Wilf's Thursday night to celebrate Brett Frydberg's birthday instead. Although he has no NBA titles or Finals MVP Awards, he is a lot younger than MJ so the window is still open to win some. 1015 pm sharp, be there! Sincerely,  
That Sexy Turret Security Guard

### Dear Life,

Sooooo much chocolate. I love Valentine's Day. Sincerely,  
Cookie Monster

### Dear Life,

I'm not pissed, I'm just tired and sad. Why is it that ... Sincerely,  
Ughhhhh I forget

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NICK LACHANCE PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

Unknown person(s) drew on the ground outside of the DAWB last week. See Bag o'Crime for details.

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## Personals

To Smirl-dog, The birthday greeting was tight, yo. I'm going to give you the softest props ever. From, your Big J.

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## SPORTS

Sports Editor  
Kevin Campbell  
kcampbell@thecord.ca

# Basketball Hawks drop two of three

ERIC THOMPSON  
STAFF WRITER

In the final home game of the regular season the Wilfrid Laurier men's basketball team suffered a setback against Windsor. The visiting Lancers made the Athletic Complex look like their home defeating the Hawks 77-69 Saturday afternoon.

"Windsor lost to Waterloo on Wednesday, which they weren't expecting to do, so we knew they would come out fired up a little bit. We had talked about how we had to match that intensity to start with and we didn't do it. We sure didn't do it," said head coach Peter Campbell following the loss.

Following a 100-69 drubbing of Guelph on Wednesday night, the Hawks came out completely flat in the first quarter.

Laurier missed a number of shots, many of which came within a foot of the net. An up-tempo Windsor squad jumped out to a 25-15 lead in the quarter highlighted by a beautiful alley-hoop to Rotimi Osuntola Jr.

In the second quarter, Laurier would tighten up defensively, forcing seven turnovers in the quarter.

A few deep threes by Kale Harrison and Kyle Enright would give the Hawks their first lead of the game at 33-31. It was a lead they could not hold though, and after surrendering a buzzer beating three pointer, they trailed at the half 41-36.

In the third quarter, Windsor would continue to pull away led by

the efforts of centre Lien Phillip. The Ontario University Athletics' (OUA) leading rebounder played the entire game and finished with 20 points and 15 boards.

Trailing by 15 heading into the fourth, the Hawks managed to stage a late surge that saw them pull within four points.

But the final minutes epitomized the afternoon for Laurier as they missed their final five shots of the game. Laurier finished the day shooting 33 per cent from the field and 23 per cent from beyond the arc. "We had some good open looks for some of our best shooters and they didn't knock them down," said Campbell.

Kale Harrison once again led the scoring effort for Laurier with 21 points. He now sits four points shy of being the OUA's third all-time leading scorer.

Conor Meschino also hit double figures for the Hawks adding 17 points, while Matthew Buckley led the team with 10 rebounds.

Campbell acknowledged that the absence of big man Patrick Donnelly from the lineup hurt Laurier, specifically in the rebounding department. Campbell did however tip his hat to the efforts of Windsor's Phillips.

"We need everyone we can if we are going to out-rebound him. He's a legitimate beast and he is going to have a pro career somewhere," said the coach.

After battling back from two deficits in the game, the Hawks could

not close out strong and the players recognized that their efforts need to improve heading down the stretch.

"We are not playing confidently, we are digging holes," added Buckley. "And it takes so much energy to get out of a hole, that when you dig another one you might not have the energy at the end of the game."

Before the game, Laurier had a ceremony honouring its five graduating players. Fifth years Buckley, Harrison, Meschino and Matt Donnelly as well as fourth year Sharif Wanas will be moving on next year.

Coach Campbell commented on how he has enjoyed his experience coaching these players.

"They come to practice every day, they are great team guys, they are good with our freshman and helping them be comfortable in university. They are terrific at being good team leaders, they are terrific at playing basketball, and they have fun playing. So it's been pretty special coaching them for the last five years."

There would be no better way to finish their time at Laurier then with a championship, but the team will need to improve quickly in order to make that a reality.

With this weekend's loss, Laurier's record falls to 16-4. The Hawks now nurse a one game lead on the McMaster Marauders. The two teams will meet next Saturday in Hamilton in a game that will likely decide who gets the number two seed in the OUA West.



ROSALIE EID PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

Conor Meschino tries a layup in Saturday's loss against Windsor.

# Shepley anchors inexperienced defence corps

SHAYNE MCKAY  
STAFF WRITER

Although the men's hockey team may not have had their best season (9-17-2), that's not to say there haven't been some standout players on the rink.

When people think of the Wilfrid Laurier Golden Hawks, the defence can sometimes be overlooked, but that is exactly where you'll find veteran Zack Shepley.

Currently in his third year with the team, Shepley brings some much needed experience to the blue-line for the struggling team, largely aided by his four years in the Ontario Hockey League (OHL) with the Plymouth Whalers (2003-2007) and the Brampton Battalion

(2007-2008). But his success began much earlier.

"My dad got me into it early," said Shepley. "He's coached me the whole way and been a big influence so far."

Shepley's performance on the ice this year could be considered one of his best since starting with the Golden Hawks in 2009, where he has a total of six points to rank third among defencemen for the team. He also leads the blueliners with a career total of 13 points.

His commanding presence and evident skill on the back line have helped to keep the shots and goals down to a minimum and this could be attributed to his time in the OHL.

"The biggest difference is that when you're in the OHL, your main

focus is hockey and everything else has to go alongside that," Shepley said. "You don't know what to expect coming from the OHL to the CIS (Canadian Interuniversity Sport). You don't expect the speed of the hockey and how good it actually is."

When asked about why he chose Laurier, he responded, "I love it here," before adding that, "school is the most important thing to have to fall back on if a pro career doesn't work and the small school atmosphere really catered to what I liked."

Even with classes on top of a hectic varsity schedule, Shepley still manages to find time to hone his skills and improve.

"Putting in the extra effort" is what Shepley believes is the biggest

factor to success.

"So many guys want the exact same thing as you and at the end of the day what you put into it is what you're going to get out of it," said the rearguard.

Despite a difficult season, the Hawks still made it to the playoffs as the eighth seed in the OUA West, and Shepley and the team are really looking forward to going far.

"The extra time you dedicate to the game and everything else that gets you where you want to be is essential," said Shepley.

And that is exactly what they'll need to do in the forthcoming games against the number-one ranked Western squad in the conference quarterfinals.

"What you put into it (hockey and academics) is what you're going to get out of it."

—Zack Shepley, men's hockey defenceman



HEATHER DAVIDSON STAFF PHOTOGRAPHY

Head coach Greg Puhalski has described Zack Shepley as a hard worker and a consistent performer.

## Sports in brief

### Women's basketball on two-game losing streak

The Golden Hawks have dropped two straight games to Guelph and most recently, Windsor. The Hawks fell 66-60 to the Gryphons and suffered a 76-35 loss on the weekend to the Lancers. With the losses, the team stands at 12-8 and still has a shot at second in the OUA West, should the second-place Brock Badgers lose their remaining games. The Hawks visit Waterloo today and travel to McMaster Saturday.

### Laurier offensive lineman signs with the Argos

Donnie McKenzie, one of the members of Wilfrid Laurier's 2011 football squad, has recently signed a contract with the Toronto Argonauts. McKenzie is a fourth-year left guard.

The lineman will join the team's training camp this coming summer.

### Three swimmers qualify for nationals at OUAs

Three Wilfrid Laurier University students have qualified for the CIS Championships which will be held at the University of Montreal from Feb. 23-25. Renee Dijk, Veronica Davis-Freeman and Luke Summerhayes will all compete for Laurier. Overall, the men's team finished in seventh place in the three-day provincial championship and the women's team finished in ninth.

### Lester, Harrison named WLU's athletes of the week

Women's hockey's Fiona Lester and men's basketball's Kale Harrison have been dubbed the school's players of the week. Lester had two goals and one assist in two games for the Hawks while Harrison scored 46 points in two games for basketball. It's Lester's first time winning the honour and Harrison's 16th.

# Ottawa She-Gees win powder puff

**ASHLEY DENUZZO**  
STAFF WRITER

It was another successful weekend for the annual Laurier Letterman Ontario University Athletics (OUA) powder puff tournament as this year saw what could be considered the largest gathering of powder puff teams in Laurier history.

The three-day flag football tournament took place from Feb. 9-11 and hosted 27 teams from all over the province.

"It was really, really successful," said A.K. Heffernan, one of the coordinators of the Laurier Letterman powder puff tournament. "Everybody had a lot of fun."

Powder puff, a flag football game played in the snow, is a popular tradition amongst colleges and universities in North America.

Laurier adopted the sport back in 1997 and since then it has become one of the biggest supporters of powder puff, hosting two tournaments and donating all profits to the Breast Cancer Society of Canada.

This year's two tournaments estimated at having raised over \$8,000 for the charity.

"It just gives an opportunity for girls to get involved playing football," Heffernan said.

"We have a lot of great athletes here and it gives them a chance to learn a different sport. You see that there really are some amazingly talented girls that are really good football players."

The 2012 OUA powder puff championship went to the Ottawa She-Gees after a remarkable comeback against McMaster in the final game. Down 6-0 with four minutes ticking away, an interception turned touchdown tied the game, and later a one-point conversion brought victory to Ottawa. The final score was a close 7-6.

"They were both two really good teams, very well coached and played a great game," Heffernan added.

Last year, it was a team from Queen's University that claimed the powder puff throne.

Laurier Letterman takes credit for organizing and running the two successful tournaments.

They had been working tirelessly since December, organizing everything from teams, coaches, referees; even the after party.

"We wanted to get people beforehand," Heffernan elaborated. "We wanted to have solid crew to set things up, have a schedule in advance [and] get everything planned out."

Special recognition goes to the four front men of the tournament: Reed Bracken, Heffernan, Drew Galpin, and Andrew Barbati, who are primarily responsible for powder puff's huge success.

In the three days during the OUA

tournament, the four coordinators spent around thirty long hours working.

"We lived there," laughed Heffernan.

Additionally, Laurier referees and coaches voted on tournament all-stars from January's Laurier-only powder puff tournament.

"There are so many girls that go out there and play hard," Heffernan explained.

"We thought it would be nice if we could try to put together an all-star team so they could have some recognition."

Powder puff is not only wildly popular among the female participants, but the coaches are also extremely involved in the whole process.

Some coaches are former Golden Hawk football players for the Laurier teams. The lady players get to have an inside look at what makes the big team on campus tick, with the coaches drawing up similar plays to that of the varsity squad.

"You get to put a plan in there," Heffernan explained when asked about why the coaches love helping out with powder puff so much.

"You have to try and coach the girls up into it, convey your message to them and when you see that the girls are getting it, it's such a rewarding experience."

The culture of powder puff is something that not many will understand until they experience it for themselves.

Providing an opportunity to meet new people, powder puff teams are said to initiate life-long friendships.

But for now, as the warm weather melts the snow and girls begin to trade in their cleats for sandals, this essentially marks the end of another season of powder puff.

But just as quickly as it came and went, the 2013 season of powder puff will soon be gearing up and among us once again.

As Heffernan closed, "It got bigger this year [as opposed to] last year and I can only assume it will get bigger next year."



ROSALIE EID PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

The Ottawa She-Gees defeated the team from McMaster 7-6.

"You see that there really are some amazingly talented girls that are really good football players."

—A.K. Heffernan, Laurier Letterman member and coordinator of powder puff

## GOLDEN HAWK UPDATE

Week of  
Feb 13 - 19, 2012

### RECENT SCORES

2.8.12

W Basketball 60 - Guelph 66  
M Basketball 100 - Guelph 69

2.10.12

W Hockey 3 - Brock 1  
M Hockey 2 - Waterloo 4

2.11.12

W Basketball 35 - Windsor 76  
M Basketball 69 - Windsor 77  
W Hockey 5 - Guelph 0  
M Hockey 3 - UOIT 2

### UPCOMING HOME GAMES

2.15.12

W Hockey vs Brock (Game 1 of 3)  
Waterloo Rec Complex, 7:30 p.m.

2.17.12

M Hockey vs Western (Game 2 of 3)  
Waterloo Rec Complex, 7:30 p.m.

2.19.12

W Hockey vs Brock (Game 3 of 3)\*  
Waterloo Rec Complex, 7:30 p.m.

\*If Necessary

### LAURIER BOOKSTORE ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

Kale Harrison  
Men's Basketball

Fiona Lester  
Women's Hockey

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# Badgers first up for No. 1 Hawks

**SHELBY BLACKLEY**  
STAFF WRITER

In their third-best ever season, the No.1 Wilfrid Laurier University women's hockey team proved why they were a force to be reckoned with.

With back-to-back wins against the Brock Badgers and Guelph Gryphons, the Golden Hawks closed out their season on the weekend, finishing with a near-perfect record of 25-0-1.

Finishing on a 14-game winning streak, the Hawks clinched first-place overall in the Ontario University Athletics' (OUA) standings with 51 points, 13 points ahead of the second place Gryphons.

As well as clinching the top spot in the OUA, the Hawks also finished the season number one in the Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) top ten poll.

On Jan. 24, Laurier moved ahead of the McGill Martlets to be declared the top team overall. The Martlets held this ranking in 71 of the last 73 polls dating back to November of 2008.

Laurier welcomed the Badgers Friday night in a preview of the opening round of the playoffs, where Brock fought a tough 60-minute battle, but fell to the Hawks 3-1.

The following night, Guelph visited Laurier in what was anticipated to be an exciting finish to the regular

season.

But the game was anything but a challenge as the Hawks defeated Guelph 5-0.

"It feels really good [to finish with a win] and I think we finished strong," head coach Rick Osborne said. "It's another terrific season."

Allowing just 39 goals against, the team didn't lose a game in regulation, and played one less game than in years previous, where Laurier finished with records of 26-0-1 and 26-1-0.

Along with the change of extracting one extra game also came the addition of an extra playoff series.

The first-place team no longer has a bye in the first round of the playoffs.

As a result, Laurier will now face the eighth-seeded Badgers in the opening round.

When asked about the Badgers, Osborne stressed the need for quick puck movement.

"We're going to face [a battling Brock team]," Osborne reflected. "Puck possession is great but not when you're playing a team the size of Brock and they want to battle you on the wall all night long."

Laurier started shaky against the Badgers Friday night, over-playing the puck and making too many passes.

"I would have liked to see us drive the net and use the space behind their defense a little bit more early on," Osborne said. "Their



NICK LACHANCE PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

aggressive, assertive penalty killing gave us a lot of trouble early and we just didn't move the puck really quick."

In head-to-head matches, Laurier defeated Brock in all three meetings with a combined 13 goals for and 2 against.

"I think our team is in a good position and I think we're peaking," Osborne said. "The highs can't be too high at this time of the season and neither can the lows be too low."

This will also be the first OUA playoffs for rookie goaltender Erika Thunder. Thunder has recorded a 19-1 record and a .930 save percentage. She let in only 27 goals

all season, recording a 1.30 goals against average and produced seven shutouts.

"Erika has just had a real nice improvement curve on her development this year and I do believe that she's playing the best she's played all year right now heading into the playoffs."

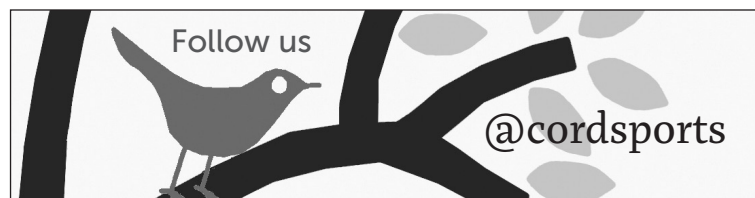
In addition, this will also be the last playoffs for graduating players Alicia Martin, Katherine Shirriff and captain Abby Rainsberry.

Rainsberry has been the captain of the Golden Hawks for the last two years and has played 104 games with Laurier. All three players have won 100 or more games.

"I think the playoffs are just a whole new season," said Osborne. "So whether they were close games during the regular season or blow outs, anything can happen."

"Look what happened last year. We blew out Queen's 8-0 or something two weeks before the playoffs then just couldn't buy a break so we're certainly not going in overconfident."

The first round opens tonight as Laurier hosts the Badgers at the Waterloo Recreational Complex at 7:30 p.m. Game two will be at Brock on Saturday and if needed, game three will be back at Laurier on Sunday night at 7:30 p.m.



## 'This team can be a darkhorse'

**KEVIN CAMPBELL**  
SPORTS EDITOR

The Western Mustangs don't scare the Wilfrid Laurier Golden Hawks.

The big bad hockey team from London, ranked third in Canada, have proven themselves to be mere mortals in the Ontario University Athletics (OUA) circuit with two uncharacteristic losses to end the season.

The Mustangs' 2-1 loss versus York and a 9-5 shootout defeat at the hands of the bottom-ranked University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT) Ridgebacks are two more signs that the Hawks can use to signal the unthinkable; a series victory in the first round of the playoffs.

They have three chances to win two games. They've already done it once before.

A 5-4 win at the Waterloo Recreational Complex on Nov. 19 should be front and centre on the team's minds as they prepare to face the hockey goliath.

"I expect a skilled team that's going to make us pay if we don't play our game," said the team's top scorer, Mitchell Good after Saturday's 3-2 regular season-ending victory over UOIT.

"I think with the way we play our systems, we do have a shot at putting their backs up against the wall and give them a run for it."

The OUA West first-ranked Western team (21-4-3) won the season series with the Golden Hawks (9-17-2) by way of decisive 9-3 and 7-4 wins earlier in the year. But those victories were both in London.

"We've got good players who can score at opportune times and I think if Western's not careful, we can catch them by surprise," said the team's backup netminder Duncan Long, who turned aside 43 of 45 shots in his first OUA win on Saturday.

But in order for the improbable to transform into the possible, head coach Greg Puhalski knows just about everything will have to go right.

"We're going to have to play a very efficient game and dull the game down a bit," said the bench boss. "We can't get into a score-fest with them because we can't compete with them at that level, so we need to keep it low-scoring; 2-1 or 3-2 type games."

And in order for the eighth-place Hawks to have any success at all of surmounting the team with at least 15 ex-Canadian Hockey League players, including ex-Kitchener Rangers Julian Cimadamore and Josh Unice, they'll have to avoid the eye of the officials.

"They've really eaten us up on the power-play ... We've got to stay out of the box because our penalty killing has been a weak point for us," said Puhalski.

Laurier's top line has been as hot as any in the OUA recently with Good, Mitch Lebar and Tyler Stothers racking up the points in their past few games. But they'll need a

chip-in goal (or three) from their other three forward units to beat Western.

"We need contributions from everyone since we don't score a lot of goals," said Puhalski.

The Hawks, who have been plagued with injuries since the start of the season, will be without forwards Joe Vanni, Brent Vandenberg, Ben Skinner and Matt Reid.

But the most vital cog in Laurier's engine is goaltender Ryan Daniels. The Hawks' most consistent player will be the key to the team's hopes of defeating the Mustangs.

"[He's] the backbone of our team and he's going to take us into the playoffs," said Good.

Game one is Thursday in London at 7:35 p.m. and game two is at the Waterloo Recreational Complex on Friday night at 7:30 p.m.

If necessary, game three will be played back at Western on Sunday at 7:35 p.m.



IAN SPENCE LEAD VIDEOGRAPHER

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