

Et Cetera

Humber comedian finds dreams come true at Second City / A&E 9



Nigerian turmoil hits home with Humber students / Features 13



Women's volleyball keeps perfect season intact / Sports 21

Environment

Trouble with turbines

Ontario farm lobby wants to suspend wind power but Humber's sustainable energy program confident of province's commitment

LAURA BOOTH
Political Reporter

Ontario's largest farm lobby group has publicly asked the province to suspend plans for new large-scale wind energy projects.

"It's too important to get it wrong. Now is the time to make sure we get it right because whatever projects go forward are going to be with us for a very long time," said Mark Wales, president of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA). "I mean, why would we want to make power and lose money on it?"

As part of Ontario's Green Energy Act, introduced in 2009, the government has promised the creation of 50,000 new green jobs and investment in renewable energies, including wind power. Ontario leads Canadian provinces in wind energy production.

The OFA has asked the province to

address the concerns of communities slated for wind projects before signing new contracts. According to the OFA, these concerns include making wind energy dispatchable - developing the ability to store the energy generated from a turbine so that it can be used when the wind isn't blowing.

At present, wind turbines tend to be most effective in the winter when the wind blows more heavily, said Kerry Johnston, program manager of Humber's sustainable energy program.

However, that energy is needed more in the summer, when Canadians are using more power because of air conditioning, he said.

Other issues raised by the OFA involved the noise the turbines make, the lack of municipal input into where the energy is distributed, and problems with currents produced by the turbines not being grounded properly.

With regard to mediation, Johnston said a balanced perspective is needed.

"It's in everyone's interest to look at both sides and not dig your heels in on one end of the spectrum," he said.

Johnston said that while the OFA raises some valid points, he doubts the government will shut down wind development completely. "I don't think it is going to happen. The government's committed to it. Wind represents the easiest way to chunk away at making a significant contribution to the generation of electricity," he said.

For David Agudelo, a first year student in Humber's sustainable energy program, the opposition to wind energy is disappointing.

"It's sad because that's going to be my job in the future," said Agudelo. "Any renewable energy is good for us."



PHOTO BY HENJI MILIUS



PHOTO BY KAT WARD
Faiz Fuad, recruitment officer at Humber, encourages students to consider degree programs.

Diploma-to-degree grant

KAT WARD
News Reporter

Ontario college students transitioning to degree programs this fall will automatically be considered for Humber's new \$2,500 scholarship.

"Historically, scholarship dollars have been reserved for students who are coming directly from high school," said Barbara Riach, Humber's deputy registrar. "There hasn't been a means of financial recognition for students who have already completed some post-secondary education, and senior administration wanted to honour that."

Students who have completed a two or three year diploma program, and have a GPA of 80 per cent or higher, will automatically be considered for the award. Individuals who are completing final semester have to wait until their grades are processed.

Currently Humber is one of three Ontario institutions that offers a

scholarship of this nature; the others are Guelph-Humber and Laurentian. "Students who already have a diploma are ideal candidates," said Riach. "This scholarship helps make Humber a more attractive option in comparison to other colleges, there's no doubt about it."

Transferring from a diploma to a degree program has been an option in Ontario for many years. However, the process is not yet streamlined.

"Pushing this in Ontario has been much harder than in other parts of the country," said Faiz Fuad, a recruitment officer for Humber. "The system is not so easy for students to navigate and it is hard for them to get those transfer credits."

Scholarships, such as Humber's new \$2,500 award, provide financial support for students seeking further education. "It is important to keep options open because you don't know what will happen 12 months or two

years down the road," Riach said.

Humber student Karlie Fisher transferred from the community and justice service diploma to the degree program this January.

"When I finished my diploma I didn't know what to do," Fisher said. "A lot more jobs are requiring degrees nowadays, a lot more than people realize."

Students will be able to get more information about the scholarship at Humber's annual degree fair today at the Lakeshore campus.

Representative from 48 universities and colleges from North America, the United Kingdom and Australia will be available to answer questions.

"This is a great opportunity for students to see how their credits can apply to future coursework in bachelor and masters degrees," said Anna Borg, the fair's organizer and assistant to the vice-president of academic.

The fair will be held in the L-West cafeteria from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

THIS WEEK

BY THE NEWS EDITORS

THURS 2	Groundhog Day @Warton	FRI 3	Tales from the G20 @Toronto	SAT 4	In the Footsteps of Charles Dickens	SUN 5	David Miller: Fighting Climate Change	MON 6	Canada Reads: True Stories @Toronto	TUES 7	The African Forum hosted by Norman Richmond	WED 8	Book launch: David Rotenberg
	A cultural tradition on the Bruce Peninsula, in which people gather in Warton to watch a groundhog emerge from its burrow (or not).		Screening of a documentary film about the G20 protests. 7:30p.m., Centre of Gravity (1300 Gerrard St. East).		A guided tour of the Toronto locales that Dickens ate and slept at during his 1842 visit; at 3 p.m. (93 Front St. East).		The former Toronto mayor lectures on climate change. St. Clement's Church (50 Briar Hill), 10 a.m., free.		Books debate featuring Alan Thicke, Shad, and others. Hosted by Jian Ghomeshi. 9 a.m., CBC Broadcast Centre, free.		Discussions honouring Black History Month. Trane Studio (964 Bathurst), 7 p.m., p.wyc.		Rotenberg reads from his new novel, <i>The Placebo Effect</i> . Runnymede Library, 6:30 p.m., free.



PHOTO BY JEANETTE LIU
York University students have been camping out for the past 10 days in protest of tuition fees.

Humber opts out of protest

JEANETTE LIU
News Reporter

Humber's student government did not join York University's Federation of Students march Wednesday protesting rising tuition fees and the 30 per cent grant.

The Ontario government's promise of a tuition rebate is "a policy that's put in place by the provincial government to help students in need," said Bryan Tran, president of the Humber Students' Federation. "To have an issue with something that is already helping students is silly."

The grant, which helps over 80 per cent of high school students entering post-secondary studies for their first time, offers students 30 per cent off of their tuition - but it has its limitations.

"About two-thirds of all Ontario post secondary students are not eligible,"

said Alastair Woods, the vice-president of campaigns and advocacy for York Federation of Students. "There's a huge laundry list of students who won't get it."

To be eligible for the grant, students must be enrolled full time at a public college or university in Ontario, have graduated high school no more than four years ago, be in an undergraduate program, and come from a family where their parents' income is less than \$160,000.

International students, graduate students, students in professional programs like law and medicine, mature and part-time students are all ineligible for the grant.

"The idea that high tuition fees are just students complaining that they don't want to pay X-amount of money is unfair," said Woods. "It's blaming the victim."

"Our plan targets students who need

it most," said Tanya Blazina, a media representative for the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities, in an e-mail.

"Many students have been very happy, as have their parents," she said.

HSF's stance drew criticism from some members of the student community.

"If the majority of students want to oppose the government here then HSF should go there and help," said Anuveer Singh Parnar, a first-year post-graduate student studying project management, in advance of yesterday's event. "Humber should be a part of the protest."

Woods said the protest was open for anyone.

"The invitation is always open to any student from any school, or any community member who wants to support students," he said. "The more the merrier. We are all in this together."

Canadian Forces draft Humber music grads

Auditions underway to join the ranks

DANIEL BUZZELLI
News Reporter

The Canadian Forces Music Branch is holding open auditions for more than 20 full-time positions, and some music students at Humber say the offer is enticing.

"I've considered auditioning for the Canadian Forces," said David Tan, 19, a second-year student in Humber's bachelor of applied music program. "It's all about how much I feel like I need to make money."

Musicians with the CFMB get a starting salary of \$53,712 as well as the benefits and pension - determined by years served - that come with a military career. The program requires a minimum three-year contract. And according to Denny Christianson, director of Humber's music program, there has been a long relationship be-

tween the Canadian Forces and the school.

"We've always had that connection," said Christianson. "We've found through the years that several members of the [CFMB] used to come through Humber College and I think still are."

Maj. Gerald Heslip, the Canadian Forces Music Branch co-ordinator, is a proud Humber graduate happy to have made this decision to join the Forces. Heslip said he would highly recommend it to other musicians.

"Presently, in our regular force bands there are 245 members and there are at least eight that are graduates or [near graduating from] Humber College," Heslip said. "Humber, in my opinion, turns out excellent musicians who are well-rounded, well-trained and capable of playing in many genres."



PHOTO BY DANIEL BUZZELLI
A humber music student ensemble rehearsing.

Workers, city divided over contract

RUSSELL PIFFER
News Reporter

As the Feb. 5 deadline to reach a new collective agreement nears, the City of Toronto and its outdoor workers remain divided over issues surrounding scheduling and job security.

"If there is a labour disruption it will be solely at the hands of the Rob Ford administration," said Mark Ferguson, president of CUPE Local 416, last Thursday. Members of CUPE 416 are responsible for services like trash collection, road repair, and park maintenance.

The union offered a three-year wage freeze in exchange for renewing the current collective agreement, but the city rejected the offer, Ferguson said.

"We've come to the table with an open mind and with proposals that are real and tangible and provide exceptional savings for taxpayers," he said. "The employer is wanting to tear up the existing collective agreement."

Jackie DeSouza, director of strategic communications for the city, said that the current agreement prevents management from making scheduling changes without the union's permission.

Toronto needs to provide services when they are needed without being hamstrung by union restrictions, she said.

"One of the examples is in transportation," DeSouza said. "We have people working 10 hours a day, four days a week. Because of business needs, we

need Monday to Friday, eight hours a day, but we can't change that schedule because the union doesn't agree with that." The city is also taking issue with the so-called "job for life" clause that allows any employee whose position has been contracted out to take a position from someone with lower seniority, a process called bumping, she said.

Between 2007 and 2010 this method of redeploying workers cost the city about \$10 million, she said.

The responsibility of any organization is to its clients, said Lynn McAuliffe, an instructor in Humber's human resources management program.

If the city can show that the collective bargaining agreement is inhibiting services, it should be changed, she said.

"The union, on the other hand,

needs to show that client needs are not being sacrificed," McAuliffe said.

A labour disruption would have little effect on Humber, said Rani Dhaliwal, vice president of finances and ad-

ministration.

Services like snow removal and waste management have been contracted out by Humber for years, she said. "We'll be fully operational."

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2 MINUTES FROM HUMBER COLLEGE

New tuition rebate will affect academic research

Ontario plans to cut \$42 million in post secondary research funding, ending grants to key support program

LAURA BOOTH
Political Reporter

After announcing that university and college students will get a 30 per cent reduction in tuition fees, the province has revealed that academic research funding will be cut by \$42-million over the next four years.

"The reason why we've had to cut back on some research funding - and we're not cutting back on all of our research funding, just a small part of it - is because we need to set priorities," said Brad Duguid, MPP for Scarborough Centre and minister of economic development and innovation. "Ontario cannot exclude itself from the global economic challenges that exist around the world and our revenues have been hit by that."

The Liberal government is ending grants to the Ontario Research Fund

program.

Created by the Liberals in 2007, the program has consisted of five rounds of research monies being given to various academic projects. The sixth round - directed towards the arts and humanities - as well as a seventh round, have been cancelled.

The reduction can impact degree students who wish to pursue graduate school, as many research positions rely on government funding.

"As we have more and more degree students graduating, my hope is that a number of those students will continue on to graduate studies where their access to graduate research funds will be critical," said Dr. James Watzke, dean of research at Humber. "In that scenario, I would hope that those funding programs stay healthy and well-funded."

Dr. George Bragues, assistant vice-provost at Guelph-Humber, said cuts

in government funding could force universities to seek capital from other sources. "It means that universities are more likely to have to tap corporate sources of funding and that raises issues of how independent they can be," said Bragues.

According to Duguid, the McGuinty government has invested \$3.6-billion in research and development since 2003 and will invest another \$200-million this year.

But attracting private investment in university research projects remains an important part of the government's agenda.

"We always are doing that - and, in fact, we have been very successful in Ontario in setting up a number of different clusters that involve researchers, private and public, universities and private sector businesses," said Duguid.

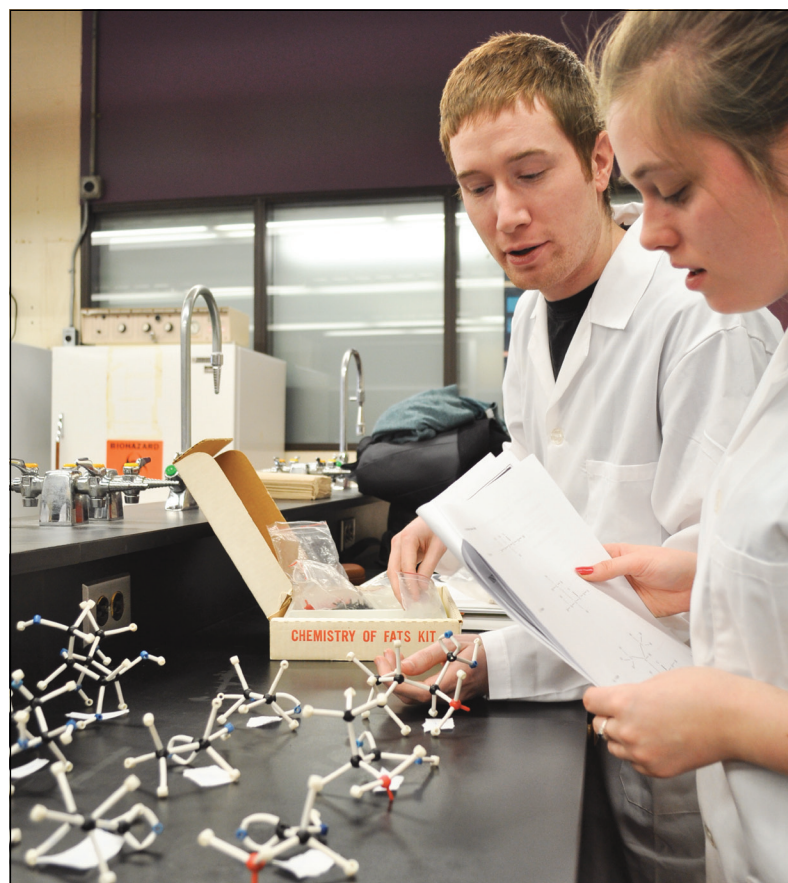


PHOTO BY LAURA BOOTH
Kevin Brown and Stacey Dunn, both first-year general arts and science students at Humber, investigating fats in the chemistry lab.

Think tank predicts 2012 job losses

ERIN EATON
News Reporter

A Canadian think tank predicts the loss of more than 60,000 jobs in 2012, potentially having a significant impact on Humber graduates hoping to find work in the affected fields.

"No matter how the cuts take shape, the job losses will be significant," suggested David Macdonald, a senior economist for the Canadian

Centre for Policy Alternatives, in his newly released report entitled *The Cuts Behind the Curtain*.

"Unfortunately, as the cuts become larger they also become less transparent. The degree of openness about what is being cut, and why, has gone from bad to worse."

The report outlined three possible scenarios for the next two waves of federal funding cuts, predicting significant unemployment spikes in

fields such as primary health care, workplace and food safety, and environmental programs.

"By the way it sounds, civil engineering grads are going to have a tough time," said Roddie Ko, a second-year Humber engineering student.

"My friends who have graduated are deciding whether to work at Sporting Life or The Beer Store - and that's with a degree," added the 21-year-old.

Though the specifics of the fund-

ing cuts are undetermined, the food and safety industry has reason to be concerned, said Susan Sommerville, Humber's food and nutrition program co-ordinator.

"In order for food safety legislation to be effective there needs to be frequent, consistent, and detailed enforcement," said Sommerville. "I don't feel that we currently have that level of support in the industry, so if we cut it, it's going to be even less effective,

which is a huge concern."

The findings of the report are especially disappointing for international students, said Khyayi Shah, a Humber health and fitness student, who hopes to work as a physical therapist after graduation.

"We are already spending so much more money than Canadian students," she said. "After investing so much, if we can't find work it would be very discouraging."

Most street drugs laced, police say

PATRICIA BROTZEL
Crime Reporter

Humber students who use drugs recreationally should be aware they may contain unknown substances, said the Toronto Police Service.

"There are dangers involved with taking any street drug because there is no guarantee to the purity of the drug put together for profit ... they could be putting any active drug in there," said Detective Constable Dave Nevin.

"It is what it is," he said. "It's rampant and all drugs that are prone to [illegal street sale] are likely to be laced."

Health Canada's 2010 Canadian Alcohol and Drug Use Monitoring Survey found that seven per cent of Canadians ages 15 to 24 used at least one of these drugs: cocaine, speed, ecstasy, hallucinogens or heroin. (Lifetime drug use statistics are seen in the graph at left.)

According to police, distributors often add other substances to the drugs they sell, such as baking soda, as a way to increase volume while decreasing the amount of product. People must also

consider where the drugs are made.

"The conditions that these drugs are manufactured in are more often than not atrocious," Det. Const. Nevin said.

Liz Sokol, co-ordinator of counselling services, said cannabis is likely the most prevalent drug on campus. "You can walk out any door on campus and most likely you are going to get a smell of something," she said.

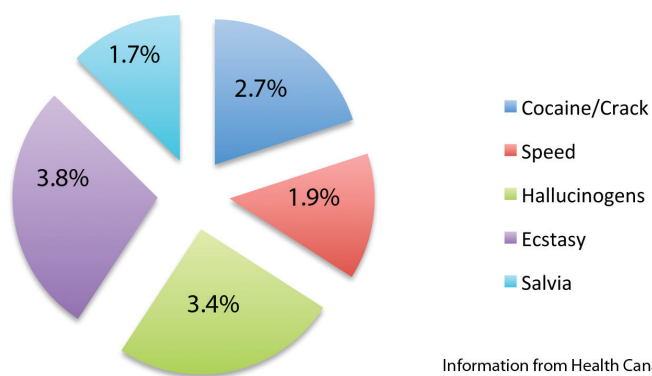
While marijuana is the most noticeably used drug on campus, and less likely to be cut with other elements, some students use more dangerous substances that could potentially be laced with unknown chemicals.

"We also have students who have cocaine habits," Sokol said. "Meth, crystal meth - not a lot, but it is not unheard of."

Pervez Ditta, Humber's director of public safety, said people using drugs on campus aren't always Humber students and may not be representative of consumption within the college student body.

"We had issues with some of the green space between the [Lakeshore] campus and the school," Ditta said. "We displaced quite a few young students around there that weren't actually students of ours."

Lifetime drug use among Canadians aged 15-24



Information from Health Canada
Alcohol and Drug Use Monitoring Survey

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Internet startup helps writers showcase work

Site allows readers to view, download independent writers

KRISTIN ANDREWS
Lakeshore Reporter

Touted as the YouTube for creative writers, Wattpad represents an opportunity for writers to reach readers, but also presents some challenges to readers, says Humber's dean of creative and performing arts.

"There's a lot of talk about writers putting their work out for free to draw an audience, like comedians do on YouTube," said dean Joe Kertes. "The trouble with democratizing writing is that there is no editor to screen the stories... you have to sort through some garbage to find a jewel."

Wattpad is an online forum for aspiring writers to display their work, allowing readers to view and download it for free. The site won TechVibes' Best Overall Canadian Startup award in 2011.

Wattpad creators Allen Lau and Ivan Yeun developed a prototype in 2001 - before the time of e-books and phone apps - but the technology wasn't yet compatible with their idea.

"In 2006, when the technology was improved along with the YouTube phe-

"If writers and readers think that they have to pay a certain amount of money for content and you take that away, then it removes barriers," said Lau.

Lau said the site has a report system in place for people to file potential copyright infringements.

"The number of notices we receive are very small. We may get five to 10 notices a month, which is low considering we are seeing about 300,000 uploads per month," said Lau.

Ian Thomas, a professor of computer engineering at Humber, said Wattpad is generally user friendly, but requires more reader effort

than it should.

"There is a lot of scrolling on the page which tends to turn users off a little bit," said Thomas. "If they have to scroll they're more inclined to leave the page quickly."

"You have to sort through some garbage to find a jewel."

-DEAN JOE KERTES

nomenon and when more user generated content appeared, we decided to revisit our idea and have a full go at it," said Lau.

The service is free for users because Wattpad is financed through advertising.

Degree for global assistance to launch

Humber initiative will help prepare students to work with NGOs on development

KAT WARD
News Reporter

Prospective students who are passionate about humanitarian work are now able to pursue a degree in international development at Humber this fall.

The new four-year program at the school of business will run alongside its post-graduate counterpart.

"The new program will set Humber apart in the industry as students will benefit from our experts in the field, great contacts and excellent faculty," said Wanda Buote, the associate dean at Humber's school of business.

"Ultimately this program will be a stepping stone to get students involved with the agencies and NGOs they dream of working with," she said.

Kent Schroeder, the international project director, was instrumental in



PHOTO BY KAT WARD
Wanda Buote, associate dean for at Humber's school of business, encourages students to apply for the program.

developing the program's curriculum.

"We wanted to give students coming out of high school the opportunity to have an excellent theoretical foundation as well as the practical project component," said Schroeder.

Throughout the four years of the study, students will be exposed to a wide range of course material.

The first half of the program focuses on ethics, economics, politics, and geography.

The latter portion prepares students for hands-on work, as it deals primarily with computer, cultural and non-governmental organization management skills.

The degree culminates with a placement and a capstone project intended to act as a bridge to future employment.

"Students from Humber are highly regarded in the international

development field," said Susan MacGregor, program coordinator for the one-year post-graduate certificate. "Last year, graduates found work at 50 different agencies around the world in over 40 countries."

MacGregor expects similar outcomes for the new degree. "The new program will have the brand recognition, and students will be equally equipped."

Debra Kerby, executive director of Canadian Feed The Children, agrees the Humber program commands respect.

"What I love about the Humber program grads is that they walk in the door with a strong grounding in the basics of international development project management," she said.

"While they may not have much on-the-ground experience, they can learn and contribute fast."

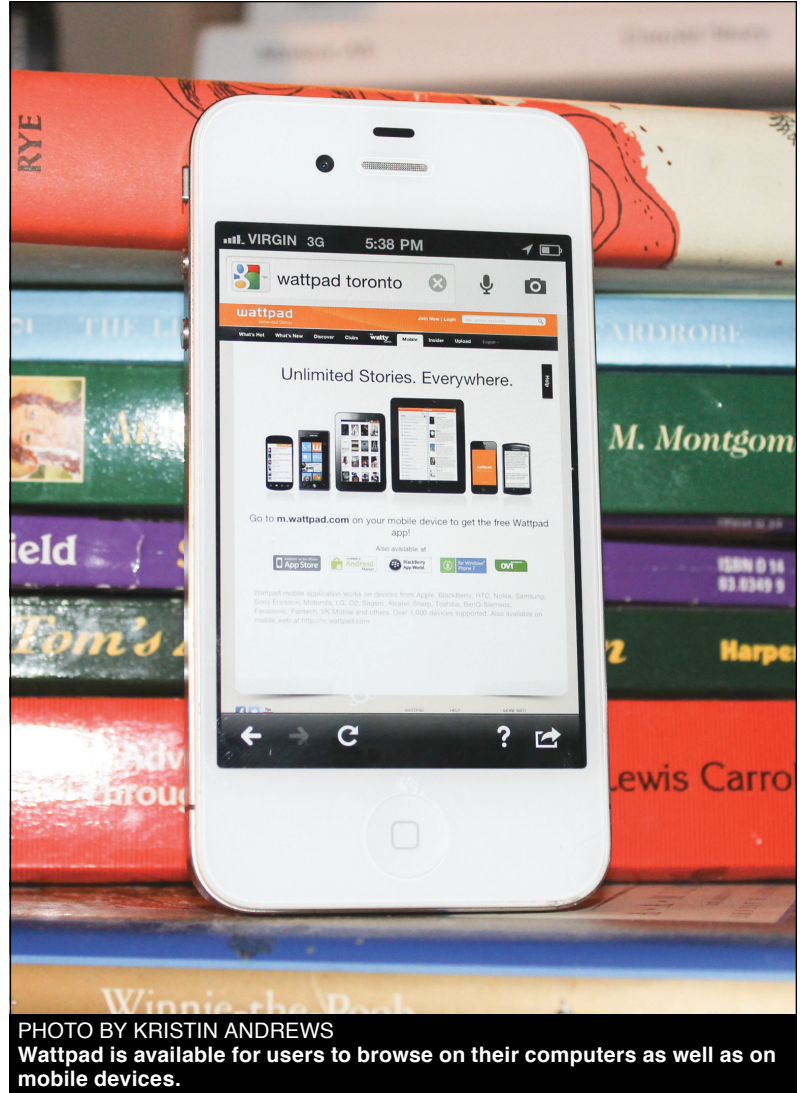


PHOTO BY KRISTIN ANDREWS
Wattpad is available for users to browse on their computers as well as on mobile devices.

Program gives smokers incentive to kick habit

TERRY ELKADY
News Reporter

Leave the Pack Behind, a six-week stop-smoking program that started on Ontario campuses on Jan. 23, is committed to providing a little extra to those looking to butt out.

"There are campus-specific prizes like gift cards and book store cards," said Karen Macwan, team leader for Humber's North campus. "There is also the 'quit for good' category where they can potentially win \$1,000."

According to the program's website, people trying to quit through this initiative have an eight per cent success ratio compared to only three per cent for others. To make quitting more enticing, the Ontario-wide college/university initiative is also providing participants with free nicotine replacement therapy for the first time.

"A lot of people do it just to get the quit kit that we give out," said Ashley Hylands communication team member for campaign.

In addition to these kits, volunteers set up information booths throughout

campuses. "We do our booths to educate people," said Hylands. "The more you know, the better and easier it is."

To keep participants committed, weekly check-ins are required, in order to qualify for the various prizes.

"We have [carbon monoxide] monitors that they blow into," said Hylands. "You have to come by every week and blow zero in order to qualify for the contest."

In past years, the program has helped participants achieve their goal of quitting. "There were a few success stories from last year with people that really wanted to quit and really made an effort," Hylands said.

Liz Sokol, counselor at Humber's North campus, said incentives can help drive people to quit smoking. She also added that nicotine addiction is a different breed than others.

"Most drinkers are okay with drinking," said Sokol. "Most smokers don't want to smoke, they're addicted."

Sokol emphasized the need for organization in attempting to quit. "You need to have a plan and make damn sure you have support."

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Extra large coffee cause for concern

Massive intake of caffeine can affect hydration, ion absorption by kidneys

SARAH MACDONALD
News Reporter

Tim Hortons' new giant cup size may be helping students get an extra jolt, but it's also raising concerns related to increased caffeine intake.

"You actually become dependent on caffeine," said Matthew Ramer, a bioscience professor at Humber. "Your body has become used to that stimulant -- to that caffeine."

The 24-ounce extra large cup was introduced on Jan. 23. To accommodate the new size, all of Tim Hortons' old sizes were downgraded -- the small became an extra small, and so on.

Higher levels of caffeine are primarily found in coffee -- 125mg per five ounces -- according to Susan Somerville, program co-ordinator of food and nutrition at Humber.

However, tea, chocolate, energy drinks and some medications like cough syrup, also include caffeine.

Somerville said caffeine is not an addictive substance, and that any effects from consumption wear off after a week.

But the move to use cup sizes similar to those sold in Tim Hortons chains in the United States is worrisome, said Ramer.

"This is not necessarily a good trend to have larger and larger sizes. I mean, we started years ago with a small and now a small is what a large used to be. You're getting more and more volume," he said.

Consuming more liquids affects the biological breakdown of the fluid in your body, specifically in the kidneys, said Ramer.

The ability to transport important ions into your kidneys is essential, but caffeine blocks the process of sodium and water reabsorbing back into the blood, which may cause dehydration.

"You're not actually absorbing as much water as you should be," said Ramer. "You still want to keep drinking coffee and you're thinking, 'why am I still thirsty?'"

But students don't seem to mind the increased amount of caffeine in these new cup sizes.

"I think that's okay because I would get the biggest one," said Marissa Cho, 19, a first-year marketing student. "I drink tea more than coffee, at least one extra-large a day."

Health Canada suggests adults ages 18-25 consume a maximum of 400mg of caffeine in a day, the equivalent of about three extra small Tim Hortons' coffees.

MADD club to open on Humber Campus

STACEY THOMPSON
News Reporter

Carlos Gomes, then 15, was in a car collecting donations for Mothers Against Drunk Driving when the vehicle was T-boned by a drunk driver.

"The vehicle went up on two wheels. It was the longest three seconds of my life," said Gomes, a first-year electrical apprenticeship student.

When Gomes realized there was no impaired driving awareness organization at Humber, he decided to form one.

"I started school in August and I hadn't seen any organizations in relation to drinking and driving," he said. "I thought, why not make students aware?"

The club will operate independently of MADD Toronto, but has the city chapter's support.

"You can't do enough with educating," said Carolyn Swinson, spokesperson for MADD Canada. "It's an ongoing thing. Students who are new to Ontario may not know the drinking laws and it would be good to educate them."

"It'll be a student-run organization," said Paul Tewrote, a board member of MADD and the liaison who will help guide the Humber club during start-up. "[It will be] started by students for students, and will allow for greater



PHOTO BY STACEY THOMPSON
MADD Canada estimates that, in 2009, there were between 1,250 and 1,500 deaths connected to impaired driving.

leadership skills. I will gather the information and get the club running."

The idea is to have students teaching and educating their peers about the dangers of drunk driving in creative ways.

To get HSF support, the club will need to enrol at least 10 full time stu-

dents and demonstrate that activities it hosts will be informative to those students.

The club's first meeting will be held Feb. 27 at 5 p.m. in the Humber community room.

Owls find home in Arboretum

KAITIE FRASER
Environment Reporter

The Humber Arboretum maintains a viable habitat for several owl species, providing a special opportunity for the public to see -- and even photograph -- them.

"There are four types of owls in the Arboretum and we haven't seen all of them yet," said Fiona Street, a nature interpreter at the Arb's Centre for Urban Ecology.

"We're estimating there are about 20 to 30 owls in the Arboretum right now but it's hard to tell," said Street.

Street explained that the four species of owl that reside in the Arb are the Great Horned, the Saw-Whet, the Long Eared and the Screech owl. "The largest is the great horned owl and the smallest is the saw-whet owl," said Street.

There's owl-friendly tree cover, and staff work hard to get the public to respect owls' habitats so that they will stay, she added.

She advises photographers to not to get too close and to cover the flash on their camera with a proper red light, so the owls don't get scared off.

"This year, north and central Ontario populations of owls have been

very good," said Jody Allair, a biologist and science educator at Bird Studies Canada, in Port Rowan, Ont.

Bird Studies Canada volunteers monitor populations for the scientists and the natural ebb and flow of populations has become recognizable over the last few decades, said Allair.

"This is good because we can see and monitor the populations and recognize if there is a catastrophic decline so we can act on it before it is too late," said Allair.

Bob Kortright, president of the Toronto Field Naturalists, told *Et Cetera* in an email that the preservation of our Toronto parks, especially forest areas, is important for owls to survive in the city. He acknowledges that some owl species, such as the Long Eared, need open areas -- particularly in the winter.

The Arb has many dense, coniferous trees which are appealing for the owls to nest in, said Street. To spot an owl, Street looks to the bottom of trees for pellets, which are "pieces of fur and bones the owls can't digest."

Street led the Arboretum's Owl Prowl last week, an annual event that guides people to some of the owls' nesting places. "They are easier to see during the day when they are roosting."



PHOTO BY KAITIE FRASER
The Arb is home to about 20 or 30 owls, according to estimates made by Humber's Centre for Urban Ecology.

Students offered overseas education

Several Humber programs offering cultural experiences around the globe

CLAIRE MCCORMACK
News Reporter

This May, Humber students will have the chance to explore Europe, Central America or Asia with one of the college's study abroad programs.

Rudi Fischbacher, culinary program co-ordinator, said many trips are open to all students and some of the trips are worth general elective credits.

"It's learn and earn in a way. It's a huge cultural experience," Fischbacher said.

The only trip not open to all students is Study at Sea, which is limited to fitness and tourism students.

Mary Lendway, co-ordinator of the tourism program, said the Study at Sea experience is about developing responsible tourism.



PHOTO BY CLAIRE MCCORMACK
Humber students can choose among several countries to visit in spring.

"On every voyage we chose two or three of the ports where we look at the local issues and what it is that we can do to make a difference," she said.

Aubrey Horn studied at sea last summer, visiting schools and helping out in places like Guatemala and Honduras.

"This was so different because you actually got to meet these kids, you got to play with them and see their faces light up when you gave them a doll," Horn said. "It's definitely just one of those wow moments."

The trips range from 10 days to one month and cost about \$3,000 to \$4,500. Many trips include airfare, accommo-

modation, some meals and excursions.

Students often do fundraising to come up with money for their trip and there is also a scholarship available for students on month-long excursions.

"We're going to do art and architecture in Rome, Florence and Venice in May. Can you imagine? It's going to be so beautiful. I'm so excited," said Wendy O'Brien, co-ordinator of the Italy outing.

Students must register in early February for most of the trips - some are still open - and they can find more information at the school of hospitality, recreation and tourism and the school of liberal arts and sciences.

Low-income families underestimate value of college, university

Future post-secondary students are encouraged to seek information about student aid and government funding

KRISTIN ANDREWS
News Reporter

For most, post-secondary education is another step on the path of life, but for those from low-income households it may not be on the family radar.

"Low-income families overestimate the financial challenge of post-secondary education and underestimate the return students can expect by getting an education," said John Davies, president of Humber College.

The Higher Education Quality Council of Ontario (HEQCO) said the issue is one of financial literacy.

"A part of financial literacy is understanding debt and how it works with student aid - what real levels of debt are and how it can be dealt with after you graduate," said Fiona Deller, research director for HEQCO.

Deller said these decisions are made as early as Grade 9.

"When you ask someone in Grade 9

or 10, they tend to think tuition is more than it actually is," she said.

Engaging high school students about financial aid is something HEQCO has difficulty doing.

"There is a lot of information about government funding and student aid, but whether or not that information is helpful or provided in a way that they can make actual use of, I'm not entirely sure," said Deller.

"Low-income families or families with a low education level don't know how to mentor children through the process," said Linda Hill, program co-ordinator for the social work program at Lakeshore campus.

Davies said it's important for students to pursue a post-secondary education.

"Estimates that you read in future enrolment will say that five years from now 70 to 75 per cent of all jobs will require a post-secondary education," he said.

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Biofuel project creates green jobs

BASIL REHAN
Biz/Tech Reporter

The Ontario government is partnering with Pond Biofuels in a new sustainable energy project to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and create green jobs.

"The project will have huge opportunities for grads from the fields of project management and construction," said Martin Vroegh, corporate and environment manager at St. Mary's Cement Inc. Canada, the single biggest investor in the project.

The company will host the new high-tech CO2 absorption system at its cement plant in St. Mary's, Ont., near London.

The new system will reduce greenhouse gases by absorbing dirty smoke-stack emissions to grow algae which can be used in oil production, converted into biodiesel and bioplastics or act as a renewable coal substitute.

Provincial support of the project is aimed at helping Pond Biofuels develop the technology locally with the hope that it will drive growth of Ontario's



COURTESY POND BIOFUELS INC.
A view inside the Pond Biofuels building.

environment industry, said Andrew Block, the senior advisor of communications at the Ministry of Economic Development and Innovation.

Vroegh said the project is already partnering with Ontario colleges and universities to hire graduates from various fields ranging from environmental project management to construction.

Humber's Sustainable Energy and Building Technology Co-op prepares grads to serve in project management roles related to energy conservation and efficiency, sustainable buildings and implementing renewable energy technologies where the primary focus is solar and wind, said the program's director, Kerry Johnston.

"Planning and construction of industrial facilities would be handled by civil engineering and construction management folks. Our grads might be involved in maintenance, but primarily from the energy management and building automation systems perspective," said Johnston.

The technology is applicable to any industry that emits CO2 so the potential is boundless, said Vroegh.

Pond plans on progressing to a full-scale commercial facility at St. Mary's by 2014.



PHOTO BY ANDREW RUSSELL
Yet to be claimed OSAP documents located in room B105.

Unclaimed scholarships still available to students

ANDREW RUSSELL
Biz/Tech Reporter

Humber students are failing to capitalize on thousands of dollars in scholarships offered each year.

"Last year, the Dr. Winsome E. Smith entrance scholarship was not awarded because nobody applied," said Holsee Sahid, manager at Humber's financial aid office.

"I don't know why students aren't applying. The application process, which involves writing an essay and finding references, might be the reason," he said.

Kizzy Joseph, a Humber grad now working in the student awards department, said that students do not know enough about available scholarships even though the information is readily available.

"Last year, we didn't have applicants for some awards and we had to go to the departments to find recipients," said Joseph.

While entrance scholarships are sometimes left unclaimed, the popular Humber Students' Federation bursary fund is cleaned out every year.

"Every year the HSF sets aside \$150,000 for student bursaries that are given out at the beginning of each semester," said Bradley Watson, HSF vice-president of administration for North campus.

HSF bursaries are awarded to students based on financial need, with preference going to students who do not receive OSAP loans.

"We are trying to raise the total amount we award each year because of the overwhelming demand," said Watson.

Students who face financial troubles should not hesitate to seek a financial aid counselor.

"Students need to talk to us more, otherwise we can't help," said Sahid. "They shouldn't feel embarrassed about their financial situation."

Sahid said people should tackle their finances early in the semester rather than wait until the end of the term.

Employers looking for social media skills

ANDREW SCHOPP
Biz/Tech Reporter

Understanding how to properly implement social media tools is an essential skill and companies are looking for graduates who possess these skills, said Byung Oh, social media strategist for career development at Humber.

"To promote your company through social media, you need real professional people to handle that kind of thing," said Oh.

Humber's Office of Advancement understands the necessity of a social media presence and seeks applicants who properly implement these tools, said Jacqueline Cavalheiro, donor and alumni relations co-ordinator at Humber.

"We'll go on their Facebook and LinkedIn accounts to see what people are doing on there and that could make or break an application some-

times," she said.

Graduates who now work for both small and large businesses are handling social media, which is the primary focus of corporations today, said media and communications co-ordinator Lynne Thomas.

"Graduates are being asked to handle social media, create blogs to re-vamp websites, and create a following on Twitter or Facebook and it's a big part of what's going on," she said.

The corporate world is looking to this generation of graduates for people who understand how social media works to fill vital roles in communications, public relations and marketing departments, said Thomas.

"This is the new area that traditional communications practitioners don't have a lot of expertise or experience in whereas new graduates in their twenties have been doing this their whole lives so they know how it works,"

said Thomas. "They understand what Google hits are and they understand presence on Google, they understand this sort of thing."

She said that Humber's public relations and communications programs are teaching its students the proper way to implement social media tools to promote a certain view and introduce or re-position a product.

Thirty to 40 people attended a social media workshop at North campus on Jan. 24, to discuss the importance of social media tools in the corporate world.

"I think sometimes what people forget is that things like Twitter and Facebook and other venues are just that, they're venues," said Thomas, "But you still have to have content for those venues so you have to know how to frame a message, what your message is and you have to have done the research for that message."

Solar power to make arboretum wireless

JESSY BAINS
Biz/Tech Reporter

Humber's arboretum will be going wireless by harnessing the power of solar panels, with the help of a student-run project.

"The panels would provide students with the same quality of Internet service that is inside the school and allow you to do it outside anywhere in the arboretum," said Graeme McKenzie, 27, a third-year sustainable energy and technology student and project manager.

The panels would also function as a charging station for electronic devices such as laptops and cell phones.

"We're still in the planning and design phase," said McKenzie. "We'll

hopefully have it designed in the next couple of weeks."

McKenzie said the project will cost approximately \$10,000 and be ready by the end of the semester.

A partnership through the research department with the Ontario Centres of Excellence, a Government of Ontario funded program promoting innovation, is helping to cover the cost of the project, said McKenzie.

Students from the industrial design and wireless telecommunications graduate program will be assisting with the project, as well as the Toronto Region Conservation Authority.

Rachel Lieberman, 26, a third-year sustainable energy and technology student and project manager, said McKenzie asked her to join him.

"I thought it was a neat idea," said Lieberman. "It's great to work on a project that you can get your hands dirty."

Lieberman said the design of the panels would be seamless and aesthetically pleasing, possibly using wood to help conceal the panels.

Melanie Sifton, the director of the arboretum, is both the client and project advisor.

"We would really like to see this piece of equipment developed so we can use it," said Sifton.

Most of the cost of the equipment will be covered by the Ontario Centres of Excellence grant and donations are also expected from outside organizations, said Sifton.

Best & Worst of Biz/Tech

Best: Toronto's Imax Corp. is building four new theatres in India with a focus on digitally enhanced Bollywood movies. This would bring the number of Imax theatres in India to 13. The country ranks number one in the world in film attendance even though 90 per cent of all its box-office revenue come from non-English-language movies. Projections estimate India's film industry will grow to \$5 billion by 2014.

Worst: Mick Jagger abruptly left the World Economic Forum in Davos last week after complaining he was being used as a "political football" by British Prime Minister David Cameron. The legendary rocker and former London School of Economics student was part of a delegation of British celebrities attending the forum to promote investment in Britain. In these trying economic times, you can't always get what you want.



COURTESY RAZER
View of Project Fiona, a PC in tablet form that features controls on either side that provide the classic gaming experience.

Gaming tablet hope to change industry

ANDREW SCHOPP
Biz/Tech Reporter

A tablet PC geared towards hardcore gamers could foster the growth of the PC games market and open up jobs for graduates of Humber's game development program, said information technology program co-ordinator, Rob Robson.

"Any game you would run on a PC can be run on the tablet, so that gives them quite a few titles to go with right out the gate," he said. "From my perspective, anyone can become a developer for the PC. If you want to become a developer for the Playstation Portable you have to become a studio recognized by Sony, but anyone can develop for the PC architecture."

"It helps develop the market for PC based games which has been losing out lately to console based games, which have more dedicated hardware."

Razer, a California based company, developed the new tablet PC, dubbed Project Fiona and features an Intel Core i7 processor. It is designed to handle the most hardware-intensive PC games.

"By creating a revolutionary hybrid user interface for PC gaming that combines the best of a gamepad, multi-touch screen and accelerometers, Project Fiona could create a whole new use case of PC gaming," said Hilmar Hahn, associate marketing manager for Razer. "Think about what would happen should Project Fiona really take off - we would go from being limited to using a mouse and keyboard to suddenly having the way Project Fiona handles as an equal alternative. If a critical mass is surpassed, games, cases, apps and many other things would be developed specifically for this use case. It would create a whole ecosystem in its wake which in turn creates more jobs in the game development space as well," said Hahn.

Hahn said potential game developers should be excited for Fiona's release.

"We envision this innovative platform to grow not only the PC gaming market but the PC market in general which would create a slew of jobs in many different sectors, game development being a key component."

Kyle Halladay, 21, a third-year game programming student, said that although he is unsure what market the tablet is targeting, the device can open up new roles for developers.

"It very well could bring in jobs, (but) it remains to be seen how well it sells. If it works out, then, yeah, new jobs are always good," said Halladay, who specializes in designing games for mobile devices.

"I think it's got a pretty good shot at changing the market. Time will tell," said Robson.

Designers headline town hall series

JESSY BAINS
Biz/Tech Reporter

Humber's school of applied technology is hosting heavy hitters from the design industry for a town hall speakers series running now through March 27.

"The whole point of the town hall course is to give the decorating students the opportunity to experience and understand what the industry has to offer from professionals," said Jo Alcorn, event organizer and part-time instructor at the school of applied technology.

Students will have the opportunity to learn about the industry and future career opportunities.

"They learn how many different job

positions are out there within this field and they also get the chance to connect, network and learn from the professionals and their expertise that they bring to the table," Alcorn said, "whether it be how to start your company, how to get published in a magazine or just dealing with client projects."

Becky Freeman, of Becky Freeman Interior Design, was a speaker at the kickoff event.

Her focus was on the entrepreneurial side of the industry.

"Students have to be ready to accept that they will need to learn about the business side of the industry," said Freeman.

Laura Fowler, a leading Toronto de-

signer and stylist, will be speaking on Feb. 14.

"I'm very much looking forward to it, it's been a long time since I've been in a school," said Fowler.

Design is a diverse field with many different opportunities, said Fowler.

"There's room for everybody in design," she said. "Some people just want to do commercial design [while] my friend just wants to design cancer centres."

Fowler said students interested in design should work for other designers while they are young.

"Some of my best experiences were working with designers, simple things like helping pick fabric samples taught me a lot."

Students partake in annual design show

ANDREW RUSSELL
Biz/Tech Reporter

Humber's interior decorating and design students were among the hundreds of designers who descended on the Metro Toronto Convention Centre for the 2012 Interior Design Show this week.

"This is the Super Bowl for designers," said Jo Alcorn an instructor with Humber's interior decorating department. "It's essential for students to go and experience IDS. Networking and getting to meet people is a large part of the business."

IDS has welcomed more than 500,000 visitors and featured more than 4,000 individual designers in its 14 year history.

The design fair is considered a useful way for a new generation of designers to experience the real world of design.

"Students get to meet major design companies like IKEA as well as smaller designers," said Alcorn. "It's important for students to look at both the finished products and the suppliers."

Humber had a feature exhibit at the gathering showcasing student work and

offering information about programs offered at the school.

The entire program was required to go as part of the interior decorating curriculum.

"(The exhibition) shows off Humber as a complete design school offering everything from interior decorating to industrial design," said Marilyn Teitelbaum, program co-ordinator for interior decorating. "We're out here every year, and I think it's really worth it for the students."

Toronto-based designers showcased their talent with more than 300 exhibits featured at the event.

"This is my fifth year at IDS," said Denise Zidel, owner of SNOB designs in Toronto. "It's the best PR the city has to offer. I get to meet all the media people and they get to touch, feel and see my stuff."

Zidel, like most designers, doesn't just come for the media exposure; she's also always on the lookout for new talent.

"I'm always surprised by what I see. I love looking at the students' products and the way they present them," said Zidel.

New talent had the opportunity to

learn from established names in the industry, including this year's keynote speaker, the world-renowned Italian designer Piero Lissoni.

"I think what he did was incredible this year," said Zidel. "Instead of using his own designs he selected products from the listed exhibits to use in his featured booth."

The Toronto Interior Design Show took place from Jan. 26 to 29.



PHOTO BY ANDREW RUSSELL
Marilyn Teitelbaum, Interior decorating program co-ordinator and Susan Krausz, Humber's Associate Dean, pictured at the IDS 2012 Humber Exhibit.



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Second City role gives Humber grad last laugh

SHARON TINDYBWA
A&E Reporter

Humber alumna Ashley Comeau has taken the stage as a cast member of Second City's *Dreams Really Do Come True! (and other lies)*.

"I've got the best castmates – a super supportive group- and Second City is amazing," said Comeau. "Doing the show every night, this sounds really corny, but it really is a dream come true."

Comeau was planning to apply for the funeral services program at Humber but decided to apply for the comedy writing and performance program after seeing it on the Ontario colleges website.

After her first audition, she said she knew she had found her calling.

"Nothing has ever felt more right in my life," Comeau said. "I was like 'this is what I want to do.'"

Since graduating from Humber in 2008, Comeau has found success with Second City and as half of Lusty Mannequins, a Toronto-based sketch duo with boyfriend Conner Thompson.

Comeau credits Humber with teaching her a lot of what she knows about comedy.

"I learned so much," Comeau said of her experience at Humber. "Every class taught me something different."

Andrew Clark, director of the comedy writing and performance program, said Comeau was a pleasure to teach.

"Ashley was a great student," said Clark. "Not every person who is funny is also a straight-A student. She has strong talent, combined with a mature

attitude and drive."

Robin Duke, a professor in the comedy program, said Comeau's success is not a surprise.

"It happened very fast, but she is extremely mature," said Duke. "She has all the qualities it takes it to make in comedy."

Dreams Really Do Come True! (and other lies) is scheduled to end its run on Jan. 31, but the whole cast will return for a new show in March.

Comeau's castmate, Inessa Frantowski, said she is excited to work with her again.

"A positive attitude is really important in this business, and Ashley has that and she works hard," said Frantowski. "We're lucky that we get to work together twice."



COURTESY DAN ABRAMOVICI (from left to right) Ashley Comeau, Jason DeRosse and Nigel Downer from a scene called *Breastaurant*.



COURTESY SCOTT GRIES (PICTUREGROUP) Stephen Colbert campaigned for votes during the South Carolina Republican primaries but halted his exploratory committee shortly after.

Colbert for President

SARAH RIX
A&E Reporter

Stephen Colbert's run for "president of the United States of South Carolina" lasted only 11 days, but exposed the complications of American politics and showcased Colbert's comedic, right-wing character.

"If politicians are going to be upstaged by a comedian, it's not the comedian's fault," said Andrew Clark, comedy writing and performance program director at Humber College. "It's the fault of the politicians for not offering a more viable or interesting platform."

The Colbert Report host televised on Jan. 12 his intention to run in the Republican primary in his native state of South Carolina, ridiculing American politics and super political action committees during the process.

Introduced in 2010, super PACs are independent expenditure-only committees that accept unlimited donations from corporations, groups and

individuals to support or oppose particular candidates.

"Part of the difficulty with American politics right now is the amount of money it requires to make a credible run," said Greg Narbey, a political science professor at Humber. "Super PACs are really unaccountable in terms of who's donating and the kind of influence they're potentially buying."

Colbert's "Definitely Not Coordinating with Stephen Colbert" super PAC is run by Daily Show host, Jon Stewart.

Narbey said he suspects Colbert's super PAC will continue past the Republican primaries, through to the end of the election.

Though Colbert ended his campaign on Jan. 23, the primaries could continue for about five more months before the presidential election on Nov. 6.

"There are a good number of Americans, particularly independent voters, that are pretty disgusted with what's on offer by the Republican party and not

exactly thrilled with President [Barack] Obama's first term," said Narbey.

South Carolina held its Republican primary Jan. 21 and voters cast ballots for former candidate Herman Cain, standing in for Colbert, who missed the deadline to submit his own name.

"Colbert and Stewart have a marvelous way of making points through humour," said Sam McGregor, a South Carolina resident who voted with Colbert's campaign.

Cain received 6,234 votes, finishing a distant fifth but indicating voter discontent.

"It'll be interesting to see where the support goes as the primaries continue. There's not really a figure that galvanizes everybody on the Republican side," said Croskeys Royall, a South Carolina resident. "Colbert has a very pointed commentary that they should take heed of and maybe adjust some of their platforms. He makes sense beyond the basic humour, he's got good observations."

Art Here contest takes over Humber

JULIE FISH
A&E Reporter

The fourth annual Art Here contest, organized by the national advertising company, Newad, is taking over ad spaces around selected post-secondary campuses, including Humber College to gain exposure for emerging artists.

"Newad specializes in what we call the 'young and affluent,' so 18 to 34 year-olds," said Marie-Christine Fournier, manager of marketing and communications for Newad. "We know that the establishments, in which our products are, reach this demographic, so we thought the space was there to promote these artists."

Contestants who submitted work from Jan. – Dec. 2011 will find out in early February if their art was chosen to be showcased in Newad's indoor advertising network across Canada throughout 2012.

The year-long admission period is plenty of time for amateur artists to construct a masterpiece worthy of ad space across the country for 2013.

There is no set number of winners per year since the contest is growing, up from 900 participants in 2010 to 1200 participants in 2011.

The contest accepts art in all mediums, including paintings, photographs, digital art and photographs of sculptures, barring any offensive or provocative images.

Although Newad does not keep tabs on the winners and participants, Fournier said that at least four or five times a year her office is contacted by people wishing to connect with artists who had submitted their art to the contest's website.

Despite the heavy course load students are dealing with, time put towards the contest could prove to be invaluable in the future.

"I encourage students as much as possible to go out there and take part in as many exhibitions and contests as possible," said Noni Kaur, program co-ordinator for the visual and digital arts program. "Any exposure of the students' work is good."

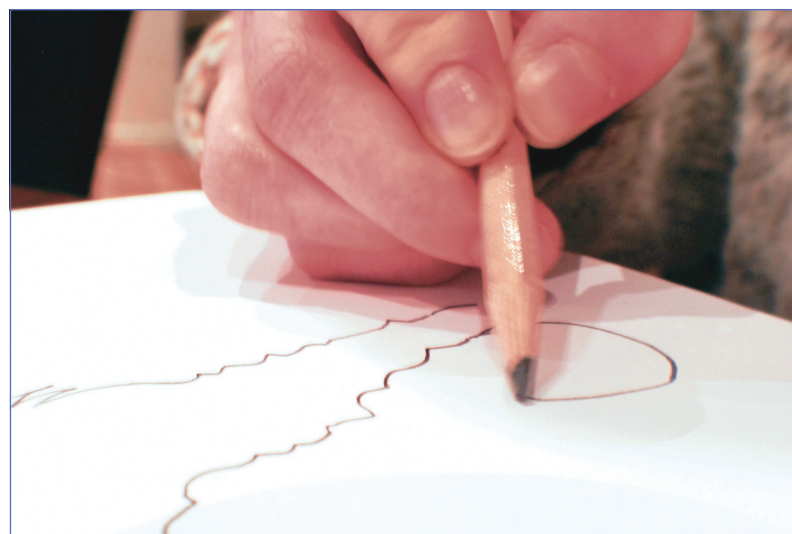


PHOTO BY JULIE FISH An artist works on their submission for Newad's 'Art Here' contest.

Drum crew wins Humber's Got Talent

SHARON TINDYEBWA
A&E Reporter

Adrian Smith, 21, a general arts and sciences student and his drumming crew took home the top prize – a trip for four to Panama Beach City, Florida – at Humber's Got Talent competition on Jan. 31.

The group said they were still in shock over their win. "It's going to sink in when we go on the trip," Smith said. "There was more excitement before we went on stage and during the week."

Smith and his crew faced stiff competition from beat boxers Karandeep Singh and Savreet Singh who received the second place prize of \$500.

Karandeep Singh said that the duo was "very, very happy with the results."

"We weren't even expecting second place," he said. "I guess we are something different that they haven't seen."

Savreet Singh said he thought the

right group won the first place prize.

"They deserved it because their stage presence was so strong," he said.

The third place prize of \$250 went to crowd favourites Anmol Singh and Jagpreet Singh who brought the packed student centre to its feet with their Bollywood performance.

The North and Lakeshore campuses held a preliminary round on Jan. 26. Eight finalists from both campuses were selected to compete in the finals at the North campus.

For one of the judges at the preliminary round, the talent was less than impressive.

"I was a bit disappointed," Sindy Nguyen said. "Last time we did it, there was a bit more talent. This time I just found that some people went up there as jokes or they were very unprepared."

Nguyen, a contestant in the last Humber's Got Talent, received frequent boos and jeers from the audience

for her liberal use of the x button.

Nguyen and the other judges could attempt to put an end to a contestant's performance by pressing the x button. Three x's resulted in an immediate end to a performance. At the finals there was little use of the x button.

Finalists were divided into four groups and judges chose one contestant from each group to advance to the next stage.

The decision of who would take home the top prize, however, was left to the audience.

One judge, Humber Students' Federation president Bryan Tran, said while he respected the audience's decision, he would have chosen differently.

"Personally I thought the beat boxers had more talent," Tran said.

The competition is based on the popular television show, *America's Got Talent*, which CityTV is adopting for Canada this spring.



PHOTO BY SHARON TINDYEBWA
(from left to right) Adrian Smith stands with his crew Michael Grant, Matthew Grant and Gordon Dewar after drumming their way into the hearts of audiences at this year's Humber's Got Talent.

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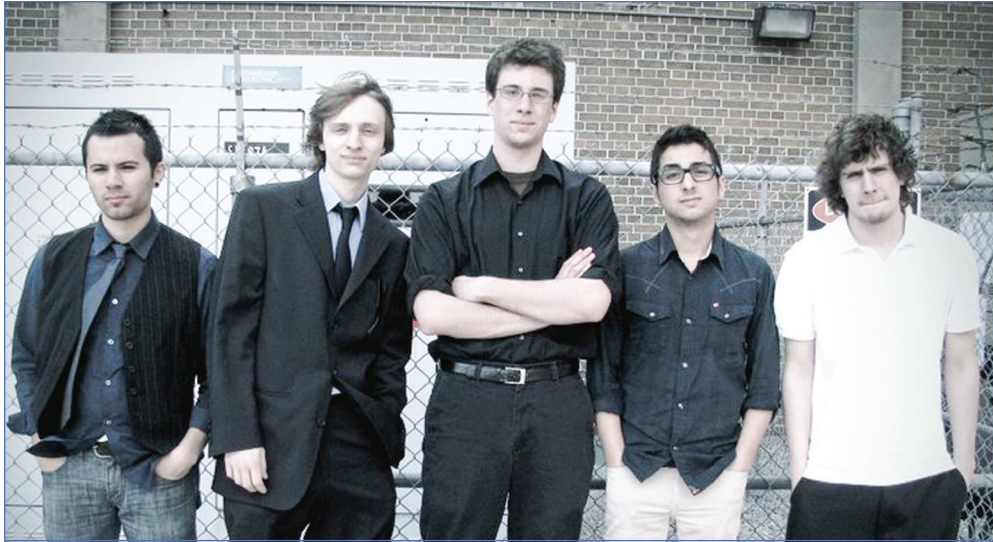
For more information contact:
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THIS WEEK BY KELLY GABEL & SARAH HORWATH

THURS	2	Chocolate Pub @LinX Lounge, 10p.m.-2 a.m. Indulge in your sweet side with chocolate drink specials. Also a Willy Wonka contest to win the golden ticket to a Raptor's game.
FRI	3	Honey Jam: Then & Now @Harbourfront Centre, 7-10 p.m. A TD sponsored event including tribute songs by black female artists.
SAT	4	Snowshoeing 2012 @Humber Arboretum, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Rent some snowshoes and trek through the snow this Saturday and Sunday.
SUN	5	Official Superbowl XLVI Party @Sound Academy, 4 p.m. Presented by Bud Light, join the ultimate fan experience. Tickets: \$40-49.
MON	6	The Asteroids Galaxy Tour @The Hoxton, 8:30 p.m. The Danish pop band known for their single <i>Around the Bend</i> in the iPod Touch commercial comes to town.
TUES	7	"Mr. Attraction" @Lakeshore (K Building), 12 p.m. North (student centre), 3 p.m. Dating expert Ryan Clauson answer all your dating Q's.
WED	8	iDrum @Lakeshore, K building, 11 a.m. A performance led by Davidson Elie, using percussionists, instrumentalists, DJs & dancers



COURTESY THE FRASER MELVIN BLUES BAND
Jon Hyde (drums), Fraser Melvin (vocals and guitar), Alex Furlott, Andrew Moljun (sax), Josh Cavan (keys) will compete for big prizes at the International Blues Challenge in Memphis.

Blues band heads to Memphis

NEETU THIND
A&E Reporter

Humber Contemporary Music graduates, The Fraser Melvin Blues Band are showcasing their talents in the 2012 International Blues Challenge in Memphis, Tenn.

With roughly 400 different groups appearing, Frank McNulty, president of the Collingwood Blues and Jazz Society that is sponsoring the band, said he's hoping the group will, at the very least, make it to the top 10.

The five-piece band consisting of Fraser Melvin (vocals and guitar), Josh Cavan (keyboard), Andrew Moljgun (saxophone), Alex Furlott (bass) and Jonathan Hyde (drums), will represent the Collingwood Blues and Jazz Society in Memphis between Jan. 31 and Feb. 4.

"Their technical musical ability, stage presence, and the material that they played, set them apart from other bands," said McNulty.

Before heading south, the band's front man said that he planned to showcase Canadian blues talent.

"We have a really incredible blues scene and I would like people to start taking note of the Fraser Melvin Blues Band," Melvin said.

The band leader believes there are a few things that will separate the ensemble from the rest of the pack.

Melvin said the keyboardist, Cavan, writes a

lot of their songs and adds funky little changes like an altered chord, which adds a unique quality and a jazz flavour to the band's music.

The small-framed 22-year-old's powerful and soulful voice could also give them an edge in the competition.

"Usually, when people hear him sing, it gets their attention because they don't expect him to have the voice that he does," said Melvin.

Winning the competition would mean big things for the band's future.

The grand prize consists of \$1,500 and gigs at some of the best festivals in the U.S., as well as a slot on the 2013 Legendary Rhythm and Blues Cruise.

Despite the high stakes, Melvin keeps a laid-back attitude about the competition.

"I don't expect us to win," he said. "If we do, that will be nice, but we just want a good reception and the crowd to like us. ...We're all looking forward to the food, so if we lose we'll just start eating right away."

Andrew Ballantyne, a teacher in the contemporary music program at Humber and a former instructor to most of the group members, sees this as a great opportunity for the band.

"Getting their name out there is huge. It's great to see recent graduates who are having some success and getting a real shot at something that could be a big deal."

Alumni mag nabs award

LISA GILLAN
A&E Reporter

Humber's alumni magazine, *Humber dialogue*, has received a distinguished award, recognizing it as a standout among several North American post-secondary publications.

"It's a big deal because it's actually our first award for this office and specifically for this publication," said Adelia Marchese, associate editor of the two-year-old magazine, and manager of advancement and alumni relations at Humber. The judges praised *dialogue's* "quality, creativity, innovation, adherence to professional standards, success in meeting objectives of the category," Marchese said.

It was competing in a group of alumni magazines from District II, including New York state, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and Ontario.

Within the district, "we were the only Canadian college to receive an accolade award," said Marchese, who attended the Council for Advancement and Support of Education conference and award ceremony in New York City from Jan. 22 to 24.

"They had 500 submissions overall," Marchese said, though the council doesn't reveal what per-

centage of submissions come in for each category.

"We are working hard to try to engage alumni so this validates the fact that we're doing a good job," said Debbie Krulicki, editor of the magazine.

Krulicki also writes many of the articles, and is a communications officer with the office of advancement and alumni relations.

"I think some of my favourite experiences would have been interviewing the alumni that we feature," she said.

Much of the work on the publication is done by people like Marchese and Krulicki, who have other roles within the school as well.

"This is the first alumni magazine that I've really had any access to," said Lara King, a member of the periodical's advisory committee, who teaches in Humber's journalism program and is herself an alumina. "It's nice that I have some input in something that is related to my industry and I can get involved on a different level as a member of the Humber community."

The magazine was started in 2010 "to give alumni relations, or the cultivation of the alumni group once the students graduate, more prominence," Marchese said.

Healing through stringed music

KOLLIN LORE
A&E REPORTER

Violette Clark, a visual artist and blogger extraordinaire in White Rock, B.C. has found a new, creative way of reinvigorating her brain under the tutelage of a 1992 Humber jazz dropout.

"He knows his stuff, he's not intimidating, he's very affable with his students, and he's a good guy," said James Devon, guitar teacher and associate at Tapestry Music in White Rock, B.C.

The 48-year-old Julie spent two years playing bass at Humber from 1991-1993 before leaving the program for personal reasons.

However, music has always remained in his life. He has taught several stringed instruments at Sherwood Music in Kitchener, ON from 1989-2009, and at Tapestry Music in White Rock B.C. for the past two year.

"When you are learning things you've never

really done in your life - muscle memory, information of any sort - you do everything in very short time frames," said Julie. "That way your attention span is not going all over the place."

Julie's teaching methods also include getting his students to visualize what they are practicing, and he uses a principle called accelerated learning, that encourages faster learning on specific skills based on a foundation of success.

One of Julie's more recent students is visual artist and blogger, Violette Clark, 57, who he began teaching on the ukulele.

"I think if I had somebody back when I was a kid who was encouraging like Shawn, I'm pretty sure I could've picked up any instrument," said Clark.

Though only at Humber for two years, Julie has fond memories and gives credit to such music teachers as the late Lenny Boyd, retired Roger Flock, and Will Jarvis, who still teaches at Humber.



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Would that be tuition rebate or **surcharge?**



MICHAEL GREGORY
Senior Reporter

The McGuinty government's new tuition grant has deepened the pockets of many Ontario post-secondary students, but thousands of others are finding themselves left out by the fine print.

Implemented this month, the \$430 million rebate plan gives \$730 annually to college diploma and certificate students. University students can receive \$1,600 back.

The government's Ontario Student Assistance Program website lists eligibility requirements, which include: full-time enrollment, that the student has applied directly from high school less than four years after graduation and that their parents' income is less than \$160,000.

Glen Murray, minister of training, colleges and universities, told the *Et Cetera* that the program was brought in to help the "middle-class and modest income" families with more than one child pursuing a post-secondary education. He said the response from the public has been encouraging.

"I've got parents who call and say... 'this is the difference between us being able to keep three of our children in college or university,'" Murray said. "People are very excited about it: colleges and universities are really happy that their students are getting breaks but it's not coming at their expense."

During the fall election campaign, a campaign policy worker for education minister Laurel Broten from Etobicoke-Lakeshore, told the *Et Cetera* "five out of six students will get the grant."

But now the government admits that 310,000 will be receiving their cheque: that's roughly half of the province's 600,000 students.

Another estimate by the Ontario chapter of the Canadian Student Federation, an organization that lobbies government, claims the number is even lower and "two-thirds of students in Ontario" will be excluded.

The CFS has now launched a campaign to amend portions of the tuition grant.

Ontario Chair Sandy Hudson said the government's investment is a "good thing," but the McGuinty Liberals have broken an election promise to students.

"There are much more efficient ways to spend this money and we're upset about the broken promise of a 30 per cent tuition fee reduction," Hudson said.

"Students shouldn't be barred [from] a post-secondary education simply because their wallets aren't fat enough," she said.

To help fund the rebate, the government is cutting several other education grants. Among them are the Textbook and Technology Grant and the Queen Elizabeth II Aiming for the Top Scholarship, which awards scholarships for academic excellence.

Some students may actually be worse off because of the rebate. Hudson said the government is "cutting back other grants that would have given larger amounts of money to students who are in lower-income families in order to help fund this grant."

Murray said the 8,000 QEII recipients have other funding options and the programs being reduced were "minor" and considered to be "temporary in the first place."

"Anyone who's losing funding, with very few exceptions, is being picked up by the much more generous and larger tuition grant program," he said.

But while the new grant is available immediately, the programs on the budget chopping block may not be disappearing as quickly as was first thought.

Holsee Sahid, manager of Humber's financial aid office said at least one would be phased out gradually in the years to come.

"If you're a student who got the Aiming for the Top Scholarship this year and you have maintained your 80 per cent average, you will continue to get it for the next three years - you're not going to be cut off," said Sahid, adding that high school students entering post-secondary this semester do not qualify.

The Textbook and Technology Grant would likely be gone as of September 2012, she said.

According to statistics collected by Humber's Financial Aid office, over 10,000 students received \$81 million in funding from federal, provincial and grant sources during the fall 2011 semester.

The McGuinty government will now concentrate on improving funding and services for students exempt from the tuition grant, including Humber's 57,000 part-time students.

"There are a number of people - mature students and part-time students - who don't yet have beyond OSAP a more developed program for them and we're going to work with that," Murray said. "You're going to be hearing a lot from our government over the next 12 months on more reforms that will make education more accessible for absolutely every student."

Over 50,000 students have already applied for the grant based on statistics collected in mid-January.



PHOTO COURTESY SHAUN MERRIT
Ontario Minister Glen Murray (left) told *Et Cetera* government will work with part-time and mature students excluded from the 30 per cent tuition grant.



PHOTO COURTESY NIGERIA
Echoes of gunshots and
Kano, Nigeria's second la

Nigeria back



"I have family back home," said Adesuyi Adeleke, a 29-year-old student from the state capital, who has seen her family killed hundreds. In the north, from the south side of Nigeria, she knows what's next?"

As the turmoil in Nigeria rages, the Nigerian government is taking action of the Nigerian government to address the underlying social and economic issues, a manipulative role in the country.

Humber has 50 Nigerian students in its network them at a time of various counselling supports for the community," said Kim Smith, director of the Centre.

Nigeria has slid into chaos since 2010, when Islamist insurgents began shooting sprees. The state security office and the army have killed thousands in Nigeria's second largest state.

Over 185 people were killed in an attack sent over 10 million people.

According to Umar Abd



PHOTO COURTESY NIGERIAN RED CROSS
 Bomb blasts haunted the streets of
 largest city



PHOTO COURTESY MARY YONG
 Humber student Adeleke Adesuyi (right) and friend during
 peaceful times at a wedding in Ilorin Kwara State, Nigeria.



PHOTO COURTESY NIGERIAN RED CROSS
 Red Cross volunteers collect victims' bodies after the Jan. 20 bombing

Nigerian students fear for safety home as bombings continue

SAMINA ESHA
 Senior Reporter

... and I am worried about their safety,"
 ...-year-old Humber resource manage-
 ... of Ekitim, Nigeria. "These terrorists
 ... last two to four years they have moved
 ... to other parts of the country, so who
 ...
 ...ria continues, both the Canadian-Ni-
 ...rian students at Humber question the
 ...nment, which some believe has failed
 ...cial causes of the strife and even plays
 ...n conflict.
 ...n international students and can help
 ... crisis. "We let students know about
 ... and help them reach out within their
 ... manager of the college's International

...s after the latest major attack on Jan.
 ...s co-ordinated a series of bomb blasts
 ...sailants targeted police headquarters,
 ...ne office for Nigerian immigration ser-
 ...est city, Kano.
 ...lled that day, with many injured. The
 ...anicked residents in Kano running for

...lu Mairiga, the head of programmes

and disaster management of the Nigerian Red Cross, much of the wreckage has been cleared. The organization helped the government to sift through the rubble, burying bodies.

"Right now it's calm. But there is growing tension because people are wondering what may happen next," said Mairiga. "All the volunteers are at standby. The volunteers are taking care of those that are injured, taking them to the hospital, assessing the damage and reporting to us. In fact, I am on my way to the location."

The extremist group responsible for the attack is known as Boko Haram. Its origin is thought to be from northeast Nigeria. The group believes that the existing secular system should be abolished and replaced with an Islamic state. According to Human Rights Watch, Boko Haram has killed over 900 people since its rise in 2009. Approximately 250 people were killed in the first weeks of this year.

Charles Musa is a 29-year-old Nigerian and graduate of Humber's marketing management program. Over the years, Musa has personally felt the impact of the unrest, as his family has lost their two hotels during election violence and he thinks these attacks stem from political aspirations.

"This is not the first time this is happening to my family. Whenever there is a political issue or propaganda, the country has riots, deaths and attacks from Boko Haram," said Musa. He believes politicians manipulate even terrorist activity. "As far as I am concerned, the [Boko] group doesn't even exist," said Musa. "I come from a family of Muslims and Christians and it is a country for all. Poverty and illiteracy makes it easy for politicians to control and motivate these poverty stricken people. Religion is just used as a tool."

On the other hand, Adeleke hopes addressing the social issues will dismember the terrorist group.

"I don't think the government took the right steps. They should have looked at the situation from a social point of view," he said. "High illiteracy, corruption and poverty in certain parts of the country make it easy for political, religious or any other groups to control these people. If these social issues were tackled, then these people would not be diverted to join this extremist group."

For Kenny Gbadebo, president of the Nigerian-Canadian Organization (Windsor), it is a combination of things that has lead

to the attacks.

"Our country is full of wealth and resources, but it is in the hands of less than one per cent of people. So people are frustrated and don't have control over their own destiny. And the government doesn't have control over the people," said Gbadebo.

He believes that while the situation in Nigeria is complex, the solution might lie within.

"Yes, religion and politics are a problem but our number one enemy is corruption and exploitation. It is eating our country from the inside out. Everyone from the rich to poor is corrupt. If we demolish corruption, the country would be united," he said.

Dr. Jerry Ugokwe is the former Nigerian representative to United Nations and the current international spokesperson for Nigeria. While Nigerians are typically critical of their government's actions, Ugokwe offers assurances that the government is taking appropriate actions to control the situation and adds he hopes for people's faith in the government.

"The government is doing everything in its power to control the situation. We have the direct co-operation of almost all the international agencies and the United Nations to fight these acts of terrorism," he said.

Ugokwe noted that innocents are being killed regardless of their religious affiliation and that terrorist attacks are new in Nigeria: in order to fight them, the government needs the help and support of the public.

"The government has changed the leadership of the Nigerian police to make it more vigilant and dynamic. The government has also closed and tightened the borders as some of the ammunitions were coming in from outside the country," said Ugokwe. "Recently the national assembly passed an anti-terrorism bill which has now been signed by the president to be an act of the parliament. With that it will be possible to apprehend these people and [judge] them under the new law."

**"Corruption is eating
 our country from
 the inside out."**

-KENNY GBADEBO

Immigration positive for Canada

In an effort to thwart illegal U.S. immigrants, Mitt Romney, Republican presidential candidate, has voiced his support of the Patriots for Self-Deportation initiative, an offshoot of the Tea Party movement.

This catchy term, 'self-deportation,' is used to urge illegal immigrants, regardless their number of years in the country, to declare their illegal status and return to their native country to then legally reapply for U.S. citizenship.

This U.S. endeavour touches upon a growing sense of nationalism that is emerging in more and more places across the globe. Whether it is the British National Party in the UK, the National Democrats in Sweden or hard-right movements in countries like Hungary, developed nations are today flirting with a firm, "patriotic" stance that restricts immigration.

Canada has so far been spared the more extreme rhetoric, and thankfully so. However, immigration reforms are coming soon. At the World Economic Forum last week, Stephen Harper said in a keynote speech that, "in the months to come, our government will undertake major transformations to position Canada for growth over the next generation."

The prime minister said that while the government would still place importance on "humanitarian obligations and family reunification objectives," the main focus would be placed

upon improving the economic situation and addressing the needs of the labour force in the country.

Immigration lawyers spoke out against the federal Conservatives just prior to the last election, stating that the party has not been entirely forthcoming with the state of immigration in this country.

The immigration lawyers claimed that the backlog of skilled workers had increased, not decreased, since 2005 and the processing time of visas has gone up.

The tightening that comes about via these reforms could be considered problematic in the light of these accusations.

Among other considerations, there is the matter of retaining an adequate work force. According to StatsCan, in the year 2030 deaths will outnumber births, and the major source of growth will be related to those arriving in Canada to make it their new home.

The trend of low birth rate is echoed in virtually every advanced country and is deemed acute in immigration-wary nations such as Japan.

Nonetheless, at a time of economic uncertainty and high unemployment, the impulse to restrictive measures keeps cropping up. The self-deportation effort in the U.S. is a particularly illogical instance of it. Men and women who have been rooted in the U.S. for years would be asked to get to the "back of the line" according to the provision,

said Romney, potentially the next U.S. president within less than a year.

At best, self-deportation will lure the children of these people, having targeted their guilty consciences and their will to be a legitimate citizen. It is hard, however, to expect those who have been comfortably settled for generations to suddenly uproot their lives to achieve the proper legal status.

These second or third generational children, who were U.S.-born, aren't legally entitled to return to their parents' home country as they hold no citizenship there, either. Indeed, they are no less American than their legal counterparts.

Part of the self-deportation group's core values, that "America belongs to real Americans" and "all illegals... must be deported at once," raises the obvious questions of what constitutes a real American.

It's not clear exactly what the process was when settlers came over on ships to colonize the New World, but it's worth questioning whether the aboriginals received every immigration form and properly filed them. It is not a stretch to say that, under the 'real' term, North America is the world's largest and longest standing occupy movement.

It also begs the question what the implications are of self-deportation. Anyone planning to repatriate themselves will first have to apply for citi-

zenship into the destined country, then wait out the necessary time during the application process to be readmitted into the United States—assuming they'll be naturalized, of course.

A factor possibly not considered in the self-deportation group is whether these foreign countries, such as Mexico, Poland and others, are prepared to have a few million people showing up at their doorstep asking for entry into the country. It's no secret that a number of these countries have struggled economically and have high unemployment rates. Will the people returning to their 'homeland' find housing and jobs as well?

This is not the point we've reached in Canada and we should be grateful for that.

After four decades of official multiculturalism and the growth of strong and industrious immigrant communities in Canada's major cities, Canadians are by polling results one of the most welcoming countries in the world to immigrants. Even the current proposed immigration reform to narrow immigration towards boosting economic sectors, can be positioned in a positive light, not least with baby boom and echo boom generations aging.

Illegal immigration is problematic, that is not up for dispute; but while it is important to tackle the issue it is also important for Canada to continue welcoming those choosing a new land to call their home.

The *EtCetera* exists to inform the Humber community and give people well rounded coverage on the things that matter to them.

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QUOTED

What do you think about the potential change to narrow Canada's immigration policy, focusing on those who can contribute to Canada's workforce?



"I agree with it because it's our taxpayers' money but at the same time I feel bad because everybody should be welcomed here."

Deanna Capone, 21
First-year early childhood education

"I think that Canada already allows a lot of people in, but we don't have requirements. I think that making this will help steadily and slowly make requirements for people coming to Canada."

Charles Baker, 21
First-year rec and leisure services

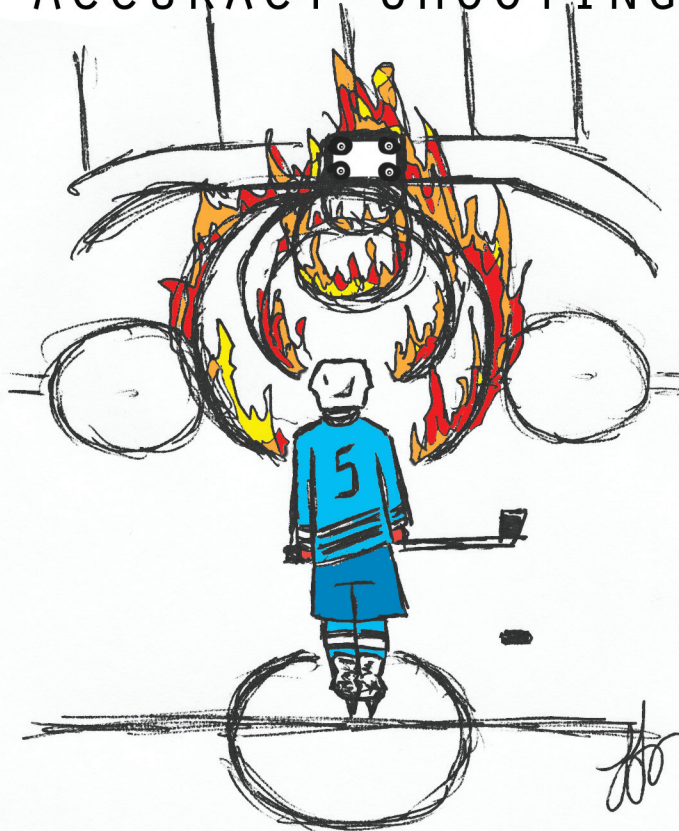


"I'm not Canadian, but I'm working on it. It's going to be harder [for new immigrants] because people already here have the priority to find a job, and they're going to school for it."

Marc-Stephane Lan, 22
First-year film and television

Editorial Cartoon

THE FUTURE OF NHL
ACCURACY SHOOTING



We must not consent to Caterpillar lockout



JASON SPENCER
News Editor

Since Jan. 1, more than 465 Electro-Motive Diesel workers have been locked out of their London, Ont. plant by U.S.-based, heavy equipment manufacturer Caterpillar. The dispute began when the locomotive producer's union, the Canadian Auto Workers, refused a contract offer put forth by Caterpillar of a 50 per cent slash to wages and benefits. Though the CAW has been rattling their rustic chains over this ongoing matter, Caterpillar has remained silent.

It is understood that a person has the right to remain silent, but we're not talking about a person – we're talking about a corporation. That distinction should be made; however, legally, it is not. Corporate personhood allows corporations to have some of the same legal rights as an individual, such as the right to remain silent.

Caterpillar has not said a word on this matter, not even doling out a public statement defending their multi-billion

dollar position, and the Harper government states that since the matter involves a private company, they cannot interfere.

The approach could be construed as hands off even though the government was implicated in the initial stage of this matter when they allowed Caterpillar to purchase Electro-Motive under the Investment Canada Act in 2010. The Act, originally put through by the Mulroney government in 1985, is meant to block foreign takeovers that may not benefit Canadians. It's safe to assume that this deal is in violation of the Act and the CAW has been trying to get the Harper government to disclose the details of the agreement between Caterpillar and Electro-Motive.

On Jan. 26, Caterpillar was not quiet about announcing record-setting, fourth quarter profits of US\$4.9 billion US for 2011, yet was refusing to budge on the C\$30 million that they have offered the workers. If it's not a financial issue, some labour relations experts are proposing that the lockout is a show for the company's investors. One could argue that the situation is also an arrogant display of power.

The *Toronto Star* reported that Caterpillar could be moving their locomotive production to a new production facility in Muncie, Indiana. In fact, the Muncie plant is currently undergoing a hiring blitz. Is this related? Perhaps the scores of laid-off workers from Caterpillar who were cut loose in 2009, are considering relocating?

The reason given by Cater-

pillar when the abysmal contract offer was tabled was for the company to remain competitive. But, with government regulations for train emissions pending, Caterpillar will continually see a boom in their locomotive side, which currently makes up four per cent of their profits, whereas providing heavy equipment for mining resources such as oil, is their main source of revenue.

Nonetheless, a coordinated strategy is in place here.

The London workers are left with few choices: wait it out, leave, or take the cut. Either way, they suffer.

One thing for sure is that this will not end well, but hopefully it doesn't end quietly. Corporations and governments must give their workers the respect of answering to them, in order to rebuild tenuous labour-management relations.

Whichever outcome awaits the workers, the fallout will affect the London community. When poverty is up, a host of other crippling issues such as crime and health problems will ensue *ad nauseum*. This is certainly not good for Canadians.

When big business and government remain tight-lipped it's usually because they are up to no good. When the public doesn't speak out or doesn't feel empowered enough to do so, then our silence is consent. It perpetuates our problems. Allowing this to continue will inevitably contribute to the plummeting standard of living in Canada as well as rob workers of their basic human dignity.

All-star games matter less than skills contests



MICHAEL RADOSLAV
Managing Editor

While professional athletes deserve to be honoured for their accomplishments, all-star games serve little purpose anymore – especially since the advent of the wildly popular skills competitions featuring such events as home run derbies and slam dunk contests.

As for the games, these glorified scrimmages could be cancelled and replaced with something else without much resistance from fans, and it is something leagues should pursue.

This past weekend both the NHL and NFL celebrated their most exceptional players by holding fan-friendly games with player rotation to make sure everyone invited got involved. The NBA will follow suit at the end of the month.

The NFL, which drew significantly more viewers than the NHL game due to football's popularity over hockey south of the border, faced an eight per cent drop in television ratings this year. The draw is not the

game but rather the precursor skills contests.

A home run derby or slam dunk challenge may only be one element of a sport, but it's these more thrilling elements of the sport that are highlighted for fan enjoyment.

There is no mistaking why Saturday night is reserved for the skills contests while the games themselves are played on Sundays.

Hockey has one of the better contests, showcasing fastest skater races, penalty shot challenges, and the highly popular hardest shot competition, where Zdeno Chara holds the record with a blistering 108.8 MPH slap shot.

It is these awe-inspiring feats that create indelible moments. It's the blistering slap shots, the no-look dunks, and the fifth-deck home runs that keep the fans standing. These are all categories that celebrate the strength and skills that have helped these athletes rise above their peers.

The games themselves, however, are simply high-profile pickup matches, with many of the best players in the league showing off. And when they do show off, it is taken so far out of context the feats lose their appeal. That amazingly impressive drive for a 360-between-the-legs-blindfold-dunk as a player drives through the paint means little when the other team is walking up the court and lets every player have his moment.

The teams mail in their efforts, as the first serious injury a star player sustains at an all-star game would likely lead to

the immediate end of the event altogether. Imagine the reaction had Sidney Crosby suffered his concussion while participating in an all-star game.

While these games lack most of the anticipation and excitement of true competitive sport, there are also misguided attempts to make the outcome worth something.

Major league baseball did in fact give their all-star game a meaning, the winning side earning their league the right to home field advantage during the World Series. It makes the game more interesting, but the fact that something so arbitrary results in a significant factor in the championship series is also somewhat ridiculous.

Fan voting has also made a mockery of starting line-ups across every sport and decreased the games' value. If it wasn't Yao Ming getting voted in as a starter for the NBA all star game every year, regardless of injury, it was fan bases fighting over who could garner the most online votes to have half their team starting, as seen between Toronto and Ottawa fans in the NHL this year, or the occasional campaign to have a bench player voted in as a joke.

The failed attempt to add importance to the game in the instance of baseball's home field advantage, just further suggests the game should be ditched for the skills contest alone. It's what the fans enjoy and, therefore, it's what gets the ratings.

Every all star deserves his moment in the sun; the game just isn't necessary.

Prostitutes seldom choose their path



RUTH VANDYKEN
Art Director/Features Editor

To the assertion that, "people need lattes and frappuccinos," singer Carole Pope responded, "And men need ho's! That's the way it is. It's a business."

That's the closing of a *Globe and Mail* interview conducted with Pope

last September. Apparently, buying sex is as normal, natural and legitimate as our daily Tim Horton's run.

Of course, becoming a prostitute might be a little different than, say, becoming a barista. There's danger involved with angry pimps and vicious johns. That, many Canadians like Pope say, is the very reason why the courts should push ahead in removing Canada's 'archaic' laws on the sex trade.

An online poll from the CBC shows that 77 per cent of the roughly 1,950 people surveyed support legalizing the activities surrounding prostitution.

It helps to know what's actually being debated here: prostitution itself is not illegal in Canada, but the law intentionally attempts to thwart the practise by prohibiting soliciting sex for money, keeping a bawdy house and living off the profits of prostitution. The CBC reports that a Vancouver-based group of sex-trade workers is challenging the law in Supreme Court

on the grounds that such laws actually endanger prostitutes by driving their activities underground. They are pushing for total decriminalization.

Pope supports another model – the legalization of prostitution – where, in Pope's words, the government becomes "the pimp" by regulating the practice and collecting taxes.

The moral facet of the discussion is huge and deeply divides opinion. But until a recent presentation, I was blissfully ignorant, thinking prostitutes are willing "careerists." No so. You see, there's a second moral element every Canadian should know and care about: those willingly in the sex trade are the minority.

California psychologist Melissa Farley, creator of the Prostitution Research and Education advocacy website, states on her site that 91 per cent of prostitutes have been physically assaulted. Three-quarters say they have been raped. Eighty-six per cent of sur-

veyed workers currently face or have faced homelessness.

Farley also claims 84 per cent of Canadian prostitutes were sexually abused as children and more than half entered the industry at less than 18 years of age. While sex workers appear to have chosen prostitution as a career, a closer look often reveals it was the only road left open to girls addicted to drugs and deeply in debt.

Farley adds that 95 per cent of surveyed prostitutes say they want to leave the trade. Yet they stay, she writes, limited by homelessness, lack of education, addiction and other nearly insurmountable challenges.

Canada is viewed as a safe haven for many refugees. Yet when Timea Nagy, the teenage Hungarian and aspiring reporter, flew into Toronto for a job in 1998, she was seized from the airport and imprisoned as a sex slave. Her story is hardly unique. A 2006 government report estimates 600 women per

year are trafficked into Canada as sex slaves. How does one distinguish sex slaves from sex workers? It's nearly almost impossible to answer, especially because much of this exploitation happens within organized brothels, as a RCMP report pointed out in 2010.

These are the "actors" in the play: they are coerced, oppressed, wanting to escape but with nowhere to turn, so we return to the question of decriminalization or legalization.

A Dutch study found that five years after the Netherlands began regulating prostitution, the number of child prostitutes had increased 300 per cent. Inversely, Sweden recognized the need to protect victims while punishing aggressors. In 1999, they toughened their policies on johns. Within five years, the trade had dropped by 67 per cent.

So, triple the number of children taken as sex slaves or the enabling of sex workers to find a new job: Which path will Canada follow?

Stage acts, not lectures for Black History Month

Drumming, hip-hop help mark African heritage at Humber in bid to engage

SHAZIA ISLAM
Life Reporter

This month, Humber Students' Federation will make a departure from its usual program of speakers during Black History Month, moving towards performances that will be more interactive in nature.

"We're trying a bit of a different route this year because we want to engage students a lot more and give them something that will attract their attention," said Annie Halim, programming co-ordinator for HSF.

Several performers will grace the stage of the student centre at Humber North including African roots percussion ensemble, iDrum, which is set to perform on Feb. 8 at 3 p.m.

The iDrum performance will combine African drumming music with house and electronic music to make it more modern, said Halim.

Davidson Elie, a musician with iDrum, said the performance would be like a tutorial that will teach the audience the basics of djembe, a popular

hand drum that originated in West Africa.

"There'll be a team of two drummers, two dancers, one DJ and some drums there," said Elie.

Also set to perform is hip-hop artist Shaun Boothe, who will rap the Muhammed Ali story on Feb. 15 at noon.

Boothe's rap-biography performance promises to educate as well as entertain.

"He's got his own songs, but we're bringing him to rap about renowned black people," said Halim.

In previous years, HSF invited speakers to commemorate Black History Month, but found that keeping students' attention was always a challenge, said Halim.

"Performances tend to grab their attention better than speakers," she said.

Lucas O'Hara, a second-year general arts and science student, agreed with Halim.

"It seems like a good idea, especially if it's interactive," he said. "It's an easier way to connect with the youth here."



PHOTO BY ERIKA PANACCI

Though students make use of the gym's facilities, there's been little interest in Humber's newest health program.

Students fail to stretch for free time with personal trainer at Humber gym

ERIKA PANACCI
Life Reporter

In an attempt to help students keep their New Year's resolutions to stay fit and healthy, Humber's athletic department has implemented a program called "30 Little Steps To a New You in 2012," featuring one-on-one time with a personal trainer in Humber's gym.

Leanne Henwood-Adam, fitness co-ordinator, said that in addition to an hour-and-a-half with a personal trainer, the students will also receive 30 days of e-mails "about little things that anyone can do to try to make themselves better in some way."

The program is extended to 20 students, for free, on a first-come, first-serve basis, however only two students

have signed up. Henwood-Adam said these numbers are surprising.

"We have people who sign up for personal training all the time," she said. "So to get a free session out of it, that you don't have to pay for, I'm quite surprised at this point that I don't have more people signed up."

Henwood-Adam believes the reason for the low number of participants is because students walk by posters but don't really look at them, or students may already have commitments to other gyms or priorities elsewhere.

Daniel Listi, 20, a sports management student, said "even if it was promoted better, I don't think I would have taken advantage of this program because I have a gym membership already and I don't have the time right

now."

Henwood-Adam said the program is about the "little things that will help you achieve big results... the idea behind it was that with New Year's Eve, everyone's making New Year's resolutions and usually they are big things and that's why people fail."

"Start with small goals before you can do long term goals and you want to make sure they're realistic," said Abiola Simon Benjamin, a second-year student intern in the fitness and health promotion program. "Try and keep motivated and look for support through your family and friends."

Students can still sign up for the program by contacting leanne.henwoodadam@humber.ca.



PHOTO BY SHAZIA ISLAM

Annie Halim, HSF programming co-ordinator, spoke enthusiastically about the upcoming Black History events at Humber.

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PHOTO BY HEATHER VANANDEL
Students getting active and taking advantage of the free fitness centre at Humber.

Heart health at Humber a time to learn about risks and habits

HEATHER VANANDEL
Life Reporter

Love is not the only thing the heart should be concerned about this February.

"Ninety per cent of Canadians have at least one risk factor for heart disease and stroke," said Tonya Johnson, the senior associate manager of media relations for the Heart and Stroke Foundation's Ontario branch. "Canadians need to realize they are living with these risk factors and can do something about it."

For Heart Health Month in February, Humber's Fitness Centre will be dedicating its nutrition board to educating students on heart healthy living styles, and sponsoring a Jump Rope for Heart awareness event.

Through this event, the Fitness Centre will teach students the cardio benefits behind different skipping styles, raise awareness of cardiovascular disease and inform students on what they can be doing to improve their health, as well as relate the key statistics.

"The most important thing is to get moving," said fitness co-ordinator Leanne Henwood-Adam. "There is tons of indoor hallway space to make use of. If it is too cold and slippery to go outside for a walk, walk through the halls and make use of the stairs."

But exercise must work hand-in-hand with eating habits to maintain a healthy heart, said Susan Somerville, Humber's food and nutrition administration program co-ordinator.

"Obesity is a leading risk factor for heart disease," said Somerville. "And it's all about portions."

"Just look at the dining on campus. Look at the cookie size," she said. "That's like six cookies. And you are going to eat the whole cookie because you paid three dollars for it."

To improve heart health, Somerville advises students to follow the portion sizes laid out in Canada's Food Guide.

There are three main health tips that Canadians should be following to improve their heart health, said Johnson: scheduling regular physical activity, reading food labels and eating the recommended portions of fruit and vegetables.

"Just start thinking now about making healthy food choices," said Henwood-Adam. "This doesn't mean you have to all the time. I try to educate people on an 80/20 role."

This entails committing to healthy eating 80 per cent of the time, allowing for the occasional treat and unhealthy food choice, as long as it is kept in moderation.

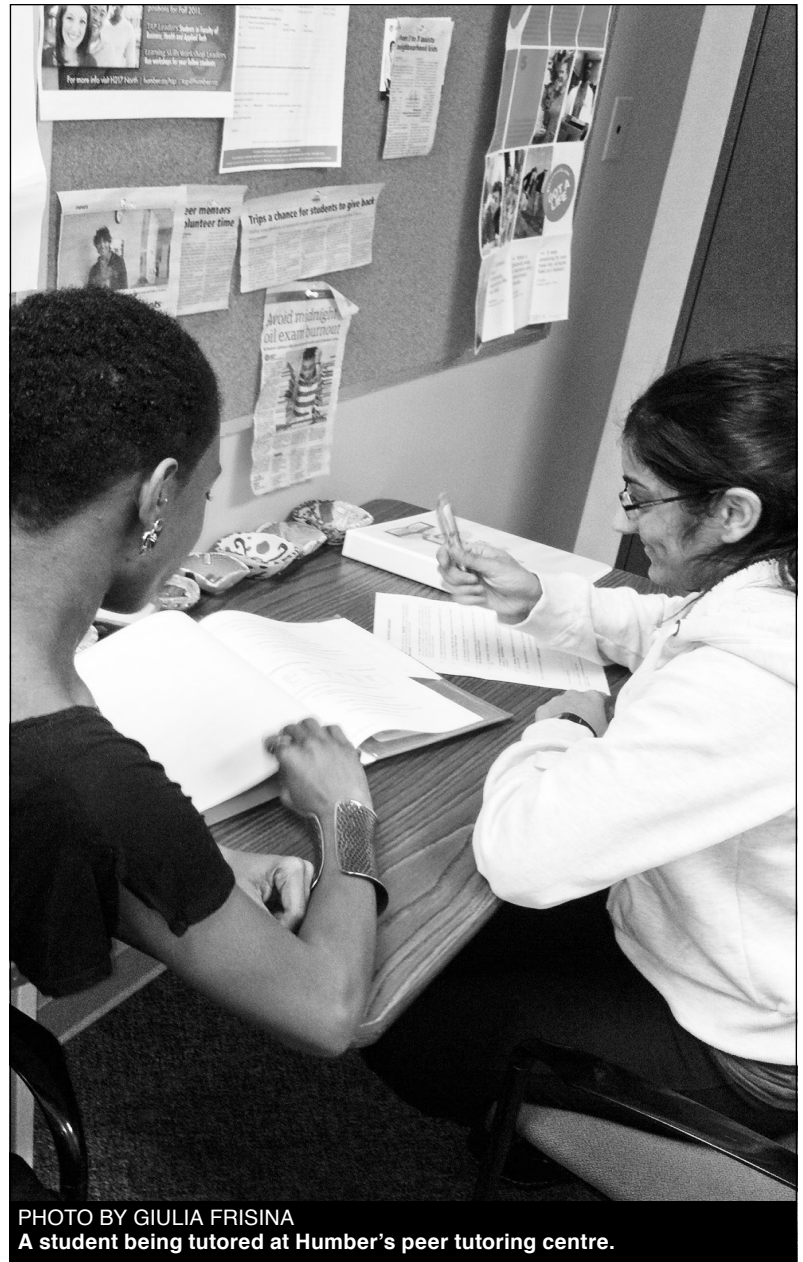


PHOTO BY GIULIA FRISINA
A student being tutored at Humber's peer tutoring centre.

Anxiety, stress on the rise among students

Humber counsellors and peer tutors seeing signs of mental health illness among those clients seeking support

GIULIA FRISINA
Life Reporter

The number of young adults suffering from anxiety is on the rise, according to Katy Kamker, a clinical psychologist at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health in Toronto.

In an interview with the CBC, Kamker said her practice has seen a rise in depression and suicidal thoughts among young adults, adding that stress levels amongst college students are at an all-time high.

This issue has not escaped the attention of Melissa Gallo, manager of peer programs and community engagement at Humber.

"I think it's important for our department to be aware of further issues that our students are dealing with," said Gallo.

Gallo said that Humber's peer tutoring program is seeing some students who may be suffering from these issues.

Although tutors and mentors are not trained to recognize symptoms of mental illness, Gallo said they are

taught to understand that the learning centre must be a safe place for students to disclose information.

Liz Sokol, a counsellor in student services at Humber, reinforced Gallo's comments.

"I would say it is not the responsibility of the peer tutor to bring a student experiencing a mental health issue to our attention," said Sokol, "but if they notice something such as depression or anxiety, then they should suggest a visit to our counselling department."

Kezia Hinds, a communications student at Humber, works as a peer tutor and has had first-hand experience dealing with students suffering from different types of mental strain.

"I feel that student stress comes from feeling like they can't keep up with the other students," said Hinds. "We also have people coming from Third World countries who are very smart, but have never been given the opportunity to use things in their country such as a computer, and they get overwhelmed."

TO THE NINES

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Melissa Payne 21, first-year photography student

BY ALI CHIASSON

Culinary science goes up to new levels with molecular gastronomy

ALI CHIASSON
Life Reporter

Executive chef and pioneer of molecular gastronomy John Placko will be conducting a workshop at Humber's North campus in March.

Molecular gastronomy is a culinary discipline in which chefs apply scientific practices to cooking and food preparation.

"It takes food to a different level," said Placko. "The basics of cooking won't change. Molecular gastronomy is designed to enhance it."

Participants will be working with different tools like hyper accurate scales and using molecular ingredients like liquid nitrogen to alter tastes and textures.

"Putting on workshops like this gets students cooking with the same tools and techniques that are being used in the kitchens of the top 10 restaurants of the world," said Chef Rudi Fischbacher, program co-ordinator of Humber's culinary faculty and co-ordinator of the workshop.

Molecular gastronomy draws mixed feelings among the culinary world.

"I understand it is very cutting edge," said Mark Davies, 25, first-year culinary skills student. "I just don't know if I view it as a means of feeding people."

Christopher Hanna, 24, experienced line-cook and final-year culinary student said, "We don't have a substantial course on it and we need one. Molecular gastronomy is the only thing that challenges me."

Fischbacher said the cooking style is only growing in popularity because it opens up a new world of creativity for chefs.

"Molecular gastronomy truly questions how we have been cooking and looking at food for the past 300 years."

As a sneak-peak, participants will be learning how to turn what is traditionally understood as a strip of bacon into bacon "dust."

"It takes discipline, precision and accuracy to transform products

like this," said Placko. "I have spent so much time gathering this information from my experiences and I can't wait to share it at Humber."

Despite how intimidating it might appear, Fischbacher said, "You can use your imagination in your own home by using texture-altering ingredients available at Bulk Barn. It isn't about chemicals or additives as it may seem."

The workshop takes place on March 24 and is \$207 to participate.

No prerequisites are required and participation is not limited to culinary students.

"Molecular gastronomy is the only thing that challenges me."

**-CHRISTOPHER HANNA,
CULINARY STUDENT**

Yoga works bodies, calms minds

ERIKA PANACCI
Life Reporter

Namaste is a word that's becoming more popular at the Art Gallery of Ontario (AGO), as a newly implemented yoga program takes place every Thursday in the Henry Moore Gallery.

Artist-in-residence and originator of the program, Paul Butler, "wanted to use the gallery's infrastructure to show what his ideal art school would be and the classes he would have wished to take while he was studying," said Ann Marie Pena, manager of the Artists-in-Residence and adult programs at the AGO.

For a number of weeks, Butler ran the yoga classes, but classes are currently being led by Grace Dubery.

For \$10 per class or \$75 for eight sessions, students can start their days off with a one hour yoga class at 7:55 a.m.



PHOTO BY ERIKA PANACCI
Students meditating at Humber's yoga classes.

Humber students, however, have found that the school's athletics department has built on the popularity of yoga for some time, right on campus.

Maureen Martin-Edey, also known as "Mo," has been doing yoga for 40 years. She implemented the yoga program at Humber in 2000 and has been teaching it for 12 years.

"That's one thing about yoga," said Martin-Edey. "Anyone can do it because there's so many different levels. There are people, they have trouble jogging, they might have trouble lifting weight - the weights you're lifting in yoga is your

body weight in specific poses."

"It's very relaxing," said Alessia Rao, a business marketing student who attends Humber's yoga classes. "It allows you to calm your mind while your body is working hard." In addition to yoga, the athletics department offers body and strength, cycling, boot camp, fitness boxing, and Zumba classes.

"Some of the other programs will wane a little bit," said Martin-Edey, "but yoga is always consistent. We, on the average, have about 30 participants. It is addictive, and it is doable."



PHOTO BY RUDI FISCHBACHER
Almond and pistachio wafers, chocolate ganache "tube" and raspberry crumbles.



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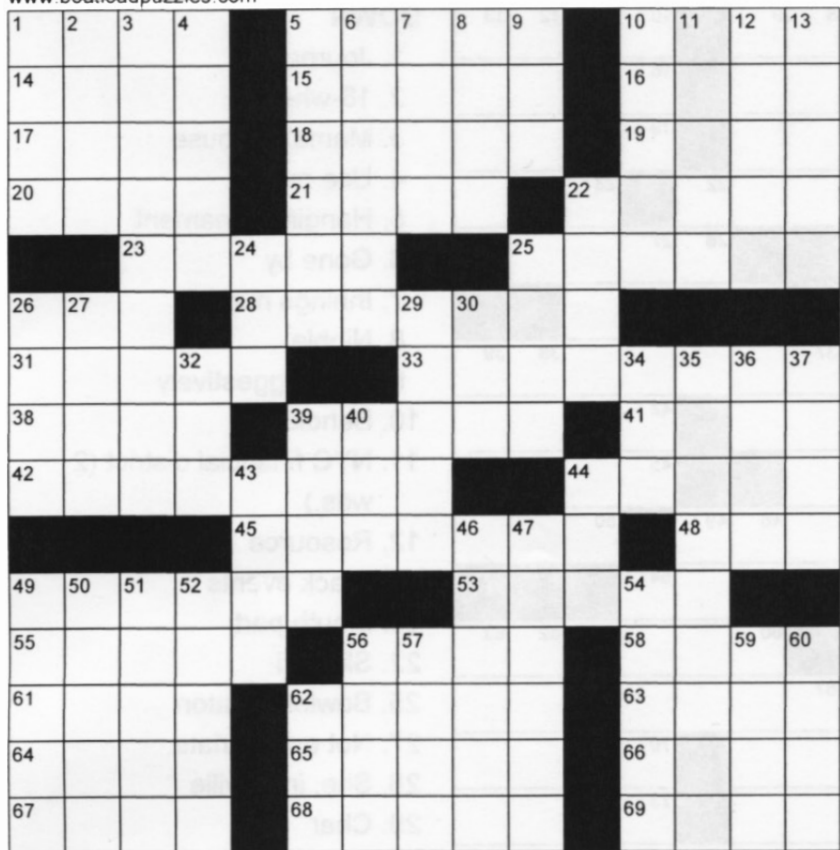
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5. Nile animal, for short
10. Drinks like a dog
14. Candy ____
15. Idolize
16. Touch on
17. Lie low
18. Mister (Sp.)
19. Royal address
20. Burden
21. Stickers
22. Passover feast
23. Ward off
25. Soup vessel
26. Stop ____ dime (2 wds.)
28. As an alternative
31. Sort
33. Aromatic seasoning
38. ____ pudding
39. Old hat

41. Once more
42. Tusked animal
44. Aunt's husband
45. Trying experiences
48. Gore and Roker
49. Most rational
53. Slumber
55. Higher than
56. ____ Kudrow of "Friends"
58. Space gp.
61. Suffer defeat
62. Internet access device
63. Asleep
64. Adam's garden
65. Verdi work
66. Clothed
67. Disarray
68. Mae and Adam
69. Perfect gymnastics scores

DOWN

1. Yodeler's feedback
2. Conceited
3. Perseverance
4. ____ Witherspoon of "Walk the Line"
5. Hurry
6. Guiding principles
7. Early video game
8. Paid athletes
9. Above, in poems
10. Intense beam
11. Remain
12. Blender setting
13. Violinist Isaac ____
22. Foam
24. Diner dessert
25. Yarn
26. Folklore monster
27. Astronaut ____ Arms.
29. Savor
30. Chicago trains
32. Agt.
34. Cooking vessel
35. Lacking the ability
36. Jail room
37. Flock females
39. Separate
40. Moreover
43. Stockings
44. Exploit
46. Declare
47. Andean animals
49. Capital of Oregon
50. Living quarters
51. Snouts
52. Makes level
54. Make into law
56. Canter
57. March date
59. Actor ____ Connery
60. Totals
62. Cut the lawn

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PIECES
FEB.19- MAR.20

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ARIES
MAR.21-APR.20

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TAURUS
APR. 21- MAY 21

Yeah, it's gonna suck, but you still gotta do it!



GEMINI
MAY 22-JUNE 21

All the shows you stream online will not get caught buffering once this entire week.



CANCER
JUN. 22 - JUL. 23

Yeah, you did!



LEO
JUL. 24-AUG.23

The next person you give a hug to will steal your soul. True story.



VIRGO
AUG.24 -SEPT. 22

You will face challenges today. And every day thereafter.



LIBRA
SEPT. 23- OCT.23

See Sagittarius



SCORPIO
OCT. 24-NOV.22

The next bus you run to catch will wait for you. But the one after that?? Oh, man!



Sagittarius
NOV. 23-DEC.21

Some food you thought went bad turns out to be alright, you can put off groceries one more day.



CAPRICORN
DEC. 22 - JAN. 20

A bank will err, but not in your favour. It never does.

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	5			2	3			4
2		8	6			5		9
7				5			1	
		9			7		2	
	8	7	5		2	9		
4			9			7	8	

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Women continue their domination



COURTESY OF JESS RAYMOND, HUMBER ATHLETICS
Kelly Nyhof moments away from one of her nine kills in a home game against the Conestoga Condors Jan. 31.

Coach wants to keep volleyball players focused as they breeze through season play with remarkable 14-0 streak

ANDREW MILLICHAMP
Sports Reporter

The Hawks women's volleyball team improved to 14-0 win streak with a decisive win over the Conestoga Condors on Jan 31, claiming all 3 sets.

"The first and third games we played excellent, the second game we dropped down in our level a little bit," said Chris Wilkins, the Hawks head coach. "We're a totally different team when we're focused and we serve tough from the serving line. In the second game, I felt we got away from that."

The first set was a breeze for the undefeated team winning 25-10 while a loss of focus led to an exciting second game, pulling through with the close 25-23 win. With a three game lead in the division standings and seemingly weaker teams in the coming schedule, the Hawks lack of focus is something the coaches plan to address.

"We can't be caught standing around waiting for plays to happen, we have to make the plays happen ourselves," said Heather Longland, the Hawks assistant coach. "We need to make sure we're on our toes. The girls

need to come in focused and be ready to play"

Middle Kelly Nyhof led the way against Conestoga, with nine kills and five serving aces while middles

late in the season I have the ability to play all 14 players in meaningful minutes because at the OCAA's we're going to need them," he said.

The Hawks play next on the road against Redeemer Royals on Feb. 3.

"Redeemer's a tough place to play, they're fighting for a playoff spot, their season's on the line," Wilkins said. "They're going to come out and play hard so we're going to have to be ready."

Just four games are left in the division west season

for Humber before they undoubtedly head to the OCAA's in Barrie, Feb. 23-25.

"We need to make sure we're on our toes."

-HEATHER LONGLAND, ASSISTANT COACH

Michelle Overzet and Danielle Jones played the game.

Despite being undefeated, the Hawks still feel they have areas to improve.

"I think focus is one thing we need to work on. We thought maybe because this team was easy we could take a few points off," said Jones, 19, a first-year fashion arts student.

While far from thrilled with the lack of focus in the second game, coach Wilkins nevertheless was happy with the way his team played.

"We're [going to] need all 14 players down the stretch and it's nice that this

next game



HUMBER
HAWKS



REDEEMER
ROYALS

ANCASTER
FEB. 3

Men take the win on home court

Hawks men's volleyball 13-1 in division

SASHA LINDSAY
Sports Reporter

Humber men's volleyball team is still undefeated after a home court sweep of the Conestoga Condors on Jan. 31.

The Hawks' now boast a division standing of 13-1 after a three straight set victory, in a packed stadium of cheering fans.

Humber dominated the first set, with powerful offensive and defensive plays en route to a 25-10 win.

The second set saw the Condors improve their offensive game, but the Hawks took an early lead with a kill from middle blocker and right side hitter, Andre Brown, eventually winning 25-18. The third set was much the same, entertaining with a long rally for the game winning point, and the Hawks coming out on top, 25-17.

Humber star right side Terrel Bramwell who led the game with nine kills said the performance was one to be pleased with.

"We played a solid match and are getting ready for Ancaster," said Bramwell, 21, a first-year tourism & hospitality student. "Our practice sessions will definitely boost our performance there. I'm proud of our team."

Rookie left side hitter, Cam Fletcher, had an early kill in set two, which helped the Hawks' momentum.

"For this game, as a rookie, it was a test to prove that we deserved to be number one in Canada," said Fletcher, a third-year sustainable energy & building student. "The next game is going to be another test, especially with over four hundred Redeemer Royals fans yelling but I'm confident in our team's abilities."

Bramwell echoed the sentiments, saying that focus is key to handling the loud Royals fans.

Andre Brown, right side hitter and middle blocker, had a strong offensive and defensive game, with five kills and four blocks.

"Overall, we played really well," said Brown, a first-year business administration student. "It feels great to be the number one team in Canada."

"To be number one in the country means a lot, not only to me but to the whole Humber varisty [team]," said Bramwell. "It's the first time Humber men's volleyball team has been ranked at number one."

The Hawks visit Ancaster on Fri. Feb. 3 and take on the Redeemer Royals at 8:00 p.m.

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PHOTO BY ELTON HOBSON
Tracy Wong is one of the most decorated players in Hawks badminton history.

Badminton star latest in long line of family success

Hawks All-Star never aspired to be a badminton great

ELTON HOBSON
Sports Reporter

Tracy Wong is one of the most successful players in the history of Humber badminton—but if it had been up to her, the second-year health and fitness student would never have picked up a racket.

“I hated doing badminton (growing up),” said the 19-year-old Wong. “I remember my parents would drop me off for my private lesson, and I’d be crying by the end.”

After a coach began bribing her to badminton practice with ice cream and chocolate, her attitude towards the sport shifted.

“That helped change my mind about the game a little bit,” Wong said jokingly.

Today she is one of the most decorated college badminton players in Ontario. She is the reigning Ontario College Athletics Association women’s singles champion, she nabbed the bronze at last year’s national championship, and she’s

was named an All-Canadian.

As the third Wong sibling to play for Humber, badminton has become a family tradition.

“My dad played badminton for 26 years before moving to Canada” from Hong Kong, she said. “It’s always been big in my family. Then you had my two brothers who were always telling me ‘you have to come to Humber.’”

Older brothers Raymond and Mark both had distinguished careers as Hawks badminton players.

Raymond won a Canadian national title in mixed doubles and two OCAA gold medals. Mark won a gold in OCAA men’s doubles, and finished top-five in the country. Both have been honored as OCAA Player of the Year, an achievement they now share with their little sister.

“Badminton is very big in her family, very important,” said teammate Renee Yip, a second-year Health and Fitness student. “You know she’s a special player just from playing with her. She’s extremely

talented, but she also has real dedication to the game.”

It’s a sentiment echoed by Lam Trinh, head coach of the Hawks men’s and women’s badminton team.

“She works very, very hard, and when she’s not practicing here, she’s practicing at home,” said Trinh. “No matter what’s happening, her attitude is always ‘Yeah, I can do it!’”

Despite modest popularity in comparison to other Humber sports, badminton is a serious commitment. Practices not only focus on improving skills and techniques, but on athletes’ cardiovascular fitness with tournaments sometimes running 14 hours or longer.

That’s part of the reason Wong isn’t looking for a career in badminton.

“When you play badminton (at this level), you have no social life,” Wong explains. “That’s why in the future, I want to make my friends a priority, make school and my program a priority, not just badminton.”

Curling coach brings decorated history to Humber

Varsity curling returns to Humber after a close three decade absence

SHANNON O’REILLY
Sports Reporter

After nearly 30 years, curling has returned to Humber College under the leadership of prominent head coach Cindy Bishop.

Athletic manager and sports information director Jim Bialek said a few things played into Bishop’s favour when she was being considered for the role.

“One, her actual resume. Two, the fact that she is currently very active at a club and that’s her job,” said Bialek. “She is in the system, so she sees high school athletes and junior players.”

“Three, she’s a dynamic person,” Bialek continued. “As an individual she’s personable and welcoming, and pretty tough, which is a good thing for a coach.”

Bishop said she demands a high level of commitment from her athletes, as well as respect.

“Respect everything that has to do with (the) game,” said Bishop. “The officials, your opposition, everything. I expect them to give 100 per cent, 100 per cent of the time. Then they will never have any regrets afterwards.”

Bishop first started curling in her teens and played up to the provincial level, later taking up coaching when her children got involved in the sport.

“I wanted to teach them the proper way to curl,” said Bishop. “Not to teach them my bad habits.”

She then went on to be the high-performance coach for the women’s New Brunswick and Ontario teams, and later had stints coaching the Austrian and Netherlands national teams.

“With Austria, we went to the European championships and won gold in the B-Haul,” said Bishop, referring to the qualifying level below the Olympics. “That was very exciting because for Austria that was like winning the Olympics.”

After declining offers to coach full-time in Europe, Bishop has settled down as a curling professional at Weston Golf & Country Club, where Humber’s team is based.

“It was a great result for us because we were able to put all our curlers in the club at the beginning of the year,” said athletic director Doug Fox. “This is not usually what happens. Other colleges are only having their tryouts in January. Our teams have been playing together since October with the Weston club.”

Humber was to set to face its first OCAA competition this weekend but the tournament was cancelled. Although her team has yet to play a match against another college, coach Bishop is confident in the abilities of her athletes.

“I’ve watched them within Weston Country Club and mapped their games and how we can get better that way,” said Bishop. “We want to finish in the top four and go to nationals.”

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Humber cheerleading hoping to promote sport through persistence

SASHA LINDSAY
Sports Reporter

Humber's cheerleading team hopes to repeat as gold medalists in the 2012 Cheer Evolution Ontario Championships, set for March 3 and 4 in Kitchener.

Over 185 teams will vie for the provincial title, with the top teams from Ontario to go on to the World Cheerleading Championships in Orlando, Florida.

Humber's head coach, Kristina McCahon, lead the team to a 2011 Cheer Evolution win in her first year as head coach, and raised her 26 member team to the top level of competitive cheerleading.

"There were two level six athletes when I started coaching and now the entire team is level six, which means they are advanced and can perform complex and difficult manoeuvres, such as two and a half high pyramids, free flipping inversions and twisting elements," said McCahon.

Stephanie Wood, a rookie front base cheerleader, said that McCahon holds

practice three to four times weekly and makes them "extra challenging" leading up to competitions.

"We do about 40 minutes of conditioning like sit ups, sprinting, squats and lunges. We also use teammates to condition, like holding someone in the air or running with someone on your back," said Wood.

Lauren Kuzmich, a third back spot base cheerleader, is proud of her team's accomplishments, after placing first at Jam Fest Super Nationals and second at the PCA Nationals in Brampton last term. She also notes that the rigours involved parallel those of any sport – injuries such as concussions are common.

"Cheerleading is a sport," said

Kuzmich. "People assume you just cheer with pom poms. You have only two minutes and thirty seconds to prove yourself in every competition. We work just as hard as any other team," she said.

Humber's cheerleaders believe they are paving the way for the sport to grow in Canada.

"If we continue promoting varsity cheerleading at the rate that we are, we'll be one of the first teams to bring more attention to the sport, since cheering isn't taken seriously in Canada," said Wood. "By competing, we've already inspired other college teams in Ontario to raise their level of competition."

"We've inspired other college teams in Ontario to raise their level of competition."

-STEPHANIE WOOD, CHEERLEADER



PHOTO BY SASHA LINDSAY
Humber's varsity cheerleading team performing a stunt routine during practice.

Academic ineligibility wounds men's basketball

Resilient players coping with loss of five teammates as student-athlete lifestyle proves highly challenging

JESSE THOMAS
Sports Reporter

Speculation arose within the Humber men's basketball team last week as they battled for the OCAA West top slot without the help of five players due to academic ineligibility.

Student athletes must be full time students and carry a 60 per cent average in all courses to be eligible to compete. That means a student must achieve 18 credits in a calendar year. One course at Humber typically brings three credits, thus three courses gets nine credits a semester and 18 credits for one year.

"The pressure is on for athletes. They have to live a dual life (as) student and athlete," said men's basketball co-ordinator James Depoe. "The major challenge for our student athletes is time management."

With commitments to their team and their studies, coupled with family and outside responsibilities, balancing the workload can become a problem for student athletes.

"Student athletes are studying on the road, in the bus and at the hotel overnight, and they are getting extra studying done in the bleachers before a game," said Depoe. "We support our student athletes with an academic centre where they can be tutored."

Every year, extra support is offered to those in need, but students who fall short are forced to sit out until their grades are back up to par.

Chris Thompson, a fifth year fitness and health student, is one of five men's varsity basketball players who is academically ineligible to play.

"It's hard to sit on the sidelines and watch when the team is playing at the highest level," said Thompson. "We are strong and we are making a run for the OCAA championships. Our goal is to make it to the national championships and I have to [sit out and] watch."

Thompson admits if he could go back in time he would do things differently.

"My focus was solely on basketball and I forgot about school," said Thompson. "I ignored the problem and now I can no longer play the game I love. These guys are like my family. I let them down and I lost sight of what is important."

Acknowledging the temptation to give up school and drop out, Thompson knows how important it is to learn from this experience, study hard and graduate.

"I still practice with the team and I am appealing my marks right now," said Thompson. "Basketball for me is life. If I am having a bad day, I can come to the gym and all

my problems go away. I still see a future in basketball, whether its coaching or refereeing, the game will always be with me."

For the coaching staff, it's hard to make a plan and stick to it when a number of players have to sit out.

"I have at least one student every year who fails a class," said Hawks head coach Shawn Collins. "We are a deep team this year and I carry a lot of guys, for development and for situations like this—and of course injuries."

The team has had a long break between games ever since the holidays, but in the coming weeks its schedule will get a lot busier as it draws closer to the playoffs.

"The student athletes have a lot on their plates," said Collins. "We're getting close to playoffs and with the loss of five guys, it just means that other guys will be given an opportunity to play more."

The team won their game last week and has been on an eight game undefeated streak that dates back to early November.

"We have to keep focused on the season and on managing our schedules," said Collins. "There is a lot of pressure on student athletes to perform but there is also the opportunity to do something special while they are here and we have a lot of resources to help them be successful both on and off the court."

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STANDINGS

MEN'S VOLLEYBALL

1. Humber (13-1)
2. Nipissing (12-1)
3. Mohawk (11-3)
4. Fanshawe (9-5)
5. Redeemer (8-6)

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

1. Humber (14-0)
2. Fanshawe (11-3)
3. Nipissing (10-3)
4. Niagara (7-6)
5. Sheridan (7-7)

MEN'S BASKETBALL

1. Humber (9-2)
2. Algoma (10-3)
3. Sheridan (9-3)
4. Mohawk (9-4)
5. Niagara (8-4)

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

1. Fanshawe (12-1)
2. Algoma (11-2)
3. Sheridan (9-3)
4. Humber (6-5)
5. Lambton (7-6)

Women lose one on the road

JESSE THOMAS
Sports Reporter

The Humber women's varsity basketball team travelled to Niagara College to take on the Knights, coming up short in a 55-48 loss on Jan 25.

"We did not play hard enough today and at times we looked flat," said head coach Ajay Sharma. "We lost the little battles and had some breakdowns on defence."

The Hawks got off to an early lead and held Niagara scoreless for the first five minutes finishing the quarter with a 9-7 lead, but lost their momentum in the second, being out-scored

15-12.

Sharma was vocal with the referees, trying to get some calls going his way.

"Being on the road can be tough, we won't always have the refs in our favour," he said. "Mentally you have to be dialed in and at times we weren't checked in. It looked like we had our feet stuck in the sand."

The Hawks had trouble shooting the ball, going 1-9 from the three-point line and a meager 14 of 48 from the field.

"We lost the little battles for rebounds and loose balls," said Sharma. "We typically out-rebound people by 10 and on the road you have to be very good at that."

Niagara head coach Ron Lemon was happy with the effort his team put forward.

"We started off slow, but we knew it was going to be a battle and we never gave up," said Lemon. "We were able to get some pressure on their players down low and we limited their second chances by doing a good job collecting rebounds."

Atissa Cronk, 19, first-year forward and sports management student, led the team with 14 points and nine rebounds.

"I thought we played well at times but we could have played better," said Cronk. "There were some mental lapses today and we had some confusion with our in-bound plays and at times we were fighting ourselves."

It was not all bad for the Hawks, shooting a 73.1 percentile from the free-throw line, earning 12 points off their 13 turnovers and limiting turnovers, which have previously plagued the team.

"We can't dwell on this loss," said Cronk. "We know what we did wrong and we know we can play better, we have to stay positive we have some big games ahead of us."



PHOTO BY JESSE THOMAS
Humber guard Mary Asare attempts a mid range jumper.



PHOTO BY JAVED KHAN
Humber guard Daviau Rodney makes a big jump shot in the fourth quarter.

Hawks hold longest active OCAA winning streak

JAVED KHAN
Sports Reporter

The Humber men's basketball team extended its league-leading eight game winning streak and clinched first in the OCAA West after a gritty 94-80 road victory over the Niagara Knights on Jan 25.

Despite the win, Humber was initially a little lackluster, sending Niagara into the locker room with a 41-40 lead.

"A lot of the calls in the first half were weak calls," said Humber guard Daviau Rodney, fourth year fitness and health student. "I felt like the referees didn't want me in the game, so when I was on the court I tried to release

my frustration by slashing hard to the hoop."

Rodney shot 64 per cent from the field and hit four three-pointers, averaging 21 points in his last two games.

On the opposing end, Niagara guard Alex Cambell terrorized Humber's defence all night long, leading a stat line of 31 points.

"I played well, but overall we had a bad game as a team. I would feel much better if we came away with the win," said Cambell. "In the fourth quarter, we collapsed, they started making shots and we got discouraged."

In the second half, Humber's defence tightened up on Niagara's shooters and shut down the lanes that Ni-

agara penetrated easily throughout the first half.

"Coach Collins told us to relax and weather the storm because we were not at home," said Rodney. "He told us to get back to what we do best, and that's playing defence."

Humber guard Akeem Sween came out with a killer instinct, claiming 15 points in the second half alone, 22 points overall, and shooting 50 per cent from the field.

"Fourth quarter is Kobe time," said Sween. "I tried not to force my shots and I attacked areas that the defence was giving me."

Women's volleyball seeks to repeat gold

Andrew Millichamp
Sports Reporter

The Humber women's volleyball team has set its sights on taking home an Ontario College Athletics Association championship for the fifth straight year, and its due in large part to their head coach, Chris Wilkins.

"The gold medal is the end goal," said Wilkins, a former assistant who in his 10th year as head coach has seen his fair share of medals.

The Hawks have competed in the OCAA championship game for the

past six consecutive years. The team fell short in 2007, but have claimed gold ever since.

In the last 14 years they've won gold eight times and placed second the other six seasons.

"Chris is the reason this program wins," said Hawks assistant coach Dean Wylie.

Athletics manager and sports information director Jim Bialek praised the coach for the team's repeated success.

"Chris is probably the top coach in the nation and possibly the best coach

ever at Humber," Bialek said. "His girls graduate. His girls are committed. His girls get better."

Bialek said that other schools have taken notice, to the point where the head coach at Seneca sent his daughter to Humber to play for Chris.

"He said he would not tell a girl to go to Seneca first and turn down Humber, based on the respect of the program here and the coaching," Bialek said. "When you have coaches thinking the best situation for girls is at Humber, that's unique. That's special."

With such a reputation it goes without saying that practice makes perfect.

"Humber sets a standard of excellence and to continue that standard you can't take days off," said Wylie.

The coaching staff also expects players to give their best effort on and off the court. "We've had one person who came through the course and didn't graduate since Chris has been head coach," said Wylie.

With the coming departures of veteran players like Kris Dowling and Teresa George, the core of the Hawks

is changing, but Wylie said he feels that the rookies will be back to fill in the gaps next season.

"It's part of the lifestyle. Win or lose I think they'll be back. They'll be more inclined to be back if we don't win because then they've got unfinished business."

The Hawks held a 43-2 set shot this season and a perfect 14-0 in league with a convincing win over Conestoga Jan 31. Check www.athletics.humber.ca for the updated stats and results.