

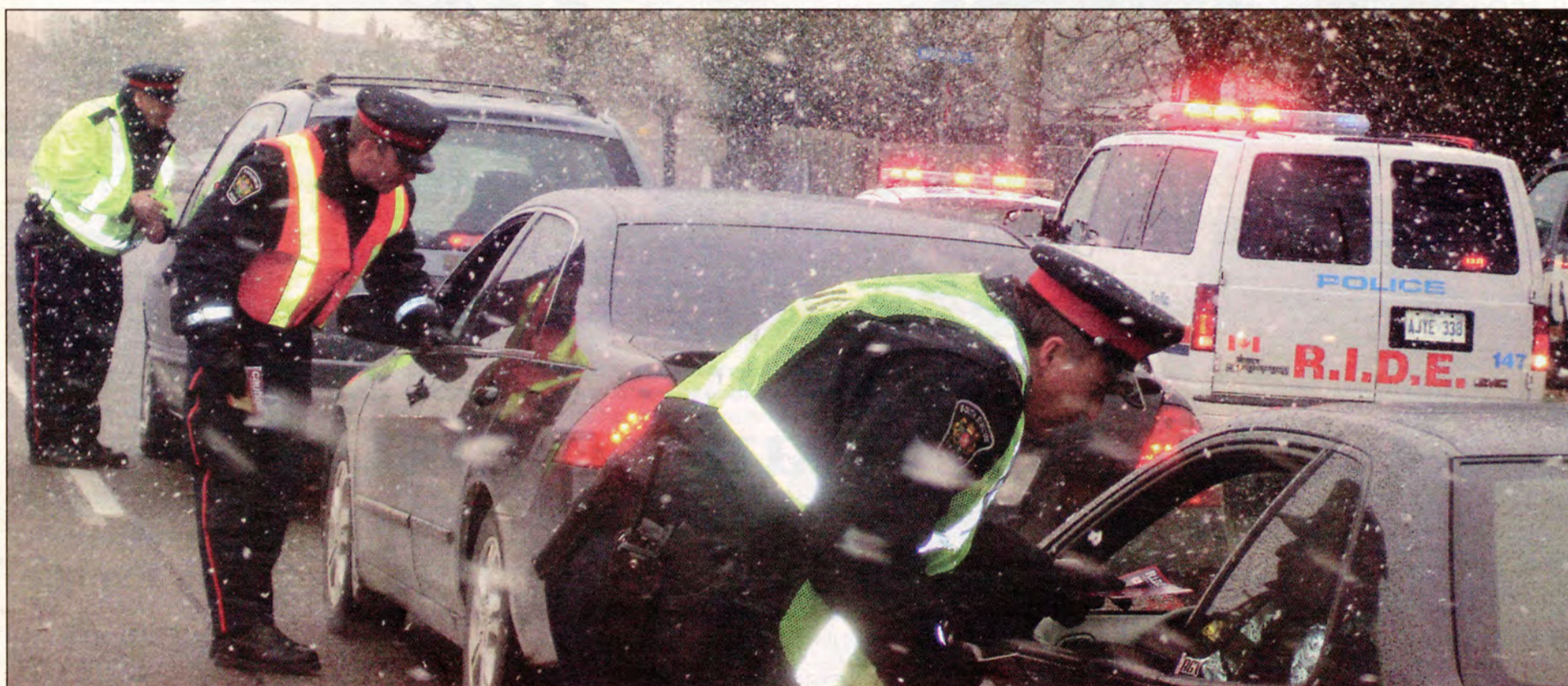


HUMBER ET CETERA

December 6, 2007

<http://etcetera.humber.ca>

vol. 39 no. 12



Genevieve DeBellis

Over 70 people were given roadside breathalyzer tests by officers working for the Reduce Impaired Driving Everywhere (RIDE) program on its first weekend.

RIDE for the holidays

Genevieve DeBellis
NEWS REPORTER

In April 2004, Louise Russo was standing in a sandwich shop waiting for her order, when a bullet meant for someone else changed her life forever.

Last week she was in her wheelchair at Humber speaking on behalf of her organization, WAVE (Walk Against Violence Everywhere), to kick off the festive RIDE (Reduce Impaired Driving Everywhere) campaign.

The mother of three, former Humber student and founder of WAVE said senseless violence can occur behind the wheel just as easily as behind the trigger of a gun.

"You can hurt yourself, you can hurt others," she said. "The more we create this awareness, the more we educate our young people and just society in general. Hopefully we will get to the point that we can one day not have to have a RIDE program."

Russo was presented with a lap-

top to help her foundation.

She said RIDE and WAVE both speak up for the importance of making the right decision.

"What we want to do is we both would like the youth to make choices and take responsibility for their actions. It's all about decision making, so when you get behind a vehicle and you're intoxicated you've made that choice and it really does become a lethal weapon."

RIDE originated in Etobicoke 30 years ago. It is a sobriety-testing program that intensifies for the holidays, but is used all year round.

Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) deputy commissioner John Carson said there were 444 fatalities last year on OPP-patrolled roads.

"If you put that into perspective, if you lined up the coffins end to end, 444 coffins would extend the length of ten football fields. That is simply too many funerals, too much misery and simply unacceptable," he said.

Carolyn Swinson, national presi-

dent of MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving) lost her eldest son to a drunk driver and knows what it feels like to receive the horrible news that a loved one would not be coming home.

"Make your decisions before you leave; it's too late when you're out there. Before you go out and you're going out partying, think how you're going to get home, because you do not want that knock on the door," Swinson said.

RIDE was launched on Friday, Dec. 1 at Humber's North Campus, with officers from across the GTA combining forces.

Humber president John Davies was more than happy to have the event take place at the school. "We're delighted to help the cause," he said. "The simple message don't drink and drive is a very important message to keep in front of all of our community, all of the time."

"We're an educational institution and this is an educational issue so where better to have it than

Humber," he said.

Ron Taverner, superintendent of 23 Division, said that during the festive RIDE the number of officers on the street will be increased.

"Each person we take off the street that's impaired, makes it safer for all of us," Taverner said. "Impaired driving affects everyone."

R.I.D.E. Stats to Date

| | |
|--------------|---|
| 5,630 | Vehicles stopped |
| 126 | People given roadside breathalyzer tests |
| 6 | Charges for blood-alcohol level higher than 0.08% |
| 0 | Charges for impaired driving |
| 20 | Licence suspensions |

Source: Toronto Police Service

Canadians with lower levels of literacy have lower rates of employment, and lower earnings among adults aged 16 and over. — www.literacy.ca

York adds more hours for riders

Transit system plans big increase in service hours across region

Eric Lo Maglio
NEWS REPORTER

Transit riders anticipating a fare increase on Jan. 1 can take comfort knowing that York Region Transit plans to dole out more than 51,000 additional service hours on the roads next year.

According to York service manager Irene McNeil, the additional hours will address current complaints about late buses, overcrowding and residential areas that lack service.

"We operate over a million hours of service in a year right now," McNeil said. "Since 2001, York Region has put out a lot of service. In one year, we put over 30 per cent of an increase of service hours between 2005 and 2006, when we introduced the Viva services."

Viva is a rapid transit line launched in late 2005, and consists of five routes (Blue, Purple, Pink, Green and Orange) that cater to major locations and bus terminals.

Jack Heath, a regional councillor in Markham, said the new service hours will be beneficial, but still might not be enough to cover the ever growing demand.

"Compared to Toronto, we still got a ways to go."

— Jack Heath, York councillor

"With such a large system, those extra hours still may not have as good an impact as we'd like," he said. "We've got to keep at it each year. We've got to keep improving. I think you have to make sure fares stay down and you also have to make sure that the Viva continues to expand and get into the next phase, so it will move even faster."

The YRT will end the year with about 18.5 million riders. An eight per cent increase in ridership is expected for 2008.

"York Region, over the past five years, has experienced the highest ridership growth rate of any transit system in Canada," McNeil said.

"I'm always excited by improvements in YRT. For the first time, the Viva bus will be going to Cornell in late January," Heath said. "I know that YRT is growing, but compared to Toronto, we still got a ways to go."



Ryan Vella

A new Statistics Canada study released last Friday shows that literacy skills can diminish as people age. The study also said that adult literacy levels are critical to Canada's economic competitiveness.

Literacy can be lost

New report reveals that if you don't use it, you can lose it

Tiffany Thompson
IN FOCUS REPORTER

Of all the skills students will learn at college, literacy may be the most important.

About a third of all adult Canadians are functionally illiterate, meaning they do not have the skills needed to function on a day-to-day basis, according to Grace Santeramo Beckles, a program officer of the City Adult Learning Centre.

"When you live in a country like Canada, that's basically a wealthy country...and a great education system, it's surprising to see those kinds of statistics in our literacy rates," said Beckles.

The problem is the lack of attention being placed upon adult literacy programs, she added.

"I think not as many people are aware that these programs exist as they should be. I think that we need to reach more people than we are," Beckles said.

"That's what we're trying to address, by making the program as available as possible," she said. "Functional literacy is important for day-to-day life and there are a large percentage of people who don't have that."

A former teacher with the Toronto District School Board, Beckles said the learning centre could help adults progress their reading and writing skills.

"The biggest step for them is

actually coming here in the first place," she said. "Sometimes they feel scared, intimidated or ashamed. A lot of people are ashamed of the fact that they don't have higher literacy skills."

A Statistics Canada report released last Friday shows that as people age, they lose their literacy skills. The study also cited that in order for Canada to compete in the global economy, it is necessary for people to continue to use these skills.

Although adult literacy rates seem to be waning, Canadian fourth graders are doing well internationally according to a 2006 Progress in International Reading Literacy study, which followed up on its 2001 report by examining literacy skills such as comprehension, acquisition of knowledge and the ability to interpret and integrate information in their daily lives. The study showed a marked improvement from previous years and makes the claim about using or losing these skills more plausible.

Franc Jamieson, program coordinator of the Writing Centre, believes there's a correlation between Canada's success and its literacy rate.

"I think that literacy is essential for a country to thrive," Jamieson said. "Many people in Canada do not realize just how staggering these figures are. We're probably suffering economically as a nation because of the rate."

Jamieson suggests the unemployment rate would escalate as the number of those who are illiterate continues to amplify.

"Literacy for students is crucial to doing well in any program, in any career, in any field," he added. "The ones who read most effectively are

the ones who go the furthest."

"The biggest thing is to develop an enjoyment of reading, so that you'll do it not because you have to, but because you want to," said Jamieson.

In addition to reading, many students need help with their writing, according to Tanya Reda, a second-year business administration student who works as a peer tutor at the school's Writing Centre.

"They have their assignments and they kind of have an idea of what they want to talk about and maybe what their points are, but then they don't know where to go from there."

Reda said many students arrive at Humber thinking their literacy skills are strong, only to be caught off guard by the colleges' high standards.

"Humber has, I think, a really good English program, because they actually go over the grammar," she said. "I went to the University of Toronto before this, and what I learned in a full-year English course there was nothing compared to what I learned in one semester of Comm. 200."

"It is crucial. Nothing could be more important in their understanding the world in which they live. Their ability to understand it depends on their ability to articulate it," said Humber English professor Trevor Arkel.

He suggested one way to improve your literacy skills is to read outside your comfort zone.

"Read as widely and as frequently as possible, and read extended arguments and articles that are challenging and that present perspectives that may not be in concert with their own feelings to see how the world actually functions," said Arkel.

THE SKINNY Iran report refutes Bush

A new U.S. intelligence report says that Iran halted its nuclear weapon ambitions in 2003, dousing rhetoric from the Bush Administration. The U.S. as well as western allies France and Britain are calling for a third round of UN economic sanctions against Tehran in light of its perceived pursuit of an atomic bomb. At a news conference in Washington this week President George Bush said he still believed Iran posed a significant threat. "I believed before the NIE [National Intelligence Estimate] that Iran was dangerous and I believe after the NIE that Iran is dangerous," he said.

— Reuters.ca

Change in air at Bali summit

A meeting of 10,000 scientists and delegates representing 190 nations opened the broadest meeting ever on climate change in Indonesia this week. Yvo de Boer, the U.N.'s top climate official, praised the Dec. 3-14 conference, yet said numerous challenges lie ahead. "In this process, as in so many, the devil's in the details."

— Reuters.ca

Tories remain ahead in poll

Canada's governing Conservatives have maintained a substantial lead in opinion polls over the main opposition Liberal Party, despite an inquiry into large cash payments to a former prime minister with ties to the government. The most recent Decima-Harris poll by the Canadian Press put Prime Minister Stephen Harper and the Conservatives at 36 per cent and the Liberals at 28 per cent, unchanged from two weeks earlier.

— Reuters.ca

Be sure to pick up the next issue of the *Humber Et Cetera* on shelves Jan. 17.

According to a consumer survey by Maritz Research, Canadians are planning to spend an average of over \$700 this year on Christmas presents. — thestar.com

Eyes on education

Tuition is on the agenda, says new minister

Kenneth Brown
NEWS REPORTER

The Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities has a new man in charge and the Humber Students' Federation (HSF) will be asking him to address two areas of concern.

HSF president Nick Farnell said he'll be meeting with Minister John Milloy on Dec. 11 to discuss a better system for students to transfer colleges and funding issues.

"It's very difficult to move from school to school," Farnell said. "You could have the same program at Sheridan and Centennial, transfer halfway through and you might not get half of the credits because there's just no system in place."

Farnell also said funding is a big issue because "we're all broke students."

The federally funded Canadian Millennium Scholarship is set to

expire in 2009, Farnell said, and that's over \$100 million in scholarship grants that will stop.

Milloy, the Liberal MPP for Kitchener-Centre, said the province will move forward with pledges from the Liberal election platform.

This includes the \$300 textbook and technology grant, a parental grant at the beginning of the school year instead of a tax credit and giving students more time to start repaying their loans after graduation. Milloy could not say when the proposals would take effect.

He added that whatever strategy the ministry takes, colleges will remain a cornerstone of post-secondary education.

"There's a role obviously for universities. There's a role for other folks involved in training. But certainly, community colleges play a key role."

Humber President John Davies said he hopes Milloy sees a priority in cooperation between colleges and universities on a more equal, respectful level.

Long-time NDP ministry of training critic Rosario Marchese, MPP for Trinity-Spadina, said the issues he is most concerned with

are tuition fees, lowering class sizes and hiring more full-time faculty.

He said post-secondary education is clearly under-funded.

"I worry about the fact that this rich province is number nine in per-capita funding in Canada," he said. "We are nowhere near the average that we were promised to be under the Liberals."

Farnell agrees per capita funding by the province is a concern. He said colleges receive a lot less money from the government than universities and high schools.

However, Milloy said the Liberals developed a stable tuition fee framework for measured increases.

He said they have increased up-front grants, limited the amount of debt students can go into, and because of the student access guarantee, institutions must make sure

students will not be turned away because of difficulties with financial aid from support programs.



John Milloy, the newly appointed Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities. Courtesy

New law ensures gift cards stay in play

Rebekah Williams
NEWS REPORTER

Ontario's consumers have less to worry about this holiday shopping season as a law passed on Oct. 1 states retail gift card expiry dates are illegal.

Derek Nighbor, national affairs vice president of Retail Council of Canada, said sales should improve as a result. "We support the elimination of expiry dates. We think that it's good for business and we

think that it's going to be a great way to move the product forward and it'll increase in popularity in the years ahead."

He cautioned that gift cards can seem "a bit impersonal," and that despite the new law, consumers should be wary of giving them as gifts.

"Some people have said it's almost like giving cash. You know, 'maybe the person didn't think too much about me, maybe they just wanted to get something fast and

easy and they just gave me a gift card,'" he said.

Nighbor said the cards could have a negative effect for retailers as well, despite hopefully improving the consumer/retailer relationship. He said it might now be difficult for retailers to close their books for tax purposes.

First-year law clerk student Brandon Marji agrees with Nighbor that gift cards don't make optimal presents. "It's a gesture to show, 'OK, I gave you a gift card,

that means I don't have to say Merry Christmas to you or have a nice holiday.' It's all in the gift card."

However, a recent poll by Ipsos Reid for retailer Mark's Work Warehouse shows 88 per cent of Canadians either strongly agree or somewhat agree that receiving a gift card is good because they can choose to buy what they want.

John Pall, who works at Woodbine Centre said he's happy to receive gift cards for that reason. "For some people they can't pick out like clothes and stuff like that for me, so a gift card I can just take it to the store and get whatever I want."

The poll also found 72 per cent of Canadians would prefer to get a gift card over a traditional gift.

Vice president of the Consumers Council of Canada Eleanor Friedland said there are still issues that need to be addressed.

She said consumers should make note of the dollar value of the cards they purchase and to ensure the card is not lost. "Some companies may not have a return policy on it if it's lost, and you're out the money," she said.

Friedland advises consumers to be wary of buying gift cards from pre-paid centres because it is impossible to know whether or

not that card has been activated with the retailer.

She also said Ontario and Manitoba are the only provinces that have this new law which may affect people who want to send gift cards to other provinces.

There is no retroactive program for already expired cards according to the ministry of government and consumer services, and the law does not apply to spas or other service based businesses.

By the Numbers

Starbucks may have the most successful gift card. In 2006 the company estimated ten per cent of its sales were paid for by Starbucks cards.

- cbc.ca

Consumer Reports said more than 25 per cent of gift cards bought in the U.S. last year were never redeemed, costing about \$8 billion (U.S.) to consumers.

- Toronto Star

In 2005, 55 per cent of total December sales came from stores offering gift cards.

- Statistics Canada



Rebekah Williams

While considered by some to be unthoughtful presents, gift cards are a seasonal bestseller.

EDITORIAL

An Australian Santa Claus trainee program instructed its participants to avoid using 'ho ho ho,' claiming the phrase is offensive to women. — canada.com

No excuse for DUI

The police operation Reduce Impaired Driving Everywhere (RIDE) kicked off its holiday campaign last Friday at Humber.

The program began locally in 1977 under the title Reduce Impaired Driving in Etobicoke before it expanded throughout the province.

Despite numerous campaigns and advertisements, impaired drivers cause approximately 40 per cent of deaths and injuries on the roads, and drunk driving is the number one cause of death in 16-20-year-olds.

The age range of this statistic and RIDE's local origin gives Humber students an especially compelling reason to help curtail impaired driving.

If only RIDE could be on every road.

Perhaps you've heard someone say something like this: "My parents will kill me if I don't come home tonight," "I don't have any money for a cab," or "I can't leave my car here."

We all know that drinking and driving is deadly. It's dangerous. It's unnecessary. So why are we still having these conversations?

We all know that drinking and driving is deadly. It's dangerous. It's unnecessary. So why are we still having these conversations?

Why does RIDE catch an approximate average of 70,000 people each year intoxicated behind the wheel? Why do people even consider drinking without a plan for getting home?

There are cabs. There's public transit. There are friends' couches. There are hotels. Some cities have taxi-type companies that also provide a driver to get customers and their cars home safely.

This year, the Insurance Bureau of Canada is sponsoring a pilot of the Operation Red Nose program in Toronto's distillery district.

Anyone unable to drive home from bars in that area can call for volunteers who will escort clients and their cars to anywhere in the GTA.

It's so easy to plan ahead, especially because impaired drivers threaten more than just their own lives.

Simply put, there's just no excuse to drink and drive.

Everyone can agree to the dangers of drinking and driving. So why does it still happen?

Children key to literacy

Reading and fostering a love of books is important and the numbers seem to suggest the Canadian education system is working.

Five provinces participated in a recent study that rated literacy - and we fared fairly well. The Progress in International Reading Literacy Study rated Alberta third, British Columbia fourth, Ontario sixth, and Quebec and Nova Scotia, 16th and 23rd respectively.

All five provinces were well above the mean score.

Ontario's score has improved since the study was first done in 2001, but that doesn't mean Ontarians and the rest of Canada should rest on their laurels.

Literacy is something that has to be cultivated constantly.

Good teachers, a good education system and good literature are all key in maintaining and improving the current levels.

There is still a lot of work to be done, with only half of fourth-graders in the five provinces reading daily or almost every day.

Wouldn't it be nice if we could boost those figures?

Canadians need to push themselves toward excellence and find as many different ways to encourage reading as possible.

That means better educating and appreciating our nation's teachers at higher levels and rewarding our good writers.

Canada has produced some great writing talent, such as Margaret Atwood and Michael Ondaatje.

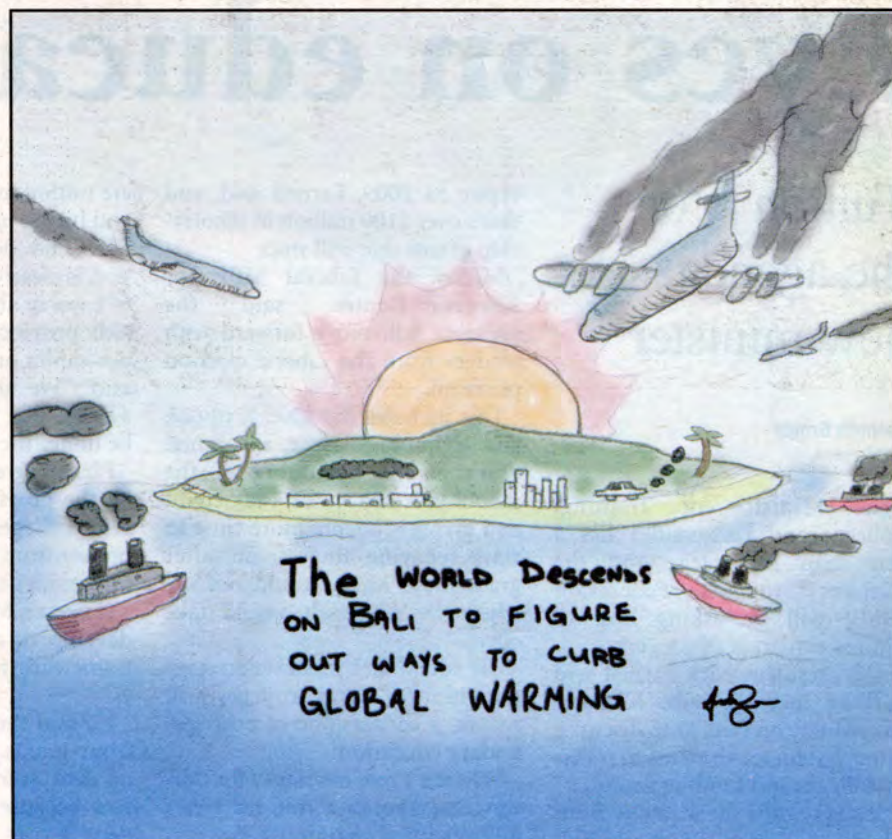
But where are the children's writers?

Putting a little more focus on that field might be one way of achieving higher scores.

Also, the better the system of educating Canadian teachers, the more positive the effects we'll see at earlier stages of development.

Parents can contribute as well. They are on the frontlines of literacy: the earlier they start fostering a love of reading in their kids the better. It is a good way to develop love for the written word.

To improve literacy in the country, it has to be done on every level, from the government to the school, to the family. Everyone must do their part.



HUMBER ET CETERA

Editor-in-Chief Managing Editor News Editors

Patrick Soltysiak
Kaitlyn Coholan
Meaghan McBride
Jamie Sturgeon
Amberly McAteer
Raymond Andrew de Souza

Editorial/Opinion Editor Art Director

Daria Locke
Jordana Stier
Josh Stern
Stephanie Zolis

Life Editors

A&E Editors

In Focus Editors

Andrea Bennington
Jef Catapang
Rob Hergott

Sports Editor

Senior Reporters

Jackson Hayes
Raymond Andrew de Souza

Business Editor Online Editor Copy Editors

David Hamilton
Christine Teskey
Krista Cyr
Jeff Lewis
David Miadovnik
Raymond Andrew de Souza

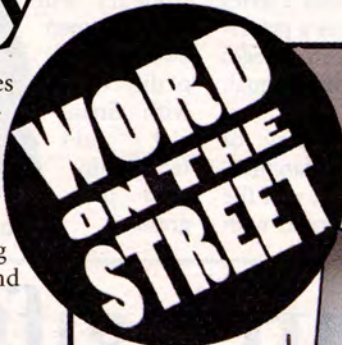
Editorial Cartoonist

Deryk Ireland
Siobhan Moore
Lara King
Jackson Hayes
Anne Zbitnew

Distribution Editorial Adviser Creative Adviser Photo Editor Photo Adviser

Humber Et Cetera is a publication of the Humber College School of Media Studies
Letters to the Editor must be signed and contain the writer's program and telephone number for verification.

We reserve the right to edit for length.
205 Humber College Blvd., Etobicoke, ON, M9W 5L7
Phone: 416.675.6622 ext. 4514
Advertising inquiries: 416.675.6622 ext. 4913



How will you spend your time away from Humber?

I'm going on vacation actually, to Las Vegas. I'm going to spend some time with my family there, but also gamble!

Caroline Spence 22
First-year funeral services



I'm just going to be with friends mostly and chill. I don't have anything that exciting planned because I like to do everything on the fly.

Sanket Thakkar 17
First-year hospitality



I'm going to help my uncle open up a Tim Hortons. I'm just looking forward to helping him and spending some time at home.

Nidhi Jaura 21
Second-year business administration



The bookstore is closed over the break, so I'm going to work full time at a store for a few weeks. I'm just hoping to get some rest and take the time to break from everything.

**Have something to say?
Share it with us!**

Send your rants, kudos, ideas and suggestions to:
etceteraeditors@gmail.com
All letters must be signed and include the author's full name, program, and contact information.

"People do not seem to realize that their opinion of the world is also a confession of character." – Ralph Waldo Emerson, 19th century American poet

Putting Santa out of business



Kaitlyn Coholan
MANAGING EDITOR

Here's what I hate about Christmas.

People ask me what I want. I ask people what they want. I review my budget.

I get to the mall and the way I've dressed to combat the cold has left me overheated among the hordes of shoppers. The same six carols play on loop.

Christmas comes and crumpled paper goes into the trash. Opened presents lie around until we find places to put them. Someone from whom I didn't expect a gift gives me one and I find myself embarrassed and empty-handed.

Everyone rushes out to buy more on Boxing Day and then spends the next two weeks returning and exchanging gifts they don't like.

Retail workers spend long hours in stores that open early and close late and some people will line up for sales before the sun rises.

This year, one in four Wal-Mart stores in Canada will be open 24 hours a day from Dec. 1 until Christmas. I've never really liked Wal-Mart, but now I have an especially solid reason to avoid it.

I'm on a crusade. I'm trying to convince my parents that we should watch *Home Alone* together on Christmas rather than exchange gifts.

Kevin McAllister sure wasn't materialistic – all he wanted was his family back.

I must be rubbing off on them because this year to my delight my brother suggested a sibling dinner instead of bows and ribbons.

Consumerism gets me down. I'm the last person to suggest putting the focus back on Christ at Christmas, but our attention is certainly skewed. Why waste a hol-

iday going into debt and cluttering our lives with more junk?

I thought about listing the amount of money Canadians spend at Christmas, but the numbers make me queasy.

Sure, some might say the holiday wouldn't be the same if children sat on Santa's knee and said,

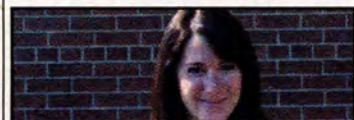
"Thanks anyway" and played with old toys Christmas morning.

The materialism of the season is so extreme that we may never truly be able to unwrap ourselves from it.

I can't think of a better way to spend Christmas than without presents.

The cruelest show in town

Claims of circus animal abuse suggest compassion needed



Jordana Stier
LIFE EDITOR

The People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) have accused the Ringling Bros. Circus of aggressively hooking and beating its animals daily.

According to PETA, Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus have not been meeting the minimal federal standards to care for the animals they use in exhibitions.

Four investigations by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) are open against the circus giant for several deaths and abuses of elephants and lions in their troupe, some even caught on tape.

Bruce Read, vice president of animal stewardship for Ringling Bros. denied the allegations in a statement. "The physical and behavioral needs of our animals are a top priority at Ringling

Bros." Animals should explore their environment, seek mates, and raise families in their natural habitat instead of being on display.

The very idea of animals performing for human enjoyment is wrong. These circus acts aren't natural or voluntary for these animals.

Whether it's an animal, an 80 year-old woman, or a newborn baby, a life is a life.

According to PETA, the animals only obey out of fear of the consequences of misbehaving – which include varying degrees of punishment and deprivation.

If these beautiful animals are being forced to perform unnatural tricks at the mercy of violent tools just for our entertainment, that's incomprehensibly cruel.

All animals can feel physical and emotional pain. They have every right to be

treated with respect and compassion. It's not our right to expose, exploit, experiment and use animals for our entertainment and financial gain.

Animals weren't put on this planet to fulfill our needs. They have a value completely detached from the human race.

Circuses can be still be a great, entertaining experience without the exploitation of animals.

Animal-free circuses are available across Europe, Canada, the US, and Australia. The United Kingdom is even banning the use of wild animals in the three touring circuses.

These animal-free projects are the first step in creating a more compassionate society.

To me, anyone who abuses animals in any way doesn't appreciate life.

Whether it's an animal, an 80 year-old woman, or a newborn baby, a life is a life. Animals deserve to have the same rights as any other living being. We need to protect those who cannot protect themselves.

The skinny on fitness



Christine Teskey
ONLINE EDITOR

"You're skinny! Why do you need to work out?" I've heard this question from too many people for too long.

Yes, I'm thin and I have been for all my life. But for the past two years, I've been out of shape.

When I started college, I stopped jazz dancing – an activity I've done for years – and this put a serious damper on my daily fix of physical activity.

Just because I'm thin doesn't mean I don't need to burn calories, boost my cardiovascular health and build muscle mass.

I've gone through ups and downs and have tried many exercise fads to get back in shape. I've tested Tony Little and Caribbean workout DVDs and a variety of at-home equipment.

Although it took me over two years to get back on track, and countless people asking me why I even bother, I'm glad I kept trying.

I've joined a fitness club and signed up for personal training and have never felt better.

Last Sunday I saw an overweight man getting on a TTC bus and he struggled to get through the bus doors.

I thought to myself maybe he struggled as I have, and is still searching for his solution.

Embrace time with family



Krista Cyr
COPY EDITOR

Is it true that everything bad happens in threes? I certainly hope so.

I've been to three funerals over the past month.

It has tested my strength and made me realize how extremely important it is to have friends and family around to help you through times of loss.

Although we celebrated my Opa's 92nd birthday in October, it is still hard to let him go.

In an effort to make it less tragic, people have said to me, "Well, he lived a long life."

Is that supposed to be comforting?

The death of a family member at any age is a hard thing to accept, and the fact that they're gone seems to be brushed off after peo-

ple find out my Opa's age. It's no secret what will happen to all of us someday.

Trying to muster up some words to comfort someone is a challenge but saying nothing at all can be a lot more effective.

Trying to muster up some words to comfort someone is a challenge but saying nothing at all can be a lot more effective.

Simple gestures like cooking dinner for the mourning family is surprisingly one of the most comforting things you can do.

Someone recently asked me, "why does everyone come over with food at this time?"

I think it's because cooking is the last thing you want to do and you need your strength.

Giving someone space in order

to deal with his or her emotions may be hard when you want to help so desperately. But it actually works.

After losing my last grandparent, I started to reflect on the memories of all my grandparents.

I'm really lucky to have my grandparents involved in my life and it is something I will always be grateful for.

They spoiled me and treated me like I could do no wrong.

Looking back, I know that this was their way of letting me know that I was loved unconditionally.

In a perfect world everyone would have the chance to get to know and cherish your grandparents like I have.

My Oma and Opa taught me the importance of a strong family.

Take this holiday season to reflect on your memories of your grandparents, and take advantage of the chance to make new ones.

If you're really lucky, you'll be able to make some more amazing memories with them.



TO INDONESIA, FOR PLANTING MILLIONS OF TREES TO OFFSET THE ESTIMATED 50,000 TONNES OF GREENHOUSE GASES THAT WILL BE CREATED DURING U.N. CLIMATE TALKS IN BALI.

TO THE SPICE GIRLS FOR REUNITING AFTER NINE YEARS AND KICKING OFF THEIR FAREWELL TOUR IN VANCOUVER.

TO FIVE-YEAR-OLD CHIMPANZEES IN JAPAN FOR BEATING COLLEGE STUDENTS IN SHORT-TERM MEMORY TESTS. ONE CHIMP, AYUMU, WAS NAMED THE ULTIMATE MEMORY CHAMPION.

TO CANADA, FOR RATIFYING THE KYOTO ACCORD BUT FAILING TO MEET ITS POLLUTANT REDUCTION TARGETS – AND EARNING THE U.N 'FOSSIL OF THE DAY AWARD' IN BALI.

TO WILL SMITH FOR REVEALING THE ENDING OF HIS UPCOMING MOVIE, I AM LEGEND, AT A TOKYO PRESS CONFERENCE.

TO KANSAS POLICE FOR ENTERING THE WRONG HOUSE FOLLOWING A CALL. THEY TASERED AN INNOCENT DEAF MAN WHO WAS GETTING OUT OF HIS BATH-TUB. HE WAS UNHURT.

NEWS

At 14, Oscar Peterson's sister got him to audition for a CBC national amateur contest which he went on to win, launching the pianist's career. - oscarpeterson.com

Trumpeting Challoner earns annual Oscar

Eric Lo Maglio
NEWS REPORTER

Jonathan Challoner, a third year student studying a bachelor in music at Humber's Lakeshore Campus, was this year's winner of the Oscar Peterson Prize, an annual award that recognizes outstanding talent in the program.

"It's amazing," Challoner said. "It's a real honour to be recognized at Humber because I really enjoy being here."

"To feel like my teachers here have confidence and faith in me," he said. "It's a big deal."

Originally from Vancouver Island, B.C., Challoner started playing the trumpet when he was 11 and studied classical music in high school.

He went to Humber on the Oscar Peterson Grant, a scholarship for students studying music at the post-secondary level in Canada.

His influences include Miles Davis and Ann Douglas, amongst others, he said.

"Jon is one of the most talented

young men that we've seen in quite some time," said program coordinator Denny Christianson.

"He's already made a mark certainly in Canadian music and is going to internationally."

Christianson and Joe Kertes, dean of the School of Creative and Performing Arts, started the award in cooperation with jazz pianist Oscar Peterson two years ago.

Peterson was one of the first Canadian artists to become internationally recognized in jazz in the 1940s.

The Oscar Peterson Prize is the highest prize that Humber's music program has to offer.

"I feel very gratified that such terrific people are attracted to the college," Kertes said.

"That goes to show you how perfect our programs are."

Peterson was absent from the ceremony, but his daughter, Celine, stood in to present a plaque and a \$5,000 cheque to Challoner.

"I'm not sure where I'll end up or if I want to be in Toronto all the



courtesy

"To feel like my teachers here have confidence and faith in me, it's a big deal," said music student Jonathan Challoner.

time, but I'm really hoping to be in a situation where I can write and play stuff that fulfills me creatively," Challoner said.

"Right now, I'm just concentrating on finding my voice on my instruments and in this music."

Digital theft creeps into the courts now

Online gamers
find new world
of legal woes
on the Web

Jackson Hayes
NEWS REPORTER

If you steal digital merchandise, is it still a crime?

That is the question several current cases are asking as users look for legal recourse for the growing problem of theft in the digital world.

Many of these cases involve a popular series of sites called massive multi-player online games. Be it through fantasy games like *World of Warcraft* or others which provide an alternative existence like *Second Life*, these games afford their millions of users the chance to participate in a completely different life.

But it seems these digital lands are privy to the same criminal acts as the real world.

In 2003, a Chinese court ordered the makers of the online game *Red Moon* to compensate a player whose collection of weapons was stolen by a hacker. This case was one of the first to reward actual money for materials acquired in the digital world, and it has not been the last.

A lawsuit was recently filed in a New York civil court between two *Second Life* players. The suit alleges defendant Thomas Simon stole a computer code from plaintiff Linda Eros used to manufacture and sell adult-themed merchandise. She claims the bootleg version of the digital sex toys caused her sales to

drop and is seeking an unspecified amount of compensation.

The quandary in ruling on these cases is that indeed theft has occurred, the goods stolen don't actually exist. How can one be prosecuted in a civil case for taking something that does not exist outside a computer-generated world?

"Copyright covers all literary work and computer software is considered literary work," said intellectual property attorney Janet Fuhrer with the Ottawa firm Rideout and Maybe. "IP is tangible property because the rights cover the aspects that went into making it."

Fuhrer said for digital merchandise, the users own the rights as soon as the work is in a fixed form. Or in other words, once the software is usable.

The key to the court battles and indeed the online sites themselves is that gamers spend real money on digital property and merchandise. And not just a little bit of money either. According to *Second Life* numbers, in October alone there was more than 22 million financial transactions with an average of over U.S. \$1 million trading hands every day.

First year film student Kyle Chappell who plays the popular online game *Runescape* said he understands the frustration gamers who have been robbed can feel.

"If people are paying real money for this stuff then I guess its grounds for some sort of punishment."


Though he never experienced theft during his time online and did not play with real money, he does manage to keep all the legal woes in perspective, "It's just a game."

The Smokers Pot



Put Your Butt In

KEEP YOUR CAMPUS CLEAN

 HUMBER

facilities.humber.ca

CLASSIFIED ADS

FedEx Ground is hiring for P/T Package Handlers. Loading /Unloading. \$10.30 h/r - \$11.30 h/r. Weekly paycheck! Tuition Assistance! Must be comfortable lifting repetitively. Apply by email: toronto_resumes@ground.fedex.com
Fax: 905-678-9360 Phone: 905-678-7690

Humber's 20,000 full-time students and 30,000 part-time students could be reading your ad.

ADVERTISE IN
THE ETCETERA
416-675-5007



Microsoft and Nintendo are taking too long to phase out toxic chemicals from their game consoles, Greenpeace said in its annual report on technology companies. —cnn.com



Courtesy of Christian Reilly

Humber College's OCMC team celebrates its sixth place at the annual marketing competition.

Marketing team negotiates victory

Kassina Ryder
BUSINESS REPORTER

Ontario's best and most motivated business students competed for medals and glory at the 2007 Ontario College's Marketing Competition (OCMC) held by Fanshawe College November 15th and 16th.

Humber took home to gold medals, one bronze and placed sixth overall.

This is the third year the Humber team has participated, but it's the first time its placed in the events.

"It's the first time we scored any kind of significant amount of points," said Robert Bolf, business management coordinator and a coach on the Humber OCMC team. "Afterwards we realized if we had gotten one more second place position we would have been second or third so the gap between first and sixth wasn't that great."

The OCMC consisted of different events including case studies,

a job interview, a sales presentation, and a Quiz Bowl where students from different colleges were placed on teams to answer business related questions.

Second-year business management student Christian Reilly won the gold medal for his sales presentation and was offered a job at InfoTech Research Group by company executives judging the event.

"Later on that evening when everybody was at the bar, the president came over and tapped him on the shoulder and said 'we were so impressed, how would you like to work for us?'" Bolf said. "As far as I know that's never happened before."

"I was very nervous," Reilly said. "There were two big guys, the CEO and the CIO of the company and when I saw them on the list of judges that I had to present to, my nervous level skyrocketed."

He said his teammates and teachers deserve as much credit as he does for winning the gold.

"It's not just a personal accomplishment," Reilly said. "It's really a team accomplishment. This win was a win for Humber. Just having that spirit and that motivation and that support from everybody makes it an incredible experience."

Humber students also won gold and bronze medals in the Quiz Bowl.

"We had a student on the first-place team, we had a student on the third-place team and we had a student on the fourth-place team," Bolf said. "So our people came in first, third and fourth out of the top four on the Quiz Bowl."

Deepayan Sengupta, a second-year business administration student, was a member of the gold medal winning Quiz Bowl team.

"It was a much more rewarding experience than I had expected," he said. "For two and a half months there were about 20-25 of us in one room studying together toward a common goal. We formed a real good bond, not only student bonds, but student-professor bonds."

Tech recycling

Navreet Dhillon
BUSINESS REPORTER

Technology is constantly being upgraded at the college, which is good for students and faculty but is potentially harmful to the environment if not recycled.

"Here at Humber, we've always disposed of things in an environmentally safe way...We don't toss it into the dumpster or anything like that," said the college's customer care service manager Ryan Burton. Burton said a disposal company Arlen Metals takes old computers away.

"When a computer system is deemed useless, we then send it over the save dock for Arlen and then they dispose of it."

Arlen Metals sales administrator Douglas Donald explained the process.

"We take the machines and strip them for usable metals which we then sell to other companies inter-

ested in the particular metals...such as aluminum and copper.

"None of the items we receive are hazardous to the environment and are safe to strip of the usable parts."

Donald said his company cannot process hazardous waste.

"Some things that are considered hazardous are CRT monitors, the standard old computer monitors, which have lead in them...also batteries."

Burton said that while Humber College pays to get rid of the computers, Arlen gives the college a credit for future sales for the amount of metal Arlen can extract.

Shieral Caogas, a technical support agent, said the college pays Arlen Metals \$6 for every monitor they take away.

"If a computer isn't working anymore, it gets shipped off to disposal and from there it's the company's responsibility."

GEAR UP

Top five gifts for the gamer

Navreet Dhillon
BUSINESS REPORTER

With the holiday season fast approaching, gifts are on everybody's minds and when it comes to the serious gamer, some education will help bring excitement to an otherwise silent night.

Future Shop marketing manager Mary Ann McKenzie said "social gaming" or gaming where players can interact with one-another while playing are gaining ground over solitary games.

"There's a lot of demand for things that need more than one person to play with."

She said games like Guitar Hero III are largely popular because they are fun to play with other people and gaming has become a group event.

"Heck, I don't even like video games, but I love playing with that guitar controller," McKenzie said.

EB Games sales associate Samantha Barnes said "Christmas time is the biggest time of year that people literally go crazy to get their hands on the games."

With this in mind, here's the list:

PlayStation 3

After the PS3 dropped in price, more people will be finding room for this console

under the tree. New for the holiday season is the 80GB version, it allows gamers to play most of their old PS2 games as well.

Nintendo Wii

The Wii is still a hot item, especially with games like *Super Mario Galaxy*, made exclusively for the system. "We received 12 units and literally a half-hour after we opened our store, they were all sold," Barnes said.

XBOX 360

Microsoft's Xbox, though not new, is still holding its position for its intense graphics and has recently been noted as the gamers choice to play blockbuster *Halo 3*. "If you own an Xbox 360, you have to get *Halo 3*," McKenzie said.

Guitar Hero III

Guitar Hero III, which came out a month ago, will be rocking around more than a few Christmas trees this year. The game is available for most major consoles, but with the Xbox 360, it comes with the much advertised guitar controller.

Call of Duty 4

With a new storyline set in WWII, *Call of Duty 4* gives *Halo 3* a run for its money as one of the most sought after shooters. "When I saw the graphics for the games, my jaw literally dropped," McKenzie said.

Catch the next big thing!

The Humber Comedy program presents tomorrow's stars live on stage at Yuk Yuk's new downtown club

Every Tuesday Only \$3

It's the best deal in town!

224 Richmond St. West

Call to reserve or for info 416.967.6425

HUMBER School of Creative & Performing Arts

Et Cetera Best and Worst

Et Cetera staff were asked to remember and share their best and worst holiday memories from years past. Here is a sample of those stories.
Happy Holidays from the Et Cetera!



I was miserable during the weeks leading up to my first Christmas in Nunavut. I knew Christmas was going to be -50° degrees celsius with no sunlight and I saw absolutely nothing to be merry about. In a valiant effort to cheer me up, my roommate Cory tried to decorate our house for Christmas. No trees grow in Rankin Inlet, and fake trees are ridiculously expensive (like everything else in Nunavut), so we decided to improvise. We cut a Christmas tree shape out of wrapping paper and stuck it on the wall with some lights on it. Now it's my Christmas tradition.

- Kassina Ryder

One of my earliest and best holiday memories is sitting around the tree with my family on a white Christmas Eve when I was three years old. We lived in northern British Columbia and my aunt was visiting for the holidays, which was a real treat. There was a tap at our living room window, accompanied by a deep, jolly "ho ho ho!" When I looked up, I was absolutely amazed. Santa Claus himself was at my window, complete with the white beard, red suit and the biggest sack of toys you could imagine. He wished us a merry Christmas and went on his way. For a three-year old girl, it was magical. I'll never forget the looks on my parents' faces – they were just as amazed as I was!

- Amberly McAteer



Christmas of 1994

My dog Norton was always interested in the process of unwrapping gifts on Christmas Day. He would spend at least two weeks before the big day pushing the presents with his nose, batting them around with his paws and even chewing off corners of the wrapping paper. On this particular Christmas, he closely watched us open presents for a while and then decided it was his turn. He unwrapped a bunch of gifts, clearly not for him, and looked so pleased with his handy-work.

- Daria Locke



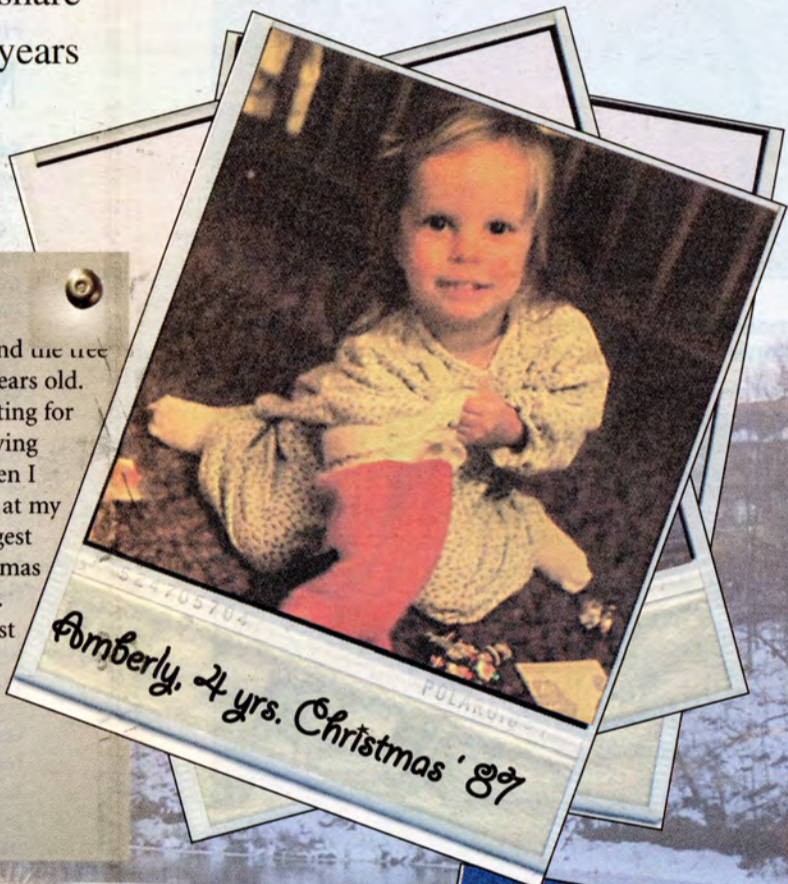
Last year three friends and I went to New York for New Year's. We were staying at a hotel by the Newark Airport. When coming back from Times Square I missed an exit sign and ended up getting off at the wrong exit. Next thing we know, we're circling Newark in the middle of the night and nobody knows where we are. We stopped by a gas station to get a map and then were reading it outside. I can't say we felt safe. A guy walked up to us and told us that we shouldn't be doing that out here, it's dangerous. He also gave us directions to get to the airport and after two hours of circling we finally made it.

- Patrick Soltysiak

Cetera Presents Worst & Holiday Memories

I share
 a years

ound the use
 years old.
 sitting for
 living
 when I
 as at my
 ggest
 stmas
 al.
 just



The best holiday memory I have is when my family and I took a trip to Portugal five years ago for Christmas holidays. I had not seen my family since I came to Canada 18 years ago. Christmas in Portugal was a completely different and exciting experience for me. The days leading up to Christmas were busy but fun. A lot of time was spent making delicious "arroz doce" (Portugese rice pudding), a traditional Portugese dish, along with other traditional recipes. Although it was a lot of work preparing all of the sweets and pastries, it was great because my whole family got together and enjoyed each other's company. Another great part of my holiday was spent doing some sightseeing. I got to see the most impressive nativity scene I have ever seen. It was truly an incredible experience.

- Celeste da Silva

Greetings from
 Israel



My best holiday memory was during December of 2004 when my family and I traveled to Israel for the first time together. I was able to see how much my cousins had grown, and witnessed the fine young men they had become. What made the experience so incredible for me was that I didn't feel like a minority. I felt an immediate connection to each and every person I saw on the street. For the first time, I felt like I was home. Traveling to Haifa, where my grandmother was born, visiting the synagogue where my great grandfather practiced as a Rabbi, and walking on Jerusalem's historic grounds over 5000 years old, I felt I had voyaged so far back in time I was actually part of my history.

- Jordana Stier

otel
 and
 the
 get



"Success is to be measured not so much by the position that one has reached in life as by the obstacles which he has overcome." – Booker T. Washington

Writer produces novel in month-long contest

By Gareth Vieira
SPECIAL TO THE ET CETERA

Humber journalism student Tabitha Venasse met the challenge to write a 50,000-word novel in 30 days for the National Novel Writing Month.

"You start the novel on Nov. 1 at midnight and finish it Nov. 30 at 11:59 p.m.," Venasse said.

The National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo) is a program that inspires people to write without inhibitions.

The program website said the only thing that matters is the output. It said the kamikaze approach forces writers to lower their expectations, take risks and write on the fly.

Winners are chosen in each area of the world and given a "Winner" web icon on the website and a certificate.

Venasse's novel is an action-adventure about a female assassin living in Toronto who is hired to

kill an ex-president.

"I tend to focus on sci-fi, action and fantasy genres," she said.

Venasse has been writing in one form or another since she was young.

"She is a strong writer and shows a lot of determination."

– Judy Charles,
broadcast journalism professor

She first started writing poetry when she was seven and then moved on to short stories at school.

"My teacher had a laptop, and when I finished my assignments she would let me use it to write my stories," Venasse said.

By the time she was in eighth grade, she knew that she wanted to be a writer. By the end of her high school years, she had chosen journalism.

"If I pursue a career as a novelist it would destroy my passion," said

Venasse. "I decided if I wanted to keep writing journalism was the way to go."

Judy Charles, one of Venasse's teachers at Humber, had only praise for her.

"Tabitha is a great young woman. She thinks creatively and isn't afraid to try new things. She is a strong writer and shows a lot of determination," Charles said.

At any given time Venasse has twenty different stories on the go and she is always writing down her ideas.

"I found the best way to keep myself inspired is to keep them all going at once, so that if I lose the inspiration on one I gain it on another one," she said.

This year, 1,187,931,929 words were written during NaNoWriMo and \$251,956 were raised by the challenge's writers towards the education of young writers.

Seattle, Washington was declared the wordiest city in this year's contest by having the most writers.



Gareth Vieira

Third-year journalism student Tabitha Venasse posts her current writing samples on poetry.com and fictionpress.com.

Get with the Program

By Mandy Ross
LIFE REPORTER

Meet first-year theatre production student, John Hunjan.

Q: What made you interested in being in this program?

A: "I was doing musical theatre for a while and I had the opportunity to do some tech work for some of the shows. I went to Sheridan College and took the theatre preparation course. I learned how to sing, act and dance in it, but I wanted to be part of something more. You go to a show and you see the actors, but you also see the beautiful art that is behind them. The background is just as important as any other aspect in a production."

Q: What have you learned in your program?

A: "One of the most important things I have learned is that you have to work as a team. You treat the person next to you as family because you have to depend on them."

Q: What do you like about your program?

A: "I like the students and faculty. I love the hands-on work. I enjoy doing carpentry. I like how in the first year we really focus on learning the skills needed for the industry. Next year, we get to choose what we want to work on more. For me, that will be carpentry."

Q: What do you hope to achieve with your diploma?

A: "I have a strict father who has his own goals for me. I've struggled with personal growth in my life also. For me, completing this two year program will be more of a success than actually getting a job afterwards. Although I'm not worried about getting work, I know many people in the industry. For once though, I stood up for myself. I chose the work path my father may not have wanted for me."



Mandy Ross

First-year theatre production student John Hunjan finds the hands-on aspect of his program the most useful.

Student Bodies

The Et Cetera Fitness Challenge

Congratulations to Alyssa Winfield for finishing the 12-week student bodies challenge sponsored by athletics. She completed personal training sessions over the course of the fall term and met some of her weight loss and health goals.

Before



Starting weight: 180 lbs
Current weight: 169 lbs
Total weight loss: 11 lbs

Inches lost
Bust - 1 1/4 inch
Waist - 1 inch
Hips - 0 inches
Thigh - 1/2 inch
Arms - 1/2 inch

After



"This was a great experience. It got me over the hump to start taking better care of myself. It got me motivated more than anything. At first the workouts were hard, but now I don't dread them anymore.

If I could change anything about an experience, I would have tried to book more appointments and stick to my diet sooner. I just wish I had realized the impact diet has on my body.

Comedian Dave Chappelle recently broke his own record by consecutively telling jokes for six hours and 12 minutes. – www.thecomedynetwork.ca/news

Homegrown comedian is bringing sexy back

Heather Senoran
A&E REPORTER

Humber grad Nicole Arbour, 25, crushes all female comedian stereotypes while proving that women can be funny, pretty and successful too.

The blonde-haired, blue-eyed bombshell was recently dubbed "North America's Sexiest Comedian" by the *Toronto Sun*.

She is aware the words sexy and comedian may sound like an oxymoron to some people.

Instead of trying to fight the stereotypes, she works with them and destroys preconceived notions about what it is to be a female in comedy.

"I think it's awesome that I don't look like other comedians," she said. "People think 'comedian' and then they see me and say 'wait, you're not a 30-year-old dude in a suit.'"

Arbour was born and raised in Hamilton. Ever since she could remember she had the performing bug.

Her father said when she was a little girl and guests were over, she ran to the backyard and did cartwheels.

During high school, she was involved with every team imaginable. She did cheerleading, volleyball, choir, and made the morning announcements.

She graduated from Humber's comedy program in 2003. She said she had a lot of fun in college and practically lived at CAPS.

She was on the volleyball team and helped start the school's dance team. She also received a student appreciation award.

Arbour recommends Humber's program to anyone considering a career in comedy.

"Humber really got me started," she said. "It taught me to hone in my crazy ADD funniness and how to market myself."

Teacher Rob Trick said Arbour stood out from the other students.

"She had experience in different fields like dance and acting so she knew more about the bigger picture. She had an understanding about the business that most students didn't and don't have," he said.

"She had a great awareness about how to market herself."

Arbour is comfortable with being herself. If that means rocking a sexy bustier and pink mini-

skirt, then so be it.

After all, she is the self-proclaimed "Barbie of Comedy."

And it works. Her hilarious antics never fail to prompt eruptions of laughter from the audiences.

She is also a regular on MuchMusic's *Video on Trial* and has appeared on TSN, ESPN, the W Network, the Comedy Network and on Radio stations across North America.

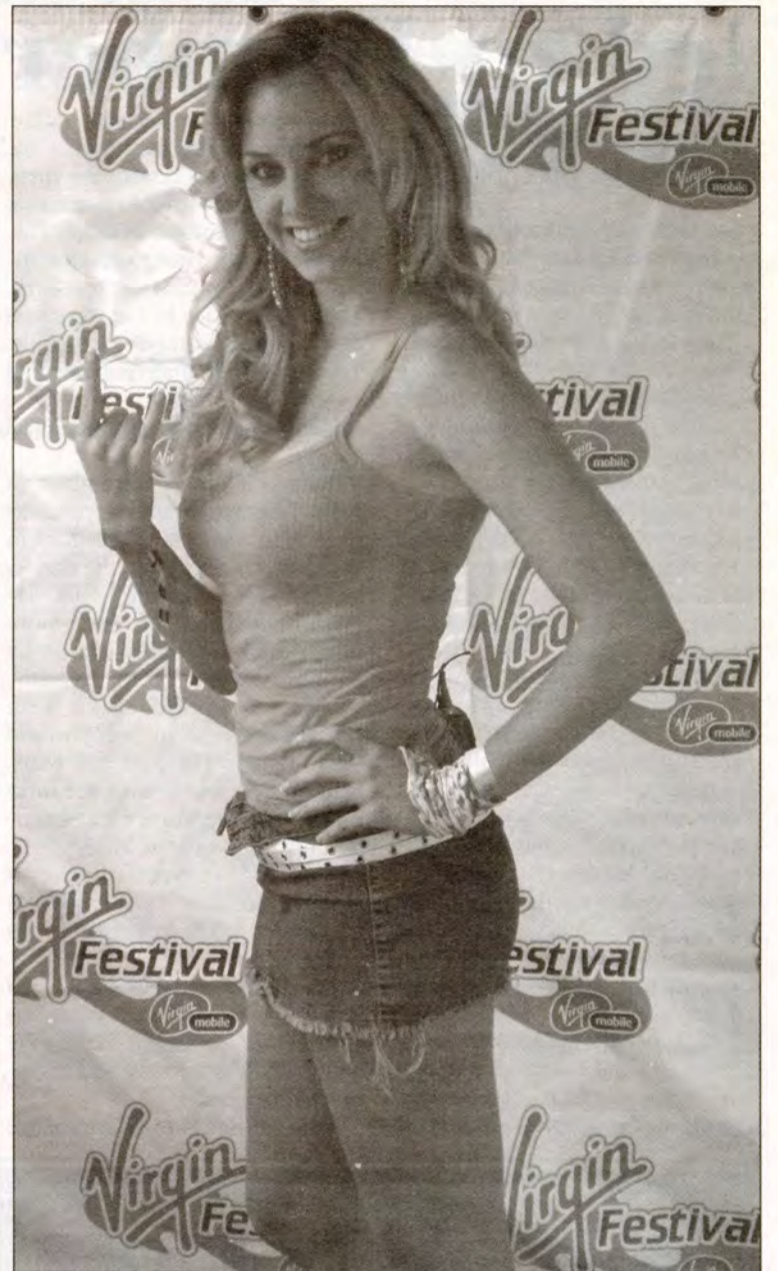
She is also proud to be the first female comedian to be featured in a calendar.

Arbour's 2008 calendar will be sold all over Canada and she describes it as "super sexy but pokes fun at typical calendar stereotypes."

Besides comedy, she choreographs, models, acts and produces stage shows. Last year she produced a show called *A Very Sexy Christmas Show* at the Diesel playhouse.

"There are so many things I want to do and will do. I want to do a sitcom and then maybe be the voice of a cartoon," she said.

"I'm going to be all over entertainment. I'm gonna be doing this til I die."



Courtesy

Arbour counts *The Simpsons* as one of her many influences.

Ensemble jazzes up Lakeshore

Nicole Lane
A&E REPORTER

Audience members had the pants scatted right off last Wednesday night at the Mainstream Jazz and Vocal Jazz concert.

The concert at Lakeshore featured Humber faculty Pat LaBarbera and Trish Colter's esteemed ensembles, of mostly third- and fourth-year students.

The night started off with the Vocal Jazz Combo, which consisted of eight vocalists accompanied by musicians on piano, guitar, bass, drums, tenor saxophone and trumpet.

The self-directed ensemble sang eight songs, four of which were arranged by their director, Colter.

The Vocal Jazz Combo was picked to attend the International Association of Jazz Education (IAJE) conference as one of ten vocal ensembles.

The international event is being held in Toronto for the second time and will feature workshops and performances by schools and professionals.

Colter said she is very proud of her ensemble and feels privileged to work with such a talented group of musicians.

"It is an extremely challenging art form to do and do well because they are singing and playing at such a high level," Colter said.

One of the biggest challenges for the ensemble was having the required sound ready to be considered for the IAJE, Colter explained.

The students within the ensemble are pleased with the experience.

Third-year vocalist Suzy Wilde said working with the ensemble has inspired her.

"In rehearsals, I get to hear people improvising all sorts of differ-

ent things and just really showcasing their talent," she said.

Wilde chose to go to Humber because she says it's the best music program in the country.

"I wanted to go to Humber so much that it was the only place I auditioned for," she said.

Fourth-year vocalist Andre Reid is also impressed with the program.

"It's taught me the skills I'll need for performing, writing and arranging songs and marketing myself," explained Reid.

"It's been a great experience gigging and learning how to do it."

The Mainstream Jazz Ensemble performed seven songs, three of which were originals written by members Ida Maidstone, Mikko Hilden and Carl Bray.

"They were very well prepared," LaBarbera said.

"Everything came off exactly the way we rehearsed it.



Nicole Lane

The Humber Vocal Jazz Combo brings down the house with its rousing performance.

Culture Vulture

What is the most anticipated film of 2008?



Courtesy

Sex and the City: The Movie
29%

- The Dark Knight 27%
- Indiana Jones 4 23%
- Cloverfield 14%
- Star Trek 7%

The Department of Canadian Heritage's decision to cut transportation services in March may mean fewer art and artifact exhibitions across the country. — *cbc.ca*

The road that led to Humber

Clinton Hosannah
A&E REPORTER

Students were educated on psychology and equality when author Bryan Walls visited Guelph-Humber.

The lecture explored Walls's book, *The Road That Led To Somewhere*. It is a story about his family's plight in coming to Canada by way of the underground railroad.

The book is a companion piece to the Pen or Pencil Mentorship Movement course, developed by the National Alliance of Faith and Justice, of which Walls is a member and facilitator.

Walls said no race is above the guilt of man's inhumanity to man, pointing to the conflicts between the Hutus and the Tutsis in Rwanda and the Catholics and Protestants in Ireland.

He said even though black people should forgive their enslavers, reparations are needed to educate and empower black youth. The economic growth of North America is in part due to the free labour of black slaves, he added.

"Black people are ranked number one in the world as a group who is the victim of hate crimes. But we are last on the list in terms

of economic progress."

Walls also addressed the proposed all-black school system that is gaining momentum in the GTA.

"I feel that we got to give multiculturalism a chance to work. There is no place in the work system where it is all black people. The benefits of the regular school system will not be shared by those students, namely a multicultural society."

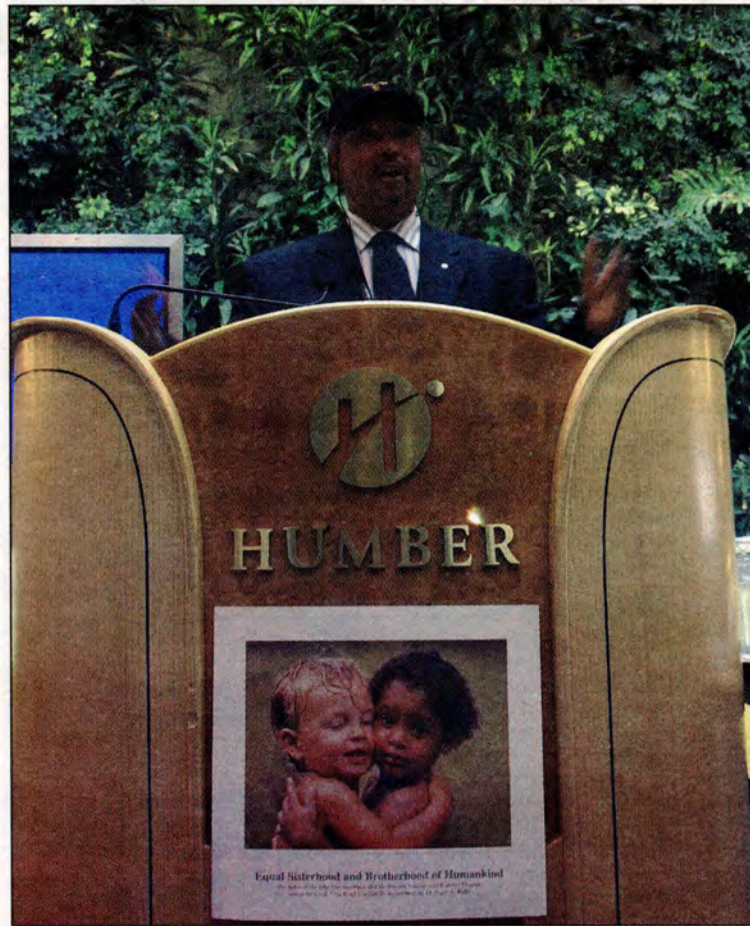
Walls is a direct descendant of John Freeman Walls, a runaway slave who made it to freedom in Windsor, Ont. through the underground railroad in the 1840s. He established one of the more important terminals used by escaping slaves to get to Canada.

Walls has worked closely with law enforcement in Toronto and the GTA for the past ten years, helping the members of the force understand the history and mindset of black people in society.

Head of justice studies at Guelph-Humber Dino Doria introduced Walls to working with police forces.

"I met Bryan Walls about ten years ago when I was in law enforcement," Doria said. He added Walls is a friend and someone he respects.

Walls continues to affect change



Andrew Raymond de Souza

The theme of Walls's book and the John Freeman Walls historical site is equal sisterhood and brotherhood of humankind.

among at-risk youth and the communities they live in and said this is especially needed now.

"Using psychology to change the way people think is a matter of survival in this post 9/11 world," Walls said. "This will create a

multi-disciplinary approach and creativity among at-risk youths."

Guelph-Humber head of psychology Rena Borovilos is a firm believer in psychology being a very useful tool in deterring and understanding criminal behavior.

"Dr. Walls has done so much for the community and we are very lucky to have him come from so far and be able to share his experiences and his family's experiences with us," Borovilos said.

Tea time raises toys for teens

Karolina Walczak
A&E REPORTER

The third annual Tea for Teens event and fundraiser aims at raising \$10,000 to provide gifts to teenagers just in time for the holidays.

Organized by the Junior League of Toronto, Tea for Teens was held at Lakeshore's Assembly Hall Nov. 28, while donations are still being accepted.

President of the Junior League of Toronto Elisa McFarlane said the Women's Habitat Shelter inspired the fundraiser.

"We discovered in the past when we were putting together holiday hampers for them there were lots of gifts for the young children but very little for the teenagers. So they are kind of the forgotten group and we thought this was a great way to honour them."

The amount raised is still being tallied and proceeds will go to shelters in the west end. Tea for Teens chair Kathy Jacques said this event is important for the teens in the local shelters.

"We all thought that there were a lot of teens, in these shelters in particular, that weren't looked after during the holidays and that there was a lot of gifts going to the young children," Jacques said. "We hope we are filling that gap a little more."

Event attendees were asked to bring an unwrapped gift, a gift certificate, or make a donation for a gift. More money was collected through selling raffle tickets and a variety of small shops set up at the Assembly Hall featuring anything from jewelry to personalized pajamas.


"I think the most fun thing here is the unique boutique," McFarlane said. "You won't find these things at any other shop so the recipient will be delighted by the fact that they've got the only one of that."

After all the shopping was done customers could sit down and have a snack and a cup of tea. The event also featured musicians from the Kingsway Conservatory of Music.

Kingsway executive Sharon Burlacoff said the event was a great opportunity for some of her students to show off their musical talents and it's also one she is proud to support.

"The Junior League does a lot of work with women and children and being in the music business we deal a lot with children," Burlacoff said. "It's a great cause for us to come out to support something that has to do with the well being of children."

McFarlane said she hopes to surpass last year's revenues by the Dec. 21 close. "We always like to do a little better," McFarlane said.

 **HUMBER**
School of Media Studies
& Information Technology

Hit the Big Screen

Feature Screenwriting 1 (SCWR200)

Start Date: January 2008

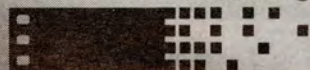
This online course offers a unique, interactive approach to screenwriting for feature film writers of all levels. Have your script reviewed and critiqued on a one-to-one basis by our experienced faculty story editors. At the same time, refine your craft by participating in our online workshops and discussions led by an accomplished industry professional.

Instructor: Elke Town

Story Editors: Maureen Dorey, Marguerite Pigott, Madeline Thompson, John Reardon and Bill Robertson

For more information, contact:
screenwriters@humber.ca or
call 416.675.6622 ext.4292

Humber School for Screenwriting



Teach English Overseas



- Intensive 60-Hour Program
- Classroom Management Techniques
- Detailed Lesson Planning
- Comprehensive Teaching Materials
- Internationally Recognized Certificate
- Teacher Placement Service
- Money Back Guarantee Included
- Thousands of Satisfied Students

 **OXFORD**
SEMINARS

416-924-3240 / 1-800-269-6719

www.oxfordseminars.ca

"This is the true nature of home – it is the place of peace; the shelter, not only from injury, but from all terror, doubt and division." – John Ruskin, social critic



Students present Geoff Smith (far right) with a cheque of \$2,400 which goes to charity.

Greg Coyle

Sheltering the unsheltered

Greg Coyle
A&E REPORTER

A group of 14 hospitality management students helped raise \$2,400 for the United Way by hosting a dinner in the Humber Room last Thursday.

More than 30 guests attended the event, called Providing Shelter to the Unsheltered. Following a short video showcasing the United Way's work, Humber grad and United Way Chair Kay Blair spoke about the importance of helping immigrants and youth in Toronto.

"Unless you invest in young people, our future is quite bleak," Blair said, pointing out that Toronto's poverty rate is the highest in Canada.

Geoff Smith, another United Way representative at the event, said Toronto needs to address the growing demand for jobs.

"I think a big thing is that Toronto is pretty much the heart-beat of Canada," Smith said.

"A lot of people come here for jobs, especially newcomers. There's so many people coming to Toronto right now, it's growing so fast, that I feel like the job market may not be strong enough or big enough to support it as of now."

Following the dinner of chicken, potatoes, and chocolate mousse, the students handed Smith a cheque for \$2,400, which included the \$45 ticket sales and profits from a silent auction. Smith was overwhelmed by the success of the night.

"I think the students did an excellent job putting everything together," Smith said.

"It really was beyond my expectations. I thought it was going to be a small dinner, but I feel like the crowd that they actually brought in was great. It brought awareness of the United Way and raised quite a bit of money. It's unbelievable."

The dinner ticket included a raffle with prizes such as one night at any Extended Stay Hotel and four gift certificates for a meal at the Humber Room. The silent auction featured jewelry sets and several books, which were donated by Health Sciences Associate Dean John Sousa. One of the winners, Ji-Myoung Park, enjoyed the evening.

"I find the atmosphere is very

ambient, people dressed very well," said Park, a first-year culinary skills student. "I'm enjoying the presentation of the food, just the whole atmosphere of the Humber Room is very appropriate for an occasion like this. I'm also feeding off the enjoyment of others."

"I feel like the job market may not be strong enough or big enough to support it as of now."

– Geoff Smith,
United Way representative

"It is a privilege to be able to help other people in need in whatever way possible," Park added. "It's very meaningful and it's a joy to be able to help the United Way."

The event was funded by HSF and the School of Hospitality, Recreation and Tourism.

Vernan Ratnasothy, a second-year hospitality management student and one of the organizers,

said he feels it was fantastic training for his future career.

"This is what we're going to do in our future, planning events and parties," Ratnasothy said. "We're learning how to control, how to manage events. Each of us had a responsibility because it's like real-life training. There was 14 of us, and we all had to work together to get it going, it was interesting."

He said the students chose the United Way as the benefactor because of its strong commitment to the community.

"This makes people more aware about what's going on in the neighbourhoods," he said. "United Way supports the neighbourhoods and people who need help. I would say this event helps to bring more awareness of their environment and the community."

Get it off your chest

Kyle Rindinella
A&E REPORTER

Everybody has a secret. Since 2004, some such secrets have been sent away for a stranger to collect, read and share with the world.

Frank Warren is the founder of Post Secret, an online art project for which people send in and share their secrets through artistic postcards. Warren created a showcase for the cards.

Getting his start in Washington D.C., people sent Warren their secrets and he displayed them to the world.

Since then he has published four books filled with some of the 1,000 postcards mailed to his home weekly.

In addition to publishing books and throwing art shows, he started www.postsecret.com, the website where he displays some of the post cards he received in the past week.

Warren said his selection process is simple.

"I choose ones that are surprising, funny, and hopeful and ones that sound authentic," he said.

The secrets come from all around the world. Warren guesses about 80 per cent come from the

U.S., 10 per cent Canada and the United Kingdom and the remaining 10 per cent from the rest of the world.

"Anything that offers the chance to communicate through art is great," said Humber photography professor Anne Zbitnew. "It is neat that people are willing to open up. You can't always say things face to face, but through art you are able to put your own experiences in it as well."

Zbitnew said she has had her own experience with letting out secrets.

She said that while driving near the Grand Canyon with a friend, she stopped at a huge cave that would clearly echo things they said including the slightest sound, such as a deep breath.

They decided it would be cathartic to each yell a secret into the cave. "It was great to at least have that secret out," she said. "It gets you off the hook. Keeping stuff in isn't always good."

Amanda Theoret, 19, participates in the online project and has sent in one of the 10 percent of secrets from Canada. She said sending it off helped her and made her feel a little better with the secret going public.



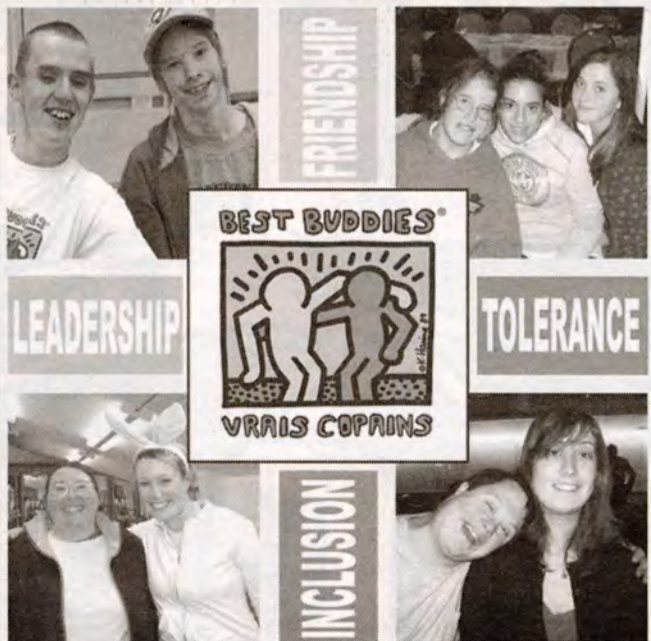
courtesy
Founder Frank Warren.

LSAT MCAT GMAT GRE Preparation Seminars

- Complete 30-Hour Seminars
- Proven Test-Taking Strategies
- Personalized Professional Instruction
- Comprehensive Study Materials
- Simulated Practice Exams
- Free Repeat Policy
- Personal Tutoring Available
- Thousands of Satisfied Students

Oxford Seminars
416-924-3240 / 1-800-269-6719
www.oxfordseminars.ca

BEST BUDDIES CANADA



VOLUNTEER

Everyone Needs A Friend


Best Buddies helps to create quality one-to-one friendships between individuals with intellectual disabilities and students. We help to provide experiences most people take for granted - like going for coffee, to a movie or enjoying the company of a friend.

**Become a Friend...
Volunteer for Best Buddies**

"Best Buddies has been one of the most fun and rewarding experiences for me. The joy your buddy will experience during your time together will give you a lifetime of memories. I encourage you to make an impact in someone's life by getting involved with Best Buddies!"

**Laura Ballantyne, Campus Coordinator
Humber College**

Humber College - Best Buddies Chapter
Laura Ballantyne Phone: 416-937-2142
Email: Lauraballantyne@rogers.com



The Bible, in all its translations and editions, is the bestselling book of all time with an estimated six billion copies made. – mentalfloss.com/blogs/archives/5886

Curious students learn interesting answers

Whitney Stinson
IN FOCUS REPORTER

Students were left pondering big ideas last Wednesday as minister and academic Tony Costa came to the student centre on behalf of the Lifeline Christian Fellowship Group to answer questions.

The questions were the result of student submissions after a long campaign.

Costa has a BA and MA in religion from the University of Toronto and is an ordained minister.

Using his knowledge and an array of philosophers' theories, he tried to answer the top three survey questions: What happens after we die? What is the meaning of life? And why do bad things happen to good people?

When speaking at a university or college, he takes into account that not everyone in his audience shares his faith.

"You have to realize you may be teaching in a class where you have Christians and non-Christians. When you deal with that, you have to look at the Bible through the historical critical method," he said.

This method uses hard facts that

have to do with the Bible, focusing on historical and literal points most historians and religious philosophers agree on.

"It's more of a scientific approach," he said. "We're basically dealing with the naked, bare facts."

It took him over an hour to answer these three in-depth questions, but he offered a quick synopsis of his goals for the speech.

"I'm trying to get people to critically ask the questions. The questions about existence, the origin of life, the meaning of life, why we're here, where we're going and the existence of moral values," he said.

"I believe that, outside an atheistic world view, these answers are not satisfactorily answered. In the absence of God, we have a very dismal existence.

"There's no purpose for our existence, there's nothing beyond the grave, there's no morals. Morals are social constructs, so we make them up as we go.

"So what I'm trying to argue is that the theistic view has a lot going for it. The arguments for God's existence are very compelling."

Answering questions like these is

a side job for Costa. He runs various university group functions throughout the week.

"I enjoy the academic slant to all of this," he said.

Costa has had an interest in the Bible since age 15. Since then, he's taken a more academic approach to the Bible, studying its archeology, history and different world views it provides.

"The arguments for God's existence are very compelling."

– Tony Costa,
academic & minister

He's taken an interest in spreading the word ever since, trying to study all sides of the story to provide his listeners with an all-encompassing version.

The Curious is a campaign that was started by the on-campus lifeline Christian fellowship group.

President of the club and third-year industrial design student, Nishent Das, said it was something

that was started last semester.

"We knew, being students ourselves, that these are the years where students wrestle with a lot of questions," Das said.

"The decision you make here will impact the rest of your life. This is the time when you have the ability to explore and to search out the answers.

"Knowing that, we surveyed our campus to decide what exactly questions students were wrestling with."

Once they knew the questions, they looked for a way to help answer them. They felt Costa was the most appropriate choice.

The first poster and survey stand for Curious was nothing more than a red question mark on a white poster.

"We wanted to generate interest. We left it just plain so people would come up to us and ask, what's this question mark, what is this Curious," Das said.

"We wanted the big red question mark as a symbol, we wanted people to associate the question mark with the questions they were having in their lives."

The lifeline Christian fellowship group was pleased with the

turnout and response it received.

Ryan Johnson, 20, an electro-mechanical engineering student, enjoyed the unique event.

"I think it's good to have somebody coming in to talk about the Bible and talk about God," he said. "It was good, I enjoyed myself."

Curtis Peters, 23, a media studies student at Guelph Humber, thought the crowd was engaged and that Costa presented his arguments in grounded theological discussions that can test the limits of one's mind.

"I think when people develop a world view and they stick in their group, they get close minded. It's good to have your world view challenged as an individual, even if you don't agree with what's being presented to you."

Das is hoping to plan more events like this in future semesters, so more students can engage themselves in critical thought.

Costa said he is confident in his delivery of this work, and thinks students responded well to the message.

"I think it's given them some food for thought," he said. "I hope this engages them to pursue these questions and go deeper."

CASH
FOR
BOOKS



**HUMBER
BOOKSTORES**

North Campus • ph: (416) 675-5066
Lakeshore Campus • ph: (416) 675-6622 x3236

Humber's men's basketball team is undefeated at the break and guard Jose Araujo leads the league with 35-made three point field goals – www.ocaa.com

Hawks swept in three sets against Division leaders

Mohawk's star Jasmin Cull records 15 kills against deflated Humber squad

Jamie Griffith
SPORTS REPORTER

All good things must end, as the men's volleyball team found out last Tuesday night, losing its first regular season game of the year in Hamilton against the Mohawk Mountaineers.

The Hawks lost in three straight sets to the undefeated Mountaineers by three, five and six points.

Mohawk retained its ranking as the province's best team with the win.

Coach Wayne Wilkins was frustrated with his team's effort.

"Certain guys worked hard, other guys didn't," he said. "It's about preparation, and clearly the guys weren't prepared for tonight."

After a tough first set, which saw

the Hawks never lead by more than one point, momentum seemed to swing in Humber's favour in the second.

The Hawks jumped out to leads of 7-3 and 11-5 while one of the Mountaineers top players, Adam Schiedel, was benched by head coach James Bradley.

"It's about preparation, and clearly the guys weren't prepared for tonight."

—Wayne Wilkins, head coach

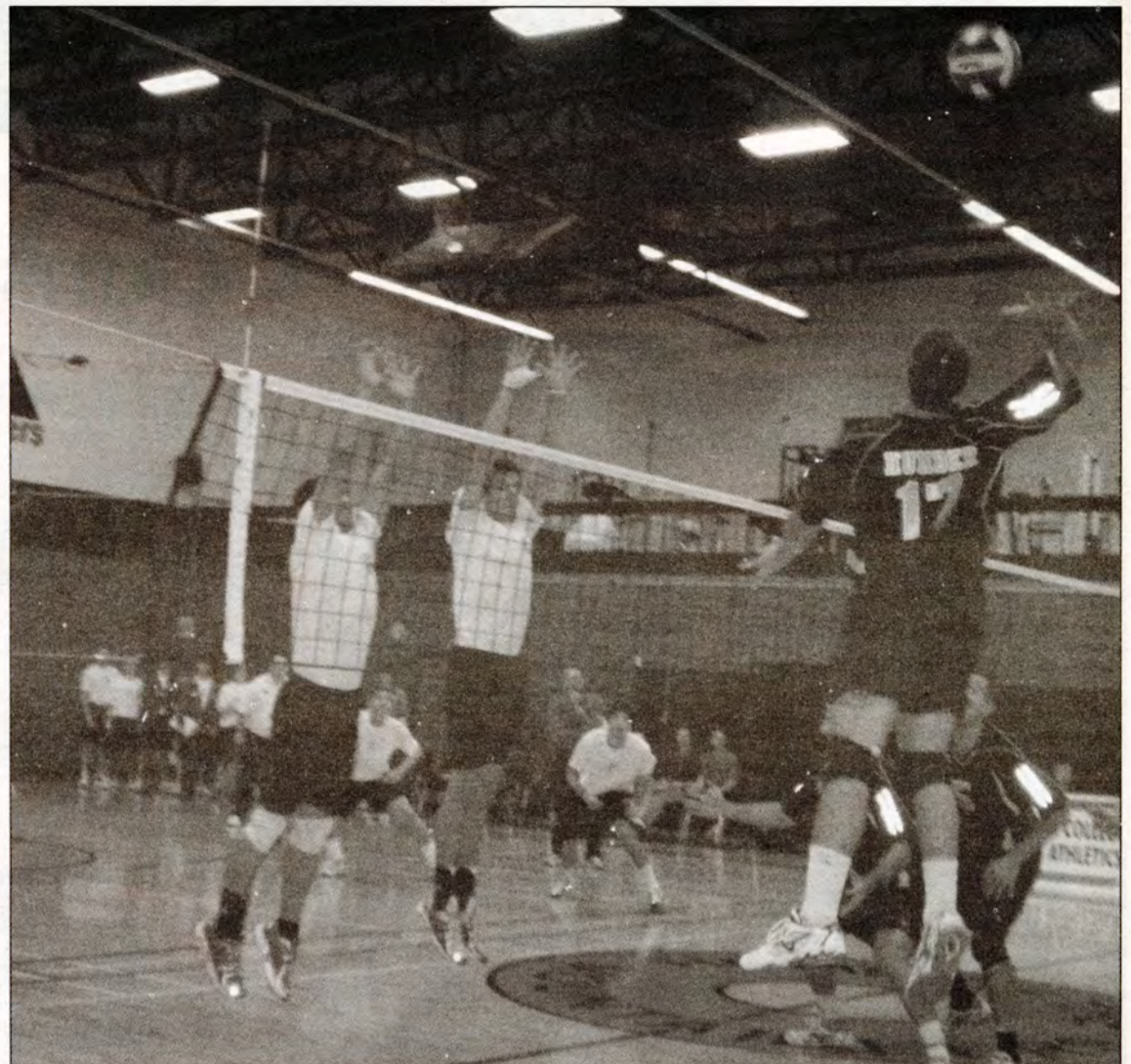
Hawks' defender Mike Smith said that was the game plan heading into the contest.

"You get under his skin, he'll get out, and all you have to do is concentrate on their big hitter, Jasmin (Cull)," he said.

Things didn't turn out as planned, as Mohawk clawed back into the game, tying the set at 16, before winning the set 25-20.

Wilkins said the second set was indicative of his team's performances so far this year.

"We've struggled with premature



Jamie Griffith

Jordao Casimiro (17) records one kill against Mountainers in Hamilton on Nov. 27.

winning," the coach said. "We believe we won the set before we hit 25. At 11-5, we thought we won the

game, but forgot we have to play the rest of the game."

The third set was close early on, but the Mountaineers pulled away late to win 25-19, clinching the match.

The Hawks' Clayton Johnston said it was an issue of mind, not body.

"Our heads weren't in the game, we weren't mentally there tonight," he said. "We didn't play as a team, we tried to do it all by ourselves, and it didn't work for us."

Smith said the second set was the difference in the game.

"Coach told us when you get them on the ropes, knock them out," he said. "If you want to play in the upper echelon, you need to play like you belong here."

Humber finished off the semester on a high note, though, after

beating the St. Clair Saints on Saturday night in four sets.

The Hawks play was sluggish early on in the match, but they fought through it for the win. Wilkins said it was likely connected to the loss to Mohawk.

"They took a big confidence shot on Tuesday," he said. "The one thing these guys have shown all year is their desire to be fighters."

The team suffered a setback, as Brendan Wong left the match early in the first set with a twisted ankle. Orlando Flores entered the game in his place, and played well enough to be named player of the game.

Afterwards, Wilkins described Flores' match as "awesome."

Looking ahead to next term the Hawks finish 2007 with a 5-1 record, good for second in the division behind Mohawk.

A Humber for All

Humber wants to remind you that

- ❖ All members of our community are entitled to participate fully in College life free from any barriers that contribute to a poisoned environment
- ❖ We strive to promote a culture of inclusiveness among our increasingly diverse community
- ❖ Our Human Rights/Complaint Process Policy is readily available in hard copy from the Human Resources Department or online at <http://humanresources.humber.ca/downloads/HumanRights.pdf>
- ❖ The prohibited grounds of Discrimination and Harassment are race, ancestry, place of origin, colour, ethnic origin, citizenship, religious creed, sex, age, marital status, family status, disability, sexual orientation, receipt of public assistance or pardoned federal offences or record of provincial offences as defined by the Ontario Human Rights Code.



You may seek confidential advice on matters related to harassment and discrimination from the College's Human Rights Advisors at Extensions 4948/4425 or from a Union Steward, Counsellor, Nurse or the HSF

Quick notes from court side

| | | | | |
|-------------|-----|-------------------|-------|------|
| 12/01/2007- | MVB | St.Clair @ Humber | 3-1 | loss |
| 12/01/2007- | WVB | St.Clair @ Humber | 0-3 | win |
| 12/02/2007- | WVB | Lambton @ Humber | 0-3 | win |
| 12/01/2007- | MBB | St.Clair @ Humber | 60-72 | win |
| 12/02/2007- | MBB | Lambton @ Humber | 72-95 | win |
| 12/01/2007- | WBB | St.Clair @ Humber | 62-55 | loss |

SPORTS

The Canadian Colleges Athletic Association Volleyball Athletes of the Month of November are Mohawk's Jasmin Cull and Humber's Landis Doyle. – www.ocaa.com

Standings

Men's Basketball West

| Team | Win | Loss | Tie | Pts |
|---------------|-----|------|-----|-----|
| Humber | 8 | 0 | 0 | 16 |
| Fanshawe | 6 | 3 | 0 | 12 |
| Niagara | 6 | 2 | 0 | 12 |
| Mohawk | 5 | 4 | 0 | 10 |
| Algoma | 5 | 4 | 0 | 10 |
| Sheridan | 5 | 1 | 0 | 10 |
| Lambton | 2 | 6 | 0 | 4 |
| St.Clair | 2 | 6 | 0 | 4 |
| Sault | 1 | 8 | 0 | 2 |
| Redeemer | 1 | 7 | 0 | 2 |

Women's Basketball Central West

| Team | Win | Loss | Tie | Pts |
|---------------|-----|------|-----|-----|
| Fanshawe | 7 | 0 | 0 | 14 |
| Niagara | 5 | 2 | 0 | 10 |
| Sheridan | 4 | 1 | 0 | 8 |
| Algoma | 4 | 3 | 0 | 8 |
| St. Clair | 3 | 4 | 0 | 6 |
| Humber | 2 | 4 | 0 | 4 |
| Mohawk | 1 | 5 | 0 | 2 |
| Redeemer | 0 | 7 | 0 | 0 |

Men's Volleyball Central West

| Team | Win | Loss | Pts |
|---------------|-----|------|-----|
| Mohawk | 5 | 0 | 10 |
| Humber | 5 | 1 | 10 |
| Nipissing | 4 | 2 | 8 |
| Canadore | 1 | 5 | 2 |
| Sheridan | 0 | 6 | 0 |

Women's Volleyball Central West

| Team | Win | Loss | Pts |
|---------------|-----|------|-----|
| Humber | 6 | 1 | 12 |
| Mohawk | 6 | 0 | 12 |
| Nipissing | 5 | 2 | 10 |
| Sheridan | 3 | 4 | 6 |
| Canadore | 0 | 7 | 0 |

Humber College's General Arts & Science Programs



Considering Your Alternatives for Next Semester?

Not Sure Your Current Program Is Right For You?

The **College Transfer Program** is designed to give you the time you need to focus your educational and vocational plans while you continue to earn college credits in General Education, Communications and Mathematics.

Courses include the College Seminar, which will help you to develop learning strategies to be successful in any college program.

Thinking Of Attending University?

The **University Transfer Program** will help you prepare to enter university in just two semesters while earning advanced standing credits at the same time.

Studies in literature, philosophy, political science, sociology and anthropology will help you develop the reading, writing and critical thinking skills you will need to be successful at university

Classes Begin January 7, 2008

Call today to find out more about the GAS Programs

416.675.6622 ext 4026

Humber.ca/gas

 **HUMBER**
Liberal Arts & Sciences