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Roses are red page 7



Something for the ladies page 10

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A taste of history

Travel and tourism student Latoya O Gilvie enjoys jerk chicken supplied by the Ackee Tree at the kick off of black history month Feb. 4 in the student centre. See *Black history* page 3.

New faculty needed to offset cohort

by Lori Paris

Despite an aggressive campaign to recruit prospective students, Humber College may be lacking in its preparation for the double cohort next year, the faculty union president says.

Union president Maureen Wall said college administrators have not answered her questions regarding the number of new teachers hired for the 2003/2004 school year.

"We've been asking college administrators what their plans are regarding hiring, but we have not been given any definite answers," Wall said. "[Administrators] have told us that they will be hiring people, but we also know that there will be a fair number of retirements."

Wall said about 30 teachers are eligible for retirement after this year, and the college has not given an exact number of teachers to be hired as either replacements or as new teachers to help teach the influx of students.

Program applications at the college have increased by 2,500 or nine per cent for the 2003-2004 academic year. Of the 2,500, 550 additional students will be accepted.

Humber's associate registrar Barbara Riach said the college was more assertive this year in its recruitment of high school students.

"We were really quite aggressive going into high schools," Riach said. "People think we just sat in our office and ate chips all fall, but it was actually very busy for us."

Riach added the impact of the double cohort on Ontario colleges will be apparent for the next few years.

"A lot of our students take a year off before they come to us or they take time off to figure out what they really want to do," she said. "So we expect to see an increase in numbers over the next five years."

Humber is hoping it will receive grants from the Super Build Growth Fund to help with the strain of the double cohort year.

Last year the college received \$17.8 million to develop the Lakeshore Campus, and \$28.6 million for the Humber-Guelph Centre.

Chief academic officer for the University of Guelph Michael Nightingale said the money from the grant will not only increase the space available for future students, but will also help to enhance the facilities already offered at Humber.

Super Build is part of a provincial government project to meet the growing needs of colleges and universities as a result of the double cohort year.

The Super Build program provides \$1 billion from the Ontario government and \$800 million from private and public sector partners to be distributed among the province's post-secondary institutions.

"There's an increasing number of university level students on North Campus [that will] change the demands on things like the library for example," Nightingale said. "So there is a big requirement to grow and develop that."

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Comments, questions?

E-mail Et Cetera at: humberetc@yahoo.ca

News

Al Qaeda wants war, Dyer says

Canadian journalist speaks to Humber students on war in Iraq

by Ben Rycroft and
Kate Schwass

The West is being blindly led into a war by a U.S. government that seems hell bent on overthrowing the Iraqi regime by any means necessary, but the real secret is that Al Qaeda wants war to break out more than the Americans do.

That's the message that well-respected Canadian journalist Gwynne Dyer sent loud and clear to about 150 Humber students and staff at the North Campus last week.

Dyer, published in more than 100 newspapers worldwide, argued passionately that there are interesting links between the impending war on Iraq and the Al-Qaeda game plan. One, he said, is the fear in many Muslims that they have failed in their religious duties, a fear which Bin Laden is translating into terrorist action. Another is increasingly negative Arab perspectives about the West.

A year and a half ago, the former Navy officer and military historian said, none of this "war talk" was on the table. Now, it's all that is on the table.

To understand what happened, he said, requires reflecting back to 1918 when the Middle East was conquered by Europeans and carved into 18 separate colonies. Since then, the area has been rife with conflicts, including the 1991 Gulf War. As well, Arab anger continued to

build in 1998, following the swift and strong U.S. military reaction to the bombings of two American embassies in East Africa.

It was a response Dyer said, that Al Qaeda anticipated and hoped for. He knew excessive U.S. military action resulting in some civilian deaths would increase Arab anger against Americans.

Dyer added that when Bin Laden noted the rising tide of anti-

"This could get very ugly unless the Americans know something I don't know about how to get Saddam."

American sentiment, he planned a much bigger attack - this time on American soil. Bin Laden knew such an attack would send the U.S. into a fury resulting again in massive military strikes, involving civilian deaths, and would play right into Al Qaeda's hand.

"But this is not about Muslims versus the West," Dyer said.

What it is, he said, is a culmination of Arab anger and fear at a number of things that have happened in their part of the world. Repeated conquests by Europeans sowed the



Gwynne Dyer spoke to 150 students at Humber's North Campus last week about the impending war on Iraq and Al Qaeda's plan to increase Arab anger against the United States.

seeds of anger, seeds fertilized by poor economic conditions for the majority of Arabs. And, probably more important recently, has been a growing fear for many that they, as Muslims, have strayed from their religious duties to put full Islamic governments in place.

Bin Laden, he explained, wants his network to be pan-Islamic and to that end has strategized on how to get people into the street so that Al Qaeda can overthrow a government and take over power.

He'll get that in Iraq, he said. The threatened war with Iraq will be fought in the city of Baghdad and will result in street fighting, since most of the military's high-tech weapons wouldn't work at such close range.

As well, Iraqi president Saddam Hussein would most likely hide in a civilian area close to a building such as a hospital causing many civilian casualties.

"Street fighting creates the worst casualties for armies. This could get very ugly unless the Americans know something I don't know about how to get Saddam," Dyer said.

He argued that after September 11, President Bush had to "whack" someone. But at the end of 2001, he

should have declared a victory and brought the troops home because Bin Laden was on the run and the United States had fought back. Bush should have also said he would continue the war on terror, but that it would be low profile.

"It's what he should have said. Instead he said he'd discovered the axis of evil," Dyer said.

War will likely happen, he point-

ed out, because the American government is absolutely fixated on the notion that they can't let this happen again. As well, Bush had his highest approval rating after September 11, 2001 and needs that to continue.

"You can see it starting to happen. It's going to be a bad year," Dyer said.

With files from Diana Matlashewski



Humber students listen attentively to Dyer's speech and his opinion on U.S. action against Iraq and its consequences.

Suspect claims he was beaten first

by Stephanie Crosby

A Mississauga man, charged with assault in a beating incident at Woodbine Centre, Feb. 8, says he himself was handcuffed, forced to the ground and beaten.

Hassan Saeed, 35, said he was leaving a bazaar at the mall with his wife and two young sons around 9:15 p.m. when an officer, being paid to act as security at the event, pushed past him.

A group of teenagers were supposedly trying to get into the bazaar without paying, which started a commotion at the doors.

Saeed said he saw his son getting pushed by the officer inside the doorway, so he asked the officer to stop. He said he was then punched and kicked.

"All I was trying to do is protect my son," Saeed said.

The incident happened in front of a number of witnesses including Saeed's wife and children.

"They were telling me to shut up you f***ing Indian and shut up tough guy," Saeed said. "I am a very peaceful guy."

After a squad car arrived at the Woodbine Centre, Saeed was told he was being arrested for assaulting the

officer, was given notice of when to appear in court, and then was allowed to leave.

"I would have just gone home without saying anything if they didn't ticket me," Saeed said. "But now I'm considering pressing charges."

Afterwards, Saeed went to 23 Division with his family and two witnesses to report the assault from their point of view.

The accused officer is said to be from 12 Division, according to Saeed. Sgt. Bryan Lupson of 12 Division said he doesn't know who the officer involved is and had not heard the details of the incident.

"I wouldn't want to know about every allegation," Lupson said. "There are so many allegations against police officers that I don't need or want to know about all of them. If the officer is convicted, then by all means, let me know."

Saeed said he was not sure whether or not he will press charges and was hesitant to say anything further.

"I'm not sure if talking about it would hurt my case," Saeed said.

Saeed said his children have been very upset since the incident.

He will appear in court on assault charges on Mar. 24.

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Humber celebrates Black history

Steel drums and free Caribbean cuisine kicks off festivities

by Sam Toman

Humber students got a taste of island life last week as Black history month kicked off with a bang of steel drums.

The Caribbean Culture Society aimed to raise awareness for Black history month with free Caribbean food provided by the Ackee Tree. Earl La Pierre, also known as Eman, played his steel drums to help lighten the mood in the Humber Student Life Centre.

The festivities, which began Feb. 5, will see many more events showcasing black culture at Humber College.

"It's a fairly large community who like to get involved and we've had good turnout at all the events," said Rishi Gupta, HSF vice president of Campus Life. "There's the Bob Marley Pub at Caps. They're bringing in special DJs."

As students enjoy the festivities during Black history month, one student said other cultures should also be celebrated.

"I don't even think there should be a month that's just for black people," said Latoya O'Gilvie, a Jamaican-born tourism student at



Students line up for jerk chicken and other fine Caribbean cuisine at the student centre last week celebrating Black history month.

Humber. "What about all of the other cultures that suffered? They don't have their own month."

Black history month will feature several more events enlightening the Humber community to the many facets of black culture. HSF is

hosting "Urban Flava" on Feb. 18, featuring various live acts including breakdancers, dub poetry and singers.

Policy under review

Teachers want new rules for rest stops

by Patrick Kane

Students may have to cross their legs and hold it in a little longer during exam periods in the near future.

In a meeting held last semester, Humber's Academic Council encouraged a review of a college policy on washroom breaks during tests and examinations.

The review was prompted by teachers' concern about students who use the washroom break as a way to cheat on tests.

"One option would be for the student to go [to the washroom] but not be allowed to return once he or she leaves and another would be to run longer tests into two halves with a break in between," said Richard Hook, Humber's vice president academic.

James Wallace, who is enrolled in the Computer and Network Support Technician program, said a

policy would be a helpful guide to distinguish between legitimate cases and inappropriate behaviour, but that such a policy may be difficult to implement.

"One option would be ... to run longer tests into two halves with a break in between."

"Dividing the tests up into two halves inconveniences students who like writing tests in one sitting," Wallace said.

"I think restructuring the way exams are held for something as small as washroom breaks would upset some people."

The idea of governing washroom

breaks has become an issue after some recent confrontations between teachers and students. One incident has already led to the expulsion of a student.

Though some faculty is in favour of creating a policy to help eliminate such confrontations, there are some students that remain opposed.

"You can't stop someone from going to the washroom because it infringes on our most basic rights," said Kera Tassi, first-year General Arts and Sciences student.

Many of Humber's schools have rules that deal with washroom breaks during tests. The School of Health Sciences and the School of Social and Community Services tell students that if they leave in the middle of a test or exam that they cannot return.

At the meeting, Humber President Robert Gordon, said that a policy should be in place for the



Teachers voiced their concerns at an Academic Council meeting about students that use washroom breaks during exams to cheat.

entire college.

The idea of being escorted by campus security was briefly discussed at last month's council meeting, but Hook said that that option was unrealistic.

But some students support the idea.

"If someone really has to go to the washroom, then they won't have a problem with being escorted there. I think security is a minor issue if you are being honest," Wallace said.

Humber College's toilet policy is under review by the Academic Operations Group.

Elections to get face-lift

Changes made to campaign guidelines

by Vivian Song

Candidates for next year's student government will have to play by a new set of rules.

Humber HSF President Craig Wilson said the current student council has made significant changes to campaign policies and voting procedures for next year's governing body.

Among the campaign changes is the decision to ban candidates from using posters for campaign advertising.

"Last year, there were a lot of posters, and let's just say it was a mess," Wilson said. "We've taken that away from the candidates and we're going to put up posters for them."

Candidates can instead hand out flyers. The new policy is designed to encourage the contenders to meet with and talk to the students they hope to represent.

Another change to the 2003/2004 election will be the opportunity for students to vote online.

"We're hoping that, one, it'll be simpler for us to administer [the votes]. In addition, we expect a larger voter turnout," Wilson said.

He added that other schools with online voting have seen an increase in voter turnout by at least 40 per cent, and hopes to see the same at

Humber. HSF's 12,000-member student body currently averages a voter turnout of about 10 per cent.

"For how many people there are in the school, it's quite disappointing," said Jennifer Green, a second year Business Administration student, running for next year's Vice President Campus Life.

This year's HSF executive also created 'middle-man' positions, called "Student Representatives," who will represent each program at the school.

"Representatives must get votes from at least 25 per cent of their program to get a nomination," Wilson said. "No matter how big the program, they will have to meet 25 per cent of (the students in it) because they are going to be representing them."

Wilson said that student representatives should help encourage involvement in the school and facilitate the election of directors.

In previous years, students needed to get 50 signatures from their particular school of study to be nominated as a director, regardless of the school's population.

"Some schools have 3,000 people, some have as few as 600 people, and it didn't make any sense," Wilson said.

Student Representatives will then have to appoint school directors amongst themselves.

James Bishop, director of Business, said the new structure for student council is a great idea.

"I don't know if it's ignorance or misinformation, but this will get people involved," Bishop said.



Humber students can expect a number of changes to the way elected officials run their campaigns. Campaigning begins Mar. 3.

"We'll have knowledgeable people out there to disseminate information."

It was a tight victory last year for VP Administration, as Nadia Conforti beat out her competitor by only two votes.

Meanwhile, four candidates have declared they will run for President, three for VP Campus Life and two for VP Administration. All the candidates had to submit 100 names to support their nomination.

Bishop's advice to next year's

student government is to be proactive about student affairs. He also emphasized the importance of communication.

"It's definitely important to work as a team," Bishop said. "Everyone should be on the same page and be involved. Gather a census of people's complaints or praise, because you're the one representing them."

The nomination period ends Feb. 20 and campaigns run from Mar. 3 to 14. Students can vote from Mar. 18 to 20.

Helping boost job placement

College to score more internships

by Leslie Fleischer

Recognizing the value of field placements for students, the college will include them by next fall for

every program that warrants internships.

Humber vice-president of academics Richard Hook said the career preparation internships provide for students is invaluable.

"College is fundamentally focused on career advancement," Hook said. "It's a great challenge. Employers are looking for experience."

He added the job of Humber College is to ensure students are employable and, to do that, "we need

to provide meaningful, successful, practical experience," Hook said.

According to Hook, internships serve three important and vital purposes.

"We assume between 20 and 25 per cent of people get jobs through their internships."

poses.

"First of all, they give experience for a graduate's CV. And they should be able to get a reference. Secondly, they provide a way for students to apply and reintegrate what the students have learned. And finally...it provides an affirmation that the college and students are getting something out of the programs,"

Hook said.

Karen Fast, manager of the career center and career advancement service at Humber, sees other benefits as well. "We assume that between 20 and 25 per cent of people get jobs through their [internships]."

Not all programs will have field placements added to the curriculum. Dr. Hook said that for some programs, internships would be redundant. The theatre program, for example, has a lab component in which professionals are brought in to help the students with their productions.

Applied Technology and the School of Business are among the Humber programs that will benefit from the new mandate.

Hook feels strongly that the mandate he initiated will help prepare Humber students for success. "Humber is critically concerned that the students get really useful experience."

World Digest

by Joel Hoidas

Bomber gets five years for killing 329

CANADA
Inderjit Singh Reyat has been sentenced to five years in prison after cutting a deal and pleading guilty to manslaughter of 329 people in the deadliest act of terrorism in Canadian history.

Reyat admitted he acquired materials to make the bomb that detonated on an Air-India flight from Canada in June of 1985 that killed everyone on board - including 278 Canadians.

In exchange for his admission, the court accepted that he did not make the bomb, does not know who placed the bomb on the plane, and did not intend to kill anyone.

bin Laden calls on Iraqis to terrorize

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
An audio tape with what is thought to be the voice of Osama bin Laden was broadcast on al-Jazeera satellite station in the Middle East on Feb. 11.

The voice called upon all Iraqis to suicide-bomb the United States and defend themselves from an American attack.

Before the broadcast, U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell read a transcript of the tape and said that it proves why everyone should be concerned with Iraq's ties to terrorist organizations.

Killer spotted from movie Hannibal

ENGLAND
A hunt for one of America's most wanted has been going on in Britain for over a year, after a man recognized a picture he saw in the movie Hannibal.

The face of James "Whitey" Bulger, 73, wanted in connection with the killing of 19 people, can be seen on the FBI's "10 most wanted" list on the FBI Web site in the movie. The British film fan recognized Bulger as someone he had met several times.

Guilty hockey dad seeks new trial

UNITED STATES
A man convicted of beating his son's hockey coach to death is seeking a new trial, saying the prosecutors withheld evidence from the defence.

Thomas Junta was convicted of involuntary manslaughter in Jan. 2001 for the beating of coach Michael Costin and a fellow hockey dad on July 5, 2000.

John B. O'Connor, who was Junta's lawyer, said the Committee for Public Counsel Services will file the motion in Suffolk Superior Court on Feb. 17.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To submit a letter, include name, email and phone number to humberetc@yahoo.ca

Warnings issued in phone scam

by Ron A. Melihen

Calling an 809, 284 or 876 area code may cost you more than \$2,400, thanks to a phone scam spreading through the GTA.

"If you receive a call telling you that you've won something or that it is an emergency that you call back the number provided, don't do it," warns Brian G. Fisher regional intelligence co-ordinator of the OPP.

If you call from Canada or the United States you will apparently be charged \$2,450 per minute.

Joe Gallizzi of Toronto was burned by the scam and is fuming.

"I got a call asking me to call a number so I could claim a big prize," Gallizzi said. "Someone answered the phone and asked me to hold. After a couple of minutes I hung up and 2 weeks later I got a \$2,500 phone bill."

He attempted to remedy the situation by calling his phone provider and found out there was nothing they could do about it. They told him that they simply provide the billing for the foreign company.

These area codes, based in the Bahamas, can be used as a pay per call number just like 900 numbers in Canada and the United States.

However, there are no restrictions on these codes as there are on 900 numbers.

Nine hundred numbers require that you be warned and notified of charges and rates involved when you call them. There is also a time period in which you can terminate the call before being charged. But no such regulations exist on the three specific codes used in the scams.

Officials at AT&T said to be wary of the 809, 284 or 876 area codes. Once the phone is answered, the caller will be forced to pay because they dialed the number.

\$10,000 US up for grabs in car design competition

by Fernanda Caranfa

Four Humber students are hoping to take home the \$10,000 US first prize at the third annual World Automotive Design Competition.

Humber College, one of 13 international design schools, was the only Canadian school invited to participate in this year's competition.

Isobel Daniel and Alexis Eizinas, and Zenith Chance and Todd McDowell, all third-year

Industrial Design students, are competing as two separate teams against 68 entrants from North America, Europe and Asia. Their challenge was to create an ecologically friendly, realistically mobile and economical car.

"Alexis and I are not car fanatics. I like cars but I don't know a lot about them. It was the [design] process that helped us through it," Daniel said.

Daniel and Eizinas, two of only three women in the competition,

entered as a team partly because so few women take the challenge.

They used a universal design principal, taking into consideration different physical abilities and ages of the population.

Their design, called En-vie, is a two-seat commuter vehicle with a single door that swings up. The seats are placed back to back, but they rotate outward for entry. The rear seat can fold down for storage.

The En-vie runs on a hydrogen fuel cell and the exhaust exits the roof of the car as steam.

McDowell and Chance also entered as a team. They called their two-wheeled vehicle Ni'so, the Cree word for the number two.

"It's a housed bicycle with a symmetrical design," Chance said of their creation.

The electrical vehicle has a textured exterior with panels that can be removed to make it more compact for parking in small spaces.

The rear can be pushed in and extra seating can be attached in a line behind the driver. The vehicle is also equipped with a computer monitor to communicate with other drivers.

Both designs can reach a speed of about 100 kilometres per hour, but they are intended for local trips, not long distance travel.

Winners will be announced today (Feb.13), at the Canadian International Auto Show at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre. Design entries will be on display for the duration of the show, ending Feb. 23.

In 2002, Humber students took third prize but that placing doesn't put any pressure on this year's entrants.

"We're going to take first and second [prize] this year," McDowell said.

Second prize is \$5,000 US and third prize is \$2,500 US.

etc.



Humber student, Eric MacGillivray, would benefit from a college initiative to bring buildings up to code.

College works to make buildings more accessible

by Andrew Hetram

Humber College is not up to code when it comes to handicap accessibility in accordance with new provincial laws.

The new Ontarians with Disabilities Act requires all hospitals, colleges and universities to put together an accessibility plan by Sept. 2003.

In May 2002, Gary Jeynes, director of public safety at Humber College, hired independent contractors to conduct an accessibility study of Humber's North Campus to see what needs to be improved.

"Some of the buildings are 30 years old and were up to the old code at that time," Jeynes said. "Some of the changes recommended are not complicated and can be done easily while other issues that are complicated and more expensive will take longer."

Jeynes wouldn't say exactly what the auditors found, but did say that the audit was a huge step in completing the accessibility plan.

"The next step is putting together an advisory committee on accessibility issues," Jeynes said.

The committee will consist of students with disabilities and staff

and will help to establish what issues need to be addressed first, Jeynes said.

Changes that involve construction can be costly. Any new buildings being built at Humber, including the Guelph-Humber building and residences, will be compliant with the Ontarians with Disabilities Act.

Recently Humber installed a new elevator behind the stairs in building E at North Campus across from the bookstore along with a ramp that cost \$600,000.

Under Section 3.8 of the 1997 Ontario Building Code, Humber is required to have a barrier-free design. Some handicapped students have noticed that not all doors are equipped with wheelchair access.

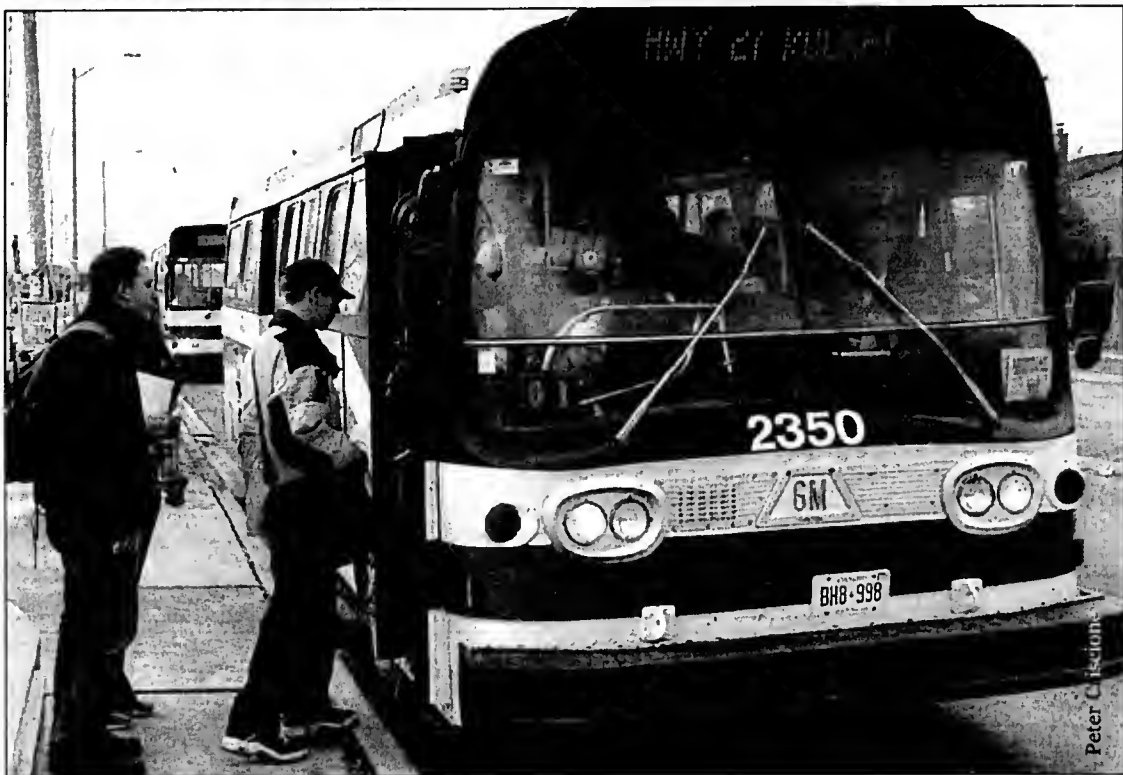
The main doors at the registrar's office and hospitality office are not equipped with wheelchair access.

This can be a barrier to handicapped students because the doors open outward making the offices particularly troublesome to access.

"I usually get a friend to come with me if I have to go into the registration office," said Leena Gosal, a community through co-operative education student.



Third year Industrial Design students hope to take home first prize in the World Automotive Design Competition this month.



Humber College is taking part in a pilot program with the TTC that will give students a 12 per cent discount on the price of a regular Metropass. The monthly pass will cost \$87 instead of \$98.75.

VIP treatment for Humber commuters

by Laura Youmans

Humber College is involved in a pilot program with the TTC that will give student commuters a 12 per cent discount off the regular Metropass price. Humber students will pay \$87 for the monthly pass instead of \$98.75.

The VIP discount program, passed by the TTC just before Christmas, allows a select group of schools to purchase Metropasses in bulk and sell them to students at a discount price.

Humber was the only college selected to participate in this new pilot program because it has been an active force lobbying for a transit discount. Ryerson University, York University and the University of Toronto collaborated with Humber to form task groups for the cause.

"We began targeting commis-

sioners in the TTC and ... MPs that support transportation issues," said Nadia Conforti, VP administration at North Campus. "Since we will be purchasing more than 500 passes, we will have a 12 per cent discount."

Students who have purchased the Metro Discount Pass (MDP) this year can still receive the added discount from the student VIP pass.

"The TTC is creating an administration to let students be able to do that," Conforti said. "Right now, the MDP adult metro pass is a 4 per cent savings compared to the VIP 12 per cent savings."

But it will take some time to get the student discount program up and running, Conforti added.

"We are hoping by the beginning of the summer semester it will be set up and by next year [September], we'll have the administration set

and ready to go.

The Humber Students' Federation will set up a distribution centre at the North Campus student centre where the Metropasses will be sold.

"This is just a pilot program," said Marilyn Bolton, TTC public affairs. "If the public or students do not support the program, it will be dropped."

A cut in government funding could also jeopardize the VIP program for future years.

"The TTC wants to give students a discount, but the problem is there will be more riders, which need more buses which equals a dedication of more money," Conforti said. "The only threat is that the funding may not be there from the government to support the program in a proper way."

Activists take pre-emptive strike on war

by Frances Petrucci

Peace activists across Canada and around the world are preparing to launch a major pre-emptive strike against war in Iraq.

Peace demonstrations are planned for Feb. 15 in at least 50 towns and cities from Victoria to St. John's as part of an international day of action to stop the United States and its allies from attacking Iraq. The last global anti-war demonstrations, held on Jan. 18, brought more than 10,000 people into the streets of Toronto alone.

"We're seeing the strongest peace movement since the Vietnam war [in the late 1960s]," said Josh Matlow of the Canadian Peace Alliance. "It may even be stronger."

Toronto Police expect the Feb. 15 demonstration to be orderly, but will be prepared to handle any potential problems, said Sgt. Robb Knapper. He added that police never announce in advance how many officers will be assigned to cover specific events.

"We have to staff for a worst-case scenario," Knapper said. "If we don't, and something happens, we'll be criticized for not staffing properly."

RCMP spokesman Corp. Michelle Paradis said the Mounties - responsible for security at the U.S. Consulate on University Avenue - also expect the Feb. 15 demonstration to be peaceful but are "prepared for everything."

"When you get such a large group together there's always a possibility [of problems]. We haven't seen any in Toronto in an awfully long time, and we hope that continues," Paradis said.

On Feb. 5, U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell presented evi-

dence to the United Nations that Iraq has been concealing weapons of mass destruction from UN inspectors. President George W. Bush has since been pressing world leaders to agree that time has run out for voluntary disarmament and that force must be used to topple Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

Though no specific dates have been given, Bush and other senior members of his administration have said in recent days that a final decision on war will be made within weeks.

Matlow said the biggest difference between the "new" peace movement and the protests of the Vietnam era is that people today are taking action before the beginning of war.

"As much as Bush wants to take a pre-emptive strike [on Iraq], we're taking a pre-emptive strike on war," Matlow said. "We're sending a very strong message before this [war] happens that we're not going to stand for it."

Matlow said support for the peace movement is coming from virtually all segments of Canadian society and all parts the political spectrum.

"It doesn't really matter what your faith or background is, or whether you're right or left," he said. "It's obvious that everyone is on board right now."

Scheduled speakers at the Toronto demonstration include federal NDP leader, Jack Layton, and head of the Canadian Labour Congress, Ken Georgetti.

The march is set to begin at 1 p.m. at Dundas Square (Yonge and Dundas). For more information, visit the Canadian Peace Alliance Web site (www.acp-cpa.ca) or call 416-588-5555.

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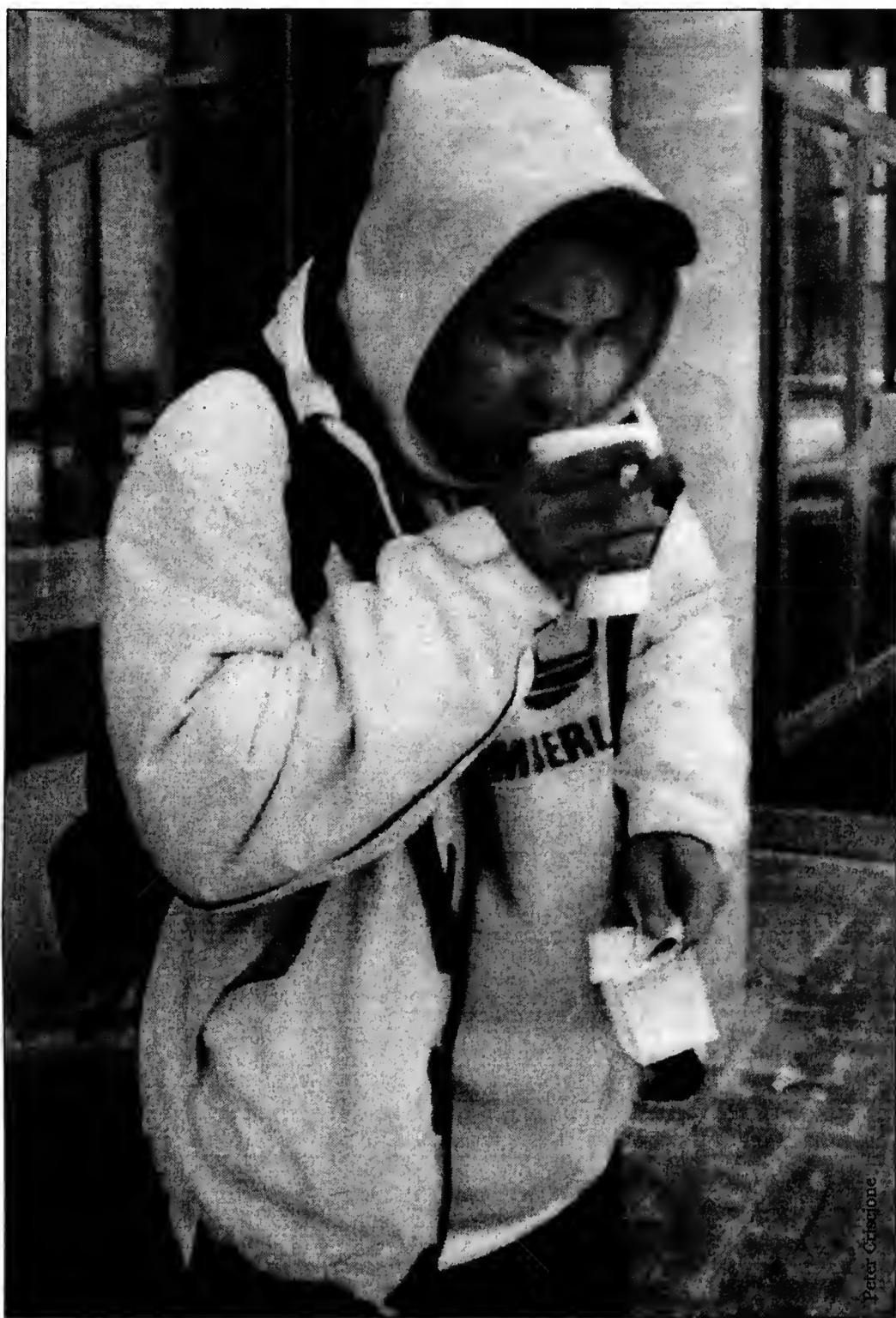
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It's darn cold!



Third-year Business Administration student Andrew McPherson braved below zero weather yesterday with a good old fashion cup of joe. The city of Toronto issued its fifth severe cold weather warning of the year. Temperatures dropped to -20 C with the windchill Feb. 12.

Valentine's fair a flop

Lack of publicity blamed for low student turnout

by Amie Bozzo

Everything didn't come up roses at Humber College's Valentines fair last week. The three vendors at the North campus fair said they were led to believe the event was going to draw a bigger turnout.

Instead, they said in fact, most of the students who visited the booths weren't aware the fair was taking place.

"We came here today under the assumption this was going to be a craft show, that all participants were people who hand craft their own items," said Aida Nezie, a veteran of craft shows and one of the vendors at the event.

"However, when we got here, we realized there were people with flea market products and uncrafted items, which I thought a little bit deceiving because craft shows are on a different level than a flea-market booth would be."

Nezie and her partner, mother Nadia Nezie, were at the show to promote their company Memory Lane, a specialty flower and ceramic business. Having 10 years experience in the craft business, the Nezies said they were disappointed with the organization of the fair.

At \$150 for one day, Nezie said she wasn't getting her money's worth.

"What we paid was extremely overpriced for one day, and not making any money in return and not having the opportunity to hand out business cards to promote the business makes it twice as upsetting," Nezie said.

Despite the low turnout, however, the Humber Student federation did not lose revenue, collecting \$53.50 per vendor from the event's

organizer Marcia Levy. The federation charges this base fee regardless of the event's success. No commission is generated from sales at the event.

Marcia Levy, the event coordinator, said she advertised in the Humber newspaper. "It's a free newspaper. I assumed your students were reading it."

Levy bought a three-by-two inch ad in the Jan. 30 edition of the newspaper.

"I was rather disappointed that many students were coming up and saying they didn't know it was going on," she said.

The Humber Student Federation did not advertise for the show.

Nezie wasn't the only vendor frustrated with the event's turnout. Janet Cuff of Designer Babies was also, unimpressed with the day's event.

"A lot of students do not know we're here," Cuff said. "I'm getting questions like, 'are you coming back tomorrow, my God I didn't know you were here. I didn't bring money because we didn't know you were here. I was told this was advertised and the students are saying it's not being advertised.'"

She said in the future she wishes organizers would be more honest. "I was told there was a lot of spots sold and that it was well advertised."

I feel that [the fair] was helpful for students who are too busy to go shopping," Humber student Allison Gittens said. "But I didn't know about the Valentine's Day sale or fair."

Heather Wenzel of The Chocolate Tree also had a booth at the fair where she sold hand made chocolates.

"There hasn't been as big of a response as I was hoping. I don't think it was promoted as well as it could have been," Wenzel said.

However, Wenzel said her company's name is out there, which she hopes will pick up business.

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Editorial

Fidelity is sexy, so are boobs

When searching for a partner or mate in life, chances are that half of you, our wonderful and faithful readers, pen fidelity at the top of your must have lists.

Strange, certainly, but true nonetheless.

According to a recent Leger Marketing survey, 54 per cent of women and 47 per cent of men say that faithfulness is a key prerequisite for a partner to have.

The next top quality Canadians look for is respect for the other person's independence, according to 40 per cent of women and 36 per cent of men.

Third in line for men is intelligence. And for women? The ability to listen. Which isn't an endless search, girls. Just pry the remote away, strategically place it on your body and any man is all ears.

The Jan. 21-26 poll which surveyed 1,502 Canadians showed physical attraction was twice as important for men (26 per cent) than women (13 per cent.)

But let's face it, looks do matter. It's inevitable. A person's appearance is more often than not the initial attraction between two people, but according to the survey, good looks is not a must and certainly isn't the only thing that people are looking to find in a partner.

The physical aspect of a relationship is twice as important to men as it is to women. The survey showed 13 per cent of men deem finding a woman who is "good in bed" important. Six per cent of women said the same.

And while you're searching for Mr. or Ms. Right, why not prod your married friends for advice on relationships? According to a study published in the Journal of Marriage and Family, newlyweds, recently divorced couples and couples in long-term marriages will give you better advice than marriage therapists and professors.

But we could have told you that.

Letter to the Editor

World prepares for third international rally against war

Your last Humber Et Cetera issue carried a thoughtful and informative front-page article by Frances Petrucci about students and politicians who held a peace vigil against the looming threat of a second Iraqi war.

You included a picture of Clarkson Secondary School students demonstrating against the war. Perhaps in a future article you might also carry a picture of students from Humber College demonstrating against the war.

Petrucci pointed out that half the population of Iraq is under 18 years of age (hence considerably younger than the majority of Humber College student.) Many other journalists have also noted that this war would be a war - with the most high-tech war toys available today in the richest country in the world - against children who are starving and dying.

In the United States, a mantra about the hundreds of thousands of deaths of children (now estimated to

be over one million to have died under existing U.S.-led sanctions against Iraq) is repeated: "It was worth it," whatever this reference to "worth" might mean.

Critics stress that this war is motivated by imperial power, greed for oil, greed for political control, and greed for real estate in the Middle East.

And the children will pay.

Please continue your coverage. Because we all now live in a global village, many Humber students will

want to be reminded of the upcoming third international rally this week against the war.

Nina Butska, English Faculty

From the ED: There will be a peace rally on Saturday, Feb. 15 organized by the Coalition to Stop the War.

The rally will commence at 1 p.m. at the corner of Yonge and Dundas. For more information please visit <http://feb15.webhop.org>

Enough roses! Valentine's Day a pain in the petunia



by Hayley Stephens

Every holiday I agonize over the perfect gift to give my boyfriend. That is, every holiday except Valentine's Day. On this day, I don't buy him anything. And I don't want anything either. To us, Feb. 14 is just another day.

We're not the only ones who treat the day of love this way. A happily married friend of mine recently remarked that Valentine's Day is for couples who don't do anything special for each other throughout the year. And I agree.

The romantic hype that surrounds Feb. 14 forces many couples into a day of make-believe. While a woman waits for her man to redeem himself for the past 364 days that saw her without flowers, she never admits how little she has contributed to the relationship over the past year.

So, he goes out and buys a dozen roses. To him, it doesn't matter that the flowers have sat in the store for days and will only last for a few more. It also doesn't matter that they cost upwards of \$100. All that matters is he is off the hook until next year.

I used to work as a florist, so I am familiar with the forced romance of this day. Only about 20 per cent of our male customers had the foresight to pre-book roses. These were always the gentlemen who bought their wives flowers throughout the year.

The rest always seemed to

swarm in an hour before closing, frantic for the red rose. As I broke the news to them that we were sold out, their flushed faces drained pale. I tried to steer them away from their preconceived notions of what women want, towards yellow, orange, or white roses. Terrified to go home empty handed, they would settle for one of these.

I know some men out there do seek out thoughtful presents, or better yet, make them. Some men actually write poems, make CD's or place a scattered path of rose petals leading to the bedroom.

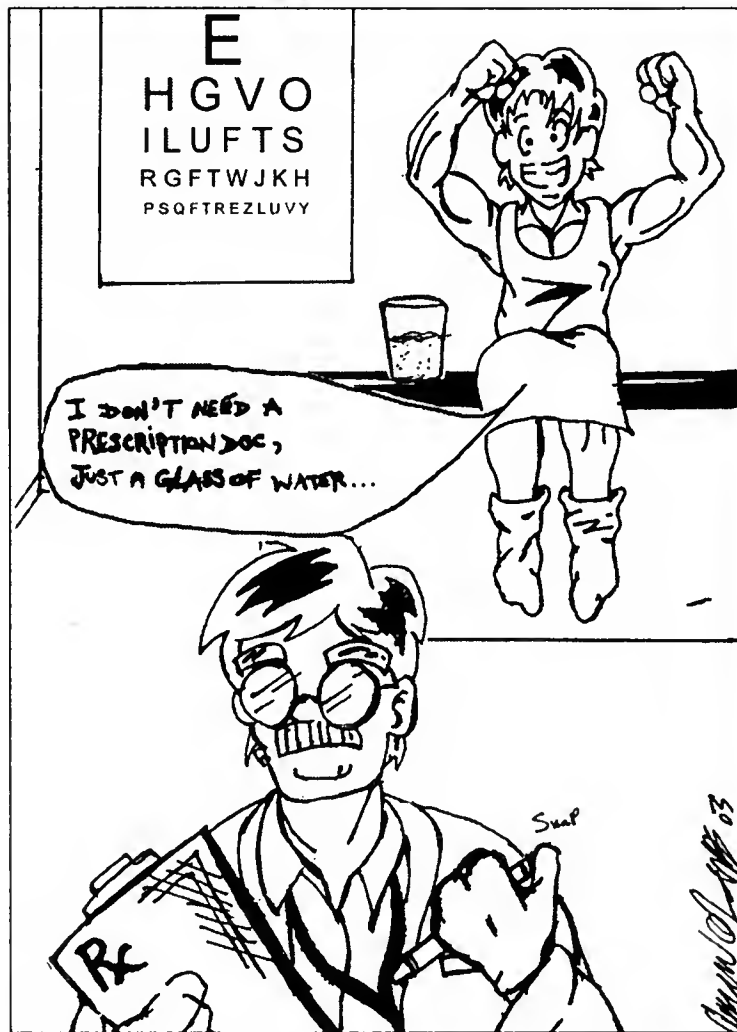
Last year, my boyfriend John wrote me a poem on a scrap piece of paper. I'm sure he did this an hour before coming home. He does everything last minute and thinks buying cards is a waste of money. But this way, the gift was ... him. It was something that was so small, yet so significant. I loved it.

Romance is not about giving a

red rose signifying "I love you." It's about saying it in a thousand different ways every day. It's about creating real moments together. It's about the thoughtfulness that accompanies one's everyday actions. It's about making the time for each other and recognizing what is important to one another.

This Valentine's Day, John and I will be in Las Vegas with another couple and four married men, minus their wives. Yep, that's right. Married men away without their wives on Valentine's Day. All of them are part of mature, loving relationships, so I'm assuming that the day's title is as meaningless to them as it is to me.

Throughout the evening John and I will inevitably separate, drawn to different games. The day will likely be special and it will have nothing to do with Valentine's Day, but everything to do with us.



Tests jointly funded by The Globe and Mail and CTV found traces of prescription drugs in the drinking water of four Canadian communities, including Montreal and Hamilton.

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Opinion

Romancing should be an every day affair



by Phill Feltham

I can see why some of us hate Valentine's Day. It's just another reminder that we're alone. Or maybe it's a reminder of how miserable we are with the one we said we'd break up with two years ago. Or maybe it's because it's a day we could all learn from.

I have always been a heavy supporter of Valentine's Day ever since public school, despite never getting enough of those innocent little "Be Mine" Valentine's Day cards exchanged during class.

But Valentine's Day has never really given anything back to me. So this year I plan on recording my annual compilation of sappy music and will lay awake all night wondering why I'm still single.

This wasn't me last year. Back then, it was the first time I had dated anyone on Valentine's Day, so I decided this girl would be spoiled rotten.

I was going to live up to all the hype without any pressure. I was convinced that this day would not end in tragedy.

It started with a teddy bear, a card with your cliché hearts and sappy sentiments, and a long three-page e-mail, completely about her.

It was valiant, if I do say so myself.

That Valentine's Day didn't end when the sun went down. Just like Keanu Reeves says to his ill-fated girlfriend in the chick flick, *Sweet November*: "Every day can be November." In this case, I thought every day could be Valentine's Day.

So, time and again after then, I'd plan these radical surprises. One day, when she came over to my room in Humber residence, she opened the door to find Christmas decorations all over my wall accompanied with the top ten reasons why I thought she was so wonderful.

The odd surprises continued into the months, but I was naive. I never thought how overwhelming such intensity could be, especially when you're only casually dating.

Eventually, I started to feel resentful, like I wasn't getting anything back. I was expecting her to pull down stars from the sky and present them to me on a silver platter. But that is too much for any one person to give. The Valentine's dream dawned with good intentions but plummeted with tragedy.

But I don't regret my Valentine's Day memories. It's a learning experience we all go through, even us late bloomers.

I do have a little more respect now for couples feeling the Valentine's Day crunch, but I still believe that Valentine's Day is a day like any other. And if two people love each other, they should show it every day.

Shopping was fun before storeclerks were stalkers



by Tamara Holmes

I've always found being accused of something I didn't do to be a conjectural slap in the face, especially when it comes to shoplifting.

I've had a job since I was 12 years old and, before I smartened up with money, had bought a lot of stuff, whether it was necessary or not.

In fact, from 1994 to 2000 I was undoubtedly Shoppers Drug Mart's largest contributing private shareholder.

I've never had the inclination to pocket something without paying for it. Whether I had the money or not, the fear invoked in me of dealing with my dad (who is employed with the police department) was more than enough of a deterrent.

Around the Humber College campus I've noticed that there are many venues and forums where the act of shoplifting would be seemingly easy.

I'm just observant. That doesn't mean I've participated.

So that's why the other day I was absolutely shocked that I was followed, questioned and then sternly told that I could no longer bring my purse into our campus bookstore. I had spent \$47.92 in there that day, and I resented every penny of it.

I had gone in for Mini DV tapes. I picked up three and carried them in my left hand before browsing the

software momentarily, pricing Adobe PhotoShop.

I then headed back into the book stacks, Mini DVs still openly in hand. I checked to see if a book I needed was available. It wasn't in stock.

Before approaching the cash register I stopped briefly to pick up the then-recent issue of *The New Yorker*.

Not that this has any relevance whatsoever, but I was dressed in a black skirt, tidy shoes and a dress coat, as I was heading off to do a newspaper interview.

... I was followed, questioned and then sternly told that I could no longer bring my purse into our campus bookstore. I had spent \$47.92 in there that day, and I resented every penny of it.

When I got to the cash register, I asked which credit cards were accepted or if I had to pay full cash. Does this sound like the dialogue of a shoplifter?

It was here that I realized I had been followed and signaled at by several of the bookstore clerks before it was stuffily suggested that I could no longer bring my purse, not even a backpack, into the store. It would have to be left at the cubby holes at the door from then on.

How about I just not return to your store?

Your prices are blatantly inflated

and your staff were insulting and embarrassingly suggestive.

Can you offer me the same protection? That my purse will not be subjected to theft? That someone else couldn't, mistakenly or not, take my purse from the cubby?

The International Protective Group recently conducted a private survey of all retail arrests in the Greater Toronto Area. It shows within two per cent of error that of 3,256 retail theft convictions in 2002, female adults and young offenders account for under seven per cent of all apprehensions each. Male adults are the largest number for shoplifting arrests with 63.43 per cent and young offenders with 24.49 per cent.

If you are convinced that profiling is the answer to your security needs, at least get it right.

But it's not. I urge you to devise better methods to prevent retail loss in the future rather than assuming the worst from your clientele. Being from a family of entrepreneurs, I understand that you work hard to remain competitive in business and that loss prevention is difficult to maintain.

We as students pay thousands per year in tuition, not to mention the added costs of living. Our hooks alone cost hundreds of dollars per semester.

We are at the post-secondary level. We are adults. We are committed to an education, not to committing petty crimes that could foolishly jeopardize our futures.

Your faculty and staff wake up each morning to hand together as a team and provide first-rate education and service. If you are going to continue to make assumptions, please assume that we're already at the level that you work daily to foster.

If you love them Michael, set them free...



by Joel Hoidas

I don't watch a whole lot of television these days, but when I heard about the tell-all Michael Jackson documentary which aired Feb. 6, I had to tune in - and so did 27 million other people.

After watching the documentary, *Living With Michael Jackson*, I think we all came to the same conclusion - Jackson should not be allowed to have children.

For me, the most shocking part of the documentary was not that he

claimed to have sleepovers with children who are not his or that he claimed he has had only two cosmetic surgeries - it is the way he is raising his children.

Early on in the two-hour show, Jackson prided himself on not following in the footsteps of his father, who abused him and his siblings when they were young. Though Jackson, now 44 years old, doesn't beat his kids, he sure is abusing them.

Everywhere Jackson goes hundreds, if not thousands, of crazed fans mob him for hugs and autographs. There is also always a sea of paparazzi looking to score a photo of Jackson's new nose or his attempt at growing facial hair.

And it is through this madness that he drags his children, whom he forces to wear masks to "hide their identity for their own safety."

It's pretty easy to pick your kids out of a line-up if they're the only ones wearing masquerade masks, Jacko. I'm sure if the children took off their masks, no one would know who they belonged to.

Though Jackson ... doesn't beat his kids, he sure is abusing them.

Jackson even lovingly calls his youngest son "Blanket," not because of the towel we all saw covering his face as he dangled over a balcony, but the fact that Jackson "blankets" his son with love.

Right.

The only way these kids will

ever have a chance to grow up normally is if they live with their mother or are taken to a foster home.

Under Jackson's care, the children are restricted and isolated. If it's possible for them to live a normal life, they must move away from Jackson's "freaky-deaky" lifestyle.

In the documentary, Jackson admitted to sleeping in the same bed as child actors Macaulay and Kieran Culkin. He said he still has sleepovers with a 12-year-old boy named Gavin, who he was holding hands with through one of the more disturbing interviews.

Jackson claims his conduct is not sexual, and since he is such a child in his own mind, he sees nothing controversial about his actions. This is even after he settled a sexual assault case involving a 13-year-old boy out of court for millions of dollars in 1993.

The day after the show aired, Jackson said he was outraged by the way he was portrayed and once again reiterated that he is a good father.

I would have thought after being ridiculed by the media for so many years, he would stop giving us so much material to work with.

I would like to know what goes on at Neverland when no one's watching. If Jackson was trying to act as normal as possible during this documentary, what is he like when there are no cameras?

He is a self-proclaimed child stuck in a man's body. A literal Peter Pan. So why is he raising children if he can't grow up himself?

Though it is tragic that he had his childhood ripped from him, it's no reason to do the same to his own children. If you love them Michael, set them free.

LifeStyle

Hey Cupid, need a little help?

Female-friendly sex shops are becoming very popular

by Sherri Wood

Female-friendly sex shops are making it easier for women to buy vibrators — on Valentine's Day and all year long.

The success of shops such as Good For Her on Harbord Street in Toronto, and the ground-breaking Good Vibrations in San Francisco, points to a marketplace that women find comfortable and empowering, said Carlyle Jansen, founder of Good For Her.

"A lot of women don't feel comfortable in mainstream sex stores," Jansen says. "It's because other sex stores are male-oriented and male-staffed, which makes it awkward for women shoppers."

The oldest sex shop in Canada, Lovecraft, is female-owned and operated, and yet the manager there maintains the sex-toy industry is still made mostly of men.

"This industry is male-dominated for the most part," said Renata, a manager at Lovecraft on Yorkville Avenue, who did not want to disclose her last name. "Women do feel intimidated when the store is staffed by men, so all our staff are women." At Good For Her, Jansen has

specifically created an atmosphere in her store that is welcoming for women. Her strategy is to maintain a comfortable setting that resembles an artsy café — books, oversized couches, candles, and friendly female staff that offer tea to shoppers.

"Part of the reason women don't feel comfortable in other sex stores is because of the male-oriented atmosphere," Jansen said. "We try to eliminate this in several ways, like taking the products out of the packaging so our customers don't have to look at half-naked women that look like porn stars. The majority of us don't look like that."

The store offers women-only shopping hours, a decision that Jansen says is not necessarily the best business decision. "We lose a lot of business and turn away men during those times, we think it's important for women to have that option and we stand by it," Jansen said.

"Women are very interested in using toys and sexual accessories to add variety and adventure to their sex lives," said Joani Blank, sex therapist and Good Vibrations founder, on her Web site. "But they don't like the atmosphere of the traditional dirty book store. Our store

is airy, well-lit, decorated with fresh flowers and full of comfy chairs where people can sit and read."

Although women have always been targeted as consumers, Jansen says sex toys have been marketed mainly to men in the past. "Women's attitudes are different than they were 20 years ago, or even five years ago," Jansen said. "Selling sex toys to women has become more profitable. Women have more earning power than they used to and are making more informed choices."

Vibrators and other sex toys for women have become a more common topic even in the mainstream media. Lovecraft's Renata says this can help women feel more at ease when shopping at adult stores.

"The things people come in asking for most often are usually things they have seen on television," Renata said. "Lately, many women have been asking for the Rabbit Pearl because of Sex and the City."

To make shopping for sex toys even easier, Lovecraft has set up a gift registry service for Valentine's Day.

"We decided to do this to make it easier for our customers to get exactly what they want," she said.



Women's attitudes are changing as more are shopping for sex toys.

Many women find the female-friendly approach a refreshing and empowering one that makes shopping for sex toys a pleasurable experience.

"I was so nervous when I went to buy my first vibrator," said Amy Berton, a 23-year-old Toronto student. "But the [Good For Her] store was clean and the staff were approachable. It wasn't as intimidating as I thought it would be."

More women than ever are turning to sex stores that cater to females and are helping to make shopping for vibrators as common as a guy's trip to the hardware store. And they're making no apologies.

"Our mission is to seek out pleasure wherever we can find it," wrote Debbie Stoller, author of *The Bust Guide to the New Girl Order*. "Vibrators in hand, we're ready to fight the good fight."

She will love lacy lingerie

But listen up guys, there's a right way to buy that hot little number

by Amie Bozzo

Listen guys, Valentine's Day is all about turning up the heat and what better way to do this than with sexy lingerie. But how do you buy lingerie for your significant other?

Patricia Grosdoulies said finding what's right for someone means asking them what they're looking for. "Usually it comes down to the reason of the purchase and that determines what they end up with," Grosdoulies said.

Knowing your partner's size is highly recommended. "It is extremely difficult to sell a bra when you ask the man, 'What size bra does she wear?' And his response is, 'uhhh...medium I think?'" she said.

If the person is unsure of his partner's size or has a rough estimate Grosdoulies recommends going with a night gown or other sleepwear sized small, medium, large or extra large.

"This way I can ask if the lady is taller than me, is she slim, how

busty is she? Slowly, I can get a mental picture of her, and size her in a small, medium, large or extra large," Grosdoulies said.

If a bra is what you're looking to buy, Grosdoulies suggests snooping

"A business woman who's always on the go might want something more functional."

through your partner's drawers to get the size off a bra tag. It is also important to know what colour your partner likes.

"You don't want to sell a sheer, pink thong to a gentleman whose wife hates pink because she will refuse to wear that thong for whatever reason," Grosdoulies said.

Samantha Pinto, night supervisor at La Vie En Rose in the Eglinton Centre said, "you really

need to know the women you're buying for."

For example, she said a business woman who's always on the go, might want something more functional and practical. She said you have to imagine what she would wear underneath her suit.

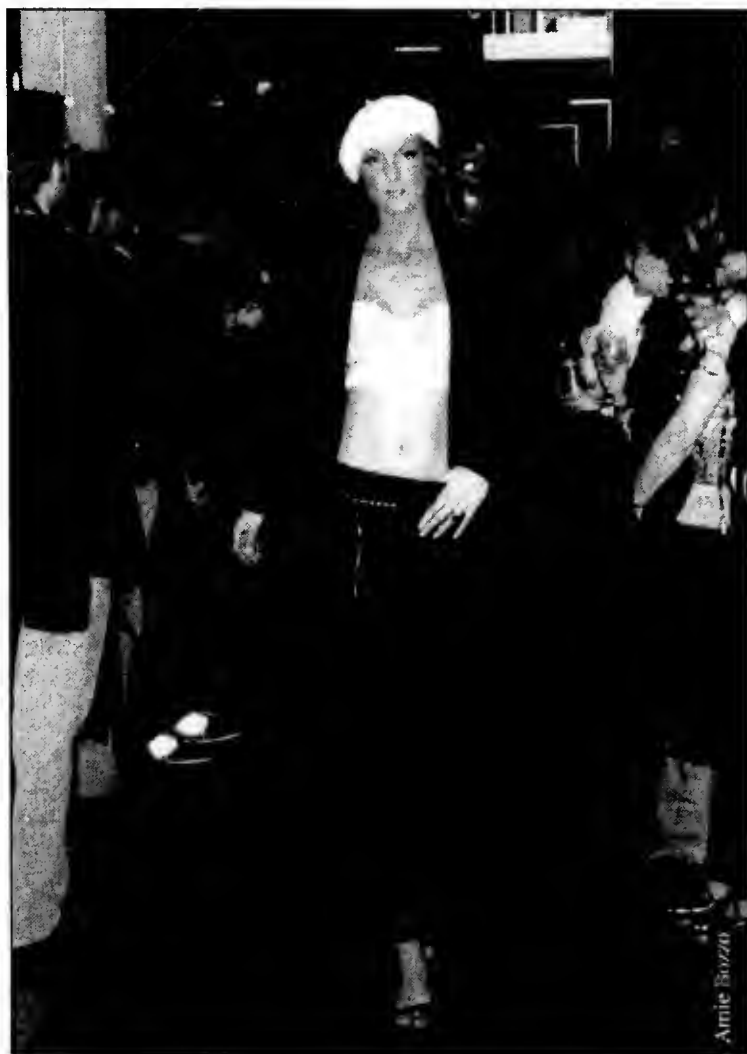
If you know everything to do with buying lingerie for your partner, but aren't sure of what items to buy, Grosdoulies said they have specialty items catered specifically for Valentine's Day.

One of the specialty items she carries for Valentine's Day is a black, sheer baby doll nighty with red hearts embroidered on it. The nighty comes with matching thongs and retails for \$70.

She also has red thongs and bikini cut underwear with sayings on them such as Foxy and Sexy. These items retail between \$8 and \$12.

Pinto said the items they carry for Valentine's Day sell out almost as soon as they get them. However, she said the new spring items are apopular sell. She said baby dolls and chemise are also popular items.

If you plan on buying something at La Vie En Rose all items are wrapped in satin.



A sexy lingerie is always a good way to steam up your Valentine's Day.

Love happenin's



by Tamara Holmes

Has Cupid shot you with an arrow yet?

If the pudgy diaper-swathed angel has made his rounds, you're going to need something to do this Valentine's Day to entertain yourself and that special someone without spending all of your cash.

There is a lot going on around the city for lusty couples looking for a quiet spot to canoodle as well as for singletons looking for that sexy someone.

And it can all be done on the cheap!

•The fastest way to the heart...

The cheapest and most genuine way to entertain this Friday is to toss together a dinner prepared yourself. For those who need help, check out Epicurious.com.

Stop by Second Cup on Friday and get four free chocolates with every purchase of their new Mexican Spiced Chocolate Latte.

For those looking to get out of the house, Toronto's Liberty Group, owners of several city hot spots, are hosting a variety of Valentine's Day dinners at their various restaurants. Prices range from \$30-\$60 per person and more information can be found on their site, LibertyGroup.com.

•Take in a show

Theatres across the city are hosting their love-inspired productions all weekend long.

The Ballet Jorgen is putting on their rendition of Romeo & Juliet this weekend at the Isabel Bader Theatre. Tickets and information can be found at 416.973.4000.

Cabbagetown Productions is showing their collection of short, witty and lust-inspired plays *No Sweetheart Required - Again!* Tickets are \$15 and can be bought at 416.767.7702.

Touchy Feely is on all weekend showcasing a variety of Toronto artists' finest work surrounding every emotion encountered around this love-filled time of year. The collection of mixed media is displayed at the Propeller Centre for the Visual Arts from 12-6 p.m., (416) 504-7142.

•A little late-night love?

The dim lights and hazy atmosphere of a club or lounge are the perfect setting for those in the throes of passion.

Check out the grand opening of Toronto's newest addition to the club scene, Lotus. Dave Seaman and Toronto's

own Mark Oliver, will be on hand to celebrate with deep, sexy and soulful house beats. Tickets are \$20-\$25 at 416.368.9710 or at the door.

Lula Lounge is hosting their Sexylicious Cabaret Friday night at 7:30 p.m. Featuring many special guests, including The Blaze, this sassy jazz night is complemented with oysters, international cuisine buffet and dance beats later on in the evening. Tickets are \$12-\$15 at (416) 538-7405.

Kool Haus presents Sneak's Valentine's Beats for those who want to break a sweat. Featuring DJ Sneak with DJ Heather, Bear Who?, Jason Hodges and DJ Gryphon, the night lasts until sunrise for \$15. Check out TripleDecks.com for more information.

•Don't be a lonely heart! Single in the city?

Vinnie's is hosting its very own dating game Friday night. Or join them for their Nuts & Bolts party as well! Look at MeetMeAtVinnies.ca for more information.

Enjoy, a girls or guys night out and hit the downtown scene - if there was ever a weekend to get dressed up and get out on the scene, this is it until summer!

Many feel pressured to plan extravagant events on Valentine's Day, said Adam Langton, a marketing student at Humber.

"Guys feel like they have to outdo flowers and chocolate, which is fine, but the pressure from their girlfriends can get to be too much," Langton said. "Sometimes, it makes guys just not want to do anything at all."

Tammi Brush, a creative photography student at Humber, said that planning Valentine's Day for a special guy in her life has always been hard.

"I know my friends would agree too that trying to do something nice for your boyfriend, no matter how long you've been together, is always hard.

"They never want the flowers or the cards. Maybe a case of beer? I'm not sure what I'll be getting my boyfriend this year, but I should probably start thinking about it."

But it doesn't have to be that complicated, said relationship expert Shona Robertson.

"Often times couples put too much emphasis on the gift and not enough on each other. The meaning of Valentine's Day has been lost over the years and couples should work hard to claim it back."

Robertson said the easiest

Where has the love gone

It's not all love and roses

by Olga Kirgdigis

Etobicoke stores are stacked with boxes of chocolates and bouquets of flowers, traditional reminders that Valentine's Day is a time to show that special someone you care.

But for many Canadian women, that is not the reality of their Valentine's Day.

For those caught up in violent or abusive relationships, the day is a poignant and painful reminder of dating abuse and domestic violence.

According to Statistics Canada, one in two Canadian women, or 51 per cent, experience at least one incident of violence after the age of 16. More than half of women are assaulted by men they know, often a spouse, boyfriend, date, or neighbour. Abuse is most common amongst women, but does happen to men as well.

Liz Sokol, a counsellor at Humber's North Campus, says dating violence occurs in any age group where people are dating.

"That dating violence turns into relationship violence as people get older," she said.

In her experience, she says abuse seems to rise during times of stress and tension, like holidays.

Sokol said victims of abuse may change, often drastically. But they do inadvertently give clues that show something is wrong. They will often cover up the situation because they feel ashamed or humiliated. They may become secretive, experience bouts of depression and may become fearful or anxious of disobeying their abusers.

Most victims don't really have a sense of how bad things are, Sokol says.

"They tend to underestimate the risk and the danger they are in, sometimes in order to cope with it and they disassociate themselves with that part of reality," she says.

Partners in a relationship cannot always predict someone will become abusive, but some behaviour patterns will lead to it. If a partner is possessive, shows a lack of respect, dismisses and minimizes or name calls, that person may become abusive.

"Underneath all abuse is the desire by one person to exercise or gain power over another," Sokol says.

The experienced counsellor says getting out of an abusive relationship is not simply a matter of just saying goodbye, or "I don't want to be with you anymore." The most important issue in trying to leave is physical safety, she adds, and victims can turn to friends, family and women's shelters like the Ernestine Shelter in Rexdale to talk and build a strong system of support.

Sokol advises women to seek professional counselling. Depending on the level of abuse, victims may also want to contact police.

Counselling is available at no cost to Humber students in D128 at North Campus and A120 at Lakeshore Campus and is confidential.

"It is not necessary to be ready to



Liz Sokol, a Humber counsellor, says dating violence occurs in any age group where people are dating and abuse rises during stress.

leave the relationship before seeking a counsellor. Sokol stresses that counsellors will always see someone if there is a crisis or the situation is urgent.

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Experts warn parents:

Pedophiles using Internet to trap children

by Lydia Dumyn

Canadian parents are struggling with increasing abuse of the Internet by sexual predators who prowl the cyber-highway looking to lure children into sexually explicit conversations, physical relationships and pornography.

"Internet use is rapidly increasing in homes, schools and in the workplace. Pedophiles take advantage of [this]," said Dr. Peter Collins of the Forensic Psychiatry Unit of the Ontario Provincial Police. "[Pedophiles] have cognitive distortions and they use the Internet not only to commit their crimes, but also to get psychological support for their deviant behaviour from other pedophiles or by reading up on cases similar to theirs."

The Internet is simply feeding the fire that is burning kids worldwide. Experts say that Internet filters are simply not enough to protect kids from potential abuse.

"Kids are capable of slipping

through the cracks of content filters," said Dr. Miriam Kaufman, of the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Toronto. "And if kids can [get over the hurdles], you'd better believe that predators can do it too. The technology is not fool-proof."

The CIA Factbook reported 14.44 million Internet users in Canada alone in 2001. Canada's Children In A Wired World, a Spectrum Management and Telecommunications survey released by the Government of Canada, indicated that 51 per cent of parents from Internet-connected families said their greatest concern is that their children will access inappropriate sites. Twenty-one per cent said their children have already come across sexually explicit content. Six per cent said their children have been sent unwanted sexual material.

Local news headlines reflect these staggering statistics that show safeguarding the Net is a difficult task. Appearing in the Toronto Star

for the week of Jan. 16 and 23, headlines read "Canadian police begin child porn probe," "200 in Toronto face child porn probe," "Frustrated police admit delay in child-porn cases," "Police traced man's surfing for child porn" and much more with no real solution in sight.

"The anonymity of the Internet, along with the access that it provides to an untold number of people, including children...makes it very attractive to [predators of children]," said Martin Lalumiere, assistant professor of psychiatry and criminology at the University of Toronto.

Child molesters will wear any mask in order to trap children, Collins said. "They use the Internet to meet kids and to maintain communication with them - either as adults or by posing as kids themselves - to gain their trust and to build partnerships with them.

Collins added Web surfers have to be cautious since they don't know who's at the other end of the connection.

Canada's child porn laws were changed last July to include offences such as luring children, making child pornography available on the Internet, sending child pornography

and knowingly accessing child pornography sites. These crimes are now each punishable with up to 10 years in prison.

To protect children, parents have to tackle the problem from both outside and in, Kaufman said. It is not just a matter of keeping the predators away from the kids, it is just as important to keep the kids away from the predators through use of Internet content filtering software and by monitoring the sites they visit, Kaufman said.

From chat rooms to unsolicited pornography, it is easy to be violated on the Net.

"However," Kaufman stressed, "it is important to remember that many kids [stumble] upon [inappropriate] material, rather than searching it out."

Unless they are prepared to actively participate and personally supervise their kids when they surf, it is unrealistic for parents to expect to protect their kids from offensive Internet "filth," Kaufman said.

Experts agree that content filters in combination with the proper supervision, can minimize the risks of their children becoming targets of Internet crime.

Filters that help

•**EMAIL FOR KIDS:** Parents can edit outgoing/incoming message content, address book entries and online time. \$29.95

•**SAFEXPLORER:** Blocks objectionable sites, phrases and chat-rooms. Monitors outgoing/incoming email and other text documents. Customizable profiles for each family member. \$99.95

•**NET NANNY:** Blocks objectionable sites, phrases, personal disclosures, chat-rooms, gifs and jpegs. Logs violations. \$26.95

•**HEXABIT JUNIOR 2.0:** Parents choose which sites are appropriate or not, and the times of day in which the Internet may be accessed. \$20

•**INTERNET FILTER SUITE 1.0:** A monitoring and filtering program that allows parents to control site access, undesirable words, news-groups and chat sessions. Logs all data transfers, and emails parents when violations occur. \$40

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Sex addicts beware: too much is bad for the body

by Marisa Zucaro

Too much of a good thing doesn't keep most people up at night, unless, of course, your thing is sex.

Tom used to have sex between 10 to 15 times each day and spent the breaks in between eagerly anticipating the next session. That was three years ago.

"I was obsessed with sex," he said.

Tom, 40, is a member of Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous (SLAA) in Toronto. He said determining when you've gone too far can be difficult.

"Someone who has sex for all the wrong reasons doesn't think their reasons are wrong. I used to think my reasons were all justifiable, you know, like sex relaxes me after a long day at work."

Although having unlimited amounts of sexual stimulation may be a dream come true for some, experts are cautioning people to keep their libido under control, or risk losing it altogether.

But how much sex is too much?

"I don't know if anyone can really answer that," said Dr. Paul Scuse, a registered sex therapist in Richmond Hill. "It all depends on whether the sex is being used inappropriately."

If people are consistently having sex to fill an emotional void, they're overstepping their bound-

aries. Too much sex is almost always emotional, he said.

"If someone has sex to medicate feelings of loneliness, depression or anxiety, then having it even once may be too much," Scuse said.

Once wasn't enough to convince Tom he had a problem.

"I was jumping from one rela-

"I was doing it about 12 times a day. It was nuts. I knew I had a problem."

tionship to the next, one prostitute to the next - to one bar for a one night stand, to the next," he said. "And you don't need a partner to have too much sex, if you know what I mean."

Dana Winton, a 25-year-old former Humber College interior design graduate, knows exactly what Tom means. She began masturbating when she was 11 and over the next 10 years the activity became obsessive.

"I was doing it about 12 times a day," Winton said. "It was nuts. I knew it was a problem."

After placing an anonymous call to SLAA, Winton began attending

weekly meetings. Slowly, she controlled her unhealthy habit.

"That's the key," she said. "You need balance. It's not like alcohol, where you can avoid it altogether. Sex is a healthy part of life, but moderation is important."

Committed couples have a harder time determining how much sex is too much.

"With consenting couples who have sex to bond and experience intimacy, is there really such a thing as too much sex? Perhaps," Scuse said.

Just like using sex to medicate negative feelings, Dr. Scuse said some couples use sex as a lifeline for their relationship.

"It's very common for couples that have nothing in common to make sex the foundation of their union," he said. "There should be more to a relationship than just sex."

Scuse suggests that anything taken to excess is bad for you because the body stops responding positively and the enthusiasm for sex starts to diminish.

Psychological and emotional reasons aside, Dr. Scuse says too much sex can actually take a physical toll on the body.

Like most things in life, if you like something, chances are too much of it is bad for you. Sex is no exception. But with Valentine's Day tugging at our trousers or poking at our panties, sex is lying heavily on our minds and not in a bad way!

It's more than the winter blues

Seasonal Affective Disorder strikes in the bleak winter months, leading to severe depression.

by Lydia Dumyn

For many Canadians, the winter blues get a lot more blue than just a little world-weariness—people get downright SAD.

With the bustle of the holiday season gone, it seems that there is little to look forward to short of the thaw of the Canadian deep freeze. It's February — it's bitter, it's barren and it's boring.

"Have you ever felt like you could sleep all night and day and still be too tired to get out of bed?" asked Stephanie Ship, a Toronto sufferer of Seasonal Affective Disorder. "That was me for the duration of December. I knew something obviously had to be wrong, but the worst part was that I didn't know what I could do to bring myself out of my funk."

Ship was diagnosed with Seasonal Affective Disorder, a type of depression caused by biochemical imbalances due to a lack of sunlight.

"The patterns of depressive episodes [associated with SAD] occur only in winter," said Dr. Raymond Lam, clinical neuroscience and mood disorder specialist at the University of British Columbia. "It ranges in severity from mild to acute, from the inability to function to suicidal tendencies."

"I felt like a machine that just ran out of steam. I was a sputtering, emotional basket case...totally unfocused and unmotivated," Ship said.

According to Lam, author of *Canadian Consensus Guidelines for the Treatment of Seasonal Affective Disorders and Seasonal Affective Disorder and Beyond*, between two and three per cent of Canadians, the majority of whom are women, suffer from SAD.

The peak months for this disorder are January and February, Lam said. Warning signs include oversleeping, increased appetite coupled with noticeable weight gain, anti-social behaviour, impaired concentration, low self-esteem, loss of interest in sex and the list goes on.

SAD is not curable, Lam said, but it certainly is treatable. An option is anti-depressant therapy, but this does not appeal to everyone.

"Upon diagnosis, I was immediately put on anti-depressants, but I think they're more toxic than anything," Ship said. "Many doctors are too quick to prescribe medications. It's an easy pseudo-solution to the problem."

After experiencing difficulties with anti-depressants, Ship decided to take the alternate route.

The shortening of daylight hours and the resulting lack of sunlight

causes winter lethargy. The solution is making the days last longer, or tricking your body into believing that this is the case.

One technique is dawn simulation, in which a timed light is used to mimic sunrise earlier than the sun actually rises.

This kick-starts the internal biological clock which is running slow

due to changes in seasonal light.

The sun itself provides fundamental full-spectrum light, ranging from ultraviolet to infrared.

Light therapy involves the use of equipment to cast full-spectrum light or bright white light to replace the absent natural light. It's a therapy patients can perform at home using "light boxes."

"Research has shown that more than 90 per cent of people suffering from SAD benefit from bright light therapy," said Sheri Lundstrom, president of Light Therapy Products. "People are satisfied with the treatment. We have very few light boxes returned."

Light Therapy Products is an Internet company that distributes

light therapy equipment worldwide.

The investment in light therapy will cost between \$169 and \$300.

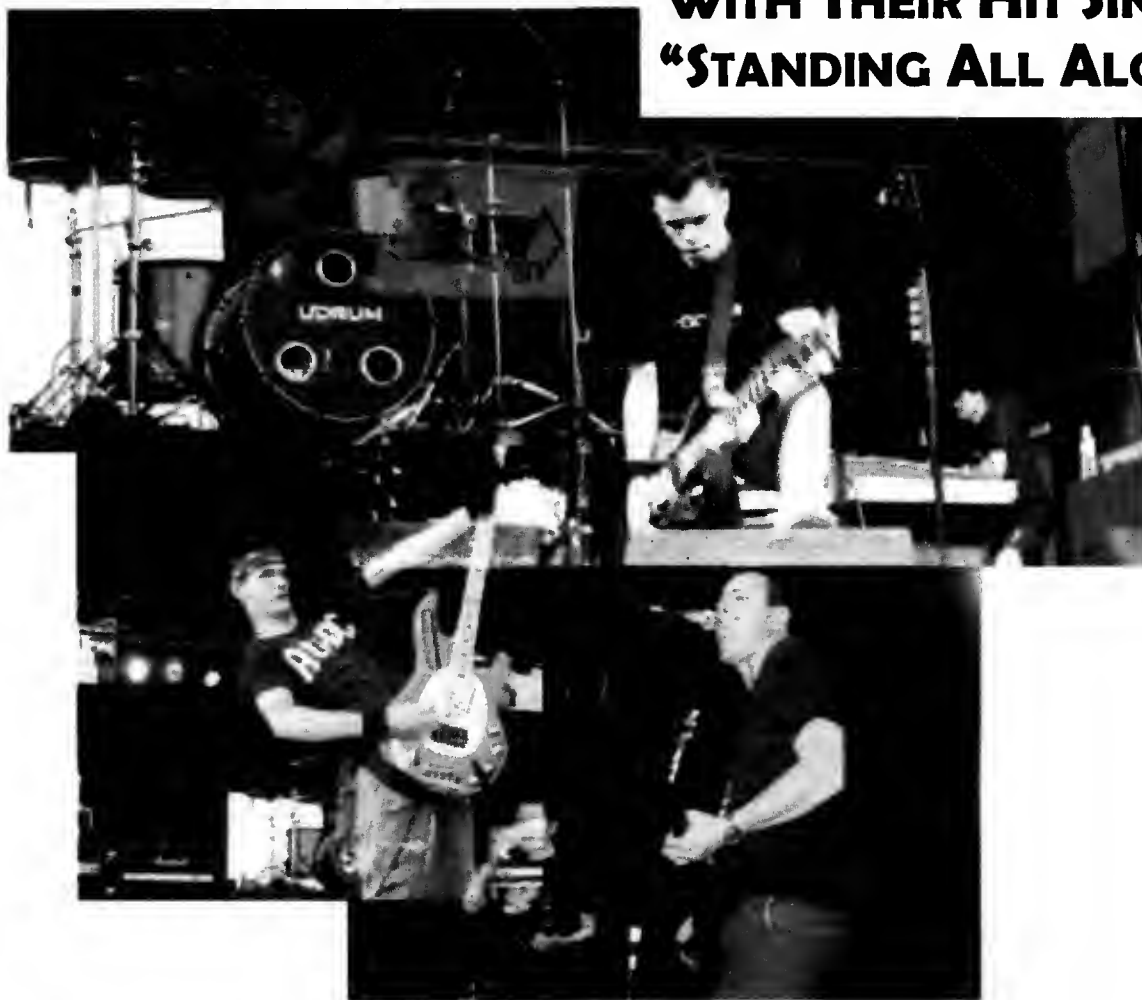
"Our customer base continues to grow as [alternative therapies] become more mainstream," Lundstrom said. "If it was a toss up between medication and a non-drug treatment, I would choose the non-drug treatment."

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Arts

Just the bare facts

Naked News is coming to Citytv

by Hayley Stephens

Lily Kwan starts her newscast fully clothed. With every story she reads a piece of clothing falls to the floor. By the end of the broadcast, she is completely naked.

Naked News, "the program with nothing to hide," began its Web based broadcast three years ago. Since its launch in December 1999, it has attracted six million monthly visitors to its Internet site and has a global pay-per-view reach of over 30 million people. Last November, Australia unleashed the show onto mainstream cable. Tomorrow night, at 1:05 a.m., Citytv will follow suit.

Kwan says the success of the Toronto based program is a combination of content and presentation.

"For some people the nudity is the initial draw," she said, "but once they watch our show they realize 'Hey, this is real news, we are able to get real content from this program,' and they become regular viewers."

The show's content is taken off the news wire and out of the field-work anchors do themselves. The anchors are nude, both on set and at interview locations, unless the interviewee's own comfort level or a law forbids it.

The quality of reporting is the same as any other station, according

to Kwan. "If you watch *Naked News* and you close your eyes, you'll hear the same news that you get from CNN or City Pulse or any other news organization," she said.

Christopher Waddell, a journalism professor at Carleton University and former senior producer of *The National* and *Sunday Report* for CBC, said he finds it hard to believe that anybody would go to *Naked News* with their eyes closed. "It's voyeuristic entertainment," he said. "I think people would be mistaken if they actually thought this was news."

Waddell compares Kwan's defense of *Naked News* to how some people use to justify Playboy magazine. "In the '60s and '70s some people said they bought Playboy for the articles," Waddell said.

"I think that maybe the people at *Naked News* are taking themselves too seriously if they honestly believe that people will tune in once to see naked people and keep tuning in because they find it delivers good news," said Marci Ien, an anchor for CTV Newsnet.

William Hanna, the dean of media studies at Humber, said that it is important to distinguish between serious journalism and infotainment.

"I put *Naked News* under the infotainment category, and on the face of it there's nothing wrong with infotainment, as long as everybody who's involved in it - viewers and those producing it - are up front about it. But to pretend that it's something that it's not you get in, I think, moral difficulties," Hanna said.

"My reaction to *Naked News* was that it was a blatant low-

brow grab for viewership," he said. Ien agrees.

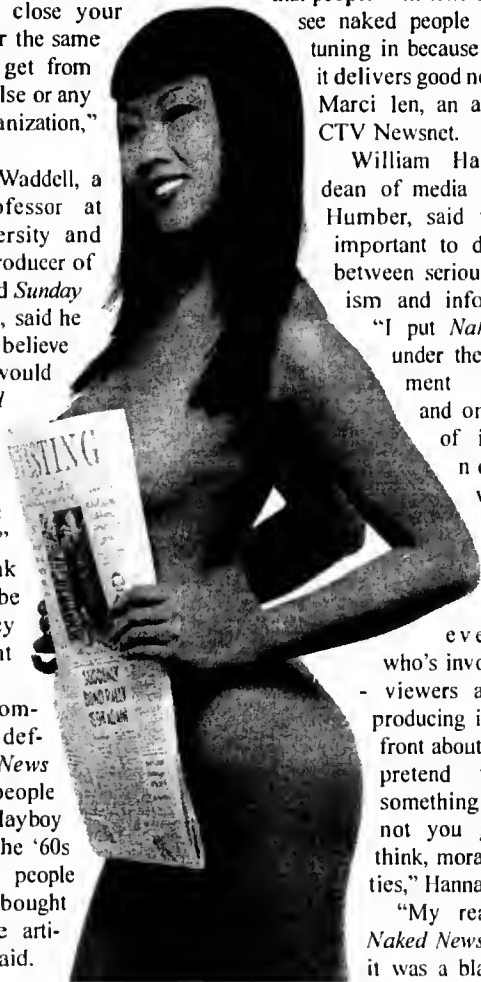
"The mandate is that it's TV, it's salacious TV, they want to grab those viewers and this way they can do it under the guise of something else," she said.

"The show fits into a tradition of trivial, trashy, lightweight entertainment posing as news," said Roger Bird, a journalism historian at Carleton University.

"It all comes down to changing standards in public tastes," Bird said. "In the 19th century for example, when some papers started covering the divorce courts, with lurid accounts of who's sleeping with whom and so on, it was the end of civilization as we knew it, from the point of view of some people. Since 1970 nudity and sex is far more acceptable to people, for whatever reason, rightly or wrongly, than it used to be, so this show seems to me to be a natural in that sense."

Kwan says that she holds confidence in the future of the show. "With Citytv picking us up, they are the first station in Canada to air us on mainstream television, so the opportunities are endless," she said. "Who knows, maybe we'll end up doing a *Naked News* movie."

Naked News will begin airing with an all female cast of anchors on Feb. 14, at 1:05 a.m. (Saturday morning) on Citytv and Feb. 15, at 11:00 p.m. on SexTV: The Channel.



Winterfest warms up Torontonians

by Buket Oktem

It is -10 C and a long line up of eager Torontonians has formed for a hot pancake breakfast outside of downtown city hall. It's all part of the celebrations at Winterfest 2003.

Some might say it is sheer lunacy to be outside in what feels like one of the coldest winters Toronto has experienced. But Winterfest is slowly becoming an annual tradition in the city and for one weekend in February, many are saying, "Talk to

the hand, winter. Just try and stop us from having fun."

Free concerts, celebrity food demonstrations, physical theatre, ice skating shows, and many other activities were enjoyed by Torontonians this past weekend at both Nathan Phillips Square and Mel Lastman Square. In an effort to kick the winter blues, young and old came out to have fun.

"We thought it would be fun for the kids," said Catherine Stosansky, 36. "It is chilly but we're all having a blast."

From a purple dinosaur named Barney, to live concerts by some of Canada's hottest talent, like 54-40 and Wave, there was something for everyone.

Some acts made their debut in Toronto at this year's Winterfest. Known for their wacky hair installations, OSADIA, a duo from Barcelona, Spain, stunned the crowd as they invited audience members to take a seat in the barber's chair and be transformed into a walking sculpture.

One willing participant spent the rest of his day posing for photographs with strangers.

"I've always wanted to know what I'd look like with a saw bulging out of my skull and blood running down my head," laughed Ken Howerton, 44.

Those performers who were left out in the bitter cold, without the shelter of a tent, managed to keep warm through rigorous physical activity. Les Productions Haut-Vol, a Montreal-based troupe, performed skits on a trampoline along with music and sound effects.

"It's the first time we're performing in such cold weather," Hugue Croteau said. "We are used to being in amusement parks in the summer, but we're having a great time here."

But it seemed nobody could be

worse off than Ken MacDougall. He spent the weekend outside, in a bathtub. He's part of a group called *Men in Tights* made up of various improv actors who were scattered around the square. Some walked through the crowds as others sat all day on oversized couches. Their only task was to entertain by interacting with passersby in different ways.

MacDougall, who sat inside a tub all day, wearing a flesh coloured costume and sipping a Tim Horton's coffee, met his fair share of interesting characters.

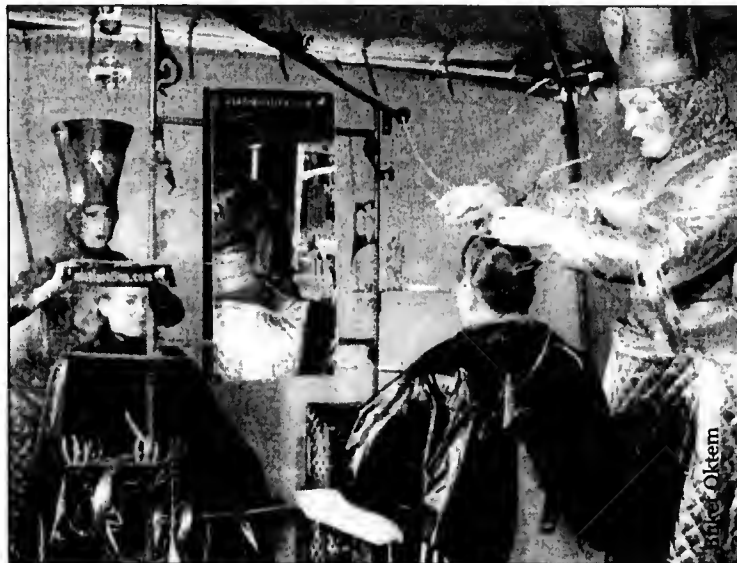
"A few people offered to jump into the bathtub," he said. "But it's been a riot, talking to people and yelling at passing traffic."

Drawing in 400,000 people last year, the city hopes to expand Winterfest.

"We're hoping to make it as big as Winterlude in Ottawa," said Amber Authier, event supervisor for Toronto Special Events. "Winterfest is still relatively new, but it's getting there."

For Torontonians a lengthier Winterfest would be welcome.

"It would be a great idea to make the event run longer," exclaimed Maria Varadero. "Toronto is a fun city all year round and festivals like this can draw in more tourists in the winter."



OSADIA from Spain create their wacky hairdos at Winterfest.

Coming up...

Video & DVD (Feb. 18)

One Hour Photo
The Four Feathers
All or Nothing
Stealing Harvard
M.A.S.H.: Season Three

Movies (Feb. 14)

Daredevil
The Jungle Book 2
It Runs In The Family
The Crime of Father Amaro

CD's (Feb. 18)

R. Kelly: Chocolate Factory
Music: Music
Sneaker Pimps: Bloodsport
Ministry: Animositisomina

Things to Do

• Here's something a little different for Valentine's Day. *Boy Gets Girl* opens on Feb. 17 at the Bluma Appel Theatre. A perky career girl dates a somewhat dimwitted boy who becomes possessive and stalks her into a nervous breakdown. Runs until March 15. \$35-\$75, call 416-368-3110.

• Shot through the heart! And *Bon Jovi's* to blame. He really does give love a bad name and he's playing the Air Canada Center Feb. 20. Get out your acid wash and rock on. Call 416-870-8000.

• If you're sick of listening to your significant other's excuses, head over to *Listen Up! The 25th Annual Toronto Festival of Storytelling* to hear others spin some incredible stories. Free to \$15 and runs Feb. 14-23. Call 416-656-2445 for info.

WIN one of 2 pairs of tickets to THIS COULD BE LOVE



Still no gift for your Valentine? The first two people to e-mail humberetc@yahoo.ca will win tickets to the new comical musical playing at the Poor Alex Theatre, February 11-March 1. For tickets call 416-343-0011. Prize tickets are for February 25, 8pm show. Prizes have no cash value and must be accepted as awarded.



The band will play Caps pub on Wednesday, Feb. 19.

Not by Choice comes to Caps

by Chris Clay

The phone rings and I run to answer it. "Hey, this is Mike from Not By Choice, what's up?" comes the reply.

Who said that all rock stars are assholes? Two minutes into my interview and I can already tell that Mike Bilcox, the lead singer of Not By Choice, is a cool, down-to-earth guy who loves his job.

Their recently released album *Maybe One Day* already has two singles getting regular air-play on the radio and they also have two videos playing on MuchMusic. Most people have already heard their song "Standing All Alone" and their most recent single, "Now That You're Leaving" is getting a lot of play as well.

"It's totally awesome," Bilcox said in response to Not By Choice's rapid rise in popularity. "When you see your video on MuchMusic it's surreal."

Over the past year Not By Choice have played shows with bands like Sum 41, Simple Plan, Gob, Treble Charger and Avril Lavigne. They've appeared on Open Mike with Mike Bullard and even got to play a show at Nathan Phillips Square on New Years Eve.

The band recently got back from a cross-Canada tour with Sum 41.

"The Sum 41 tour was unreal because it was packed shows every night," Bilcox said. "We've known the guys for like eight years so it's cool to go on tour with them. The great thing about other Canadian bands is that they're really supportive of each other. There's this camaraderie because we're Canadian."

The life on the road doesn't seem to bother the guys from Not By Choice. In fact, they live for it.

"Touring is the best time of our lives," Bilcox said. "Going to a city that you've never been to and there's like 500 kids who know who you are is crazy. When the Sum 41 tour ended in Vancouver we got to go back across Canada on our own. We'd never played cities like Edmonton or Calgary and all these kids come out to see us. It's unreal."

Despite all their success, the band still loves to play the college and university pubs. Bilcox said they're excited about the Humber College show.

"Humber should be cool," Bilcox said. "It's gonna be all the downtown kids. The colleges are the best places to play because they're always packed and everyone's really into it."

Not By Choice comes to Caps on Wednesday, Feb. 19. It's a 19 and over show with no cover.

Not a chick flick

Director says movie appeals to both sexes

by Anna Rozbicka

It's pretty easy to lose a guy in 10 days — dragging him to a couple of girlie movies should do the trick.

But according to director Donald Petrie, his latest movie isn't one of them.

"Obviously with a title like *How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days* it's easy to see how it can get very quickly labeled a 'chick flick,'" said Petrie in an interview at the Four Seasons Hotel in Toronto last week. "What we've actually found when we've screened the picture, is that guys are liking it as much as girls because it plays both sides of the coin."

Still, looking at the movie poster, one can't help thinking the film is a typical romantic-comedy: boy meets girl, some force keeps them apart, said force is overcome, things end happily ever after.

Petrie himself admits that this is in part true.

"There's a certain amount of built-in predicability. It's Kate Hudson, it's Matthew McConaughey — they're going to get together at the end of this movie."

What the director insists is different about this film, is the way it brings you to that inevitable ending.

"You go to an amusement park, you climb on a roller-coaster and you know what? In about three minutes you're going to be back where you began," Petrie said. "There's a certain amount of predicability there too but it's the ride that's either going to be fun or it's not. So what I'm looking to do is give you a good ride."

Petrie is selective about his scripts and goes through a lot of romantic-comedy prospects after directing films like *Miss Congeniality* and the Julia Roberts breakthrough *Mystic Pizza*.

He chose to do this movie for several reasons.

"What attracted me to this script was that I laughed out loud and I felt I hadn't seen it before. It felt fresh."

He also said it wasn't what he calls a "one-hander." "So often in romantic comedies the girl has a secret. She's poor but everyone thinks she's a princess of vice-versa and the guy is 'the guy' and nothing more," he chuckled. "This project is a throwback to Tracy and Hepburn where both the characters were strong people unto themselves. They both had an agenda and the battle of the sexes began."

When asked why this movie is better than some of the fluff-pieces out there, Petrie stopped to think for a minute.

"I think perhaps romantic comedies get a bad rep because like any genre there are good ones and there are bad ones," he said slowly. "You can't please everyone. For everyone out there who goes and says *Adaptation* was so brilliant and meaningful, there's somebody else who thinks *Adaptation* was fluff."

Whether you think it's fluff or not, Petrie maintains that it's a movie for both sexes.

"It's not just another chick flick," he said with a sly smile. "It's the ultimate chick flick for guys."

Check out a review of *How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days* on page 16.



Donald Petrie directed *How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days*.

Yukking it up for a Toonie

by Nicole Gibbs

Recovering from holiday Visa bills leaves students little or no money for a fun night out.

But there is still hope of having a night full of laughter without burning a hole in your wallet that also helps

support college comedians.

Humber College's comedy night at Yuk Yuk's, *Toonie Tuesdays*, has students laughing their financial worries all the way to the bank.

"It's awesome," Sara Hennessey said of performing at Yuk Yuk's. Hennessey, a first-year student in Humber College's comedy program grew up in a silly family.

"Anyone can go to an open mike night at a scuzzy bar, but [performing at Yuk Yuk's] looks great when auditioning for someone," Hennessey said.

Humber's comedy program is the only post-secondary program of its kind. Potential comedians usually look to improvisation courses that are offered by venues like Second City to get any formal training in comedy.

The idea to have students perform at Yuk Yuk's was a part of the comedy program's creation from the beginning.

"Mark Breslin is the co-founder [of the program] and a founder of Yuk Yuk's," said Joe Kertes, dean of creative and performing arts. "Getting students to perform out there is vital to their growth as a comedian."

Kertes also said they invite scouts to the shows and some students have been discovered there.

"The program helps students to find their voice [and] their unique persona. It helps them to hone the craft of comedy [and] the shape of comedic material," Kertes said.

A performance at Yuk Yuk's can open the door to a variety of opportunities.

"Graduates can become performers, writers, producers and directors. If they're really ambitious, they can become stars," Kertes said.

"We want to get as many students on as possible, so students introduce each other with no MC," said Larry Horowitz, a standup teacher in the comedy program.

Horowitz said the shows run like a machine gun spitting out 20-30 acts, each performing for four to six minutes.

"Every week we try to do something special. Like give one student a longer set so they can see what it is like to be, in essence, a headliner," Horowitz said.

"My standup curriculum includes that students do at least three live performances at a professional nightclub each semester," Horowitz said.

Yuk Yuk's *Toonie Tuesdays*, Humber College comedy night, takes place at 224 Richmond St. W (east of Duncannon St.). For reservations call (416) 967-6425.

Celebrity Corner

by Anna Rozbicka

Oscar nominations were announced this week and there weren't any real surprises. *Chicago* leads the pack with 13 nominations, and Richard Gere is pretty much the only actor in the movie not to get one. I hope he doesn't cry for too long. Diane Lane got nominated for *Unfaithful*, giving porn stars everywhere new hope. Meryl Streep scored a nomination breaking the record of 12 previously held by Katherine Hepburn. She didn't get the double nod everyone expected but that's probably because she dissed the Academy a couple of weeks ago saying it had all become too political. I guess she has so many Oscars she doesn't really need another. Maybe she'll give it to Gere as a pity gift. I think he'd take it.

Just in time for Valentine's Day, it seems Hollywood romances are starting to fizzle. According to *Zap2it.com* Heath Ledger and Naomi Watts have broken up. She was too old for him anyway. Jude Law is expected to split with Sadie Frost in the next few weeks. It's sad — they were married for five years and have three kids. I don't understand! Hollywood relationships always have had such great staying power. Look at um, uh, aah ... never mind.

Poor Britney just can't catch a break. First she gets dumped by Fred Durst, then Colin Farrell turns out to be a man-whore. And just as she thought there was still hope for her and Justin, *Star Online*

reports she ended up leaving his birthday party in tears. No, it's not because her loot bag contained a Christina Aguilera CD, it's because Justin also invited every girl he's ever met. Thanks to Alyssa Milano, Tara Reid, and Aguilera, Britney couldn't get near Justin all night. Too bad, so sad. She should have done what any other self-respecting girl would have done and spilled red wine all over them so they had to leave.

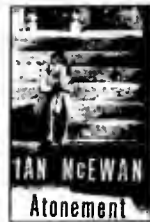
Jennifer Aniston is branching out. *Sky.com* says that she's been taking voice and guitar lessons for a new movie and hopes to release a single on the U.S. charts. Have we not learned anything from Jennifer Love Hewitt's crappy albums?

etc.

Critic's Comments

What we read

Atonement
By Ian McEwan



This is a book that won numerous awards, garnered tremendous praise – and it deserves it all.

Atonement begins one hot summer evening in 1935, when 13-year-old Briony Tallis sees her sister Cecelia and her childhood friend Robbie Turner in a moment of passion.

This sets in motion a variety of events leading up to Briony committing a crime that will follow all of them the rest of their lives.

The book goes on into the Second World War, describing the horrors each character faced with unflinching detail.

A little difficult to get into initially, *Atonement* becomes one of those books you can't put down. The characters draw you in and keep you on the edge of your seat trying to figure out their fates. Reading it on the subway, I was angry to have arrived at my station and almost kept going.

McEwan is a master of the English language and every word is perfectly chosen to suit his means. In a way, it seems a little heavy at first, especially in its descriptions, but once you pass the first hundred pages you'll never turn back.

Boy Next Door
By Meggin Cabot



This light-hearted beach read follows the *Bridget Jones's Diary* path with a spunky heroine on the quest for her true love.

Melissa Fuller is a small-town girl living in big NYC, writing a gossip column for the *New York Journal*. When her next-door neighbour is mugged and goes into a coma, she finds herself stuck with the woman's Great Dane. A little complicated to explain, let's just say that this all leads to her

meeting a great guy but there's a case of mistaken identity worthy of *Three's Company*. Mel is a funny character who loves her celebrities like her own family.

The story is told through e-mails the characters send each other, playing on what today's culture has become. It's the modern version of an epistolary novel (one written in letters) as no one writes letters any more; we'd rather harass each other with e-mail all day long.

It's a great little fluffy book with a lot of laughs drawn from mocking pop culture.

While this book isn't about to win any major literary awards, it's still an enjoyable and funny read.

by Anna Rozbicka

What we saw

How To Lose a Guy in 10 Days
Paramount Pictures



"You're even cuter than my puppy!"

Why anyone in her right mind would want to lose Matthew McConaughey, I'll never understand but that's the premise behind this fluffy romantic comedy.

Andie Anderson (Kate Hudson) is a writer for *Composure* magazine setting out on her latest project, intending to meet a guy, start dating him, then commit all of the mistakes women make in relationships to drive him away.

At the same time, Ben Barry (McConaughey), an ad exec, makes a bet that he can make any woman fall in love with him in 10 days.

Stage is set, let the hilarity ensue.

And it does with some genuinely funny moments. We all know the old adage, "It's funny 'cause it's true." It completely applies to the humour of this film. It plays on things women and men both do in relationships that can cause trouble, which makes for great jokes because everyone can relate.

Yes, it's predictable and kind of a chick flick. And even though I maintain that there are parts of this movie that a man would find very funny, it's no *American Pie*.

Shanghai Knights
Touchstone Pictures

Let's get something straight: no one goes to see *Shanghai Knights* expecting a cinematic masterpiece. That said, this is one pretty entertaining movie.

Jackie Chan and Owen Wilson are at it again in this sequel to the moderately successful *Shanghai Noon*. They play pretty much the same characters they play in every movie: Chan is a talented martial arts artist that just doesn't quite fit into his surroundings, and Wilson is a shaggy-haired charmer who likes to whine and pout and say the occasional funny line.

Shanghai Knights has some fun action sequences (look for the *Singing In The Rain* tribute) and a couple of great laughs.

If you like Chan and Wilson you probably

won't be disappointed and you'll walk out of the theatre looking forward to *Shanghai Dawns*, or *Mornings*, or *Mid-Afternoons* or whatever the third one will be called. Because I'm pretty sure it'll come up sooner or later.

by Anna Rozbicka



"I will fight bad guys and you stand there and look pretty and pensive."

Asunder
Dimension Home Video



If you're looking for a comedy to rent, try *Asunder* because it sure isn't the thriller it tries to be.

When Chance (Blair Underwood) loses his pregnant wife and unborn baby in a freak accident, he turns to his friends Michael (Michael Beach) and Lauren (Debbi Morgan) for support. He quickly becomes obsessed with Lauren with whom he previously had an affair. When she gets pregnant, he becomes fixated on the baby that he's convinced is his.

This movie fails as a thriller. The constant cheesy background music completely destroys any fear factor that may have existed, the acting is melodramatic and the plot points are predictable and formulaic.

At one point, Chance engraves an "L" into his chest with a broken beer bottle. There's even a sex scene on a bearskin rug.

The best part of the movie is the last 10 minutes which start off by Chance bursting into the house holding a golf club, smashing a woman in the head with it while calling out, "Fore!" After she crumbles he looks up with a manic expression and asks, "Mind if I play through?"

It was priceless. If you rent this movie, skip to the last 10 minutes. Just don't expect to be scared.

by Anna Rozbicka

Daredevil vs. Spider-Man: The Ultimate Battle for Justice
Buena Vista DVD



Don't let the flashy packaging fool you, this isn't a new feature film starring the web-slinger or the upcoming movie hero, Daredevil.

The DVD contains four 20-minute episodes of the most recent Saturday morning cartoon incarnation of Spidey.

Banal writing and low quality animation characterize the stories on this disc. Every episode is laced with cartoon clichés such as guns that inevitably shoot laser beams and characters with unrealistic and unexplained technical abilities.

Spidey and his alter-ego Peter Parker have none of the things that have made the Spider-Man mythos so successful, a boy's struggle to come to grips with his awesome power or his wit and charm.

Even though Daredevil is given top billing, he barely even shows up in the later episodes on the disc.

If you're really into these characters, pick up a copy Brett Mathews and Vatchie Mavlian's recent Marvel comic book *Spider-Man / Daredevil*. With its stunning visuals and riveting story it is far more satisfying than this DVD.

Unless you're really a fan of the Spider-Man cartoon, this DVD isn't recommended.

by Kyle Marnoch

Escape your stress and dance at Shallow Groove

by Athena Tsavlis

It's amazing what a few drinks and a boogie can do for your stress levels. A group of Humber students feeling the pressure of this semester decided to head out to *Shallow Groove* on Friday night.

The College Street venue has the intimacy of a lounge combined with the energy of a club. The booths that line one side of the candlelight room provide a comfortable place to relax and chat. As the evening progresses the space fills up and the music gets louder. At midnight the place is in full swing and the dance floor is heaving with people.

"By 11 the place fills up like a subway station and that's when the party starts," said Jerrod Stearns who opened *Shallow Groove* four years ago. What makes it popular is "the music, the people and the staff," Stearns said. "It's comfortable."

The music certainly attracts a crowd. "I play hip hop, R&B, a splash of old school and a bit of house," said the DJ, Scott Cairns. The venue is more of a club on a Friday and a bar on Saturday, he said.

Hot or Not?



DJ Scott Cairns spins a variety of music.

Shallow Groove attracts a slightly older crowd, between the ages of 25 to 40. Many people eating at the restaurants on College move on to the club. Stearns, who used to own a popular restaurant in the area, said that is what motivated him to open it. "My customers used to ask me where to go next and that's how I got the idea for *Shallow Groove*."

Jelani Lowe, another Humber College Journalism student, hadn't been to the club before. "It's different to what I expected," he said. "It's got a very underground vibe."

Roy Fernandez, who's been going to the club for years said what

keeps him coming back is the unpretentious crowd and relaxed atmosphere. "So many places in the city have real attitude. What I like about this place is that you can turn up in a pair of jeans and a t-shirt, hang out with your friends and dance to some great tunes."

Drinks are a bit pricey but fairly potent and the cover is \$5.



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Recruiters vie for nursing grads

by Annie Chau

Humber nursing students were targeted for recruitment by several health care organizations at the Career Fair held at the north campus on Feb. 10.

"We are definitely targeting students. They're our future," said Carol Boulding, the Senior Human Resources Generalist at the Toronto East General Hospital.

"Right now the greatest need is for registered nurses. We're looking to connect with the students so when they do graduate and become registered, we can hire them," Boulding said.

"We do hire temporary licensed nurses. So once students graduate, they can get a temporary license if they have a job offer waiting to write their exams and get their marks. Then they become registered nurses so we've already secured them even before that period," she said.

Nursing students should expect a salary that is "fairly consistent across the board" throughout most institutions in Toronto or in the Golden Horseshoe area, Boulding says.

"In nursing, we're part of ONA, the Ontario Nursing Association, so it's a unionized environment. The ONA start rate is \$21.75 (an hour), a temporary registered nurse is a little less than that, but not much,"

Boulding said.

Pay increases are also expected in this field. "There are actually nine steps and every year you move up a step until you get to the top of the [pay] scale," Boulding said.

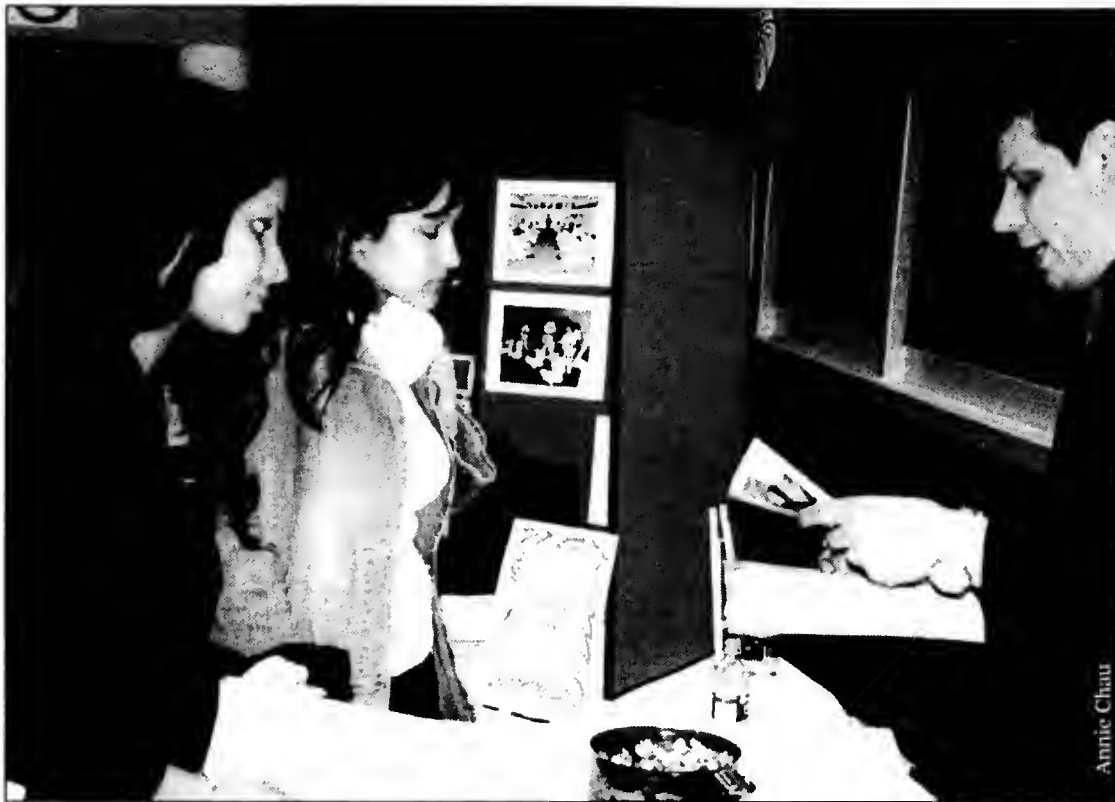
Although the pay is not as competitive as what the ONA has to offer, Sergeant Jim Currier, a recruiter for the Canadian Forces cites great benefits as an advantage of joining the Canadian military.

Recruits receive \$2,100 a month before taxes plus free room and board during basic training. "Everyone within the regular or the full time service is covered by 100 per cent medical and 100 per cent dental, 100 per cent across the board," Currier said.

"Some of the other benefits include things like travel. I've been all over the world. Our navy travels everywhere, so those are some of the advantages," he said.

With the type of jobs the military offers, Currier sees group insurance as a good addition to their benefit package. "I do some pretty dangerous stuff as part of my occupation. Things that a regular life insurance plan doesn't cover, like parachuting. A lot of insurance plans won't cover for acts of war, mine does," Currier said. In light of recent events, war insurance may not be a bad idea.

Elita Dias, a first-year Bachelor



Students check out one of many booths at the Career Fair on Feb. 10 at Humber College.

of Nursing student, thinks that the career fair is a good idea for students who are already pressed for time with their studies.

"This is very valuable. I think they should do this more often in the

school because being students we don't have too much time to go out and drop off resumes. This is good because it comes to us. It's more convenient," Dias said.

"There are a lot more opportuni-

ties too. This way you also know these jobs are legit. You know these are actual good professional places, professional organizations you can work for," Dias noted after looking at all the booths.

How to keep your spring break trip from becoming a nightmare

by Izabela Jaroszynski

As students gear up for spring break, they may be forgetting one of the most important details of travelling: purchasing travel insurance.

A study done by the Conference Board of Canada shows that 22 per cent of travellers aged 18 to 25 are leaving the country without obtaining insurance, the largest percentage in any age category.

"This is the age bracket that tends not to get insurance when they go away," said Joelle Tiessen, an insurance broker with Travel Insurance Coordinators. "They think because they are young and healthy, nothing will happen to them. The fact of the matter is that anyone can have an accident."

The fact that Ontario has a comprehensive health plan is another reason many people don't think to buy insurance, Tiessen said.

Although the Ontario government does pay for some medical bills outside of the province, most out-of-

Canada medical costs are much higher than the government is willing to pay.

For example, OHIP would only pay up to \$400 a day for complex hospital care like surgery said John Letherby, spokesman for the Ontario Ministry of Health. In the United States, the cost of such care can exceed \$5,000 a day according to the Web site of Desjardins Financial Security.

"If you receive emergency care from a physician or other eligible health care provider, OHIP will pay only as much as that service would have cost in Ontario," he added.

Full time Humber College students are covered for medical emergencies outside of Canada through a Blue Cross policy, but this coverage is also limited.

"It covers emergency medical treatment, surgery, anything like that that's required outside of Canada, up to \$5,000," said Nancy Luzi, a group coverage representative from Blue Cross.

"It's not really a high amount for

medical treatment outside of Canada," she added. "You could reach that really, really quickly."

In fact, a broken leg in the United States will probably cost about \$5,000 US to treat, said Chris Marshall, a travel agent with

"A broken leg in the United States will probably cost you about \$5,000 US to treat."

Uniglobe Collacut Travel in Toronto.

"If you get into a boat accident, it won't be just a broken leg," Marshall said. "It will probably be a hospital stay for a couple of days. And those costs really add up."

Even small accidents can lead to major hospital bills.

Alex Bulk, 24, from Dunnville, Ontario was riding a scooter in Cayo Coco, Cuba, when he hit a pothole and skidded about 30 metres.

"I had to be taken to the hospital in an ambulance and given stitches in my left knee," he said. "And I had road rash everywhere."

The ordeal could have cost Bulk more than \$2,000, but his insurance covered the medical bills.

Tiessen also remembers a student who had an asthma attack on a cruise ship during a spring break vacation and ended up needing emergency treatment.

"And then he was hit with a \$10,000 US bill for medical treatment," she said. "It was just crazy."

Even with the combined coverage of Humber's health insurance and OHIP, students who do not purchase additional insurance may still end up paying thousands of dollars in medical bills.

Additional travel insurance can be purchased through private insurance companies, such as Blue Cross or RBC Insurance, or through a trav-

el agent.

"There are many types of travel insurance," Tiessen said. "The basic one is medical. Another one is trip cancellation plans and trip interruption plans. Other policies will also insure travellers for baggage loss. There are many packages that will combine these different types of coverage."

For a 10-day spring break trip, an unlimited medical insurance policy for someone under 25 will range from \$20 to \$30. For an all-inclusive package, which will protect travellers in case of trip cancellation and baggage loss, the price goes up to about \$80 to \$100.

The cost of travel insurance is a small price to pay for peace of mind when travelling, Bulk said.

"When planning a trip outside Canada, get all the facts about your health coverage first," Letherby suggests. "And get extra health insurance before you leave. An accident can happen to anyone, even during a very short business or recreational trip."

New supermarket opens near campus

by Annie Chau

Local area grocery stores have one more competitor to contend with after the grand opening of a new Fortinos supermarket on Hwy. 27 south of Humber College.

With recent trends gravitating toward making everything bigger and better, this new Fortinos establishment is no exception.

On top of products that can be found at any local supermarket like produce and groceries, this new Fortinos offers much, much more.

"We have kid's clothes, we have cosmetics, we have Chinese foods, we have a 'Cook & Table' (a whole section devoted to dinner and tableware, cookware, and small appliances) which is different. What we try to do is we try different things and branch off from there so the newer stores are built big enough to have all these things in them," Sal Ippolito, the owner of this new franchise said.

Other conveniences customers can expect to see during their shopping experience at the new Fortinos are automated checkout stands (U-Scans).

"We've had a very good response for the last couple of days. This is our first Fortinos with the U-Scan. The Loblaw's group had it before us but this is the first Fortinos that we've put them into," Ippolito said. "We have quite a bit of staff on hand to make sure everybody understands the way it works. We're doing the best we can to make an easy transition."

Ippolito said the transition to newer technology is important for customer satisfaction.



The self-serve checkouts are one of the new features at Fortinos.

"It's a lot of money to buy one of those registers. It's a lot more expensive. So really, in the long run, what we're trying to do is make it as best and easy as possible for Mrs. Consumer to come in the store and do what she wants to do. Again, it's time saving for Mrs. Consumer," he said.

Beata Lach, one of Ippolito's many "Mrs. Consumers" likes the new store, even if it means longer line-ups to try out the new registers.

"We're here for the second time. First time was Saturday. There were a lot of people and I didn't do any shopping because of those cashiers. There were lines everywhere and people were learning how to do that," Lach said.

"If you have time and you can come weekday mornings or early

afternoons it's great shopping. Saturdays, I don't recommend it, but it was fun," she added.

Marion Upshall was drawn to this new location because of the advertising. "One [thing was] the flyer, and two, everybody's all freaked out that Fortinos is in the neighbourhood so it was pretty exciting so we thought we'd come and check it out."

Despite her larger than life experience at Fortinos, Upshall prefers shopping at her neighbourhood friendly market.

"Where I shop right now I'm quite happy with. They're very comparative with pricing. I'm just so used to it and I enjoy their produce. I will try here, I just don't know if I will stay here," Upshall said. What does it all come down to? "Loyalty, strictly loyalty," she said.

Youth are the future of The Star's business



by Annie Chau

When the Toronto Star initiated its campus readership program here at Humber after the Christmas holidays, I was excited, because it meant that as a student living in residence I would be able to pick up a free newspaper every morning.

With this excitement however, came some confusion. Up until The Star was made available for free, I had been religiously buying it at the school bookstore to keep up to date with world affairs. So why would The Star risk losing regular customers like myself by making their paper available at no cost?

After taking part in the sixth semi-annual Student Newspaper Mentoring Workshop organized by the Toronto Star on Feb. 3, I finally understood.

It's all about investment.

To make the news a part of young people, The Star has undergone this project that has spawned in many local university and college campuses to ensure that the news will continue to be an important part of society from generation to generation.

At the Mentoring Workshop, some of the newspaper staff from schools like York, U of T, Wilfred Laurier, Queens and Humber were given a taste of what it will take to

make their newspapers a success. Industry professionals were available to answer questions about layout, circulation, advertising, reporting and the printing process. Participants were given the star treatment throughout the day with guest speakers, one-on-one workshops, an extensive tour of the printing press plant and a chance to network with staff of the Star over breakfast, lunch, dinner and even a few drinks.

After taking part in this event, I came away feeling empowered. Before this experience, I thought that the Star was doing us students a favour, encouraging our interest in the news business by helping us with our newspapers, and possibly our future careers.

But after talking with people like Bill Whitfield, the retail sales and promotion manager and Paul Abdoel, the circulation marketing projects manager for the Star, I realized that we're doing them a favour as well. We are the wave of the future. We have the power to influence what happens in the world. Through keeping informed about our world via the news, we can make things happen. The people at the Star know this. This is why they are willing to invest their time, energy and money in a young demographic that may be an unprofitable market to tap into right now. But a few more years down the line, we will have grown up reading the Toronto Star, we will recognize their name, the faces behind it and the stories they tell, and we will buy their paper, learn from it, and make a difference.

New software thwarts Web 'pop-up' ads

by Brian E. Wilkinson

Just about every time you connect to the Internet, small pieces of software dubbed "spy-ware" send out private information about you to hundreds of places.

Most people are unaware of the problem, until suddenly "pop-up ads" start appearing all over the screen, some of which may even be inappropriate. Never fear, Ad-Aware is here to help and best of all, it's free to download.

Dubbed "Best Software of 2002" by *PC World Magazine*, Ad-Aware has become a necessary tool for the common consumer to use in the struggle for privacy.

"These ad-aware programs give you the ability to check out if your machine is being used maliciously and to repair it if it is," said Brett Jensen, a 25-year-old computer specialist in Toronto. "It's become very important to companies and home

offices — as information is crucial to the big world of corporations."

Located at www.lavasoft.de, Ad-Aware claims it can easily scan your memory, registry, hard, removable and optical drives for known data mining, aggressive advertising, and tracking components.

"Sounds good," said web designer Steven Mercer. "I don't want spies following me around the Internet. It doesn't matter if they want to sell me something or take private information. Privacy is really important," Mercer said.

"It sounds useful. Something that cuts down on invasion of privacy is good," said 21-year-old Alan Jaclyn. "I'd download it for sure."

Ad-Aware is a fairly simple program to use. It opens a new window on your desktop, allowing you to select components that you would like to remove from your computer that have been installed by Web sites or by downloaded file-sharing programs, such as KaZaa.

For computer users without a program like Ad-Aware, Jensen said there isn't too much to worry about. "It's more of an annoyance, really. Most of the time it's just pop-up ads that you can't seem to get rid of," he said.

"But the more tools you have at your disposal, the better. It doesn't mean you'll catch all the hidden things that are on your machine, but it gives you a better shot at it," Jensen said.

For timid consumers, Ad-Aware's Web site comes complete with a message forum where experts and new users alike solve any and all problems people may have. Before ever installing any program, make sure all your questions have been answered.

Ad-Aware is compatible with Microsoft Windows versions 98 and beyond. More complicated versions are available for download, but are not free of charge. There are currently no Mac versions available.

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Biker Boys (PG)	1:10, 4:10, 6:55, 9:35
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The coolest club in town

by Izabela Jaroszynski

In the small picturesque town of Ste-Catherine-de-la-Jacques-Cartier, just 20 minutes west of Quebec City, surrounded by snowy trees and a pristine lake, lies an exquisitely crafted ice castle.

Constructed every year by expert designers and ice carvers, the Ice Hotel Quebec houses thousands of visitors before melting away at the first sign of spring.

A 3,000 sq. metre structure, the hotel is created by using 11,000 tonnes of snow and 350 tonnes of ice.

"It's spectacular," said Ryan Fortner, an employee of the hotel. "When you walk into the building that's when it hits you that everything is made of ice and snow. It's almost a surreal feeling. You feel like you're not in a real building."

Boasting 18-foot ceilings, heated indoor bathrooms, and professional ice sculptures this year's building took more than five weeks to create.

The only hotel of its kind in North America, it attracts visitors from across the country and from the United States, including students

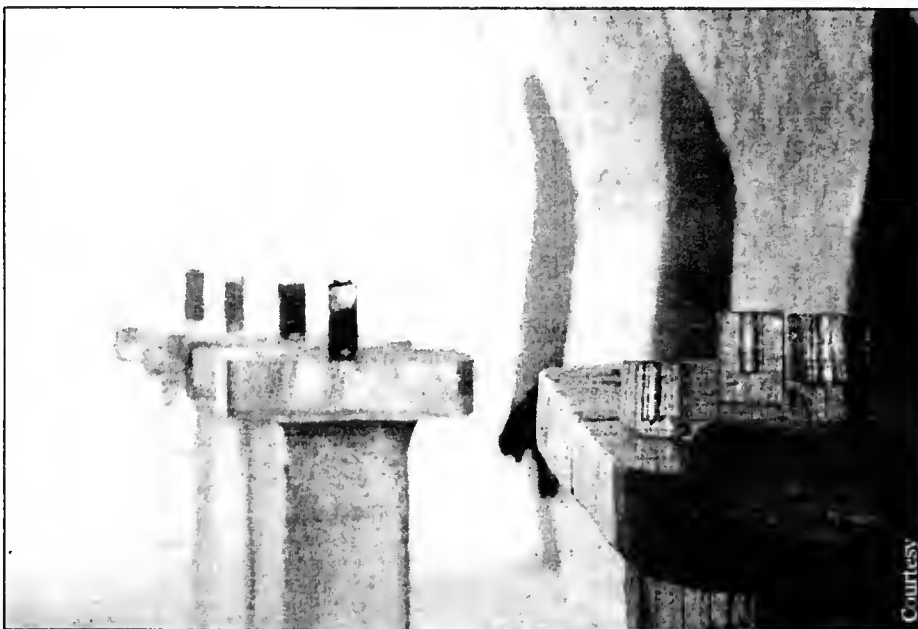
looking for fun off of the ski slopes.

"We have a lot of students come [to the hotel] who are travelling to Quebec City for March break - since we are open during March break - or just travelling around and stop in," Fortner said. "It's a market we are definitely trying to cater to."

And with the opening of a new nightclub inside the hotel, they are doing just that.

With a capacity of 400 people and featuring local talent playing the latest in Latin, pop music and dance music, the new Le N'ice Club promises to be one of the "coolest" night spots for party-goers in Quebec. Even at -2 C.

"You never have to worry about being too cold or too warm," said Magalie Boutin of Tourism Quebec who has attended an event in the new



The inside of the ultra "cool" Le N'ice Club at the Ice Hotel Quebec.

nightclub. "The place has a nice and warm ambience. It is simply breathtaking."

While an overnight stay at the hotel will cost more than \$200 per person, a night at the club is only \$20 and includes a tour of the hotel as well as one free drink in the hotel's signature ice glass. For students who opt to sleep in Quebec City,

Hostelling International offers rooms at \$22 a night and shuttles to the nightclub are available for \$35 round trip from the city.

The hotel is located on Route 367 N, just off Hwy. 40 and can be visited until the end of March.

And the slopes of Mont-Sainte-Anne, one of Quebec's premier ski centres, are 40 minutes away.

Linux instead of Windows

by Jeff Collier

It's cheap, easy to learn, and flexible - and it's giving Bill Gates nightmares.

It's the unprecedented ability to view the software code of a computer operating system, known as the open-source movement.

The concept of open-source is very simple: when programmers can read, redistribute, and modify the source code for software, the software evolves. It can be easily improved, easily debugged and easily adapted to meet the needs of the individual.

It has remained relatively obscure until Microsoft Corp.'s filing to the US Securities Exchange Commission (SEC) last week stating the success of open-source would be the financial ruin of Gate's software giant.

"To the extent the open-source model gains increasing market acceptance," the Redmond, Wash. based company said in the filing, "sales of the company's products may decline, the company may have to reduce the prices it charges for its products, and revenues and operating margins may consequently decline."

Microsoft's argument is based on the theory of the software development model, in which a corporation that manufactures and licenses an operating system's software bears the costs of developing that software and therefore reaps the financial rewards of their efforts.

The filing said the open-source model is a "software produced by global 'communities' of programmers, and the resulting software and the intellectual property contained therein is licensed to end users at little or no cost."

Targeted as the torchbearer of the

open-source movement is Linux, an operating system that is a slight alteration of regular Unix systems like Apple's OS X, or Sun's Solaris. Initially created in 1991 by Linus Torvalds at the University of Helsinki in Finland, Linux has a vast array of uses, including networking, software development, and as an end-user platform.

Downloadable off the Internet for free, it's fitting Linux was designed by a student since they would benefit the most from an affordable operating system.

Humber College computer engineering professor Allan Bradstreet said anyone who is computer literate would be wise to check it out.

"Linux is being touted as a great alternative to Windows, with a huge variety of applications," Bradstreet said. "You really don't have to be a proficient user, because it's icon-based just like Windows. But similarly, you're still looking at a day to two day's learning curve to naturally get the hang of things."

So if it's free, relatively easy to use, and it can be manipulated by programmers, then it must be taking the market by storm, right?

Wrong.

Microsoft's posturing to the SEC was more braggadocio than anything else. Recent reports from technology analyst IDC state Microsoft holds a 90 per cent share of the operating system market, compared to less than two per cent for Linux and other open-source systems.

As far as the future goes for the open-source movement, Bradstreet said it could be anyone's guess.

"It really is an interesting situation because it's keeping Microsoft honest. They're not able to go ahead and gouge the market. I wish I had a crystal ball."

A skewed view of life

Since famous writer/director Kevin Smith (*Clerks*, *Chasing Amy*) first reached audiences through fart jokes and unique dialogue, thousands of fans searched the web to connect with their master.

And they've now found him in the form of NewsAskew.com

The site is a play on words from Smith's "View Askew" film company. Created by super-fans Chris Alley and Brad Plevyak in 1997, News Askew has boomed with more than 11 million unique visitors.

"Chris and I are both fans of Kevin's," says Plevyak of News Askew's humble beginnings. "After *Chasing Amy* was released, I was starting to learn HTML and decided it might be fun to set up a little web page with news and fun items dedicated to Kevin's films."

"Actually, at first we just created a drinking game for each of his movies and posted them," Plevyak says.

Web

Wanderings

by Brian E. Wilkinson

"Drinking Games! I'm in heaven," says Jason Sorrenti, a 23-year-old web designer from Toronto. "I didn't know about the site before, but I'll go now. That, and I like Kevin Smith movies."

It didn't take long for the site to attract the attention of Smith himself. Many fans have expressed surprise when they post messages on the site's message board and get replies back from him.

"He's on the web quite a bit," Plevyak says. "He was an immediate fan of the site and said that it was the best View Askew site on the web."

Since its humble and hazy beginnings, the site has grown and gone through several facelifts. The site now boasts a huge review area, on location visits to the movie sets (both Alley and Plevyak have cameos in *Dogma*), as well as unofficial pages for each of Smith's movies, including the soon to be released *Jersey Girl* starring Ben Affleck.

Kevin Smith is best known for his stoner pair of thugs named Jay and Silent Bob. The duo appear in all five of Smith's currently released films including *Clerks*, *Mallrats*, and *Jay and Silent Bob Strike Back*.

"I love Kevin Smith," says Tom Toner, a 20-year-old math major at the University of Guelph. "The movies that he's done are really a whole new level of filmmaking. The site is great because we're getting the latest about what he's doing."

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Sports



Keneisha Walter

Yvonne VanAdrichem won two gold and two silver during the Special Winter Olympic Games in Barrie, Ontario.

Student wins Special Olympic gold medals

Yvonne VanAdrichem wins big in Barrie at Ontario's Special Winter Olympics

by Keneisha Walter

Humber's Yvonne VanAdrichem skated to the winner's circle capturing four medals at the Special Winter Olympic Games in Barrie.

VanAdrichem dominated the events, which took place Jan. 30 to Feb. 2.

A member of the Brampton's Special Olympics team, VanAdrichem won two gold medals in the 333 and 500 metre speed-skating events and two silver medals in the 777 and 800 metre relays.

As a firm believer in the Ontario Special Olympic motto, "Let me win, but if I can't, let me be brave in the attempt," VanAdrichem said it's significant to her achievements.

"I try my best," she said. "If I win, I win. If I don't, I can do better."

VanAdrichem started speed-skating six years ago and has showed that with a lot of hard work, anything is possible.

"The races were easy for me," said VanAdrichem, who worked hard with perseverance and commitment.

The Brampton native has been involved in sports since 1984. A well-rounded athlete, VanAdrichem bowls, plays soc-

cer and basketball. Alongside her dedication to these sports, VanAdrichem is a devoted student.

She began her schooling at Humber this past fall, and is enrolled in the CICE (Community Integration through Co-operative Education) program for students with disabilities. Her elective course is through Fitness and Health Promotion.

"She has a natural love for sports. Her face lights up whenever a sporting event comes up," said Tammy Christie, VanAdrichem's instructor. "She takes a lot of initiative when she knows what she wants. She goes after it."

VanAdrichem said her mentor is gold medallist speed-skater, Catriona Lemay Doan. "She's so fast. She's always winning," VanAdrichem said. "And when I go to Special Olympics practices and competitions, I just try my best to win."

When VanAdrichem finishes school, she wants to work with kids who have disabilities. She also plans to compete at the World Games. For now, though, VanAdrichem is looking ahead to the Nationals in Charlottetown, P.E.I. next Jan.

Hawks' streak frozen

Loss forces hockey team to a second place finish for season

by Patrick Kane

Humber's hockey team had a long bus ride home from Windsor after falling to the St. Clair Saints by a score of 4-3 last Saturday.

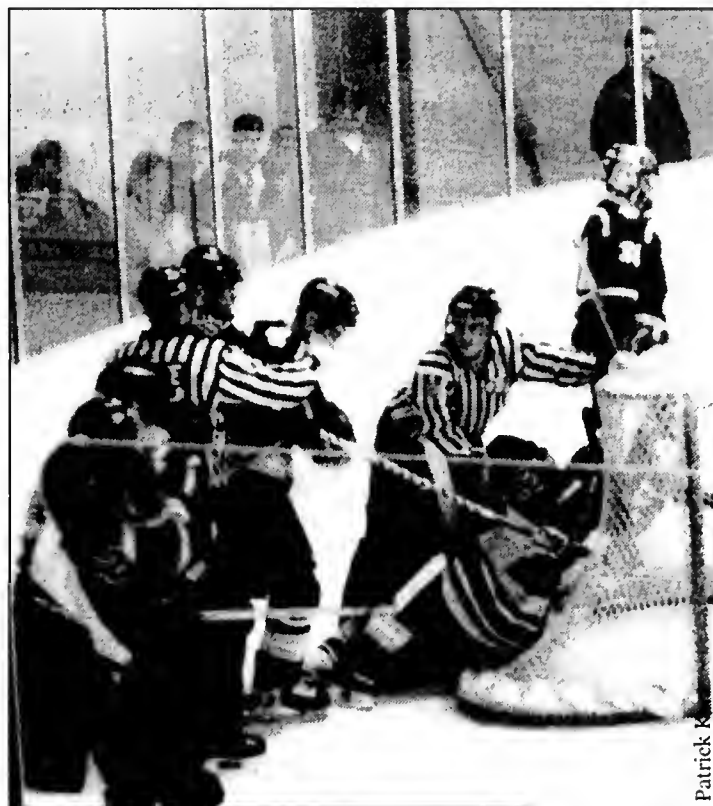
The loss puts the Hawks at a 12-2-1 record, and the best they can hope for is a second place finish in the OCAA regular season. St. Clair clinched the regular season championship with the win.

"We played like we were back in Pee-Wee major," said Jason Fortier, Hawks assistant captain. "We have to play as a team."

Though they lead for nearly half the game, the Hawks were clearly playing like a team on the ropes. Frustration replaced placidity, said Hawks winger Seth Gray, who was ejected in the second period after grappling with a St. Clair player.

"I saw [the St. Clair player] come in and chop at our goalie, so I went at it with him. We weren't playing well. I wasn't playing well and I was frustrated. I wasn't the same after the first period," Gray said, with a chipped tooth as a result of the tussle.

Scott Barnes opened the scoring and Humber went to the dressing room leading 1-0 at the first intermission. But both clubs came back strong when an early goal by Humber forward James Rodak was matched by St. Clair just two min-



Hawks lose to the St. Clair Saints, 4-3 last Saturday in Windsor.

utes into the second period.

The Saints rebounded to tie the game midway through the second and took the lead in the third with two more goals. Fortier beat Saints goalie Ryan Shuchard with a minute left in the game, but the Hawks fell short of tying the match in the few seconds they had left. A tie would have kept their run for a regular season title alive.

"That was the worst game we played, but then again, that's the best [St. Clair] has," said Humber goaltender Nick Grainger.

Grainger was the star for the Hawks, stopping nearly everything he saw with virtual-cartwheels when desperate. He got some help in the second period when the net kept falling off its moorings and two St.

Clair goals were called back.

Despite the loss, Humber still has a chance to square off with the Saints in the playoffs. And the Hawks would love nothing better than to do this in the OCAA finals, said St. Clair head coach, Kevin Hamlin.

"I have a lot of respect for [Humber head coach, Joe Washkurak] and his boys, and I know they will want to beat us should we meet them in the finals," Hamlin said. "But if we play them, the game could go either way. We're two evenly matched teams."

Humber meets Fleming on Feb. 13 and Seneca on Feb. 15. Their final regular season game is at home, Feb. 19 against Conestoga.

Leafs need a trade, badly

We're at the halfway mark of another NHL year and the Leafs don't look any better compared to other years.

Injuries have held the Leafs in the middle of their division for most of the season with Sundin, Belfour and Mogilny going through the revolving door of the trainer's room. The rest of us are looking at trades for the play-off race.

The trade deadline is looming and all we can hope is "stand" Pat Quinn will finally pull the trigger and make a trade that takes the blue and white to the final, and, dream as we may, even win.

In the last few years Quinn, and his yes-men, have told us they tried to get players like Blake and Guerin, but, for whatever reason, couldn't.

Every year brings a new reason why deals fall through. Last year

Quinn said Guerin didn't want to play in Toronto. Maybe I'm looking through rose-coloured glasses, but I always thought money talks and BS



by Ron A. Melihien

walks. Quinn's the reason no marquee players want to play in the big smoke.

If Toronto takes the next step and wins Sir Stanley's mug, they'll need to do it now while players like

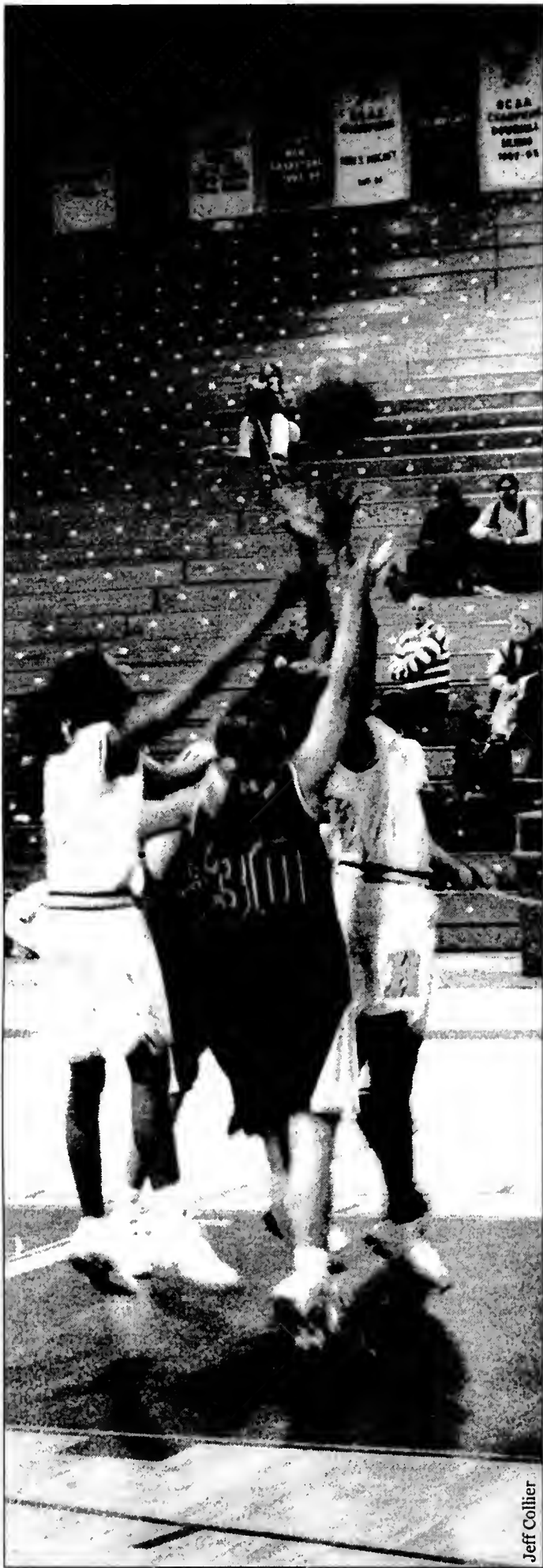
Roberts and Belfour still can.

The dilemma is the potential players strike in 2004. Many NHL clubs are dumping their high-priced players looking at prospects for one-third the price of veteran millionaires. If there is a strike, teams will be forced to carry players' contracts throughout the work stoppage.

Toronto has many young, top quality guys. And with time, they'll have a chance at becoming stars in the league. Colavachio, Boyes and even Antropov are names teams like San Jose will want in exchange for a guy like Owen Nolan. Can you imagine Sundin, Mogilny and Nolan coming at you on the power play?

Everyone is allowed to dream and Leaf fans are dreaming of getting back to the championship plateau they haven't been on since 1967.

Women's basketball a give-away



Hawks lose to the Loyalist Lancers for the first time this year.

Lady Hawks give up second place standing with a 70-58 loss to Loyalist Lancers last weekend

by Jeff Collier

One little dirty word was all Hawks shooting guard, Alecia Reese, had to say about her team's play against the Loyalist Lancers last week.

"Garbage."

In one of the most important games of the year, that meant sole possession of second place in the OCAA east, the women's basketball team put on a stinker.

"Our intensity from the start wasn't there," Reese said. "We may have taken it for granted that we'd beaten them twice this year already, and they played like they wanted the win."

As a result, the Lancers walked out of North Campus gym last Thursday with a 70-58 victory and a four-point edge on the Hawks in the standings. It now puts the Hawks in a precarious spot, forcing them to win their remaining games to have a chance at second place.

More importantly, those games are crucial to determine positioning for the OCAA championships in less than a month, when the Hawks will be looking for a repeat performance of their title run last season.

The Hawks were coming off a two-game winning streak, dominating their opponents in both games and playing like a team that has a great chance at winning this year's OCAA crown.

Considering the previous wins against the Lancers this year, with 26 and 27 point margins, this one should have been in the bag.

But there is never a sure thing in sports, and this game proved no different.

It was a defensively-minded contest from start to finish. The Hawks displayed their usual tenacity, picking off entry passes from the wing in such a common fashion it looked like the Lancers

were intentionally giving the ball away at times.

At the other end, it was the inside defensive play of Lancer all-star centre, Allison Lee, that intimidated the Hawks.

She swatted at every ball that came within arms reach of the hoop and kept the Humber forwards off the offensive glass. That allowed teammate Rachel Gallype to break-out for a number of uncontested lay-ups, adding to a 30-27 halftime Lancer lead.

The second half was more of the same as both teams showed their frustrations at the offensive end. The Hawks couldn't keep pace, though, and with eight minutes to go, the wheels eventually fell off.

"Our intensity from the start wasn't there," said Humber Hawk Alecia Reese. "We may have taken it for granted that we'd beaten them twice this year already, and they played like they wanted the win."

With a trio of three-pointers, two fast-break lay-ups and a couple of put-backs, the Lancers had suddenly put the Hawks down 11 points with five minutes to play.

When it was all said and done, and Humber was left staring at a 5-4 record, the look of shock on the face of Hawk guard Karine Nicolas spoke volumes.

"I'm more surprised by our play tonight than anything. I just don't understand," she said. "Our concentration wasn't there, our turnovers were terrible. We even let them out-rebound us on the offensive end."

The Hawks can take consolation in the fact they have three games in hand on the Lancers with their next game a rare weekend match-up at Durham College against the 4-5 Lords. Despite that team's losing record, Nicolas and her teammates know there is no easy game from now on.

"It's never over. This loss was only one game," she said. "Now, we need to concentrate on winning every game from here on in. We can do it, just no more games like tonight."

My best-kept hockey secret



by Liz Byers

What I am about to admit may come as a shock to some. Those who know me well may drop their jaws, shake their heads and stomp their feet in disbelief.

Here goes...I secretly want to be a hockey player! There, I've said it. The weight has been lifted. All is right in the world.

To know me is to know I'm classified as quite the "girlie" girl. It's not something I hide. I embrace it with every fibre of my being.

That said, the idea of me in full hockey gear causes me to have a little laugh. I mean, on a pair of skates I stand at a whopping five foot five.

I've come to my own theory on this subject so bear with me if you will.

I can still hear a friend of mine from New Jersey say, "I guess for fun you go down to the local rink and play with your sticks?"

First of all, I explained to her that since it was the middle of July, there actually wasn't any ice up in the Great White North. Secondly, I informed her that just because I'm Canadian, doesn't mean I played hockey every minute of my natural life.

After a couple more encounters like these, I started to have strong feelings for the national pastime that brings our great country together. My heart went pitter-patter every time I drove by the local arena.

In the beginning I tried to shrug it off and blamed this new-found desire on lack of sleep or wacky fluctuations in hormones.

Months went by and after the hundredth or so daydream about sipping bubbly Dom Perignon from the cup, it was clear I had become obsessed.

I always loved watching the Leafs. So the next logical step would be to want to score a goal alongside Sundin or Mogilny while the crowd goes wild, wouldn't it?

Okay, so maybe it seems a tad drastic. That's why they call them fantasies, folks.

I'd be quite an asset to the team, though. I could sneak by the players, darting through their legs with ease.

I took ballet lessons for more than 12 years so I could handle the puck with sheer and utter grace.

And hey, what guy would bodycheck a girl? I am telling you, by this time next year I could be Quinn's best-kept secret.

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Varsity Standings

Men's Volleyball

Central Division	MW	ML	Points
Seneca	9	1	18
Humber	8	0	16
Georgian	6	4	12
Cambrian	5	5	10
George Brown	4	5	8
Sheridan	1	10	2
Boreal	1	9	2

Eastern Division			
Loyalist	7	0	14
Royal Military	5	4	10
Fleming	4	5	8
La Cite	4	4	8
Durham	3	4	6
Algonquin	1	7	2

Western Division			
Niagara	11	1	22
Fanshawe	8	4	16
Redeemer	7	4	14
Nippissing	8	5	12
St. Clair	4	5	8
Mohawk	2	8	4
Canadore	0	11	0

Women's Volleyball

Central Division	MW	ML	Points
Cambrian	13	0	26
Humber	10	1	20
Seneca	8	4	16
Georgian	7	5	14
Sheridan	5	8	10
Boreal	4	8	8
Centennial	1	10	2
Confederation	0	12	0

Eastern Division			
Durham	8	1	16
Algonquin	8	2	16
Trent	7	5	14
Loyalist	6	3	12
Royal Military	4	7	8
Fleming	3	8	6
La Cite	0	10	0

Western Division			
Niagara	13	1	26
Fanshawe	12	4	24
Mohawk	10	4	20
Canadore	8	6	16
Sault	7	6	14
Nippissing	5	8	10
Redeemer	4	10	8
St. Clair	2	11	4
Lambton	1	12	2

Women's Basketball

Eastern Division	W	L	Points
Seneca	9	0	18
Loyalist	8	4	16
Humber	5	3	10
Durham	4	5	8
Algonquin	4	4	8
Georgian	2	7	4
George Brown	0	9	0

Western Division			
Fanshawe	8	0	16
St. Clair	8	1	12
Niagara	4	4	8
Mohawk	4	4	8
Redeemer	3	6	6
Algoma	0	1	0

Men's Hockey

	W	L	T	Pts
St. Clair	6	0	0	12
Humber	3	1	1	8
Seneca	2	3	3	4
Conestoga	2	3	3	4
Cambrian	2	3	3	4
Fleming	0	6	8	0

Men's Basketball

Central Division	W	L	Points
Humber	1	1	24
Sheridan	2	2	16
Mohawk	8	7	8
Centennial	4	8	8
Seneca	4	7	8
George Brown	4	9	4

Eastern Division			
Algonquin	10	0	24
St. Lawrence	2	3	16
Georgian	2	5	12
Durham	8	7	8
Loyalist	6	8	6
Fleming	4	1	0

Western Division			
Niagara	7	2	14
Lambton	7	3	14
Sault	6	3	12
Fanshawe	6	4	12
St. Clair	5	4	10
Redeemer	2	8	4
Algoma	1	1	2



Humber displayed their powerhouse defence in their sweet victory over Sheridan a week ago.

Men's b-ball to step it up

by Steve Autio

With only a couple of games left in the season, the Humber Hawk's men's basketball team continues to fine-tune and mentally prepare for crunch time.

With the playoffs right around the corner, the players are putting on their game faces.

Part of that preparation process took place on Tuesday, Feb. 11 as the Hawks beat Centennial College 63-55, but the Hawk's didn't come out with intensity in this game and as a result tied with Centennial at half time.

"The first half we weren't playing too well. They were out rebounding us and we turned the ball over four times in the last two minutes. We

were kind of getting sloppy," said Humber centre Justice Rathwell.

The second half was an entirely different story, however. Humber stepped up their play and was led by forward Roger Scott, who was named player of the game. "I thought we played hard as a team," Scott said giving his teammates credit for the win.

Dejvis Begaj was another key contributor in the win. "We came up big in the second half. We rebounded and played good defense that helped us win the game," Begaj said.

Hawk's guard Jeremy Walters gave Centennial credit for their performance on the night. "It was a hard fought game. Centennial really came out with the determination to put us on the ropes and try to get a victory out of it," Walters said.

The effort given by Humber in the second half is exactly the type of effort needed down the stretch and into the playoffs. "The intensity was there and the control was there. We showed a lot of heart and character and it was a big win for us," Rathwell said.

While the team is looking ahead and preparing for the playoffs, they aren't looking past their remaining games. "We are going to continue to work hard and not take any team lightly," Scott said.

Rathwell said the upcoming playoffs are generating a lot of excitement and intensity.

"We just want to dust these guys," he said.

"We want to go straight out and play hard and show that Humber College is the place to be," he said.

Women's volleyball slams Sheridan in three straight

by Liz Byers

On Tuesday Feb. 11, the Hawks pounded the Centennial College Colts, winning all three games, 25-17, 25-12, 25-14.

Kirsty Gooderale and Risha Tony proved to be the dominant players throughout the evening.

Wilkins was proud of the team and said the win resulted from a "total team effort."

The team has three games left in regular season play before playoffs begin.

The Hawks slammed Sheridan last Thursday after traveling to Oakville and taking on the Bruins.

They won all three of their games with a 25-12, 25-14, 25-17 victory in the end.

Gina Melhorn, a first-year mem-

ber of the team, started in her first game ever for the Hawks. Co-captain Alex Romano said she was very proud of her showing.

"She really rose up to the challenge and played an amazing game."

Head Coach Chris Wilkins was impressed with Melhorn's performance as well.

"On Thursday, the team really needed her to step up to the plate and she did," Wilkins said. "She's been an instrumental player all year and I'm glad to see she was able to show that to everyone else."

The team is currently missing two key and valuable players. Carrie Moffat injured her knee at the Centennial Classic tournament a couple of weeks ago. She's hoping to be in top form for the OCAA Championships in a few weeks. Heather Mackenzie sprained her

ankle at the Centennial Classic as well, but she's aiming to be back in the swing of things by this weekend.

"It was nice to see a strong game even with the injuries," Wilkins said. "The nice thing is, we played at our level throughout the entire game against Sheridan. Sometimes we have a tendency to play down to meet the opponent's level."

Wilkins was extremely happy all team members remained physically powerful throughout the three matches.

Romano was also proud of the way the team performed against Sheridan.

"We really pulled together as a team on a night we needed to," she said.

The team has four more games left in the regular season until the playoffs begin.

Athletes of the Week



Milad Massoudi was a force to be reckoned with in volleyball's win last week.



Yvonne VanAdrichem won two gold and two silver medals in speed skating at the Special Olympics.

Volleyball aces their way to 8-0



Humber's men's volleyball team increased their winning streak by defeating Sheridan in four games. They are now 8-0 in league play with the playoffs only weeks away.

by Todd Clark

The Humber Hawks men's volleyball team defeated the Sheridan Bruins on the road last Thursday night, increasing their record to a perfect 8-0.

The Hawks won 25-9, 25-13, 24-26 and 25-16. Humber served a number of aces in the first set and the Bruins couldn't handle the Hawks offensive attack orchestrated by Milad Massoudi's setting.

"I'm slowly progressing as a new setter. [My] teammates are helping a lot on the court with good passing. Being into volleyball for the last 10, 12 years, setting comes naturally. I think we're going all the way," Massoudi said.

The Hawks' defensive game was also strong, lead by Matt Singh in the backcourt.

It was also the first time this season Humber held their opponents to under 10 points.

Again, the Hawks enthusiasm generated in their emotional victory at Georgian College two weeks ago carried over to Sheridan.

"We want to stay unbeaten and we want to play the same consistent ball always," said rookie middle Daryl Burton. "Just a win isn't good enough. We still want all of our plays to run smoothly and play every game as if it was our last."

The Hawks dominated the Bruins again in the second set, outscoring them for a combined score of 50-22.

"When we play games with [with low calibre teams] it's more the big picture than the little picture."

With Humber leading 22-17 in the third set, the sweep looked inevitable.

But the Bruins clawed their way back, capitalizing on some Humber mistakes, and barely squeaked out the win.

Hawks head coach Wayne Wilkins described the late surge by Sheridan as a "mental lapse" on the Hawks' part.

"We were caught on our heels. A couple of guys go in and work hard but [they] just didn't get the job done. [Sheridan] caught up," Wilkins said.

The Bruins had their moment, but the Hawks put them away for good in the fourth set.

Wilkins credits Sucha (Bobby) Randhawa and Mike Smith for their strong play.

"They were consistent. Bobby's our go-to guy. He has to go out there and earn his paycheck," Wilkins said.

"Personally I felt we played strong our first two sets. I was mentally prepared to come in and do the job I was supposed to do, and I did it," said rookie Mike Smith.

The Hawks have four regular season games remaining before the playoffs.

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