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30 YEARS

HUMBER ET CETERA

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-- Humber College's Newspaper --

April 11, 2002 Vol. 30 No. 24

The final ballot is counted

By PAUL MARKOWSKI

Almost three weeks after Humber students cast their votes to determine who would be the new HSF president, the ballots results are finally in. Craig Wilson, who was disquali-

fied and reinstated and who was the subject of several complaints by other presidential candidates, was elected HSF president with 291 votes yesterday. Runner-up Stephen Anastasi had 239 votes, Usman Ghani had 166

votes, Paul Simpson had 87 votes and Adam Hackett finished with 84 votes. Following the appeals hearings on April 8, the Election Appeals Committee concluded in a three-page report that the complaints

against Wilson were unfounded and directed Ben Zettel, the Chief Returning Officer, to count the results of the presidential election. The committee cleared Wilson, who was accused of breaking the Elections and Appeals Policy by campaigning in restricted areas and using administrative office space to campaign.



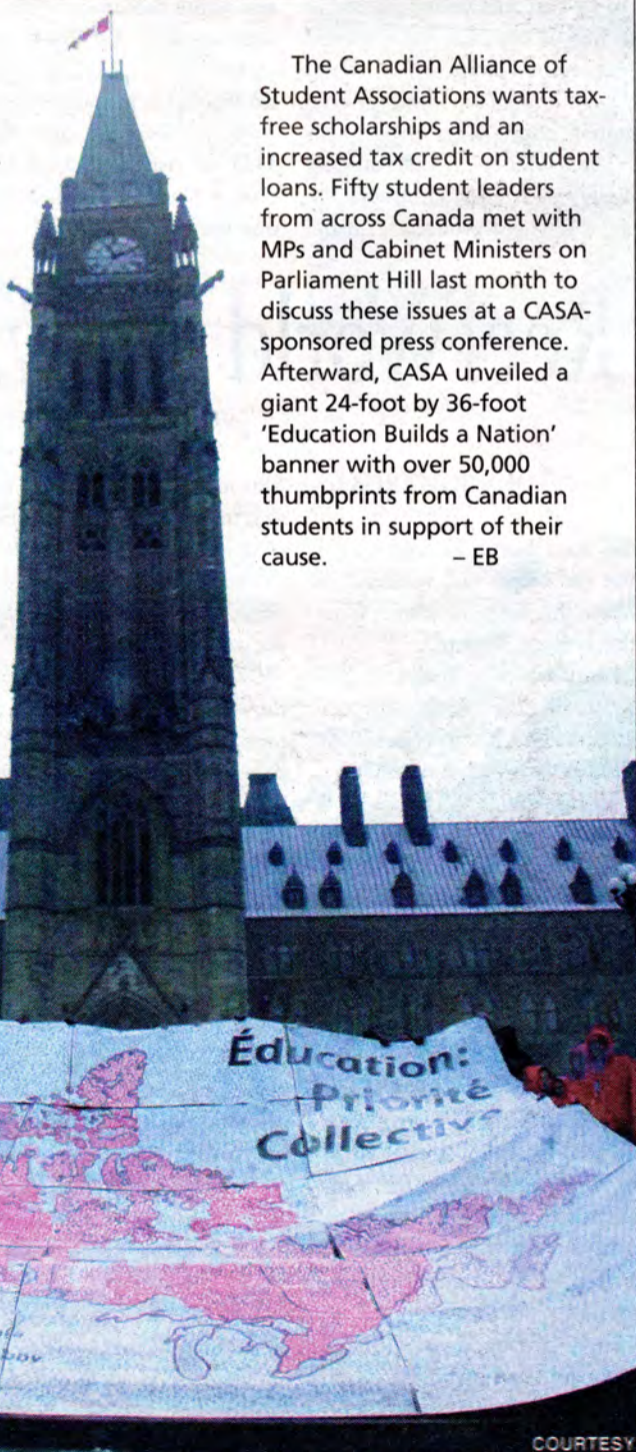
Craig Wilson was elected HSF president

"I think the appeals process was done correctly and they reached their decision fairly," said presidential candidate Anastasi.

"I'm pleased with the fact that they acknowledged some of the complaints and that they did have an impact on the elections." Although the committee recognized a number of complaints, it determined that Zettel was not in a position to enforce policy and penalties. The committee also settled the position of vice president campus life at North Campus by disqualifying Jain Thevaril. The committee based its decision on evidence from three witnesses and as a result, Rishi Gupta claimed the position.

"Justice has been done," Gupta said. "I'm really looking forward to next year. We'll look into improving the Student Centre and to make (Humber) more of a place where people can relax." To address the inadequacies of the current Election and Appeals Policy, the committee has directed Michael Parent, HSF's Business Manager to perform a thorough revision and modification. After tallying the final ballots, a weary-looking Zettel exclaimed: "Thank God it's over."

Education Builds a Nation



The Canadian Alliance of Student Associations wants tax-free scholarships and an increased tax credit on student loans. Fifty student leaders from across Canada met with MPs and Cabinet Ministers on Parliament Hill last month to discuss these issues at a CASA-sponsored press conference. Afterward, CASA unveiled a giant 24-foot by 36-foot 'Education Builds a Nation' banner with over 50,000 thumbprints from Canadian students in support of their cause. - EB



Chief Returning Officer Ben Zettel counts the final presidential ballots on Wednesday to determine the results of the drawn-out election

etc.

News etc.

Running for a cure

Relay for Life comes to Toronto this June, funds cancer research

By IVETTE MONTILLA-HOOKONG

Treva Thompson was only 24 years old when she was told she had cancer. Two weeks after discovering a lump in her collarbone, a biopsy revealed it was a tumor and several tests later, an x-ray discovered another mass above her heart.

For Thompson, a student of anthropology and women's studies at McMaster University, the news was devastating.

"At my age you think you're going to live forever and being faced with death is a very difficult thing," she said.

Thompson was diagnosed with Hodgkin's disease, a cancer that attack young people of higher social class in the western world.

After undergoing chemotherapy, the 31-year-old is now cancer-free and volunteering at the Canadian Cancer Society as co-chair of media and promotions of Relay for Life.

Relay for Life is an annual event coming this June, in which participants walk and run around a track for 24 uninterrupted hours to celebrate cancer survivors, offer tribute to those who've died from the disease and raise funds for research.

Neera Amrit, a graduate of Humber's Public Relations program, is in charge of coordinating the community-based event and expects to raise \$500,000 between the two relays in Toronto this year.

"This year we are expecting around 3,500 and 4,000 participants," she said.

The raised funds are used for cancer research, information on treatment and risk reduction and support for those living with cancer.

A ceremony at dusk with candles around the relay track provides inspiration and light for the participants. Each candle is placed in a



Humber grad Neera Amrit is coordinating the Relay for Life run.

paper bag, marked with the name of a person who has either survived or lost their life to cancer.

Amrit said this year's entertainment will be multicultural to properly represent Toronto.

The Humber Hype dance squad, comedian Bob Kerr from the Humber College School of Comedy and the Humber Di Shaan, a Bhangra group of Punjabi

dance, are some of the talent volunteering at the event.

Relay for Life hosts two events, one at the Birchmount Complex in Scarborough on June 7-8 and another at Centennial Stadium in Etobicoke on June 14-15.

To get involved, call 1-888-939-3333 or visit your local Canadian Cancer Society. For more information visit www.cancer.ca.

Ethnic films debut at ReelWorld festival

By FAYOLA EDWARDS

The ReelWorld Festival rolled out the red carpet last weekend to showcase the best in ethnic films and diversity in Toronto.

Toronto-born Tonya Lee Williams of *The Young and the Restless* came up with the concept for the festival last year and it's now taken off into 2002.

"Something is happening in Toronto," Williams said. "We are great filmmakers and it is time the world knows it."

Directors, actors and producers such as Robert Townsend, Eriq La Salle, Miriam Colon and Roger Guevera-Smith were just a few recognizable faces around Famous Players, Silver City in North York. The festival ran from April 4-8.

Jay Rao, a producer in the festival this year, started the production company Fade to Black because he saw a need for more minority films in Canada.

"I am so disappointed with the Canadian film industry," Rao said. Rao spent more than \$20,000 on his

film *Raju's Blind Date* and he hopes that more people will become aware of the importance of this festival.

"It's not about making minority films, it is about having a place to showcase them," he said.

The Toronto film festival shows the work of up-and-coming directors and actors but many participants in ReelWorld claim that it does not embrace cultural and ethnic aspects of films.

"When a film goes up on screen, it belongs to everyone who watches it. I do not own it anymore," Townsend said.

The festival closed with the debut of *Crazy as Hell* directed by Eriq La Salle. The movie was viewed by a sold out audience, and was followed by a gala party with the industry's top Canadian talent.

Superbob was the surprise hit this year, selling out three times. The film is a martial arts comedy directed by 26-year-old Joel Gordon, whose movie won the *Star! TV* award for audience choice.

The film is set to hit Canadian theatres next year.



FAYOLA EDWARDS

Actor Roger Guevera-Smith, who appeared in Spike Lee's *Do the Right Thing*, attended the festival that showcases minority film.

Brief Updates

Purse Snatching

A North Campus staff member was the victim of an on-campus purse snatching late on Tuesday night.

Two men approached the woman while she was exiting the foyer near the LX building at around 10 p.m.

They managed to make off with her purse without a struggle.

The purse, minus the contents, was found by police in a garbage bin near the LX exterior door.

Toronto's 23 division is currently investigating the incident.

The suspects are described as two black males, both approximately 6' to 6' 3", in their twenties and wearing dark clothing.

One individual was also reportedly wearing a dark baseball cap turned backwards.

Staff and students are asked to take extra precaution after dark.

Any tips leading to an arrest can earn a reward of up to \$1,000.

— PETER A. CRISCIONE

Corrections

The article 'HSF may pull Humber out of union' (March 21) incorrectly reported that Humber pays an annual \$30,000 membership fee for the College Student Alliance (CSA).

Humber pays \$15,000 annually for membership, yet pays in two-year installments.

The article 'HSF election fiasco' (March 28) neglected to report that Frans Yuwono was elected for one of the two positions as Director for School of Info/Tech and Acct. (North).

The article 'Elections drag on' (April 4) incorrectly reported that Craig Wilson and Jain Thevaril were disqualified from the HSF elections for using HSF office computers. The candidates had in fact been disqualified for using administrative offices for campaigning purposes.

The *Humber Et Cetera* regrets all errors and omissions.

Humber votes out of CSA

Sheridan College, who left the union four years ago, is considering rejoining because they have not maintained a strong voice at Queen's Park

By CELESTE BOTTERO

After months of debate, the Humber Students' Federation decided to withdraw from the College Student Alliance (CSA) at the board of directors meeting last week.

The controversial decision was reached despite rumours that board members were evenly split on whether to stay or leave the group that lobbies the province on behalf of Ontario colleges.

John Pulla, outgoing HSF president and an executive member of CSA, was unhappy with the vote.

"I find this very disappointing," he said. "Why limit ourselves within our own organization? We should be thinking about Ontario students as a whole, what is best for all Ontario students."

The CSA, formerly the Ontario Community College Student Parliamentary Association, represents some 140,000 students from 13 colleges across the province.

As Ontario's largest college organization, the CSA claims to have key standings on many provincial government committees, giving students a voice on educational policy at Queen's Park.

"The only way to advocate on a provincial level is to be part of a lobbying association," said CSA executive director Thyagi DeLanerolle.

"You can't be heard if you're not at

the table."

However some HSF members argue the annual membership cost of \$15,000 far exceeds the benefits the college receives in return.

"The only time Humber College has benefited from CSA membership was three years ago when they convinced the province to freeze tuition increase to two per cent," said Adam Hackett, HSF vice-president of administration (North) and presidential candidate.

"Since then, they have done very little," he added.

The money saved by withdrawing from CSA membership, which works out to approximately \$1.25 per student, can be put toward student bursaries, Hackett said.

But Hackett admitted that some of that money now must also be used for independent government lobbying.

The CSA acknowledged past leadership and direction was ineffective, but said recent internal restructuring has made them a stronger and more competent student organization.

"We have done many things to revamp our organization," DeLanerolle said. "We have just implemented a new strategic plan, as well as a new marketing strategy including changing our name so that we could be identified better."

Yet Hackett retorted, "You can change the name of it, but if it functions the same way, it's still not going to work."

However, Sheridan College, who left the CSA four years ago, is considering rejoining because they said the alliance has changed for the better.

"Over the last year-and-a-half, I have observed a lot of positive things with the CSA," said Sheridan's student president Anthony Oraziotti.

Without the backing of a large lobbying student organization, Oraziotti said Sheridan has not been a strong political group and that student issues are dealt with internally.

According to Oraziotti, this has weakened Sheridan's voice on educational policy at Queen's Park.

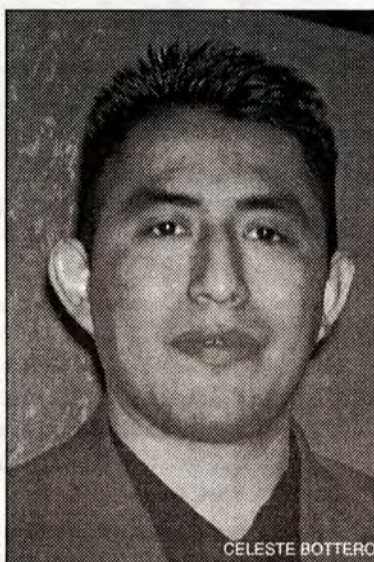
Centennial College, on the other hand, is a current CSA member and is impressed with the new changes of the organization.

"It is not even in our plan to

leave," said Centennial's student president Ronald Persaud.

"We have seen a dedication to student government representation. They work very hard to meet the needs of all students."

Wanted to stay in



John Pulla, outgoing HSF president and member of the CSA

Centennial argued that their college will not have their voice heard on a provincial level if they chose to break away from the alliance.

"Individually as a college, we would not be on board if it was not for CSA," Persaud said.

"They have a strong voice and have the power to meet with the government. What other organization can sit down with the government to address student needs?"

Seneca College, however, is not a member of any student organization and prefers to keep it that way.

"Because we are a corporation, we don't need another organization to lobby our interests," said Seneca's student president Peter Masconi.

"We talk directly to the provincial government through our general manager. For us, it works very well."

While this year's outgoing student council has decided to withdraw their membership from the CSA, next year's HSF can reverse the decision.

As it now stands, Humber has already paid its membership dues and will officially withdraw from the CSA in the 2003-2004 academic year.

AGM draws few

Fifty students – the bare minimum – voted last Thursday to allow the Election Appeals Committee to make the final decision on who would prevail as HSF president and vice president of campus life at this year's Annual General Meeting.

The AGMs are held bi-annually to approve any constitutional changes and pass HSF financial statements.

Several presidential candidates abstained on the motions to approve, amongst other things, the presidential position – which was undecided at the time.

"It is a vote that directly affects what I'm involved in," said Adam Hackett, a presidential candidate.

Stephen Anastasi, another

presidential candidate, also noted his abstention.

"I abstained because I didn't want to sway the vote. The results could have positively or negatively impacted me, so I decided not to influence the vote in any way," he said.

Held at Lakeshore this year, the AGM managed to scrape together the minimum number of students to approve all motions put forward by the HSF.

But the 120 slices of pizza and six cases of pop might have influenced the attendance.

"Judging by the number of hands, most students came for the food, but some students did figure things out by the end," Anastasi said.

– CHARLOTTE CUSTARD

2002 Convocation

DATE	TIME	SCHOOL/DIVISION
Tuesday June 11	7:30pm	School of Information Technology & Department of Accounting Studies School of Creative and Performing Arts School of Social & Community Services (Lakeshore) Corporate and Continuing Education •Fire & Emergency Services
Wednesday June 12	2:00pm	School of Hospitality, Recreation & Tourism Liberal Arts & Sciences (North and Lakeshore) School of Applied Technology
Thursday June 13	2:00pm	School of Media Studies (North and Lakeshore)
Thursday June 13	7:30pm	The Business School (North and Lakeshore)
Friday June 14	2:00pm	School of Health Sciences •Early Childhood Education (Day & Evening) •E.C.E. - Advanced Studies in Special Needs (Day & Evening) •Community Integration Co-operative Education •Funeral Service Education •Practical Nursing (Day & Evening)
Friday June 14	7:30pm	School of Health Sciences •Clinical Research •Emergency Telecommunications •Nursing •Occupational Therapist Assistant •Paramedic •Personal Attendant/Support Worker •Pharmacy Assistant/Technician •Physiotherapist Assistant •Post-Diploma Nursing All other Health Sciences (Part Time)

If you wish to attend the June 2002 Convocation you can apply by:
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Online(Website) <http://convocation.humberc.on.ca>
Mail/In Person: Submit application to the Customer Service and Registration Centre

Glad to be gone



ELIZABETH BOWER

Adam Hackett, vice-president of administration at North Campus

Money Matters etc.



Salt Spring Island residents are cashing in their Canadian currency for Salt Spring Island money on the tiny British Columbia island.

Money – that's what they want

By ALICIA VELOCE

Off the coast of British Columbia, there's a little island community making big changes.

Salt Spring Island, population 8,000, has created their own currency through a group called the Sustainable Salt Spring Island Coalition (SSSIC).

It all started on Sept. 15 of last year when Eric Booth, co-founder of the Salt Spring dollar, announced that his island was going to have its own currency. The currency's symbol is \$\$.

"We are doing this to promote

Salt Spring Island and to put money back into the community," Booth said. "We want to encourage on-island spending and provide a revenue source for community projects."

The \$\$ dollars went into circulation in November in the denominations of \$\$1, \$\$2 and \$\$5 bills. A few months later, \$\$10 and \$\$20 were created.

The Salt Spring dollars are completely supported by the Canadian dollar and are converted on-par. This bodes well for merchants receiving \$\$.

The design of the new money

almost mirrors Canada's old money scheme, with green \$\$1, brown \$\$2, blue \$\$5 and so on. Local artists of the island designed the money, which features historical island figures on the front and community artwork on the back.

Legally, the money is considered to be equal to gift certificates, but islanders have taken quite a shine to their new money system and think of it as their dollar.

"The project has, to date, been an overwhelming success on a number of levels," Booth said. "Acceptance in the business community is running at about 95 per cent."

The Salt Spring Island Monetary Foundation (IMF) is responsible with the issuance and maintenance of the currency. It is a non-profit organization and is registered with the province of British Columbia.

Salt Spring Island is known as a summer tourist attraction and this summer will be the first time that tourists will get to experience the new Salt Spring money.

"As we now begin moving into the first tourist season with the Salt Spring dollar, interest and circulation is rising in the community. We are excited with what has happened to date," Booth said.

New car: model of cult classic

By M. CHARLES SALEM

Mr. Bean had better grab his teddy bear and head out to the closest car dealership because the new car – looking much like his own – is on the market.

But the similarities between his dilapidated coupe and the new Mini end there.

The new Mini maintains the spirit of the Austin cult classic, but allows for a few modern safety features conveniences, and acceleration – all courtesy of Mini's owner, BMW.

For example, the new Mini is equipped with all the standard BMW front and side airbags.

One of the biggest differences you will notice as you drive off the lot is that this Mini has been working out more than its predecessor from the sixties.

The horsepower has jumped from 55 in the original 1959 edition to 115 in the 2002 Cooper and 165 in the Cooper S.

This considerable leap in pony power has done wonders for the acceleration, taking it from a standstill to 100km in 9.2 seconds.

The new Mini has held onto one great attribute from the original, its ability to hug corners. Due to its compact size, the momentum never slips away from the driver.

The size of the new Mini, while bigger to allow it to pass safety tests, is still one of the smallest on the road. It can sit a six-foot passenger in the driver's seat and still allow another passenger to get in the seat behind them, at least for a short trip.

Excitement has been building around the new Mini for the past few years, and most car enthusiasts seem to be charmed by this latest incarnation of the pint-sized classic.

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Q / A Section & Refreshments
msa_humber@yahoo.com

Counterfeit money is a growing Canadian problem

Steve has been using counterfeit money for the past few years now, sees no reason to turn to a more conventional way of making money, and pities the fools who follow the rules.

By PUNEET BAJAJ

It's hard not to stare when Steve's car stops at a red light. If his charcoal luxury car doesn't attract attention, the \$10,000 stereo system drowning out other car radios will.

The most impressive part is that he didn't pay more than \$3,500 for his system.

"I've got everything I want in this car right now," Steve said. "Two televisions, a Playstation 2 and one of the best stereo systems in town. If I see something later that I want, I will get that, too."

So how does this 22-year-old Wilfrid Laurier University student afford such expensive toys?

Crime.

Steve deals in counterfeit money.

It's one of the biggest scams in the country today. It affects everyone, from the retailer right down to the customer.

"I see about 3,000 counterfeit bills a year, maybe more, maybe less," Const. Ray Fielden of the Peel Police said.

Steve learned about the idea almost two years ago, when he went back to school. He had saved enough money for tuition, but needed a part-time job to make ends meet.

It was then that he met a few

high school dropouts through a mutual friend who told him about their "business." He was on-board in a matter of weeks.

"I saw what they had and I wanted it, too," Steve said. "I thought, why should I work so hard to get something that I can get so easily?"

Steve now picks up the fake money once a month and goes shopping.

"It's great now, I pay less than half for a grand's worth of bills," he said. "I'm not going to say where, or who I get it from. But I can tell you that it's nowhere close by."

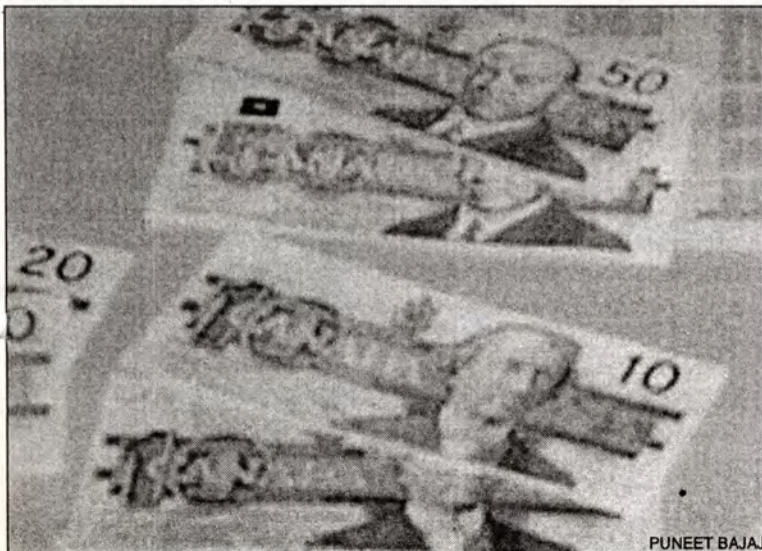
Steve admits that at first he was scared by the idea of using counterfeit money. He decided to first try out the fake bills in places where he had friends to see if anyone noticed.

He once pulled into a Petro-Canada gas station, his Nike jacket zipped up all the way and his hat pulled down. He pumped the gas and went inside to pay the employee with a counterfeit \$100 bill in his shaky hand.

The cashier looked at him hard for a few seconds and then ran the transaction.

Since then, he has used the fake bills to purchase electronics, which he then sells to make a profit.

"I feel bad for all the losers out there who pay full price," Steve said.



PUNEET BAJAJ

All the money seen above is fake. Can you tell the difference?



PUNEET BAJAJ

Const. Ray Fielden of the Peel police said he sees more than 3,000 counterfeit bills annually. Counterfeiting is the reason many stores across Canada no longer accept \$50 and \$100 bills.

"Why pay full price for something, when you can get away with paying less than a third?"

He almost joined another group of "losers" when police arrested him outside of a Business Depot for using counterfeit money last year.

He was taken in for questioning, but later released with no charges laid.

"I told them some story about a Palm Pilot that I returned, but that I wanted," Steve recalled. "I said I fixed some guy's car, and he must have been the one who paid me with the counterfeit money. I thought for sure I was a goner that day. It's a good thing my story worked."

He left the police station within hours of being picked up and drove home. It was a while before he began using the money again.

Business has been bad recently for Steve because many stores no longer accept \$50 or \$100 bills. Steve blames his loss on rookies who pay for poor-quality fake bills, and then get arrested using them.

In Canada, one per cent of circulated money is counterfeit. The Bank of Canada's Claudia Hintz said more than 128,000 counterfeit notes were passed in this country in 2001. That's equivalent, she added, to about \$6 million.

The government is trying to cut down on the photocopying of money by adding new security features to its bills.

"The more the public is aware of the (security) features of a bill, the quicker they would be able to recognize the (fake) bill," Const. Fielden said.

"Education is one of the best forms of prevention."

With no particular age group to search for and the choice of coun-

terfeit notes changing monthly, police have a hard time dealing with the problem.

Steve said his friends have already produced \$10 bills.

"If someone can make it, then someone can break it," Steve said, smirking. "I'll probably do this until I get thrown in jail."

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Life etc.

Pack your bags for summer vacations

By ROSEMARY SOSTARIC

A slew of unattainable deadlines, preparing for exams with the requisite number of trick questions, trying to complete portfolios that require more panache than an already stressed student can muster – these are typical signals for the last few weeks of a school year.

While some students get off on such stress, others soldier on in hopes of greener pastures, or at least a comfy patio chair equipped with umbrella.

But some students view this period as the start of 'living out of a suitcase' season.

Be it weekend jaunts south of the border or backpacking through Europe, many students will be heading out this summer in search of the ultimate experience, but "be prepared" said Anne Kulinski, a Travel and Tourism instructor. There are a number of precautions to take into consideration, outside of the usual condoms and dental floss, for a hassle-free escape.

Before you go

Vacationing on a student budget can be a challenging feat, which usually involves opting out on various perks of travel, but this should not include medical insurance, warned Kulinski.

Medical insurance can be purchased from any travel agent.

"It is critical that students get such coverage since OHIP may not cover many procedures," said Kulinski. "In the United States for example, a \$1,200 overnight stay may cost \$400 in Ontario, and for that reason the government will only cover what it costs here, leaving the non-insured traveller to shell out the difference."

To balance the cost of medical insurance, Kulinski recommends purchasing your ticket well in advance, since the earlier you book the cheaper the ticket will be.

Another way to keep your money where it belongs – in your wallet – is to purchase an International Student Identity Card (ISIC).

The card can be bought on the spot at any Travel Cuts agency. It's free for members of the International Students Federation or \$16 for full-time, non-member students, said Dennyse Harris, Travel Cuts manager.

Proof of full-time status, such as a student card, a letter from the registrar, or an official schedule coupled with a passport photo that can be taken at any location adds up to a passport to savings.

"The card is internationally recognized and provides the student

with any number of discounts. From saving on admissions to museums or cultural events to discounts on hostels or hotels, the card pays for itself from the instant it's used," Harris said.

Getting there

Before you head out the door with suitcase in hand and grin from ear to ear, be sure you have all the necessary and valid documentation, said Kulinski.

"Since some countries require your passport be issued at least six months before departure, while other countries have a limit on the amount of money that can be taken. Students should inquire at the airport or with their travel agent before they leave," she said.

As soon as everything has been checked and double-checked, it's time to bid adieu to your family and friends. If you're heading out to the airport, be there at least two hours before the scheduled departure for a domestic flight and three hours for an international trips, said Kulinski.

While you're waiting for your flight to take off or the train to leave



ROSEMARY SOSTARIC

Students should hold health and safety as a priority when travelling abroad.

the station, Kulinski recommends drinking water and keeping active, as this will prevent the rare but harmful blood clotting that can occur on long trips. Drinking lots of water will ensure that you get up to answer nature's call and keep the blood flowing.

You've arrived

It's always a good rule of thumb to stay away from tap water while abroad. It's also just as important to be critically aware of your surroundings, said Kulinski.

"It's never a good idea to explore

the visited country by yourself, always have someone with you," she said. "And if you're exploring the nightlife of big cities such as New York, take taxis. They're safer."

Although this may sound like an expensive option for students, it's not, said Rodney Bowers, a New York City resident. "It's cheaper to hire a taxi than to buy a hot dog from a street vendor," he added.

Even though the sheer essence of a vacation is to leave worry and work behind, following such tips will ensure a happy ending.

Humber fashion hits star-studded runway

By LAURA KUPCIS

The red carpet will roll out, the seats will fill, anticipation will be high and beautiful models will glide down the runway with the grace and poise of kings and queens.

On April 17, Humber's fashion program will present Hourglass... A Red Carpet Event, a journey

through fashion in the 20th century, topped off by a sample of 2002 collections.

"It is a retrospective look at fashion and how Canadian designers manipulated the retrospective look through their fall/winter 2002 collections," said Amanda McCrea, student director of the event.

Second-year students in the

Fashion Marketing program have worked all year to produce an event for the leading names in fashion design, said Brian Wickens, one of the program's instructors.

"The Humber fashion program has been recognized as holding the biggest and best student fashion event in Canada," he added.

The fashion show will feature works by Canadian designers Brian Bailey, Marilyn Brooks Boutique Inc., David Dixon, Misura by Joeffer Caoc, Yolanda Ng and Marc Paros.

Event-goers will be moved by the music of Humber's Laundry Room Quartet as well as up-and-coming Canadian R&B star Matisse.

Another component of the pro-

gram at Humber is to set-up connections with charities and fundraising events.

"This allows students to think about what's out there, but give something back," Wickens said.

Part of the proceeds will be donated to Windfall Clothing Service, which provides new clothing to those in need, and Life Choices for Children and Women, which teaches women work and parenting skills.

In addition to benefiting charities, the fashion show promotes upcoming designers, and provides an interactive display of student work.

The event is a way for Fashion Marketing students to network and build careers, proving a mutually

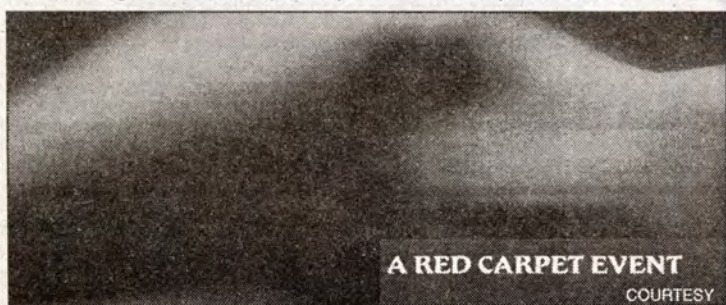
beneficial event for both those in the industry and at Humber, Wickens said.

"It has been a lot of work," McCrea said. "It is the most exciting thing we've had to do in our program and hopefully it will give everybody the chance to get noticed."

This year's event will take place at the Capitol Theatre at 2492 Yonge Street.

This is the third year since the fashion show was moved from the Humber gym. The change in venue allows students to interact with a wider audience, said Maria Bystrin, the program's coordinator.

"(Holding it) off-campus gives students a more realistic venue to work with," she added.



Tickets for the April 17 show are \$12 in advance and \$15 at the door. For more information call (416) 675-6622 x4808.

To trim or not to trim – the great debate

Whether it's the dreaded Brazilian wax or a quick and simple shave, women have countless options when it comes to down-there-care.

By ANNA ROZBICKA

You're lying on the table, naked from the waist down. The lights are glaring and you're feeling very uncomfortable. There's a woman in a white coat looking closely at your private parts. No, you're not at the gynecologist – you're getting a Brazilian bikini wax.

"It's getting rid of everything," says Jennifer Calabretta, an esthetician at the Cut Above salon in Cloverdale Mall, Etobicoke. "That means I wax the lips, the top of the bikini, the sides and in the crack of the bum."

This particular style of bikini wax has gained popularity over the past couple of years to become Calabretta's most sought-after look.

Bikini waxing is a topic that seems to fascinate many people – men and women. In a survey conducted at Humber with 50 men and 50 women, the majority of men said they prefer women to have a Brazilian bikini wax. But the majority of women like to keep maintenance simple – just getting the hair off the sides.

The survey also showed that women prefer to shave than to wax, for various reasons including cost and the pain factor.

Calabretta discourages shaving the entire area: "I've had clients who have tried to shave the whole thing



Waxer extraordinaire Jennifer Calabretta demonstrates one of the more embarrassing poses necessary for the Brazilian wax.

and they just end up getting soreness, itchiness, swelling and (ingrown hairs)."

When shaving, Calabretta recommended soaking in a hot bath to open pores and soften hair, and using a fresh razor blade to avoid nicks and cuts. As one woman in the survey wrote: "I used to shave everything and then I cut myself. I'll never shave again."

Being in such an open position during a Brazilian wax can make for some embarrassing moments.

"I've had a few women let out some gas," laughs Calabretta, noticing that a guy standing nearby is eagerly eavesdropping. "It's quite funny because they're embarrassed and they kind of pull away but I just make a joke about it."

Although the Brazilian puts you in some very awkward positions, there isn't a need to feel ashamed, most bikini waxers have seen it all and aren't fazed by anything anymore.

And of course, the pain level is pretty high – another reason women surveyed said they prefer to shave.

The fact is, you're heading into some pretty sensitive territory and it's going to hurt. But the good news is that the sting doesn't last forever.

"Some women take Advil before to soothe them a little," said Calabretta. "A lot of women find that around the lip area and inside the genitals is extremely painful and very sensitive. A lot of women find that the first time they get waxed they bleed, which is normal until they get used to it and the hair gets

used to getting pulled."

Sound like fun? With all this pain and humiliation, one wonders why the heck a woman would want to go through all the fuss. Many women refuse to subject themselves to this kind of torture but many others swear by it.

"It's really good for hygiene," said Valery Lombardi, 20, a first-year Creative Photography Student. "I think it's the best way to go."

"It's a really kinky way to get attractive," said Mariangela Falzone, 19, also in Creative Photography. "Especially if he waxes it for you."

Calabretta is a huge advocate of the Brazilian: "It feels great when you wear a thong because it's nice and smooth and it just feels cleaner. More and more women are asking for a European (Brazilian) bikini. It's healthier, it's cleaner, it looks great, feels great, and the men love it!"

Trimming the hair short is also very popular with women, especially if they only keep a little mohawk going. One woman surveyed wrote that she shaves and trims and said, "I hate getting my boyfriend's (pubic) hair in my mouth, it's gross, and I'm sure he would hate it too."

If you feel creative you can get you pubic hair waxed into different shapes. A heart for Valentine's day, a Christmas tree, or how about your partner's initial?

Or suck it up and give the Brazilian a try. Although it may take getting used to, lying on that table with your legs in the air and all. But people like Calabretta do this for a living: "Once you've seen one, you've seen them all!"

Men also have grooming responsibilities. An ex-stripper comments on hedge clipping habits.

By VIRGINIA WATSON

The au natural look from the '70s is coming back into women's genital fashion according to one strip-o-gram agency in Toronto.

"Oddly, there have been a lot of calls recently requesting unshaven, hairy women, the hairier the better," said Jonathan Steel, booking agent for A Male/Female Strip-O-Gram Agency and former stripper.

"Personally, I think it's a backlash against the porn industry. In the '70s it was taboo to shave and the porn industry picked up on that," Steel said. "It was a fetish for men to look at women who looked like innocent young girls."

While the natural trend may be infiltrating stripping world, it hasn't quite reached the college-aged public.

In a study of 100 Humber men and women, not one man said he preferred the unkept look.

In fact, 70 per cent of Humber men prefer a version of the Brazilian wax, where the woman's genital area including the butt are completely void of all hair.

Women's shaving practices seem to reflect this statistic according to Steel who said; "Now it's nearly impossible to find strippers who will go natural."

More than 80 per cent of the college's men expect women to keep their fuzzy bits in check, whether that means trimming or shaving.

One man reported that he preferred a shaved woman because it was neater, and he was less likely to get hairs stuck between his teeth.

Surprisingly, one-third of men reported shaving their twig and

berries, which seems to go against stripper trends these days.

"Generally the women we talk to prefer the natural man," Steel said, "Women don't like excessive hair, but they like it to look natural."

As far as men's personal shaving preferences are concerned in the stripping business, some of them shave their legs, chest and arms, but most of them leave the treasure-trail alone, said Steel.

"I shaved my legs a couple of times for a photo shoot but it was only on request," he said. "When I stripped I didn't even trim."

Another former stripper, who calls himself White Lightning, used to shave himself completely. "It makes the package look bigger, and women really get a kick out of it."

From Steel's experience, most women find the idea of men shaving strange. It's reminiscent of pre-pubescence, which really isn't considered sexy or manly.

More than 40 per cent of the men surveyed said they trimmed and 13 per cent reported shaving only the base of their penis.

Only two per cent of the men surveyed reported shaving their testicles, out of fear of having a razor that close to their crown jewels.

Most men claimed they trim for hygiene reasons, or said it makes them feel sexier. Who knew men could be as self-conscious as women?

Rick Davis, a third-year Police Foundations student at Lakeshore Campus, reflects on trimming practices: "I think if we expect our girlfriends to do it, we should at least trim a bit, too. Girls don't really like hairy guys anyway."

Stray hairs

Humber Et Cetera polled 100 students – 50 men and 50 women. Here are some of the more interesting results.

How men like women:

- 35% – Brazilian wax
- 34% – Brazilian w/ landing strip
- 28% – Regular bikini wax
- 3% – High cut wax

What women actually do:

- 60% – Regular bikini wax
- 17% – Brazilian wax
- 10% – Brazilian w/ landing strip
- 7% – High cut wax
- 3% – Different shapes
- 3% – Nothing

Should men trim? (m/f)

- 90% – Yes
- 10% – No

Would men shave if asked?

- 73% – Yes
- 27% – No

Men think women should:

- 43% – Shave
- 40% – Trim
- 17% – Their decision

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Editorials etc.

15 weeks – yay!

Humber is finally following the lead of, well, every other post-secondary institution in the country by starting classes the week after Labour Day instead of the week before.

It's about time.

This is a load off the shoulders of many students who were forced to pay an extra month's rent or couch surf for that last week in August and the first week of May.

Sure, you're getting less school for the same price, but realistically the second week was often a repetition of the first for the hordes of students who didn't come to the first day of classes. Besides, we were losing money anyway giving up our summer jobs early just to collect a few hand-outs.

Not only that, but it'll give the teachers and HSF another week to prepare for new school year.

And there'll be an extra couple of days before the new semester starts in January for teachers to get their final marks in and students to recover from New Year's.

Drawbacks? Well, students can probably expect a more work-intensive schedule. But come on, folks, how many of our current 16-week courses couldn't be taught in 12?

The college would be saving money too, on paper at least. Part-time teachers would be docked two weeks' worth of pay a year. That's hundreds of dollars saved on hundreds of teachers – everybody's a winner... except for the teachers, of course.

What can we say? There are too many pluses to mention and hardly a minus in sight.

This was, quite simply, a great idea, and we're glad it's become a great practice.



Humber grads put their diplomas to work this summer.

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Letters to the editor

HSF elections rebuttal

Re: Letter to the editor, April 4, 2002.

I just finished reading a letter from Anthony De la Torre in the latest *Humber Et Cetera*. I was so angered by that letter that I decided I should send a response to it.

First of all, I should say that I ran in the HSF elections for one of the BOD positions for the School of Information Technology and Accounting.

In the end I was voted in. However, I now have the burden of feeling embarrassed of ever taking part in the elections.

I am not embarrassed about all the appealing that is going on. I am embarrassed that everyone is criticizing the HSF every chance they get, like in the letter I read.

Anthony De la Torre feels that it is not fair for the HSF president to get paid \$27,000 (which I do I agree is a bit high) when only 10 per cent of the college population voted in the election.

It's not the HSF's fault that

10 per cent of the college population voted in the election. The fault goes to the students who don't give a darn about the election and/or everything HSF stands for.

I remember reading a letter in September in which somebody wrote that Humber students don't really care about participating in the events HSF puts on and the only job of the students is go come to the college, go to their classes and go home.

Everybody's trashing HSF, but they aren't really giving HSF a chance.

People are saying that the HSF should make a better effort to care for the students.

Well I am saying that the students should really make a better effort to care for the HSF. You can't expect to get something for nothing.

The students have to support the Humber Students' Federation and that's all I have to say about that.

Sean Kelly
Computer Programming

In defence of the CSA

Re: *Humber Et Cetera* article "HSF may pull Humber out of union," March 21, 2002.

This article does not provide Humber students with a fair perspective on the membership they have in the College Student Alliance (CSA).

In particular, there were some glaring errors, including the statement that Humber students would be paying \$30,000 annually to be a part of the CSA. In fact, membership fees are only \$15,000 a year for Humber College. That adds up to a mere \$1.25 a student. This is outlined specifically in the Humber Students' Federation's budget. Membership fees in the CSA account for only 1.3 per cent of HSF's overall 2001/02 budget.

On March 13, 2002, we organized a panel presentation for the HSF to discuss concerns they had as well as to explain why membership in CSA is important. There was no *Et Cetera* reporter at the HSF meeting. Further, it is alarming that Mr. Adam Hackett was used as a source for your article as he was not present at this meeting either. In fact, neither of the HSF Board members quoted in your article have ever attended a CSA conference and neither have been actively involved in the organization.

The reporter also did not seek out an explanation as to why CSA gives each college one vote, regardless of their size – a concern raised by HSF members in the article. To encourage unity and create a level playing field, one vote per college is the only way we have found all colleges can actively participate. Other organizations such as the United Nations and the same

group that advocates for Humber College's president and Board of Governors, ACAATO, have a similar voting structure. When lobbying the province, it doesn't matter if you are from Cambrian College or from Humber College – all students share similar concerns about tuition, student assistance and transferability.

By being a member of the CSA, which has 13 member colleges across Ontario, you make your voice louder by adding it to the voice of others. The CSA has excellent geographical balance in Ontario with members in the North, South-West, East and Central area. This way we can appeal to a larger group of people and speak with credibility about the situation facing all Ontario students.

Because of our collective efforts, students through the CSA have attained a five-year tuition freeze and obtained an increase in the amount of money students on OSAP can earn while attending college or university, among many other things. We believe that \$1.25 is a very reasonable price for the student to pay for the return they see. We need Humber to continue its involvement in the CSA.

We hope that this clarifies any misinformation you have received and we would like to encourage you to find out more about the CSA by logging onto www.occsa.org or you can contact our home office at (416) 340-1212.

Thyagi DeLanerolle
Executive Director, CSA

(Editor's note: Humber has now withdrawn from CSA. See story on page 3.)

Opinion etc.

Leaving the country I've grown to love



Ivette Montilla-Hookong

In two months, I'm moving to Europe. This will be my third move to a different country in as many years, and as I reflect about my time spent in this country, I smile.

When we first decided to move to Canada though, I was far from happy. I was leaving a beautiful home in Atlanta, in a neighbourhood where I had strong ties and close friends, in a city with perfect weather, where it was possible to play tennis outdoors all year.

The relocation was a great step in my hus-

band's career and I encouraged the move, but deep inside, I was sad.

Upon my arrival in Toronto, I questioned why anybody would want to live here. It was a cold, crowded city and I had no friends.

Every week, I called my friends in Atlanta and Venezuela, and many times we cried together over the phone.

Today, almost a year later, I am saddened once again.

I gave Canada a chance and, in less than a year, I have fallen in love with it. Now I not only understand the reasons why people have moved here and, ultimately, stayed for generations, but I now feel enchanted by this place.

I love its clean streets filled with character and tall buildings, the majestic Lake Ontario with its resident Canadian geese and the seagulls that soar above the waterfront. I even find myself being more patient as I dodge those awful pigeons all over the parking lots.

Driving home in the evenings, I'm fascinated by the city, lit up and distinguished, defined by

the CN Tower and its companion, SkyDome, resting at its side. What a gorgeous view!

I'm in love with the harbourfront, filled with crowds in the summer and so quiet in the winter, yielding striking sunsets I've watched from my window through all four seasons.

I love the beaches, which in some ways reminds me of my tropical Venezuela. Even though the water might be too cold to swim in, I enjoy the warm sand beneath my feet.

I love Kensington Market, a place with an incredible variety of goods from around the world. I still remember when, upon my first visit, I found a little shop with delicious Chilean empanadas and typical corn meal from my country.

I love the bustling Chinatown, where it's possible to find anything you're looking for – from the neatest oriental decorations and fresh Asian fruit to the best Chinese food I've ever had.

I'm also in love with the grandeur of Whistler and its white mountains, with the long runs at Blackcomb where I've wiped out so many times.

In less than a year, I've seen the multicultural richness of the Canucks who are incredibly welcoming and tolerant of people with different backgrounds.

I became a Maple Leafs fan, went to the ACC, cheered them on wearing the white and blue, and kept track of my husband's standings in his office hockey pool.

And of course, I became a Raptors fan, jumping from my chair every time Vince made a strong move to the hoop.

Somehow, during this past year, Canada and its people replaced my initial feelings of sadness with a profound contentment. I have gained lasting friendships in this country and had a lot of fun in the process.

And now that I have to go, I again have an uncomfortable mix of feelings stirring inside.

I can't find the way to say good-bye, nor do I want to. So I'll just say hasta la vista. See you later, Canada. And thank you for all the unforgettable memories I'm taking with me on my new adventure.

Love – Springer style



Brett Clarkson

I've just been talking to the ex-girlfriend and she still is refusing to marry me so I'm rather depressed. Looks like I'll have to call Syd Silver and cancel the tuxedo. Again.

"We broke up a year ago," she said. "Get over it."

I am over it, I say. I haven't sent you flowers in almost two weeks, and besides, when was the last time you caught me driving around your house late at night with my lights turned off?

Exactly. You can't remember, can you?

The restraining order has nothing to do with it. I'm over you, baby. Once and for all. Finito.

That time I called you up crying at 4 a.m., that was just the effects of the flu drug I was taking. Made me delirious. The next night when I called you up and was just breathing, that's because the previous day's flu had turned into a sore throat. Don't you hate it when that happens?

And what's up with your "boyfriend?" That chump looks like twig in a Club Monaco turtleneck. Okay, so he won some body-building competition, but that's beside the point. Why you wasting your time with that clown, girl? I swear to God, if he ever hurts you or talks bad to you, I'll waste him.

What? Yeah, okay, so he dislocated my shoulder in that last fight. But seriously, the dude was asking for it.

Why would I call him a fag? You know I have more class than that, biznatch.

Sorry. Okay, I promise not to call you biznatch.

Is your boyfriend on steroids or something now, by the way? I wouldn't doubt it. You know what they say about guys on steroids, eh? It may make their arms bigger but it also makes a certain other appendage a lot smaller.

Maybe it'll shrink to the size of yours? What's that supposed to mean? Huh?

Jesus, girl. Stop your jive talkin'. We belong together.

So what we were only together four weeks? I felt something special, like there was something there that nobody else knows about, girl. I know you felt it too.

Come on babe.

Okay, I'll let you think about marriage. Maybe it's not something you want to rush into. But you gotta do me this favour. My grad is coming up and I'd like for you to go with me.

Like, you can be my date. I'll rent a limo and get some wine. You like Moody Blue, right?

I thought you knew I was takin' journalism at Humber College. Well I am. And the three years are over now so I'm finally graduating.

Oh you know, the market's tough right now, but I've been handing out résumés.

No, still no calls but this one guy really liked me the other day. It was weird though, because after I handed him my résumé he asked me if I knew what a toothbrush was. Like, who doesn't know what a toothbrush is?

Why you laughing, girl?

Coming out – confessions of a sci-fi geek



Patricia A. Carvacho

Okay, I admit it. I'm a sci-fi geek. But don't tell anyone because it's not something I usually share.

Yes, it's the stigma. I have to say I'm a little embarrassed about it. Not to mention that everybody knows SF is for guys, or so I'm told.

Now let me make something clear. I don't quote lines from *Star Trek* to make my point, I've never been to a science fiction convention or worn pointy ears, I didn't dress up as Princess Leia and camp out in front of a theatre to be the first in line for the premier of *The Phantom Menace*.

And I most certainly am not a scientologist. In fact, I think that's nothing but a load of BS spewed by a bad sci-fi writer who figured he'd sucker a few celebrities.

But I must admit I love sci-fi, or "speculative fiction" as it's also known.

Don't get me wrong, I'm the first to say there's a lot of garbage out there, whether it's printed on paper or displayed on the big screen with glorious surround sound.

But it's not all alien invasions and galactic empires. Good SF usually has something to say.

I blame the bad rap on the 1950s. That's when all those cliché, B-grade flicks, books and comics were churned out en masse, leaving the image of SF as tarnished like the Millennium Falcon's hull plating.

As a writer, I demand more from a story, be it a book or a film. So I've read the biggies of SF, from Asimov to LeGuin, Bradbury to Heinlein.

But sometimes it's just about fun. You can't beat the genre for speed and action, or those kick-ass movie effects. So I admit, I've also read the odd commercial space opera, though I wouldn't consider that great literature.

I also write SF, though not exclusively. I'm sort of a setting junkie and SF lets me create worlds completely alien to our own – regardless of whether or not I actually put aliens in those worlds.

Or, as the name implies, SF also allows you to speculate on what our own world will be like in a few years.

It's an excellent forum for exploring the future consequences of our actions – like the damage we're doing to our environment. (Please recycle your *Et Cetera*.)

Sci-fi writers have in the past written about things that later became science-fact.

I see science fiction not as some teenage boy's fantasy existence, but as an exploration into who we are, have been and, of course, who we are becoming.

Good SF strives to answer the very questions it poses – much like good journalism.

So maybe I'm not that embarrassed to be into all this.

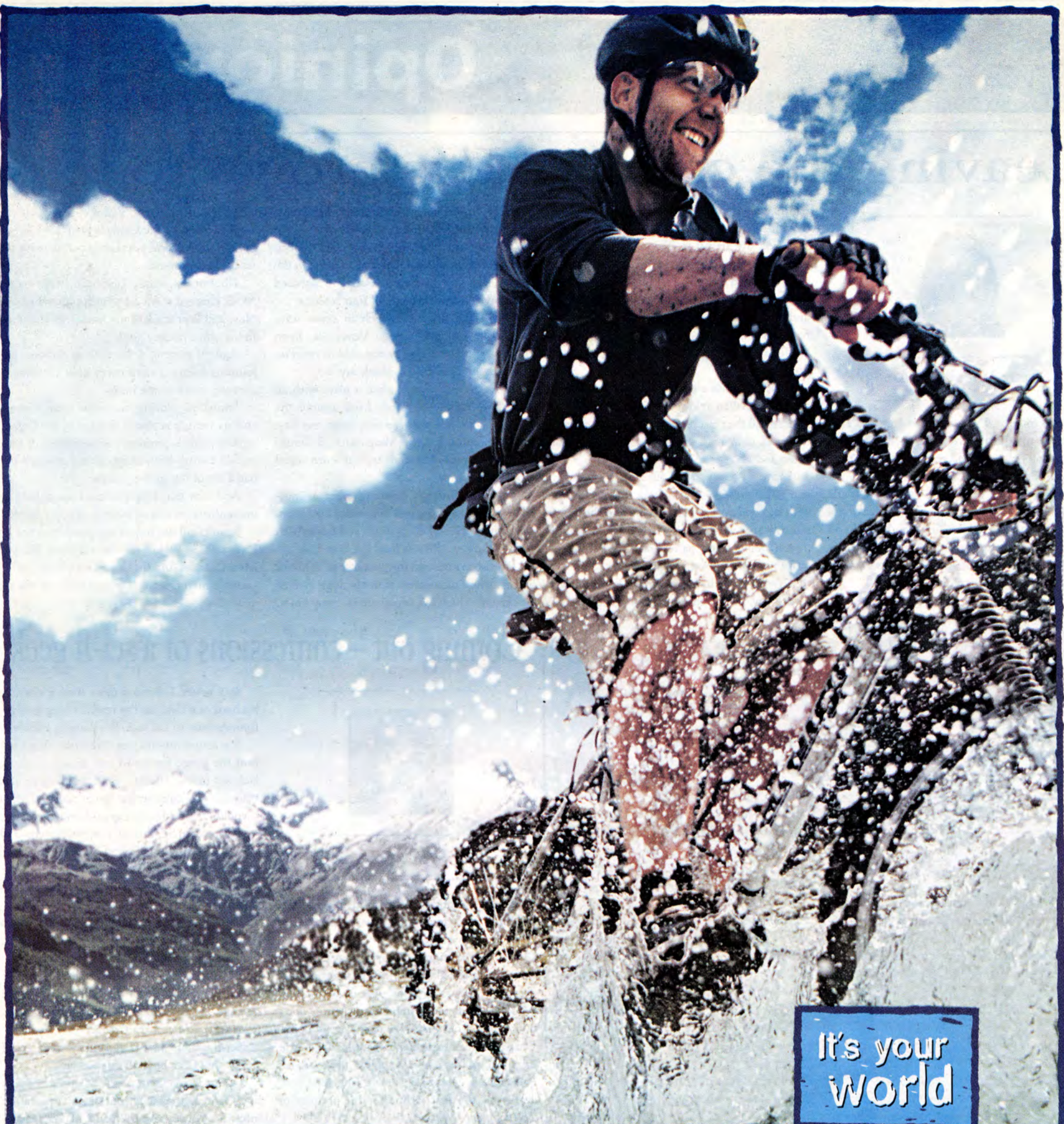
People should give it a chance before they judge it based on its poorest examples.

At a recent meeting of the Canadian Authors' Association, a writer who'd never read SF told me that my story made her want to read more. And I'm just an amateur.

Try Bradbury's *Fahrenheit 451*, or Orson Scott Card's *Ender's Game* and see just how varied and well crafted the genre can be.

And one more thing: may the force be with you.

Sorry, I couldn't resist.



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On Campus etc.

Chefs visit Humber Room on the way to World Cup

By ROSEMARY SOSTARIC

The Canadian National Culinary Team, this country's shot for gold at the upcoming Culinary World Cup championship, dazzled guests with their gastronomic savvy at Humber Tuesday.

The team, consisting of chefs from across the nation, put together a three-course fixed-price menu that was, according to team manager Judson Simpson, "A harmonious blend of the very best ingredients Canada has to offer."

From maple infused Atlantic salmon to deer tenderloin and key lime pie, the nearly 105 invited guests, critics and service industry insiders enjoyed the dishes that will be replicated and carefully scrutinized in November at the World Cup at Luxembourg.

"Each of the courses served

demonstrated various, yet complimentary cooking techniques," Simpson said.

The team of chefs who volunteered their services to be a part of the Canadian contingent was in Toronto for four days to prepare for the upcoming competition and to drum up support for their efforts.

"To have a truly national culinary team requires not only having representatives from regions in Canada, but to try to practise in as many of those regions that we can," Simpson said.

Simpson chose the Humber Room as one of the Toronto venues, because "the best way to encourage and inspire young students to actively pursue the culinary arts is to come to colleges such as Humber and allow the young chefs-in-training to have access to the team. While the students can not actively participate,

a lot can be learned just by watching."

Although Simpson admitted his team's main objective is to win the gold medal at the World Cup, it's just as important to impart the skills to Humber's up and coming chefs or even future teammates.

"While most people typically forget who wins the gold medal, our impact on the students will likely not be forgotten," he added.

"It's a real honour to have the team at Humber College," said Alister Mathieson, dean for the school of Hospitality, Recreation and Tourism.

In previous years the event was held at George Brown.

The newly revamped and rejuvenated Humber Room was, according to Mathieson, the main reason the evening of gastronomic delights was held at Humber.



ROSEMARY SOSTARIC

Canadian National Culinary Team serves "a harmonious blend of the very best ingredients Canada has to offer" at the Humber Room

Arabian Nights draws honoured crowd

By AKUA HINDS

Warren Clark is almost done for the night. A member of Humber's support staff in facilities management since 1968, Clark always makes a point of hitting a sports game once he's thrown in the last towel. And for this dedication to his job and student athletics, Clark has been recognized.

The 19th annual Student Appreciation Awards was held last Tuesday in the Seventh Semester, with about 150 people in attendance.

Warren Clark probably received the most nominations. Nominated by 45 of Humber's athletes, Clark was portrayed by his nominators as someone who not only ensured that their surroundings were clean, but also attended many sporting events held at the school to show his support for Humber's athletes.

Jason Mesa, who works in the Athletics Department, was one of those who recognized Clark's contribution to boosting student morale.

"I nominated Warren because I've seen the great work that he does," Mesa said. "Nobody deserves it more than he does. He's always here early. He's always here late. He cleans up after most of the varsity athletes in the Varsity Room. Whenever I see him down the hall he's always willing to say 'hi.' He's a great person to have down there, and we appreciate him a lot."

"The students have always treated me good. I'm happy with this," Clark said.

The event was sponsored primarily by the Humber Students' Federation, which contributed around \$6,000 toward the awards and feels the end result was worth the effort, said HSF

vice president Stephen Anastasi.

"We think events like this are very important. We want to recognize students who have gone above and beyond the curriculum, or the square box essentially," Anastasi said.

The SAA awards give Humber students the opportunity to honour their fellow students, staff or faculty members who have gone beyond the call of duty, contributing to life and boosting morale both inside and outside of Humber.

Most of the nominees were kept in the dark about the nominations until the night of the awards. Each nominator was responsible for informing the nominee that they were to show up at a dinner, but to keep the nomination a surprise.

The HSF Awards, Athletic Awards and Student Spirit Awards were also presented that night, honouring members of Humber's community who excelled in these distinct categories.

"(College life is) not just about getting As and getting above average, it's also about the people you meet," said Tomi Ajibola, a PR student who promoted the event. "The people you meet and the things they do are going to mark you for the rest of your life... 50 years down the line, for the things they did in college, even if you never see them again. These are the stories you tell your children and your grandchildren."



AKUA HINDS

Sounds of live jazz filled the air while guests filled the Seventh Semester, which was transformed into an Arabian paradise for the event's theme, "Arabian Nights, Journey to Excellence"

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Students awarded for literary merit

By JILLIAN WELLARD

Humber's Communication students were honoured this week for literary excellence at the Student Literary Competition, sponsored by the League for Innovations.

Prizes ranging from \$50 to \$200 were snatched up by Humber's best entries, including personal essays, plays and short stories.

Students who won first place will be invited to the international level of competition at Cuyahoga Community College in Highland

Hills, Ohio.

Winners were honoured at a luncheon last Wednesday in the Seventh Semester.

Antanas Sileika, a communications instructor, sponsored students and encouraged them to enter works.

"It gives them a goal that's not abstract," Sileika said.

Kinga Nowak won first place in

the short story category.

Rebecca Gordon, a first-year Journalism student, won first place for her essay "A Lifetime of Memories."

Gordon read her essay at the Literary Wine Bar luncheon and will compete in the international competition. Her essay is about moving around and her memories of living in different houses.



Convergence 2002 editors Lauren Ferranti and Patrick Maloney

Humber journalists clean up at New York awards

By JILLIAN WELLARD

If they can make it there, they can make it anywhere.

Humber's Journalism students left the Columbia Scholastic Press Association Awards in New York City last month honoured for their achievements.

Sponsored by Columbia University in New York every year, the competition showcases international talent from university and colleges around North America.

"We have won eleven awards this year," said Journalism coordinator Terri Arnott. Humber publications have won an increasing number of awards every year for the past four years. Humber is the only Canadian university or college to win in that time.

Last year's issue of *Convergence*, a magazine produced by final-year journalism students, won the Silver Crown Award, which places the magazine among the very best in North America.

"We are excited," said Arnott. "All the magazines and newspapers that were sent won awards."

Various contributions of photography, design and writing won awards in other categories.

Journalism professor Carey French said the awards garnered at the competition contribute to the value of Humber's Journalism program.

"When students come in to look at our program . . . this is one of our major selling points," he said.

Arnott said this competition "increases the profile and the value of the diploma" and shows the rest of the world our student talent.

"It's a huge lift for people who work very hard," French said, comparing the Crown awards to the Oscars. French said the Silver Crown award for *Convergence* puts the student publication in "rarefied company."

"They (students) all came away feeling as evolving journalists . . . more mature in outlook journalistically," French concluded.

Residence security changes planned

By PATRICIA A. CARVACHO

New security measures are in the works for Humber's Residence building, following other efforts this year to beef up security.

Most students who live on campus consider security issues a top concern, but according to Residence Life coordinator Peter Lem, many of these students aren't aware of just how serious this issue is.

"I think a lot of students . . . don't realize that Toronto, and this area Rexdale specifically . . . is not a very safe area," Lem said.

"Front desk is going to move right to the front door," said Residence manager Derek Maharaj. "Then nobody can get in without showing their ID."

Upgrades in camera systems inside the Residence building is another idea on the table. But some students think more cameras, not just better ones, are in order.

Maharaj disagreed, saying privacy must also be taken into account.

"People have different comfort levels," he said. "They walk to the showers in their robes and . . . don't want to be on camera."

Gary Jaynes, Public Safety director for the college, agreed with Maharaj, adding additional cameras are unnecessary. Jaynes said that despite incidents that have occurred this year, both on and off campus, problems involving security have decreased.

Other students feel such security measures are more an inconvenience than a reliable means of security.

Alicia Brook, a second-year Nursing student, said it's easy for non-residents to slip past security without showing a card or getting signed in.

"I haven't signed in some of my guests," she admitted. "I tell them to sneak by (the front desk) and they do."

"I've had people . . . pay me a visit, and I'll ask them, 'How did you get in?' and (they say), 'Oh, I just walked in,'" said Marsha Waugh, a second-year Business Administration student.

Maharaj admitted this happens, but he said with new residences being built, changes to the main entrance will solve this problem.

This year, changes in security include a live-in manager to oversee the front desk and make rounds, in addition to those made nightly by resident assistants. Parking lot security cameras have been upgraded, so that they can better monitor the exterior of Residence buildings.

Individual room doors have also been fitted with key-card access locks, replacing the easily duplicated keys of previous years. These key-cards are necessary to enter the residence at night, and students are required to show their meal cards as they pass the front desk to ensure non-residents don't get in without authorization.

Jaynes cautioned students to exercise common sense and talk to him about safety concerns.

Residence and security staff advise students who live on-campus to take precautions and use the services available to them, including the often-ignored security escort program.

"Be smart about what you're doing," Waugh added. "It's not safe to go out at four o'clock in the morning by yourself. There's a deadbolt on your door; if you feel unsafe, use it."

No more Labour Day blues

By ASIA S. WHITEMAN

Humber has chopped Labour Day weekend from its school year calendar.

Humber students have in past years faced a dilemma in the last week of August: stay at the summer job and miss the first week of school, or quit the job and lose the extra income.

Until now, Humber students were expected to show up for classes in the last week of August. The conflict between academic and employment responsibilities is one of the factors that influenced a move to adopt the 15-week semester in the Fall of 2002.

"We found that coming to school the first week meant up to a 25 per cent income loss," said Richard Hook, vice president of Academics. "The faculty will no longer have to make compromises."

He said a September start will not mean a shortened semester, but will eliminate the duplication of classes to accommodate absent students in that first week.

Other benefits of starting classes on the Tuesday after Labour Day include savings on rent. Many students have had to pay for a full month's accommodation for the month of August, just to move in for the last week.

Also, course instructors will now have a lengthier period for the evaluation of final grades during the December break.

Finally, there will be more time afforded to maintaining learning resources, like installing software and making repairs to the structural wear and tear on campuses.

Hook said that a 15-week semester would be a productive step to maintaining Humber College's reputation as a quality institution.

GET READY FOR GRADUATION

Convocation ceremonies take place from Tuesday, June 11 through to Friday, June 14 at the Humber College North Campus in the Athletic Centre.

Tuesday, June 11:

School of Information Technology & Department of Accounting Studies; School of Creative and Performing Arts; School of Social & Community Services (Lakeshore); Corporate and Continuing Education

Wednesday, June 12:

School of Hospitality, Recreation & Tourism; Liberal Arts & Sciences (North and Lakeshore); School of Applied Technology

Thursday, June 13:

School of Media Studies (North and Lakeshore); The Business School (North and Lakeshore)

Friday, June 14:

All of the programs in Health and Sciences will attend, but at different times, according to each specific program.

For more information, visit www.convocation.humberc.on.ca.

- By Kristie Kent

Please Recycle Your Et Cetera

Health etc.

A good doctor is hard to find

By CHRISSIE O'BRIEN

For international and out-of-province students, the stress of student life is made worse if they don't have a local physician.

Claire Morse, a third-year Travel and Tourism student from Hudson, Quebec never found a family doctor when she moved to Toronto.

"I just pray I don't get sick," Morse said.

Many students in Morse's situation turn to emergency services to provide the primary care that a family doctor would normally provide. Jas Chaundry, manager of the Etobicoke Urgent Care Centre on Humber College Boulevard, across from the William Osler Health

Centre, said that Etobicoke's lack of physicians makes it hard for students to find a doctor in a pinch.

"The sad fact is that the Etobicoke region is extremely under-served, and if someone is looking for a family doctor right now they would have a very hard time finding one," Chaundry said.

The Urgent Care Centre opened recently to assist with the overflow from the emergency room at the William Osler Health Centre. The clinic is a combination of hospital emergency care and family health services.

"Emergency care just can't handle the volumes. We see people in our clinic who say that they don't have family doctors and so (they) use

the emergency rooms," Chaundry said. "If you take 100 people that come into the emergency department, maybe 10 to 15 need emergency care," Chaundry said.

The William Osler Health Centre is also feeling the pressure of having its emergency room used for issues other than acute care, which results in overcrowding and long waiting times.

"We get a lot of people coming to the emergency department seeking primary care. When someone comes to the emergency, it's not time for education. It's time for acute care," said Mike Travers, patient care manager at WOHC.

"If I have three throat infections in the waiting room and a coronary



Emergency rooms have become primary care facilities for students.

comes in, those sore throats just had an hour or two added to their waiting time," Travers said.

Morse remembers an incident when she went to emergency services for a nagging sore throat. She waited over three hours before being

seen by a doctor. After an experience like this, Morse thinks it's a good idea to find a family doctor.

Humber College Health Services will refer students to area clinics and can help students find a general practitioner near Humber's campuses.

All Students in Full-Time Programs Fall Semester Classes Begin September 3, 2002

Effective Fall 2002, Humber's academic year will begin after Labour Day and finish by the end of April. The first day of fall semester classes will be September 3, 2002 and the end of the winter semester will be April 25, 2003.*

What does this mean for you?

- You will have four full months to work and earn money for the school year.
- Tuition fee payment is due by June 28, 2002.
- Registration must be completed by August 30, 2002.
- Classes begin on September 3, 2002.
- You are encouraged to buy your textbooks before the start of classes.

Registration information will be sent to you in late June.

* There are a few programs that will have different start and/or end dates. Students in these programs will be notified of their program dates.

Living alone can be lonely

Introverted and international students may be most at risk

By VIRGINIA WATSON

Lisa Lumsden lived with her long-time friend for almost three years, but now that she lives on her own she is experiencing loneliness for the first time in her life.

"It's hard coming home to an empty house every night," Lumsden said. "You don't want to cook because what's the point of cooking a meal for just one person?"

"After a while I got kind of lonely, I'm broke, so I don't have the option to go shopping, and I don't have a car so I'm kind of stranded here."

Though Lumsden is a self-proclaimed homebody, she has been forced to be more extroverted.

Fortunately, a couple of Lumsden's friends lived in an apartment below her, which helped alleviate some of the initial loneliness she experienced when her roommate moved out.

With more than 500 exchange students from around the world studying at Humber College, two of the biggest challenges these students face are getting over culture shock and the loneliness that comes with being away from close family and friends.

"Many students get homesick or lonely," said Michael Kopinak, manager of International Student Services at Humber College.

Learning how to navigate around the city, meeting new people and handling a course load can make stress levels unbearable, said one clinical director.

"People need to be conscious of the ways they cope with stress," said Dianne Marshall, clinical director at The Institute for Family Living in Toronto.

Whether students will be lonely really

depends on their past and present support systems, Marshall said.

"Students who come from big families may find the loneliness overwhelming. Other students may be used to having a large amount of private time and aren't really affected at all."

Angie Vanegmond, a second-year Public Relations student, falls on the brighter side of the debate.

"I like the sense of coming home and being alone if I want to and knowing exactly what I'm going to do that night," Vanegmond said.

An extroverted young woman, Vanegmond confides, "Generally speaking, I'm out most of the time or I have friends over to visit."

For introverted students, overcoming loneliness can be doubly difficult than it is for more outgoing individuals.

"Some students may develop a fear of meeting new people," Marshall said, "They cope by withdrawing, which can lead to depression."

Other students may develop addictive behaviours like surfing the net or partying too much, which Marshall warns can ultimately become destructive.

Students should always be aware of their support systems.

Humber College offers multi-cultural clubs as well as activities like sporting events for international students.

Counselling services are also available for all Humber Students. Therapists can assist in finding appropriate and positive coping mechanisms for each individual case.

"The need for connection is very human and we all have it," Marshall said.

In Focus etc.

Canada bids for a cleaner future

By JAMIE KRISPIS

Remember sitting in your high school physics class trying to figure out Einstein's equation $E=MC^2$? This equation could play an important role in helping to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

For decades scientists have been researching thermonuclear power (or fusion) and what they are learning could greatly change the way we live.

The official kick-off of the Canadian bid for the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER) took place last winter.

Iter Canada, a non-profit corporation created in 1997, will oversee the closing of Canada's bid. The research and development centre, which is worth about \$12 billion, is to be built in the municipality of Clarington, a small community just east of Toronto and adjacent to the Darlington Nuclear Generating Station.

Fusion is the process by which extremely high temperatures force deuterium and tritium atoms to fuse, which produces large amounts of energy without creating radioactive waste. It's the same energy that powers the sun and stars and provides the earth with heat and light.

Reproducing the fusion process on earth requires using hydrogen and its two isotopes, deuterium and tritium, for fuel. Deuterium is found in water and plenty of tritium is already in storage at the Darlington Generating Station.

Statistics from the Iter Canada Web site show that about

two million tonnes of coal (21,000 rail cars worth) or 1.3 million tonnes of oil (10 million barrels) have the same potential energy as 0.6 tons (one pickup truck) of deuterium.

The ITER project has support from the federal, provincial and municipal governments, labour groups such as the Canadian Building and Construction Trades Council, and the private sector – companies like the Canadian Nuclear Utility Services, Ernst and Young, Marsh Canada and the Royal Bank of Canada.

The University of Toronto, York University and the University Centre at Durham are also lending their support to the project.

Jerry Ouellette, an Oshawa MPP, said building the world's first fusion energy research and development project in Canada is beneficial for the environment.

"Durham will gain a significant economic boost, but it could be an integral part of an international effort to provide the world with renewable, clean energy to meet the needs for generations to come around the globe," he said.

ITER is expected to be the last stage in a collaborative research project which has been in progress for more than 17 years and is currently in Culham, England, where the Joint European Torus (JET) research facility is located.

The project will continue large scale research following an eight to 10 year construction period beginning in 2003. Research will continue for 20 years and if scientists are successful, then the world's first demonstration commercial fusion plant will be built somewhere in the world.

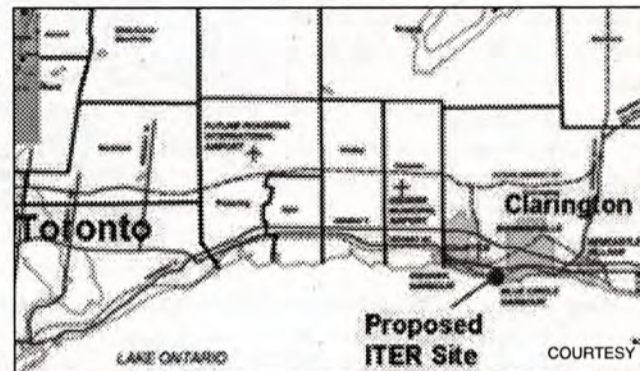
If Canada is selected to host the project, it could generate billions of dollars for the Canadian economy and will also create an estimated 68,000 new industry jobs.

"ITER is an extraordinary opportunity at all levels. It will provide economic benefits for our residents and for local businesses," said Oshawa's mayor, Nancy Diamond.

"It will create an energy field that would move us decades ahead in terms of jobs, opportunity and reputation. Our council solidly supports Clarington's bid and wishes them the best."

The design for ITER first began in 1987 and continued through the 1990s with international research teams in Germany and Japan. In 1999, the United States, one of the founding members, withdrew from ITER due to a lack of congressional support and budget reductions.

Other countries bidding for the centre are Japan, France and Spain. The international Iter Council is made



up of representatives from all the participating countries. The group of government leaders and scientists will decide on the location of the ITER research and development centre some time this summer.

The board of directors for Canada is led by Ontario Power Generation's (OPG) Chairman Bill Farlinger, former prime minister Brian Mulroney and former Ontario premier Bob Rae.

The Ontario government has already promised \$300 million over 30 years. Dr. Murray Stewart director for Iter Canada said that apart from the provincial money, all other financial support is essentially from corporate partners.

"The ITER organization, which is funded through a formula agreed upon and signed in an international treaty, will pay for the electricity, operation and maintenance costs. Canada's key role during operation is to ensure we get the electricity, can get the tritium and can get Canadians to provide services and maintenance. We must ensure all that will be available," he said.

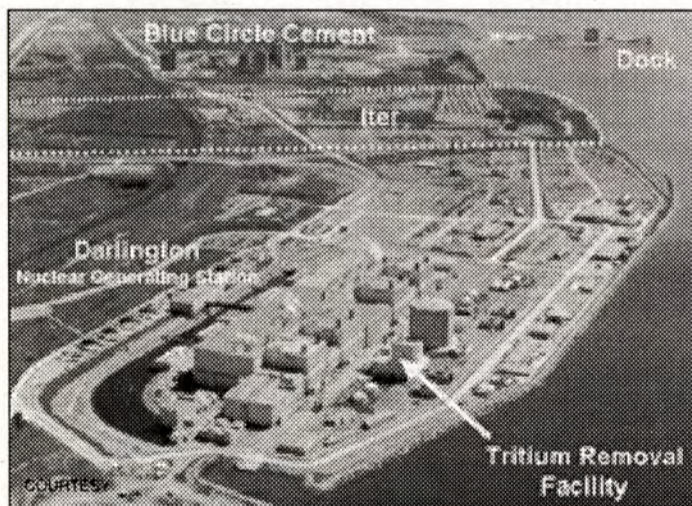
ITER will not produce any greenhouse gas emissions and will have minimal waste products, but the cost of fusion power is expensive. Natural resources such as coal, oil and gas have fuelled the world for the past few centuries.

More than half of the world's electricity is coal-powered, still the main energy source choice because it's relatively cheap.

Now scientists must make fusion energy efficient and cost-effective, which is the purpose of the facility.

Fusion research is considered a necessity for the environment because it doesn't release any greenhouse gases and only a small amount of lithium would be required. At the end of the plant's life, materials would be removed and stored safely for eventual recycle.

Once it is built, inexpensive and inexhaustible fuel could provide a low cost, steady stream of power without the deadly toxins produced by our current energy sources.



The ITER project could shed new light on the energy crisis.

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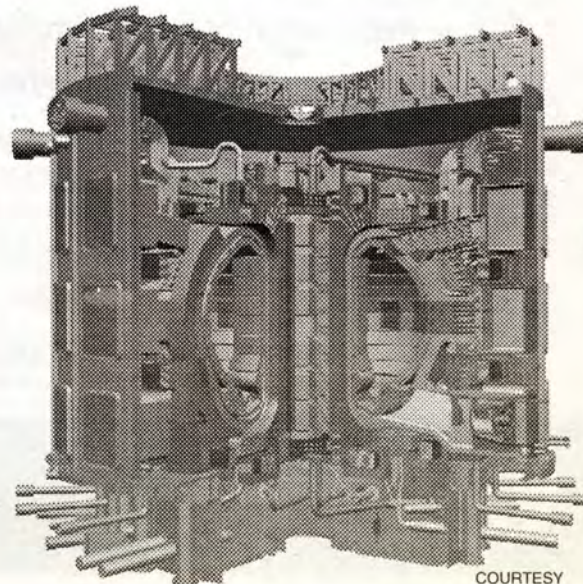
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The Tokamak

In the early 1950s an important breakthrough was made in the former Soviet Union. Scientists created the Tokamak (an amalgamation of the Russian words toroid-kamera-magnit-katushka), which holds ions and electrons, and is a good conductor of electricity.

Inside the Tokamak temperatures must rise to at least 100 million degrees Celsius in order to sustain the fusion process. If conditions are not exactly right, the fusion process will stop.



COURTESY

etc.

Entertainment etc.

The Window opens in T.O.

Humber Film and TV year-end film festival gala showcases original student productions

By TONI MARIE IPPOLITO

It's the final scene, and Humber's most talented film and television students want you to see what they're made of, or, what they made.

It has taken this year's graduating class three years to come to this point, and Humber College's Film and Television Production's year-end film festival gala has finally arrived. It will be held at the Bloor Cinema on Thursday, April 18 at 7 p.m.

The event, entitled "The Window" (a reference term in film for the last day of shooting), represents the hard work and training these students have endured throughout the program.

The Window includes six commercials and six short dramas shot at the end of 2001. Each student involved in the programs played major roles including producer, director, writer, editor, art director, cinematographer and sound recordist.

Donna O'Brien, an instructor in the Film and Television Production program, said choosing the pieces for the year-end event is a long process that begins in the second year of the program.

"Student writers are asked at the end of the second year to come back to their third year with a 15 minute drama script, which then goes through the development process with the help of (writing instructor) Annie Szamosi," she said.

O'Brien said Humber College faculty members pride themselves on training the students to prepare for the real world. Which is why student writers, submitting their scripts for the year-end event, are subjected to interviews and have their work reviewed by a panel of five judges – including both Humber faculty members and industry professionals.

"The students are actually experiencing what the process is like in the industry," she said.

Marie Chisholm, in her third year of the program, said the experience she gained as co-producer for the short film *Cages* mirrored what it is really like in the film and television industry.

"I've been on real sets and (working on this project) is exactly the same. We experience the same roles, the same kind of responsibilities," she said.

Student director James Reid of the short drama *Come One, Come All!* also said the project proved valuable in terms of gaining the skills needed to get a job.

"You get to see the whole spectrum of moviemaking and that's what these sort of proj-

ects got us out there to do," Reid said.

All are welcome to view the works of these talented students. Bloor Cinema is located on the corner of Bloor and Jane Streets and tickets are \$4 and can be purchased at the cinema.

Films to be screened

• *Cages*: Who is the animal doctor? (15 minute drama)

In this film, two behavioural scientists embark on a strange experiment where they imprison each other in small metal cages to discover what it's like to be on the other side of extreme isolation.

• *Sole*: What came first the failure of my personal life, or the failure of my work? (15 minute drama)

A young writer struggles to get his work recognized for its merit rather than the association of his name.

• *Cheating Death*: Mitch can't believe he's dead, until death shows up at his door (15 minute drama/comedy)

When Death comes to Mitch's door he is reluctant to go. Instead, he makes a deal with Death in order to gain another 50 years on earth.

• *Come One, Come All!*: A man gone slightly crazy in a world two-steps ahead of him. (15 minute drama/satire)

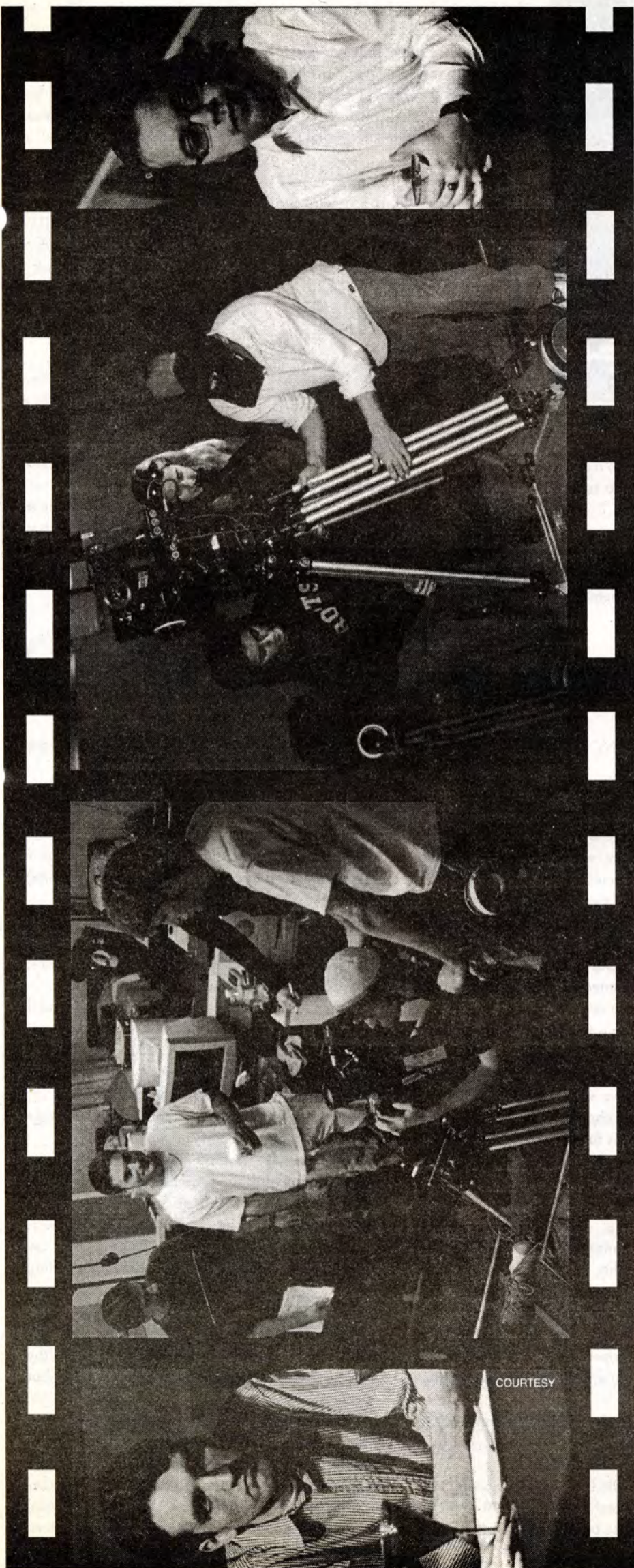
When welder-turned-scientist Richard K. Shepard's welding machine starts sending him messages from a race of beings living beneath earth, he begins to document their story.

• *Dreaming We Were Stone*: Desire lies beneath the surface. (20 minute drama)

A story of love, desire and the seemingly impenetrable barrier between two people desperately trying to connect, leads them into situations that will impact their lives.

• *The Right Thing*: If doing right is so good, why does it feel so bad. (15 minute comedy)

When two male housemates find a dead body and one million dollars they are faced with the dilemma of whether to stash the body and spend the money or do the right thing.



Degenerates dream a little dream

By AARON SAWYER

The Knights of Columbus Hall in Port Hope, Ontario can fit 100 people standing.

On this night there are 101 people anxiously awaiting the return of home town heroes, the Degenerates.

Backstage, the band set up their equipment, getting ready to play to the packed house. They remember that they began their music career in Port Hope, with their first show at the local high school in 1995.

The crowd stirs as they wait in anticipation for the Degenerates to take the stage. Lead man Luke McFadden struts out from backstage, dressed in warm-up pants, a Bad Brains T-shirt and a headpiece reminiscent of a Vegas show girl.

A loud cheer erupts from the 101 people who eagerly push toward the stage. And the night begins.

The Degenerates get the crowd rocking with a punk-reggae ballad that tells the tale of Philadelphia journalist Mumia-Abu Jamal, who currently waits on death row for the

murder of a police officer.

Throughout the 45-minute set, the crowd does not stop moving. Neither does McFadden. Red-faced and sweat-soaked, he explodes with charisma. The energy rubs off on the crowd.

An encore chant erupts a second and third time when the band leaves the stage. It's hard to understand why the Degenerates are still without a record contract.

When the band moved to Toronto three years ago and began filling venues like El Mocambo and the Reverb, they felt they were one step closer to getting noticed by a record label.

"We believe that you have to go where the action is," McFadden said. "Port Hope has a good music scene, but it's exactly that - the Port Hope music scene."

But the hundreds of Canadian musicians like the Degenerates, trying to get noticed, are realizing that it is not always easy.

The bigger the city, the bigger the talent pool.



Lead singer Luke McFadden.

"Bands shouldn't have to move to get noticed, but they have to play everywhere they can," said MuchMusic VJ and Humber graduate, George Stroubouloupoulos. "Bands only become recognized by making a name for themselves

everywhere they play. If you play the shit out of your band, people are going to start talking."

A major problem for bands is that the talent pool is so large. Instead, bands have to create a buzz loud enough to travel through word of mouth, eventually reaching a record label.

"The recording industry is in a position that makes it necessary for them to go out of their way to find talent," said Josh Boundy, co-host of Edge 102's Punk-O-Rama and Over the Edge. "Unless there is some sort of buzz. But even then, the buzz is usually about a certain area, as opposed to one band."

The problem is not limited to Canada. In Gainesville, Florida a four-piece punk-band called Hot Water Music (HWM) waits for a break.

Like the Degenerates, HWM played all they could in their home town and felt they needed to branch out and play to different audiences if they were ever going to make it big.

So they hit the road. As HWM

began to tour, the buzz spread and their popularity grew. They were soon being booked by promoters across Florida.

Before they knew it, the buzz hit Epitaph Records, the largest independent record label in the world. HWM were signed to a deal and have now released several albums.

"Anything that happens from here is a gift," said Chuck Ragan, guitarist and lead vocalist for HWM. "When we started this band, we never expected to accomplish so much. We started as a group of friends having fun. Now we're getting paid to travel the world and do what we love to do."

Backstage at the Knights of Columbus, the Degenerates are packing up. Their '89 Cavalier is waiting out front to take them back to Toronto in time for tomorrow's gig.

One day at a time, one gig at a time, the Degenerates will keep at it. Dreams are for dreamers and one day, maybe the Degenerates will be able to live theirs.

Bollywood goes multicultural

By STEFANO TONELLO

The dreams of a Brampton film producer and director have finally become reality after 20 years.

Manjit Singh's reality is a two-hour untitled film that explores the fallout when adolescent romance conflicts with stringent cultural tradition.

"When I first started the film, I was very nervous," Singh said. "I had negative thoughts, but I reminded myself to have confidence that I will and can do it because it's been my dream and I want to make it into a reality. I've always wanted to work in this medium either behind the screen or on-screen."

In the film best friends Gurpreet, 19, whose family hails from India, and Graham, 19, a white man born in Canada, get jobs at a local steel factory. Slowly, both fall in love with their boss' daughter, Sharon, who ultimately chooses Graham.

But Sharon's father is furious about his daughter's relationship with a non-Indian man. Obsessed with retaining his Indian heritage, he hires the criminal Red Demon Organization to kill Graham.

Meanwhile, feeling betrayed by Graham, Gurpreet joins the organization and is forced to prove his loyalty by killing his former best friend. As a result, police officers, druglords and organized crime assassins are intertwined in a captivating story.

"I have a strong feeling that the mixed cultural aspect of this film will open the eyes of many people to the typical realities of discrimination that we often face," Singh said.

Using digital cameras and the computer-editing program DPS Velocity, Singh shot most scenes in Brampton, Mississauga and Toronto.

A unique aspect of the film is that the acting crew of 65 is very multicultural. The film is 30 to 40 per cent English and will also be dubbed in Urdu, Punjabi and Hindi.

Singh described some of the vital qualities she feels an actor/actress should possess.

"I look for the ability to perform, punctuality, accuracy, timing, and most importantly, the ability to get along with each other," she said.

Adam Dubblestyn, who plays an ancient warrior and gang member, had an enjoyable and enlightening experience working in this film.

"It's a fresh new mix of the Indian culture and the modern world," he said.

Manjit's husband, Jhalman, and her two sons, Amrit and Sarvan, also star in the film.

"Living in Canada is a wonderful multicultural experience where everyone should have equal opportunities to succeed," Singh said. "Our first film has opened the doors to actors/actresses of all nationalities and invited them into the Indian market."

Filming is complete and editing is currently underway, according to editor Ryan Golding.

Singh recently traveled to Mumbai, India, to advertise and market the film. She also recorded the film's music at India's Mehboob Studio.

In addition to the film, Singh's company, Dalewood, is working on other media projects.

One project, Booma's Batila, a television cooking program, will prepare and showcase foods from around the world.

DIVA Fitness, a television fitness show will offer useful strategies on how to continue living a healthy lifestyle. As well, a second untitled film will be shot this August.

"I believe that our film will help Bollywood (Indian version of Hollywood) appreciate cultural diversity in their films and not only create Indian films starring only Indians," Singh said. "Rather create films where everyone has the fair and equal opportunity to have a variety of roles from cameo appearances to main-acting status."

MISSISSAUGA  2001/2002 Season
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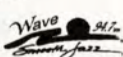
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Lead singer and guitarist from Jerkbank, Steve Plum, knows how hard it is to have a successful band.

Music vs Moola

By GIANNINA FRATTO

Big houses, thousands of fans and millions of dollars from a successful rock career don't just fall into your hands. You have to work hard for it. Very hard.

Just ask Steve Plum, lead singer and guitarist for the Toronto-based band Jerkbank. He knows first-hand that a rock career is a lot of work and takes a lot of money.

When Jerkbank started out in 1999, they were always broke and Plum admits they still are.

"We had to pay for all our own gear, transportation, rentals, merchandise and rehearsal space," he said.

Music instruments and equipment alone can cost up to \$20,000.

But not to worry, he said, a number of financial aid centres can help out bands in Toronto. There's FACTOR, VideoFACT, and SOCAN. A band can also always register as a business and take out a bank loan.

But making a successful band doesn't just involve money. According to Plum, it takes a lot of time. Jerkbank practises about eight hours a week.

Once well rehearsed, a band needs to get involved in as many shows as possible.

Ottawa promoter Luc LaMarche said it takes time to put shows together. First he has to set the date in the club/bar, which is followed by a visit to the venue. At that point, the promoter and club owner discuss rental fees or deposits.

"The next step would be finding the bands. Unless the bands are with a record label, there isn't any paperwork involved. I just email or call bands and ask them to play," LaMarche said.

Some promoters think that bands

living outside of Toronto have a harder time being recognized.

"Location is a big bummer. If an Ottawa band wants to play in Toronto, don't expect a huge turnout because you won't be well known" LaMarche said.

Lisa Fiorotto of Geisha Star Records said record labels look for talent and good music but they also look for initiative. Making T-shirts, stickers and CDs shows that the band is not waiting for a label.

Burke said it's not important to be signed to a big label. A lot of the time, a band gets more money as popularity grows on a small label because they don't incur as many debts.

The record company pays studio time, music videos and publicity, and when a band makes money, they pay it back. But once a band makes it big and starts selling records, they see but a small portion of this profit.

The small cut that the band does get usually goes to pay the record company back for all they owe.

Most of the time, bands contact the smaller labels through email or phone, and sometimes the label goes out looking for talent. A record label rep will come out, see shows and decide whether to sign new material.

Fiorotto explained that some labels will put the band on a trial period before they sign the contract.

During this time they "work on the Web exposure, image, press development and making sure everyone is happy," said Fiorotto.

If everything goes well, then the band is signed and lawyers come in to finalize the details.

But just because a band is signed, doesn't mean it's final.

Record labels agree that there

could be a clause in the contract that voids the contract if the band has a criminal record, has a record of substance abuse or doesn't live up to their end of the bargain.

"Problems like these make it hard for us to represent them, because we can't get them over the border," Fiorotto said. "It costs too much money."

After being signed, the band and label focus on making better records and videos, Fiorotto said. They try to create a fan base by adding organizational skills to their music and booking the band to open for larger, more well-known bands.

Fiorotto also said that other tricks can help increase a fan base. When touring outside Toronto, she usually lowers merchandise prices, (T-shirts, stickers and CDs.) No one really wants to pay expensive prices for a band they don't know.

Plum leaves with these last words. A record label looks for "quality, content, stage presence, sound and marketability. If you want it bad enough, you have to strive for it."

CD REVIEW



Happy Meals Volume 3
Various Artists
By JAMES ROSE

If Joey Ramone were alive today to listen to this album you could imagine that even he would ask for seconds.

Happy Meals Volume 3, a new punk compilation on My Records, opens up with Bright Life and a song called "See Me Now" that has a summer edge of fun punk.

The album moves into mouthfuls of catchy melodies like Goleta's "Flat Earth Society" and Smile's "Sucking the Breeze."

Hints of rock and roll are

added to the dominantly punk album with Armchair Martian and lead vocalist Jon Snodgrass. They add their own flavour of raspy vocals to the mix.

Me First and The Gimme Gimme's drop in to lend a heaping handful of punk goodness with their cover of Bob Dylan's "The Times They Are A-Changing," which stays true to the Me First style of re-working songs with respect.

Buellton's "Sell Blocks," and Sugarcult's "Debbie," have the catchiness that even Ronald was looking for when he invented the Filet-O-Fish.

The last track on the album, Bad Astronaut's "Disarm," brings elements to the dinner table that the other songs don't.

With just a keyboard and acoustic guitar this track offers different tempos creating a smooth dessert for the main course of throbbing punk beats.

Mr. Ramone would have been wishing for an all you can eat buffet.

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Toronto salutes Canada's Olympians

By IVETTE MONTILLA-HOOKONG

Under a storm of red and white confetti, Toronto officially welcomed home Canadian Olympic and Paralympic athletes at Nathan Phillips Square last Thursday.

Athletes and fans braved cold and wind as the celebration went on, waving their Canadian flags and cheering.

Toronto Mayor Mel Lastman, wearing a black and gold leather jacket bearing the inscription "Gold Medal Champions," welcomed the athletes to the party.

"Toronto is the greatest city in the world and Canada is the greatest country in the world, it's my privilege to say you guys and you gals are great," he said, between whistles and boos.

During the Toronto celebration, the Dairy Farmers of

Canada (DFC) unveiled the Pure Determination Fund. This \$800,000 fund will provide \$10,000 grants to 80 promising athletes over the next four years, to help them keep up with the increasingly demanding Olympic standards.

"The fund will be equally distributed between summer and winter high performance athletes and we are looking forward to recognizing those 80 potential hopes for Canada," said Ian MacDonald, marketing director of DFC.

The Canadian Olympic Association (COA) has partnered with the DFC and will be in charge of the fund's administration to ease the athletes and the sporting federation's burdens.

Deborah Allan, executive director of communications for the COA, said the fund would help athletes "not only to train, but to make that final step up on to the podium."

The crowd started to arrive early in the morning and was entertained by local performers while they waited to meet the Olympic heroes.

Among the performers were Canadian tenor Michael Burgess, who sang "O Canada." Rapper Maestro, joined by his two agile dancers and Robbie Lane and the Disciples rocked the two-hour long event.

National trampoline team members David Parke and Savija McManus also wowed the crowd with their acrobatic feats on a trampoline located to one side of the stage.

Almost 1,000 people gathered in downtown Toronto, including parents, children, teachers, students and those who left work early to praise the athletes who so honourably represented the country.

Skeleton racer Michelle Kelly described her Salt Lake City experience as "phenomenal," adding that the opening ceremony was one of the most memorable times for her.

"Walking into that stadium as Team Canada made me feel very proud and truly Canadian," she said.

Kelly added that the men's final hockey game was another incredible moment at the Olympics. "Watching the men's hockey game live and singing 'O Canada' at the last minute with the rest of the athletes from Canada, from all the different sports, was a pretty cool feeling."

Summer Olympics bronze medal-winning cyclist Curt Harnett called his fellow athletes to the stage and as they walked up in their red Roots jackets, the crowd went wild.

Silver medal aerialist Veronica Brenner stood before the packed square smiling and waving a colourful bouquet of flowers. She told her fans about the obstacles she encountered leading to the Olympic Games and her triumph despite her health problems.

"I had a rough year including two shoulder dislocations and knee surgery. It was really tough but at the end," she said. "It



IVETTE MONTILLA-HOOKONG

Many Salt Lake City Olympians and Paralympians gather onstage to receive special recognition from their fans.

was all worth it."

Brenner had to recover and get ready for the Salt Lake Olympic Games months after she injured her knee during training in the fall of 2000.

Among the athletes in attendance were women's hockey blueliner Therese Brisson, Georgina Wheatcroft, bronze medallist in curling, freestyle skier Andy Capicik and sledge hockey player Paul Rosen.

Rosen inspired the crowd saying that after he lost the use of his legs three years ago, he felt devastated and without motivation.

A good friend made him realize it wasn't the end of the world.

"He told me I still had what I needed to succeed, my brain and ability," he said.

Rosen, 42, had been a AAA hockey player when at age 15, skating in a tournament, caught a rut, fell to the ice and snapped his leg in 14 places.

Gold-medal alpine skier Chris Williamson, who won his gold medal on the very last day of the Salt Lake City Games, said Olympic dreams were in his mind as he grew up knowing that his own father had been an Olympian in 1968.

"Following his footsteps has always been a goal of mine," he said.

After presentations were over, the athletes left the stage to give autographs and strike poses with the enthusiastic fans. Then they headed down to SkyDome to watch the Blue Jays win their first home game of the season.



IVETTE MONTILLA-HOOKONG

Silver medallist Veronica Brenner signs autographs.

Mandatory drug testing coming

By JASON MAGDER & MATTHEW IABONI

An over-the-counter cold medication can lead to a four-year ban from college sports, warned Humber's Athletic Director.

Doug Fox said the new random drug testing beginning in Ontario next September has been talked about for six years. It is being instituted by the Ontario Colleges Athletic Association (OCAA) and has its benefits and its drawbacks.

"I'm not worried about what happens if they find a serious drug, like traces of cocaine," he said.

"I'm concerned about the little ones, like if they find small doses of stimulants in cold remedies."

The random drug testing has been talked about for six years and will begin in September.

"Every college and every athlete will be susceptible to it," Fox said.

He doesn't expect a big drug problem at Humber because the college doesn't have a football team, a sport suspected of rampant steroid use, but that doesn't necessarily mean that drug problems can't happen here in other sports.

Fox said that Humber has an advantage over other colleges with Glen Parsons. Parsons works with the Canadian national basketball team and is part of the sports injuries clinic at Humber. Fox said Parsons will be helpful when it comes to interpreting what is allowed in the athletes' systems and what isn't.

Drug testing can happen at any time, Fox said, but he expects to see it only at national championships and on medal winners in particular.

"Testers can just show up, and it'll be as random as them picking a couple numbers out of a hat to see who gets tested," he said.

Fox added that eventually testers will be showing up at training camps, practices and regular season games. Once tests are complete, the samples are sent to a lab in Montréal.

"If an athlete tests positive, it won't affect their status as a student," Fox said. "It is strictly an athletic issue."

But a four-year ban is in order for those who do test positive. Fox said it can be pretty serious for those in their first-year, since it can kill their careers in college sports.

"There will be a session in September to inform athletes about the new testing."

Miranda Pyette, a Hawks basketball all-star, said she likes the idea. She was vulnerable to drug testing during her three years playing for York University. "It's good because it shows colleges are at the same level as universities," Pyette said.

Landsberg's confidence skyrockets 'off the record'

By JAMES ROSE

Michael Landsberg, known for hosting *Off The Record*, seems to have answers to everything. Including why people call him arrogant.

"I think that people mistake confidence and cockiness for arrogance all the time. Arrogance is negative. I am confident and cocky but not arrogant and totally capable of understanding my role in the world," Landsberg said.

The 42-year-old, Toronto-born Landsberg is a TSN original. He was previously the co-host of *SPORTSCENTRE* and also covered a variety of sports, such as CIAU football, horse racing and even figure skating at the 1988 Olympics in Calgary.

Aware of how others perceive him, he says he stays humble by including negative email in the program. Landsberg's tough and smart style appeals to many viewers because it takes the opposite method of thinking that most sports interviewers have: Landsberg focuses on more controversial issues, and not just in sports. He said that the most important aspect of his job is to make his guests feel comfortable.

"You have to size them up when they come into the green room. This is mostly for a first-time guest more than anything. Because after that you have the distinct advantage of knowing their strengths and weaknesses."

He confessed that he would help out a first-time guest but wouldn't make the same promise if they come back a second time, because by that time they should know the ropes.

Landsberg mentioned that the key to relaxing on his show is to make guests speak their minds. Landsberg encourages guests to speak by giving them hand signals to egg them on to speak.

"Don't be too patient. Patient is polite, polite is boring."

He also added that it's hard to get a first-time guest to trust him.

"The most difficult part of my job is to make them feel like I have an ally in me."

The cast and crew of the show go through the topics with their guests before the show so there are no surprises.

"You can melt away some nervousness by letting your guest know what they can expect."

TSN describes *Off the Record* as a Canadian show with an American style. It has risen to become the most popular Canadian talk show among Canadian men, according to Nielsen Media Research.

A reason for that is due to the program's subject matter. It doesn't just deal with straight sports issues, it goes deeper than that. It has tackled such topics as gay rights, racism, nationalism and gender politics. Landsberg's approach to asking questions is also a part of the show's popularity.

"A good interviewer could do the interview with one question. The trademark of an inexperienced interviewer is someone who looks down at his or her notes to find the next question."

He said taking people from different walks of life and getting them to argue for a half-an-hour on the show is hard as



Michael Landsberg entertains guest during a taping of his show. From clockwise left: Jen Goodhue, an Improv actor, Ghetto Concept's Dolo, Landsberg, Johnny Scott of the Toronto Argonauts and TV crime specialist Dale Goldhawk.

they must re-create a discussion that they might have over a beer.

"When people invest a half-hour of their time in your show and you do a bad job you've let them down."

Along with bad days come hard questions. Like the time he asked former WWF superstar Chyna what she thought about Triple H breaking up with her for the owner's daughter Stephanie McMahon. She wasn't impressed and said he had "caught her off guard."

Usually he would give a guest some help, but was ruthless this time.

"Most of the time it's not about asking a hard question, it's about having the balls to do it."

He said picking a favourite guest is hard, but Jimmy Walker from *Good Times* is on the top of his list.

"He knows everything about sports, everything about politics, he's charismatic, self-deprecating and you just realize he's the perfect guest."

He said the best interviews will have tension.

"A guest who's extremely confident and cocky is what you want but if it's an American in particular their attitude is basically 'Canadian television? I can mail it in.'"

This reminded him of when Gene Simmons from KISS was on the show. He was happy to have him on the show, but the feeling wasn't mutual.

"I said 'Gene are you nervous?'"

"He kind of looked at me as if to say 'fuck off.'"

Simmons admitted that he was nervous, but trusted Landsberg and Simmons' solid views ended up contributing to a great show.

"He was awesome," said Landsberg.

"With passion, the viewer gravitates towards you and the viewer will watch our show. If I was entertained then the audience was entertained."

You can catch *Off The Record with Michael Landsberg* weekdays at 6 p.m. on TSN.

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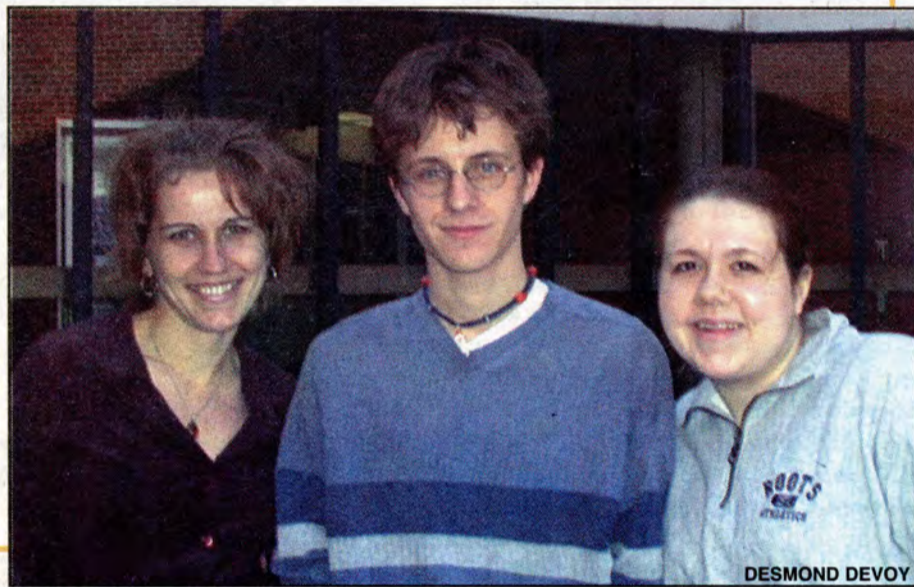
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Thank you to everyone else who contributed to the Humber Et Cetera over the last four months