



Humber's plastics training program - the only one in Ontario.
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Brand vs. no name. Check out this week's Exchange.
Story page 7

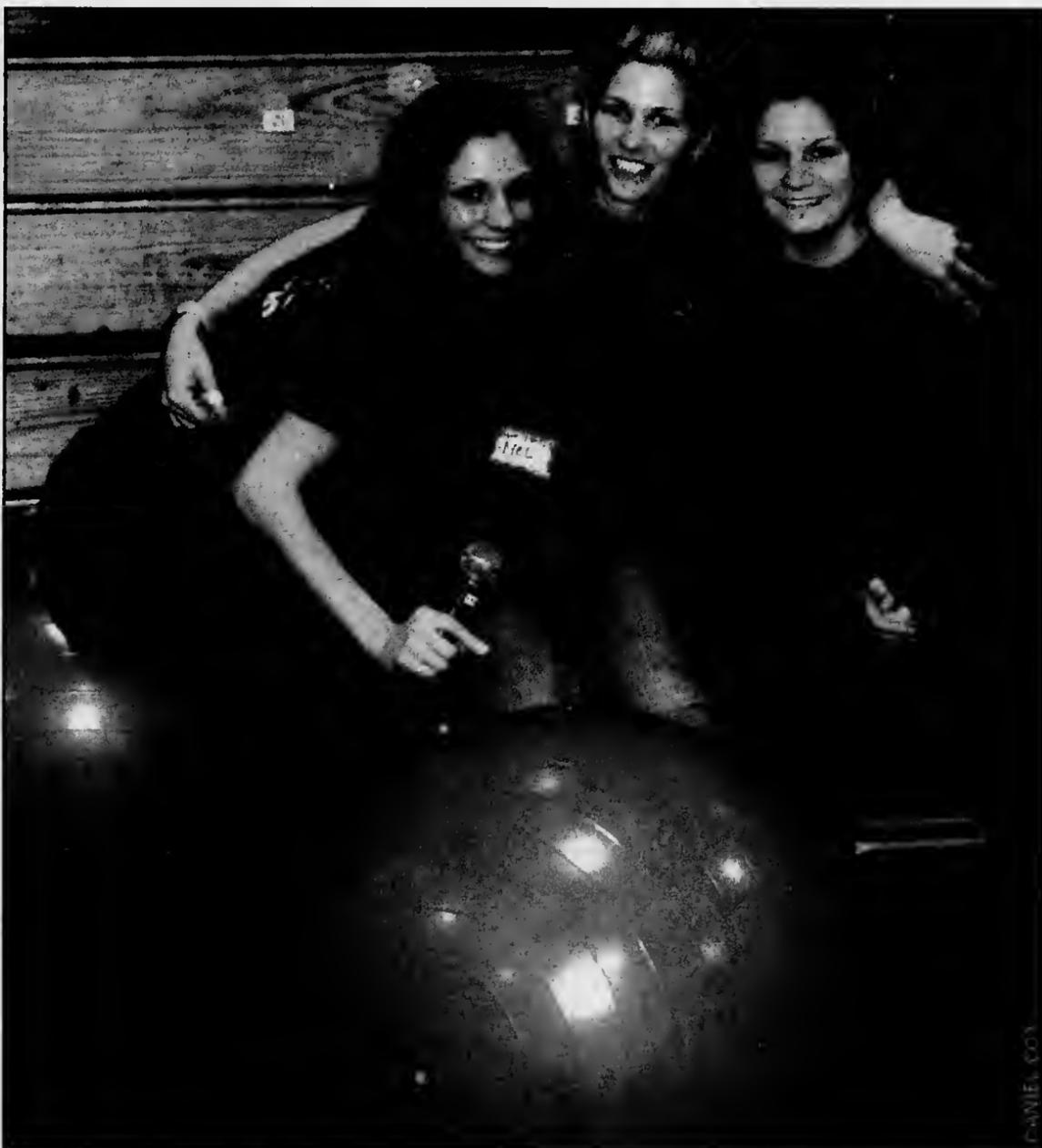


Humber EtCetera

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<http://etcetera.humberc.on.ca>

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Lauren Shirreffs, Melanie Groom and Kelley White were on hand at this week's Health and Wellness Fair at Humber's Athletics Centre, where students got a variety of tips on keeping fit - both in mind and body.

Students warm to tuition freeze

Humber concerned about how to make up revenue shortfall

By Ben Rycroft

Premier Dalton McGuinty's throne speech confirmed what students had been hoping for and what college administrators have been dreading. A tuition freeze.

Focusing mainly on the Tory deficit of \$5.6 billion and how it would hamper every one of his government's decisions, McGuinty explained that hospitals and school boards would be forced to "temper" their requests from the government.

But while hospitals and school boards were shunned, the one promise Humber College students have been watching out for was confirmed.

"Your new government will put in place a long-term plan that ensures the quality and accessibility of higher education for generations to come. While that plan is put in place, tuition fees will be frozen for two years," McGuinty told a packed Queen's Park house last week.

When told about the confirmed tuition freeze, reaction from Humber students ranged from mild to ecstatic.

"It's great and it's about time!" Lori Carlial, a part-time student at Humber said. "It's (tuition hikes) been an issue for too long for the government to not do anything."

"I'm happy...but where is the money now going to come from? Probably from the students services," Industrial Design student Matthew Dervail said.

Dervail isn't the only one asking that question.

With the tuition freeze now confirmed, Humber will be forced to recall its planned two per cent tuition raise scheduled for next fall.

This will amount to nearly \$500,000 in lost revenue.

"This was not something we were unprepared for. We knew that with the Liberals taking power, we would be faced with the real possibility of a tuition freeze. So we have been making

continued on page 2

School taking action after violent attacks

By Ben Rycroft

Some Board of Governors members were reduced to tears at last week's meeting when they were informed of the home invasion that shocked Humber last month.

Gary Jeynes, director of public safety and security, and John Davies, vice president of academic services, described the tragic events, in great detail for the Board

Members, some of whom had been on vacation and were hearing, for the first time, of the home invasion that happened a few blocks away from Humber.

The horror of this crime triggered memories among returning Board Members from last year, when they had been informed of a sexual assault that took place in Humber's Residence.

"There have been assaults here

in the past, but this was by far the most brutal I have seen," Davies said.

Davies told the Board that Humber currently has over 1,000 students living within the area bordered by Rexdale Blvd., Highway 427 and Albion Rd.

He also cited three other home invasions in Toronto that weekend.

"This is a wake-up call and we need to start looking at this as a

community issue," he said.

Jeynes referred the Board to the Emergency Response Manual that is available to students, but the Board, on President Robert Gordon's lead, took it a step further and discussed several ways to improve safety around campus.

The Board made few decisions, but came up with several ideas.

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What's Inside This Week

The spirit of giving
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Humber crowns first Idol
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Women's volleyball team undefeated
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CAPS and HSF hold charity nights for victims of home invasion, page 2

Premier announces increase to minimum wage

Here's one promise Dalton has kept

By Peter Armstrong

Ontarians will see an increase of the minimum wage for the first time since 1995.

Premier Dalton McGuinty announced the increase to \$8 an hour over the course of four years at his Throne Speech delivered last Thursday at Queen's Park.

"A commitment was made to help hard-working families make ends meet before they reach their wits end," he said. "That commit-

ment will be kept."

Currently minimum wage is set at \$6.85 an hour for citizens 18 and older. McGuinty said the wage would go up about 30 cents a year over the four-year period.

Karen Fast, manager of the Humber Career Centre, said many Humber students will benefit from the increase.

"It's certainly going to affect our students because a lot of them earn minimum wage, particularly those working in government pro-

grams," she said.

Students involved in the Ontario Summer Experience Program (OSEP) and the Federal Student Work Experience Program (FSWP) earn minimum wage while gaining experience working in provincial and federal agencies.

OSEP is available to Ontario residents between 15 and 24 years old (29 if you are disabled) and eligible to work in Canada. Positions include working with recreation and cultural programs, environ-

mental initiatives in provincial parks and travel and tourism projects.

FSWE requires students to complete online recruitment tests with acceptance and placement based on the results.

"The beauty of those positions is that they're so employment related," Fast said. "So you're only earning \$6.85, but at least it's program related. The bonus to that is that those students will start earning the increased wage."

Humber's Work Study Program offers students part-time jobs on campus starting at \$8 an hour and reach as high as \$14 for co-op students.

Information about these jobs is available at the Career Centre and positions include working in residence and assisting at sporting events.

"It's about time the minimum wage increased," part-time Humber student David Kim said. "It's still not high enough."

School administration keeps quiet on plans for 2004 budget

continued from page 1

plans for it," President Robert Gordon said.

However, if Humber is prepared, they are keeping those plans close to their chest until the New Year, when the 2004 budget is

drawn up.

Both Gordon and vice president of administrative services John Davies were tight-lipped about revealing where cuts were going to be made.

"Until the Liberal government has fully taken control and we have an idea of where and how much it will be allocating funds, we are left to guess," Davies said.

This financial uncertainty comes at a time when Humber is in the dark over its grant money as well.

Leading up to last year's double cohort, the Ministry of Finance had been allocating grants to colleges and universities to prepare for the added influx of students.

Now that the first wave has passed and schools prepare to take on the second wave of students who opted to wait, Davies said the double cohort phenomenon is mainly a university trend.

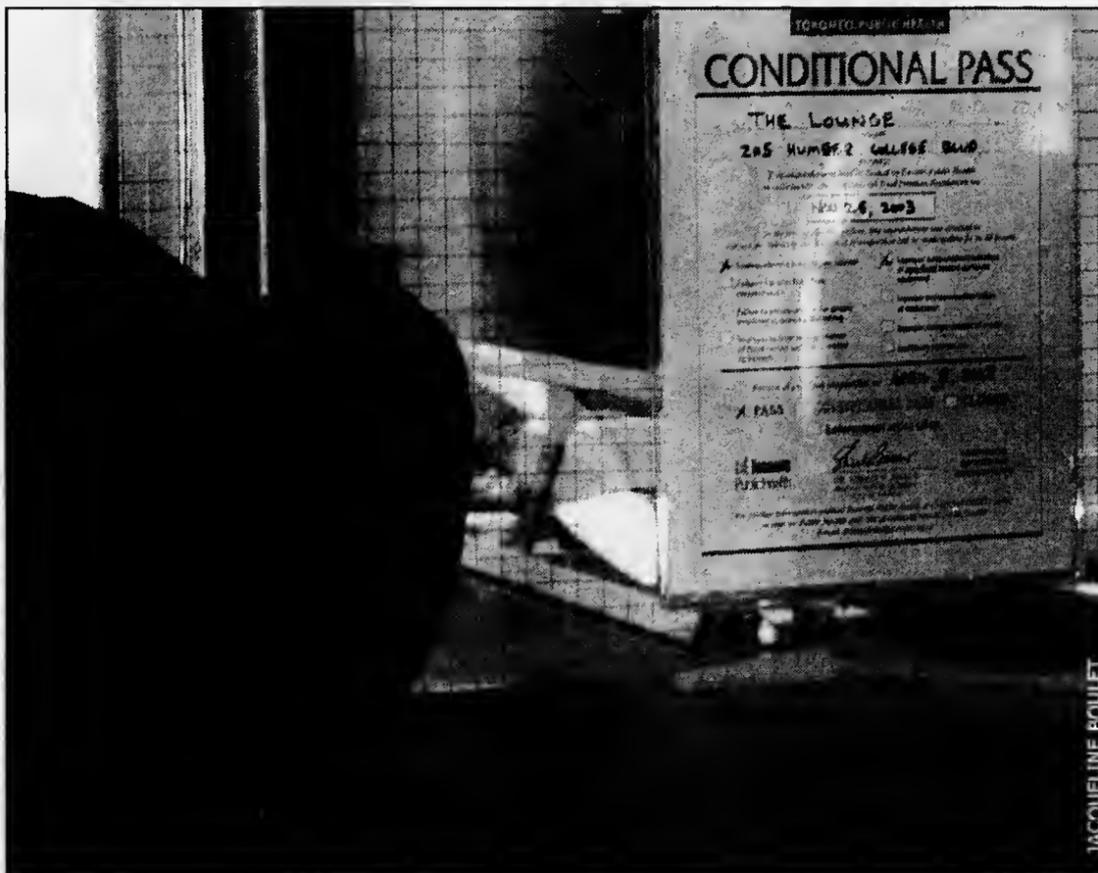
"Our enrolment this year was below our projections. We expect that to continue next year and for expectations to be soft again," Davies said.

Gordon explained what this means for Humber at last month's Board of Governors meeting.

"Universities will now be lobbying what they have been all along - saying that the double cohort is a university trend and they deserve the majority of the grant money to go to them. Only now, they have this year's stats to back it up."

Davies insists they are receiving positive signals from the ministry in regards to the incoming grants, but that uncertainty is looming.

"When we draw up the budget for 2004, how we do that will be vital to the college."



JACQUELINE BOULET

Humber food woes?

The staff lounge at Humber's North campus received a conditional pass from the city's Food Premises Inspection and Disclosure System on Tuesday. The yellow sign posted outside the lounge states "inadequate food temperature control" and "improper maintenance/sanitation of non-food contact surface equipment." A Food Services employee said the food temperatures related to the salad bar, and that metal containers would be used to keep it colder. She said inspectors would be back within the week to re-inspect and hopefully issue a green pass.

Board members look at security options for students living off-campus

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Some of the ideas being considered include:

- Informing students of the dangers in the area "right from the get go" at orientation
- Moving the emergency buttons to the edge of campus
- Extending Humber's Walk Safe/Drive Safe program further into the community.

The current boundaries extend only to the edge of campus.

Gordon acknowledged that

"resources are limited," but he added that, "more economically feasible situations such as shuttle buses leaving from pubs at 12, 1, 2, and 3 and so on are a real possibility."

The Board even discussed measures such as wireless hand held alarms for students.

"It's not going to go away. It's something in modern society we have to recognize is here and is here to stay. It's the revolution from within that will make the change,"

Gordon concluded.

Any decision on approving the ideas discussed has been put off until next meeting.

The President's Executive Committee was also meeting yesterday to discuss security at Humber.

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Grads step into workplace

STATUS OF EMPLOYMENT 2001S-2001F-2002W



By Liza Wood and Vivian Song

The 2002 Grad Report shows 86 per cent of Humber grads found employment within six months of graduating—down three per cent from 2001.

Data was collected from 3,544 grads from Summer 2001, Fall 2001 and Winter 2002. Of the 86 per cent of employed grads, 56 per cent found full-time employment related to their field of study; 14

per cent were unemployed.

The report also showed 90 per cent of students were satisfied with the course currency; 87 per cent were happy with course topics, and 85 per cent were satisfied with the quality of instruction.

Karen Fast, manager of the Career Centre, said students should compare a few consecutive years worth of graduate reports in order to observe the pattern of salaries and related employment.

"It breaks down different categories of careers within a certain field," she said. "It really helps you make decisions about a career direction specifically into those areas."

Business administration graduate Dawn DeWolfe, 24, was able to find a job in customer service and sales four months after leaving Humber, but it wasn't in her field.

"I think I could have gotten this job without the education at Humber," DeWolfe said.

"I would like an administrative job but in human resources." She plans to attend a human resource program in the near future to better help her in finding the job she would prefer.

Although the survey is conducted by a professional company and accurate, outside forces also affect results.

"For a few years, paramedics weren't doing very well because there was a hiring freeze on in Toronto. So much of it depends on the political situation," she said.

Fast added students tend to make the same mistakes when looking for jobs.

"They are not doing self-marketing; they don't know how to promote themselves properly."

"They're looking for work in the wrong places; they're still looking at the old job sites. It needs to be much more marketing focused, and much more specific web site directed."

Visit www.gradreport.humber.on.ca for more details.

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- Radio Broadcasting
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- Culinary Management
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Programs with poor placement rates (50-69 per cent)

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- Computer Programmer Analyst
- Sports Equipment Specialist Certificate
- Theatre Arts-technology production
- International project management
- Television Arts and Science



The sounds of the Caribbean wafted through the student centre Wednesday as part of Urban Caribbean Day.

Students in double cohort make grade

By Darren Mifsud

Humber faculty and tutors disagree with claims that post-secondary students "can't do the math."

In an article recently published in *The Toronto Star*, university math professors said the new high school curriculum is not sufficient preparation.

"They're really far from being ready for university in many ways," Professor David Vaughan, chair of math at Wilfred Laurier University in Waterloo, said in an interview with *The Star*.

Universities have gone so far as adding extra lectures, tutorials, even whole courses.

Tonya Noel, a Guelph-Humber math tutor from a Waterloo co-op program, says that she sees no dramatic changes and students are posing the same concerns as last year.

"Pretty much the same questions are being asked, the same problems are being expressed for whatever material," she said.

"There's not too big of a difference from one class to the next."

Noel said about the same number of students are seeking help this year as there was last year. An additional tutor has been hired though, giving Guelph-Humber about 10 math tutors.

"I find that the students coming out of high school by and large are probably more savvy in terms of computer software than we've seen in the past."

Accounting professor John Vermeer has not noticed a negative difference in the double-cohort's quality of education. On occasion, he sees the contrary.

"I'm teaching the Excel soft-

ware package for example, and I find that the students coming out of high school by and large are probably more savvy in terms of computer software than we've seen in the past," Vermeer said.

He added all three of his daughters graduated several months early from high school.

"So presumably the ending of grade 13 or OAC wasn't that big of a leap."

Gary Noseworthy, a general arts and science professor, says the biggest issue is some students' lack of work ethic.

He added that teachers try to take on a bigger work load and teach more material to make up for what the new high school curriculum may leave out.

"A lot of teachers put the pressure on themselves," Noseworthy said. "Students never learned how to test themselves."

The "Critical Thinking" professor says that too many students quit and drop out too easily.

Faculty strike vote set

College president rejects criticism of his salary

By Kirk Villamarin

Tens of thousands of Ontario college students may have their classes disrupted by early March if their teachers vote Dec. 10 to approve strike action.

OPSEU, the union representing teachers from 24 community colleges, says the contract offer on the table is unacceptable.

"They want to take things away from us. We're not asking for serious demands. We just don't want to accept the concessions," said Humber faculty union president Maureen Wall.

"The threat of a strike is part of

the negotiation, so they can take us more seriously."

According to OPSEU, the main issues of debate include salaries, teacher workloads, and teaching techniques — with salaries being the most controversial.

The union says the current offer puts college professors at the same salary as high school teachers.

"The salary we are being offered doesn't meet the cost of living," Wall said.

The union is demanding a five per cent wage increase for two years, while administration is offering a three per cent yearly wage increase for three years.

Humber's director of human resources, Deb McCarthy, said teachers at the college make an

average salary of \$62,000, while administrative staff such as college presidents make over \$100,000.

Wall said she understands college presidents have different responsibilities than teachers.

"I think college presidents should be well paid. It's a job that is highly demanding, but it's a little hypocritical for presidents and other senior administrators at the colleges

to get huge increases, up to 25 or 30 per cent over the course of a couple of years, and say that faculty's salary demands aren't affordable."

Humber president Robert Gordon said the union's salary demands aren't affordable.

"There is no money," he said, suggesting the offer is already overstretching the budgets of some colleges.

"If we go over three per cent, some colleges will be put out of business."

And he warned if the new Liberal provincial government can't increase funding to post-secondary education as it promised, the three per cent offer could be taken off the table.

During the recent election campaign, the Liberal platform promised to boost education funding by \$1.6 billion per year.

However, in last week's throne speech, Premier Dalton McGuinty said he may have to delay that promise, blaming the \$5.6 billion projected deficit left by the previous Tory government.

In a November newsletter, OPSEU criticized recent salary hikes for college presidents and other administrative staff.

"Faculty are not affordable and yet, interestingly enough, college presidents moved their own salaries much further ahead of school principals and closer to their university counterparts by increasing their own salaries, on average by 37.2 per cent," the newsletter stated.

Gordon rejected the criticism. "First of all, I don't set my salary. It's set by the board of governors. Secondly, I'm not going to get defensive about this. My salary was frozen for 10 straight years," he said.

"I have the responsibility of running the entire college. I'm here 12 months a year and I put in pretty long hours. After being here for 22 years, I don't think I have to apologize for what the board wishes to pay."

"I don't think I have to apologize for what the board wishes to pay."



Feel the burn yet? Visitors to Humber's Health and Wellness Fair this week tested their heart rate.

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Search for Cecilia now world-wide

By Olga Kirgidis

The search for nine-year-old Cecilia Zhang has expanded, with Toronto police now receiving help from international agency Interpol and officials in China.

Police are also getting help from the RCMP, Canadian border and airport officials, and Canadian

immigration as they continue their investigation.

The reward for Cecilia's safe return has also been increased to \$140,000 by the Eyes for Angels Initiative.

The Eyes for Angels program was created to increase existing rewards offered in crimes against children.

Police returned to Cecilia's neighbourhood in North York last week to recheck homes and speak to residents who were not home when police spoke to neighbours directly after the abduction five weeks ago.

Two weeks ago, police said they

had no suspects and have yet to be contacted by whoever abducted the grade four student from her home.

"We have not developed any suspects nor have we received any communications from the person or persons responsible for the abducting and holding of Cecilia," Detective Sergeant Dave Perry said.



Nine-year-old Cecilia Zhang has been missing since mid-October.

Police were hoping that Cecilia's kidnappers would follow their suggestions to release the girl anonymously in the large crowd at the Santa Claus Parade on Nov. 16.

Since her disappearance, police have received 1,100 tips.

Here at Humber, talk of Cecilia still being missing has raised

mixed concerns for students going into the education field.

"I think it is very scary because it reminds us that children are in more danger than ever before and their safety has to be the top priority to us as future educators," Sidra Choudhry, a first-year Early Childhood Education student said.

Humber adds new winter start dates to accommodate cohorts

By Chris Hedrick

The crunch for Ontario colleges isn't over yet, as an estimated 40 per cent of double cohort students returned to high school this fall to upgrade classes.

As a result, Humber College is offering several full-time programs that begin in February for students who finish high school in the winter.

"What happens is that high school students write exams in January so it was almost impossible for them to also start at Humber in January," said Barb Riach, associate registrar, recruitment.

"So that means a student who is currently in high school this semester could write their exams and start the same year. They wouldn't have to wait until next September to start."

Most colleges offer courses that

begin in January, but Humber will also be offering full-credit courses beginning in February to facilitate students who are coming directly from high school.

Although not all programs will be available for a winter start date there are a wide array offered, including computer programming, accounting, business systems, and tourism and travel.

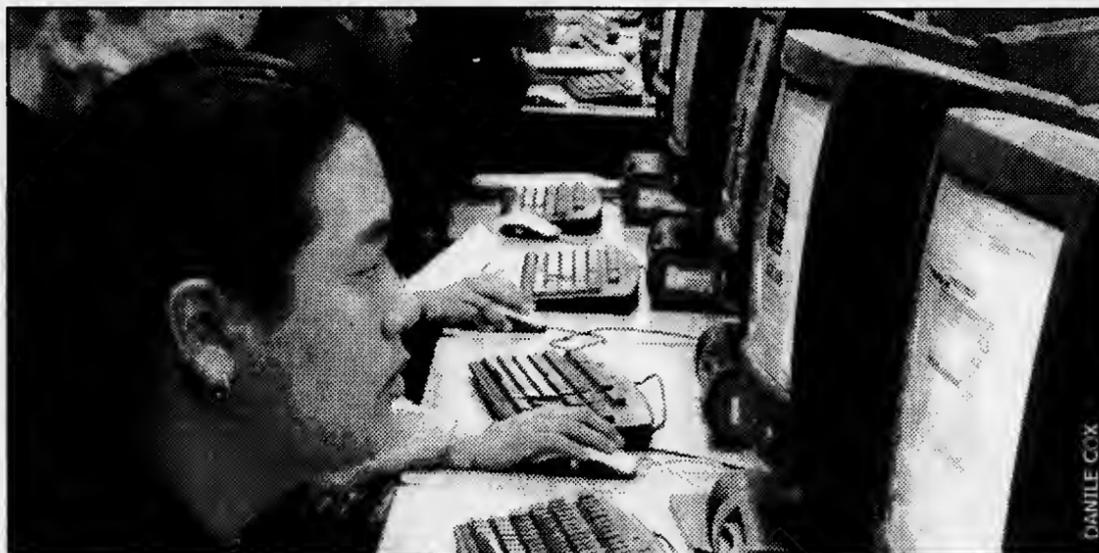
Although Humber will see about 1,600 to 1,700 students begin classes in January and February, there is no worry about a lack of classrooms.

"It's part of the college plan," Riach said.

"There will be a number of students in their last semester, this fall, so they will be graduating, which frees up seats for the new students to start in the January and February intake."

A full list of programs is available at www.humber.ca.

"It was almost impossible for them to also start at Humber in January."



Valerie Sprenger, the computer lab's customer care manager, said this year the college hired lab monitors to ensure students are only using the lab for academic purposes.

Online chats banned

By Priya Ramanujam

Lab monitors have been cracking down on anyone using online chat in the North Campus main computer lab this semester.

"Chat should be allowed, because at times students need to get away from excessive work and talk to friends and family or even people on the school grounds," said Rayon Whyte, a second-year computer program analyst student.

Sean Carter, a first-year architecture student, said chatting should be allowed but only if a student is doing schoolwork as well.

He said students shouldn't occupy computers simply to chat.

"If chatting is all a student is using the computer for, then kick them out," he said.

Valerie Sprenger, the lab's customer care manager, said the rule prohibiting the use of online chat isn't new.

The online chatting ban was introduced a few years ago by a committee of Humber administration and SACC (now HSF) members, because chatting was not academic and students could spend lab time being more productive.

However, due to budget cuts, lab monitors have not been hired for the past two years.

"For this reason, a lot of things happened that shouldn't have in the

lab over the last two years," she said, adding not only did chatting become widely popular, but also eating at work stations and viewing pornographic websites.

Stephen Bruno, a first-year multimedia productions student, says chatting can be useful to students.

"Chat could be used to find out when a class starts or about assignments," he said.

However, Ryan Burton, a service delivery specialist for the lab, says students could find that information on Web CT.

Web CT is an online program designed for students to discuss schoolwork with other classmates and to access resource material.

Young Canadians retain spirituality?

Students keep the faith despite not attending church regularly

By John Mammias

A new survey suggests church attendance among young Canadians is rapidly declining, but spirituality is on the rise.

The survey was conducted by Environics Research group in conjunction with the Canadian edition of Time Magazine and found church attendance dropped dramatically, especially among young adults.

But the poll also suggests that Canadians place a high emphasis on spirituality.

The poll indicated that 65 per cent of 18-24 year olds and 62 per cent of 25-34 year olds felt it was not very important or not important at all to attend church.

Here at Humber, students expressed similar points of views when it came to going to church.

Troy Achian, a second-year design foundations student, said

occasionally attending church is good enough for him.

"I am Catholic, and have been raised to go to church every Sunday. I used to go religiously until a few years ago, but now go about once a month," Achian said. "I'd rather sleep in on a Sunday than get up early to go to church. Anyway, I think church is overrated."

Father George Tolia, a Greek Orthodox priest, has also seen a decline in church attendance among young adults.

"Ten years ago, on any given Sunday, I would see the church full of teenagers and young adults. But now, I mainly see young children and older adults. Maybe they're too busy with their studies on Sundays, or maybe their losing they're faith," he said.

Nela Mamalyga, a first-year nursing student, used to go to her

Orthodox church regularly until she saw the downside of it.

"When I was younger, I didn't have a problem with going. But as I got older, I found that it has almost become commercialized. It's about how you look, what you wear, and how much you donate."

Mamalyga added that although she doesn't attend church regularly, she holds strong ties to her faith.

As she gets older, she said tapping into her spiritualistic side is becoming more and more important.

Second-year photography students Sasha Savin and David Mino agree.

"I admit it, I hardly go to church," said Savin. "Maybe just on special occasions like Christmas, but it doesn't really bother me. I am more spiritual now. I can't explain how I became this way, but I have."

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Police crack down on jaywalkers in Toronto

By Peter Armstrong

Toronto police recently issued 2,828 tickets to motorists, and jaywalkers during a 10-day campaign focused on pedestrian safety.

Chief Julian Fantino launched Operation PED (pedestrian) Safe, (which ended last week) to address the large number of pedestrian injuries in the city.

"The officers have been instructed by the chief to be more strict on pedestrian violations since we have 2,400 pedestrians struck every year in the city - six a day - and that's way too many," said Sgt. Ted Holtzheuser of the traffic safety program.

Charges included 670 motorists who disobeyed traffic signals, 217 motorists who failed to yield to pedestrians at crosswalks, and 64 cyclists for riding in a crosswalk.

More than 500 pedestrians received a variety of charges for



More than 500 pedestrians received tickets for jaywalking during the blitz.

disobeying red lights and failing to use a crosswalk.

Crossing at mid-block and fail-

ing to yield to traffic, or jaywalking, will cost offenders \$8.75, but if a pedestrian crosses at an intersection with a signal and disobeys those signal, it's a \$40 fine, plus a \$10 surcharge.

A reporter for the Humber EtCetera received a \$50 ticket for crossing Bay St. at Richmond St. last week because he started walking just after the orange hand started flashing.

Fantino wants to raise the fine for crossing at mid-block to the same as disobeying a signal at an intersection.

New rails were installed during the summer to guide Humber students to use the crosswalk after getting off the bus on the north side of Humber College Blvd. Most students obey, but some said feel that an increased charge would not deter jaywalkers.

"When you're walking, you're not thinking about police and fines," accounting student Olia Burmoyt said.

Sgt. Holtzheuser says the increased fines would still be too light on pedestrians.

"For a motorist that disobeys a red light the fine is \$185," he said. "My feeling is that if a pedestrian disobeys a traffic light, they should get the same fine as a driver."



Art and food combined at the Gourmet Food and Wine expo held at the Metro Convention Centre last weekend.

Eat, drink and be merry

By Jaime Taylor

Corks popped and glasses chimed at this year's ninth annual Gourmet Food and Wine Expo in downtown Toronto.

Thousands poured into the Metro Toronto Convention Centre last weekend to enjoy gourmet food along with fine wines and liquors from all over the world.

"It's an annual event for us," Virginia Fairbank said, raising her wine glass. "It's great because you can try wines from all regions that you may not be able to find in the liquor store."

Over 200 exhibitors packed the centre, offering a taste of wines, beer, liquor and food from around the world.

"I've got a beer in one hand and a shrimp in the other. It doesn't get much better than this."

"There's a lot of variety," Lee Saunders said as she sat under the Eiffel Tower tent at the centre of the room, representing the show's main theme of France.

Café TuTu Tango, a new Toronto gourmet restaurant, hired Steve Hudak from Industrial Art space to sculpt a Cheshire cat out of chocolate. Visitors were invited to sample the chocolate shavings from sheets covering the floor.

"This is about 105 pounds of Nelson dark chocolate," Hudak said. "We're raffling it off as first prize tonight, and all proceeds will go to Big Brother and Big Sisters."

David Henrickson attended the expo for the first time, and said he would be back again next year.

"I've got a beer in one hand and a shrimp in the other," he said.

"It doesn't get much better than this."

Dr. Hook has left the building (kind of)

By Liza Wood

After 18 years as the vice president of administration at Humber, Dr. Richard Hook has decided to call it quits in order to take on other tasks.

But Hook has not retired from Humber College entirely. He's been given the title of VP Emeritus and is busy working on projects with Guelph-Humber.

On top of that, Hook is chairing the Canadian Association of Polytechnic Institutes Research Committee and co-chairing with the Director of the Ontario Governments College Branch.

"I'm enjoying the idea that I can actually take on a project and get it done fairly quickly with my colleagues rather than have to juggle too many things at once," he said.

As the head of the Management Committee at Humber, Hook started the

Arboretum by raising half a million dollars.

Most of Hook's career was spent focusing on the introduction of new programs into the college. He was also very active in the start of the degree programs offered at Humber, including the Daimler Chrysler Degree Program, taught entirely by Humber faculty.

The only part of the job Hook didn't like was making reductions and budget cuts at a time when education was underfunded.

Although it was hard to work under these conditions, he still managed to find the positive in it.

"There was unanimity at Humber that we would focus on the quality of the educational experience we offered. When you start cutting to the point that you're reducing quality, those people who go into teaching and education as a career start losing interest."



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Discussing the future over another round of Mocktails

By Dawn Farrell

Humber College Career Centre's annual Mocktails event brought in a range of companies from across southern Ontario to meet with business administration, management and marketing students last Thursday.

Three-hundred students signed up for Mocktails where snacks and non alcoholic refreshments were provided to create a comfortable environment for everyone in the Seventh Semester room.

Each student rotated through employers, talking for 10 minutes until a bell ring would signal them to switch to the next employer. Representatives came from 19 companies including CIBC, Coca-Cola Bottling Company and United Parcel Service.

Paul Pieper, program coordinator of business management and marketing, hosted the event while approaching and guiding students through the networking reception.

"I'm a cheerleader and I'm not shy," he said.

The network clinic allows students to practice their interviewing skills and gives the companies a sense of the students' strengths and skills.

"It's like a job fair without the stress," Pieper said.

Second-year business marketing student Sarah Harder said the event gave her good information for her future arrangements.

"This event is good for the students to interact with companies they plan to work for," she said.

Mocktails has successfully placed business students in the past. Business management graduate, Richard Thompson, came to the event as a representative for RBC Life Insurance Company.

Thompson attended the event the previous



Local company representatives give students a view into their future industry.

year and was hired as an insurance salesperson during his internship. He encourages other students to try it out.

"At first it's a little intimidating," he said. "Take an internship and it might be something for you."

Though some students agreed that they liked what companies had to offer, others were expecting something different.

Owen Zahara, a second-year business administration co-op student said it didn't seem like the companies were interested in what he was looking for.

"Unless they are helping recruit, it doesn't seem like they are snapping people up," he said.

Justin Horner, second-year business market-

ing student, is planning a career in management and didn't find any help in this area.

"The event was good, but not what I was looking for," he said. "These companies are looking for people to work in junior sales."

David Bernardo, regional development manager of RBC Insurance, said he was encouraged with the ambition he has found in Humber students.

"Richard came in and had a spark," he said. "Humber's business students are getting better. They want to do it."

Bernardo said their company takes all the students resumes and calls back everyone they have spoken with to see if they were interested in what they had presented.

The battle of generic vs. the brand name

By Julie De Carlo

Often shoppers will spend extra money on brand names for items like computers, clothing and food just for the name.

"Generic products are generally better quality than brand names," Eli Benjamin, a business marketing grad student, said.

He thinks brand name producers generally compete based on the prices of similar items offered by retailers while using the cheapest components to make them.

And many retail professionals and student consumers agree with this statement. They see the main difference between brand name and generic products, or clones, is simply the packaging.

Corrine Martin, a second-year early childhood education student, says the difference is in dollar figures rather than product quality.

"I've been buying no-name

brand products for years now, and I barely notice a difference between No-Name chips and Lay's or Life Brand shampoo as opposed to Herbal Essences."

Muhammad Chaudhry is the president of a privately owned computer company called DuraPC.com. He said consumers can benefit from buying generic computers.

"A customer could have an entire generic computer system put together with different parts and customized individually just for them and their specific needs as a user," Chaudhry said.

Chaudhry said it adds up to be 10 per cent cheaper than the branded computers.

Chaudhry acknowledged that while the prices differed, the ratio of complaints and computer repairs he gets at work is about the same for brand names and clones alike with the most common complaint

being about the software error rather than the computers themselves.

The bottom line, according to Chaudhry, is that the higher prices for brand name models is going towards the name only.

Joyce Law represents the other side of the fence as a representative for Proctor & Gamble, one of the world's largest suppliers of blank and blank said that in terms of meeting and improving customer satisfaction, the company takes customer feedback seriously and inserts [it] into their "consumer shopper insight policy."

Law said that consumer suggestions are given as much priority as possible when working to improve the overall quality of their products.



Buy Now

By Brian E. Wilkinson

\$10 for someone special

One of the most enjoyable things about the holiday season is spending gobs of money on people. Why not take this generosity a step further and apply it in normal day-to-day life by going out right now, spending \$10 to give a present to someone important in your life? No occasion, no reasons given, just to do something kind for someone else to let them know you care. You don't need to do it often, but every now and then do it just to spread a little cheer.

Christmas ornaments/decorations.

All hail the mighty dollar store! For a few bucks you can increase your collection of ornaments, gift bags, and presents. Even though it only costs a dollar, you can pick up several Christmas items while avoiding the hassles that big box stores can cause on holiday shoppers.

Pass On Buy

eBay.com

I want to like eBay, I really do. Heck, the first thing I ever bought off of eBay was a DVD player. Not only was it a good deal, but it was delivered quickly and easily. These days, the same item often goes for more than you'd pay at retail, mostly due to the U.S. exchange rate and sellers charging ridiculous shipping and handling rates. For one book priced at \$3.95 U.S. a buyer can look forward to paying around \$5 to \$10 for shipping. Call me crazy, but I thought at auctions you got things for cheaper than normal.

Table saw

I hate the Canadian Tire commercial where a wife buys a 'table saw' for her husband. He opens it eagerly Christmas morning sure of what she's bought and finds a lousy gift certificate. First, it's bad because any table saw would have done fine, as he could exchange it later if it was the wrong one. Secondly, his eager exclamation at getting one Christmas morning could have turned disastrous had it been a pot and pan collection. He simply should have told her which one he wanted. She should just go with what she can afford.

Students can sell texts on HSF site

By Marjorie Lamperein

For students left with a handful of useless textbooks at the end of the semester there is hope.

The Buy and Sell Board site is available online on the Humber Students' Federation website, www.hsfveb.com and is a great method for selling used textbooks.

Not only do you get to avoid line-ups but you can even potentially score a better deal from anywhere that is Internet accessible.

Most school bookstores will only give back half the original price of the book, even if it looks new.

"The site is much more convenient, especially at the beginning of the year," explained Valerie Rothlin, HSF president. Some student ads were appearing in washrooms but Rothlin advises that "students are not allowed to do that and they're usually torn down."

The options on the site include listings for automobiles, computers, software and general merchandise.

Michael Serino, a second-year interior design student wants to do what he can to help out his fellow students.

"When I want to sell books that I don't need anymore, I'd rather sell it to another student," he said. "At least I may be helping out."

Ads are free and run for one month. All ads are pre-screened by the HSF to prevent offensive material from being included.



Marvel comics fight back after near-bankruptcy loss

By Brian E. Wilkinson

Fighting back against a financial slump the size of the Hulk, Marvel Comics has emerged victoriously in the green after battling bankruptcy for several years.

Much of Marvel's recent success can be attributed to changes resulting from movements by the publishing and licensing arms. In-house, Marvel launched a new series of reader friendly books set in an 'Ultimate' universe featuring stripped-down, easy-to-understand versions of their popular Marvel counterparts like Wolverine and Spider-Man.

Editor-in-chief Joe Quesada and then-president Bill Jemas brought on board a wealth of new talent, new ideas and an energy that hadn't been felt within the house of ideas

since Stan Lee, the creator of many of the world's most recognizable super-heroes, last worked there.

Outside of Marvel, a booster shot was given to the floundering company by the success of the *X-Men* movie, which became the top-selling comic book movie ever made at the time. Not one to let the financial juggernaut slow down, Marvel approved more than 15 of their properties for translation to the big screen after that success.

Since *X-Men*, Marvel movies have included *X2*, *Spider-Man*, *Hulk*, *Daredevil*, *Blade* and in the next year audiences will see *The Punisher*, *Ghost Rider*, *Fantastic Four* and a *Spidey* sequel.

Marvel's Q3 income for this year netted \$63.2 million and showed growth in its licensing and publishing divisions. The profit

shown by Marvel translates into \$0.85 a share which is a staggering difference compared to last year at this time when it was \$0.17 a share.

Licensing sales were up by roughly 66 per cent from this time last year, with toy sales grabbing about \$23.3 million worth of the pie. According to a recent press release, Marvel is anticipating 2004's operating income to be larger than 2003's.

Marvel's success has allowed them to expand the company to include a new international division expected to launch in early 2004.

Other Marvel changes on the horizon include former Fleece/Skybox exec Dan

Buckley as publisher who will guide the publishing arm as it creates new tales for the near future.



Movie and comic properties, such as *X-Men* and *The Fantastic Four* have given Marvel Comics new life in today's competitive market.

Exchange reviews two of the hottest items hitting store shelves this week:

X2: X-Men United DVD Review:

The merry mutants are back and tearing up DVD players this week as the hit sequel to the *X-Men* movie smashes its way home Nov. 25.

Join Wolverine, Iceman, Cyclops and new arrival, Nightcrawler as they take on the villainous William Stryker with the help of their arch-enemy, Magneto!

The film is arguably one of the best comic-to-movie translations in recent years with stellar performances by Hugh Jackman (Wolverine) and Sir Ian McKellan (Magneto).

Bonus features on the 2-disc set include behind-the-scenes features, a gag reel, cast and crew bios as well as an image gallery featuring unused characters that

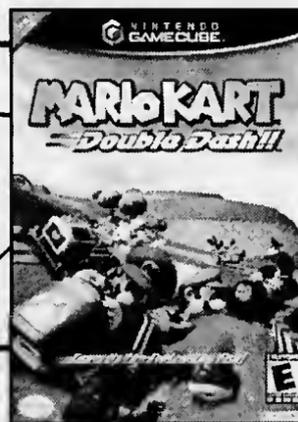


will hopefully show up in the third film.

Audiences can look forward to future appearances from Gambit, Beast and the mutant-hunting robots, the Sentinels.

Pick it up today.

Cost: \$25.99 on DVD



Mario Kart Double Dash!! Review:

It's been almost six years since Nintendo fans last got their hands on a game in the popular franchise and it was definitely worth the wait.

Users can have their pick of

more than 18 characters as they race through over 16 tracks and six battle mode courses.

The thrower/driver combination that they have on the title adds more dimension to the game, but simple mechanics like the ability to jump and weapons like the feather leave this title lacking in some ways.

The speed and diversity of courses make for fast-paced fun, but more experienced gamers may be put off by how easy some of the early courses are.

Overall, *Double Dash!!* is a great game with amazing visuals and fast-paced fun for one to 16 players on the Nintendo Gamecube.

Cost: \$69.99

*By Brian E. Wilkinson

Teach English Overseas

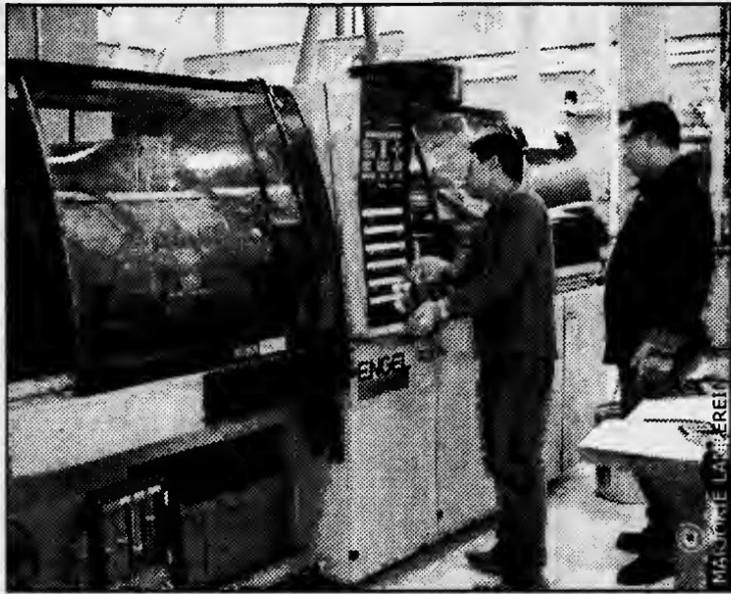
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Students from the injection moulding certificate program work with industry machinery. This machine was donated by Engel and makes face powder compact cases.

Moulding the professionals of plastics

By Marjorie Lamperein

One of Humber's best kept secrets is in the North Campus' basement—the Canadian Plastics Training Centre.

Studies done in the late 80s and early 90s demonstrated that the plastics industry in Ontario, which also employs three quarters of all plastics related businesses in Canada, needed to upgrade the skill level of their employees. They needed an academic training institution for the industry.

Humber College jumped at the opportunity 10 years ago.

This is the only college in Ontario that has a plastics processing program," said David Alcox, General Manager of CPTC.

The centre is dedicated to providing education, training and consulting services to the plastics industry. The CPTC's main focus is injection moulding, but it also concentrates in other areas such as blow moulding and pipe and profile extrusion.

The CPTC was set up as a traditional post to provide training to people interested in jobs in the industry and to give those already working in the industry upgrades in their skills.

"Humber did a good job at convincing me that it had achieved capability to develop programs that would meet the needs of this industry," Alcox said.

"Canada is known for being a machine tool industry. We have

some of the most sophisticated manufacturers in the world here," he said.

Once Humber was chosen by the CPTC as the institution in which a training centre would be set up, it received equipment contributions from leading companies such as Husky, Sumitomo and Engel.

Alcox estimated the worth of the equipment at well over \$1 million. Husky and Sumitomo donated about \$400,000 to the center which also receives funding from the federal and provincial government.

Humber provides a full-time injection moulding set up certificate course available through the regular full-time calendar.

A new post-diploma program starting in January will focus on mould and dye design.

For more information, visit <http://ctpc.humberc.on.ca>.

Former stars' final grasp at fame online

By Jason Pushee

The recent death of 27-year-old 90s teenage TV and film star Jonathan Brandis (due to a suspected suicide) has probably found people wondering about what other former spotlight-grabbers are doing with their lives.

Well, it seems as though a lot of them have turned into Internet junkies trying to hold on to a bit of their fame by starting their own web sites.

Oncefamous.com has compiled a list of personal sites from virtual no-names these days like Crystal Bernard (*Wings*, *Slumber Party Massacre II*) and Wil Wheaton (*Stand By Me*, *Star Trek The Next Generation*) to slightly bigger names of yesterday like Pauly Shore (*Encino Man*, *Bio-dome*) and famous 80s pop singing star Cyndi Lauper.

After checking out some of the sites, a fair number seem a poor attempt at regaining fame or are just plain

depressing with a bunch of dead links that are comparable to many of their current careers.

Some sites are surprisingly low key, hosted by free user sites like Lycos or Geocities, while others go full scale, buying domains with half decent design making them more interesting and entertaining to view. *Oncefamous.com* rates these faded stars' sites in three areas: design, content and level of humiliation on a five star scale while providing a brief review of the site and explanation of the rating.

Some sites are often quite intimate, letting viewers see into the everyday lives of the stars through personal weblogs. For example, former California governor wannabe and *Diff'rent Strokes* star, Gary Coleman, has a site where people can get advice on anything by e-mailing Coleman Confidential, which he usually answers.

Also featured are links to some of the worst fan sites around the web and an angry e-mail section which shows the star, or most likely their lawyer, expressing rage over yet another bad review or from comments dealing with something other than their acting.

Overall the site is fairly enjoyable and entertaining and reveals more than you probably need to know about where the falling stars of yesterday are now.



WebWanderings

COURTESY

Tongue tied talkers get help to speak out

If you're tired of tripping over your tongue and worrying too much about your public speaking skills, then Humber may have the solution for you.

A course in business presentation skills will run at the Lakeshore campus every Tuesday evening starting from Jan. 13 to Mar. 16 between 7 and 10 p.m.

The \$330 course will develop

both communication and presentation skills by concentrating on grounding and focusing techniques. Acting exercises, improvisation and theatre games will all be used as teaching aids.

The presentation skills course is run by the theatre program, the School of Creative and Performing Arts and Humber College.

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Go park yourself

The tribulations of holiday parking

It's that time of year again. Christmas. A time for giving and receiving or cheating and stealing parking spaces, that is.

With a limited number of parking spots and an army of Christmas shoppers hitting the malls every weekend until the big C-day, it's no wonder spaces are so coveted.

But unfortunately some people will do almost anything to secure a spot.

At Yorkdale Mall in Toronto, the odds of finding a parking spot, any spot (yes, even way back by the 401) are slim to none. Customers stand a better chance at winning the lottery. Just ask James Harvey who works at the Aveda Lifestyle store in the mall. He says the stand-offs taking place in the parking lot during the holidays are anything but merry.

According to Yorkdale mall security, in extreme

situations, aggressive parking spot snatching has resulted in slashed tires, broken windows and even black eyes. The incidences of parking disputes take place year-round but it's always at its zenith around the holidays.

So, how can all this holiday hostility be avoided?

Try this:

- Remember it's the season to be jolly.
- Don't be in a hurry. Never, ever expect to find parking quickly. Obviously the malls are going to be busy at this time of the year.
- Use your legs. You're not going to freeze to death if you have to walk a few minutes from your car to the entrance. Don't expect to find a close spot. And since it's Christmas, be courteous. If a close spot is rightfully yours but an elderly couple is also waiting in the wings for a spot -

give it to them.

- Play fair. If you were waiting for half an hour down one lane with no luck, don't go barreling down some other guy's lane and steal his spot while screaming, "I've been waiting here for half an hour, he was."
- Be alert! You may think you have the first right to a spot if you didn't notice the poor guy sitting behind you for the last 40 minutes. Be aware of who was really there first.



doers in the ass and they'll end up walking into a glass door, stepping in gum or getting their car stolen.

Merry Christmas, happy holidays and go park yourself!

Moving Toronto: The future is now

Will Dalton McGuinty pull through on his pro-transit electoral campaign promise? Anyone who uses public transit in Toronto should hope so.

Commuters packed shoulder to shoulder on a subway train at rush hour want more service, not empty promises.

After a quick comparison of transit systems elsewhere, it becomes easy to criticize the current state of the TTC. But that comparison will also yield a lot of sympathy for the TTC as a

workhorse in this city.

Chicago is a city comparable to Toronto with a population just under the 3 million mark, 2,926,000 to Toronto's 2,572,000. The Chicago Transportation Authority (CTA) is the second largest transportation system in the U.S. and moves about the same number of passengers as Toronto in a day - about a million. Yet Chicago's subway lines are far more extensive. Chicago has 222 miles of subway track, compared to 42.5 in

Toronto. That's 180.5 miles of breathing room. Chicago has 139 stations, compared to Toronto's 69.

It's obvious which system has to work a lot harder to move the same number of people.

The CTA spends over \$330 million U.S. annually, (\$435.62million Canadian), to operate and maintain its equipment and facilities. Toronto spent \$207.6 million last year between its operating and capital budgets. That's less than half the amount Chicago spent to

move an equal number of riders. What is wrong with this picture?

Let's hope McGuinty and Ontario's new Liberal government understands that in order to make money, you need to spend some. Thinking about the future starts with recognizing the need for transit expansion now.

By expanding subway lines into the 905 regions, the city would serve the rapid growth occurring just outside the GTA, in population, employment and plan-

ning.

Critics cite the under-use of the new Sheppard extension, but do they realize the importance the subway will hold in the very near future? It's called planning ahead. Remember, the Spadina line was once young too, and now it is an integral part of the TTC system and could become even more so if it is extended to York University.

The TTC needs money for the future. But Dalton, the future is now.

Letters To The Editor

Reader responds to Ramadan article

re: Students balance studies with their faith, Nov 20, 2003

This letter is in response to the article entitled "Students balance studies with their faith" found in the Nov 20, 2003 issue. In the article Priya Ramanujam states, "Every day during Ramadan, participating Muslims sacrifice food and water from 6

a.m. to 6 p.m. This is incorrect. During the month of Ramadan, practicing Muslims are required to abstain from all food and all drink, not just water, as well as things such as sexual intercourse, fighting, and lying. Moreover, Muslims

begin their daily fast approximately a half hour before sunrise and break their fast after the sun has set. Contrary to what Ms. Ramanujam stated, this does not mean from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., since the sun rises and sets at different times every day.

I understand that not everyone is educated about Islam; however, I do feel that upon embarking on writing an article about a topic such as this, the author should do the proper research into the subject first. Not only

does this educate the writer, but also it properly educates the readers and prevents any misunderstanding about the religion, even if it is a minor error.

Amber Deen



Got something to say?
Write a letter to the editor
at:
lettersetc@hotmail.com

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The outdoor classic may lose its luster



Joe Mucio

After a wonderful game of pond hockey between the Montreal Canadiens and the Edmonton Oilers last week, other NHL teams seemed poised to capitalize on the resurgence of outdoor shinny.

Both the Calgary Flames and Toronto Maple Leafs have admitted their interest in staging the next

outdoor classic, after witnessing why the game this past Saturday will receive its proper place in hockey history.

The modern day NHL headlines are dominated by labour disputes and franchise unrest, so a game like this goes a long way to restoring faith that the NHL is on the right track.

Fans would have to admit that seeing NHLPA head honcho Bob Goodenow and NHL commissioner Gary Bettman walk onto the ice at Commonwealth Stadium gives some sense of optimism that there will be hockey next October.

However, before the Leafs hier-

archy approaches the NHL offices about possibly getting their own game, they should consider that the success of the Heritage Classic had a lot to do with the originality of the event.

Yeah I know, before everyone points out the 'Cold War' between Michigan and Michigan State, for NHL standards, the game was a first, and it is unfair to compare innovations between the NHL and the NCAA.

At this point, there is an aura surrounding the Heritage Classic that those who were in attendance will tell their grandchildren. These memories won't be forgotten by the

57,000 who not only had the privilege of seeing a regular-season game outdoors, but also having the opportunity to see Wayne Gretzky passing the puck back to Mark Messier one more time.

With a feel-good story like this helping to boost the NHL's image, the league needs to let a game like this stand on its own and give it its proper place along the hockey timeline.

Duplicating an event just to try and copy its success will only cause the original to lose some of

its luster. Let the game have its moment in the sun before we see another game on the pond.

I know some NHL cities could badly use some of the publicity that was bestowed upon Edmonton, but not at the expense of minimizing the effect this game had on hockey fans.

The Heritage Classic accomplished this nostalgia, and more than deserves its chance to be remembered as a classic before more outdoor games turn into nothing more than a publicity draw.

Cars deserve the same respect as every other weapon



Sarah Lisi

If a person was wildly waving a loaded gun around, would you knowingly walk into his path? Based on the number of pedestrians injured in car accidents, I'd have to say yes.

Cars are big, heavy, fast-paced weapons, and their drivers are not highly trained professionals, transport ministry testing aside. And yet an increasing number of pedestrians practically throw themselves in front of these weapons and expect them to stop on a dime.

Now even if we ignore the issue of driving conditions and just focus on driving impairments, there's enough reason to fear cars and respect their power. First, people are constantly being charged with drunk driving. Every day someone drives with a suspended license or forgets his glasses, not to mention the number of motorists caught tossing salads and eating cereal. And yet pedestrians put their lives in the hands of these drivers, assuming they'll be safe.

It's time pedestrians started paying attention to the rules of the road. Treat everyone as an impaired driver because in one way or another, most of us are.

Driving a car isn't easy. Drivers have enough to worry about without having to avoid suicidal pedestrians. A simple lane change requires that we take our eyes off the road. We can't be aware of everything at all times.

Even the built-in safety measures, like crosswalks, seem to be more trouble than they're worth. Why? Because a crosswalk is only as good as the person using it and walking across dressed in

"Take responsibility for your safety, or you might get hurt."

black in the dead of night without pushing the button is worthless. Regardless of whether it's your right of way, make sure traffic has stopped before running across the road.

But, who am I kidding? Most pedestrians don't even use crosswalks.

I applaud the move by police to start cracking down on jaywalkers. And I'm not saying that every jaywalker should get a ticket (I often do it myself).

However, if a driver has to slam on his car's brakes to allow you to cross the street, that's not right. If you have a child in one arm and are pushing a baby stroller with the

other, that's not right. If you're using a cane or a walker, jaywalking's not for you, especially on a four-lane street during rush hour.

I've seen these jaywalking taboos all too often on a street with a crosswalk about 50 feet away.

Why do people put their own lives and the lives of their children in danger? Why would you teach your child improper crossing methods? Do we really want another generation of careless pedestrians?

Do yourselves a favour: Before crossing in front of a car, make eye contact with the driver. Before using a crosswalk, push the button and wait for traffic to actually stop. Love your kids enough to walk the extra minute to the crosswalk to ensure their safety. And never, ever take your eyes off oncoming traffic, whether you're jaywalking or not.

Take responsibility for your safety, or you might get hurt.

And when you're lying by the side of the road bleeding internally, it doesn't really help to be able to say, "I had the right of way."

Nothing is ever free, especially when you buy it with plastic



Chris Riddell

During my first month at Humber, I received my first credit card. It was a MasterCard with a winter-time picture of our school on it and the Humber College Alumni Association at the top. When I signed up for the card, I was given a free Mach 3 razor and told that the card would only work at school.

Naturally I figured that this was a win-win situation. I was getting a credit card with no possibility that my application would be refused, and also a free razor for my troubles. When the card came in the mail, I was a happy man. I was even happier when I found that it didn't only work at school. It worked everywhere! I could use it to buy anything I wanted. I could even order things over the Internet! Sure enough I did. In fact, I even used this trusty piece of plastic to make a down payment on a bass guitar.

I have all these nice things because of it, but on the other hand now I also have a large credit card

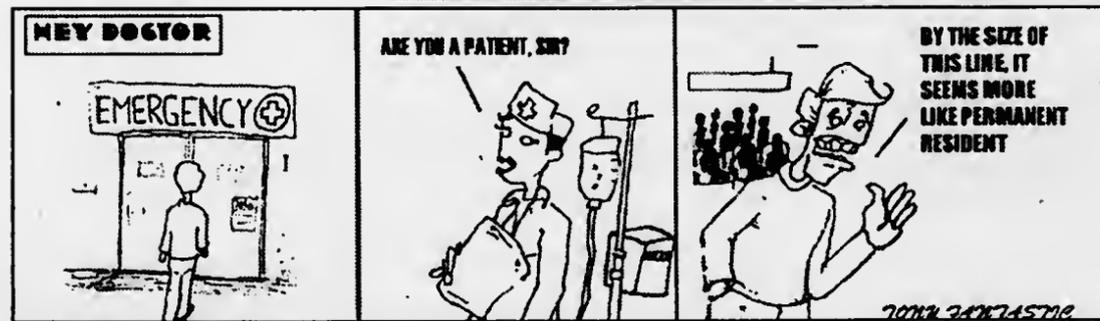
bill to pay off. When you buy something with a credit card, you can almost think you're getting something for free since you aren't actually spending money. Then the bill comes in the next month and you realize maybe you shouldn't have been so frivolous.

There's this funny little thing called interest. Interest is a demon that adds on to the total amount that you owe your creditor. With a debt of \$1,100, I'm charged about \$18 of interest each month. I send in payments, but a chunk of what I pay only covers the interest. What's left over knocks down my total debt. As a result of this I will end up paying far more for my purchases in the long run. Getting something for free? I think not.

Just about everyone I know has at least one credit card and has dug themselves a shallow grave with it.

It would be better to live on the money you earn and stay away from these little plastic devils, but for many college students like me, this is easier said than done. Attending college is a very expensive undertaking and not all of us can handle all the expenses under our own steam. We need financial assistance. We need credit.

It can be a vicious thing, however. As with any type of purchase, *caveat emptor*, buyer beware.



Home away from home holiday feast

Get ready to chow down

On Dec. 2, Humber's Hospitality students will prepare the colleges annual Christmas Dinner.

Come in semi-formal or formal attire for cocktails at 6:30 p.m. and stay for dinner at 7 p.m. in The Humber Room for just \$30.

There will be a cash bar and door prizes. For tickets or more information, please contact Linda at (416) 675-6622 ext. 5012.

Don't delay - seats are limited.

Arboretum celebrates nature with Winterrific

By Shiho Futuba

The 26th WINTERRIFIC Festival taking place in Humber's Arboretum, will offer the community a variety of events, mainly for children, including hay rides, a scavenger hunt, nature walks and a craft shop.

"Last year, we did quite a good job and this year we are hoping to do much better," event organizer, Richard Weaver said.

There is also a tree sale, toy drive and face painting booths.

Weaver said the festival contains different events every year to make it more fun.

"It's a good time to enjoy a taste of Christmas and winter nature around Humber," Weaver said.

Humber Recreation and Leisure Services students are involved in the event to raise awareness of nature and Canada's natural environment.

All profits raised by this event will be used to further the Arboretum program.

The WINTERRIFIC Festival runs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday Dec. 6, admissions are free.

Mental health centre sells holiday cards for awareness

By Michelle Milligan

The Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) promotes holiday greeting cards to spread awareness and help fight addiction, mental illness and the stigmas attached to them.

Jean Geary, the communications manager at CAMH, said the greeting cards serve a dual purpose. Buying the holiday cards raises money for the foundation and sending them raises awareness.

It also supports the organization's mission to fight the discrimination people have towards addiction and the mentally disabled.

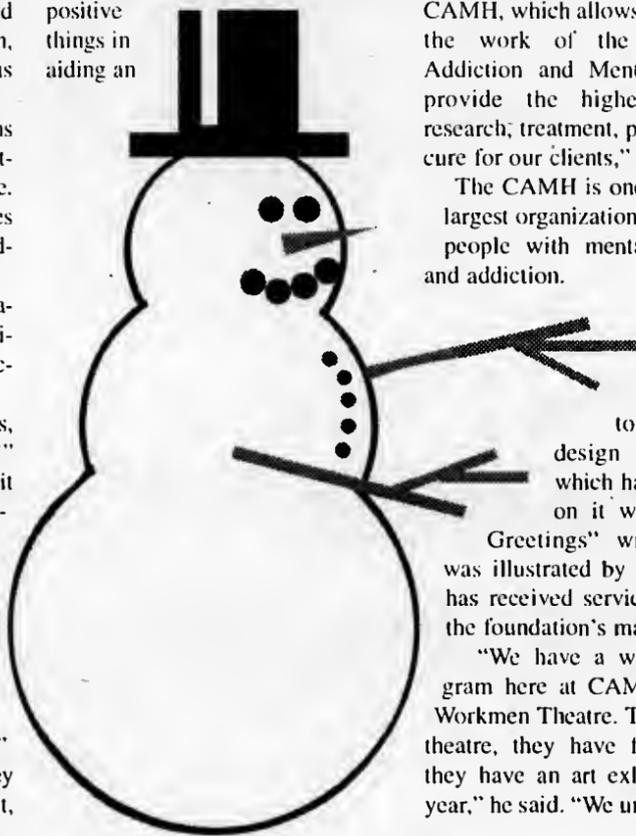
"You're saying to your friends, 'I support this organization,'" Geary said. "It raises money, it breaks down the stigma and creates a better world for people who will face mental illness and addiction in their life time."

Rick Flotner, a third-year industrial design student, supports the cards.

"It's a good way of spreading a message that needs to be heard," he said. "It doesn't just raise money for a good cause by purchasing it,

the card itself physically spreads awareness."

Geary said the cards subtly state that the money raised does many positive things in aiding an



organization devoted to helping people.

"We simply say, on the back, that proceeds from the sale benefit CAMH, which allows us to support the work of the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health to provide the highest level of research, treatment, prevention and cure for our clients," Geary said.

The CAMH is one of Canada's largest organizations that care for people with mental disabilities and addiction.

According to Geary, the design of the card, which has a snowman on it with "Season's Greetings" written below, was illustrated by an artist who has received services by one of the foundation's many programs.

"We have a wonderful program here at CAMH called the Workmen Theatre. They have live theatre, they have film festivals, they have an art exhibition every year," he said. "We uncover a lot of

wonderful talent, some from the art therapy program, and often we're able to find a nice image to put on the holiday greeting cards."

Flotner says the main objective is to eliminate the fear and stigma surrounding mental illness and addiction.

"This affects everyone's lives in some way or another. Raising awareness is really important, because many people think it's not socially acceptable and could be scared of it. Awareness can change that so people don't have to be afraid of it anymore," he said.

Geary says awareness can create change and get people talking, adding that many people have addiction and mental problems but won't talk about it.

"It's ironic. The statistic is that one in four people will be affected at some point during their lives. And yet people are reluctant to talk about it, but I've been here four years and I've seen many positive changes," he said.

To order the greeting cards contact Lidia Franchitto from CAMH at (416) 535-8501 ext. 6169 or e-mail at lidia_franchitto@camh.net.

Annual children's Christmas party

By Marco Recouso

It's that time of year again. Snow, presents, and the Humber Annual Children's Christmas Party.

Taking place Dec. 6 at Santa's Wacky Workshop on the Humber Lakeshore Campus, this year's party will have a wide variety of entertainment.

"We've got quite an assortment of activities, really something for all ages," said Public Relations Program Coordinator, Ed Wright. "We have an obstacle course, we have glass ornament painting, we have Christmas bingo, musical chairs, face painting, stories."

Humber faculty are invited to

bring their families for an afternoon of fun and excitement.

"The goal is really to help celebrate the holiday season. It's a chance for families to get together and get to know one another a little bit more," Wright said.

"Santa will be there, giving all the children presents which have been purchased based on age categories," said Special Events faculty Nancy Marino Benn.

"So we know if a child is coming that is under 3 we have a gift accordingly and if there's a child that's 10, then we'll have a gift accordingly."

A historic event, the Christmas party has been a staple at Humber

College for many decades.

"Believe it or not, it's been going on since 1967.

"This is the 36th year, it's a Humber tradition," Wright said.

The event, organized by certificate students of the public relations program, continues to grow in stature.

"Last year about 700 people attended, staff members and their families," Marino Benn said.

Organizers have had to change the start time for the party. Originally scheduled to take place from 8:30 a.m. until noon, the party will now begin at 2 p.m.

"We've had to move it from the morning to the afternoon because the former City of Etobicoke has a Santa Claus Parade that morning

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SANTA'S WACKY WORKSHOP

that is going to close down Lakeshore at a pretty critical time so were not going to have access [until the afternoon,]" Wright said.

Tickets for the party are available at the Lakeshore and North Campus bookstores from Nov. 10 to 29. Cost is \$6 for adults, and \$4 for children. Party attendees can bring non-perishable food donations for a chance to win some great prizes.



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Gaining the weight is a dream come true

By Rhonda Herry

Obese people are not alone in weight worries. An increasing number of people actually want to pack on the pounds.

According to stay-at-home mom Kameka Simon, who has been thin all her life, gaining weight is her bigger wish.

"I could go to any kids' clothing store and fit into their clothing...It is very hard for me to buy clothing in women's retail stores because of my weight. When I look in the mirror I wish I saw a bigger person," Simon said.

Toronto IDA Pharmacist Daks Amin says too much thyroxin, a hormone that regulates metabolism in the body, can affect weight.

"Thyroxin is a hormone that is produced by the thyroid - a small gland in the neck. People who have too much thyroxin in their body tend to stay thin."

Amin adds that in extreme cases, surgery on the glands is needed to decrease the hormone.

According to her, certain drugs are supposed to increase metabolism, but she doesn't know of any that have been quite successful.

"Over the counter allergy tablets, like cyproheptadine, are very popular...for weight gain. But it's not a proven method," Amin said.

Patricia Reason, a Humber Health Centre nurse, says eating regularly is important for good health.

"Make sure you eat in the morning. If you don't have time, make a sandwich the night before and eat it on the bus or in the car the next morning," Reason said.

She says that students have asked her about dietary supplements, but it's very rare in the college.

Toseef Khan, sales associate for The Miracle and Herbal Food on Yonge street, says many people come to the store for weight gain products.

"There are many products we offer here for people who want to gain weight. We have a lot of popular name brands and herbal remedies for weight gain [containing]...extra proteins and energy nutrients," Khan said.

Health Canada recommends consultations with a doctor or nutritionist about weight.

BSEs are a healthy habit for young women, experts say

By Kristen Brownell

Getting to know where to check for breast cancer can save your life.

"Approximately 50 per cent of malignant cancer is found in the top part of the breast by the shoulder, 11 per cent is directly below that. Eighteen per cent is in the nipple area, 15 per cent is in the upper breast closest to the neck and six per cent is located in the areola," said Charlotte Rough, a Registered Nurse with Telehealth Ontario, a telephone health service.

And breast self-examination is the only means of detecting abnormalities in young people, said Judy Artindale, a Registered Nurse for the breast-screening clinic at Newmarket's South Lake Regional Health Centre.

Mammograms are not recommended until middle age, as teens' breast tissue is dense and shouldn't be exposed to radiation, Artindale said.

Examining your breasts is about becoming familiar with your body and determining abnormalities, says Brenda Macgregor, unit manager at the Canadian Cancer Society.

"Breasts in young women are lumpy due to increased estrogen. If you start as a teenager you will

know what the breast feels like normally, so if there's something unusual you can identify it," Artindale said.

She adds a BSE should begin when women become sexually active. It should be performed one week after menstruation consistently each month.

To do a BSE, Rough says lying down and positioning the shoulder by your ear is a common, comfortable position to take. Use the three middle fingers of your left hand to feel for lumps or thickening. Move in a set way, either circular or vertical.

"The best places to perform a BSE are either in front of a mirror to look for redness or dimpling, or in the shower because soapy hands make it easier to glide over the breast," Rough said.

According to Artindale, breast cancer is the number one killer among women 35 to 49. Knowing the risk factors can help prevent the odds of getting breast cancer. Family history can't be controlled, but other factors can be. Don't smoke, exercise and eat a well balanced diet to maintain good health.

"Young women can also be health promoters for their mothers, aunts and grandmothers if they know the risk factors," Artindale said.



KRISTEN BROWNELL

Nurses become teachers in AIDS awareness

Learning the facts about safe sex, AIDS, and responsibility

By Trisha Richards

An estimated 75 per cent of the student population is sexually active, yet there are still misconceptions surrounding the issue of HIV and AIDS transmission, Anne Foster, a nurse in Humber's Health Centre, says.

To clear up those myths, the Health Centre will hold an information session on Thursday, Dec. 4 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. outside the Career Centre, supported by the Toronto Department of Health.

"December 1 is world-wide AIDS awareness day, so this is kind of a follow-up to that, because there'll be a lot going on in the media. There will be walks going on everywhere in the world," Penny Ecclestone, a health centre nurse, said.

"Quite often, we have young

men and young women coming in and asking for HIV tests, which is a blood test, because they're concerned," Foster said. "So, we know there's a concern out there and this is the reason we are doing it, in terms of responding to the kinds of requests that we get here in the Health Centre."

Riyad Ramjaun, 22, a second-year business marketing student, said he probably won't attend the AIDS awareness session because he feels he is well educated on the subject, but he thinks it's a positive campaign for Humber.

"I think it's good because there's a lot of sex in the media and in our society in general, and basically we have to educate ourselves on this topic. The more we know, the better it is for us," he said.

The Health Centre nurses are

being more pro-active to promote the event this year, said Foster.

"In the past, [we] have just done it as part of our jobs. But, because of the increased number of students we are seeing, we just didn't have the time. So, now there's actually a budget for health promotion," Ecclestone said.

Foster said the nurses hope to "dispel some of the myths" about HIV and AIDS and educate and inform the students.

Foster said anyone who comes to the information session will have much to look forward to.

"We'll have free condoms, information and literature, and there'll be a draw with prizes to be won," she said.

Nurses will provide displays and pamphlets to encourage healthy sexuality as well.

Sex-expert Sue Johanson will be at Humber on Feb. 12 to discuss sexuality.



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A give or take situation

To tip or not to tip, that is the question

By Kelly Peckitt

You've spent a long day on your feet catering to everyone's demands, clearing tables, balancing trays in your arms and walking through the aisles like a tightrope walker and all you ask at the end of the day is a tip.

As a server, you find it immensely important for someone to tip you. For others, it may not cross their mind, they may not believe in it, or they may not think you deserve it.

This is the problem with tips. Those who receive tips rely on them and yet it is out of a server's hands whether or not they receive them, to some degree at least.

"I understand not leaving a tip. I value good service too, but sometimes no matter how hard you work some people will just never leave one," Lela Stairs said, a Ryerson graduate who put herself through school waiting tables in the summer.

The problem with the industry, said Stairs, is that most restaurants don't even pay minimum wage. There is no question. Tips are what

paid her bills. Although she has worked in other fast-paced environments such as retail stores in a tourist area, she said waitressing is the hardest job she's ever had.

"It was a big chess game, anticipating every move and preparing yourself for anything to happen," she said.

Some people, like Christopher Bowen, a first-year radio broadcast student, said tips are unnecessary.

"I don't see why I should have to help pay someone's wage to eat

out," he said.

Stairs said it's not about getting paid more, it's about getting rewarded for good service. The tips she made were split among the kitchen staff, she explained.

"If a waiter makes a conscious effort, tries the food, goes the extra bit, then why not show them appreciation?"

Lewena Bayer, one of the Etiquette Ladies of In Good Company, said common sense is the first step in tipping but there are certain rules to follow as well.

The first misconception students may have is they don't have to tip because they are broke. While no one is expected to tip, Bayer said, being a student isn't an excuse.

"Anyone, students included, with any social IQ knows that it is customary to tip for good service. So they should plan to have enough to cover the service and the gratuity, especially if they received a student discount or special price," Bayer said.

Food industry workers aren't the only ones who rely on tips, Bayer said. Hairdressers, taxi drivers, bellmen and delivery people should be tipped too, as long as they provide good service.

Bayer suggests a tip for a waiter or waitress should be 10-15 per cent of the bill. She said a custom-

When to tip:

- Don't feel bullied to leave a tip if you were not impressed with the service. Some view tips as a "thank you" gift for services rendered and others view it as an inducement for continued good service. Whatever your motives for tipping are, be consistent and plan to tip based on these motives.
- The host or hostess, meaning whoever is making the arrangements, should take care of the bill and leave the tip. If the bill is split, the gratuity is also split.
- If you are a guest of the host or hostess and you receive some extra special personal service; you may leave a tip unless you have been told in advance that it has been taken care of.
- Do not cause a scene or force a gratuity on someone who expresses discomfort about accepting a tip. Some employers have strict guidelines regarding the acceptance of tips.
- If you are travelling abroad, find out in advance what the local tipping customs are.
- If gratuities are included in the billing, i.e. 15 per cent automatically added to a restaurant bill, no additional tip is required.

ary tip for your hairdresser would be 10 per cent of the bill. A delivery person should be tipped a couple of dollars she said, but if you did not purchase the item, you are not required to tip.

Stairs said the biggest mistake customers made was to think she was swimming nightly in tips

"Some people don't even leave 10 per cent, so even if I got 15 per cent from someone, it would just even out for someone who left me five percent or nothing," Stairs



The most needed donations include tuna, baby formula, pasta and sauce, soup, rice, canned fruits and veggies. There are 160,000 people using food programs in Toronto.

But other factors that make tipping a controversial issue. "Service people would argue that it's not their fault the food was bad and they still gave good service and customers might argue that the server has a responsibility to remedy a bad food situation and that if a guest is charged for bad food, they should not be expected to tip as well, regardless of the quality of service."

"Many customers take the attitude that they are paying for an overall experience and they will only tip if things were acceptable overall," she said.

Bayer said in this case she would be likely to tip for bad food if the service was great, but she would never tip for good food if the service was bad. The best thing to do though is speak up.

"Good manners suggest that patrons should at least tell a service person they are not satisfied with food quality and give them an opportunity to replace it or discount it," Bayer said.

"Everyone deserves to experience your good manners, say please, thank you and excuse me. Don't forget to smile and make eye contact," Bayer said.

Donation demand not just seasonal

By Jeremy Hill

To give or to get is the question many ponder at this time of year when everyone's looking towards the holidays.

Food drives across the GTA are also gearing up for the holiday season, but the demand is not just seasonal.

"We are concerned with increasing demand that no matter how much we get, it's not enough," said Lorean Barbour, public education co-coordinator at Toronto's Daily Bread Food Bank.

Daily Bread is Canada's second largest food bank, serving over 190 individual food programs. The organization also reported that 48 per cent of its clients report going hungry at least once a week.

This also means that home renters and owners often have to choose between making payments or feeding their children.

"Social assistance rates and minimum wages have not been raised in over eight years. And with higher costs of living it means their income is continually deteriorating," Barbour said. "Each year we can expect that more people will be forced to turn to our services."

Daily Bread says a family with one adult and two children may

receive as little as \$1,086 in social assistance per month, not enough to cover basic living expenses like rent, food and transportation.

"There are 160,000 people using food programs each month in Toronto," Barbour said.

Torontonians however, are very charitable.

"Last spring we nominated the City of Toronto for an award through the city's food and hunger action committee, which recognized their continued generosity in supporting us during food drives," Barbour said.

If you wish to give back, look no further than Humber's campus. Humber's firefighting students have put together a collection for the food bank with barrels placed around the college.

Daily Bread's goal for food this year is set at one million pounds. The total to this point this year remains uncalculated.

"Most needed items include peanut butter, tuna fish, baby formula, pasta and sauce, soup, rice, canned fruits and canned veggies," Barbour said.

On Saturday Dec. 6 the Salvation Army will hold its annual Santa Shuffle Fun Run & Elf Walk. The run is held in varying Canadian cities. The Shuffle starts at Commerce Court at 33 Wellington St. at 10 a.m.

Something's burning over the holidays

Retailers seeing sale boosts as a result of CD price cuts

By Cheyenne Morin

As music retailers head into the all-important holiday season, the big question is whether consumers will be doing more buying or burning this year.

In an effort to combat music piracy over the Internet, most major record labels have lowered their CD prices and the strategy seems to be working. According to Lori DeCou, director of corporate communications for Best Buy Canada, "there are many different ways in which people today can access music and that is likely to remain," she said. "However, by lowering the price of CDs, it certainly makes this option more attractive. I can tell you that we have indeed seen an increase in sales as a result of the price drop."

Future Shop and Best Buy lowered their CD prices by 30 per cent Oct. 1. Universal Music Canada had already lowered its CD prices to \$14.95 for established artists and \$9.99 for lesser-known and developing artists.

But many students say they will continue to download music with file-sharing programs such as Kazaa and iMesh, arguing they simply can't afford to buy CDs,

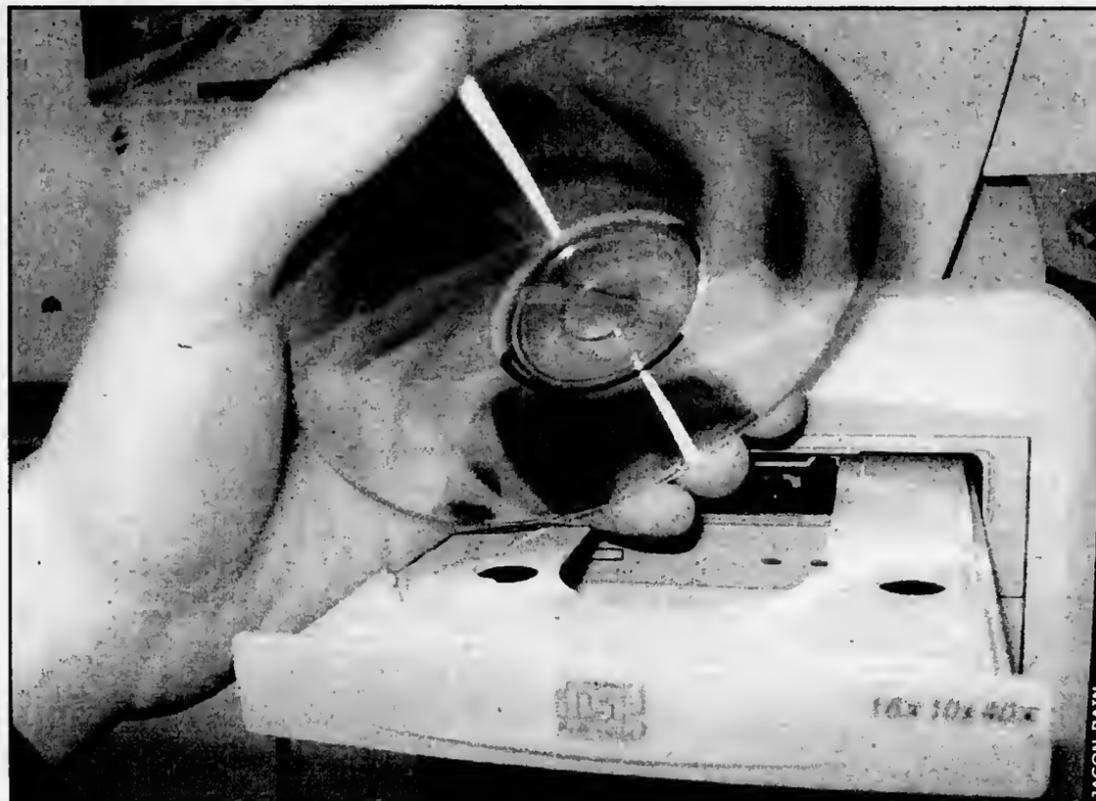
even at these lower prices.

"The independent artists should be angry about it, but the bigger bands that are playing concerts have enough money. They don't really need to make money off of CDs," said Adam Brown, a second-year computer programming student at Humber.

Brown's viewpoint seems to mirror a recent telephone survey by Solutions Research Group of Toronto, which found that 60 per cent of current music downloaders would be more likely to purchase CDs if the price was lower. However, the survey suggested prices would have to fall to \$9.99 to significantly increase sales.

That \$10 ceiling is what's driving the latest addition to the music retailing scene: pay-per-download websites that let you download music and pay for it by the song or the album. Ironically, one of the biggest user-pay sites is Napster, which was the king of free music downloading until it was shut down by lawsuits from the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) and heavy-metal band Metallica. Napster has now been bought by BMG and charges 99 cents per song or \$9.95 per album.

Other pay-per-song sites



Students continue to download music for free using peer-to-peer file-sharing programs such as Kazaa and iMesh. Only 15 per cent surveyed have any interest in pay sites.

include the Canadian service, Puretracks, which has less selection and prices that vary depending on the length of the album.

Apple has also launched its own music site, called iTunes, which

this software, consumers can download a song for a short period of time. If they're interested, then they can buy the song for a low price. For more information, visit www.kazaa.com/revolution.

Major music labels such as Sony Music and Virgin Records, are trying to stop The Revolution because they believe it will cause more harm than good. Kazaa insists this form of sharing will be beneficial to artists and record companies and will be a helpful tool in the promotion of new artists.

However, only 15 per cent of those surveyed said they have any interest in the pay sites. This figure especially pertains to males between the ages of 15 and 25.

Earlier this year, the recording

association sued thousands of individual file sharers for up to \$150,000 per song. Students have mixed feelings about the lawsuits.

"It's never going to stop people. I don't see that happening anytime soon. There are always going to be loopholes here and there," said Touraj Nikou, a second-year Technology student at Ryerson University.

Humber College's Residence doesn't allow downloading through its servers, and anyone caught violating the ban can lose their Internet privileges permanently.

To join the fight against music piracy, visit the RIAA's website at www.riaa.com or, to take a stand against the recording industry, visit www.boycott_riaa.com.

"There are always going to be loopholes."

allows users to listen to a 30-second preview of a song before buying it.

Kazaa has launched what it calls The Revolution, a new idea behind peer-to-peer music sharing. Using

retail for almost 15 years. She worked for Eaton's and is now a sales associate for Sears Canada in women's accessories at the

Eaton's Centre.

We sell a lot of gift cards the last week before Christmas to people who can't find anything for that one last person on their list,"

she said.

However, she finds gift cards impersonal and thinks it's just a way of getting out of buying a real gift. The decrease in gift buying has affected Cotton directly.

"There has been a decrease in sales over the last few years in my department," she said. "People just don't have time to waste on looking for that perfect gift."

Then, there is the obvious reason that people are buying less. "When they are little, you want that 'ooohh', 'aawww' reaction when they see the Christmas tree," Senay said. "Then when they are teenagers, they are jaded and they already know the price of everything they are getting."

So is this the reason that we just don't buy as many gifts as we

used to?

"They (my parents) just usually give me money for Christmas. They don't really know what to buy me," Lau said.

Cotton feels this trend is here to stay.

"People are selfish in this day and age. No one cares about anyone else but themselves," she said. "We live in a world where if you want something, you buy it, so when Christmas comes along, you already have everything you want."

Questions?
Comments?
We welcome your feedback!
infocusfall2003@yahoo.ca

And the Humber Idol is...

Lakeshore student wows judges and wins top prize in first campus competition

By Crystal Stewart

Matthew Pearn was the last one singing when he won the first-ever Humber Idol competition, beating out 29 other finalists last Wednesday at CAPS.

The 22-year-old vocal jazz student from Lakeshore won \$250 and the chance to go on to the regionals to compete against winners from other Toronto colleges. Runner up Karl Bossi got tickets to a Toronto Maple Leafs game.

"It was good to win tonight, \$250 will pay half my rent and hopefully I can take it to the next level and represent Humber with as much attitude and flare as I did tonight," Pearn said.

For his final song, Pearn performed a near flawless version of Led Zeppelin's *A Whole Lotta Love* to huge cheers from the audience. He said he thought his performance wasn't bad and he had a good time doing it. Although he is looking forward to the next competition, he admits he would rather get into the industry on his own terms.

"I feel pretty good about it," Pearn said. "I don't know necessarily how I feel about Canadian Idol. It's not the be all, end all for me."



Matthew Pearn first caught the judges' attention with his version of U2's *One*.

The two-day event was put on by HSF, with tryouts at Lakeshore and the North campus, where about 75 people turned out to showcase their vocal talents.

Of the 75 entrants, 20 from North and 10 from Lakeshore made it to the finals at CAPS, where they each got up on stage to sing to the crowded room of students. After hearing all the singers, the judges narrowed the field to six, and finally to the all-male top three.

"The three males' vocals were all on key, but the females were fluctuating, oversinging and undersinging," said Stephanie Boreland, vice-president of campus life for the Lakeshore campus, and one of the Humber Idol judges.

"One of the females had a very powerful voice, but she was shrieking into the microphone," Boreland said.

Along with Boreland, the final event was judged by April Iannucci, who co-owns Entice Entertainment, and Joey Svec, there to represent the students and play the role of the mean judge (much like Simon Cowell, known for his blunt and often mean remarks on *American Idol*).

"I'm here for the snotty comments," Svec said. "I'm not the brains behind the

operation."

Although he apologized to some contestants, admitting he was just a jerk, Svec said some people shouldn't have even tried out.

"There's some people that have no business being up here," Svec said. "But there's a lot of real talent."

The judges all agreed Pearn exhibited real talent and choosing him to win was the right choice.

"He was spontaneous, showed us technique, had vocal ability, knew what he was doing and wanted to be up there," Iannucci said.

She added that she judged the singers on their technique and vocal abilities. She said she thought many contestants had the talent but didn't show everything they could do.

"It was disappointing," she said.

But contestants didn't seem put off by comments. Beth Sandy, a first-year Early Childhood Education student at the North campus, said that even though she didn't make it past the tryouts, she would love to enter other competitions.

"You gotta take things lightly," she said. "You can't take it too seriously."

With files from Kathleen Yetta

Comedy program sparks media interest, students prepare acts

By Sarah Mann

Students and faculty in Humber's Comedy Writing and Performance program have been keeping busy lately – giving media interviews as well as preparing for their end-of-

semester shows.

In the past month, the Discovery Channel, CityTV, CTV and the Globe and Mail have all visited the school.

Last week, the Discovery Channel was at Lakeshore shooting

footage for an upcoming documentary on the relationship of humour and sexuality for their *Sex Files* program, said Humber's comedy program director Allan Guttman.

Guttman said Discovery talked to students and teachers, and shot footage at the school and at Yuk Yuk's, where Humber comedy students perform every week.

Meanwhile, second-year undergrad students are busy preparing for an evening of sketch comedy on Nov. 30.

Directed by Frank McNulty and Laura McGhee, the evening will feature short scenes similar to those on *Saturday Night Live*, *SCTV* or *Mad TV*.

"It's more than they would do in a normal play because they're shaping the writing as well as directing the acting," Guttman said.

By this stage, students have realized how serious the comedy program is – that it's not just clowning around.

"It's not enough that you're funny," Guttman said. "You have a responsibility to the audience. You have to develop ideas and have taste. It's different being



Comedy students rehearse for their upcoming night of sketch comedy where they will showcase their talents and the skills they acquired from the program.

funny with friends than it is in front of a crowd."

Walking into Guttman's office, you get the sense of how seriously he takes comedy.

Guttman has photos of himself with Colin Mocharie, John Candy and former students Mike Myers and Dave Foley.

Imagine how the students feel when they walk into this room to audition.

"It's funny. It helps with the audition, too, because you have to pick up on your surroundings when you're a comic, so it's kind of a lit-

tle test."

One week after the second-year undergrad show, the post grads will also offer a night of sketch comedy under the direction of Adrian Truss, a Second City alumnus.

Another comic with SCTV ties, Joe Flaherty is working with the Comedy Network and Humber's comedy program to get short videos of students and graduates on the station.

The Nov. 30 show takes place in the auditorium at the Lakeshore campus. Tickets are available at the door for \$2 and parking is free.

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A play of deadly proportions

Evil Dead 1&2 - The Musical is moving on after success in Toronto

By Shawn Loughlin

After two very successful runs at Toronto's Tranzac Club, *Evil Dead 1&2 - The Musical* is ready to take the next step, but no one quite knows where this step will lead.

Many of the cast members believe the next step for the show might not involve them, as the creators, Christopher Bond and George Reinblatt are selling the script.

"We have producers who are more interested in a long-term goal for *Evil Dead* and as far as the rights go, we have agreements put in place with the studios. We just have to cross some t's and dot some i's," Bond said.

"I'd love to tour it in Canada, I'd love to tour it in the United States and in my dream world I'd love to have it sit off-Broadway for a while."

Bond and Reinblatt are currently receiving offers for the musical, keeping in mind the interest expressed on www.evildeadthemusical.com by fans in the U.S. and Europe.

"I think they have a hit on their hands whether they decide to play with it by themselves for a while or if they decide to sell it to big producers, which they would be insane not to eventually," actress Mackenzie Lush said.

Bond and Reinblatt obtained the

rights to *Evil Dead* and *Evil Dead 2: Dead by Dawn* with huge support from the movie's star, Bruce Campbell.

"[Campbell] played a big part in getting the rights and helping to make it a reality. So it's wicked that he's still in touch with that independent spirit," actor Ryan Ward said. "I guess that's where he began so he must have a soft spot for that."

The show ironically opened on Aug. 14, 2003, perfectly coinciding with the biggest power blackout in Canadian history.

"When we decided to go through with it, I think that night was the night that made us the cast we ended up being because that was the real heart and soul of the production," actress Ashley Callaghan said.

Any part of the set that was mobile was moved onto the front lawn of the Tranzac Club.

The cast prepared for

the opening night of *Evil Dead 1&2 - The Musical* to be lit by car headlights.

"The show made me think of what theatre was before it was big stages and lights. It was just out on the street entertaining people," Ward said.

Approximately 350 people showed up for the opening on a night described by sound designer Michael Laird as, "a magical moment,

it was the most beautiful accident that could possibly occur." The crew received huge press because of the event and for their 'show must go on' attitude.

"[The blackout show] lost a lot of the special effects. We didn't have any of the lighting and we had no sound. I mean we had people on stage saying things like 'whoosh' and 'big sound here.' It was very ballsy doing whatever you can to

get across what we were trying to," actor Matt Olmstead said.

The first run ended Aug. 23, and on Sept. 21 a second run was announced for Oct. 16 through Nov. 1. Christopher Bond said he would like to do something with *Evil Dead* sometime in early 2004.

Whether the cast, crew and script will all be together when the show resurfaces remains uncertain.

"We all signed on as volunteers," Olmstead said. "We're the people they found to do it for free. So it would be strange for us to assume that we would continue on with the project when it resurfaced."



Victoria Nestorowicz (Linda), Ryan Ward (Ash) and Danielle Meierhenry (Cheryl) had a good run.

Entertaining new exhibit hits Ontario Science Centre

By Amy Ward

Students with young children, cousins, nieces or nephews looking for some healthy kids activities this holiday season might want to check out KidSpark, the new permanent exhibit at the Ontario Science Centre.

"KidSpark is specifically designed for visitors eight years of age and under, even toddlers," Matt Akler, media relations officer for the Ontario Science Centre said.

"It is a unique learn-through-play space where parents or caregivers can find the environment, tools and guidance to help children learn. On top of that, adults may find that they have just as much fun as their children when they experience together what KidSpark has to offer."

The exhibit will open Nov. 29 and will accommodate six areas

that focus primarily on creativity, problem solving and early innovation skills.

"Knowing that play is an important part of a child's development, this area gives children the opportunity to learn and have fun at the same time," Akler said.

The 8,000 square foot area includes a variety of stations, including Play, Build, Flow, Sing, Shop and Move. Children are invited to play in a mini music studio, a water play area and a construction site further allowing them to discover science.

The stations combine more than 30 interactive activities and incorporate a wide variety of scientific subject matter like structures, shape, colour, form, force, energy, music, sound, living things and nutrition.

"It offers a place where children can explore science and the world

around them," Akler said. "It gives early learners a sense of empowerment and demonstrates that science is full of investigation and wonder."

Children learn through playing with objects, all of which are presented on a child-sized scale. Even the washrooms are kid-sized.

The exhibit is part of a bigger picture called Agents of Change,

which will be constructed over the next three years.

Akler said KidSpark fits into the design by allowing the youngest visitors a place to play and learn.

He also said the themed areas take on a different approach.

"Like all the Agents of Change areas when they are completed, KidSpark adopts a different approach than the Science Centre

you might be familiar with."

"It is still interactive and engaging, but this area focuses on process rather than the end result," Akler said. "Parents (caregivers) and children will work and learn together in KidSpark while having fun doing it."

The cost of admission is \$8 for children, \$14 for adults and \$10 for youth and seniors.



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JESSICA LEE

The City of Toronto has implemented a new bylaw meant to reduce idling car emissions.

Car idling can be costly

By Jessica Lee

Car idling is deadly for the environment and could burn a hole in your pocket too.

According to Anne-Marie Baynton, a researcher for the Toronto environmental charity, the Clean Air Partnership, a little bit of idling does a lot of harm to the environment.

She said that when a car is idling, it releases twice as many exhaust fumes than if it were moving. Idling is a major concern for the Clean Air Partnership, which informs the public about ways to contribute to a clean environment.

But they're not the only ones concerned with idlers. The City of Toronto has an anti-idle bylaw that states that idling for more than three minutes could result in a fine of up to \$5,000.

According to Toronto's Permit Parking Office, the bylaw is not heavily enforced at colleges and universities but is enforced around busier locations like Union Station.

But even this may not be enough to deter drivers from idling.

"Even though I know idling pollutes, I do it for my own convenience," Harjaspreet Singh, a Humber accounting student, said.

The cold winter weather could be another reason why Canadians are guilty of idling. In the winter months, warm cars are as comforting as a cup of hot chocolate.

But idling happens all year, especially at many restaurants and banks that have drive-throughs.

"Even though some people say [idling] doesn't waste much gas, I try to conserve, so I turn off the car as often as possible," Melissa Mello, a second-year Guelph-

Humber student, said.

Idling may seem convenient and the answer to winter woes, but if you like your car and clean air, Baynton urges you to turn off the engine.

"It's such an easy problem to address," Baynton said. "There are more benefits from not idling than just reducing pollution."

Natural Resources Canada facts:

- If every driver in Canada stopped idling for five minutes a day, over a million tonnes of CO2 wouldn't pollute the air.
- A car burns more gas idling for 10 seconds than it does when the engine is turned off and restarted.
- Gas used for idling is not completely burned and leaves residue on engine parts.

Disposable dinnerware damage

By Adrienne Robertson and Kiri Ward

The 750 students living in Humber residence are being served their three meals a day on styrofoam — until the cafeteria gets a dishwasher.

According to Kathleen Johnson, a food services employee, there's nothing students can do to speed up the delivery of a dishwasher for china plates.

"We are going to get a [dishwasher], we were supposed to get it this month, but that's not for sure," Johnson said.

She added that there were several complaints about the styrofoam plates and their environmental impact last year, but she hasn't heard many complaints this year.

Chad Chabot, a leading member of the Humber Environmental Action Team (HEAT) says the main

environmental concern with styrofoam is that it's not a natural material. It takes 500 to 600 years to break down, and that's exactly why it's a popular choice for packaging and disposable dinnerware.

"The problem is that styrofoam is good at what it does," Chabot said.

China plates appear to be a viable alternative in the near future, leaving many students wondering why Humber didn't use them in the first place.

"I've been to Guelph, Laurier and McMaster, all of which use china service and metal flatware," Chabot said.

Kelly Laurence, a first-year Guelph-Humber justice studies student living in residence, encourages her friends to take their own dishes down for dinner.

"We have to spend more time washing our own plates every day," she said. "I'm doing my part, but I know not everyone is. It would be nice to see everyone carrying their own plates down for dinner, but I know that won't happen."



IRENE RUND

Frances serves food on styrofoam plates in the cafeteria.

Noise from Pearson disturbing rez students

By Peter Skrzypezak

Every Thursday afternoon at about 5:45 p.m., a British Airways 747 plane roars over the Humber dorms, disturbing students.

With the prevailing winds nearly always favouring runway 23, it is common to have a dozen aircraft fly directly over the school.

At its nearest point, the Humber North campus is located only three km from Pearson airport, so students often notice the noise pollution caused by the low flying planes.

According to a noise management committee release, an Airbus A320 passing overhead has the same noise volume as a vacuum cleaner one metre away.

"Sleeping-wise, it's not too bad," said Billy Coleman, who lives in residence building R. "It's annoying during the day, very disorienting, a constant thrum of sounds, and you don't know where they are coming from."

The school is also located at a critical point for planes' final approaches, where they must start descending to make the runway. This leads to more direct and frequent noise than is experienced by areas further removed from the airfield, such as the downtown core.

Noise management for Pearson International Airport falls under the control of the Greater Toronto Airports Authority (GTAA). Aircraft that fly within a 10 mile radius of the airport come under this control.

The GTAA established a noise

management committee that reviews complaints and investigates them. Transport Canada is then consulted, and the Airports Authority helps enforce the law.

"Transport Canada is very tough on air laws," said Akbar Bashiri, a senior instructor and 16-year industry veteran, formerly employed at the island airport. "Airline pilots are instructed to not even use too much power over built-up areas."

The GTAA enforces strict rules for airlines and aircraft. The noisier the aircraft, the more limited the times at which it can fly over Toronto to land at the airport.

Older and larger aircraft that create the most noise are prohibited from landing or departing from Pearson between 8 p.m and 8 a.m.

Quieter aircraft have more leeway, allowing flights between 7:30 a.m. and 8:30 p.m.

Punishment for breaking noise pollution laws can include hefty fines.

To inform the public of these laws, press releases are published on the GTAA website whenever there is the possibility of increased noise over Toronto and Mississauga.

Making it through a particularly busy day at Pearson can be a trying experience for many students.

Sixty airlines fly out of the airport, with a maximum of 120 arrivals and departures an hour. Combine that with five runways, and there is no place in the GTA that is not under the approach path of a plane.

Can Humber College get educated on energy?

By Umair Ahmed

Whoever said, "What you don't see can't hurt you" probably didn't know the dangers of carbon dioxide emissions.

According to Spencer Wood, who is in charge of energy efficiency at Humber, campus buildings produced the equivalent of 9,300 tonnes of carbon dioxide through electricity and natural gas consumption in 2002.

Humber's first move to energy conservation came in 1998, when the standard for fluorescent lights was changed. The new lights, an inch smaller in diameter, are 35 per cent more efficient and save

the college \$150,000 in operational costs.

However, energy consumption is expected to rise due to the current expansion of both Humber campuses and the dramatic rise in the student population.

An average Canadian household consumes about six to eight tonnes of carbon dioxide each year. Humber is producing the equivalent of roughly 1,550 houses.

Wood and his team are currently working on possible ways to improve heating and ventilation systems at both campuses to reduce energy consumption.

All stories in this section on the environment have been reported and written by Guelph-Humber media studies students.

New Nature Centre designed to be environmentally friendly

By Emily Beatty

The Humber community will benefit when the Nature Centre, located off Humber's North campus, receives a complete makeover.

The renovation is made possible by a recent fundraising campaign that, to date, has raised \$900,000 for the project.

According to Carol Ray, special projects coordinator for the Humber Arboretum, the school would like to begin construction in April 2004. The need to renovate

and expand the centre inspired plans for the new building, targeted for completion by the spring of 2005.

The newly remodelled Centre for Urban Ecology is an educational facility designed to be a self-sufficient, environmentally friendly building.

"We're retrofitting the old Nature Centre to make it totally energy efficient and then we're adding on to it," Ray said.

Students will learn from the

hands-on opportunities the centre provides. Programs like Civil Engineering, Architectural Technology, Landscape Design, Environmental Systems Technology, Horticulture and Public Relations will utilize the centre for training and research.

Ray says some students have already worked on the project, adding that third-year Civil Engineering Technology Environmental Profile students have worked with engineer Greg Allen to produce feasibility studies of conceptual drawings for the building.

"I don't know how I would use it now, but in later semesters I'm sure it will be a great opportunity," said first-year architectural technology student Tyler Keel regarding the eco-centre.

Upon completion, the centre will boast a variety of innovative green techniques.

Because the current centre relies on Toronto's power and sewage

systems, Ray says the present system is inadequate.

"The idea is to make it a model of environmental sustainability," she said.

"The idea is to make it a model of environmental sustainability."

The new independent facilities, however, will still save \$10,000 in utility costs and 240,000 litres of water annually.

Straw bale insulation is just one of the many new environmentally friendly components incorporated into the designs.

A traditional foundation is topped with two-by-fours and then tightly packed straw is enclosed

between stucco mesh walls. A mixture including ingredients like hemp, lime, plaster and sand is then spread over the bales.

Environmentally friendly plans also include organic composting toilets that recycle waste into fertilizer, solar power, wind turbines and a 'living rooftop' that prevents rain runoff and grows plants to provide animal habitats.

The addition of a solarium, activity centre, conservatory, gift shop, resource library and audiovisual facilities will accommodate up to 50,000 visitors each year, compared to the current 15,000.

The entire complex will also be fully wheelchair accessible, complete with elevators.

Ray says the public has a lot to gain from the expansion.

"In the future, hopefully [the centre] will be open all the time," she said. "Groups can work with the facilities, and displays in the building will help people to learn about what we've done here."



Students are able to travel through various parks across Toronto by using trails at the Humber Arboretum.

Trails from wooded arb lead downtown

By Paul Hughes

Students can explore the great outdoors this winter by following trails at Humber College to locations all over the GTA.

The City of Toronto Parks division has designed a vast 'bikeway network' that runs throughout the city.

It consists of paved bike paths that provide cyclists, rollerbladers and joggers a scenic, traffic-free place to exercise or take a relaxing walk.

Students can begin their journeys at the arboretum, which is actually one of the last northern stops of the network.

"I use these trails for my exercise routine all the time. If I can, I rollerblade, and in the winter I ski," former Humber student Anna Kurek said.

The paths wind through the Lambton Golf Course, James Gardens, Sunnyside Beaches and the Old Mill, to name a few areas.

Toronto has over 200 km of off-road trails, and students should take proper safety precautions when using them. For example, use the trails in daylight hours, try to stay in heavily populated areas and bring a buddy along.

According to Humber Arboretum Coordinator Carol Ray, a 'discovery walk' will take place within the next few months.

The walk will provide participants with a brochure of a self-guided tour describing areas of the trails that may be of interest. Posters providing more information will appear throughout campus within the next few weeks.

So next time you have a break between classes or are looking for a change of location for your exercise routine, try the bike paths located in Humber's backyard.

For more information and maps of Toronto's network of paths, visit www.city.toronto.on.ca/cycling/cyclingmap_2003.htm, or call Access Toronto at 416-338-0338.

Holiday gift guide

Students can be kind to the environment this holiday season by buying "green" gifts.

By Lisa Cancian

It's that time of year again; the holiday shopping madness has begun. But will your gifts just be good for the person receiving them, or will they also be environmentally friendly?

Useful tips to consider:

- Use newspaper comics, music sheets or handkerchiefs to wrap gifts.
- Decrease air pollution by not taking your car to the mall, or shop online.
- Save paper by sending electronic holiday cards (ie: www.hallmark.com or www.ecards.com).
- Choose energy saving gifts that use rechargeable batteries or wind-up power (www.green-matters.com offers products like the solar headset radio).
- Make edible gifts, such as cookies.
- Package gifts in reusable tins or baskets.
- Give non-material gifts like tickets to a play, or take someone out to dinner.

One popular holiday shopping destination, The Body Shop, is known for its pro-environment products and its stance against animal testing.

According to Rifka Khalilieh, the company's media representative, the store has developed a new packaging method whose aim is to use the most recycled material possible. Thirty per cent of the plastic in each bottle will be recycled plastic.

There are other environmentally friendly gifts you can buy such as products made from natural materials. For example, hemp (a natural fibre that has no need for pesticides) is used to make clothing and candles.

Gift certificates are also popular choices.

"You can't go wrong with a gift certificate," business student Sara Moucho said. "At least you know it will get used."



According to www.use-less-stuff.com, if every family reused just two feet of holiday ribbon, the 38,000 miles of ribbon saved could tie a bow around the entire planet.

Changing the way you shop may not change the world, but you may contribute in some small way.

So be creative this season, and think "green" for the holidays.

Paper, plastic and popcans, oh my!

By Daniella Cross

We all know the importance of recycling, but when it comes down to it, many students care more about convenience.

After tossing an empty juice bottle in the trash can, packaging graphics student Danny Dam said, "The garbage can is right here. If there was a recycling bin, I'd use it."

"If there was a recycling bin, I'd use it."

This seems to be the attitude of many students at Humber College and the University of Guelph-Humber when it comes to recycling bottles, cans and newspapers.

"If there's only a trashcan in my classroom, I just throw my recy-

clables out," Ryan Katsuyama, a first-year Humber College student, said.

Ellie Salamon, who manages recycling and waste disposal at Humber, thinks the school's recycling program is effective, but students need to encourage their peers to do their part.

"Environmentally-conscious students need to remind their friends that it is worth the extra effort to recycle," she said.

"Recyclables that are thrown in the trash are not separated out by the school's custodians, and they end up in an already overflowing landfill site here in Ontario."

Kim McGuire of Upak Canada, the company that collects Humber's garbage and recycling, believes the school should be con-



Students Vito Del Duca and Fab Castiglione make the effort to recycle.

cerned about the amount of garbage it is sending to landfill sites.

"Judging from the 530 tonnes of garbage Humber produced in 2002

in comparison to the 16.92 tonnes of bottles and cans that were recycled, it is likely that a lot of recyclables are making their way into the trash."

This seems to be the case in the City of Toronto as well. According to Environment Canada, 76 per cent of Toronto's 920,000 tonnes of waste was sent to landfills in 2000 and only 24 per cent was recycled.

But some students, like Lisa Chevretils from the film and television production program, say they try their best to recycle.

"There aren't even any garbage cans in most of my classes, so when I leave class, I take my empty water bottle with me and put it in the recycling bin in the hallway," she said.

The obvious solution to the recycling problem is to install recycling bins in every classroom.

But Salamon says it is not feasible to equip every classroom with recycling receptacles.

"They would take up too much space, and they cost us \$180 each - we simply don't have the budget for that," she said.

She added that Humber College already spends \$85,000 - \$90,000 on recycling and garbage collection each year.

Guelph-Humber's new living wall for living well

By Stephanie Nairn

Students and staff at the University of Guelph-Humber will soon be breathing a little easier.

The main atrium will be home to one of the largest living plant walls.

According to administration, construction is expected to begin in the new year and the wall will act as a biofilter for the air. The University of Guelph will also use the wall to study the effects of plant walls in large buildings.

"The wall will make a difference in our environment that other people will not have the privilege of having," said Gabrielle Bernardi-Dengo, a horticulturist and manager of administrative services.

The wall, which stands four stories high and spans 30 meters across, will include a variety of plant species including annuals, orchids and tropical plants. Many plants will be local but some tropical species will be brought to Toronto from Florida.

A biofilter consists of thousands of plants on a hydroponic

bed that breathe in carbon dioxide and produce oxygen for us to breathe.

Active biofilters, like the one at Guelph-Humber, draw in air through vents behind the wall. This air is fresh with oxygen emitted from the plants and is then sent throughout the building.

"The air quality will be better ...how can it be anything but beneficial?"

According to Bernardi-Dengo, it was the building's architect Birgit Siber's idea to include the plant wall as a special feature. Only two companies make these walls.

Dr. Alan Darlington, president and CEO of Air Quality Solution Inc., the company installing the wall at Guelph-Humber, says ventilation cost is a big reason why

several companies are installing biofilters.

According to Darlington, biofilters help control the building temperatures, a great benefit in the Canadian climate, which requires buildings to be heated in the winter and cooled in the summer.

Additionally, studies on other plant walls have concluded that the walls successfully filter pollutants out of the air that come from business machines like photocopiers and building materials.

Studies have shown these pollutants can cause sick building syndrome that results in the discomfort of building occupants. Symptoms include congestion, headaches and eye irritations.

Students are also interested in what the living wall will do for the building.

First-year Justice Studies student Graeme Kobayashi said, "I think it is a pretty cool idea, and it will definitely add a little life and colour to the atrium."

"The air quality will be better than traditional buildings," Bernardi-Dengo said. "How can it be anything but beneficial?"

After downing your next 2-4 ...

... consider the environmental impact of the empties

By Jeff Gulyes

Most college students enjoy having a nice cold beer when relaxing from the grind of their studies, but what happens to the bottle or can when it's tossed aside?

In Ontario, both bottles and cans can be returned to alcohol retailers for a refund of 10 cents.

If you are solely concerned about the environment, bottles are the best choice. According to The Beer Store website, when each bottle is returned it is sterilized and then reused. This is done 15 to 20 times before the bottle is disposed of. As well, The Beer Store recycles 98 per cent of the packaging.

Cans, while recyclable as well, need to be melted down and cast in molds every single time. Some of the metal is burned away and wasted during this process, making bottles a better choice (as long as they are taken back to be recycled).

Students at Humber College have a variety of reasons for buying bottles or cans.

"You don't get that tinny taste,"



Karen Blower, an early childhood education student, said of her preference towards bottles.

Scott Pettigrew, a heating and air conditioning student, added that he also prefers bottles and finds them more affordable.

Brian Stewart works at a near-by Beer Store and says bottles are sold significantly more.

"But[sales of] cans go up in the summer season because people buy cans for the cottage and pool," he said, adding that cans are less fragile and more acceptable on campgrounds and poolsides.

In terms of cost, bottles are also a little cheaper than cans. For Molson Canadian Lager sold in cans, one dollar buys 224 ml of beer. However, with bottles, one dollar buys 241 ml.

Asian Long-Horned beetle threatens Humber trees

By David Modjeski

The Humber Valley is under attack.

Thousands of Asian long-horned beetles are currently less than four kms from Humber's North campus and endangering ten of thousands of trees in the surrounding area.

"The only way to control the beetle once it has been found in a tree is to cut and chip that tree," said Cara Grant, Ontario Forestry Specialist for the Canadian Food Inspection Agency.

thousands

There are no natural predators of the beetle in North America and no legal insecticides yet approved in Canada.

Infesting hardwood trees, including maple, elm, ash, and poplar, it's estimated that thousands of trees will be cut down in the next few months to contain the spread of the beetles.

Even healthy trees located within 300 metres of infested ones must be chopped and chipped to stop the beetles.

Signs of the beetle appear as adults chew large round holes (9-11 mm) in the branches and trunks on their way out, spreading onto surrounding trees.

Once a tree is infected it is only a matter of time before it has been completely bored through.

spread

According to the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, the beetle likely arrived four to six years ago, hidden in infested wooden crates and packing materials sent to the industrial Vaughan-Woodbridge area.

The beetles have since spread, but Grant confirms that, "to date the beetle has not been found elsewhere in the [Humber] valley."

Surveys are still underway, she added.

"We've seen them flying about and we've caught several live adults," Richard Ubbens, a city forester said.

Cutting trees infested with beetles while the adults are alive cause them to spread further.

"So it's a good thing we weren't disturbing the trees to make them fly off," Ubbens said.

A getaway from the everyday

The arb: breath of fresh air

By Stephanie Apolito

For a cool breath of fresh air, step into Humber's backyard and enjoy 12 kms of scenic trails through meadows and forests overlooking the Humber River.

The Humber Arboretum is a jewel in the midst of Toronto.

First opened in 1977, the arb is a not-for-profit environmental centre managed by Humber College, the Toronto Region Conservation Authority and the City of Toronto.

"I go there when I need a break from reality."

Being managed by Humber College offers the arboretum a unique advantage over a typical park because staff, students and the community have the unique opportunity to use the grounds over the years, treating it as an outdoor classroom and playground.

"The arboretum is my personal getaway," first-year Humber student Sarah Horbaczuk said.



Humber's arboretum offers activities and scenic views all year round. Visitors can fish and hike in the summer months and snowshoe and cross-country ski in the winter.

"I go there when I need a break from reality."

Aside from being a sanctuary from the hustle and bustle of city life, the arboretum offers a variety of educational activities for people of all ages, housing a government funded nature centre designed as an educational facility.

The nature centre coordinates activities meant to bring the com-

munity and environment together.

Community evenings are held on the last Thursday of every month, between 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., offering fun-filled nature activities, such as snowshoeing, bird feeding and arts and crafts.

Sid Baller, superintendent of the arboretum, encourages Humber students to use the arb.

"We need students to participate

and to be here," Baller said. "If not for the students, we would not exist."

Over the years, there has been a slow and steady increase of activity on the grounds.

As people are becoming more interested in environmental education, the nature centre is expanding to meet their demands, he said.

Activist picks up on Oak Ridges debate

Grabish wants Moraine habitat preserved

By Katherine Flemming

Environmentalist Judi Grabish wants better care to be taken with the Oak Ridges Moraine.

The moraine, a 13,000 year old geological ridge, covers 160 kms of land, from the Niagara Escarpment across the top of the GTA to Port Hope and Cobourg.

Housing development plans for the moraine have sparked opposition from local government, conservation groups and the general public.

Recently, Premier Dalton McGuinty reduced the number of homes being built from 6,600 to 5,600.

"It is disconcerting to lose

valuable species and habitats," Grabish said.

"We are not fighting development. We are trying to ensure that policies, guidelines and laws of Ontario are implemented and followed."

Grabish, a mother of two, has been involved in environmental projects for over 20 years.

She now works with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources.

With a master of Science from the University of Toronto,

she did contract work as a statistician in a laboratory while running a small company of microcomputers.

At 41, Grabish, who says her job is never dull, has done everything from cleaning up polluted rivers to climbing skyscrapers in order to band (a tracking mechanism) endangered Peregrine falcons.

Although she describes her work as rewarding, she also notes the challenges that arise working in the GTA.



Activist Judi Grabish

"You essentially serve millions of people and over 40 politicians," she said, adding that it often feels like a "pressure cooker."

Grabish rarely works on only one project at a time.

"I'm busy preparing for West Nile 2004. It's my calling for the next six months," she said.

Gabe Borges, a 19-year-old retailer from Aurora who has worked with Grabish, said she was "the best boss I ever had. I have never seen someone put such a great amount of passion into his or her job before. But I guess it's more than a job to her."

"My favourite part is making a difference. When you win a battle to protect a piece of our environment, you know you have contributed," Grabish said.

"Everyone should care about the environment. The health of our environment is a good indicator of our own health."

Humber stings Seneca

Women's basketball team edges Sting 50-49; now tied for first place

By Luis Henriques

In the recent battle of the top two teams in the league, the Humber Hawks women's basketball team came out on top by a single point.

The Hawks (3-0) defeated the Seneca Sting 50-49 on Thursday to move into a tie with the Sting (3-1) for first place.

Hawks coach Denise Perrier said the only thing that kept the game close were Humber's

own mistakes.

"We couldn't make some easy shots and I told the girls that they weren't hurting us, we were hurting ourselves," Perrier said after the game. "The girls hung in there and we got the win."

After starting slowly, the Hawks went on a 10-2 run to pull ahead midway through the first half.

"We were over anxious and we came out a bit tight," Perrier said. "I think we were just a bit nervous."

The Sting went on a 15-2 run at the beginning of the second half to take the lead but the Hawks ran off eight straight points to retake the lead 40-38.

With just eight seconds to go, Sarah Moxley took a pass inside for a layup to give the Hawks the win.

"We played a good game and we missed some easy baskets in the first half," Hawks player Emily Wang said. "But, in the second half, we made the [baskets] that counted."

Fayola Creft was selected player of the game, leading the Hawks with 17 points, adding 11 rebounds and two steals.

Humber's next home game is Tuesday Dec. 2 when they host the Durham Lords at 6 p.m. in the gymnasium.



The women's basketball team works the ball around during action against Seneca last Thursday. The Hawks next home game is Dec. 2 against Durham.

Hawks lead division

Men's v-ball team sweeps Sheridan and Redeemer, improves to 3-1

By Christina Bernardo

Head coach Wayne Wilkins said he was impressed with his men's volleyball team's 3-0 win over a very competitive Redeemer College team Tuesday night.

"We stepped it up tonight," Wilkins said. "We did what we had to do. We stuck to the game plan and [the] guys played with a purpose."

Humber looked confident with a strong performance in the first set, winning 25-20. Although the Hawks were losing by a 5-1 deficit, Humber came roaring back to win a very exciting second set 28-26. With momentum from the second set, Humber led throughout the third set and won 25-16.

"We served tough [and] we passed the ball well," Wilkins said.

The Hawks carried their momentum off of a 3-0 win against Sheridan last Thursday. Head Coach Wayne Wilkins said the men's volleyball team wasn't crisp enough.

"Overall, it was OK," Wilkins said. "We make things ugly sometimes. We make it more difficult

than it needs to be and we give points to the other team, when really all we need to do is let the ball go out. We keep teams in the game because of that."

With some of Sheridan's players out with injuries, the Hawks won the first set 25-14.

The Hawks led throughout the second set and won 25-14, and despite some sloppy plays in the third set, the Hawks won 25-20.

"We're not clear and precise," Wilkins said. "We need to be crisp."

In recent matches, Wilkins is having Matt Singh play libero through the first two sets, and in the third set he switches to Jeffer Chiem.

"You always [have to] think down the road," Wilkins said. "It's really just looking long term."

Chiem said he is impressed with the team's progress.

"[It's] much better," Chiem said. "We're not missing as many serves now. The first two games, we've only missed a couple of serves."

Even though the Hawks are winning, the suspensions of Bart

Babij, Richard Wittemund and Sokol Sakrama are still on the player's minds.

"Although many people see it as a downfall, it's actually uplifting because it gets people back to the

basics," Chiem said. "Seeing as those guys are veterans, for new guys like myself, we need more practice to be where they are."

Humber is in London tomorrow to play Fanshawe at 8 p.m.



Andy Demushi returns the ball against Sheridan last week. It was Humber's second win over the Bruins this year.

OffSide

By Joe Mucio



Pride of the Maple Leafs

This will be one of the most difficult things I've ever had to write, but after this weekend it has to be said: The Leafs are not done yet.

Before you get confused and think that 'Offside' has switched places with 'Gross Misconduct' for one week, let me assure you, there is no mistake.

Anyone who saw the Leafs-Canucks home and home series this past weekend witnessed a completely different Leaf team than the one who got smoked 5-2 by Anaheim two weeks ago. It seemed that everything that went wrong with the Leafs against the Ducks—inept power play, bad defensive zone coverage, too many giveaways—seemed to all be working in the Leafs favour against Vancouver.

Going winless in the first five games of their western trip had fans calling for Pat Quinn's head, thinking that some of the team had tuned out what their coach was saying.

Enter Saturday, the conclusion of their six game trip with a game against the team who, at the time, had the best record in the Western Conference. Easy pickings for the Canucks, right? Not so fast. Before Dan Cloutier even had a chance to break a sweat, Gary Roberts and Robert Reichel gave the Leafs a quick 2-0 lead. Despite the Canucks attempt at a comeback, the Leafs held on for a 5-3 victory.

The rematch on Monday was supposed to be the Canucks chance for retribution against a weary Leafs team, but instead the Leafs played arguably their best defensive game of the year, holding the potent Canucks offence to one goal in a 2-1 win.

For a team who some fans consider to be over-the-hill, they taught a much younger Canucks squad a hard lesson in respect. Despite the age, it seems that for this year's Leafs, to coin a phrase from 10 years ago, the passion has returned, and if fans have any doubt, they can just ask Canucks forward Todd Bertuzzi, who was out-gunned by Leafs power forward Gary Roberts during the two games.

History Major

OHL's St. Mike's Majors have been a staple of Canadian junior hockey for almost 100 years

By Shannon Henry

Walking into St. Michael's College Arena, one tends to take a moment to absorb almost 100 years worth of Canadian hockey history.

Banners highlighting championships and past players who have gone on to the professional level and the Hockey Hall of Fame hang from the rafters. This is what St. Mike's is all about—tradition.

It started in 1906, when Father Henry Carr of St. Michael's College School decided that hockey would be a perfect way for the school to gain acceptance in Toronto.

In 1910, Father Carr started forming senior teams comprised of overage players from St. Mike's junior ranks. He entered the team in the Senior OHA (Ontario Hockey Association), and they quickly captured two consecutive provincial titles.

This success led to the creation of more senior teams and the eventual birth of the Toronto Maple

Leafs.

St. Mike's can also boast about the 164 players it has produced that have gone on to enjoy careers in the National Hockey League, including Tim Horton, Frank Mahovlich, Dave Keon and Bobby Bauer.

"When anyone thinks of St. Mike's, they think of the players who have come from here. We have a record that is the envy of any organization in North America," Peter Fillman, St. Mike's media and scout room attendant, said. Fillman has been with the club since the mid 1980s.

Maple Leaf Gardens added to the tradition of St. Mike's from the beginning. The St. Mike's Majors (junior A team) and St. Mike's Buzzers (junior B team) both played out of the historic building.

In 1961, the Majors withdrew from junior hockey. Father David Bauer decided the goals of Major hockey no longer coincided with the goals of the school and withdrew the team from the OHA. The



SHANNON HENRY

Barrie Colts' Andrew Shennan (left) Jamie Vander Veecken of the St. Mike's Majors duke it out during a recent OHL game at the Grand Old Lady on Bathurst.

Majors were absent from junior hockey for 36 years.

The Buzzers, however, continued to play and kept the St. Mike's legacy going.

In 1997, the Majors re-entered the junior ranks, playing in the Ontario Hockey League (OHL). Since their return, the Majors have won one division title and have made it to the OHL Eastern

Conference Final the past three seasons.

For the past six years, the Majors have been playing out of St. Mike's College Arena. This has been a problem as the arena does not meet OHL standards.

"This arena has the smallest crowd capacity and ice surface in the league," said Fillman. "The OHL has requirements that this

arena does not meet, so the team will have to move soon."

The OHL has given the Majors some leeway, but the team will have to move to a new home within the next two years.

"It's going to be a sad day when we leave this rink because of everything behind it," said Tim Brent, St. Mike's Captain. "It's definitely something I call home."

Hawks remain undefeated

Women's volleyball team sweeps Sheridan and Redeemer, improves to 3-0

By Josh Grunberg

The Humber Hawks women's volleyball team will head to Fanshawe tomorrow riding a three match undefeated streak to start the season.

The Hawks lost to the Falcons in the semi-finals of the Humber Cup tournament earlier this month and are seeking redemption.

"We're definitely going to come out swinging against Fanshawe," Hawks setter Alison Legenza said. "We made lots of big errors last time, and we'll be looking for the big 'W' against them."

The Hawks will ride the momentum after defeating Redeemer Tuesday night 3-0 (25-21, 25-21, 25-13). Humber started the match slowly and passed the ball poorly as they fell behind 11-6. The Hawks improved their play, though, and went on a seven point run on their way to victory. As the match wore on, the Hawks gelled as a team and worked together en route to victory.

Last Thursday, Humber won their second straight match of the season, sweeping the Sheridan Bruins 3-0. The Hawks

played consistently well, and stayed in control throughout all three games, beating the Bruins 25-18, 25-16, 25-19.

In game one the Hawks jumped out to an early lead, not allowing Sheridan to get on a roll where they could make up

"We're definitely going to come out swinging against Fanshawe...we'll be looking for the big 'W' against them."

the deficit. That would prove to be theme of the match, as Humber continually built up large leads.

In game three the teams exchanged points and were tied at five. Sheridan tried to keep it close, but had trouble defending against the Hawks powerful offence led again by Amanda

Arlette and Kristy Goodearle.

The Hawks opened a lead of 10-8, stretched it to 15-11, and then quickly made it 20-13. The Bruins got as close as 23-18 before Humber put the game and the match away.

Legenza thought the team put forth a good and complete effort in the win.

"We played very consistent and controlled and we paid attention to our side of the court. We played our game," Legenza said. "I think we played very well."

Hawks coach Chris Wilkins was pleased with his team's effort, and also praised the Bruins for playing hard and not giving up.

"I was very pleased with how our girls played tonight, there were no easy points, they earned all of them," he said.

Wilkins also stressed the significance of the upcoming match against Fanshawe.

"This is a league match so it's more important, but we're looking forward to it. We have a score to settle for sure," Wilkins said.

The Hawks next home game is Dec. 5 at 6 p.m. against Nipissing.



Todd Keirstead offers a demonstration on how to improve your swing at the Toronto International Golf Show.

Golf fans across T.O. impressed by show

By Andrew Hopkins

The sixth annual Toronto International Golf Show was recently held at the Toronto Congress Centre from Nov. 14 to Nov. 16.

It gave people the chance to continue their golf seasons with winter getaways and purchase 2003 golf merchandise at low prices.

The show, which made its first appearance in Toronto in 1998, aims to capitalize on the growing interest of golf in Canada.

And judging by the crowds, it seemed like it was well on the way to achieving just that.

The show featured the biggest names in golf vacation destinations, including the world renowned Saddlebrook Resort in Tampa, Florida and the Taboo Resort and Conference Centre, which is in the heart of the Muskokas and is also the home course of 2003 Masters Champion Mike Weir.

A long-time travel destination for Canadians has always been the Carolinas, mainly because it is within reasonable driving distance and special deals are angled towards Canadians to make it more popular.

Taking up a big chunk of exhib-

it space at this year's show was the North Carolina Tourism and Golf Association.

Jeanette Sintzel, a graduate of Humber College's travel and tourism program who is now employed by the N.C. Division of Tourism, says she found Canadians eager to get away this year.

"It might end up being better this year because of the dollar. Not as many people are complaining that the price is too expensive and

they can't go, so I think the dollar is going to help us a lot this year."

Adam Borg came to the show to take advantage of the low prices advertised in the newspapers.

"Sure, everything that is on sale is old merchandise, but you can buy two golf shirts for \$25 and drivers for \$50 over there. At these prices, there is nothing to complain about, even if I'm buying last year's models."

The golf show also gave people the opportunity to hit balls at an indoor driving range, compete in a simulated closest-to-the-pin contest and take in golf lessons by CPGA golf professionals like Todd Keirstead, a former lead instructor at the famed Jim McLean Golf School.

Hockey team rebounds against the Condors

By Eric Collins

After a sub-par weekend road trip to New York, the Hawks were forced to rebound with a better performance.

The Hawks succeeded last Wednesday with a 5-3 win in Conestoga, getting scoring from all across the board.

Before the start of the game, the referees called three controversial penalties against the Hawks' Ben Addely, Chris Mei and Jamie Chikoski for touching the centre red line during the warm-up.

"I think it was terrible," Hawks Head Coach Joe Washkurak said. "I don't think that touching the red line should be a ten-minute misconduct. They don't call that [at Humber] and it seems that every time that we go [to Conestoga] they invent new things that we have never heard of. I thought it was bush league on both parts."

The first period was fairly even as the Hawks came away with a one-goal lead on a goal from Philippe Trahan.

In the second period, Conestoga tied it up, but the Hawks came back

with a goal from Jamie Chikoski five minutes later.

There was controversy again at the end of the period when a Ken Sousa goal was credited to Corey Kilmartin, who wasn't even on the ice at the time. This was after a heated discussion between Sousa and referees regarding a slashing penalty in the first period.

"We have to work through it."

A huge goal came two minutes into the third period as Francis Collins scored his first of the season. Collins had previously been held scoreless through 14 games.

Conestoga came back with a goal five minutes later, but that is all they would get as the Hawks tallied a minute later with a goal from Chris Mei.

The Hawks' major downfall is lack of practice because ice-time is limited to two times a week.

"Absolutely, no question that it is hard with limited practice time,"

Washkurak said. "[Ice time] costs a lot of money and Conestoga and Seneca don't have to pay for theirs and St. Clair gets a lot of support from their alumni. We have to work through it. It's not easy. We practice here on Sunday night at twenty-five to eleven, so it's not easy, that's for sure."

The Hawks realize that they are going to have to step up their game as there are far bigger threats in the OCAA than the Condors, who sit towards the bottom of the league.

"Guys are a lot more serious [after the losses in New York,]" Hawks goaltender Nick Grainger said. "Nobody wants to lose obviously. Joe has turned this ship around, we're working hard, and hopefully we'll keep this train running."

Washkurak knows the team has to pay attention to detail in order to succeed.

"We are not changing our overall style of play," Washkurak said. "We are working on the small things. We need to dump the puck in harder and fore-check harder. We are working on our defencemen moving the puck quicker."

Winning streak over as men's b-ball team loses to Sheridan

By Jesse Grass

The Humber Hawks men's basketball team traveled to Sheridan College Tuesday night to face an evenly matched Bruins team and lost 71-65.

With the loss, the Hawks three game winning streak came to an abrupt end.

"We played pretty good in the second half I thought," Devis Begaj said. "In the first half we panicked and in the second sometimes we panicked when they pressed us and we took early shots. They basically took us out of our offence."

Shane Dennie led all scorers for the Hawks with 23 points and added a block and three rebounds.

The Hawks moved the ball very well and found the open man to keep up with the Bruins squad.

Morris Spence, who ended the game with 12 points, and Dennie, were hot from behind the arch for Humber, hitting some critical three pointers.

Neriya Tsur led the team in rebounds with 12, adding five points and one block.

Begaj, who ended the game with 11 points, four rebounds and two blocks, played well defensively along with Roger Scott who had five boards, two steals and two blocked shots.

The game was in stark contrast to the Hawks 105-60 victory last Thursday over the visiting Seneca Sting.

The Hawks were on fire from the beginning and ran away with the game very early.

"We just made everything. We came out strong," Head Coach Mike Katz said. "I don't think to some extent they knew what hit them."

Dennie led all scorers in the first half with 15 points, followed by Fletcher with nine and Begaj with eight.

"They got down and it seemed like maybe they felt they didn't have a chance," Katz said. "They're a better team than that."

Dennie finished the game with 23 points, three rebounds and a steal.

Jon Wyse and Andrew Thompson both came off the bench in the second half with

Wyse picking up 10 points, five rebounds, plus a steal and Thompson had eight points and four boards for the Hawks.

Jamaal Fletcher ended the game with nine points, two rebounds and two steals, earning him Humber's player of the game award.

The Hawks next action is Tuesday Dec. 2nd at 8 p.m. when they play Durham.

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Everyone played a great tournament, coach said

Humber nearly pulls off extramural win



After concerns about filling a full roster on the men's and women's teams, Humber participated in its first extramural tournament last week.

Men's soccer team could see many new faces next year

By Geoff Rohoman

The six remaining players from the 2001-2002 Humber College men's soccer National Champion team may have played their last game in a Hawks uniform.

Co-captain Jason Mesa, former All-Canadian goaltender Mike Silva, Paul Grgrurie and OCAA All-Star Mehmed Mehmedoglu are all past their eligibility to play for Humber. As well, co-captain Paul Lombardo and forward Vito Del Duca aren't sure if they will be able to play next year.

"It's about 90 per cent for sure that I won't be playing," Del Duca said.

Despite their tumultuous Humber soccer careers, the players all feel that playing for the Hawks was an unrivaled experience.

"It was a great time," Mehmedoglu said. "It was wonderful being able to play for Humber. I just feel bad that we couldn't give back to Humber a national championship this year."

For the six men, playing soccer at Humber was more than just the

game itself. The relationships they formed played a huge role in their success and enjoyment.

"I'm definitely going to miss the friends I've made here," Mehmedoglu added. "I've made friends here that I'll have for the rest of my life."

Mesa admits it will be difficult leaving some of his friends.

"I'm going to miss the bonding, the road trips, just hanging with the guys," Mesa added.

Del Duca, the second leading scorer in Humber Hawks history with 21 goals, described his three seasons with Humber in three different ways.

"My first season I was playing with my uncle, Frank Viaano, and my good friend, Tony Donia, so it was fun. There were a lot of veterans, but a great group of guys. It was the best year I've ever had in soccer. My second year I scored 12 goals, so I was relied upon, [which] felt really good. This past year was a disappointment to me. I had a brutal goal scoring drought and I was injured."

Of all the memorable moments during their tenures at Humber, the one that stands out far above any others was winning the National championship in 2001-02.

"We cried tears of joy," Del Duca said.

"We had an incredible amount of talent," Mesa added. "It was an honour to be a starter on that team."

While their competitive days with the Humber men's soccer team are likely over, the annual alumni game next year will give the men a chance to once again suit up for Humber.

For the time being, most of the players plan on continuing their soccer careers elsewhere. Mesa will continue playing for Woodbridge Italia, coached by Hawks assistant coach Cesare Tripodo. Mehmedoglu plans on crossing the Atlantic Ocean and playing for Division 1 Turkey, while Silva will compete for the Toronto Supra of the Canadian Professional Soccer League (CPSL). Del Duca is undecided where he will play next year.

By Chase Kell

Humber's men's and women's hockey teams saw great success, but just couldn't pull off a championship at last Friday's extramural hockey tournament.

The day-long tournament featured college and university teams, including Mohawk, Sheridan, Seneca and U of T.

After wins over George Brown College, Sheridan College and a 3-2 win over Centennial College in a shootout, the women's team made it into the tournament finals.

The women scored a goal with 54 seconds left in the game to trail three to two, but ran out of time surrendering the championship to Mohawk College.

"It was a good game, the other team was pretty good," said Terry Chikoski, coach of both the men's and women's teams. "But we were short bodies. The girls were kind of worn out by the end."

Despite the disappointing defeat, Chikoski had no complaints about his team finishing second place.

"We played great all tournament. We just couldn't tie her up in the last one," he said. "But they

were great. Everyone played awesome all tournament."

The men's team enjoyed great success as well, with a commanding 7-2 win over Georgian College and a 8-3 thrashing of St. Clair College.

Despite their dominating performances, Humber fell short to Fleming College in the semi-final game 3-2.

After Fleming scored 20 seconds into the game, Humber battled back yet couldn't tie it up after swarming the net in the final seconds of the game.

With over 12 penalties called in total, Humber made enemies with the referees but are not blaming them for the loss.

"Their goalie played good, he made the right stops at the right time," Chikoski said. "But the refs were terrible, their guys were slashing and hooking us all the time."

Despite both of the disappointing losses, Chikoski was very pleased with the play of his players.

"Everyone played awesome all tournament," said Chikoski. "You can't single out anyone because they all played great."

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