

# COVEN

THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF HUMBER COLLEGE

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## Privileged SAC members skip past Caps line-ups

*SAC can show up with buddies at pubs until 11 p.m. and get in without lining up*

by Patrick McCaully

Things heated up at a recent SAC meeting when the manager of Caps expressed concern that a discretionary sign-in list could leave some students out in the cold.

"This is one little petty privilege that you get for all you busting your butts off. Why throw it out the window?" said SAC Vice President Dennis Hancock to other SAC members, referring to the Caps sign-in list.

Traditionally, members of SAC are guaranteed entry to Caps pub nights by making reservations on the sign-in list. These reservations must be made by 4:30 p.m. on the day of the pub, and guests must pay the cover charge in advance.

According to Caps manager Maggie Hobbs, the first two pubs of the year had a 10 p.m. curfew before the spots reserved for SAC members could have been sold to students in the regular line-up. Hobbs proposed keeping a 10 p.m. curfew for SAC, but was defeated in the subsequent vote.

SAC members voted to keep the curfew at the discretion of SAC members, up to a maximum of 11 p.m.

At an interview in her North campus office, Hobbs explained that she brought the issue to SAC because last year's council abused the pub sign-up privilege.

Although this year's council hasn't abused the sign-in list, and she supports the decision of SAC, Hobbs said she is "not particularly happy" with a discretionary list.

"I feel in an awkward position," said Hobbs. "They (SAC) are representatives of the students ... but I see those 50 or 60 people standing outside waiting to get in and I'm the one who has to deliver the bad news ... that puts me between a rock and a hard place."

Caps has a capacity of 400 people without the stage, and SAC has a maximum sign-in list of 70 members (including guests).

SAC president David Thompson said that Hobbs has the power to enforce a 10 p.m. curfew, but has decided to respect the decision of the student council.

He added that if abuse of the sign-in occurs, offenders would be cautioned and repeat offenders would be dropped from the list altogether.

"A lot of it (keeping a discretionary sign-in list) is a matter of principle," said Thompson. "It is a relic power of years gone by when we used to run the bar ... a lot of people just can't stomach giving it up ... we represent the students that built the bar, we should be able to retain that right."

SAC Director of Entertainment, Anne Beswick, said that although she does not agree with the 11 p.m. sign-in list, she supports the decision of SAC and has faith in the discretion of her fellow members.

She added that the list does not account for a large part of Caps' total capacity and although it's a concern of hers, she does not foresee any abuses.

"The student government works on behalf of the students," said Beswick. "Most of us (SAC) do a lot of work and don't get paid for it ... students elected us in, so they are trusting our judgment ... I don't like to use the word 'perks', but the sign-in list is a privilege."

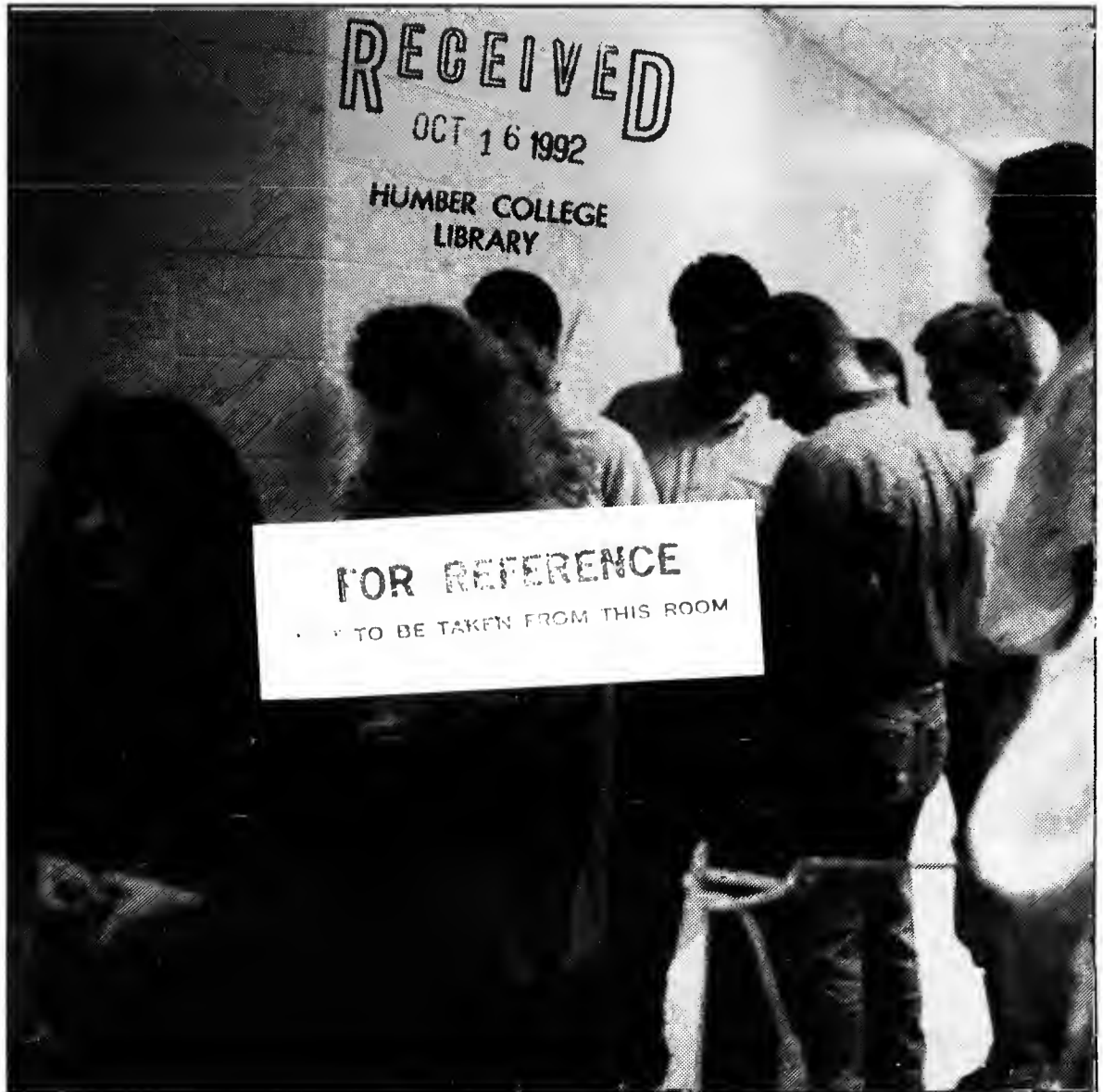


PHOTO BY PATRICK McCAULLY

**Wait your turn, peasants** — Not all students have to wait in line-ups at Caps' pubs. SAC members and friends have the "perk" of being able to show up and skip the lines altogether.

## Missing student safe after week-long walk

by Janis Raisen

A second-year Film and TV student at Humber College who was missing since late September has been found at his parent's cottage in Parry Sound.

They discovered their son when they went to close up the cottage for the winter.

Mark Thomas Merritt, 21, was found on Friday night, according to his sister-in-law, Cheryl Costigan.

"He wanted to go to the cottage and started to hitchhike, but didn't think it was safe, so he decided to walk the rest of the way. It took him a week," said

Costigan. "His feet were sore when he got there so he decided to rest — he had walked a couple of hundred miles," she added.

Humber security, the Metro police and the OPP had been

notified that Merritt was missing after his father called the OPP. He had not heard from his son for one week, said Detective Sergeant Joseph McVeigh of 23 Division.

Humber College told police that Merritt hadn't attended classes since September 22nd, so the police requested that the college circulate flyers with his photo.

Merritt's parents became more concerned, said McVeigh, when they discovered all of Merritt's belongings still in his bedroom at his home. The police never suspected foul play, according to McVeigh.



Mark Thomas Merritt

"They get a lot out of working together."  
Different programs team up for Humber news show  
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"Men should be sure to understand these limits."  
NO MEANS NO!  
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"We'd like to see more fan participation."  
Humber volleyball team rallies for fan support  
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"Everything here is like you see in the movies."  
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# Spout

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# News

## Humber students to produce TV show

By Vicki Lee Cambers

Humber students are joining forces to produce a bi-weekly news program.

Journalism, film and television, and even students in the music program are co-operating in the production of the show. The objective is to put on a program just like the six o'clock news, said Mel Tsuji, a journalism instructor.

The shows are produced as in-class assignments, but Tsuji has submitted the first completed tape to Maclean Hunter Cable TV. To date Tsuji has not received confirmation on whether the program will be aired.

Tsuji said he would like to incorporate an original theme with music and computer graphics into the program. In fact, music students are working on an original score as a class project. Andy Boehme, a third year film and TV student said the graphics are currently in production.

Students rotate through all positions specific to their program, but work together to produce one program. Journalism students get the opportunity to research, write and film for the show, as well as anchor. Film students direct, operate cameras, set-up lighting, and supply help in all technical areas. This provides students with valuable practical experience that will better prepare them for the real world, said

Tsuji.

"When they go out there I want them to be able to do anything on the job. The general opinion in the business is that students coming out of school just aren't prepared," he said.

Just like in the 'real world', team work is necessary in the production of a news program. "When you have eight to ten people working as a team if one person falls through, there can be a lot of last minute scrambling," said Tsuji.

"They get a lot out of working together. Learning to work together and co-operate to produce something. That's how it will be in the real world," said film and TV instructor, Jerry Millan.

"Teamwork is essential to the program's success — from a technical aspect, right through to presenting the stories themselves," said Aamer Halcem, a final-year journalism student.

Jennifer Payne, a final year journalism student, said, "If thrown into the situation ... and called upon to do anything, I will have had the training and preparedness."

The producer of the first news program, Leslie Wilson, also a final year journalism student, said "Everyone was really excited. There were a few glitches ... now we have an idea of what it's going to be like when we get out working."

Tsuji said these students are on the right track.



PHOTO BY VICKI LEE CAMBERS

**LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION** — Humber students from various programs have joined forces to create a TV news program which may hit the airwaves in the near future.

## HIV- infected prisoners face abuse

By Robert Hookey

HIV-infected prisoners are mistreated according to an AIDS activist, who spoke at a public forum on AIDS held at Harbourfront Centre, October 8.

Forum panelist Julia Barnett, a member of Prisoners and AIDS Support Action Network, (PSAN) told the small and mostly female crowd that Ontario's correctional facilities are "a horror show" for women who are HIV-positive.

The forum entitled, "The Case Against Disclosure—Revealing Your HIV Status—The Impact On Women", was one of the closing events in last week's AIDS Awareness Week.

The forum dealt with the negative effects of disclosure

on women in Canadian society. The all-women panel, composed of representatives from such diverse groups as the Black Coalition for AIDS Prevention and the Prostitute Safer Sex Project, pooled their various resources to provide five arguments for the same problem.

The panel, which included a former prostitute who is HIV-positive, stood fast in their belief any legislation forcing women to reveal their HIV-positive status should never be allowed.

Barnett, said her organization has received numerous reports of prisoner segregation and correctional facilities which have no AIDS education programs.

Her comments inspired an angry reaction from a nurse in the audience. The nurse, who

works at one of Toronto's female detention centres, and wished to remain anonymous for fear of losing her job, vehemently opposed the claim.

"We only remove prisoners from general population when they are deathly ill. We could never hold someone because they are refusing HIV testing."

Susan Beaver, the executive director of 2-Spirited People of the First Nation, an organization geared specifically to native people infected with HIV, compared the treatment native women receive as a result of disclosure to that of female prison inmates.

Beaver said the two groups suffer great isolation when their HIV condition becomes public knowledge. "Women on reserves who request a test are in danger of verbal and physical abuse," said Beaver.

## New tunes for CKHC

By Paul Matthews

Humber College Radio CKHC 91.7FM has increased its record library by over 300 per cent thanks to the charity of Country 59.

Country 59, a Toronto radio station, previously known as Key 590, recently changed its format from solid gold to country, and donated its entire vinyl and tape library to the college.

CKCH Station Manager Jerry Chomyn, estimates the collection donated before the beginning of this semester, is worth over \$20,000. "It may be worth more because some of the stuff you just can't get anymore," he said.

Chomyn said radio stations from time to time will donate small amounts of music, but never a full library. He said that CKHC usually relies on record companies and radio stations for donations, but because CKCH is a college station it receives mainly alternative and obscure recordings.

ings.

Chomyn describes the donation as "an excellent collection, with a wide variety of music never before available to our students." He said Humber's acquisition has had a positive effect on the attitude of radio students who are now able to work from an expanded music library.

Al Campagnola, music director at Country 59, worked with Al Michalek from Humber Donations on the deal. Campagnola said the change in format was responsible for the donation. He had originally wanted to sell the collection and had advertised in a trade magazine. The station had always intended to keep the collection intact no matter where it ended up.

Besides the obvious expanded library, the donation has an additional benefit for Humber's radio program. Chomyn said, this association between the college and the radio station is good public relations for Humber radio students.

## SAC to attend conference on organization

By Rolf Cohrs

The Students' Association Council (SAC) director of entertainment will be attending The Canadian Organization for Campus Activities (COCA) at McGill University.

The conference, taking place November 5 through 8 in Montreal, will deal with the orga-

nization of campus activities.

When asked about the conference, Anne Beswick, SAC's director of entertainment, said "It will give us a lot of different ideas as to new promotional ideas and activities. We're always looking for new things to do."

"I think with me going to the conference it will directly benefit every student in the school

because the activities being organized will be that much better," said Beswick.

She said it is also a chance to network with other organizations in order to plan the best possible activities for Humber students.

Steven Port, assistant manager of Caps, will also be attending the conference.

Caps will be funding his trip

since Port is not fully a member of SAC. Port is currently filling in on SAC for Lise Janssen, the activities co-ordinator, who is away on maternity leave.

The total cost to attend the COCA conference is \$586.

SAC President, Dave Thompson said "The cost of the conference is minuscule when compared with the cost of an

event that would bomb. That's probably money well spent if you're going to be checking up on an act and bringing it back to your campus." Thompson says the process of information sharing at the conference will be important.

As for future conferences Thompson said, "I hope we can include more council members."



# COVEN

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## Editorial

### SAC out of line

SAC voted at a recent meeting about their privilege of getting in late to school pubs. They by-pass the line of students who've been waiting outside for an indefinite period of time and take a guest in for a couple brews, while we, the lowly peons who elected them, go thirsty.

Strangely enough, this vote was not called to decide whether or not SAC members should have to wait in line like everybody else, but to decide whether they should have to put up with a ten o'clock curfew in case they don't bother strolling in until 11. They voted to extend the curfew to 11, so they can come three hours after the doors open to the general public without worrying about waiting. It's a real pleasure to know that students may have to stand outside because they can't give up the spot they're reserving for some late-arriving SAC official.

Dave Thompson, SAC president justified this decision with some confusing rhetoric about this right being a "Matter of principle," because "we represent the students who built the bar."

How? The pub was built eleven years ago. David Thompson probably wasn't even in high school yet. In what way does he represent the founders of Caps?

SAC exists to make college more enjoyable for the students, not to secure special privileges that only make college more enjoyable for themselves. SAC has the right to reserve a maximum 70 spots (two spots for every member) of the often insufficient 400-person capacity of Caps. That's almost one-fifth of the total capacity.

Is it ethical for SAC to make votes on their own rights and privileges with no system of checks and balances? Would the student body endorse this decision if they were given a say in the matter?

Sure, SAC members devote a lot of time to their responsibilities but that was their decision. Nobody asked them to run for office. SAC should spend more time on planning extra-curricular activities for the students and less time worrying about getting special privileges for themselves at the students' expense. It's time that SAC started getting in line, literally.

### Demand and supply

The student population at Humber College has climbed to over 10,000 people attending day school classes. But somewhere along the way administration has failed to keep up with an increase in equipment to satisfy the student population.

Out of order, no time available, and all the equipment is signed out, have become familiar refrains from the technocrats, who are placed in a compromising situation as the bad guy. In reality, it is administration who cry "poor" any-time criticism is sent in their collective direction.

When will the college realize that the more students they admit the more equipment and resources they will need to serve the swelling student population?



### LETTERS: To mosh or not to mosh?

Sounds like you need to lighten up. Your recent article in Coven dealing with mosh pits has not fallen on deaf ears.

As a matter of fact no, it incites us.

I am a 20-year-old male and like many of my friends, I like to mosh.

You so aptly informed us that you hate mosh pits. Fabulous! Then stay away from them.

Mosh pits are an integral part of hardcore or alternative concerts.

Because you are so well versed in the history of this form of slamdancing you should expect it. It's like going to a Jay game and complaining about foul balls. It's part of the game — deal with it.

Let's see what you wrote and then let's figure out the truth.

The majority of mosh pits do not consist of masses of pubescent girls that squeal and writhe. There are actually mature people in them who are there to have fun, besides

the bands always call for it.

Secondly, venting aggression can happen anywhere not just in sports. It's people like you that teach children the wrong reasons to play sports.

Thirdly, I don't know how many mosh pits you've been in but nobody ever gets tossed up to body surf unless they want to and as far as the banging and crunching have you ever been on a subway during rush-hour?

If you don't like the pit, step aside. If you want to see the band up close watch Much Music, it's much safer.

George Strombouloupoulos  
Second Year Radio

#### Kites Study Hall

Kites use to be a place to go and have lunch. Now it seems to have become a study hall. It seems that any time I go for lunch about a third of the tables are being used

by students who are studying. With more than 11,000 students attending Humber this year all the food service areas are filled to capacity during lunch hours.

I have no problem with people reading over notes while they eat, I have done that myself. I am upset with the people who go to Kites and use a four-seat table for one person and study. There are plenty of areas in the school where you can study such as the resource centre, empty classrooms or quiet hallways. But there are a limited number of areas that people can go to eat.

With the limited number of food service areas, couldn't we be a little bit more courteous to our fellow students.

Daniel Baker  
Second Year  
Business Administration

#### Say Again...

Humber College in Toronto may have just what the doctor ordered. It is one of the most aggressive public-sector outfits training the private sector for profit. Called the Humber College Business & Industry Services, it billed \$30 million last year teaching workers, customers and others for 300 clients such as Kodak Canada Inc., Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd., Chrysler Canada Ltd., Digital Equipment of Canada, IBM Canada Inc., Goodyear Canada Ltd., Facelle Co. Ltd., and Litton Systems Canada Ltd.

The division began a few years back when Humber president Robert Gordon decided to go out and seek markets. He hired Kris Gataveckas, the bubbly vice-president of Business & Industry

Services.

While expanding that side of the school, Humber remains principally (80% of students) a full-service college on the western outskirts of Toronto, which "has to exist within a system we may not like but we must live with," Gordon says. "The best way to improve things is to be part of the solution."

It's now considered one of Canada's busiest public sector institutions involved in private-sector training. "No one has a sales force and is moving out into the private sector to the extent we are," says Gordon. Two clients who were called gave Humber good marks for its programs.

An excerpt from a column by Diane Francis, October 8, 1992, courtesy of The Financial Post.

## feedback

### Have you experienced racism at the college ?



Angela Waugh  
Business

"Racism does exist in the college, but I've never experienced it. Maybe people just cover it up."



Ravindran Kanagasbey  
Engineering

"Students are much more understanding, they are aware that racism doesn't go very far."



Rene Zambrano  
Engineering

"Some people are still having problems with other races. You can see it on the walls in the washrooms."



Nancy Black  
Film and TV

"Not specifically racism but sexism. It's different but all part of the same sort of issue — Which is discrimination."

## Insight

### STOP THE PRESS

## Columbus Day, big deal

by Paul Briggs

This year represents the 500th anniversary of Columbus' discovery of America.

So what!

I find it difficult to become excited about an event 500 years in the past and which, depending on who you talk to, has been grossly distorted by the process of history.

Amidst all the propaganda surrounding the anniversary (propagated almost exclusively through commercial incentive), we have heard diverging opinions of the man.

In our history books of past, Columbus was portrayed as a hero — a discoverer who brought European civilization to the barren lands of America.

But as 1992 crept closer, surprising insight into the event told us of a tyrant who abused the land and its indigenous people. The new evidence, I hope, will alter the way our children perceive Columbus. May the history books be forever changed in the name of historical correctness.

In this new age of "native awareness" — with Canadian natives on the road to self-government — aboriginal claims of oppression at the hands of the white man are being vindicated. The original white man, Columbus, set the standard for native dehumanization. Tales of enslavement and native epidemic (due to their lack of immunity to European diseases) change the way we view natives and Europeans of 1492.

Those who praise of Chris defend his actions by accusing him of nothing more than being a 15th century European. Surely Columbus was no worse than many of his travelling counterparts. In that sense, condemnations of him may be misguided — instead, nay sayers may be best served by chastising Columbus' society. In spite of this, the 500th anniversary remains a celebration of a time in our history of which most of us are not proud.

So why all the hoopla? Why are two motion pictures now in wide release depicting the discovery of America as the greatest event in recorded history?

No doubt, most of us look at commercialism in a negative light. Its capitalization on the anniversary could be expected, but not justified.

For those of you caught up in the celebration, the major film depicting the event is called 1492: Conquest of Paradise (ingeniously creative and predictable).

A more appropriate title for the film might be 1492: Conquest of Native Culture, or The White Man Cometh.

## No way MVA: Storeowners protest tax hike

By Corey Caplan

The fear in the eyes of store owners was obvious at a protest march at the Eglinton West Village. They chanted "No Way MVA", and closed down their stores as if they were practising for the coming new year. All they have worked for, all the dreams, could all be destroyed if the new MVA (Market Value Assessment) plan becomes a reality.

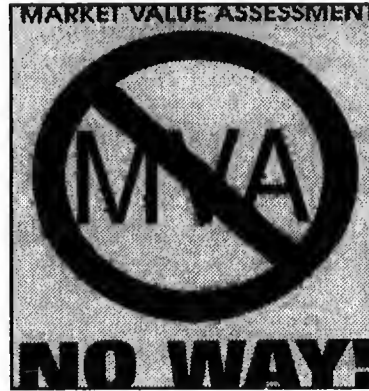
With the recession literally wiping out small businesses, many people are scared Metro Council's new MVA plan could be the final nail in the coffin.

One store owner who has been in business for 30 years, Samuel Wolman, is one of five members on the committee against this new tax grab. He says that if the new tax hike is approved, "this is going to become a ghost town."

For years people have worked hard just to keep their heads above water and carry their businesses through the rough economic times. It's like being kicked while you're down because the municipal government plans to increase business taxes come the new year. Although, increase isn't the word, it's more like skyrocket. The new MVA tax plan could shoot business taxes up 200 per cent, which would kill the small independent businesses and their owners' dreams of success.

But which brilliant members of our government came up with the idea to raise taxes that high during a recession? Does the government think owners will be able to pay off these tax increases, including other debts they are facing. Any profits that would be taken home will now have to go to paying off these new tax hikes. Some owners are already planning to pack it in come the new year, if the new MVA tax plan becomes a reality.

Another store owner, Marta Eisenberg, says that if the MVA



becomes a reality there is no future for her business. "I think it's going to kill all the businesses. Everything we take home will have to go to taxes."

So once again the government has managed to frustrate and anger business owners and workers by adding fuel to our economic fire. Don't we have enough people out of work already? Increasing taxes at a

time when hardly anybody can afford it seems illogical.

The threat of this new tax grab has forced owners onto the streets to protest this ludicrous idea.

Store owners at the Eglinton West Village closed their shops last week to march and protest this new tax plan. It wasn't a large protest but it was loud.

The question is though, who is listening? Is the municipal government hearing the cries for help, or will the message fall on deaf ears and not be heard until people are living in the streets and the stores are vacant? It's about time the government gives the people a break and comes up with a plan that will benefit our country, businesses and people.

Store manager, Robert Hamilton, who could lose his job come January, is trying to send the message across. "Increasing taxes in a recession is crazy. It is not sensible to raise our taxes. They should lower them so people can work to make a living."

Time will only tell. Come new year store owners may just lose their businesses and all they worked for.

The new MVA tax plan is just another menace that could destroy small businesses creating ghost towns throughout Ontario. Just think, the future of small businesses is lying in the hands of our municipal government.

## John Kordic: A goon's fall from grace

by Stephen Shaw

When hockey thug and known troublemaker John Kordic died recently, nobody was surprised.

When there were reports of his violent prelude to death that required nine Quebec police officers, nobody was surprised.

And when the coroner's report was finally released last week with findings that the 27 year-old Kordic died of a massive overdose of cocaine combined with steroids, again nobody was surprised.

Now isn't that a little surprising?

Throughout his turbulent career as policeman on the ice, fans, coaches, managers and teammates whispered and speculated about the private life of John Kordic. But now that he's dead the speculation has turned to fact. In the wake of his death, numerous articles have been written finally making public, what was before only innuendo. That it was no secret, to his teammates and coaches, he had been making up for his size with the help of steroids. Or that everyone new not only was he an alcoholic, but he was fighting other demons as well, like cocaine addiction. Now, unnamed former coaches are admitting their knowledge that he had been bulking up on 'roids since his days as a Montreal Canadian, and that everyone else new as well. I find that interesting, considering the NHL has a

strict policy on dealing with drug users. But that policy was never enforced upon John Kordic. Why, if his problems were as well known as we have now found out?

My point is that the National Hockey League betrayed John Kordic. Before you roll your eyes and turn the page with an "oh please", let me explain. Yes, Kordic was on a self-made collision course with disaster. Yes, only John Kordic, in the end, could truly save John Kordic.

But those who observed the arrogant and charismatic troublemaker throughout his rollercoaster career could see the man-child desperately crying for help. And so could his teammates, coaches, and managers, who all, in the end, admitted they could see his fall coming. But it is difficult to swallow that no one could stop him — I'm not so sure if we should buy that. One can't help but think that if Kordic was, for the sake of argument, say Mario Lemieux, somehow, some way, someone could have, or would have at least tried, to save him.

But John Kordic was not a valuable asset to the game of hockey. To most he was an obnoxious, intimidating thug playing a small but vital role in a game that calls for grace, speed and style. But his role was never

questioned by those who paid his salary. He was a hired bodyguard who didn't seem to know his place, or so it would later appear.

It was around the time of his father's death Kordic seemed to lose the fighting fire in his eyes. When tapped on the shoulder to be sent on the ice, it was no secret what was expected of him. It



appeared after his father's death that he had lost the desire to battle and wanted to learn to be a "real" hockey player. However, there was no room for a guy with hands like stone around the nets.

At his best, he was a fringe player who, when he wanted to, could dictate the pace and outcome of a game, but with his fists and muscles, not his skill.

When he lost his desire to fight, he also lost his role in the game. It was then that he went on a rollercoaster ride through the NHL, going from team to team, each time being given one last chance to prove he had recovered from the addiction of alcohol, for which he had been receiving treatment for several years.

I could be way off in my assumptions about the player who made an instant and dedicated fan of me, but it seemed that behind the menacing and arrogant guise he wore, there was more.

To anyone with an interest, it was obvious he was a very troubled soul. Recent articles about the real John Kordic shed light on a gentle, caring man whose rise to fame simply came too soon, too young.

The role of enforcer in the NHL is a valuable one, but John Kordic's come a dime a dozen, and usually those who fill the role are eventually discarded like old tires.

So now that he's six feet under, it seems his off-ice habits were all common knowledge. Everyone from his ex-teammates to ex-coaches say they new of his continuing process of self-destruction. So why did no one step in? The NHL supposedly has a strict policy for drug abusers. But it wasn't enforced in John Kordic's

case for some reason. He was never suspended, he was never arrested (even though his habits were well known to downtown police officers who ran into him frequently cruising Toronto's "red light" district).

As far as the NHL is concerned, it turned a blind eye to John Kordic. The same goes for his teammates, who admittedly never liked him much (he wasn't easy to like), and his coaches.

There might have been more effort made if John Kordic wasn't who he was. When fellow tough-guy, Bob Probert, was busted for coke a couple of years ago, the league, and his team made sure he cleaned up his act before being allowed back into the game. True, in Probert's case the law stepped in and forced him to wake up (a jail term never hurts).

The NHL, like every other major league sports organization (NFL, NBA, etc), does its best to protect their heroes and stars — meaning anytime one of their leading stars show signs of needing a helping hand, the leagues have always been quick to respond. The Gretzkys, the Johnsons, Montanas etc. can all expect to receive help to get them back on their feet.

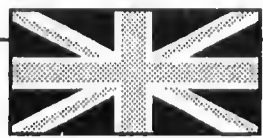
But, that didn't happen to John Kordic. He simply wasn't important enough to the NHL, and that is a shame.

R.I.P. John.





# SPECIAL



**Carol Hudson**  
Film and Television  
**SCOTLAND**

## A Scot with itchy feet

by Michelle Allard

Carol Hudson is a Film and Television student originally from Scotland. She was born 20 years ago in a town near Edinburgh, but did her growing up in many different places. Because of her father's line of work, her family moved around a lot. She's lived in England, Scotland, and most recently, Germany.

So her decision to move halfway around the world to study was not a difficult one. "I've been moving all my life," Carol said. "I think five years is the longest I've been in one place. I get itchy feet, so I like to move around." When she finished school in Germany, most of her friends applied to colleges in England while she applied to Humber.

"Everything here is like you see in the movies: the skyline, and fountains in the malls," she said. "Six lanes of traffic going one way," Carol laughs. "I've never seen that before!"

She said things are not done on such a "big" scale in Germany. They have stores there with chandeliers, but no malls. Carol enjoyed living in Germany and was there when the Berlin wall came down. "Everyone wanted it at first, then the wall came down and there was this sudden influx to the West," she explained. The mass of people moving to West Germany has created many unexpected problems. Carol said that the park beside her family's house became filled with portables to house the new arrivals.

Carol spent the summer in Germany working three jobs. She also landed a bit part in "The Baby Macon", the latest film from director Peter Greenaway, perhaps best known for his film "The Cook, the Thief, his Wife and her Lover." Carol plays a concubine in the 17th century, and although her character is only in two scenes before she dies, she "had to do a lot of screaming." She said it was a great experience and she is looking forward to the film's premiere at the Cannes Film Festival.

Carol prefers Germany to Britain. "The whole of Britain is a hole," she said. She thinks Britain is a mess. "There's graffiti and rubbish everywhere." Many people mistake Carol's Scottish accent as English, and she's quick to correct them. "Wherever you go in Europe you've got to make sure they know you're Scottish and not English, because they don't like the English." Similarly, Carol said, Europeans like Canadians, not Americans.

Carol never thought of her move to Canada as "hard". She views it all as an exciting new challenge. She says she doesn't really get homesick, but she does admit that during her first month here she phoned home quite a bit. "My phone bill was absolutely enormous." That almost

**Phillip Muturi**

Business Management

## KENYA

### Toronto is like Nairobi

by Margaret Bryant

A lifetime of summers and relaxing is not too uncommon in the life of Humber international student Phillip Muturi.

Muturi, known as "Rocco" to his friends, comes from Nairobi, Kenya in Africa.

A slice of Rocco's life gives the picture of a country that has more similarities with Canada than differences.

Rocco explained that there are many myths about his home country that he thinks are very untrue. He described Nairobi, the capital city of Kenya, as being a metropolis, very similar to Toronto.

"It's a modern city — people think you live in a hut and you're starving," he said. "People think Africa is one big country."

The second-year Business Management student said that back home in Nairobi, night life is very similar to that in Canada.

"There are lots of clubs with the same music — soul and R&B," said Rocco.

When asked about some myths he had about Canada, he said that it was basically what he had expected.

"The first winter I got sick," he explained. "As I see it snowing, I don't really like it." The average temperature in Kenya is about 27 degrees celsius. Rocco explained that a Canadian summer is like his winter.

Rocco said that education and lifestyle in Kenya does differ from that in Canada.

"Schools there are very diverse," Rocco said. "School there is hard. It's like the British education — more strict. You never see multiple choice, mostly essays."

Rocco said that he was not used to the high cost of attending an overseas college. In Kenya, university and college are free.

"It is too expensive here," he said. "It's \$7,000 for tuition alone."

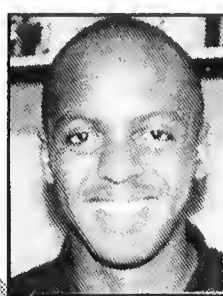
Rocco said his country has many big cities, but also a great deal of grasslands, prairies and national parks.

An abundance of wildlife can be found just outside the city of Nairobi, and Rocco explained that lions, zebras and elephants are a common sight in Kenya.

"The beauty of the countryside is nice if you like wildlife," he explained. "At night it's not safe to drive fast because animals cross the street."

Once Rocco finishes his schooling at Humber, he plans to travel south to the United States to attend university. He said that he will probably go home to Nairobi for a month before going to the States.

Does he miss his family? "There are times I'd like to go home," he said. "I know I am going to finish my education so that's okay."



## Fleeing religio

by Keira Fine

For six years now, Tahir Khan has been living in Canada and loving it. He feels more at home in Canada than his native Pakistan for many reasons, including the education he is receiving from Humber.

For Tahir, Pakistan did not hold many opportunities. The political and religious situations in Pakistan were what prompted him more than anything else to emigrate to Canada.

"Life was pretty hard for us because of our religion (Tahir belongs to a particular Muslim sect) and the beliefs we had," said Tahir in a telephone interview. "I believe in Jesus Christ too," but, "because of our (family's) name and everything, jobs and other things were closed for us."

"My sister was here (in Canada), and the life over there was pretty rough for me," said Tahir. So he decided to make a change. "It was not what I wished for. I am also interested in politics. But over there you can not talk about politics or anything like that."

Once in Canada, Tahir worked full time for about four



**Melinda Allen**  
Business Student

## AUSTRALIA

### Globe Trotting

By Michelle Allard

If Melinda Allan were to retrace the route which brought her to Humber, it would definitely take her a while.

Melinda did a little travelling on her way from her native Australia to Canada. She made pit stops in countries like England, Greece, Turkey, Spain, Portugal, and Malaysia.

So why did she choose to stay in Canada? "I'd always had a fascination with it for some reason," she said. It was during her travels that she decided she wanted to further her education. She is now in the third semester of Humber's business program, and she's considering going on to university. She is hoping to eventually make Canada her home, but like many visa students, she is battling Canada's immigration policy.

Like other international students, Melinda has not found the move to a new country difficult. "It hasn't been hard at all," she said. "The only thing that I find frustrating is that I've lost my independence because I'm a student again. But that's got nothing to do with living here."

Melinda had a well-paying job as a flight attendant when she lived in Australia. Now she is thankful for the part-time jobs she has here at Humber in the Games Room and the A+ Room. "It's like you're not riding the crest of a wave: you're sort of on top of it, trying not to sink."

"That's a choice I made," Melinda explained. "It's well worth it. I wouldn't swap it for going back to my job (in Australia)." Australia's economy is in worse shape than Canada's, she said. "I don't want to be there."

Melinda is very happy living in Canada. She says there is not much difference between Australians and Canadians. During her travels she met many people from both countries, and they "had the greatest rapport out of anyone. They're very similar, very understanding of each other's cultures," she said. But Melinda believes Australians are more sarcastic and dry in their humor, which she said, "can put Canadians back a bit."

She sees some similarities between Toronto and her birthplace, Melbourne. But she says in the center of Australia there is "nothing".

"Our middle is desert, and it is red, and it's very, very hot."

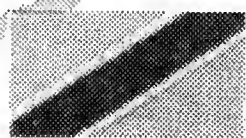
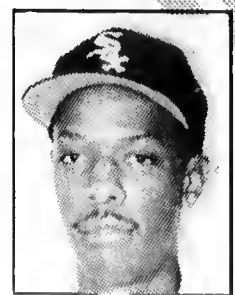
Melinda said she has done more travelling than the average Australian. "People our age — they have their one big trip of a lifetime," she explained. "They'll get the backpacks on and they'll go for a few years."

## Life's a beach, and a busy one

by Margaret Bryant

Imagine going out into your backyard and seeing a beach in the distance? This is not an uncommon scene for international student, Clement Bomani, who hails from Dar-es-Salaam, the capital of Tanzania in Africa.

When describing why he chose to come to Canada to learn, Clement said it was for experience and culture.



**Clement Bomani**  
Business Management  
**TANZANIA**

"Some friends told me about Humber," said Clement. Going away to school makes you a bit more mature, he said. "You become more self-reliant."

Clement said that life in Tanzania is much easier, and that the social life is a busy one. "We socialize and go to the beach," he said, "or go to a club. Life is more relaxed and laws are more relaxed," Clement said.

The Canadian way of life is very different from back in Tanzania because it is more technologically up-to-date.

"It is much more modern here than back home," he said. "Life here is so tough, there is a big difference in the way people think."

Clement said that Canada was basically what he had expected. "It's nice, but a bit cold," said Clement. In his home country, his father works for the United Nations. Once Clement finishes his Business Management course, he will return to Dar-Es-Salaam to practice his business know-how.



## THE NEW CONSTITUTIONAL AGREEMENT

# THE HIGHLIGHTS

Over the past two years, federal, provincial, territorial and Aboriginal leaders have consulted with thousands of Canadians and concerned groups from coast to coast. These consultations included Royal Commissions, participatory conferences, parliamentary hearings, and hearings in the provinces and territories held by provincial and territorial legislatures. Federal, provincial, territorial and Aboriginal leaders have agreed unanimously on August 28, 1992 in Charlottetown on a package of constitutional proposals that recognizes the equality of all Canadians and represents all of our interests. The agreement is now before Canadians.

### A Social and Economic Union

The agreement proposes that the new Constitution would contain a statement of key economic and social objectives shared by all of the governments in the federation. The objectives include comprehensive, universal, portable, accessible and publicly administered health care, adequate social services and benefits, high quality primary and secondary education and reasonable access to post-secondary education, collective bargaining rights and a commitment to protecting the environment. The economic policy objectives to be entrenched would be aimed at strengthening the Canadian economic union; the free movement of persons, goods, services, and capital; ensuring full employment and a reasonable standard of living for all Canadians; ensuring sustainable and equitable development.

Exclusive provincial jurisdiction would be recognized in the areas of forestry, mining, tourism, housing, recreation, municipal affairs, cultural matters within the province, and labour market development and training. In addition, to ensure the two levels of government work in harmony, the government of Canada commits to negotiating agreements with the provinces in areas such as immigration, regional development and telecommunications. Federal-provincial agreements on any subject could be protected by the Constitution from unilateral change.

The new Canadian Constitution would recognize the distinct nature of Quebec, based on its French language, unique culture and civil law tradition.

### Distinct Society

### Avoiding Overlap and Duplication

In the reformed Parliament, the Senate would reflect the equality of the provinces while the House of Commons would be based more on the principle of representation by population. As well, various provinces would be assured a minimum amount of seats in the House of Commons.

### Parliamentary Reform

The proposed Senate would be made up of six elected senators from each province and one from each territory. Additional seats would provide representation for Aboriginal peoples. The reformed Senate's powers should significantly increase the role of the elected Senators in the policy process.

The proposals recognize that Aboriginal peoples have an inherent right to self-government and that the Constitution should enable them to develop self-government arrangements and to take their place in the Canadian federation. The proposals recognize Aboriginal governments as one of the three constitutionally recognized orders of government in Canada. In addition, the proposals provide for a negotiation process between Aboriginal leaders and provincial and federal governments to put this right into effect. The recognition of the inherent right would not create any new rights to land, nor dilute existing treaty rights.

Now that Canada's federal, provincial, territorial and Aboriginal leaders have reached a consensus, it is the right of all Canadians to understand the new proposals. Call the toll-free number below to receive an easy-to-read booklet on the new constitutional agreement or a complete text.

It's your right to know what the constitutional proposals say, before voting on October 26.

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# Canada





# Life

## Humber rape forum shows "line of justice"

by Helen Zappolino

A date and acquaintance rape forum gave Lakeshore students a chance to clear up myths about rape and explore their attitudes about physical relationships with others.

The forum was held last Wednesday in the Lakeshore Campus' auditorium.

Anne Chesterton, a school counsellor, told the audience the forum was held to raise awareness on the topic of sexual assault and sexual harassment.

She began by showing the students that everyone, whether male or female, has a "line of justice". The line of justice is the boundary that indicates how physically close you want someone to get to you.

Students were paired off and experimented standing close to

each other and putting their arms around each other.

Each experiment was performed to a different scenario. For the first scene, students were asked to imagine their partner was of the same sex. They stood beside him/her to see how close the person could get and still feel comfortable.

Next, the pairs were asked to imagine someone of the opposite sex standing beside them at a bus stop and to determine how close this person could stand without feeling an invasion of personal space.

For the final experiment, the pairs pretended they were acquaintances and put their arms around each other to see how they felt about this.

"I'm doing this to raise awareness of the comfort zone for you and others," said Chesterton.

"Getting too close is an offence to the person and it is not comfortable."

Sexual harassment can be as simple as prolonged leering or as blatant as unwanted petting, said Chesterton.

Linda Dakin, another counsellor, stressed to students that communication is vital in a relationship, and particularly in a dating situation.

"Communication is not just hearing the words," said Dakin.

She explained that good communication is sending and receiving messages. If the message sent is understood the way it was meant to be understood then good communication has taken place.

"Women should be clear to partners on what the limits are and should be aware of their line of justice," said Dakin. "Men should be sure to understand

these limits."

If these limits are crossed, women should never be afraid to report the incident, she said.

Dakin said that many women don't report incidents because of the myths attached to sexual assault.

Sexual assault is when you are forced to kiss, fondle, or have intercourse with someone without your consent.

Women never invite sexual harassment, not even if a certain type of apparel is worn, drugs or alcohol are involved, or if a woman goes back to a man's room, said Dakin.

After the forum, students were split into same-sex discussion groups.

Chesterton said the separation is to protect those who want to disclose information and to make it easier for the students to dis-

cuss certain topics.

Jackie Grant, a graduate of the child and youth care worker program and counsellor at the Women's Habitat, a shelter for abused women, led one discussion group.

Women should never "wash up" after a sexual assault, said Grant.

"This means cleaning the body so evidence of the incident is gone. Don't do this," she said.

Police Constable Norm Smart attended Grant's discussion group. He explained that not only women are abused, many men are abused too. It's just harder for them to come forward because of the attitudes society has towards them.

"This summer, I arrested more women than men for assault. It was just one of those summers," said Smart.



PHOTO BY ROBERT FORTNEY

**Bounce back workout** — Fitness conscious people stretch out for an extra challenging workout with thick rubber bands called dynabands at Humber College.

## Banding for fitness

by Robert Fortney

Last Wednesday Humber's gym C was the site of a special aerobic workout using dynabands.

The workout was hosted by certified aerobic instructor Dawn Whitney.

Dynaband, a thick rubber band which provides resistance to a muscle, has been used by physiotherapists for many years as a rehabilitation tool for those recovering from injuries. Recently, they have become an addition to aerobic workouts.

"In fitness classes I was introduced to them probably about eight years ago and they are becoming much more popular, especially in circuit type classes (training which combines different elements of fitness), to compliment a stretch and tone class," said Whitney.

The addition of dynabands to a normal aerobic workout greatly increases the benefits, because only a certain degree of muscle strength and endurance can be obtained without using any resistance.

"Dynabands develop muscular strength and endurance, so they provide a better opportunity to develop body tone (muscle tone) and you can really get a well-defined look to the muscle with resistance equipment, which is what a dynaband or a rubber band is," said Whitney. "It's a form of resistance."

"Technique is the biggest problem with participants. You have to always remind them of body position. If they're not in proper alignment they can put a lot of stress on the joints," said Whitney.

Dynabands cannot provide optimal results in certain other

elements of fitness, such as strength and power, but Whitney said aerobics, when coupled with dynabands, is good enough for people who do not like weight training.

"You can get a good overall conditioning effect with the dynabands. People who don't like to use weights like to use the dynabands because they are portable," says Whitney. "They are an alternative to endurance training on weights."

Whitney says that anyone in reasonable physical condition can use the dynabands. Physically challenged people can also benefit from their use, gaining important upper body strength, "as long as they don't have a serious joint problem or if they are really weak. They would probably want to do some basic strengthening first before going on to the dynabands."

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# Arts

## Asian Filmfest at Harbourfront

by Glen Doyle

Toronto's first Asian film festival will be held at Harbourfront Centre, and will be screening 40 films — nine of which are Canadian premieres.

The four-day event which begins on Oct. 29 is completely devoted to films produced by people of Asian origin.

The majority of the films come from Canada and the United States, but a few stem from Vietnam, the United Kingdom, and Taiwan.

Kelly Lettner, Harbourfront Centre's publicist for the event said the festival is to acknowledge the importance of the Asian community in Toronto.

"Only 32 per cent of Toronto (population) speaks either English or French first, and the rest speak something else," said Lettner. "The Asian community is the largest developing, and the fastest developing community in Toronto."

Lettner commented that the project has been in the works for a number of years, but because Harbourfront Centre has such a busy schedule, booking the time had a lot to do with the delay.

"The timing all came together, and we happened to have the space, so we went for it," said Lettner.

When talking about the Asian community as a whole Lettner said she was surprised to see what little chance the group has to express opinions.

"For such a large community, they never get a voice, or mainstream media never seems to offer them the opportunity... or cover any of their events," said Lettner.

She also said festivals like this one are a step in the right direction towards a more multicultural Toronto.

"We've opened our doors, and I think we have to show that it's not just talk," said Lettner. "We want the (Asian) community to think of Harbourfront Centre as part of their community."

Lettner commented on the appeal the festival may have for Humber students. In particular a movie called *I'm British But...* which deals with the way young Asians see the world.

"It relies heavily on the Asian youth culture in the U.K.," said Lettner. "... and how they see racism, and cultural identity, and a lot of it is mixed with hip-house music... and I think music is one way to bridge the cultural gap... because it's a language we all speak."

Lettner said she feels we should all look past our distinctions in hopes of discovering something in which everyone can identify.

"We have a tendency to always look at the differences," said Lettner. "If you really pay attention and open yourself up, you'll notice that we have a lot of similarities."

The festival runs until Nov. 1, and will contain panel discussions dealing with Asian stereotypes, image, and sexuality.

## Music department jazzes up Humber

by Craig Sweeney

The Humber College music department is offering students valuable exposure to experienced musicians in addition to their programs of study.

On Oct. 7, the Kevin Turcotte Quartet played an inspirational set of jazz before an enthusiastic crowd in the North Campus lecture theatre. The foursome of Bob McClaren (drums), Kieran Overs (bass), Brian Dickinson (piano), and trumpeter Turcotte presented the audience with a diversity of jazz styles. The concert was enhanced by a crisp, clean sound and an obvious love for the music they play.

The performance was a joint production between the Toronto Musicians Association and Humber's music department. In fact, Humber has been inviting professional musicians to the school to perform and/or give musical clinics to students for more than 15 years.

Pat LaBarbera, a music professor at Humber, has been at the college since 1976, and gave his first lecture at the school in 1975. He stressed the benefits that the concerts/clinics give to the students, and the determination of the department to bring in musicians.

"Anybody that appears in town, of an international stature, we try and approach them. A lot of the people that come here are guys that I've worked with professionally while I was working in New York or travelling on the road. So quite a few of them are

friends of mine, and since I know them on a first name basis I can ask them if they want to come up to the school and talk about what they do, and their line of expertise," said LaBarbera.

He pointed out that musicians from different musical spectrums are also invited to give students a blend of sounds to look forward to.

"We could have it from the vocal department, we could have it from anyone of the instruments — trombone, trumpet, saxophone, piano, bass, drums ... and try to mix it up so there's not five (of the same) sessions in a row. If one session involves a piano player, the next might be a trumpet player," LaBarbera said. He added that while most of the performers are jazz oriented, players that are influenced by other musical elements have also been welcomed.

"We've had people come in and do a 'crossover' thing, where it's some pop and some jazz, and we've had latin drummers come in," he said.

Brian Lillos, the director of the Humber music program, is usually responsible for scheduling performances. LaBarbera said that the heads of the different music departments know who is coming to town, and will contact the professional that relates to their instrument.

"They (the instructors) see they're coming to town from promotional material and we approach them and ask them to come and give a lecture. Almost all of them are willing to do it. In



PHOTO BY CRAIG SWEENEY

### All That Jazz — The Kevin Turcotte Quartet at Humber.

this day and age, anybody who's a player can also do some teaching. Sometimes they come in for a concert, other times it's a concert and lecture, or a demonstration or a clinic," LaBarbera said. According to LaBarbera, everybody is welcome to the concerts as long as space permits. Currently, the music department absorbs the cost of most of the musicians who come to play. But LaBarbera noted that the department's funds aren't always adequate.

"Sometimes we charge the students a nominal fee like two bucks or something. We want them to hear these people, but they are professionals and they're well known in the field. A lot of them get quite a sizable amount of money for doing a lecture.

LaBarbera believes the program is beneficial for everybody concerned.

"Having the people come out and do it ... I think the students get a big charge out of it. It's people they read about, bought their records, and here they are in a classroom setting. I don't know of many schools that do it, except maybe Berkeley (in California). Not a lot of schools in Canada have the resources to do this kind of thing, so were quite lucky," said LaBarbera.

The series continues with performances by the Hugh Fraser Trio on October 21, the Art Maiste Quartet on Nov. 4, and the piano masterclass of Richie Bryac on Nov. 11.

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# Sports

## Successful coach takes helm

by Fred Tufford

The Humber Hawks men's volleyball team is coming off a 7-7 record despite the fact that most of their players were freshmen.

Steve Corbin, the Hawks' new head coach, said the team has the potential to put last season behind them and reach the provincials.

"The work ethic and attitude are really strong," Corbin said, "I'm pleased with the progres-

sion. They're coming along well."

Corbin, previously a coach at Oakville's Westside Volleyball club, has the support and confidence of Doug Fox, Humber's athletic director.

"I hired him because he's had great success wherever he's gone," Fox said. "Last year he coached his team to the national finals."

With seven returning players

— like Scott Purkis, last year's freshman MVP and Dan Payette, last year's most improved player — providing leadership for the first year players, Corbin said that the team's chemistry could put them on the road to a medal.

"It's hard to tell right now," Corbin said of the team's chances, "but once we picked the team, some positive things started happening between the players."

The newest addition to the team, Brad Brodeau, came south from Sudbury and has established himself as a quality team player. Both Corbin and Fox feel that he'll be an impact player this season at Humber.

"He's probably one of the league's best players," Fox said. "I think he'll do great."

Corbin said the Hawks didn't do well last year because the team was young. But with the returning players and new additions, Corbin said they should do much better and make the season a more exciting one for the fans to watch.

"We'd like to see more fan participation," said Corbin, "because both teams look real good and it should be a real good season."

Corbin says that fan support is important and might be crucial in how well the team does.

"It's hard to get your team up for matches when there's only 20 or 30 people in the stands," Corbin said, "but we have a large spectrum of talent on this team. They'll be exciting to watch."

## Sports shorts

by Ricardo Brathwaite and Terrance Auciello

• Kudos to A's reliever Dennis Eckersley for inspiring the Blue Jays to the biggest comeback in post-season history. His fist-pumping, glaring, and general showboating after striking out Ed Sprague, played a pivotal role in the Jays two-run ninth inning comeback.

• Congratulations to Bills' quarterback Jim Kelly for controlling his temper after Buffalo's defeat at the hands of the Los Angeles Raiders. This week he decided not to take his frustrations out on the ballboy, as he did the week before in Buffalo's loss to Miami. Perhaps Kelly finally realized that the success of the team relies on the players and not a 17-year-old kid.

• What's up with the expansion Tampa Bay Lightning? When will someone tell these guys that they are not supposed to beat the Chicagos of the NHL, and should focus on beating Ottawa instead? Speaking of Ottawa, how long will it be before goaltending coach Chico Resch dons the pads in relief of a soon-to-be shell-shocked Peter Sidorkiewicz?

• Although the influx of players from the former Soviet Union has added excitement and skill to the NHL, they are playing havoc with hockey pools conducted by honest, hardworking Canadians. Who has heard of Igor Kravchuk, Darius Kasparaitis, or Vladimir Vujtek?

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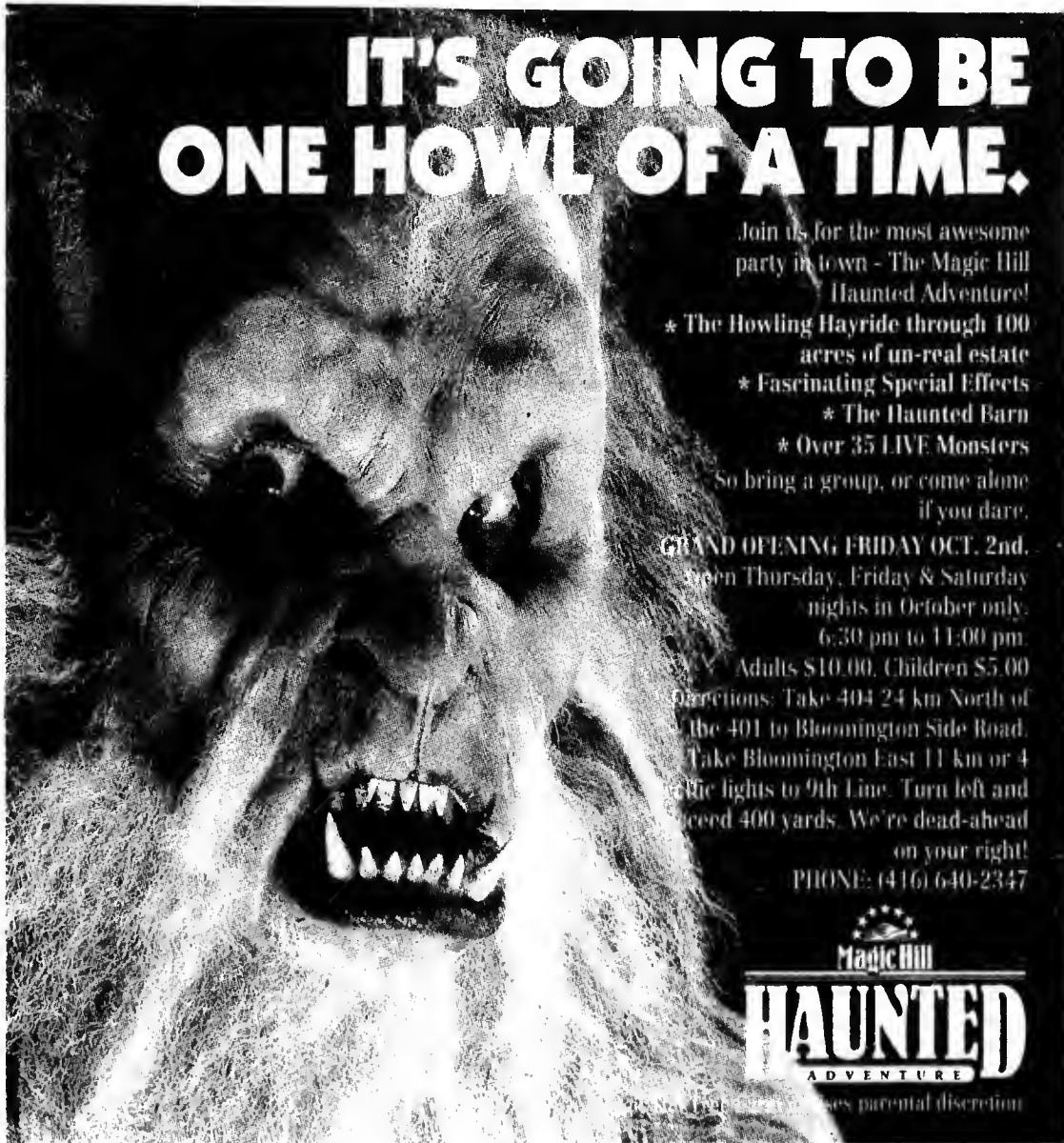
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 Gethons, Darren J.  
 Gill, Mandeeep  
 Gonsalves, Christopher R.  
 Harris, Roy Leslie  
 Hayes, Jennifer Ruth  
 Hill, Jeffrey David  
 Hook, Roxane Monica  
 Hurst, Carrie Ann  
 Ianni, Alfredo  
 Ibanez, Melvin Aquimo  
 Jakovac, Alan  
 Kenn, Cindy Anne  
 Koenig, Steve Derek  
 Lagler, Sandra  
 Lang, Holly Deborah  
 Lanzillotta, Francesca R.  
 Lee, Eric Michael  
 Legg, Suzanne  
 Levy, Rene William  
 Lim, Bobbie  
 Luongo, John  
 Mancuso, Ortenzio Luca  
 Marano, Christina Ann

Marchant, Tracy Lynn  
 Marini, Gerry  
 Mark, Jennifer Erin  
 Martin, Richard Stanley  
 Martone, Pina  
 Matthews, Paul Denis  
 May, Adam David  
 McKee, Vickie Lynn  
 McLachlin, Honor C.  
 McPhail, Kristina D.  
 Mendes, Pedro  
 Menzies, Rebecca Jennifer  
 Mitter, Alison Christina  
 Mohammed, Dexter Gerard  
 Montemarano, Carmine  
 Mulligan, Geoffrey, E.  
 Neehdham, Glen  
 Perrotta, Steve John  
 Piccinin, Mara  
 Popovich, Kristina R.  
 Prentice, Leanne Georgette  
 Puri, Sundeep  
 Regts, Brandon Scott  
 Roberts, Chris Richard  
 Roberts, Timothy Michael  
 Robertson, Barbara Lovie  
 Rumpel, Gregory Edward  
 Russell, Shane A.  
 Rutherford, Jamie Darren  
 San Vicente, Derek Ricard  
 Saudade, Sonia  
 Somers, Scott Lawrence  
 Steer, Emma Louise  
 Stewart, Adele  
 Szydluk, Barry  
 Tapp, John Richard  
 Taylor, Stacey Ann  
 Tho, Kim-Hoa  
 Tjan, Jeffrey Howard  
 Tranter, Gordon Charles  
 Tur, Zbigniew  
 Uncao, Mark Paul  
 Vance, David  
 Varro, Robert Denes  
 Vella, Paul Jason  
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# Yes and No sides battle at Lakeshore campus

by Natalie Vujaklija

On October 6, the constitutional debate came to Humber college Lakeshore campus.

Ian Scott, former Attorney General of Ontario, spoke for the "yes" side and Barbara Cameron, Co-chair of NAC, (National Action Committee on the Status of Women) represented the "no" side.

Speaking to a packed auditorium, Scott gave the audience five basic reasons why Canada should vote "yes" to the Charlottetown Accord. One of the reasons Scott cited was the aboriginal right to self-government.

He also believes that it is important to include provinces who feel excluded, and according to him, this accord does that.

"We must build a bridge to Quebec," said Scott. "It may seem that Quebec is getting a lot out of this deal, but I quote Mulrony in answering with 'No Quebec premier has ever received so little, but no Quebec premier has ever asked for so little.'"

According to Scott, the proposed elected senate was designed to build a bridge to the western provinces, which would include them in deciding government policies.

The proposed accord includes a "Canada Clause", which is an effort to list the core values of the country, and give judges a clear idea of Canadian values.

Scott also referred to the accord's Social Charter which sets out policy objectives, for the first time in the constitution, concerning health care and the environment.

However, according to Cameron, this is nothing more than pretty packaging to sell the deal.

"This Social Charter is totally, absolutely unenforceable, it's purpose is to sell this to Canadians," said Cameron.

Cameron believes that this charter would increase the cost of health care and would also restructure it.

"If we vote on this agreement, we are giving the first ministers a blank check," said Cameron.

During her argument, Cameron was quick to point out that this accord is "not a bridge to Quebec", because there is such widespread opposition to it.

One of Cameron's main platforms was her opposition to the Canada Clause. Cameron says she is worried about the implications that this clause could have on the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

"The Canada Clause sets up a hierarchy of rights because some disadvantaged groups are left out," said Cameron.

The Canada Clause makes no mention of people with disabilities or the spousal rights of lesbians and gays, but these are mentioned in the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

This has drawn concern from interest groups like NAC, who feel there is a possibility that the courts will interpret the Canada Clause as meaning that the rights of disadvantaged groups are not as important as other Canadians.

After each side had presented its

argument, there was a general question period which seemed to focus on two main issues: Aboriginal self-government, and the issue of Quebec being given 25 percent of the seats in the House of Commons.

Cameron's main argument against self-government was that it doesn't adequately address the concerns of the Aboriginal women.

"An Aboriginal self-government, like all governments would be able to use the 'not withstanding clause.' This is the clause in the Charter of Rights and Freedoms that allows governments to opt out of equality rights and legal rights," said Cameron.

According to Scott, Cameron is absolutely wrong about section 33.

"The over-ride extends to certain freedoms, freedom of speech, the freedom of assembly, one thing it doesn't extend to under the existing charter is gender equality," said Scott.

Cameron's response to this was that she and Scott were talking about two different sections in the Charter.

"I'm referring to a much more important section, one that has been used in all the successful legal cases advancing women's equality rights, and that can be over-ridden."

Also the legal text revealed that an Aboriginal self-government will be exempt from the democratic rights section of the Charter, which applies to every other government, said Cameron.

The argument for this is that they may have traditional forms of government; however according to Cameron, Aboriginal women are concerned that they may not have guaranteed participation in those governments.

Scott doesn't agree. "When the package was drawn up, the head of the Inuit association was there and she's a woman, the head of the government in the North West Territories was there and she's a woman ... so what business is it of a bunch of middle-class women to say we're not going to let these women have what they want," said Scott.

During question period it became apparent that the only thing that the two sides agreed upon was recognizing Quebec as a distinct society.

However, the agreement on the issue ends there.

Cameron says she strongly supports the request of the people of Quebec for more powers for their own government, but she doesn't think that giving them a 25 percent guarantee of seats in the House of Commons is the way to do it.

"This agreement doesn't really solve Quebec's problems ... it's my belief that this guarantee is going to be a source of very anti-Quebec feelings in the future," said Cameron.

Scott also refuted this.

"The Maritime provinces get more seats than a representation by population government would give them because we recognize that they need to have a larger voice in government ... and considering that Quebec has never had less than 25 per cent of the population of Canada, I don't think this is being unreasonable," said Scott.

*"The Canada Clause sets up a hierarchy of rights because some disadvantaged groups are left out," said Cameron.*

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