

Humber EtCetera

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Here's Ronny!

Ron Jeremy speaks to Humber students

see arts, pg.14

Love is in the Halls

@Skool searches for some of Humber's lovers

see @Skool, pg.17



Scarf ban outrages students

By Brett Walther

France's approval this week of a ban on headscarves and other religious symbols in public schools has outraged Humber's Muslim students.

The ban still needs Senate approval, but little opposition is expected.

"It would be a really uneducated and ignorant thing to do," said Harpreet Dhanoya, 19-year-old marketing student.

She said religious beliefs are key to an individual's identity and threatening French public school students who wear a head scarf, or hijab, with detention or expulsion is an attack on Muslims' religious rights.

"When you stop somebody from practicing a certain aspect of their religion, then you're taking away all rights from that person," said Dhanoya. "It's an infringement because you can't be who you truly are."

French President Jacques Chirac said the legislation is intended to uphold the country's secular foundations.

"There can be no toleration, under the guise of religious freedom, of people contesting the Republic's laws and principles," Chirac said in a speech last December. "Secularity is one of the Republic's great conquests. It is a crucial component of social peace and national cohesion. We cannot allow it to weaken."

Zubeda Vahed, chair of the Federation of Muslim Women, said secularism is a rationale for discrimination.

"It is, from my perspective, a manifestation of racism disguised as secularism," she said. "It's very easy to understand that this is racism on the basis of creed."

"If the French believed in liberty, equality and fraternity, this shouldn't be happening," she said.

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Greenhouse emissions:

Instructor Albert Graves puts the finishing touches on a floral arrangement in the Humber greenhouse. His classes run at the college Tuesday and Thursday nights.

Teachers could strike on March 3

By Kristen King

Faculty from Ontario's 24 colleges will hold a strike vote Feb. 17, ending a year of failed negotiations between OPSEU and the province.

If the final tally favours a strike, teachers could be out as early as March 3.

Shelagh Gill, chair for the Ontario Council of Regents, the province's negotiator, said no further negotiations are scheduled between now and the vote date.

The strike vote is unavoidable, she said.

After 10 months of bargaining, neither side has agreed on pay increases, faculty workloads, increased class size and the lack of fulltime teaching staff employed at Ontario colleges.

In the lead up to the vote, OPSEU is looking to ACAATO, the association of college administrators, for support.

While the province denies that ACAATO is strategically using faculty to gain funding, OPSEU's chief negotiator, Ted Montgomery, in a public letter, implied that ACAATO is hoping the strike will further their

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INSIDE

Police investigate Humber car stereo thefts.....pg. 3

The subversive Valentine speaks out.....pg. 7

Hawks clinch third in Men's V-Ball.....pg. 19

NEWS

Rez net users choosing Rogers over HC net

But IT says rez net bugs now fixed

By Joanne MacDonald



Joanne MacDonald

A satisfied customer – while many students have chosen to go with Rogers, many have stuck with HC net and have said most problems with it have now been fixed.

Dissatisfied net users in residence are who are ordering Internet service from Rogers are not being reimbursed.

Of 35 students surveyed in an informal poll at the residence, 15 use HC net and 20 use Rogers.

One student, who asked that her name not be released, said that HC net is not reliable at all.

She said that residence students should be able to choose if they want to use and pay for HC net.

Allison Alexander, the residence manager, said Internet access is included alongside other utilities such as heating.

There is no reimbursement if a

student gets Rogers, Alexander said, since there is no fee listed for it on the bill.

High speed Internet provided by Rogers costs \$54.95 a month, with an introductory rate of \$20 off first three months.

Some students, however, do prefer HC net to Rogers.

Farnoush Pourhadi, a law clerk student, said, "It's better than Rogers because I find it faster."

Amanda Braithwaite, a second-year student in recreation and leisure, shares Pourhadi's sentiments.

"It's been great since they came in and fixed it, no problems," she said.

According to the IT department, problems at the beginning of the school year were largely due to virus-

es that were circulating. When a particularly bad virus attacked Windows, students had to update the software, clean out the virus and reinstate on the network.

The department assisted the students with getting rid of the viruses and then with accessing the network.

Humber's Chief Information Officer, Mark Naylor, said that there were changes made to the network in November.

These changes made a huge difference in quality of the network, he said, adding that the department spent \$250,000 on new hardware.

Naylor said that there were a lot of problems with viruses, but the new hardware now makes viruses more manageable.

Humber safe from Mydoom virus

First detected in Russia, the virus has spread around the world at a record-setting speed.

By Joseph Phung

The fastest spreading virus in online history, Mydoom, has yet to infect any of Humber's computers.

"It has not been an issue," Humber IT services manager, Valerie Sprenger said.

But when asked what measures have been taken by the department to protect Humber's computers from Mydoom, Sprenger refused to comment.

According to the Symantec Security Response website, Mydoom

is a mass-mailing worm that is spread as an attachment with the extensions .bat, .cmd, .exe, .pif, .scr or .zip.

TechTV online reported that more than 600,000 business and home computers have been infected since it was first discovered on Jan. 26, 2004 in Russia, which is believed to be the home of Mydoom's creator.

"We received a lot of calls in the last two weeks. Over a hundred to a thousand of calls from just the United States," Mac Nacalino said. Nacalino is a technician at Trend Micro in the Philippines.

Symantec analysts say when a computer becomes infected, the worm creates a backdoor into the system and this allows unauthorized access to malicious users, allowing them to download and execute random files.

In addition, computers infected by Mydoom have performed a Denial of Service (DoS) attack on SCO Group's website (www.sco.com). A DoS attack occurs when thousands of computers try to access a particular website at the same time, causing it to crash.

The DoS attacks have hit SCO Group's website so hard that the company has temporarily closed the site down and opened up another web address (www.thescogroup.com).

The Utah-based software company has been the target for this attack because of their legal battle with

IBM Corp., who allegedly stole source code from SCO's Unix operating system and incorporated it into Linux, a free open source operating system that allows anybody to get free access to the source code.

A \$250,000 reward is being offered by SCO Group for information leading to the arrest and prosecution of Mydoom's creator, who they believe is a Linux supporter.

Mydoom is programmed to stop spreading and DoS attacking on Feb. 12, 2004, but Symantec determined that its backdoor component will still continue to function even after this date.

For those who have been infected by this worm, a free removal program is available to download at the Symantec Security Response website (securityresponse.symantec.com).

3 tips to prevent your computer from getting viruses

According to James Chillingworth, president of the Consulting Practice in Mississauga, here's what users should do:

1. Check to see if your anti-virus program has been updated.
2. Check if your version of Windows has all the latest patches. This is done by using the Windows Update feature.
3. Be careful. If you are not familiar with an e-mail address, do not open it.

Some students find meal plan too restrictive

By Joanne MacDonald

Some students in the Humber college residences are finding the prices of their meals difficult to swallow.

"Everything's way too expensive, if I ate three meals a day, [the plan] wouldn't cover it," said Alicia Jarvis, a second year law clerk student.

First year law clerk student Kristen Beaulac agreed that the food in the residence cafeteria was overpriced.

The college has a partnership with Chartwells. They provide the food service and set the prices.

Allison Alexander, the manager of residence, said the prices are approved by the college and are based on food cost, labour and are competitive with other schools.

"The meal plan is set up to go by how much students need during a week."

She added that if students over or under-spend, Food Services will con-

tact them to find out why.

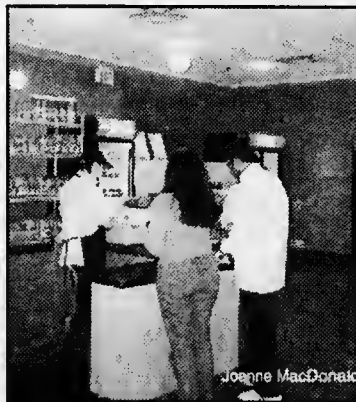
But Brian Bogar, a first-year engineering student, said that he received no notification that he was overspending and running out of money on his plan, and only found out how little he had left when he had asked for a statement.

He said he can't eat next week or have three meals a day because he's going to run out of money by the end of next week.

He said he plans on attending the Food Forum on Wednesday where students can comment on the cafeteria services at the residence.

A budget sheet displayed on the Let's Talk board outside the cafeteria illustrates to students how much money they should have at the end of each weekend throughout the school year.

Alexander said it is decided on a case by case basis whether students with money left over on their meal cards get any back. However she



Joanne MacDonald

Cashed out – residence meal plans often don't last until the end of the year.

added that students sign a contract to spend a certain amount of money for a meal plan.

For information about the residence meal plan, students can go to www.residenc.humberc.on.ca/dining/conditions.htm.



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Province seeking ways to improve disability act

By Dana Brown

Ontario is talking with the public to help find a way to improve the lives of the province's 1.5 million disabled citizens.

Dr. Marie Bountrogianni, the provincial citizenship and immigration minister, said the government is

looking for ways to improve the Ontarians with Disabilities Act, which was passed in December 2001 after many failed attempts.

"I am excited that we are going out into communities to listen to the people who will benefit from strengthened accessibility legislation," she said.

Dr. Bountrogianni and her legislative assistant, Dr. Kuldip Kular, will hold seven public meetings between Feb. 4 and March 23 in the Greater Toronto Area.

The minister will also engage in round table discussions with several public sector organizations and key disability groups, including the Ontario March of Dimes.

At Humber, currently 1,061 students are registered with the Services for Students with Disabilities office.

In accordance with guidelines in the Act, Humber created an accessibility advisory committee of 20 members from various departments, including seven student representatives.

The committee is currently completing an accessibility plan to be made public later this year.

The plan outlines areas where the school has already made improvements, such as the new elevator installed last year at the North campus and the new wheelchair lift at the Lakeshore campus, and what improvements it hopes to make over the coming years.

Carol Anderson, director of facilities management, said the school currently sets aside \$15,000 per year for accessibility issues.

"We get one grant from the government and that's supposed to handle all of the deferred maintenance for the campus," Anderson said. "So you've got accessibility projects that are competing with building equipment that's failing, like boilers, chillers, roofs and rooftop units."

A list of public consultation locations and dates is available online at www.gov.on.ca/citizenship/accessibility.



Trish Patterson

Gone in a flash – Andrea Denes had a stereo stolen from her car last Tuesday. She was told break-ins happened twice in the past two weeks.

Car stereos stolen during break-ins in Humber parking lot

By Trish Patterson

Police are investigating a series of recent vehicle break-ins in parking lot five of the college's North campus over the past couple weeks.

Gary Jaynes, director of public security, said there have been six break-ins since September.

"They get in, they take what they want and they get out very quickly," he said.

Jaynes said campus security has increased their patrols of the parking lots.

"The college does not find this acceptable," Jaynes said. "We are working closely with the Toronto police."

Andrea Denes, a first-year journalism student, had her \$400 car stereo stolen last Tuesday.

When a security guard arrived,

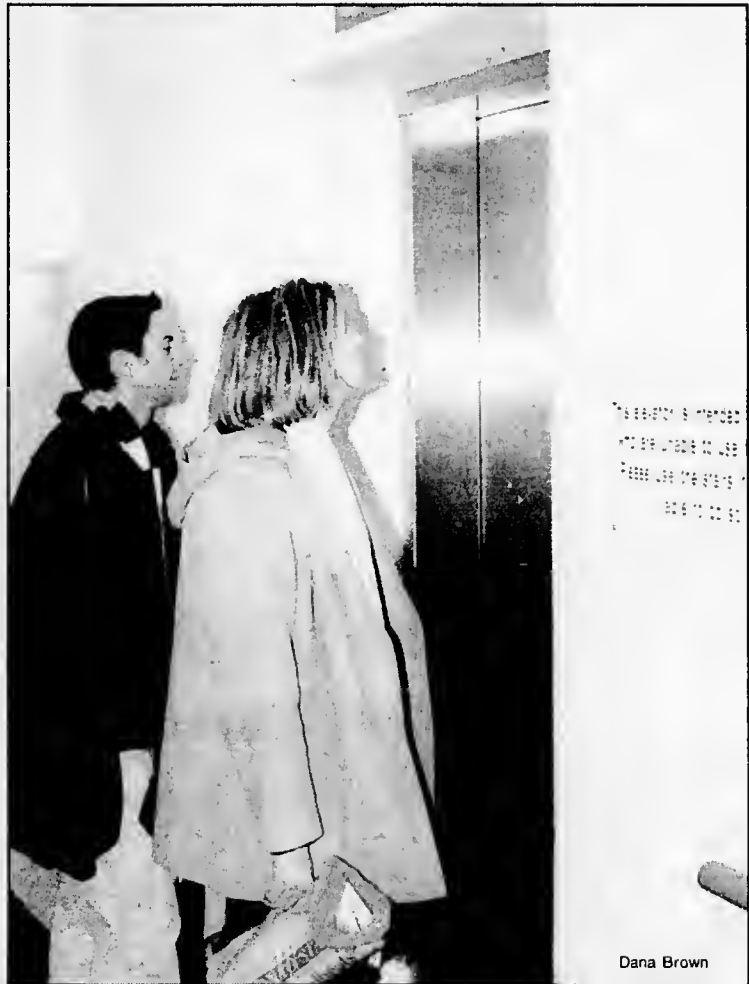
Denes was told that two cars were broken into the previous week in the same lot. She was told to call the police who would conduct an investigation.

Nick, 22, a coronary care student, doesn't feel concerned about leaving his car for the day. "My car is kind of crappy, but if it was a nicer car, I would be a little worried."

While Jaynes didn't have a total value for all the stolen merchandise, he did say that it is significant. In one incident, he said, \$800 worth of stereo equipment was stolen.

Jaynes said that students who park in the Humber lots should ensure their cars are locked and secured properly.

"And for goodness' sake, lock your car and leave your windows up. A person can get into a car and start it in less than two minutes," he said.



Dana Brown

Going up? – Humber has made many improvements to increase accessibility, including installing ramps and elevators.

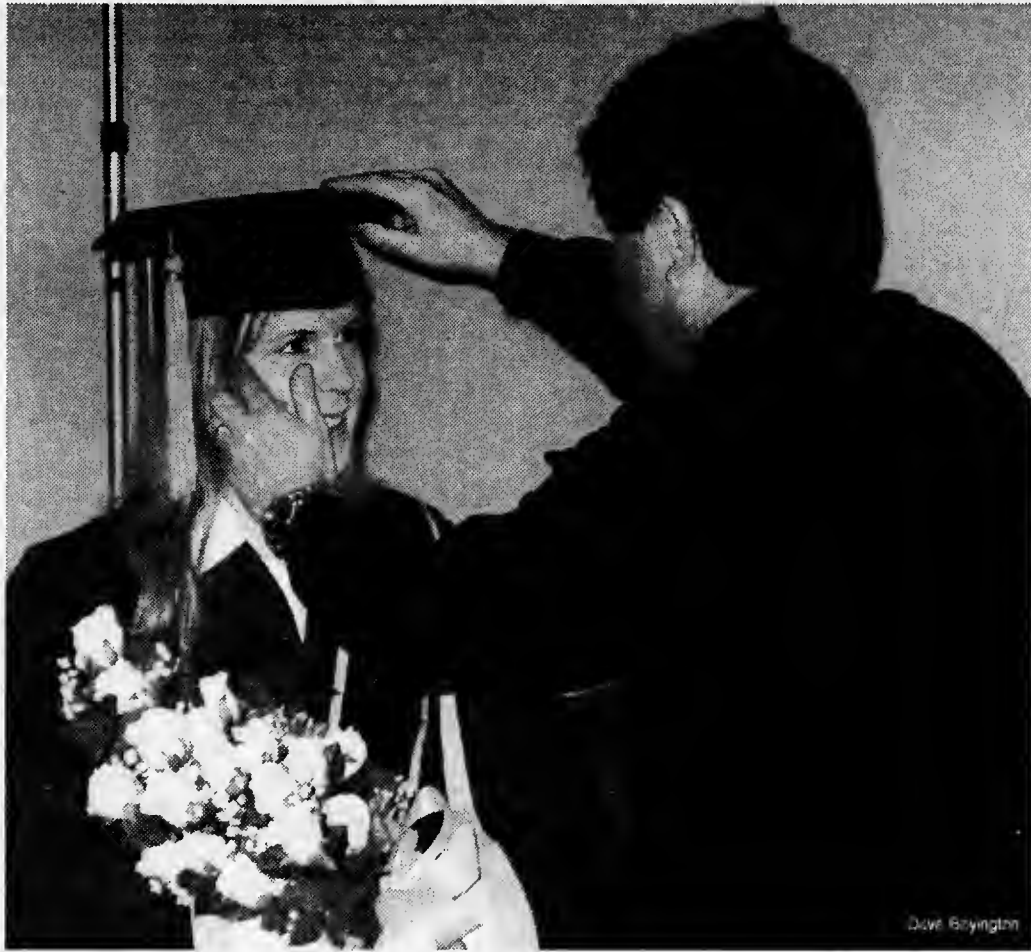
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Smile for the camera — Third-year interior design student Sandra Allison gets a hand from Student Image's Bob Weese before having her grad photo shot. Friday is the last day in February to get your picture taken. Sitting times are still available.

Students run concert for child abuse victims

By Russella Lucien

Tickets are on sale now for Jazz Showcase, a concert organized by hospitality, recreation and tourism students for Gatehouse, an organization providing services to child abuse victims.

The jazz concert, which takes place on Friday, Feb. 20, at 7:30 p.m., will feature three jazz bands from Humber's music program.

For their final year course, the students must plan and promote an event of their choosing, with the proceeds going to charity.

Tammy Hepditch, development manager of the Gatehouse said, "We are just thrilled that we've been selected for the project. We had a phone call from a student interested in donating."

Police Foundations Instructor Art Lockhart created Gatehouse in 1998 with other volunteers to help people affected by childhood abuse.

Second-year hospitality student Arthur Hung said, "It's our class project but also in our hearts we just like to help people."

The concert takes place at the Assembly Hall at Kipling and Lakeshore, close to the Lakeshore

campus.

Students do not receive any seed or start up money and must sell enough tickets to meet their financial demands.

The event must raise enough money to pay for the rental and security deposit on the hall, which is under \$900.

Free parking will be available for those attending the concert and there will be door prizes and refreshments.

Tickets are available at the door or by email at jazz_showcase@hotmail.com.

No talks slated

continued from page 1

own lobbying efforts for increased funding.

Maureen Wall, president of OPSEU local 526, the union representing Humber's faculty, agreed.

"Recently ACAATO released a report to the government that stated a lot of what the faculty have been saying, and fighting for," Wall said.

"The report basically said increased work load and class sizes, and not enough full time staff, is jeopardizing the quality of education we provide."



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HSF helps makes bookstore user-friendly for students

Online bookstore in works; hopes to be up by September

By Michelle Butler

The Humber Students' Federation is working on behalf of students to make the college bookstore a little more user-friendly.

A seven-day return policy, implemented in September as a trial, will continue this semester. This allows students extra time to return books throughout the year, up from the previous two-days.

Valerie Rothlin, HSF president,

said this initiative was a response to students' needs.

"We are currently looking at new ways to facilitate student needs with respect to availability and affordability of reading materials, possibly an online bookstore," she said.

The campus bookstore is run independently by Follets.

An online store has appeal to many students, especially those who need to purchase books that are difficult to find at mainstream retailers.

Sara Emami, a first-year post-

graduate student, said she thinks the online store's a great idea.

"A lot of students commute from outside the GTA, so it's more convenient for them to order books online and have the books delivered to their house. I would use the service for sure," she said.

Although there is no official word on when the online bookstore site

will be up and running, organizers hope it will be operational at the beginning of the new school year in September.

"A lot of students commute from outside the GTA, so it's more convenient for them to order books online"



Sex with Sue – The Sunday Night Sex Show's Sue Johanson gave her annual speech yesterday in the student centre during the HSF's Love Week

Humber breaks record for United Way funds

By Mike Zettel

Humber raised more money for the United Way of Greater Toronto in 2003 than any other year, according to figures released last week.

The college raised a total of \$52,403 last year, up by almost \$10,000 from the year before.

Val Hewson, executive assistant to the president and the board, said the last time Humber even came close to this amount was in 1998, when the college raised just over \$51,000. That year, Hewson said, the

campaign team went flat out and enlisted the help of the people at Woodbine Racetrack.

"It nearly killed us," Hewson said. "But it raised a lot more money because of the awareness and special events put on that year."

"But since then, we've gradually been increasing back up again, which is good."

Hewson, along with Nancy Adamson, Humber's training coordinator, were the college's campaign coordinators.

"Wear what you dare" this evening at Caps

By Trish Patterson

If red roses and candlelit dinners make you nauseous, Humber's campus bar is offering a Valentine's so hot it will melt more than your heart.

Mia Kokawaski, a waitress at Caps said, "It's scandalous. There will be leather, feathers, whips and handcuffs."

Tonight's fourth annual Sex and Fetish Pub is being billed as an "Anti-Valentine's Pub" because of its deviant tone.

Free for students and only \$5 for guests, this sexy night promises to be filled with sassy games and prizes to match.

Titillating contests, such as a

cherry-stem tying race, will prompt contestants to be in their cheekiest form.

The girls' rugby team will also stage different contests.

Naughty prizes will also be awarded throughout the night for "wear what you dare".

Kenny Dimech, Caps operations manager, said the event is usually well attended. "This night is always fun."

Even the staff plan to undress. Christina Decicco, a Caps waitress, said they all collaborate on their costumes.

"This year we're wearing lingerie...maybe!"



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photo of Marjorie Chan by John Lautner



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EDITORIAL

Shocking report

If the honeymoon wasn't already over, it is now.

Prime Minister Paul Martin's new government has been in damage control mode all week over a damning report from Canada's top accountant that implicates Liberals in fraud and corruption.

Between 1997 and 2003, the government shelled out \$250 million for projects that, on the surface, were meant to bolster Canadian unity. The bulk of the money was earmarked for advertising and sponsorship of major sporting and entertainment events.

It turns out high-ranking Liberals and bureaucrats used the sponsorship program to transfer a staggering \$100 million to agencies run by supporters and friends.

We are all for buying a few posters and ads in the name of Canadian unity. But sadly, greed and incompetence have undermined patriotism.

The whole mess conjures up images of shady deals in backrooms, and government pals collecting kickbacks for political favours.

In particular, five Quebec ad companies with Liberal ties received contract after contract for work that, in some cases, was never done. Waste, pure and simple.

taking responsibility

To restore faith in accountability, some heads will have to roll.

For his part, the PM has so far accepted no direct responsibility in the giant scam. Yet he was the finance minister during much of the time sham contracts were being awarded.

We call upon Martin to put partisanship aside and come clean about the sponsorship debacle.

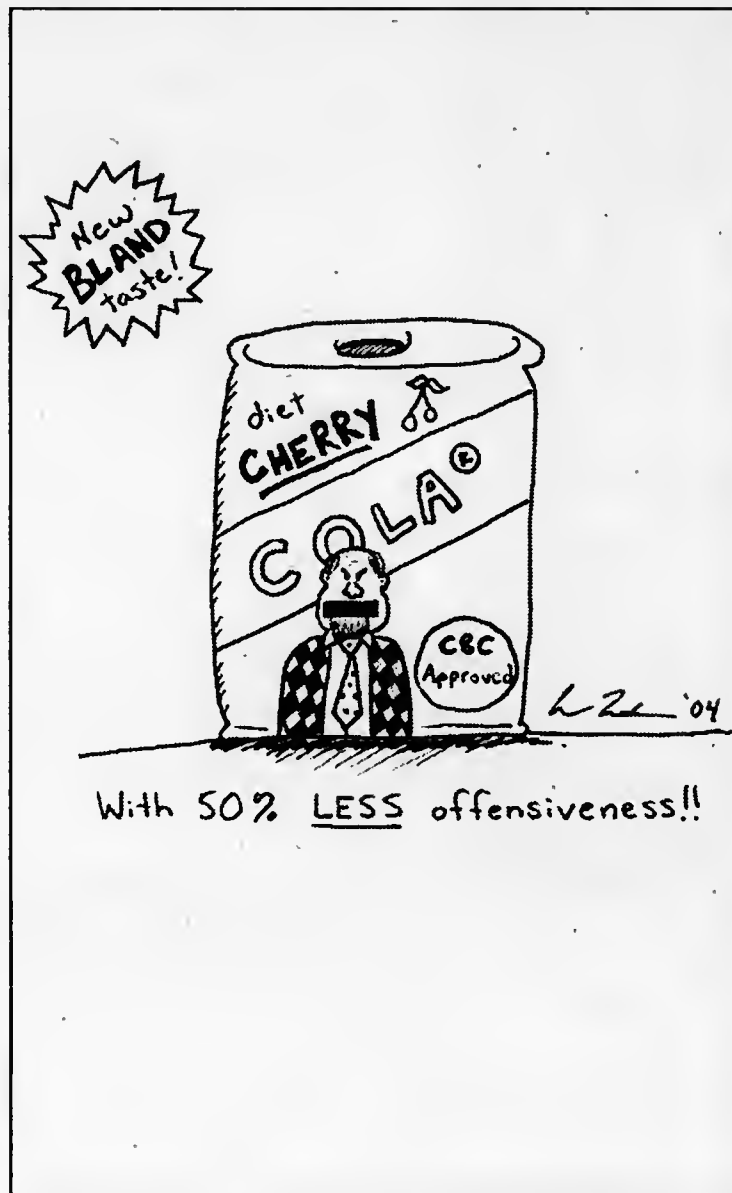
Already one former minister has been fired. What other measures will his government take to make sure this colossal misuse of public dollars isn't repeated?

Simply calling an inquiry into the scandal is no substitute for an immediate and ongoing public airing of who knew what when.

The worst part is that a generation of young Canadians added a new phrase to its vocabulary this week: money laundering.

At a time when governments are trying to reach out to the 16-24 set, this is a catastrophe that can only feed the widespread mistrust and apathy young people already feel towards politicians.

\$100 million is a hefty price tag for a few maple leaves on a banner in la belle province. But the real cost may be that our young people will become even more jaded about our political system.



Attacking religious freedom in schools

The government of France is on its way to banning the wearing of all religious symbols in their public schools. This would include large crosses, skullcaps, headscarves and turbans.

French legislators believe the absence of these items will create a secular and culturally neutral education system.

But by not allowing students and staff to wear religious symbols in schools, the government is preventing them from practicing their religion.

And in restricting an individual's

right to practice his religion, the French government is thereby denying personal freedoms.

In a multi-cultural country, such as France, there is bound to be a large variety of religions.

Followers of these religions have the right to practice their faith and should not be prevented from carrying on with religious traditions as long as they do not cause harm to others.

Is racial intolerance so high in France that the government must resort to such draconian measures? Surely, discrimination is not the

answer to diversity?

Most of the items that are subjected to the ban are not a matter of fashion.

They are an integral manifestation of an individual's beliefs and devotion to their faith.

If a student wishes to wear a headscarf, doing so will not affect the quality of her schoolwork.

As well, it will not interfere with the education of her classmates.

Religious symbols will

neither offend nor provoke anyone who is an open minded member of a democratic society.

The French government should reconsider its actions and listen to the growing numbers of protesters throughout the country and around the world.

If they refuse to do so, they may create a misguided precedent in the Western world.

**Write letters to the editor at:
humber_etc@yahoo.ca**

Public Opinion

Compiled by Vanessa Mariga and Jelani Lowe



Gervais DeSouza, 1st year LBS

"It's a shame. It's our tax dollars and they've wasted them."



Bruce French, 1st year electronics eng.

"Disappointed. Are they going to do something about this or just move on. I have no idea."



Ray Williams, 2nd year Business

"Everybody seems. I'm not surprised."



Laura Epps, 2nd year law clerk

"I'm not really up on political stuff, but hearing the news really pisses me off."

This week's question is: On Tuesday, the auditor-general released her report that the federal government has misused \$100 million. What's your reaction to that?

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OPINION

The anti-Valentine

It's just a day like any other



Kevin Rabjohn

of flowers.

Guys, I'll let you in on a secret, something that begins beautiful but withers and dies after four days isn't the perfect symbolic gift for your significant other.

Perhaps it's a reminder that as a couple you had better enjoy today because in a couple of weeks, you may be wishing the other ceased to exist.

Then, there's the box of chocolates. They're sweet; they're an aphrodisiac and it's almost guaranteed that after she's devoured the entire box, she'll swear she's put on a hundred pounds.

"Honey, do you think I look fatter than last week?"

"No dear, you look beautiful as always," as you think to yourself: damn why'd I have to get her chocolates when a teddy bear is a perfectly

suitable low calorie substitution.

Maybe gifts are not the problem with Valentine's Day.

Nobody objects to getting a gift from someone they love, but where does this whacky holiday come from? Who decided that we needed to dedicate a day to love?

Believe it or not, it predates even Christmas.

It goes all the way back to ancient Rome, when marriage was banned by Emperor Claudius II to bolster military enrollment.

On Feb. 14, around the year 270 AD, St. Valentine was executed for performing marriages.

His martyrdom came on the eve of the ancient feast of Lupercalia, honouring Juno, Queen of the Roman Gods and Goddesses (a.k.a. the goddess of women and marriage).

The feast included a ceremony

where the names of young women were placed in a box and drawn by men. The pairs would be partners for the duration of the festival.

I guess this is where the idea of having a secret valentine came from. The pastors of the early Christian Church in Rome soon did away with the drawing of female names, replacing them with saints.

I wonder how many people actually consider the holiday one of religious background?

At least the name drawing and feasting sort of explain giving chocolates and celebrating togetherness. As for gifts, well, they're sort of the easy way out.

We live in a time where often the only means of showing someone you care is by buying them something (the more expensive, the more you care).

I still really don't understand, but I do think that this year, I'll write my secret valentine a poem; at least that comes from the heart and not the shopping mall.

Pop culture junkie:

A step in the right direction



Nick Rapp

Hip Hop has been an important form of musical expression for 20 years but until this week, the genre had never won popular music's biggest prize. The long overdue moment finally arrived Sunday night when hip hop duo OutKast was awarded the Grammy for best album.

It was nice to see the Recording Academy, who picks the Grammy winners, finally got its act together. The presentation represented the first time a bonafide hip hop album has won the award.

In 1997, *The Miseducation of Lauryn Hill* came close to breaking through that glass wall with its blend of R&B, soul and hip hop. It was a much-deserved win but unlike OutKast's latest, Hill's produced several radio friendly singles that weren't likely to shock or offend.

it's about time

It is a shame the Academy hasn't stepped forward before this and honoured some of the most groundbreaking albums in music history. It's hard to believe that Public Enemy's *It Takes A Nation Of Millions to Hold Us Back* (1988) and *Fear Of A Black Planet* (1990) weren't considered the best albums of their respective years.

Those two landmark albums were outdone by Bonnie Raitt's *Nick Of Time* (1988) and Natalie Cole's infinitely forgettable, *Unforgettable* (1990).

With all due respect to these two women, their albums didn't exactly change the face of music.

a new era

The recent success at the Grammy awards by artists such as OutKast and Eminem are proof that hip-hop genre is making inroads but this doesn't guarantee real change.

It is doubtful the Academy is going to forget its love for old and sometimes dead, white guys.

Despite this, the Academy has made a good step forward in honouring OutKast. By doing so, they have finally gave the hip hop genre the respect it deserves.

"A teddy bear is a perfectly suitable low calorie substitution"

Campus activities

HSF events ignore reality of mature student population



Mike Zettel

all of this? This is what student life is all about?

HSF seems to think we're all like the people you see in those "Wild On Tape" specials.

Now before you say, "this guy needs to lighten up a little," realize I'm not the type of person who gets worked up about something just because someone might find it offensive.

I agree completely with last week's column about the Janet Jackson incident. That was blown way out of proportion.

"This is what our student fees are being used for?"

But this is different. It's not that I'm offended by the content of these activities.

It's just that taken together there seems to be a message being sent: if this isn't your idea of fun, you're too

uptight or too old.

HSF seems to think the student population is entirely made up of young kids who are going wild because they're away from home and parents for the first time in their life.

mature students

That's not the reality, at least not all of it. A sizeable percentage of the student body are mature students who may not have an interest in this type of event.

When they see this type of events, what are they to do but shake their heads and ask, "this is what our student fees are being used for?"

However this is not about whether or not HSF is wasting our money; that's a different topic entirely.

The point I'm trying to make is there's a tone being set here. These events appeal to a very narrow demographic, one most often found in Daytona on spring break.

I just wonder, when HSF plans their events, do they take into consideration what might appeal to an older, more mature crowd or do they just assume that mature students don't really care about campus life?

Or is it just me?

Maybe I just woke up on the wrong side of the bed this morning. Maybe I'm just cranky. Or maybe I just have too much time on my hands.

Whatever the reason, I'm noticing a trend with this year's HSF activities and I'm a little bothered by it.

outrageous events

There was the thong give away and the "pimps and ho's" pub night. Then it was strippers.

Then as part of Love Week, the HSF staged Guess Who's Bangin. And now HSF brings us the X-rated film star Ron Jeremy to our student centre right beside the cafeteria where people buy food.

What exactly does HSF mean by

Reality Control

with Brad & Nick

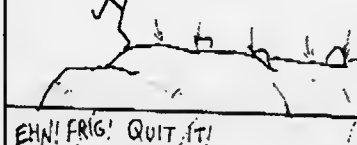
SOMETIMES WHEN I WANT TO GET AWAY FROM EVERYTHING I COME TO THIS QUARRY..



IT HELPS ME FORGET ABOUT ALL THE TURMOIL IN THE WORLD. IT GIVES ME A REAL SENSE OF TRANQUILITY..



PLUS, I CAN WHIP ROCKS AT BRAD WHEN HE TRIES TO GET AWAY FROM EVERYTHING IN HIS BOAT!



EHN! FRIG! QUIT IT!

IN FOCUS

Behind the pink curtain: sex toys



Naughty or nice? A mannequin decorates the window of Seductions Love Boutique on Yonge St.

It's a dangerous job but someone had to do it...

Intrepid Humber EtCetera reporter Brookes Merritt recently garnered himself an invitation to a women's only novelty party.

Hot, bothered and embarrassed, he joined the group to cover ground few men have tread before. Here's his report.

When 15 women stay in on a Saturday night and gossip over red wine, it's called a girls' night.

When one of them brings a suitcase full of dildos and vibrators, it's called a sex toy party.

Rachael didn't know what to expect when she offered to host one in her Alberta home.

"I'd never even heard of a sex toy party before. An acquaintance offered to set it up if I could get some girlfriends together; I thought it might be interesting," she said.

The premise is simple. It's a Tupperware party but with sex toys. A representative is invited to the host's home to display a variety of toys. At the evening's end, guests can purchase whatever they wish, by privately selecting their desired toys and scurrying away with a bag of goodies.

Lisa Gold the evening's MC, from Spice It Up Novelties addressed the group in Rachael's den while the women relaxed on couches.

"I'm going to begin by showing you some lotions and massage oils," Gold said. A few excited titters from the group were barely audible over groans from other women eager to get on with it.

The party was presented with the expected menu; beginning with appe-

tizers like Nipple Nibbler, a flavoured arousal lubricant, Liquid Virgin, a lotion designed to plump up the labia and tighten the vagina and Female Response, a cream intended to sensitize and engorge the clitoris (a sample of which was discreetly placed in the bathroom for the ladies to try). Foreplay toys like feather ticklers, soft hand-cuffs and anal lube followed.

Gold then passed around bigger toys, including a shocking array of latex dildos, vibrators and vibrating clitoris stimulators called "bullets."

Naney, a 23-year-old university student, expressed her interest almost immediately.

"I can't say I've ever used one of those," she said, as Gold passed around the Beaver Twister, an elaborate battery-operated dildo with swirling beads about the shaft, a tip that moves in small circles and a bullet coated in soft silicone to stimulate the clitoris.

The party concluded with private sales, in which the women met individually with Gold to make their purchases.

"This part is usually pretty secretive," Gold explained. "I've set up a display room upstairs where you can inspect the toys more closely and make your choices."

The women entered the room quickly and quietly, sometimes alone, sometimes in pairs. Each exited with a discreet brown paper bag and departed with few words.

Gold explained why so many women enjoy the party. "The allure of the parties is their social nature," she said. "They foster a more comfortable environment for women to buy toys than in sex shops."

Jose Vicente is the manager of Seductions Love Boutique on Yonge Street. He maintains that the popularity of sex shops is on the rise and that women frequent his store just as often as men.

"Slowly but surely, business has been getting better since we first opened our doors here five years ago," he said.

Vicente also manages a boutique in Montreal. "It's surprising. In Montreal, our clientele is mostly men, I'd say about 70 per cent but over here it's about even," he said.

With Valentine's Day just a few days away, Seductions is busy. Most of the customers are female and Vicente knows exactly what they want.

"Everyone loves the Fuzuoku 9,000," he said. The "intimate massager" is a tiny vibrator with a latex tip that slips over the fingertip. Dr. Sue Johanson has lauded it as the best valued sex toy on the market on *The Sunday Night Sex Show*. It's Seductions' best seller, among men and women.

But Vicente said the toy to be had by all women is a dildo like Gold's Beaver Twister, which costs anywhere between \$100 to \$200. Some other types are the Techno Rabbit and the Passionate Dolphin, named for the shape of the silicone or latex sleeve that covers the bullet.

"If men could only be born with one of these for a penis," Vicente imagines wishfully, "women wouldn't need their toys anymore."

Battery-operated intimacy

More women turn to toys for satisfaction

But doctors warn that women push the right button only for the right reasons

By Brookes Merritt

In the past, discussion about women's bodies and sexuality has been taboo.

But for the past six years, a Toronto-based sexual awareness store, has been trying to change all that. Chanelle Gallant, manager of Good For Her and her staff have strong opinions about the challenges women face in their effort to become sexually self-aware.

"A lot of young women have inaccurate ideas of sex. They are never taught to understand the way their bodies work," she said.

She's critical of how our culture represses women's exploratory instincts, and believes strongly that self-pleasure plays a large role in sexual satisfaction. "Masturbating is the best thing a woman can do for herself."

"For years young women lived under the assumption that an orgasm could only be reached from penetration" she said. "But the only reason we have a clitoris is to orgasm and our culture has only recently begun to acknowledge that."

Good For Her started after its owner, Carlyle Jansen, refused to believe she was anorgasmic (unable

to orgasm). She shirked sexual rhetoric and set out to educate herself and others about achieving sexual pleasure, and finally discovered orgasms in her late-twenties.

If Gallant's clientele are any indication, women often don't seem to take action until their mid-twenties.

"It's like they suddenly say 'okay, you know what, all this stuff I've been taught and believed for years is just not working, it just can't be right.' That's when they go out and buy a vibrator. That's when they go out and learn that the belief they held for so long, that they were anorgasmic, was wrong," Gallant said. "That's when a sex toy can really do some good."

It's not surprising then, that the

thought of being anorgasmic can also cause anxiety and psychological stress that can most certainly prevent a woman from climaxing.

David Rubinstein is one half of a couples-therapy team that understands the effects anxiety can have on a woman. He and his wife Louise Dorfman, run a practice in Thornhill.

"The question to be addressed is what purpose the sex toys serve," Rubinstein said.

While he acknowledges that toys can be used to enhance sexual experience, he cautioned against their use in the case that anxiety would prohibit the woman from climaxing.

"If there were an underlying psychological reason for why a woman was not achieving orgasm,

the use of toys could address it," Rubinstein said.

"From a psychological perspective, the ability to orgasm can be determined by a woman's ability to tolerate the anxiety of intimacy," Rubinstein said.

He suggests that failure to orgasm due to anxiety can be a communication problem stemming from a psychological barrier not being dealt with.

"If a toy is routinely being used as a means of running away from anxiety, if it were reinforcing avoidance behaviour, I would not condone it," Rubinstein said. "Couples must learn to tolerate, cope and address the anxiety of intimacy. Sex toys should be used to enhance that intimacy, not create it."

Humber EtCetera

Peel and stick contraception now in Canada

By Erica Salyi

A new birth control option which *TIME* magazine called "The Coolest Invention of 2002," has finally come to Canada and will soon be available to Humber students.

Ortho Evra is the first and only female hormonal contraceptive to come in the form of a patch. Top fashion models sported the patch as a "fashion statement," during the 2003 New York Fashion Week.

Evra is a slim beige patch containing the hormones norelgestromin and ethinyl estradiol. The hormones are absorbed through the skin in the course of a week. The patch is worn continuously for one week and is replaced with a new patch once a week for three weeks. The fourth week is patch free.

According to clinical trials conducted by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, the patch is just as effective as birth control pills at preventing pregnancy.

But was less effective on women who weighed more than 198 pounds.

A May 2001 study published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, showed that the once-a-week dose had a positive effect on a woman's ability to use the patch correctly.

The trials discovered that the potential side-effects of the patch were similar to birth control pills, and included nausea, blood clots and stroke. Like pills, the patch does not give any protection against sexually transmitted diseases.

Humber Health Centre staff nurse, Penny Ecclestone, said one

advantage for students using the patch is that it rids users of the need to remember the pill everyday. The patch has the same level of hormones as low dose birth control pills like Alesse and can be worn through all sorts of activities.

General Arts and Science student Danielle Bouchard was concerned that you have to wear it on your body.

"Its like wearing a sticker for a week," she said. "What if people can see it?"

Evra users can put the patch on one of four areas on the body: the buttocks, abdomen, upper torso (but not on breasts) or on the upper outer arms. The patch is supposed to stay on the skin through bathing, swimming and everyday activity.

Marg Anne Jones, manager for the Health Centre, said that the patch will be available to Humber students sometime in the near future. She stressed that for Health Services to carry the Evra patch, a genuine

interest from the students is needed. She said they would have to do a trial run with the patch to see if students would buy it.

The patch is expected to retail at \$20 for a months supply. Pills like Alesse, Lo-Estrin and Triquilar are available for \$8 a pack at the Health Centre.

The Humber Health Centre has information available and nurses on hand to answer any questions about the Ortho Evra birth control patch. Students can also visit www.orthoevra.com for more information.



Nurse Penny Ecclestone shows the birth control patch is available in Canada.



Humber College students Diana Baddour and Nigel D'Sylva say they exhibit different non-verbal signs on dates. The two friends also use different approaches to meet people.

Let me hear your body talk

By Judie Larracey

When 21-year-old Diana Baddour, a third-year computer programming analyst, is in a social situation and spots a guy she's interested in, she takes the direct approach.

"I would walk up to the guy and start a conversation," she said.

Her friend Nigel D'Sylva, 26, also a third-year computer programming analyst, favours less overt signals, such as a smile. "I smile and see what their reaction is... and if they smile back, I go talk to them."

Psychologists and sociologists have long touted body language as a legitimate form of communication. In fact, according to many body language experts, up to 90 per cent of communication is non-verbal.

Vera Held, body language expert at MochaSofa.com and author of *How Not to Take It Personally*, a book about communication strategies, gives some advice for Valentine's Day.

"You want to go out there and meet and greet, be open and available and say 'hi'. But at the same time, you don't want to crowd anybody. So give people their space."

Held notes that in North America, people value their personal space. When at a bar or a cocktail party, people are generally more sociable and friendlier and have fewer inhibitions. In these contexts, she says body language can take on significant meaning as people tend to attract or reject potential romantic partners.

Author Harry von Bommel says a lot can be learned about people's interactions just through gestures and eye contact.

"Direct eye contact is very aggressive and can be disrespectful. In Asian or Middle Eastern countries eye contact may be considered rude," Bommel said.

Held offers a major tip for people out socializing on Valentine's Day.

"Always take your cue from the other person. If you're standing too

close to someone and you see them move back, that's a message. If you're standing with someone and they move forward, that is also a message."

Men and women differ widely in their body language. Bommel notes that if two women are having a conversation, they typically sit across from each other and make eye contact while they are talking. Men, however, tend to feel more comfortable sitting side by side, not making eye contact.

Couples on the other hand, Bommel says, will sit somewhat parallel so they do not have to make continuous eye contact.

Bommel quotes a survey he came across, which stated that physical contact on a date varies considerably depending on different cultures. In an hour-long meal, people of Latin culture would touch each other about 64 times, whereas a North American pair would touch three times, and a British couple would not touch at all.

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LIFE

Going back for seconds

Vintage shops breathe new life into old clothes

By Abigail Avila

You've envied her from afar as she walks down the halls dressed head to toe in 70s chic. Crocheted hat, fringed suede jacket and hip-hugging jeans.

But don't bother looking for her outfit in the mall.

Ditto for downtown boutiques.

Her secret, ladies and gentlemen, is shopping second-hand.

No longer strictly for the thrifty spender, second-hand shopping has become an outlet for people to create individual style at only a small fraction of the original price.

Jo-Anne Lauzer has been second-hand shopping on and off for most of her life and estimates that 85 per cent of her wardrobe consists of used items. In 2000, she turned what had been a weekend pastime into a business when she founded *second-handsavvy.com*, a website devoted to everything vintage.

"My whole lifestyle has been revolving in this industry," Lauzer said from her B.C. base, "You can maintain a certain lifestyle without breaking the bank and get really nice stuff."

studies

Recent studies from the Salvation Army's National Recycling Operations indicated that second hand customers come from all economic and social backgrounds.

"These days there is a real cross section of second-hand shoppers. A few of my friends are die-hards who only shop second-hand, but they are professionals who make good money, but like it as a sport. There are those

who have to do it out of necessity, those who enjoy the whole process of second-hand shopping and those who would not rather spend full price on anything," Lauzer said.

Humber College's Fashion Arts Program Coordinator, Susanne Robertson said second-hand shopping has become a trend among students mostly for its financial benefits.

"They can get something relative-

ond-hand shopping is a growing trend in the fashion industry.

Tara Magee, a second-year fashion arts student, said she shops at thrift stores about once a month to find "some really cool stuff".

In addition to looking good and stretching your dollar, many second-hand shoppers don't know that they are sometimes contributing to charity and to saving the environment.

"Toronto probably does not realize this as much because "many have tunnel vision," Advanced Photography student Lindsay Hanaka said.

Lauzer said the environmental aspect comes from the fact that donated merchandise reduces the total amount of textiles in garbage landfills.

non-profit

Second-hand stores are either run as non-profit charities, charity-affiliated businesses or as a private businesses. The Salvation Army and Goodwill thrift stores are not-for-profit operators, which means proceeds raised from donated merchandise go back to the charitable work. "For a lot of the second-hand stores out there, especially the consignment stores, if things don't sell for two or three months they are donated to charity," she said.

"Second-hand shopping has become like a badge of honor," Lauzer said, "10 to 20 years ago people were ashamed and embarrassed to say they buy second-hand, but now they are proud to say they bought something of value for such a good price," he added.

Cheap Chic

So how do you spot the perfect bargain? Jo-Anne Lauzer has provided some tips for the most successful second-hand shopping experience!

* Shop around and go to shops more than once. The stock is always changing so you'll never know what you'll find.

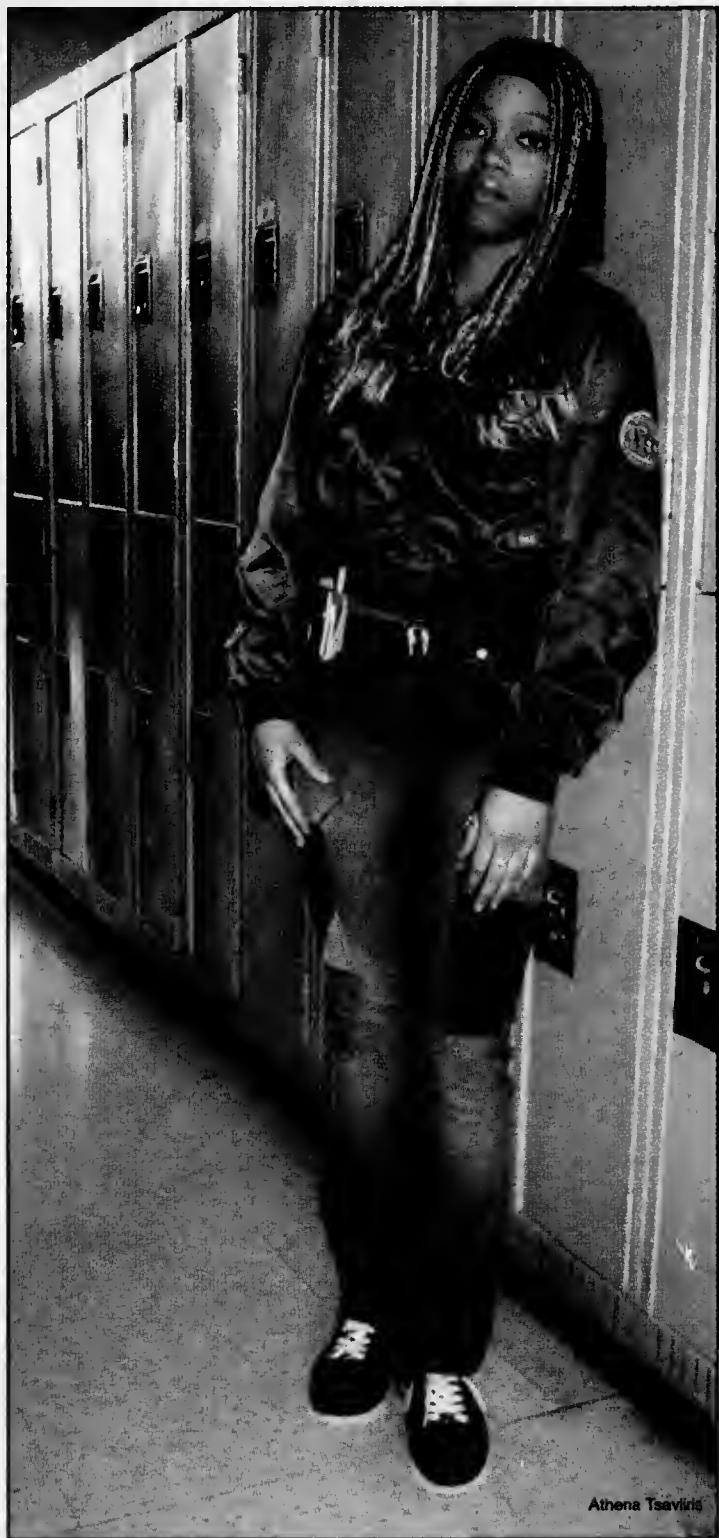
* Be patient. If you know what you are looking for, know that it's going to take time to find it.

* If you see something you like, grab it. Odds are that it won't be there the next time you come back for it.

* Know your prices. Some thrift stores are getting a little savvy. So know your prices. If you are going to do a little mending or dry cleaning take that into the cost of the merchandise.

ly new for very little money. Another benefit is they can find styles and looks that they normally can't find in full price locations."

Second-hand shopping has become a place to get retro merchandise such as 80s clothing, Robertson said, noting that the upsurge in sec-



Paula Bartley, 18, uses her style to stand out from the crowd.



A weekly look at Humber style.

Name: Paula Bartley

Program: Business Administration, First year

What is Style? Everything that let's you express yourself.

Describe your style in one word? Urban.

What's on your fashion list? A closet full of Baby Phat Clothing.

How important is your style to you? Very important. It allows me to express myself. It's part of my uniqueness.

What's going to be the next big thing in 2004? Half-pant, half shorts.

Who's your style icon? Aaliyah.

What inspires your style? Hip-Hop, Urban Culture.

Think you've got the look? Contact us at (416) 675-6622, ext. 4514 or drop by our newsroom (rm L231).

Compiled by Jelani Lowe



Kensington Market has become a mecca for second-hand shoppers in the Toronto area.



Under the thread – Marco Aguiar had his eyebrows done in the name of journalism.

Shape up those brows

Beauty secrets aren't just for women anymore as men discover the wonders of shapely eyebrows

By Marco Aguiar

Until I got my eyebrows threaded (yes men, threaded), I didn't truly believe that women had a higher pain tolerance than men.

My sympathies, ladies. I thought of you, continually plucking, tweezing and waxing, as the excruciating procedure brought tears to my eyes.

Threading is an old-fashioned method of hair removal. The aesthetician ties the thread in a lasso-type knot and removes hair by tightening that knot. You can hear the thread twist and tighten just before the pain comes. It creates a Pavlovian response that leaves you cringing in anticipation of the next yank.

Threading hurts much more than waxing, but it doesn't damage your skin, says Gilla Fallah, owner and operator of Gilla Aesthetics at Yorkville. "With waxing, when you remove hair, you're pulling skin as well. That ages the skin."

"Every hair is connected to a hair ball and at the end of every hair ball are nerve endings. It's a natural reaction [to cry]," Fallah said.

She was nice enough to hand me a tissue.

An aesthetician of 15 years, Fallah understood my pain. "Men are in more pain, but they don't complain. I know. I can see it in their faces," she said.

Eyebrow shaping is a relatively new thing for men, she said.

"Hair removal is something that men want to do, but they never talk about it. But, more and more, I'm seeing them," she said.

Men make up 35 to 40 per cent of her clientele.

Some men hesitate to have their eyebrows shaped for fear of being perceived as feminine.

"Men are in more pain... I can see it in their faces."

Business administration student Perminder Singh said that he started getting his eyebrows shaved at his barber when he noticed that he was developing a uni-brow.

"It's kinda pansy to admit it," he said. Even though, he said that he does get a lot of compliments from girls.

Karen Serre, a hospitality, recreation and tourism student, said that her ex-boyfriend had a uni-brow, but refused to get rid of it.

"He was worried that by waxing his eyebrows people would think he

was homosexual," she said.

But Fallah dismisses the notion that only gay men visit the aesthetician. "They're all husbands, fiancées, and boyfriends of clients I have had over the years," she said.

Graphic design student Sonny Gill said that eyebrow shaping is for 'pretty boys.'

"I don't care what girls care about," he said. "You gotta be yourself."

But, later Gill admitted that if he had a uni-brow, he'd get it done.

Early childhood education students Julie Popova, Amy Bushell and Michelle Saunders all know at least one guy who gets his eyebrows waxed. They said they aren't turned off by men who do their eyebrows.

"As long as you can't really tell," Saunders said. They said it's men with unsightly brows that really bother them. "I wouldn't date a guy with a uni-brow," Popova said.

"Uni-brows are definitely an issue," Bushell agreed.

So what's next? Speedo wax? Or permanent full-body hair removal?

"I'm bringing laser in next month," Fallah said. "And I already have 15 men booked."

City's Muslims to oppose ban

continued from pg. 1

Although all religious symbols would be included in the ban, including Jewish skullcaps and Sikh turbans, Vahed said the policy targets Muslims, since they are the largest minority faith community in France, comprising nearly ten per cent of the population.

The greatest risk of discrimination lies at the "intersection of faith, religion, gender and colour," said Vahed. "If you're female, you're Muslim, and you wear a hijab, you've got three whammies."

Vahed said that France's ban on religious symbols in public schools may be merely the beginning of a surge of infringements on the religious rights of minorities.

"You bring in the no-hijab rule, then you bring in the next rule,"

Vahed said, drawing a parallel to anti-Semitism in Nazi Germany. "You have to go and register, you have to put on a band or a star, and you slowly eliminate, eliminate, eliminate..."

Addressing the proposed ban in December, Chirac denied it was racially-motivated and vowed to renew efforts in battling xenophobia, racism and anti-Semitism.

Humber student Dhanoya said France's five million-strong Muslim community will fight the legislation. "I know there will be some people who will just comply," she said, "but I think there are more people who will oppose it, and do everything that they can to change it."

Vahed agreed, pointing out that Toronto's Muslim community has shown solidarity by circulating numerous petitions and letter writing

campaigns to newspapers.

Humber's Muslim Students' Association President Shuaib Hussain said the MSA would not be planning an organized protest.

He declined to comment on the situation in France, noting that the association was devoted to religion rather than politics.

"Our main purpose is to provide facilities for prayers," he said.

Vahed agreed that the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms is a powerful tool, but warned that until such rights are recognized globally, Canadians should not be complacent.

"People should be alarmed whether they belong to a faith community or not," she said. "When a government brings in a policy that erodes the rights of any group of people in that country, then beware, because you may be the next in line."

Opinion of the day:

Valentine's Day don'ts

By Andreea Denes

Valentine's Day is coming and I'm not going to miss the little man with the curly blonde wig this year.

Cupid has missed his mark too many times in my past. I'm still recuperating from last year's disaster.

Unless artificial flowers are the new "it" gift, I was a fool for not appreciating my boyfriend's thoughtfulness.

But let's see what other gifts make it onto the "bad gifts" line-up:

1. No gift at all. Some women may claim they don't celebrate V-Day. Do not believe them.

2. Cards and chocolates. Sweet, but a little too Shopper's Drug Mart.

3. Recycled gifts. Need I say more?

4. Teddy bears. Unless you're planning on spending V-Day with your little sister, please rethink this purchase.

5. And drum roll, please. The dreaded appliance. Practical? Most definitely, but not on this occasion. This gift will never be forgotten. Or forgiven.

Sure, Valentine's Day is a high-pressure holiday. But listen to both your heart and brain when you're shopping. Best gift? Head for the jewellery counter.

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BUSINESS

Organic food business booming

By Lauren Gilchrist

Going organic has never been so easy.

Once limited to farmers' markets and roadside stands, organic products are now a staple in downtown grocery stores. Organic foods are produced without pesticides, fertilizers or artificial additives.

According to Agriculture and Agri-food Canada, the organic market in Canada is growing 20 per cent annually. Sales of organic products worldwide are estimated at \$20 billion.

Andrea Peart, director of health and environment for the Sierra Club of Canada, says going organic no longer means a long trek into the country to buy a head of broccoli.

"Organic foods are definitely more accessible than they used to be," she said. The growing accessibility is largely due to increasing demand.

"It's the fastest growing area of the food industry, internationally as

well as in Canada," Pro Organics marketing VP Gunta Vitins said.

Part of this growth is due to the expansion of organic products into chain grocery stores. Loblaw Co. started carrying organic products three years ago under the President's Choice label and now sells 250 organic products.

Geoffrey Wilson, Loblaw vice-president of industry and investor relations, says organic products are doing very well. He said Loblaw plans to expand its line. Loblaw currently sells organic fruits and vegetables, hot salsa, pretzel twists, popcorn, chips and cookies.

But a trip to the grocery store isn't the only way to go organic. Green Earth Organics, based in Toronto, delivers organic foods to your home or office. Ordering vegetables, fruits and other organic products is as simple as calling their hotline. For either \$35 or \$45 a box of fresh organic food can be on your doorstep either weekly or bi-weekly.

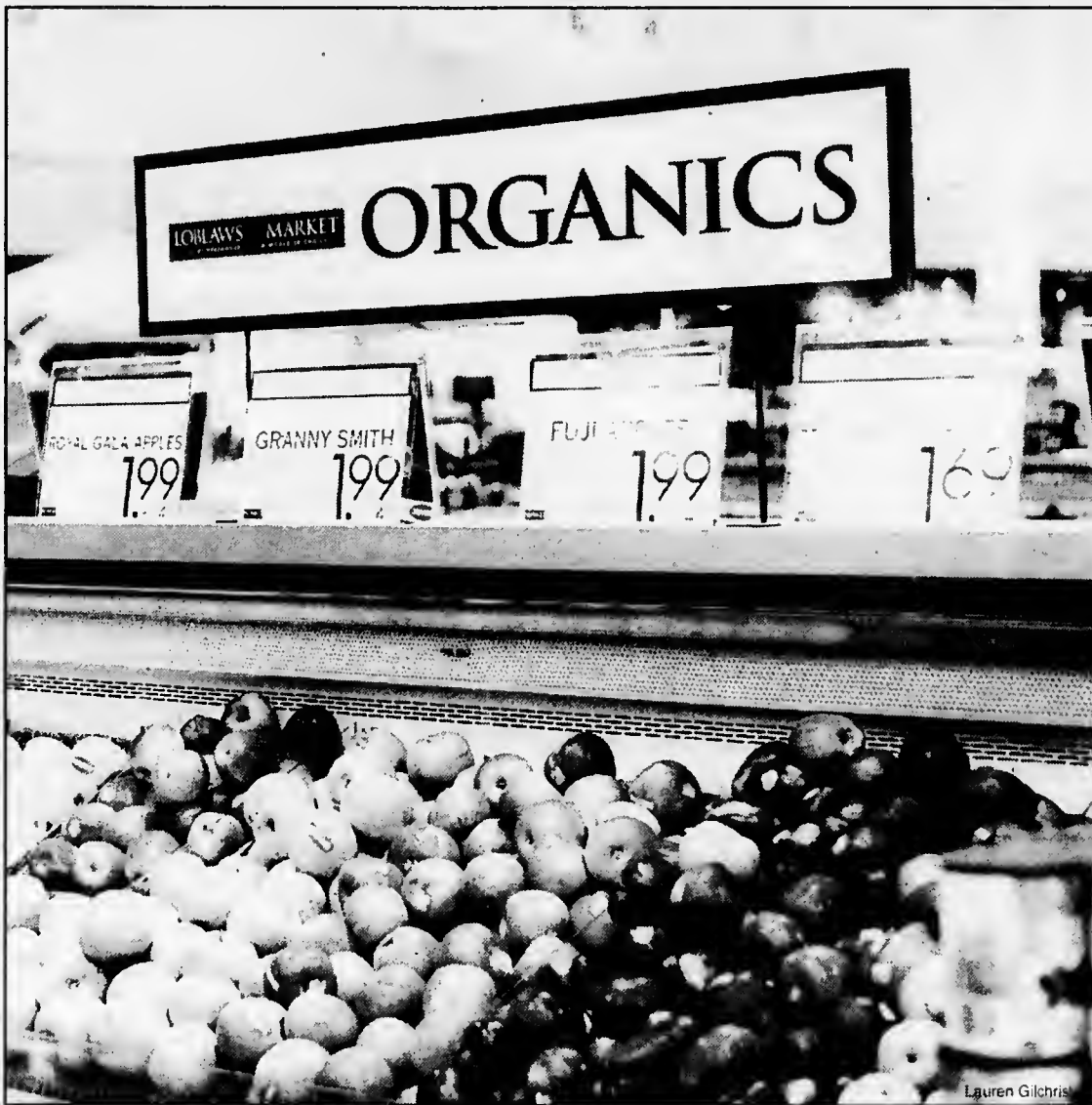
Although organic foods are more accessible than ever, some buyers are hesitant because of the cost. Organic foods are usually 10 to 130 per cent more costly than conventional foods.

But Peart said although organic foods are higher in price, most people can afford it if they budget properly. "You can make far more food with more nutritional value if you manage your funds correctly and be a wise shopper," she said.

Wilson said the prices of organic products at Loblaw are competitive.

Regular romaine lettuce costs \$1.29 a head while organically grown lettuce costs \$1.69. Organic baby carrots were actually cheaper than the conventional kind.

Peart said if cost is an issue, shoppers can make wise choices about which foods to buy organically.



Organic products are growing in popularity in Toronto despite their slightly higher cost.

Why go organic?

1. No chemicals or pesticides.
2. Minimally processed.
3. No artificial flavours or preservatives.
4. Protect the environment.
5. Support local farmers.

The Dirty Dozen: Andrea Peart of the Sierra Club recommends buying the following foods organically, because of their high pesticide content:

- | | | | |
|--------------|------------|-------------|----------|
| Apricots | Cantaloupe | Grapes | Potatoes |
| Bananas | Cherries | Green beans | Spinach |
| Bell peppers | Cucumbers | Lettuce | Tomatoes |

Secret programs spy on net users; hard to remove

By Joseph Phung

Ever have the feeling that someone may be spying on you through your computer screen?

You are right to be paranoid. Your computer may be harbouring any



Peer-to-peer programs such as Kazaa are packed with spyware.

number of spyware programs.

Spyware refers to programs that are secretly installed on a computer that can then perform many activities without the user even being aware.

"Spyware can gather information about your computer inside a folder and once you're connected online, it will send this information back to the spyware author," said Roger Nunez, a customer service representative at Symantec Corporation in Minnesota, Minneapolis. "It can monitor your online activities, find or acquire your credit card numbers and collect other personal information."

Many people get spyware by downloading peer-to-peer programs (P2P) such as Kazaa, Grokster and Morpheus. These P2P programs are packed with spyware.

Grokster, for example, includes the following spyware: Cydoor, DownloadWare, eAcceleration, EasyInstall, FavoriteMan, Gator, iGetNet, Ipinsight, MyBar, PurityScan, VX2/Transponder,

SideStep and webHancer. That's a total of 13 different spyware programs packed into a single P2P program.

A computer consultant at Efficient Digital Solutions in Markham, Ryan Clements, says spyware is also passed through mali-

"Spyware collects personal information."

icious websites that download the spyware application automatically without the user knowing, or trick the user into downloading it.

Like other programs, spyware gets embedded into the Window's registry. If a user manually removes the spyware from their system, they are bound to get more severe problems than having just left it in place.

"Users can't boot up in some cases after removing it," Nunez said.

The safest way to remove spyware is to get a spyware detection and removal program.

Clements recommends SpyBot - Search and Destroy software (<http://www.safer-networking.org>).

"SpyBot does the job, it's free and is updated about every two weeks."

Another option is Lavasoft's Ad-Aware software (<http://www.lavasoftusa.com>), but Clements warns that it finds less spyware than SpyBot

does.

Symantec's Norton AntiVirus software (<http://www.symantec.com>) has decided to incorporate a spyware detector in its 2004 version. However, it is limited in what it can do.

"It scans for spyware but does not remove it," Nunez said.

Even with its dangers, spyware is

not illegal, despite popular opinion that it should be.

Humber IT Services Manager Valerie Sprenger is impressed with the strong response in a recent poll by the *Globe & Mail*. The poll results show a whopping 98 per cent of people agree that spyware should be subjected to the same legal treatment as spam.

"Spyware should be treated on par with spam," Sprenger said.

Unfortunately, it is not, because when a user installs any software program on their computer, they are expected to read the End User License Agreement (EULA) and then decide if they agree or disagree with it. Depending on what choice the user selected, the installation will either continue or cancel.

The reality is that users rarely read through the EULA, and simply proceed with the download.

So in other words, if you don't want to be spied upon, always read the fine print.

Credit card fraud a growing concern

About 100,000 cards are lost or stolen each year

By Jon McCarthy

Oliver Alves walked to his car one morning and found his window smashed. Who did he call first? The police? His insurance company?

Neither. He called his credit card company.

"I had credit card statements in there. The first thing I did was call the companies," Alves said. "You never know what can happen when information gets in the wrong hands."

Since 1996, about 800,000 credit cards have been reported lost or stolen each year in Canada, according to the Canadian Bankers Association. During that same time, the number of fraudulently used credit cards almost doubled - meaning that criminals are finding new ways to ply their trade.

A graduate of Humber's Marketing

Diploma Program, Alves saw the dangers of credit card fraud firsthand while working at 2001 Audio/Video.

"One time, after hours, some guys came while we were locking up and wanted to pay us \$200 to run through a credit card for high-priced electronics without checking their ID's," he said. Store policy demanded that he check ID on any credit card purchase over \$500. "Obviously I said no."

Elizabeth Allen, a public affairs officer with the financial consumer agency of Canada, said consumers can take steps to protect themselves against credit card fraud.

One of the easiest ways to protect yourself is to make sure you sign your credit card as

soon as you get it and cancel it as soon as you don't need it, Allen said.

"Another good idea is to request your credit file from the credit bureau at least once a year," she said.



Increasingly, when people hear about credit card fraud they think of the Internet.

Mia Huntington, director of business development for Internet Secure, said many Canadians are wary of Internet hackers when shopping online.

"The perception is that online some hacker is going to steal [your credit card information]," she said. "But if you're on a secure page that is SSL (Secure Sockets Layer) encrypted, as long as you see 'https' (Hyper Text Transfer Protocol Secured), at the top and you see that closed padlock in the bottom right hand corner of the screen, a hacker is not going to

take your information."

Huntington said consumers should treat online retailers much like they treat regular stores.

"When you walk into a retailer, if it looks like a shady place and they may not be in business tomorrow, you might not buy from them."

Likewise, she suggests checking out a site thoroughly before giving them your information. Look for things such as the company's refund and privacy policies, as well as contact information. "If they don't have contact information you have to be kind of scratching your head wondering, 'why don't they want me to be able to contact them?'"

Whether in the real world or the virtual one, if you don't feel comfortable with the merchant, it's best to keep your money - and your cards - in your wallet.

Identity thieves operating online

Ontario victims lost more than \$12.5 million last year

By Erin Bell

Identity theft is on the rise, thanks to a digital age where Internet technology makes it easier for personal information to spread through cyberspace.

"Predictably, criminals are capitalizing on this development," police Superintendent Mike Federico said at an identity theft press conference earlier this month.

Last year in Ontario 5,772 victims of identity theft lost over \$12.5 million, according to PhoneBusters, an

anti-fraud agency operated by the OPP.

Across Canada, 1,800 cases of identity theft are reported each month.

Identity thieves operate by getting hold of information like a person's address, date of birth, credit card numbers and social insurance number.

They then use that information to open bank accounts, redirect mail, establish credit card and cell phone accounts and even rent vehicles and houses.

Several precautions can be taken to avoid falling victim to identity thieves.

When completing online registration forms, only fill in the fields that are mandatory and make sure the connection is secure before giving out credit card numbers.

"There's no reason to carry your birth certificate around."

Anyone with the technical know-how can intercept and read another person's email, so an email should be treated like an "unsealed message that others can read or pass on," according to the Privacy Commissioner of Canada website.

The site recommends using encryption software that scrambles the data of outgoing emails so they can't be read by hackers.

While security on the Internet is important, consumers should also be sure to keep their personal cards and documents safe.

Jim Watson, minister of consumer and business services, recommends storing personal information in a secure place.

"It sounds obvious, but it's unbelievable the number of times we hear of people simply carrying documents that they don't need to carry on a regular basis," Watson said at the press conference.

"There's no reason, for instance, to carry your birth certificate in your wallet." Your social insurance number (SIN) card should also be left at home. With a stolen SIN card, a thief can apply for jobs in the victim's name and collect unemployment insurance and health benefits without paying taxes.

It's also important to monitor bank statements and credit card bills for unusual activity like strange purchases or requests for an address change.

Often the first thing an identity thief will do is change the billing address so that bills are never received. Meanwhile expenses are being racked up and the original card holder doesn't find out until months later when bill collectors start knocking on the door.

"When the offender inevitably defaults [on payment], it is the victim's credit rating that suffers, potentially affecting their entire financial security," Federico said.

Watson suggests buying a paper shredder to destroy sensitive documents before putting them in the trash, to avoid the "dumpster divers" who root through garbage searching for personal papers.

"You can get one in stores for as little as \$30, and it's a good investment because of the number of documents you do throw out that contain valuable personal information."

To protect yourself against fraud online:

1. Make sure the page is SSL (Secure Sockets Layer) encrypted before making a purchase.

2. Don't buy from companies that don't list contact information.

3. Check the site for refund and privacy information.

To protect yourself offline:

1. Check your card when it is returned to you after a purchase.

2. Keep a record of your purchases and check it against your monthly statement.

3. Keep a list of all your credit cards and their numbers.

If you suspect you are a victim of identity theft:

1. Notify local police immediately.

2. Call the Federal Trade Commission's identity theft hotline at (877) 438-4338.

3. Fill out an Identity Theft Statement and send it to your credit card companies. The form can be found at <http://www.cbs.gov.on.ca/>

New robot unveiled; Trilobot may save lives

By Pegah Aarabi

A revolutionary robot that has the potential to save human lives has been unveiled by a lab at the University of Toronto.

"Trilobot is a mobile robot which combines the latest in electronics and sensor technology to make its way through a building by using its own voice to navigate," Dr. Omid S. Jahromi said. Omid is an assistant director at the Artificial Perception Lab (APL).

Jahromi said that Trilobot is innovative because, by using its own voice to move around, it is mimicking the way mammals, like bats for example, communicate and move with sound.

His lab is outfitted with 24 microphones. "When the microphones pick up the robot's voice, a master computer pinpoints its location on a virtu-

al map and then relays instructions for where to go next.

The most interesting thing about this robot is its potential applications.

"Trilobot is designed for university research projects, such as artificial intelligence, artificial life and education. In two years or so, it could be employed as a tour guide in museums. And after due modifications, it could also be used for search and rescue operations in hazardous environments."

Jahromi said that with several microphones placed in a disaster area, a small version of Trilobot could go into the area and communicate with the microphones that would guide it past obstacles in the search for victims.

"If deployed properly and thought out carefully, technology like Trilobot can provide us with comfort and safety," Jahromi added.



Experts recommend shredding sensitive documents.

ARTS



Rejoicing – The cast of *It Happened to Us* mug for an expensive rented camera.

Lights, camera, debt Humber students shell out big bucks to realize their filmmaking dreams

By Sam Toman

What does it take to make a student movie? Well, as the senior class of Humber's film and production program found out, it takes a lot more than a canvas chair and those puffy directing pants.

To make the movie they wanted to make, they pushed the limits of the film production program, including shelling out as much as \$2,000 of their own money to make the film as professional as possible.

"People don't realize that making a movie costs a lot of money. But that's what we needed to do, make a film that looks like a film, like a professional film," the film's Director George Vhana said.

beyond expectations

With an unprecedented budget of over \$15,000 (the average student film costs around \$8,000) these students are putting their future on the line to make a cinematic calling card they hope will not only get them jobs one day, but also establish them as serious filmmakers willing to create something that goes beyond people's expectations.

"The consensus was that we wouldn't be able to pull it off. But we did, with flying colours," the film's screenwriter Adam Uttley said. "Everybody thought it was just too big for students."

The film, titled *It Happened to Us*, is a semi-satirical musical modeled after cult favorites like *Grease*

and *Westside Story*. By the time it's ready for audiences the project will have taken over a year to complete. Featuring original music the film was written, scored, shot and edited entirely by the students.

For many of the production crew, including co-producer Rania Eid, the experience was one of the most grueling of her life.

"When you're working 18 hour days, people can get extremely ill-tempered."

"The program gave us five days to shoot, but to make the film we wanted we knew we needed more time. We ended up shooting for 11 days at our own expense," Eid said.

Those 11 days were not glamorous either. The expression 'time is money' is never more true than when it is your own money. As each additional day of filming dramatically increased the cost of the project, sacrifices were made. "Everyone was working 18 hour days. Sleep wasn't an option," Eid said.

It is hard to imagine that 11 days of filming, which translates into a finished product of around half an hour, could cost so much. But as the film's other co-producer Linda Pretli explains there is a lot more to making a movie than just yelling 'action' and 'cut'.

"We had a cast and crew of over 40 people. As a producer you have to make sure that everyone is happy and

well fed. When you're working 18 hour days people can get extremely ill-tempered when they don't eat," Pretli said.

Beyond buying pizza for 40 people, the producers knew they had to shoot the project on film (many student movies are shot on the far less expensive digital video format) in order to be taken seriously. A single roll of film, which yields only 11 minutes of unedited material, costs \$140 to purchase and \$140 to process.

Now that filming has wrapped, the team has to start worrying about feeding themselves.

"I'm going to be living off of my credit card for a long time. Right now, I don't even have enough money to make it through the year," Pretli said.

fundraiser

In order to recoup some of these costs, the students have embarked on a fundraising campaign that will hopefully allow them to send the film to dozens of festivals around the world.

Their next event will be an 80s retro dance night at Sneaky Dee's this Saturday, February 14. Ladies get in free before 10:30 p.m. After that, admission is \$5 at the door. The filmmakers hope to make around \$500 from the event.

You can also check out the fruits of their labour, when *It Happened to Us* premieres at the Regent Theatre, 551 Mount Pleasant Road on April 29.

Big Ron

No stranger to getting jobs, porn star Ron Jeremy comes to Humber

By Pierre Hamilton

Ron Jeremy's performances are always punctuated with heavy panting and groaning. Tuesday's appearance at Humber College was no exception.

Breathless chants of "we want Ron, we want Ron" spewed from the rowdy crowd, who came to see the 50-year-old star of films such as *Hard to Swallow* and *This Little Piggy went to Porno*.

Fearing that the veteran of over 1,400 pornographic films would not come, the crowd practiced restraint before erupting in an orgy of laughter when Jeremy, nicknamed the "hedgehog," poked his head out of the HSF office.

Jeremy was at Humber to promote his reality television show *The Surreal Life*, which features five other middling celebrities, including 'rapper' Vanilla Ice and former evangelist Tammy Faye Baker.

Jeremy was also here to promote his latest movie *Being Ron Jeremy*.

C.J., an 18-year-old Humber student, described Jeremy with an almost spiritual reverence. "His work . . . his life, it's Ron, dude, nothing else, just that."

Jeremy's allure, he says, has a lot to do with his extraordinary nine-to-five job – having sex with attractive women. His work routine is simple. "Go to work, get your dick sucked," he said. "Yeah it's tough isn't it, don't let the man get you down."

The punch lines kept coming, one after another, as he touched on anything and everything that had to do with sex and the porno industry.

Jeremy revealed his method of calculating shopping expenses. "That brand new car: 3, 000 anal and a B.J. scene."

Towards the end of his routine, he addressed the body part that is most recognizable other than his face. Measuring nine and three quarter inches when erect, Jeremy said he couldn't whip out the tool of his trade because when he is on stage there's not enough room for the both of them.

Despite what one student referred to as his "heavy machinery," Ron Jeremy is more than the sum of his part. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Theatre and Education and a Master's degree in Special Education.

After gratifying the crowd, Jeremy answered audience questions and signed autographs on everything from his merchandise to the breasts of several students.

One student took advantage of the Q & A section to ask the star for his advice on how to break into the porn industry.

Another wanted to know who Jeremy's best sex partner was.

It's a question he has heard many times before. Jeremy whipped out his staple comeback, "Your mom."

Jennifer DeSousa and Sarah Townson were among two of the students who stuck around to meet the star.

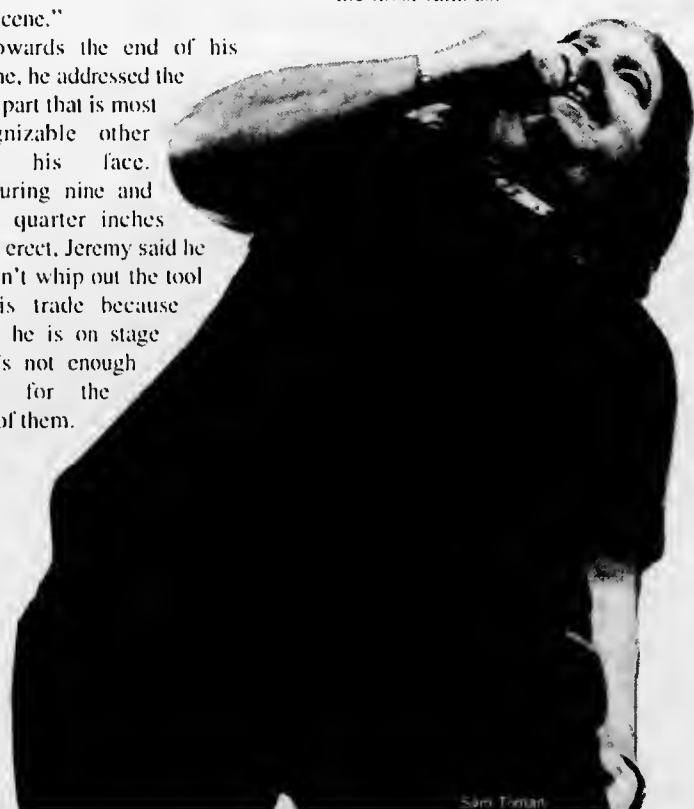
"I don't think that he's hot in any way, shape, or form," said Townson, a 24-year-old interior design student.

DeSousa echoed her friend's comments, adding that she was there "just to be in the same room as someone who has had sex with that many people."

Stacy Curry, a 19-year-old General Arts and Sciences student, was the recipient of a Ron Jeremy breast autograph.

"He took my boob out of my shirt and put his John Hancock on it," she said.

When the *Humber EtCetera* asked Jeremy what the caption on his exhibit in the porno hall of fame would read, Jeremy offered a humble response; "He wasn't the best looking, or even the best at it. He was just the most famous."



Conan O'Brien in Toronto is a big deal

Conan fans clog downtown prior to first taping

By Lauren La Rose

Curious passer-bys wondered what the fuss was about. The hopeful clamoured for last-minute tickets while the die-hards converged early, some arriving at 5:30 a.m.

Toronto seems to have caught a strong case of Conan fever.

Conan O'Brien is in town all week to host his late night talk show at the historic Elgin Theatre.

By 2 p.m. on Tuesday, the line-up of fans to see the show's first taping had stretched south from the venue on Yonge Street, east on Queen Street, snaking back up north on Victoria Street and then west onto Shuter Street.

Some sought refuge in the nearby Bank of Montreal, while others could be found warming their frostbitten fingers with hot beverages from nearby Starbucks and Tim Hortons.

Although show staff told the crowd they would start moving the line at 2:45 p.m., many fans were held outside for almost a full hour after that. Yet whatever resentment the wait engendered was erased by



Crazy for Conan - Hopeful fans stand in line for hours in front of the Elgin Theatre.

the euphoria of O'Brien's arrival.

In the warm-up prior to his grand entrance, selected audience members competed in an impromptu contest of outrageous acts. A fan in the front row, adorned in a Leafs jersey, started a "Go, Leafs, Go!" chant, and won a round-trip ticket to New York City.

When the show wrapped, the lanky redhead host stayed behind to sign more autographs despite anxious handlers trying to whisk him away to a post-show meeting.

If the first night's enthusiastic welcome is any indication, O'Brien may want to consider making his pil-

grimage to the Great White North an annual event.

Late Night with Conan O'Brien airs weeknights at 12:35 a.m. on NBC and the New VR. Star! will rerun the previous night's episode of *Late Night* at 10 p.m. for those of us who hit the sack early.



heronjonse raps his poetry.

Spoken word at Guelph Humber

By Natalie Campbell

Poetry leapt from the mouths of four young urban poets on Tuesday in celebration of black history month.

The lunch hour event featured the popular spoken word voices of Christine Thompson, Karen Richardson, heronjonse and Jael Ealey, a recent graduate of Guelph Humber's drama program.

With people gathered around the University of Guelph Humber's art gallery, the atmosphere was inviting and informal.

After performing, the poets welcomed questions from the audience.

"It was motivating. It was eye opening and spiritually moving," second-year computer student, Eilbron Meghdies, said.

This was the first year that Guelph Humber put on an event that featured spoken word poetry.

"We wanted to do something that wasn't typical," event coordinator Renice Jones said. "I wanted to show another side that students don't get to see on a regular basis."

Racial slurs derail Caps' urban freestyle event

By Tracy Smitten

A night of freestyle rapping and lyrical talent was cut short by HSF staff on Tuesday when rhymes turned into a parade of racial slurs.

Less than an hour into the Caps event, HSF event coordinators took to the stage to shut down what was billed as an "urban freestyle" showcase after an unknown MC broke competition rules, by using the "N-word."

"The reason it got cancelled was because we asked for them to follow one simple rule, no racial slurs or comments. They didn't follow that rule and someone decided to throw a bottle on stage. It was a plastic bottle but people are upset," Lakeshore HSF VP Stephanie Boreland said.

Four rounds into the hip hop event, modeled after BET's *106 and Park* challenge, the microphone had been lyrically blessed.

Talented Humber students and some neighbouring peers crowded the stage to hear original rhymes.

Before the night ended, bright MC's like Boozematic and MC Dru_Dutch had their shine on stage. Young MC Boozematic, a.k.a. Neil Sharma, who attends North campus, rhymed to the theme of "sex" and effortlessly gave a rule-abiding, lyrical tongue lashing to his opponent,

while MC Dru_Dutch tackled hot topics like the Super Bowl.

The show went on with some shout outs and shut downs. As the microphone blazed with clever comebacks, tempers flared when the freestyle rules were reinforced. By round three the cursing was still at a minimum, until an unknown MC felt compelled to lace his microphone messages with racial slurs.

The unknown MC was given a

as one of the rappers ran across the stage and grabbed the microphone from another performer.

Then the event was cancelled. HSF Events Coordinator Aaron Miller took centre stage and announced the competition would not continue.

Dru_Dutch, a second round contestant and police foundations student at Humber lakeshore campus, expressed his disappointment.

"Everyone was cussing. I was let down. Whoever I faced up against their stuff was written and everybody else was swearing. I was just trying to follow the rules to get my stuff on there. I restricted myself and got voted off because of it," he said.

Audience members reluctantly filed out of Caps only an hour after the show began.

Business student Javed Maharaj was not surprised at the abrupt ending.

"You know what? We're in Humber College. There are rules the HSF has to abide by and there are also lyricists who can flow around that and if you can't, well you can't and if you can, you can," he said.

"It's unfortunate that the event got cancelled but hip hop will live on and MC's will always be about it."

"We asked them to follow one simple rule, no racial slurs or comments."

second chance to rhyme his segment but was asked again to watch his language. When he continued to use racial slurs he was disqualified.

HSF event coordinators graciously took the stage to address the upset crowd. To some the "N-word" was not so offensive but the rules had been clearly stated. Shortly after, another performer forgot the golden rule of the competition and included racial slurs in his rhyme.

After the second disqualification, the fifth round was brought to a halt

Opinion



Sam Toman

With Conan hitting all the obvious destinations in Toronto, here are some alternative suggestions that should give the talk show host a real feel for Hogtown.

Train 48

While he's in Toronto, surely Conan will want a little time away from the spotlight. What better way to avoid being seen than a cameo on this slap-dash tour de force? Maybe he could do blow in the bathroom with that guy who does blow in the bathroom all the time. He could have a romantic dalliance with that blonde woman, or even get into a fight with that guy who always wears a hat. I think his name is John... or maybe Dave? Who knows... does anyone even watch that show. Na-na-na-na-na...train.

Degrassi Junior High

Conan could make a pilgrimage to this mecca of teen angst. Thanks to Degrassi, Conan's demographic is so well adjusted that *The Late Show's* masturbating bear will seem like nothing compared to what happened to Wheels in Port Hope. More like Port Nope, or Port No-Hope, or maybe for Wheels it's just Hope.

Honest Ed's

It might be a little risky to send Conan here. While the visible-from-space consumer monolith is certainly one of the city's most interesting attractions, the hundreds of jokes that will surge through his brain simultaneously could cause the comedian to suffer an aneurysm.

Coffee Tip

Seeing as Conan has already expressed a love for Tim Horton's, why not take him to another Toronto coffee institution - Coffee Tip. No, that's not a typo. The corner of Crawford St. and Bloor St. W. is the home of Coffee Tip. The Coffee Time knock off is so blatant it'll blow your mind. Open 24 hrs Conan is bound to find interesting new character fodder with all the late night drifters, derelicts and stoned hipsters looking for cran-apple muffins and Dunhill Special Reserves.

City Hall

Conan, famous for his crimson mane, can make the trip to Nathan Phillips Square to have a chat with our mayor with the hair. Then they could exchange pleasantries over the beauty of the city before the conversation peters off into an awkward exchange of email addresses. Na-na-na-na-na-na...train.

IN REVIEW

HEAR IT

Let's Get it On - Marvin Gaye

Leave it to Marvin to get straight to the point. On this album he does enough hegging to save lovers the trouble of having to do it themselves. If Mr. Gaye doesn't get things moving, Heaven only knows what will.

I'm Still in Love With You - Al Green

Long before Maxwell, it was Al Green's aching falsetto that led couples into the bedroom. Ask your mom and pops about this one. Chances are this record had a hand in bringing you into this world.

Maxwell's Urban Hang Suite - Maxwell

Supposedly, this album was crafted to be the soundtrack to an entire romantic evening—from dinner to the bedroom. Seriously. There's even 10 minutes silence during the last track, so that lovers can listen to themselves...well, you know.

Duke Ellington/ John Coltrane - Duke Ellington and John Coltrane

A classy set of jazz by two pillars of the genre. These songs should work nicely alongside a bottle of vino to create tingly feelings inside.

In Between - Jazzanova

Understated broken beat melodies that work nicely in the background, but bubble just enough to get hearts racing.

-Jelani Lowe

READ IT

Kiss and Tell: An Intimate History of Kissing - Julie Enfield

Anthropologists believe that the first kiss planted in history happened when a mother in primeval times pre-chewed food and then passed it to the mouth of her infant. Thousands of years later in 1896, the first on-screen smooch would occur in the film *The Kiss*, only to be received by outcries of erotica by the public.

We've come a long way since then.

In Julie Enfield's *Kiss and Tell: An Intimate History of Kissing* (Harper Collins, \$24.95), the Ottawa-born writer explores the impacts and influences that smooching has had on cultures around the world and throughout time.

Enfield, who teaches magazine publishing at Ryerson, weaves personal anecdotes, historical factoids and scientific nuggets to try and unveil the "secrets and ancient origins of this ubiquitous activity."

Kiss and Tell breezes through everything from the biological effects of kissing, apparently men's pupils dilate 30 per cent when gazing at a buxom beauty, to the luring powers of lipstick in modern cultures.

This Valentine's Day (the olympiad of smooching), plant one on yourself or a loved one and curl up with this non-fiction gem.

-Vanessa Mariga

FLICK IT

50 First Dates - Peter Segal

In the romantic comedy, *50 First Dates*, Henry (Adam Sandler) must make a continual first impression on Lucy (Drew Barrymore).

Suffering from short term memory loss, Lucy lives the same day over and over again, forcing Henry to be creative in capturing her heart every day.

The previews for this movie were so curiously violent that any sincerity seemed impossible, but there were some surprises.

While Sandler and Barrymore make a cute and believable couple, supporting actors Sean Astin and Rob Schneider try too hard to be funny, causing a number of jokes to fall flat.

The film overcomes some obvious gross-out humour to deliver many laugh-outloud moments.

A great flick for Valentine's Day.

-Nick Rapp

Author's reading

Visit Lakeshore Campus Library on Wednesday, Feb. 18 at 2 p.m. to hear, Director of the School for Writers, Antanas Sileika read from his collection of stories. Short-listed for the Stephen Leacock Award and the City of Toronto Book Award, *Buying On Time* tells the story of Eastern European immigrants living in Toronto during the 1950s.

To Do List

VALENTINE'S DAY

9 a.m.

Breakfast in bed, of course.

11:30 a.m.

Take your lovebird for a stroll though Kensington market. Stop by the parkette on Augusta St. to feed the pigeons. They're like doves, only gross.

1 p.m.

Stock up on some chocolate body paint and a cute little rubba ducky at Come As You Are, 701 Queen St. West. Half the fun comes from picking out the items together. The other half comes later.

1:30 p.m.

Get all greased up at Chippy's, Queen St. West. Your honey won't be able to resist the fish and chips wrapped in old newspaper.

2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Cuddle up to listen to stories of love and romance at Divine Lore and Heavenly Lovers on at the ROM.

5 p.m.

While the Burger King at College and Spadina does have its appeal, you'll probably do better elsewhere. Try heading to Fortinos and buy ingredients for a romantic home cooked stew. Nothin' leads to lovin' like getting a good stew on.

7 p.m.

Dessert? The chocolate body paint, of course.

9 p.m.

Want something else to do? How about your loved one.

SALTWATER ROCKS

every Tuesday
9:30 to close



Smoking In Bar Area!

NO COVER!

Watch the Game on the
Big Screen!

930 Dixon Road
at Carlingview
905-674-7777



CAHOOTS THEATRE PROJECTS AND NEWORLD THEATRE PRESENT

The Adventures of
ALI & ALI
and the
AXES of Evil



eye

Created and Performed by Marcus Youssef, Guillermo Verdecchia & Camyar Chal
Co-starring Tom Butler
Set & Costume Design by Marlene Saljarto
Lighting Design by Sharon Huizinga
Video Design by Andrew Laurenson
Sound/Music Design by Alejandro Verdecchia
Visual Design Richard Lawley
Stage Manager David Kerr
Produced by Carlo Proto

WIN TICKETS!

The first 4 students to come to the newsroom (RM L231) will receive 2 free tickets to see

The Adventures of Ali & Ali and the Axes of Evil

on Wed., Feb. 18 @ 8pm.

February 18 -
March 7, 2004

Theatre Passe Muraille,
18 Ryerson St.

416.504.PLAY (7529)

Humber EtCetera

@ SKOOL

Tongue-in-cheek



Left (top): James Depoe and Alison Legenza have been dating for two months. They're planning an evening of good food and mini golf for Valentine's



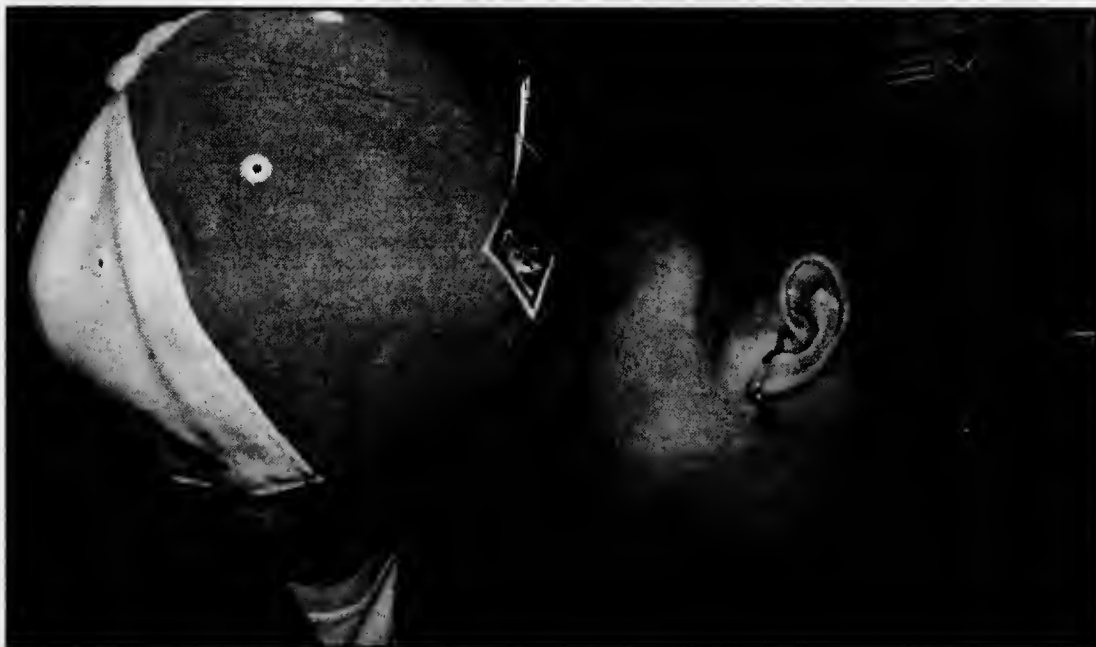
Right (top): Ryan Machado and Andrea Plonka are real honeymooners - only three weeks into their relationship. Their Valentine plans are under lock and key.

Right: Cameron Gray and Quing Quing Yuan don't need to impress each other this Valentine's. At seven months, their love is secure.



Right (below): Amrit Kalsi and Mazhar Hussain have been together for four months. Mazhar's plans for Valentine's day are top secret.

Left (below): RS Magallon and Ronna Perey have been together exactly a month. They have no plans for Valentine's...or so they say.



Compiled by Athena Tsavlis, and Kevin Rabjohn

SPORTS

Brotherly love turns into sibling rivalry

Backstop shuts out Cambrian

Grainger records back to back shutouts, Shier collects five points, Smithson suspended for fighting

By Eric Collins

Stellar goaltending and improved defence got Humber back in the win column last weekend in Sudbury.

The Hawks played back-to-back games against the Cambrian Golden Shield on Saturday and Sunday and put together 6-0 and 7-0 victories.

The shut-outs come on the heels of a somewhat sub-par season so far for Hawks starting goaltender Nick Grainger who went into the game with a 3-3 record.

"It was a huge weekend for both me and the team," Grainger said.

"I haven't played the best and hopefully this weekend was a turning point in my play."

"I was very impressed with the back-to-back shutouts," Humber Head Coach Joe Washkurak said.

According to Washkurak, he and a goaltending coach met with Grainger and alternate goaltender Tucker Madder last week.

"Allen and I met with [Grainger and Madder] and told them that somebody needed to step it up," Washkurak said. "[Grainger] obviously answered the bell, especially this week. It's really tough when there are really only 12 guys in front of you."

The Humber defence has also shown improvement in the past several games, especially after Terry Chikoski took an assistant coaching role with the team as a defensive specialist. He took this role after playing with the team earlier in the year.

"The defence was wild," Chikoski said. "They were really stepping it up. It was hard playing with only four defencemen at times because of injuries."

In both games, the Hawks came

out slowly but soon wore down their opponents, showing the gap in talent level between the teams.

"Starting out, we didn't play that great," Washkurak said. "We wore them down pretty quick though. They really only had two lines."

Much of the Cambrian crowd came to see [local residents] Madder and Humber captain James Rodak play.

"It was a huge thrill," Rodak said. "Everyone that came were really big friends of ours. It was nice to see them and to have them in the crowd."

Sunday's crowd was somewhat disappointed since Rodak did not dress because of a shoulder injury. The injury was suffered at about the 10-minute mark of the first period in Saturday's game.

"It was mostly my decision not to

"It was a huge weekend for both me and the team"

play," Rodak said. "It was decided for me not to play because the game really didn't mean much in the play-off picture."

Rodak's return remains a question mark as the next games have little impact on the playoff picture either.

There was also a family reunion of sorts as brothers Seth Gray (Humber) and Cambrian forward Dane Gray got a chance to face each other in a true sibling rivalry.

"From [Seth Gray's] point of view it seems that he wants to do well against his brother knowing that his parents are in the crowd," Humber Assistant Coach Chris McFadyen said.

"Compared to his brother he looks like he wants to out-perform. He takes a lot of extra shots and tries to get that extra goal for his team."

With a depleted line-up, some players were given opportunities they may not normally had and took full advantage. One of them is Kevin Coffey who accumulated four points over the two games.

McFadyen has known Coffey for years. "Fads" as the players call him, is a former Humber player and alumnus who played alongside Coffey for two years as well as two years of coaching him.

"With all the time that I have



Goaltender Nick Grainger shut out the Golden Shield in back to back games last weekend. Humber remains in third place.

known him, that is the best that I have ever seen him play," McFadyen said. "With Rodak and others missing the game, players are given excellent opportunities. Performances like [Coffey's] show that we have a deep team and once guys come back from injuries, we are going to be a better team in the long run."

Also notable was the play of Humber forward Matt Shier who notched five points including a hat-trick during Sunday's game.

"I think that it was great," Washkurak said. "If he gets playing like that for the rest of the year it will really help us. As he comes up big against bigger teams it will make things easier for us in the playoffs."

The Hawks will be without

defencemen J.D. Smithson, when they face Conestoga on Saturday. He was involved in a fight during the second period of Sunday's game. It was the second fight in the same stoppage of play and OCAA rules state that is an automatic one game suspension.

"[Smithson] will be suspended unfortunately," Washkurak said. "It is going to hurt us if [Rodak] can't play."

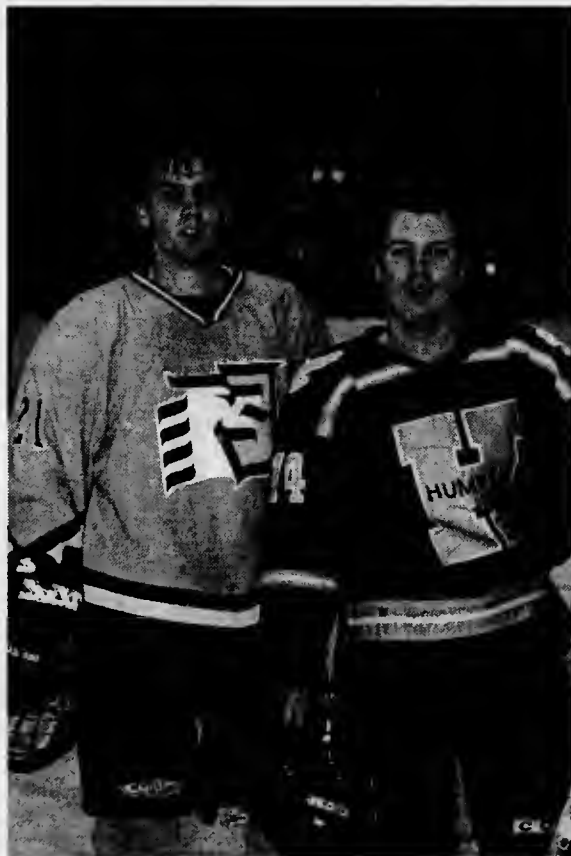
Humber will limp into Saturday's game against Conestoga with

both impact players Steve Nobili and Matt Neely playing hurt.

"I would actually compare our team with the Toronto Maple Leafs right now," McFadyen said. "With injuries and suspensions, it is getting to a point where we are relying on other players to step it up. We have guys with bad wrists and knees. Without healthy guys, we will really be behind the eight-ball."

The Hawks will host the Condors at 7:30 Saturday night at Westwood arena.

"Conestoga can't make the playoffs and we don't know how the game is going to play," Washkurak said. "They will probably play with pride and hope to go out on a high note."



Cambrian's Dane Gray (left) and Humber's Seth Gray take time to pose before the game.

Sports Rap



Ron A. Melihen

Cherry on seven second leash

Will a seven second time delay be enough to keep Don Cherry in line?

Not a chance.

CBC will institute a seven second delay in their broadcasts of future Coach's Corner on their Saturday night telecasts of *Hockey Night in Canada*.

Grapes has been known to speak his mind on topics ranging from Canada's non-involvement in the Iraq war to his latest rant on the number of European and French-Canadian hockey players wearing visors.

big mouth

He is a true Canadian who wears his national pride on his sleeve and around his neck (his many different ties). His fierce Canadian pride has endeared him to many but it has now got him in hot water with Quebecers as well as many others.

You can knock his wardrobe but he is to be admired for his forthrightness in a world of politically correct kowtowing.

Don't believe for a second that I am defending his comments, rather I am simply reminding everyone to take a deep breath and remember who these statements are coming from. He is not a politician and should be allowed his opinion.

true Canuck

My real beef is with the CBC.

They have enjoyed great ratings since he joined the *HNIC* broadcast team more than 20 years ago.

This seven-second delay amounts to a slap on the wrists and, in my humble opinion, was done to give people the impression that he has been disciplined. But this move by the CBC amounts to what it meant to us when, as misbehaving kids, we were sent to our rooms without dinner.

We laughed it off.

Don Cherry is a man with an opinion on many different subjects and you know what they say about opinions, they're like _ _ _holes.

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Men's v-ball team to play one game showdown

Hawks clinch third place with sweep

Bench players have stepped into the starting line-up, providing the team with excellent play

By Mark Hezyszyn

The men's volleyball team will have to beat RMC, Algonquin or Loyalist if they want a berth at the provincial championships.

The Hawks failed to clinch a playoff spot up north on the weekend against Nipissing and Canadore.

Humber needed to beat the Nipissing Lakers in straight sets on Saturday to secure a spot. They didn't, as they couldn't put the final nail in the coffin after taking a 2-0 lead. The Hawks eventually won the match in the fifth and deciding game. But it didn't matter.

It was a hard and valuable team lesson to learn. Individuals do not win championships. Teams do.

"Anytime you go on the road, it is great for team building," Humber Coach Wayne Wilkins said.

The near capacity crowd at Nipissing University was quickly silenced as the Hawks came out firing on all cylinders.

"We had no answer for Humber," Nipissing Coach Duane Culin said. "In the first two sets we came out flat and our execution was poor. You cannot do that against a good team such as Humber."

Humber's bench players have stepped into the starting line-up, providing the team with excellent play. Starters Bart Babij and Andy Demushi are still nursing injuries.

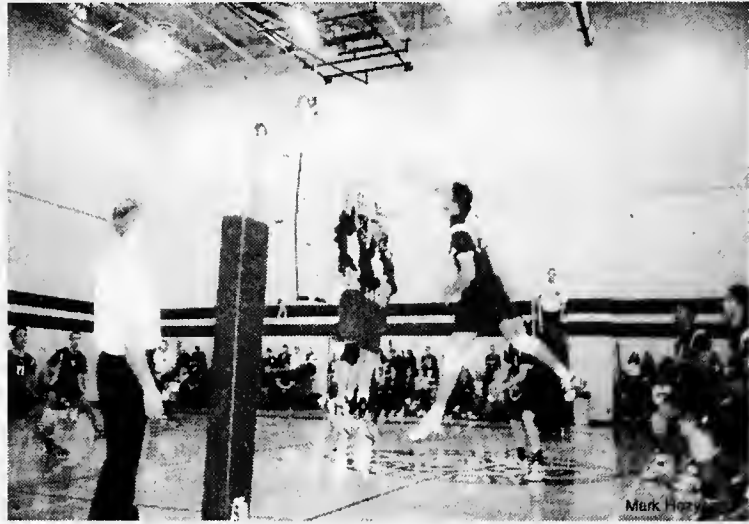
"Our depth has been the strength of this team all season long. Without the bench we would not be in the position we are in today and that is a chance to play in a cross over playoff game," Wilkins said.

On Friday night, Humber took on the Canadore Panthers. It was difficult for the team not to look past their weaker opponent in anticipation of their huddle with Nipissing.

Humber came out flat in the early going but regained control of the match winning three sets to two.

"We should be more focused against teams like Canadore,"

Humber player Jesse Mabon said. The Hawk's date with RMC, Algonquin or Loyalist is on either Feb. 21 or Feb. 22.



Bobby Randahwa goes for the kill in league action. Humber must win a cross over match to advance to playoff round.

Women's team wins tourney

The women's indoor soccer team defeated the Fanshawe Falcons in the championship game at the George Brown tournament, last weekend.

The Hawks came back from a 2-1 deficit to win 3-2.

Hawk's Captain Natalie Achim was named tournament MVP.

The men's team lost 2-1 in overtime to Seneca in the finals.

"We played well," Hawk's Co-Captain Jason Mesa said. "Both teams had chances and Seneca got the lucky bounce."

Women's v-ball still unbeaten

By Josh Grunberg

The Humber Hawks women's volleyball team is flying high after sweeping Mohawk, Canadore and Nipissing on the road.

The wins improved the Hawks record to 12-0 and the team is well on their way to clinching the division crown. In their 12 matches thus far in the season, the Hawks have won 36 games while only losing two.

On Tuesday night in Hamilton, the Hawks came out flying and played a flawless game, pounding Mohawk 25-6 in the first game.

Mohawk tried to turn the tables in the second and third games, but lost 26-24 and 25-19.

Overshadowing the Hawks victory was momentary defensive lapses, which saw balls dropping untouched. Hawks Coach Chris Wilkins was

so displeased that he sent the team for a run following the victory.

"It's a big concern," Wilkins said. "Since the Durham tournament we've made it our mandate to improve our defence. Right now it's unacceptable."

Following the match, Hawks setter Alison Legenza said the team needs to put forth a more consistent effort every match.

"We pick and choose when we want to dominate and when we want to do enough to get by," Legenza said. "We need to work hard all the time from now until our last match. We can't give teams hope and let them think we are beatable."

Wilkins and his staff have been preaching team defence since the start of the year and while it had improved vastly from the start of the season, it has taken a few steps back in the last month.

The key to the Hawks success defensively earlier in the year was communication and a willingness to go after every ball, something that was noticeably absent against Mohawk.

On Friday night the Hawks easily handled Canadore for the second time this season sweeping them 25-15, 25-18 and 25-12.

Saturday afternoon the Hawks brought the brooms back to sweep a decent Nipissing team(9-3).

The Hawks have two matches remaining, both at home. Tomorrow at 8 p.m they host the Sault Cougars (9-3) and on Feb. 19 the Hawks will close the season against Sheridan.

The Ontario Championships, take place Feb. 26-28 at Seneca College. The Hawks are currently ranked third in the province and 15th in Canada.

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Carisse served over seas and now patrols rugby pitch

Ex armed forces officer leads Humber Hawks rugby team

By Sam Medoff

The Humber Hawks women's rugby team might not be recognized as a team by the Humber administration, but anyone who watched the team this past season would notice Isabelle Carisse.

Carisse, 30, was the heart, soul and a veteran rugby player on a team in its first season.

"Humber's women's rugby had many players who were new to the game," Hawks Coach Sara Mezzone said. "Isabelle's co-operative nature helped guide those players through the season."

Carisse is currently completing the chef training program and hopes to graduate in the spring.

Having also been involved in water polo, rowing and kickboxing, this is a woman with an athletic background.

Carisse's rugby career started in 1994 when she was attending the Royal Military College in Victoria, B.C.

At the end of that season, she was recruited to play on two elite B.C. rugby teams.

Unfortunately, she was graduating at the time and was posted in Ottawa. There she played two seasons with the Ottawa Irish Women's team.

She was away from the game for four years when she was posted in Petawawa, where she re-emerged in 2001 with the Kingston Panthers.

In 2003, she came to Toronto to play for Humber.

Although she looks like nothing less than an athlete in tip-top condition, Carisse complains that she doesn't work out as much as she'd like.

"I try to vary from cardio to weights. I usually take weekends off. I do feel kind of guilty if I don't go every day," Carisse said.

"Right now, I'm in a world of hurt because I don't have the time to go (to the gym)."

A team player, Carisse helps others beyond the rugby pitch.

While she was posted to Petawawa in 1999-2000, Carisse was appointed the Transportation Officer for the National Support Element in Skopje, Macedonia.

Her job consisted of co-ordinating all re-supply movements of troops to and from the theatre of operations.

She ran re-supply convoys consisting of eight, 16-tonne trucks that had to cross the Kosovo-Macedonian border on roads littered with anti-personnel and anti-tank mines.

In addition, her personnel took care of all heavy cargo and the management of an 86-car fleet of rental vehicles.

Her habit of helping others didn't stop with her return.

At Humber, she is a member of the safewalk team. Teammate Daniella Cross works with Carisse on campus security.

"Isabelle's an extremely motivating and talented team member," Cross said.



Soon to be a chef, this former officer in the Canadian forces leads her troupe to battle on the rugby field.

"The girls on the team benefited greatly from playing with someone with her level of experience and knowledge of the game."

Even though the rugby team has only been around for a year, through it Carisse has made a significant contribution to the team and the school.

Hawks scrape out victory

By Branko Belan

The men's basketball team scored another big win Tuesday night over the Mohawk Mountaineers winning 68-61.

The first half was close, with both teams swapping the lead. At one point, Humber went on a 15-0 run, taking a 10-point lead.

But the Hawks gave it up as the Mountaineers came within two points at halftime.

"We just came out cold. It's been happening the last four or five

games," Hawk's player Shane Dennie said.

Dennie had an off night, scoring six points, well below his season average of 16.2.

"I got down on myself. I just have to stay positive and be confident in myself and I'll start making my shots," Dennie said.

Dejvis Begaj had a big game for Humber, scoring 24 points with 9 out of 14 field goal shots.

"Dejvis [Begaj] stepped up tonight. He had an all-around good game," Assistant Coach Andrew Vallejo said.

The Mountaineers opened the second half with an 8-0 run, combining good play at the offensive end with solid rebounding on the defensive side.

As the second half progressed,

the Hawks managed to claw their way back into the game.

Humber managed to pull away, holding on to a slim lead with under two minutes to play, but they held their own on defence and came away with the win.

"We ran our offence well and they couldn't get anything going against our zone [defence]," Dennie said.

"We just came out cold. It's been happening the last four or five games"

Hawk's player Neriya Tsur credits the team for staying with the system.

"They scouted us. They knew our stuff. It was a playoff type win," Tsur said. "Dejvis stepped up at both ends of the floor and our bench guys did a good job tonight."

The two teams will meet again Sunday for a makeup game that was supposed to be played two weeks ago.

The game was cancelled due to weather conditions.

Humber will try for another win against the Centennial Colts tonight in order to keep pace with the first place Sheridan Bruins.

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