

Passing of a gentleman

First president remembered as visionary who helped college grow

Michael Sutherland-Shaw
Steph Davidson
NEWS REPORTERS

Gordon Wragg, the gentleman farmer who nurtured Humber students and staff as the college's first president, has died. He was 91.

During the 1979 support staff strike, as custodial duties went undone, Wragg himself picked up a mop to help clean the school, said Wragg's long-time executive assistant Doris Tallon.

"We all had to take turns during the work during the strike, including Gordon Wragg with his mops," she said. "Mr. Wragg asked for volunteers to help clean the college. We had to be in by 7 a.m. and worked until our regular start time."

When Wragg's successor, Dr. Robert Gordon, took the reigns after Wragg retired in 1982, the college was in good shape. "There was no mess to clean up," he said. His task was just to "take a good college and make it better."

Opening the doors of Humber College in 1967, "Wragg sowed the initial seeds," said Vice-President of Academics Michael Hatton, who worked as a full-time teacher while Wragg was president.

In addition to his role as president of the college, Wragg was dedicated to assisting students financially through fundraising events and the sale of produce he grew himself on his 50-acre farm in Kleinburg, Ont.

He would sell flowers from his garden as well as "bushels of apples for student scholarships and bursaries. Humber College was very much his life, and I think that was something people could just feel," said Hatton.

Hatton recalled a conversation he had with Wragg about the valuable role teachers play in the lives of their students.

"He was a modest man, a paternalistic leader, sort of like a senior statesmen...He was the father of the institution in more ways than one."

— Dr. Robert Gordon
Former Humber president

"I remember he talked to me about the importance of teaching and how teaching was an honourable profession. 'You should be proud and have to be an ethical and moral leader', and that stuck with me ever since," he said.

One of Wragg's qualities that stood out for Hatton was his desire



Humber College Photo

President of the college for 15 years, Gordon Wragg worked tirelessly to build a sense of family and co-operation throughout Humber.



Humber College Photo

Gordon Wragg, fourth from the right, with other Humber College officials at the ground breaking ceremony for the Gordon Wragg Student Centre on March 16, 1978. Wragg also helped form the Student Association Council, the precursor to the HSF.



Humber College Photo

Gordon Wragg with Rev. Stanley Snowden (centre) and Douglas E. Light at a roast held in his honour in 1977. An accomplished flautist himself, Wragg set up the Gordon Wragg Scholarship for students in music programs at Canadian colleges or universities.

to put people first — staff and students alike — regardless of the size of the school. "He knew what they did, where they came from, what their interests were. He knew about their family lives, their hobbies and what they did on vacation," he said.

Gordon attributes Humber's accomplishments and on-going success to hard work by his predecessor during his tenure as president and the direction he set for the college.

"He was a modest man, a paternalistic leader," said Gordon. "Sort of like a senior statesman; he looked out for the college. He was the father of the institution in more ways than one."

During the turbulent '60s and '70s, students would set up camp behind the college and Wragg was known to visit them and "bring apples to hippies in the ravine," said Gordon.

It was Wragg who initiated the annual president's barbecue as a way to thank staff and faculty at the end of the school year, always working to build a close-knit environment within the college, said Vice President of Student and Corporate Services, John Mason.

"He was a gentleman of great courtesy, he would thank someone by saying 'much obliged' or 'many thanks,'" he said.

Mason, who was a student and food service employee during Wragg's presidency, said, "as a student, what you saw among the faculty and staff was a sense of family and co-operation."

Hatton said Wragg created an environment where people had the freedom to cut their own path.

"What attracted me to Humber was its welcoming culture ... and willingness to embrace change and progress. I attribute the development of those characteristics to those two previous presidents. It was a wonderful inheritance," said current Humber President John Davies.

Gordon remembers Wragg as a

president willing to allow college faculty the freedom to be themselves. "His lasting legacy was that firstly, he hired very good people and secondly, he allowed them to do their thing."

Wragg is survived by his beloved wife of 63 years, Anne, son John, daughter Mary, and granddaughter Tanya.

Visitation will be held today and tomorrow at the Scott Funeral Home 'Woodbridge Chapel', 7776 Kipling Ave. A funeral service will be held on Saturday, April 18, at 2:00 p.m. at the Woodbridge United Church, 8090 Kipling Ave., with visitation an hour prior.

NEWS

Conquest Vacations ceased operation yesterday after 37 years, blaming a competitive market, the slow economy and "unreasonable demands" for its demise. — *thestar.com*

THE SKINNY

News hits from Canada and around the world

Missing book returned

A 110-year-old overdue library book was finally returned to the Lyn Heritage Place Museum near Brockville, Ont. last week. The man who returned it isn't being asked to pay the \$9,000-plus fine. (*thestar.com*)

GM told to prepare

Though operating through U.S. government loans, General Motors is being directed by the U.S. Treasury Department to lay the groundwork for filing bankruptcy by June 1, 2009. (*wheels.ca*)

Military site set ablaze

A military training school in Dresden, Germany was torched by vandals last Sunday. More than 30 army vehicles were set on fire, costing millions of dollars in damage. (*torontosun.com*)

Biscuit warning issued

Some should avoid consuming Choripdong-brand biscuits according to the Canadian Food Inspection Agency. The product contains peanuts and sesame seeds, which isn't stated on the label. (*parentcentral.ca*)

Countries battle cough

An expert at Dalhousie University said Canada is doing a better job of taking measures to prevent the whooping cough amongst adolescents, although the U.S. ranks higher at vaccinating adults against the illness. (*healthzone.ca*)

Online service ends

The online passport application service provided by Passport Canada will be discontinued as of May 1, 2009. (*thestar.com*)

Girl reunited with dad

A Montreal father is being reunited with his 10-year-old daughter, who disappeared two years ago and was found at a Vancouver SkyTrain station. The child went missing, along with her mother, following a parental dispute and her father being awarded sole custody. (*cbc.ca*)



The Alder Street Campus needs enrolment to grow before construction can begin on the new campus. File photo

Orangeville date now 2012

Erin DeCoste
NEWS REPORTER

Financial concerns and low student enrolment have delayed development at Humber's Orangeville campus until 2012, said the director of the campus.

"The reasons come down to critical mass — we need the student population to get support from Humber," said Joe Andrews. "It's critical to have the population. If you don't have it, then you're building without the financial support."

Humber originally planned to begin constructing the new campus in 2006, but was waiting to complete the environmental assessment study, which is finished now, said Vice-President of Finance, Rani Dhaliwal.

With about 150 students enrolled, the campus needs to grow to 450 to start building, said Rick Embree, Humber's associate vice president.

He said the college needs to reach

a cohort of about 600 students by 2012 and the campus will be built to hold 2,000 students.

The deputy mayor of Orangeville said the town is behind Humber 100 per cent.

"The town's laid their financial contribution already, which is the property for the site," said Warren Maycock.

But the campus needs more money than what Humber and the city of Orangeville have contributed to begin building phase one.

"Ideally we'll receive provincial or federal infrastructure money," Andrews said. "It's difficult to build phase one of the college with only \$10 million when it costs roughly \$20 million."

The campus is currently housed at the Alder Street Recreational Complex, an \$18-million facility that features a student common area, fitness centre and food court.

The campus offers courses in police foundations, business management and administration, early childhood education and a new fall program in home renovation.

Embree is concerned the campus lacks the necessities to draw much needed students.

"What they need is a full student life campus," he said. "It's essential. Right now it's a series of classrooms, a library and space. We can't give the full college experience."

However, Andrews said the college offers prospective students something bigger campuses, like Lakeshore and North, cannot.

"It's a wonderful opportunity to those who may feel hesitant to move to a big city," he said. "We have a large percentage of people from rural communities."

Andrews added that a small group of students gets "to do things more intimately."

Etobicoke Centre MPP visits college facilities

Mark Rothen
NEWS REPORTER

Ontario Minister of Natural Resources Donna Cansfield visited Humber College on Tuesday.

Accompanied by Humber President John Davies, the Etobicoke Centre MPP visited several areas of North Campus, getting a chance to speak to students and watch them learning.

Cansfield said she was visiting mainly to discuss with Davies the college's future development and how students' needs are being met.

"I look at my own ministry and recognize that I have a very significant challenge ahead as many people retire," Cansfield said. "But are we producing the workforce to take over — the scientists, the biologists, the foresters, the entomologists — all the people that I need help from at the ministry?"

Cansfield first visited Humber's digital newsroom and broadcast centre where she observed students taping a newscast and met some winners of the journalism awards won in New York City last month.



Mark Rothen

Minister Donna Cansfield gets introduced to the new culinary labs.

Next, Cansfield toured Humber's Canadian Centre of Culinary Arts and Sciences, where she met culinary skills students, tried some of the food they had prepared and was shown the state-of-the-art facilities.

Lastly, Cansfield took a look at the fitness and health promotion wing.

Program co-ordinator Denise Gardner showed Cansfield the college's fitness testing equipment, which Gardner said the college had better

access to than several universities.

During the tour, Davies impressed on Cansfield Humber's unique position as a post-secondary institution created by its partnership with the University of Guelph.

Davies told Cansfield demand for admission at Guelph-Humber is growing, but they wouldn't be able to expand without more land.

Cansfield "has been a really good friend of Humber," Davies said.

HSF budget increases 9 per cent to \$6.1M

John Nicholson
NEWS REPORTER

The Humber Students' Federation passed a \$6.1-million operating budget for 2009-2010, which is roughly \$400,000 more than last year.

The budget was developed by HSF president Mike Berg, and executive director Ercole Perrone, with insight from the board of directors and other HSF staff, Perrone said.

"I think overall it's a pretty solid budget," Berg said. "There wasn't anything earth-shattering in this budget. To know that money is going back into students' pockets, that's something to be proud of."

The 2008-2009 operating budget was \$5.7 million. This year's \$6.1 million budget signifies an increase of about 9 per cent.

Revenue for the budget comes primarily from two student fees — the student activity fee, which generates \$2,858,040, and the health and dental plan fee, which generates \$2,991,864.

The money generated by the health and dental plan fee is entirely dedicated to student insurance plans, while revenue from the activity fee is where HSF finds most of its income, Perrone said.

The budget allots over \$600,000 to programming expenses, which includes orientation events as well as clubs and associations — money that falls under supervision from student vice-president's campus life and HSF programming director Aaron Miller.

"They know that they have funds to invest," Perrone said. "They spend the summer with two of our full-time staff. They plan things out. They do costing. If they're over, they have to cut."

Incoming HSF president Shugufa Kaker said she was content with the passed budget.

"There isn't much that I'd like to have changed," Kaker said. "For future years, maybe, I could look at a little bit more for student bursaries."

The budget allocates more than \$100,000 for bursary and academic awards.

"We didn't increase it from last year," Berg said, adding last year there had been a sizable increase in money set aside for bursaries and rewards.

The budget also includes more than \$250,000 allotted for HSF marketing and communications.

Costs under marketing include banners, fliers and commercials on Humber TV, Perrone said.

The budget also allocates \$293,640 to governance — \$200,000 of which is allotted for the combined executive salaries and special initiatives.

An additional \$1.2 million of the budget is for administration expenses including more than \$1 million for staffing and development.

Three days of mourning were declared by Poland's prime minister after at least 22 people died in a fire at a homeless shelter. – *english.aljazeera.net*



Alison Brownlee

Grace Dubery, left, with Olympian Michelle Guerette of Right to Play.

Olympian spreads message

Alison Brownlee
SPORTS REPORTER

An Olympic medallist coached a group of Humber students in some of the techniques world-class athletes use to help disadvantaged children around the world escape war and poverty through sport.

About 60 fitness and health promotion students turned out for two workshops by American Michelle Guerette, who won a silver medal in rowing at last summer's Beijing Olympics and now works with other athletes who carry the message of Right to Play.

"This organization really speaks to what our program is about," said Humber professor Monique Haan, who organized last Thursday's workshops at North Campus.

The students learned a game called "don't trust your eyes," which in-

volves hiding a red ball – representing HIV/AIDS – to teach children they cannot tell who has the virus by simply looking at them.

"What I really want to do is just share with the other coaches there the enthusiasm that students have here."

– Michelle Guerette
Olympic athlete

Another game called "rock, paper, scissors bingo" has children compete in an adapted rock, paper, scissor tournament to promote communication and conflict-prevention in war-torn areas.

"Sport just opens up the channels for peace," Guerette said, adding she

was impressed by the students' enthusiasm.

"It really speaks to the power of sport," she said. "Once people started playing the games, the students got really excited. You saw the smiles come out and people got engaged."

First-year student Chloe-Marie Brown, 18, said she learned some lessons in the workshop.

"A lot of people don't realize that sports is not just about hitting a ball or scoring a point," she said. "It's also about co-operation, focus and learning."

Guerette is travelling to Jordan this week, where she hopes to apply the recent training she received from Right to Play headquarters in Toronto.

"What I really want to do is just share with the other coaches there the enthusiasm that students have here," she said.

Business school mourns colleague

Lucas Meyer
IN FOCUS REPORTER

Even while she was sick, Humber law professor Laura Masella was the same optimistic, caring and modest colleague and friend she had always been, Business School faculty said.

"When she got diagnosed, they gave her three months to live and she lived for another two years, travelled with her husband and got to see her two daughters get accepted to university."

– Tanya Ryder
Associate dean, Business School

"I remember speaking to her and whispering to her when she was sick and she said, 'Susan, you don't have to whisper, just me,'" said Susan Lieberman, a fellow professor in

the Business School who shared an office with Masella before she died. "She never forced her opinion on anyone, she was just a dear, hard-working and caring person."

Masella lost her battle with colon cancer on April 11 at the age of 51.

She worked part time starting in 1994 and was hired full time in 2004. Masella was instrumental in the family law program and the administration of its online courses.

"Laura voluntarily gave her resources, was extremely supportive of everyone and very level-headed," said Business School Associate Dean Tanya Ryder.

"When she got diagnosed, they gave her three months to live and she lived for another two years, travelled with her husband and got to see her two daughters get accepted to university."

After her diagnosis in 2007, the school started the Laura Masella Achievement Award fund, which honours excellence in family law.

One of her former students said her time in Masella's classes were essential to her college experience.

"My first memory of Laura was at the beginning of the class when she said if you're 10 minutes late, you have to go up front and apologize and if you're 15 minutes late for a test, don't bother coming," said Tara Kuiper, field placement advisor for the Business School, who after taking five classes from Masella was eventually hired by the school in January 2005.

"She had great class management skills – interacting and taking the time to speak with her students," she said, noting the massive turnout at her funeral on Tuesday shows how much people cared for her.

"At Christmas time, I was really sick so I didn't want to want to be too close," Kuiper said. "But she still gave me a hug."

Masella is survived by her husband James and daughters Christina and Julie.

Residences to get wireless Internet

Kimberley Molina
Biz/TECH REPORTER

Students in Humber's residences will have access to wireless Internet by the end of this semester as part of a nearly \$200,000 campus-wide expansion project.

The wireless network is being expanded throughout both North and Lakeshore campuses and as of May 1, wireless Internet will be activated in all four residence buildings, said Scott Briggs, chief information officer for Humber IT services. There are three residence buildings at North Campus and one at Lakeshore.

"We see that the wireless provides opportunities for students to collaborate, be in the same space, be working on academic work together," he said.

Every room in residence has a wired connection and students could set up a wireless system, said Lynn Newhouse, associate director of campus services.

She said the cost of installing the full network was being split by HSF and the residences' operating bud-

get, adding the initiative would not cause residence fees to increase.

However, Newhouse said only the main floor of every residence will be retrofitted for wireless because of the high cost.

"For the network drops themselves, it was probably something like \$10,000," she said, noting the cost to retrofit the residences entirely would be in the hundreds of thousands.

Activation of the wireless networks will occur at the end of the term for fears it might interfere with students' current wireless connections, Newhouse said.

First-year media foundations student Justin Bissell, 19, said he thinks putting wireless into the residences will be beneficial for students because he had to go to the main buildings when he wanted to have a wireless connection.

Briggs said the success of having wireless in specific areas will be evaluated before it determines whether to have it available all throughout the residences.

Earth Week contests wrap up and winners go home with \$500 cash

Jackie Martinz
NEWS REPORTER

A swim suit made of pop tabs won best design at the trashy fashion show, held last Wednesday as part of Humber Earth Week.

Christine Cuddie, the swim suit's designer and first-year student in fashion management at Lakeshore Campus, took home \$500 from the Humber Students' Federation.

"I love summer and I had a lot of pop tabs," she said. "That's basically where the idea came from. It took me fifteen hours to sew it together."

The show featured 15 designs by students that were made entirely from used items, said HSF staff member Amanda Scapinello.

"The purpose of the show was to show students that there are many

ways to be environmentally-friendly," Scapinello said. "You can even do it with clothes."

The winner of the image arts contest, also for Earth Week, was announced a few hours later.

Stacy Weber, a second-year creative photography student at North Campus, was awarded first place, with first-year creative photography student Adam Moco and interior design student Sojung Yoo taking second and third respectively.

The contests were held to promote environmental awareness and sustainability on campus, said HSF president Mike Berg.

"We wanted to find a way to encourage students to develop their skills and also be environmentally friendly," Berg said.

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NEWS

Soldiers armed with assault rifles fought anti-government protesters in street battles in Bangkok on Monday, as unrest spread through Thailand's capital. - nytimes.com

Students clean up Garbage around campuses gets trashed

Kristen Smith
LIFE REPORTER

Students, faculty and staff at North and Lakeshore fanned out across their campuses and surrounding neighbourhoods last week to both clean up the grounds and Humber's reputation.

"Sometimes, in the community, students are seen in a negative light because of after-hour noise or bottles on the ground," said Christopher Shimoji, one of the organizers of the drive and manager of CAPS at North Campus. "We thought we would change it up a bit and try to clean up."

Nearly 90 volunteers – 58 at North and 31 at Lakeshore – filled more than 100 trash bags, separating garbage and recycling materials during the four-hour cleanup last Thursday.

"It was a pretty good haul," said Michael Kopinak, organizer of the cleanup and manager of student life at Humber.

Students took satisfaction from their efforts, timed to coincide with Humber's Earth Week festivities.

"It's a great chance to clean up the community and to show that people actually care about the area surrounding the school," said Will Armstrong, 20, a second-year police foundations student who filled two garbage bags. "It helps make everything look a lot better."

First-year vocal music major Shannon McNaughton, 19, grabbed a garbage bag to play a part while running errands.

"I thought I would kill two birds with one stone," she said.

Participating students received Humber community shirts, HSF-donated stainless steel water bottles and a volunteer certificate signed by the dean of student services.

"The students that have been interested, have been very enthusiastic about it," said Mitch Burnie, residence life co-ordinator at Lakeshore.



Kristen Smith

Brittany Dasilva, 18, left, and Kevin Flynn, 18, help with the community cleanup at Lakeshore Campus.

TTC on board with new tracking system to improve service

David White
NEWS REPORTER

The lives of Humber commuters will be made easier in coming months as the TTC introduces its new state-of-the-art transit tracking system, TTC spokesperson Brad Ross said.

A GPS-based computer application called NextBus will be implemented on all of Toronto's subways, buses and streetcars over the next several months.

The system will give commuters up-to-the-minute information about delays along their route and allow them to see the exact time their ride will arrive.

"Starting this summer we'll have a trip planner, so you can see in real time where your bus is and when

it's supposed to arrive," Ross said. "Then, over the next several months, you'll be able to send a text message to your stop and it will bounce back telling you when the next bus will be arriving."

Ross said each subway station will have display screens indicating when the next train is arriving, similar to an airport terminal. About 300 of the city's bus stops will also have display screens.

Several other Canadian cities have already implemented the NextBus system, including Guelph, Thunder Bay and St. John's. Ross said the Toronto system will cost about \$5.2 million.

"I think it will be quite beneficial to Humber students," said Suzan Hall, city councillor (Ward 1) and

a TTC board member. "Particularly for young women, there's always a concern with them being on their own at night. When they know that a bus is coming then they know when they should be getting out there to catch it."

The system is also intended to improve TTC business.

"If you make the transit-riding experience more enjoyable it gives people more control over that experience, which gives you the potential for increased ridership," said Brian Boychuck, executive vice-president of Grey Island Systems, the Toronto-based company behind the NextBus technology.

"There are people who have no choice but to take public transit, there are people who will never take it and then there is the huge middle group who have the choice," Boychuck said. "Those are the ones you are trying to influence."

The NextBus system should be implemented by the end of this year.

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Lee Flohr

Fire not being investigated, official says

A fire that started in the arborium last Thursday will not be investigated by police, said Acting Division Commander Mike Miccoi of Toronto Fire Services west command.

"We've determined that the fire was started by accident," Miccoi said.

Firefighters had a difficult time finding and accessing the fire because of its location along the north bank of the West Humber River. It took firefighters about an hour to access and extinguish the blaze. An arborium official said there is about one fire in the area each year, but the fire has "restorative qualities." Fires put nutrients back into the ground and open up the area for sunlight and wildlife.

— Lee Flohr

EDITORIAL

Vaughan mayor Linda Jackson has been cleared of conflict of interest allegations for participating a lawsuit that was to be filed against her critics. – thestar.com

Eco-foods priced too high

Last week the McGuinty Provincial government announced it will invest \$24-million into locally grown produce that will end up being sold in school and colleges among other institutions. While this will give local farmers the opportunity to provide to a wider audience according to Terry Kyritis, director of student services, purchasing locally grown foods will be more expensive for students who are already wallowing in tuition debt.

Elizabeth Zahur wrote in an Et Cetera article that the new proposed partnership between Chartwells and Local Food Plus represents the latest initiative to become more environmentally conscious and address food concerns across campus.

Humber College is taking steps forward to provide healthier and environmentally sound options for the student population. Laura Telford, executive director of Canadian Organic Growers, backed that up by saying it's important to buy organic or local sustainable foods for environmental reasons. We all care about doing the right thing by the environment and embedding locally grown produce at Humber

would be another tick in the sustainable box for the college. The main concern is should we go sustainable on produce that will hike food prices around campus? We must factor these costs for the college and the students before we start making deals with non-profit organizations like LFP.

Local Food Plus charges Chartwells a price premium associated with growing their natural foods. This figure will equate to a cost of 10 per cent more on foods sold on campus – more than students will be willing to spend.

Knowing that we as students who work low-paying jobs in order to pay off accumulative debt raised from tuition, the chances of paying an extra \$2-3 more for a salad are zero. If green measures is what the college wants to embark on, it would make sense to pursue energy-related initiatives that already exist at the college. Measures taken by the college to implement a greener way of eating hinder, more than helps the student population. It's fine to say 'here are some healthier, locally grown foods to eat', but when the majority of students can't afford it, we should focus on something else.

The right time for Bill 167

The McGuinty government recently put forward a piece of legislation aimed at reducing Ontario's mining, manufacturing and industrial sectors' use and production of toxic substances, or toxics, to foster the development of new green industries.

The Environment News Service reports the most recent comparative data available – gathered in 2004 – shows Ontario was second only to Texas in terms of tonnes of toxics released.

If left to their own devices, industries struggling to survive and retain their skilled workforces will not rush to increase spending on adherence to governmental standards.

Bill 167, or the Toxics Reduction Strategy 2009, was introduced April 7 and calls for \$24 million to be invested over a three year period to develop green chemistry alternatives as well as requiring regulated facilities to create a system of tracking and evaluating the current use and release of toxics.

The move to regulate the toxics associated with the manufacturing and industrial sectors in the province is a bold move considering the potential draw-backs of governmental interference with a free market system.

Raising the standards on how many toxics a corporation can release into the environment is an ethically responsible action for a government to take and, if implemented correctly and adhered to by regulated facilities, could have a substantive effect on the total amount of toxics released into the environment.

But, the potential for conflict between environmental concerns and ensuring the development of new sustainable industries in the province lies in the regulations Bill 167 demands in order to be effective.

The list of toxics drawn up by Environment Canada officials is extensive and must be both inclusive of harmful toxics and approved in consultation with experts, the facilities to be

regulated would need to be specified and dedicated timelines for reporting toxics use by said facilities would need to be established.

All of these necessary steps could stifle foreign investment in the province, as multinational corporations pass the province by to set up shop in a less regulated region.

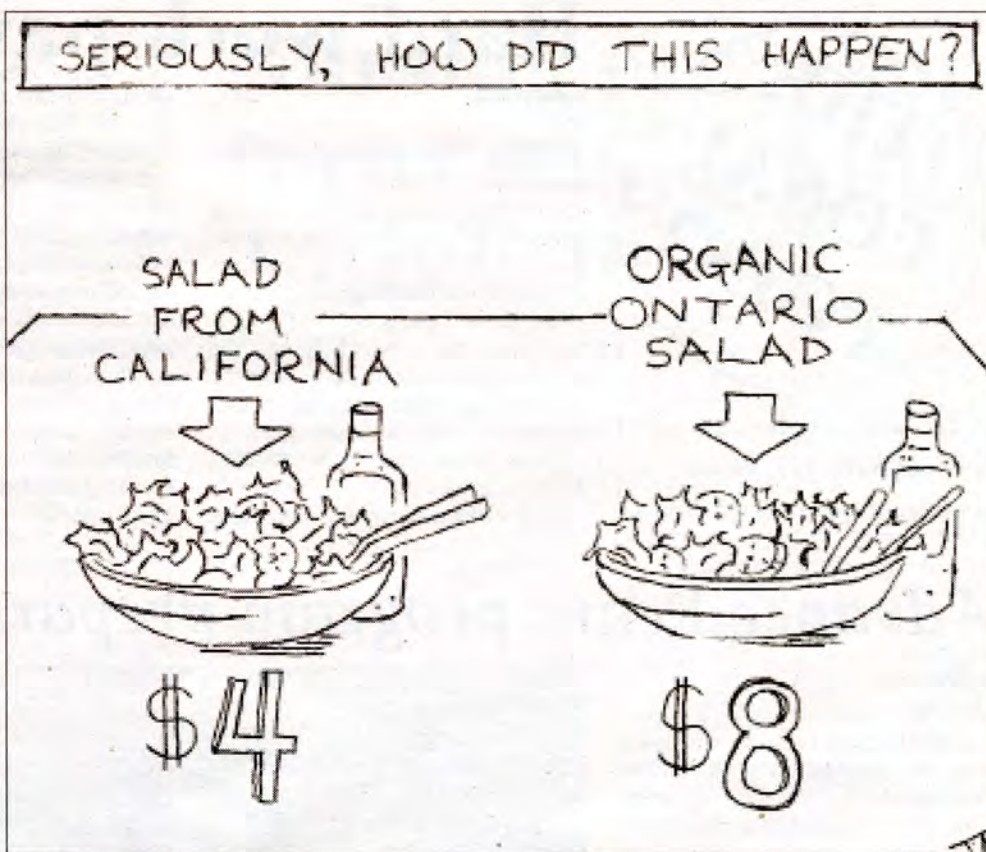
A balance needs to be maintained between the protection of human health and the development of a green economy. The provincial government has walked this line in the past – in 1985 it banned the use of the pesticide Dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane (DDT) and 1990 when leaded gasoline was outlawed – making it to the other relatively unscathed.

Perhaps most important to remember when weighing the pros and cons of governments regulating sectors currently struggling for survival is the effects deregulation had on the global economy. A world-wide recession, largely caused by the fast-and-loose dealings of investment bankers operating in a deregulated system, should be warning enough that governmental interference is, at times, the least of all evils.

To help with the shift, the provincial Liberals are directing funds to small businesses to offset the costs associated with introducing new measures to reduce the production of toxics, providing experts to assist facilities in the preparation and implementation of reduction plans and the creation and training of advisors, or toxic reduction planners, to aid facilities in retrofitting operations according to the requirements of the Bill.

Ontario's industries are at a cross-road. With production slowing to a snail-like rate, an opportunity exists to fashion a new, more environmentally stable method of production, and the McGuinty government is trying to seize this opportunity.

Bill 167 is chocked full of carrots to get the herd moving, now we need to see how big of a stick they'll need to keep everyone in line.



WORD ON THE STREET

Do you have a preference for buying locally grown foods?



Trish Taylor, 20
1st year,
fitness and health

"No, I don't because I take whatever's accessible to me because I live on campus and getting grown food is difficult."



Jood Al-Haj Saleh, 18
1st year,
nursing

"Buying locally grown food would be better because you'd know where it's from and what they use instead of using chemicals and other stuff."

Jessica Sehnke, 21
1st year,
nursing



"Yes, I do. I prefer to eat locally grown food. Especially fruits because in other countries they may have different types of disease that can be carried across."

Jon Lamacchia, 26
1st year,
design foundation



"Yes, I do have a preference for shopping locally. I think it's good for the environment, it's less transportation, and fresher food."

The Et Cetera wants to know what you think.

We welcome letters or emails expressing your opinion on issues covered in the paper. Reporting the news is not a one-way street. Hearing from our readers is important to us.0 and debate will bring more depth to the news we report. Think we're missing out on the real issues at Humber? Have we not told the whole story? Let us know!
Send us an email at humberetc2008@gmail.com.

HUMBER ET CETERA

The Et Cetera will engage, challenge, and inform the Humber College community with progressive and contemporary content reflecting the diversity of its readership.

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IN FOCUS LIFE AFTER HUMBER

David Shannon, 46, who was paralyzed after a spinal-cord injury, is a lawyer from Thunder Bay is the first known quadriplegic to reach the North Pole.— www.metronews.ca



This week's In Focus section profiles Humber graduates excelling in their respective fields.

Hard work pays off for motivated grad

Pattie Phillips
IN FOCUS REPORTER

Humber business grad Paul Crowe said earning three promotions and more than doubling his starting salary of \$30,000 in three years is just the start of his career in Toronto's competitive advertising industry.

"My focus right now is on growing my accounts and helping the company win new business with the goal of being promoted again before the end of 2009," said Crowe, 28, an account supervisor at the Publicis Modem ad agency.

After working on ad campaigns

for such clients as the Toronto Blue Jays and LG electronics, he's now in charge of the interactive (online and mobile) accounts for some of Canada's biggest companies, including CIBC and Grand & Toy.

Crowe attributes his quick rise in the industry to motivation, curiosity and hard work — 50 to 60 hours a week. He's quick to point out nobody gave him a leg up.

"I've achieved all of this by being the person I am — not through connections I have. I've never had anything handed to me. I've had to prove myself."

Knowing at a young age that he wanted to be in advertising, Crowe moved to Toronto from his hometown of Kelowna, B.C., in 2002. Two years later he graduated from Humber's business administration program.

"Paul exemplifies the ability of a graduate to work hard to get what they want, to have a really focused goal, and to work towards being successful," said program co-ordinator Mike Planche.

"He's up for any challenge — that's an important trait because the world is full of people who have great ideas and don't follow through on them.

But Paul's very persistent."

"He's a go-getter," agreed Crowe's boss, Todd Hummel. "He learns everything there is to learn. He deserves every promotion he gets.

Crowe said while he is moving forward, he is also looking back to Humber to help those who follow him into the business world.

"I like the fact that what I'm doing could serve as motivation for others," said Crowe, a member of Humber's Business Administration Advisory Committee. "It seems like a lot of work, but in the end it's worth it."

Advanced care program prepares medics for real-life scenarios

Teri Pecoskie
IN FOCUS REPORTER

Whether he's reviving drowning children, treating burn victims, or backing up a SWAT team in hostage situations, Humber grad Jamie Pietrobon says paramedics expect the unexpected.

"I look forward to the surprise," he said. "That's why I do this job."

The 30-year-old from Sudbury makes \$92,000 a year with the Peel Regional Paramedic Service. A graduate of Humber's advanced care paramedic program, Pietrobon has worked for the region for five years and has been a member of the service's tactical team for two — responding to high-risk emergencies alongside heavily armed police.

"We communicate with the tactical police officers," he said. "When they respond to a call — barricaded patients, suicidal patients, or dangerous situations that can't be handled by regular police — we show up and back them up."



Teri Pecoskie

Humber paramedic grad, Jamie Pietrobon, pushing a stretcher he uses at work for Peel region.

Pietrobon said the tough scenarios he faced in Humber's advanced care program prepared him for the real-life risks he faces on the job.

"There won't be more stressful

situations than the tactical calls. There are weapons involved and peoples' lives are at stake."

Rob Schembri, lead instructor of the advanced care paramedic

program at Humber, called Pietrobon "a consummate professional," both in school and on the job.

"He's a shining example of a paramedic striving to be the best

in his field and succeeding," said Schembri. "He's a great example for paramedics coming out of Humber and going out onto the road right now."

Pietrobon's success can be attributed to his positive attitude and the wide range of knowledge and skills he brings to the job, said Schembri.

In addition to his paramedic diplomas from Humber and Cambrian College, Pietrobon earned a bachelor of science degree from Laurentian University and a pre-service firefighting diploma from Durham College.

Jason Farrow, a paramedic instructor at Humber and an acting supervisor for Peel Region, said Pietrobon's intense drive is exceptional.

"Jamie set some serious goals for himself and he went after them and achieved them. His case is atypical, because so many people are content to do the bare minimum and don't make an effort to advance themselves. That's not Jamie."

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Charismatic comic delivers laughs on the big stage

Lucas Meyer
IN FOCUS REPORTER

When she was 28-years-old, Debra DiGiovanni quit her job, graduated from Humber's inaugural year of the Comedy Writing and Performance program in 2000 and is now living her dream of making a living as a comedian.

"I was always thinking about doing it and a friend of mine told me, now's your chance," said DiGiovanni, 37, who won Best Female Comedian at the 2007 Canadian Comedy Awards two years after graduating and won Best New Stand Up in 2002.

"Even if it sounds corny, I spent

"Britney is too easy — pardon the pun — to make fun of, everyone does her."

— Debra DiGiovanni
Comedian

my year at Humber learning and laughing — yeah, that it is corny."

Living with her cat in Toronto and touring as one of the top acts in Canada, DiGiovanni cites events from

her everyday life into her act.

"She translates her own experience into her work with a great deal of charm on stage," said School of Creative and Performing Arts faculty member, Allan Guttman. "She was very determined, had sacrificed a lot by quitting her regular job in order to do her dream."

One of the main commentators on Muchmusic's Video On Trial, DiGiovanni said the lessons she learned at Humber gave her an edge over other comedians.

"Humber was wonderful, I learned lots of secrets of the trade—from mic techniques to the blueprint of the business," said DiGiovanni, who kept a day job until 2005 working as a receptionist by day and doing her comedy shows at night.

"I would come into work the next morning after a show and my co-workers would tell me how tired I looked because I was basically dead."

Humber professors recall how she stood out as a promising comedian.

"It was pretty clear she was a natural-born comic," said Larry

Horowitz, her stand-up instructor. "I remember telling her 'you're going to be a stand-up comedian,' and whether she believed me or not, she's done pretty good."

DiGiovanni's major breaks include opening for and touring with fellow comic and Brampton-native Russell Peters in 2005 and making the top ten of NBC's Last Comic Standing in 2007.



File photo

Debra DiGiovanni (left) with famous comedian Margeret Cho

LIFE AFTER HUMBER IN FOCUS

Somali pirates brazenly hijacked three more ships in the Gulf of Aden, the waterway that's become the focal point of the world's fight against piracy. — www.metronews.ca

Raising the bar at CBC

Jackie Paduano
IN FOCUS REPORTER

Humber journalism grad and Hockey Night In Canada Features Producer, Jennifer Barr, has dealt with everything from a locker room full of naked NHL players to keeping Don Cherry happy.

"I've seen it all, I'm not afraid of that stuff," said the 32-year-old on the nude hockey players. "I didn't run away, I'm not easily intimidated."

As for Don Cherry, or "Grapes" as he's affectionately called by the HNIC staff, Barr said he's a simple guy who likes his cold beer, peanuts and pretzels.

"He's a good man," she said. "Everyone loves it when he goes off on Ron MacLean though, let's face it."

Being a woman in sports broadcasting has its challenges, but being strong and speaking out can open a lot of doors, said Barr, who graduated in 1999.

"I had to build my way up and prove that I wasn't a flake," she said. "There are advantages too, because women bring something of a personal level to a story, which is what the fans love to hear."

Judy Charles, a Humber journalism instructor and one time co-worker of Barr's at CBC, said she isn't surprised

at her former student's successes, which include a Gemini win in 2008.

"She's positive, bright, a real firecracker," she said. "The qualities that have allowed her to succeed in sports are those that enable her to succeed no matter what she does."

"She's one of those people you'd like to spend eight hours a day with," added Terri Arnott, who also taught Barr at Humber. "She has always known her sports, but she's not a show off."

Barr's job survived the recent round of layoffs at CBC, and she said students shouldn't despair that prospects in the industry look narrow these days.

"It's not a happy time at CBC or in the business right now, but I think we'll all come back strong," she said. "Students might be questioning going into the field, but I say, stay with it, it'll be around for a long time."

Since working her way up from an entry-level editorial assistant at CBC, Barr said travelling to the Olympics, World Cup soccer events and NHL cities has been exciting and the money isn't bad either.

"Of course, I'd like to make more, but I'm satisfied," she said, adding that she's looking to buy a condo on King Street West. "I wouldn't have been to China twice or Switzerland and other cool places if I didn't work here."



File photo

Jennifer Barr shows off her production skills during a night of hockey

Nursing program turns student into a triple threat

Amy Snow
IN FOCUS REPORTER

At the age of 47, Idee Folami is a nurse, teacher, mother of three and entrepreneur, who graduated from the Humber UNB nursing program as valedictorian.

Folami's former professor, John Stone said, "she has certainly demonstrated the successful individual role on many fronts, her family, immediate and extended, she is a nursing professional, clinically, educationally, and as an entrepreneur."

Stone said on top of her already impressive workload Folami has started her own nursing agency, providing nurses to staff Intensive Care Units in metro Toronto area.

Folami's fourth year co-ordinator and instructor, Sandra Filice, said Folami's success makes her highly respected by her peers.

"Idee was an exemplary student, which is demonstrated by her commitment to the profession and her work ethic," she said.

Folami said becoming the first graduate from the Humber UNB program to win the highest level of

the Millennium Excellence award is her proudest accomplishment. The award is presented to students who excel in their program and includes a \$10,000 reward and membership into the prestigious post graduate Alumni Foundation.

After moving to Canada from Nigeria with her family, Folami said she was inspired by the nurses who cared for her father as he was dying.

"My father's death changed my perception of nursing and I decided I'm going to make a change," she said. "I just felt that those nurses loved my father until he passed away. I thought I can also do this for other families especially when they are going through a crisis."

Folami balances her time between her home in Newmarket, where she lives with her husband and three children, and her fast-paced career in the Intensive Care Unit at Humber River Regional Hospital.

"I love working at the hospital. Working in the ICU is not easy, but it becomes manageable and it is where I hope to be working years from now," she said.

Grad's life-long dream to work with the dead

Graeme Steel
IN FOCUS REPORTER

Michelle Clarke, a Humber grad who came back to the college as a teacher and now works as a funeral director in an industry where people want to be buried with such items as drug paraphernalia and pornography, knew as a young child what her career path would be.

"Women dream about the perfect wedding and then try to recreate it ... I dreamt about the perfect career as a funeral director."

— Michelle Clarke
Teacher / Funeral Director

"I would ask myself what the ladybug would want at her funeral and what the ladybug's casket should look like," Clarke, 32, said of the time before Grade 1 when she told her parents and teachers she wanted to work with dead people.

Clarke recalled that as a child growing up in Collingwood, Ont., she lined up her stuffed animals as a procession of mourners.

"Women dream about the perfect wedding and then try to recreate it," she said. "I dreamt about the perfect career as a funeral director."

Clarke, a co-ordinator of the fu-

neral services program at North Campus who teaches five days a week, has also worked with her funeral director husband Paul.

"We only get a few days with people to set the path so that they can grieve and be happy," said Clarke.

In many cases, she said, the answer is personalizing funerals, which can include placing such objects in a casket as rollerblades, snowboards, bottles of booze, rolling papers or pornography - or changing a cross-dressing man into women's clothing after the visitation.

"Making sure your eyes don't bug out of your head under those circumstances and knowing that you have to maintain that kind of confidentiality can be really difficult, especially if it's an influential person in your community," said Clarke.

Longtime friend and university roommate Renee Morris said Clarke's personality is a perfect match for her job.

"Michelle just knows what to say at the right time," said Morris.

Jeff Caldwell, Clarke's former instructor and now her colleague at Humber, noted Clarke's ability to overcome the sombre atmosphere of funeral homes.

"Michelle is certainly someone who takes every moment and lives it to its fullest," he said.



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BIZ/TECH

China's exports fell 17 per cent in March. The decline is smaller than February which raises hopes the plunge in overseas demand may be easing. — Canadian Press

Facebooking during work

Social networking websites help employees recruit and advertise

Josh Long
Biz/Tech Reporter

A couple of Humber grads told business students on Monday about the challenges faced using social networking websites in their working life.

Renee Warren, a 2007 marketing grad and partner in a clothing company called Figjam Apparel, ca, said some older clients have to be persuaded to advertise on the Internet.

"It's difficult, but I know more than they do," she told about 60 students attending the lecture.

Warren said there are benefits to having a presence on the web, noting she was recruited on Facebook and that companies often check out a prospective employee's personal site.

"You might want to take the beer-chugging pictures down," said Warren. "I have two Facebook accounts, one for business-related pictures and one for family and friends."

Justin Hanna, a 2007 Humber grad and partner in a clothing company called Figjam Apparel, said he quickly discovered the benefits of promoting his products on Facebook and other sites.

"Magazine advertisements were a lot more expensive than I expected," said Hanna.

Amanda Skelhorn, a 23-year-old marketing management student said the speakers were "very interesting, helpful and encouraging, because they actually relate to what we learn."



Debby Walker

The career centre's manager, Karen Fast, says Humber students can benefit from a complete and up to date portfolio, with samples of their work and an updated resume containing past experiences.

Strong visual portfolio key to getting dream job

Debby Walker
Biz/Tech Reporter

Students who are skilled in areas like journalism or creative photography, can benefit from an up-to-date portfolio showcasing its best work, said the career centre's manager.

"A portfolio is a compilation of material that you would use as evidence of your skills and abilities," Karen Fast said. "Be careful that the contents is customizes to the interview that you're going to."

Fashion Student Advisor Pamela Detterro, said there are two types of portfolios. There is an academic and the creative.

Creative portfolios are more visual containing artwork, pictures and designs. While an academic portfolios details a student's academic achievement and past work history.

Fashion students usually leave

with a combination of both, said Detterro.

She suggests putting work experience, any certificates, additional courses or credits, letters of recognition, any publications and pictures or photographs of students' work.

"A portfolio is a compilation of material you would use as evidence of your skills and abilities."

— Karen Fast
Career Centre Manager

"It shows you've actually put some thought into where you're going," said Detterro. "It doesn't matter how you say it, it's always better to show

you're work with pictures."

For example, if a student designs a fabulous wedding dress take a picture of it and include it in their portfolio to show employers rather than trying to explain it to them in words, said Detterro.

Heather Lowry, program co-ordinator of advertising and graphic design program at Humber, said in her field, a person without a creative portfolio will not be hired.

Lowry said, a portfolio should have 15 pieces of your work. It should start and end strong and the middle should show your skills and abilities, said Lowry.

Students can attend the Humber College Class of 2009 Graduate Portfolio Show, on April 30 between 2 p.m. to 9 p.m., to help them get a sense of what to put in their portfolio.

Students aloof about recession, prof says

David Perri
Biz/Tech Reporter

The staggering economy has energized business classrooms, but most students don't understand the predicament, said business professor Suzanne Iskander.

"After the recent elections in the U.S., everyone is looking at Obama like a rainmaker, but president Obama himself is saying 'give me at least until 2012 to get out of this,' and even then it's not certain," she said.

Students don't really understand why we are in a recession, she said.

"They know it has something to do with house prices going down, with the housing bubble bursting, but

they are not quite sure how it all ties together," said Iskander.

Third-year business administration student, Natasha Cook, said most students "think the problem will just go away."

Iskander said "this too shall pass" but students need to be more engaged with the economic climate to help them deal with difficulties they may encounter, like trying to find a full-time job or getting a mortgage.

Conversely, the crisis has gripped students in business classrooms at Humber. "What is happening now is relevant to the entire curriculum," said Richard Kingston, program co-ordinator of the financial services

program.

"Students tend to ask more questions in class regarding the concepts that are relevant to what is going on now," Kinston said.

Iskander said in her classes "the level of classroom engagement is really really high, they're sitting up, they're listening, they're participating."

The concepts being taught in business and economics now seem less abstract because they are being implemented across the globe every day, she said.

"I start off every class by opening the newspaper and reading the headlines," Iskander said.

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Europe's largest bank, HSBC Holdings, confirmed on Monday it was considering selling three of its major office buildings in London, New York and Paris. — *reuters.com*

Digital media creates opportunity, prof says

Josh Long
Biz/TECH REPORTER

A firm supporter of education, Humber's Associate Dean of Business said the recession may open positions to newcomers who would otherwise need more experience.

"A person that lays people off, has to convince themselves that they deserved it, so it's not likely they'll be hiring that guy again," said Peter Madott, explaining this may open the doors for newcomers to replace them.

As well, some markets may hold experience in greater regard than others, said Ken Wong, a professor at Queen's School of Business.

"The recession is detracting from traditional jobs," said Wong, "but it's creating opportunities in other areas. Internet, social networking, e-commerce, so that's what I'm telling my students to get into."

Wong said because these areas are new, those already in the industry may find their skills out of date, creating opportunities for those with these skills.

Toby Fletcher, an Associate Dean of School of Media Studies, said people who already have a diploma should have little difficulty finding jobs in these fields.

"What we're finding is that organizations are restructuring to accommodate new media," said Fletcher.

New media includes Internet based social networking clients such as Facebook, MySpace and Twitter. They can be used to provide cheap and effective advertisements that target specific audiences such as 20-year-

old students that like to write, said Fletcher.

Pierre-Pascal Gendron, a business professor with a PhD in economics said the type of job may be as important as where the job is.

While jobs may be scarce in Toronto, this is not so in Saskatchewan where business is booming, said Gendron. Someone who wishes to prosper in Toronto should consider education to compete in a more competitive market.

In March, Statistics Canada said Saskatchewan tied the highest increase in jobs and the second highest increase in earnings for January.

Gendron said Saskatchewan's resource based economy requires more workers than the population can provide.

"What we're finding is that organizations are restructuring to accommodate new media."

—Toby Fletcher
Associate Dean
School of Media Studies and Information Technology

"It's very resource oriented, it's a province with a very little population, so you need to attract people,"

said Gendron.

Andrew Patricio, a partner of a Toronto-based company BizLaunch.ca, advises small businesses on how to create business plans. He said now may be an ideal time to start one's own business and establish smaller clients.

"As soon as the economy turns around, they're going to be buying more, so you'll be doing really well."

Patricio said this could be extended to those interested in seeking employment in a freelance capacity.

"You work one day a week," said Patricio, "Later, when business is better, they're going to want you to come in more."



Josh Long

Andrew Patricio of BizLaunch.ca advises owners on how to create business plans to help them survive in an ailing economy.



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The venerable Joseph Patelson Music House in Manhattan, which is like a living room for classical music world, is closing after more than six decades. — *nytimes.com*



Stephanie Skenderis

Music teacher Pat LaBarbera, on saxophone, wowed the crowd.

Musical brothers play to jazzed-up audience

Stephanie Skenderis
A&E REPORTER

Humber professor and jazz sensation Pat LaBarbera hasn't played music with his two brothers since they were children, but the three blew the roof off the Lakeshore Campus auditorium last week.

"It's a hard thing to put together because it's a big band and it's hard to get players and venues," said LaBarbera, who plays the saxophone.

"This is the first actual LaBarbera brothers concert as such, so it's a thrill for us," said Joe LaBarbera, on drums.

The brothers performed with the Humber Jazz Ensemble, and all three said they admired the group's professionalism.

"These guys tore it up," said John LaBarbera, who conducted the band.

Students with the ensemble returned the compliment.

"It was amazing to play with all three of them," said third-year music student Eli Bennett, who had a saxophone solo in the show. "They're all legends."

20-year-old Bennett said his current teacher, Pat LaBarbera, makes class interesting by telling stories from the brothers' time playing with jazz heavyweights.

"Together, they've played with all the big names: Tony Bennett, Bill Evans, Elvin Jones, Buddy Rich," said director of music Denny Christianson, who organized the concert.

For one student, playing with the brothers brought his time studying music full circle. "I remember seeing

Joe LaBarbera play with Bill Evans when I first started playing music," said Jonathan Challoner, an award-winning trumpet player in his fourth year of Humber's jazz program.

"Whenever musicians come to Humber, they're always really excited to meet Pat. It's really cool that we have someone who's in the spotlight."



Stephanie Skenderis

Humber Jazz Ensemble played along with the talented brothers.



Stephanie Skenderis

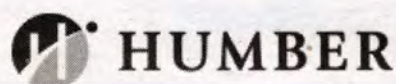
John LaBarbera (left), Denny Christianson, Joe LaBarbera and Pat LaBarbera all pose after having a great show at Lakeshore.

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If you're good—there's work



Film and TV industries cashing in on low loonie

John Evans
A&E REPORTER

The falling Canadian dollar and exhausted American tax subsidies are bringing jobs and production dollars back to Toronto's film and television industries.

"Our teachers are telling us about it and getting us all excited," said first-year film and television production student, Lauren Ashmore, 18. "There will be a lot more jobs because the Americans will be coming up here to use us."

The president of Filmport studios, Ken Ferguson, said they have already seen an increase in business.

"This spring we are seeing a lot of U.S. TV pilots," said Ferguson. "A lot of features are still being held up by the Screen Actors Guild. When that clears up we should see a burst of activity."

The actor's union has been without a contract with the Alliance of

Motion Picture and Television Producers since last June.

Rhonda Silverstone, manager of the Toronto Film and Television Office, which oversees location shooting in Toronto, said the number of productions shooting in the city is up 17 per cent compared to 2008.

"We were down in L.A. in January on a mission with mayor David Miller," she said. "There is a lot of interest in Toronto. We're kind of back on the radar."

Ferguson said a lot of films have been put on hold due to the struggling economy and the risk of a SAG strike. Compared with 2007, total production spending for 2008 was down 23 per cent.

"We have been in talks with all the major studios," he said. "The whole backlog probably runs into the billions of dollars, of which hundreds of millions of dollars of work could come to Toronto."

George Harrison received a posthumous star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame Tuesday, drawing Paul McCartney and Tom Petty to the ceremony. — CTV.ca



File Photo

Shirantha Beddage a grad from the Humber music program.

Grad becoming teacher in fall

Jessica Brooks
A&E REPORTER

After establishing a name for himself south of the border, Shirantha Beddage will be returning to his roots when he assumes his new position as the head of harmony and theory in the music program next fall.

Beddage, an accomplished saxophone and piano player who graduated from Humber's music program in 2002, spent the last seven years studying and teaching in the U.S.

He is currently the director of the jazz studies program at the Schwob School of Music at Columbus State University in Columbus, Georgia, after stints in Rochester, N.Y. and Wayne, N.J.

"It's a great feeling to be coming back to Humber. It is home to me," said Beddage. "My time as a student there was a very formative experience and influenced me a great deal."

Denny Christensen, director of music at Humber, said the program is looking forward to Beddage joining the faculty. "The main reason is not because he's Humber alumni, but because he's an incredible musician and teacher."

Beddage's successful track record as a program director in Georgia proves he will be a valuable asset to Humber. During the last three years he launched an annual university jazz festival and made jazz studies a degree within the music program.

"He's a very friendly, hard-working guy, passionate about jazz and energetic in sharing his passion with students and audiences," said Fred Cohen, director of the Schwob School. "We're all sad to see him go."

Born in England, Beddage's family moved to North Bay when he was three.

After attending Humber, Beddage completed his master's degree in music from William Patterson University, Wayne, N.J., in 2004, then went on to complete his doctorate in jazz studies and contemporary media from the Eastman School of Music in Rochester.

Beddage said he is not going to rush into setting goals for himself at Humber just yet.

"I am going to take some time to see where the school is at," he said. "I'll probably do a lot of listening in the first year."

Economy not a downer for songwriters, says instructor

Kat McMorrow
A&E REPORTER

When the economy slumps, songwriters at Humber use art as a therapeutic mode of escape.

"I think there may be several relatively superficial things that happen to culture in many ways when economies have bubbles burst and when markets fluctuate like stomachs on a roller coaster ride," said Lakeshore song writing instructor Rik Emmett. "Content can become darker and

more cynical when governments, politicians, and corporate people have been clearly proven to be inadequate, deceitful, incompetent or just plain wilfully greedy and stupid."

In 1981, Emmett released *Ordinary Man* with then trio Triumph. The lyrics send a clear message, using phrases such as "whose truth d'you sell today?" to describe the "almighty media."

"Songwriting is an artistic exercise of the heart, soul and intellect," said

Emmett. "When I get down to small details, like the money in my wallet, or the lint in my pocket, I usually have a bigger reason for using that detail as metaphor."

Emmett said in mainstream music, a lot of songs deal with content about wants and needs.

"Personal experience, and having something personally, emotionally, at stake in the work, is good for motivation, and provides a solid fuel for getting the work done," he said.

Amy Pitt, a recent Humber music grad agrees.

"Writing is therapy for me," she said.

Andrew Kay, a community music grad who is currently traveling through India, said songwriters' art is heavily influenced by what is going on around them.

"I'm a composer and songwriter, and all of my experiences influence my life and in turn that influences my music," said Kay.

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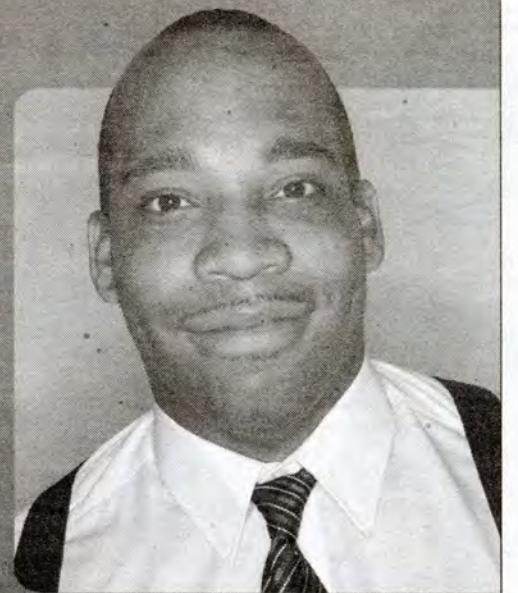
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A&E

The Stratford Shakespeare Festival, in a move unprecedented in its 57-year history, has placed 31 performances "on hold" from its 2009 schedule. — *thestar.com*

Comedy show no 'WoOopsie'-daisy

John Evans
A&E REPORTER

Graduate Kaitlin Loftus drew the biggest star yet to her comedy club on Monday when Allyson Smith was the headliner at WoOopsies Laugh Lounge.

"What I like about WoOopsies," said Smith, who just finished taping a Comedy NOW special for CTV, "is that it is a great stage for me to come and practice stuff. For example, I'm going to practice stuff I'm going to do at the Winnipeg Comedy Festival. I find this audience to be generally a little bit younger, a little bit hipper."

The club, in the back room at Cervejaria's bar and grill at the corner of College and Ossington filled up fast — almost reaching its 100 person capacity before the first of seven acts began.

Loftus, who has run WoOopsies for over two years, said the turnout reflected the growing popularity of

the club, the low \$5 admission and the attraction of a free buffet for the comedians and audience at the intermission of the two-hour show.

"The free food brings a lot of people out. Some comedians will come just for intermission, grab some pizza and stay to watch the second half," said Loftus, who graduated from Humber's comedy program last October.

"I would say over 100 Humber students have been on our stage," she said. "We have shows twice, sometimes three times a month and every show is mainly Humber students."

Victor Brun, a 35-year-old waiter from Toronto had a front row seat.

"We kind of stumbled into the show," Brun said. "The acts have been entertaining. For a small-scale show, the quality has been really good."

Smith said the club is a great launching point for new acts.

"I've seen so many talented people

on this stage," she said. "It's so lovely to be able to see them now, because you think 'Oh my God, in three years...' You know this is where it

starts. I'm a former drama teacher so there's that part of me that's like 'Yeah, let's experiment, let's have a good time.'"



John Evans

Bobby Mair got big laughs Monday night at WoOopsies Laugh Lounge. He is very animated on stage and the audience loved it.



John Evans

The Lusty Mannequins were the first sketch group of the night.

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[FAT] a treat for everyone

Septembre Anderson
A&E REPORTER

Guest lecturer and photographer Arline Malakian is set to unveil her exhibit, *Black on Black*, next week at [FAT], Toronto Alternative Arts and Fashion Week.

"I wanted to create a challenge by photographing black garments against a black background and on a black model," said Malakian.

[FAT] showcases the works of non-mainstream fashion designers, visual artists, musicians, performers and dancers.

There will be something for everyone, and fashion and promotion management graduate Gail McInnes is excited about what people will get to see.

"There's photography, there are videos, there are performers," said McInnes. "Even during the shows there are contortionists, someone is going to be doing aerial acrobatics. It's non-stop!"

Event founder and director Vaina Vasic also said visitors will get quite a show.

"They should expect a spectacle," she said.

The show also gives emerging artists the chance to show their work to a captive audience, said Vasic.

"It gives them a space, a venue and to be part of a community," she said.

The festival is in its fourth year and explores fashion as a form of expression rather than a mere commodity, said Vasic.

"It's sort of putting fashion in the context of art," she said. "I think it's important to have a venue to experiment and be a little edgy and avant garde and get more attention."

McInnes agreed with Vasic, and said anything celebrating the arts, creativity or expression is important.

McInnes also takes the time to guest lecture photography students, sharing her wisdom and experience with young artists.

"I do it because I love connecting students to the passion of photography," she said. "It's a very competitive market and you have to be passionate about expressing something or searching your own expression."

Author pins down city's changing landscape

Erin Bosenberg
LIFE REPORTER

Antanas Sileika, the director of the School of Writers, has published a short story on experiences in the city of Toronto.

No Longer on The Menu was commissioned by *Diaspora Dialogues*, an organization supporting creative writing reflective of the diversity of Toronto, for its fourth edition of TOK: Writing the New City.

"When I was asked by *Diaspora Dialogues* to write a story I thought, 'well what neighbourhood am I interested in?'" said Sileika. "I got hooked on this idea that things are always changing in this city. We try to put a stake down with names like Little Portugal but the people keep flowing through."

Helen Walsh, president of *Diaspora Dialogues*, said Sileika's story had both the comic and pathos moments that made it such a strong story.

"For us it works so well because our organization is really about the idea that the literature of a city always has to keep evolving and reflecting those that call it home," she said.

Sileika's book *Buying On Time* was also sold at the TOK book launch, as well as being featured in Lit City's Market Gallery exhibition called Toronto: Through the Eyes of Authors and Artists.

As part of ongoing celebrations for Lit City, the exhibit pairs art work from the city's collection with excerpts by Canadian authors.

Sileika's work was paired with Henry Martin's painting, *Toronto Ravine*.

"The passage they chose relating to Toronto is kind of a no man's land," said Sileika of his own work. "There are always these places, which are bought but not developed yet. On the edge of the city they're often farms that have been bought up but

not worked anymore."

Market Gallery co-ordinator Pam Wachna combined her selection of paintings from Toronto neighbourhoods with Ulana Baluk's selection of literary excerpts.

"She read over 200 books that are set in Toronto in order to make her selection and there are only about 70 quotes in the exhibit," said Wachna.

Wachna said research for the exhibition began a year and a half ago and included going over 30 years of Toronto book awards and over 2,500 paintings in the city's collection.

This year *Diaspora Dialogues* also made the decision to include works from other cities in their publication.

"We decided we wanted to promote a cultural dialogue amongst the major urbanized cities in Canada," said Walsh.

Toronto: Through the Eyes of Authors and Artists runs until June 13.



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SPORTS

Luke Schenn, the prize rookie defenceman of the Maple Leafs, has been chosen to play for Canada at the world hockey championships in Switzerland. — Sportsnet.ca

Aussie rules taking strides

Mike Marshall
SPORTS REPORTER

The Ontario Australian Football League will host the first Canadian national championships next month at North Campus.

"We are trying to get people to come out, look at the game, look at a few things about Australia, and have a kick if need be," said Bill Conway, operations manager of the Etobicoke Kangaroos.

The tournament, which kicks off May 16 and is sponsored by Tourism Australia, is the latest milestone for a sport growing in leaps and bounds in Canada.

"We are trying to get people to come out, look at the game, look at a few things about Australia and have a kick if need be."

— Bill Conway
Etobicoke Kangaroos

Aussie rules boasts a successful national program — the growing Ontario league — and a government initiative bringing the sport to underprivileged youth.

Going into its 20th season, the O AFL has ten teams, including seven in Toronto.

Last year, the national team played in the International Cup in Melbourne, Australia and finished sixth out of 16 teams.

Chris Buczkowski, former president of the league, played on national team and said he loves the camaraderie of playing for a club.



Robert Colburn

The 'Roos and Eagles do battle in O AFL action last season. This year's national championship is sponsored by Tourism Australia.

"The games are a lot of fun," said Buczkowski, football player and current member of the Toronto Downtown Dingos. "There's nothing bet-

ter than playing every Saturday for a couple hours with your mates."

Newcomers to the sport are hooked immediately, said Emile Studham,

head coach of the 'Roos, and assistant coach of the national team said.

"You take the 25 to 30-year-old men in the sport and their eyes light up like a little kid 'cause it's all new to them."

"Teens can get their little bit of aggression out, but also there's a club structure and mentoring and leadership."

— Emile Studham
Head coach Etobicoke Kangaroos

Studham is the director and founding partner of the Aussie Ex, the O AFL's junior development program.

Working with Toronto police, the organization recently received a grant from the Trillium Foundation for more than \$150,000 to work with at-risk youth.

"Footy with the cops does seem to be a pretty good fit," Studham said. "[Teens] can get their little bit of aggression out, but also there's a club structure and mentoring and leadership."

Based on a program in Australia, hopes are high Aussie Ex will be a success. "The program is in its infancy here, but I think the rewards of it in the end are going to be phenomenal for the community," Conway said.

Fans can watch 'Roos games at 6:30 p.m. Friday nights at Lakeshore Campus, or watch teams play all day Saturdays starting at 10 a.m., at North Campus, from May 23 until October.

And a personal trainer for every athlete

Sandy McLachlin
SPORTS REPORTER

A partnership between Humber's athletic department and Guelph-Humber's kinesiology program will, for the first time, provide a personal trainer for varsity athletes all year round.

"This was something that we talked about with kinesiology and they agreed to do this," said Doug Fox.

"It was important for us to introduce it to as many athletes as possible so they know there is a structure and they know they can get a program that is designed for them," said the athletic director.

Prior to this partnership, varsity athletes would have varsity coaches and trainers available to them during the off-season, but Fox wants this to be a year-round program.

"We started last summer with training programs and bringing someone in to give them programs for off-season training and this is the next step," he said.

"Our expectations for them are more than just coming to practice and that they need to be in shape year round."

Third-year kinesiology students are eligible to become personal trainers and became available last January. The 96 athletes who have a personal trainer can already see the difference.

"You can only encourage yourself so much and do your own thing within your own comfort," said Melissa Migliazza of the women's soccer team. "The personal trainer pushes you and actually gives you things that they know will benefit you."

Third-year kinesiology students are required to have an on-campus placement and Elaine Popp, program director of kinesiology, said working with athletes would be an excellent practical experience.

"We felt given the skill level of the third-year students, it would be a great opportunity for them to work with varsity athletes since they're not the general population — they are an elite group of individuals," she said.

Popp said athletes in different sports require a different set of prescribed exercises, and these would challenge kinesiology students.

Reaction from both trainers and athletes has been positive.

"She's opened my eyes to different things I can do. I've done things with her that I've never done in my own personal workout. It's improved me a lot," said Migliazza about her new strength exercises.

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Looking for the perfect formula

Sports fans love a good, simple sports bar

Scott Rennie
SPORTS REPORTER

Students looking for a great sports bar to watch the opening rounds of the NHL playoffs this weekend don't need to look any further than a potential watering hole's front door.

"If there's a lineup, then it's a great place," said Dan Reeves, a professor in the School of Hospitality, Recreation and Tourism.

A successful sports bar is nothing more than a no-nonsense, laid-back place to watch the game, Humber's culinary experts agree.

"Service and atmosphere outsell everything," said Reeves. "If you have a restaurant with mediocre food and excellent service, most people would put up with mediocre food."

Richard Pitteway, manager of the Humber Room, said surroundings are also important.

"You want to see a lot of memorabilia on the walls, and a lot of televisions playing different games," he said. "And a friendly staff that knows



Stu Spivack

The secret to a good sports bar is some really good hot wings.

their sports."

Reeves said a good sports pub doesn't need to spend on frills and decoration.

"When you walk in, it should be like a cavern," he said. "It should be dark, televisions on and not much else."

Reeves also acknowledged menu

and drink selection doesn't need to be extensive.

Most sports fans are only looking for beer and coolers, he said. "That's what's the most popular in stadiums."

Pitteway said only one snack item should be a menu mainstay.

"The ultimate food for a sports bar is the chicken wing," he said.

There's no need for a gourmet dining experience.

"When I go to the bar, I'm getting wings and draft, maybe fries," said Chef Paul Bodanis, co-ordinator of Humber's culinary program.

The wing is the go-to bar snack because it's easy to share, cheap, and comfort food, Bodanis said.

Talking to other fans is the easiest way to decide where to grab a pint and some wings this weekend.

"The most effective advertising is word-of-mouth," said Reeves. "A person who has a very positive experience in a restaurant is going to tell ten other people."

TSN becomes the first Canadian network other than CBC to carry a playoff hockey game involving a Canadian team. It will show the Flames-Hawks series. — *thestar.com*



Justin R. Rydell

Even for the CCAA badminton national championships here at Humber, the organizers were not able to attract capacity crowds to an event attracting the best talent.

No home court advantage in the OCAA

Alex Brien
SPORTS REPORTER

Policy changes to the Ontario Colleges Athletic Association have led to a decline in sports attendance figures at Humber, said athletic director Doug Fox.

Fox said games against Seneca and Centennial, colleges formerly in the same division as Humber, used to bring larger crowds.

"We've had a bit of a problem the last couple years, the league changed structure from East, West, and Central divisions — we were in Central —

so the teams we played were all local schools with really good rivalries," Fox said. "But the powers-that-be decided it would be better with just East and West, so we lost all our local competition and it's really affected our attendance."

Fox added regardless of poor attendance in a gym which seats roughly 2,000 people and is often half-full at best, Humber teams consistently beat out-of-town colleges by large margins.

"We've tried to get our league to go Division I and II," Fox said. "You'd

have ten teams who are all equal in ability, and a lot of those would be metro teams who are really competitive."

"If there were more fans, it would make the game a little bit more interesting, give us more energy and hype."

— Craig Nelson
Hawk's guard

The ability to keep students on campus to attend games is a fact not

wasted on Humber Students' Federation president Mike Berg.

"We're a commuter school — a lot of people come here and go home — so it's a constant struggle for everyone to find ways to get students to stay longer," he said.

Berg also said he wants HSF to continue working in tandem with Humber Athletics in showcasing future sporting events.

"Obviously next year is soccer nationals, that's going to be huge, and I know the Humber Students' Federation will definitely be interested in

that," added Berg.

For varsity athletes, having a good turnout can often bring an additional element to games.

"I'd love to see more people turn up to tell you the truth," said men's basketball player Craig Nelson.

A member of this year's OCAA championship team, Nelson was also disheartened with poor home attendance.

"If there were more fans, it would make the game a little bit more interesting, give us more energy and hype," he said.

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