

COVEN

THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF HUMBER COLLEGE

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No. 22



The pot of gold is at the end of the rainbow— A group of Humber's Public Relations students, who call themselves "the Ooch Troop", pitched their tents in front of Humber College. The "Ooch Troop" is dedicated to raising enough money to send 10 children to Camp Oochigeas, a camp for kids with cancer. The Troop has also organized a draw for Toronto Maple Leaf Tickets. The lucky winner will meet with the Leafs, get an autographed stick and sit in the press box.

The buck stops here!

by Jaymee Cuddy

Executives on the Students' Association Council (SAC) have been accused of spending money inappropriately.

If either David Thompson, SAC president or Dennis Hancock, vice-president, purchase an item under \$500 they do not have to inform anyone on council, according to Ann Beswick, director of entertainment.

"Having only their two signatures of approval is enough to buy anything they want," said Beswick. "That's not right when it's students' money."

But Thompson and Hancock denied the accusations and said they had not done anything illegal. "We have always followed the rules," said Thompson.

Beswick said that this rule should be changed because it is too easy for SAC executives to abuse their power.

Both Thompson and Hancock said the auditor sees all the receipts and can question anything that has been bought. "If we had to wait for a staff official's signature before we could purchase anything, nothing would get done on time," said Thompson in an interview.

Hancock and Thompson took a trip together last summer to the University of Ottawa. Thompson paid for the trip with student funds because it was a conference. According to Beswick, when asked why they went to Ottawa, Thompson told college authorities that he did not have to tell anyone why he

went because the cost was under \$500.

Thompson admits he made the comment and added, "I didn't handle the situation as well as I should have. But I was angry. I don't have to report to staff, I report to students."

In September, Geoff Ball, who chairs SAC meetings, bought food for a meeting for the Progressive Conservative Youth Party on Campus. He overspent on his budget by \$100. He does not feel he did anything wrong. "I didn't check the amount because I didn't expect it to cost more than \$360."

Beswick said that Ball should have checked the price before he bought the food. "Once again it's under \$500," she said. "So an official didn't have to approve it. So he (Ball) just assumes the money will come from somewhere else and doesn't worry about how much this is costing the students. This may seem like a small amount of money but things like this happen all the time and it's adding up."

The problem is not "how much money has been spent, it's that they think they can spend it on anything they want; and they're spending it foolishly," said Beswick.

Cindy Owtrim, Council of Student Affairs business manager, said "Special preference could have been given to the PC Youth Party because both Dave (Thompson) and Geoff (Ball) are involved with this group. I can understand how people would see this as negligent because he should have known how much the food was going to cost before he bought it."

Besides chairing SAC meetings, Ball is

also on the elections committee.

Beswick said this is a conflict of interest. "It's not right that he can influence the rules of the election and the vote by SAC," she said.

Handling of funds is not Beswick's only complaint about SAC leadership.

Beswick claims that while Ball does not have a vote at SAC meetings, there have been many occasions when "he cuts off people who have not finished talking and lets others ramble on. It just depends on who he agrees with."

Ball said this is her opinion. "If council has a problem with the way I'm running the meetings they can fire me."

Recently, SAC voted on the elections package. It contains all the rules that must be followed by the students who are running for executive positions. A chief returning officer (CRO) works with staff supervisors to prepare the package. All decisions of the CRO are final.

"It's not a coincidence that this was brought up just before elections," said Hancock, who is running for SAC President. "This is politically motivated."

Beswick denied this and said she is tired of students' money being spent foolishly. "It's students' money they're playing with and I think they should take that responsibility more seriously."

Assault victim counselled by college

by Sean Garrett

The alleged victim of a sexual assault, which occurred March 8, in a normally bustling part of the north campus is receiving emotional counselling from the college, said Rod Rork, vice-president of administration.

The female Humber student was not treated for wounds, he said, and the suspect — another Humber student — has been identified with help from Crimestoppers. He was served a trespass notice by administration in front of Metro Police and subsequently charged with Sexual Assault.

Rork said there were no witnesses to the alleged incident, which occurred around 3 p.m. on the well-frequented first floor of 'D' building.

"It was right out here in the hallway, outside the door here," said Rork, referring to the immediate vicinity of the registrar's, Dr. Robert Gordon's, and the vice-president's offices.

Rork stressed that it is not clear if the woman actively appealed for help.

He also added that it is unknown if the suspect was a friend of the victim.

Although security notices were posted, there was little word-of-mouth about the alleged incident; nevertheless, some female students said they are on edge.

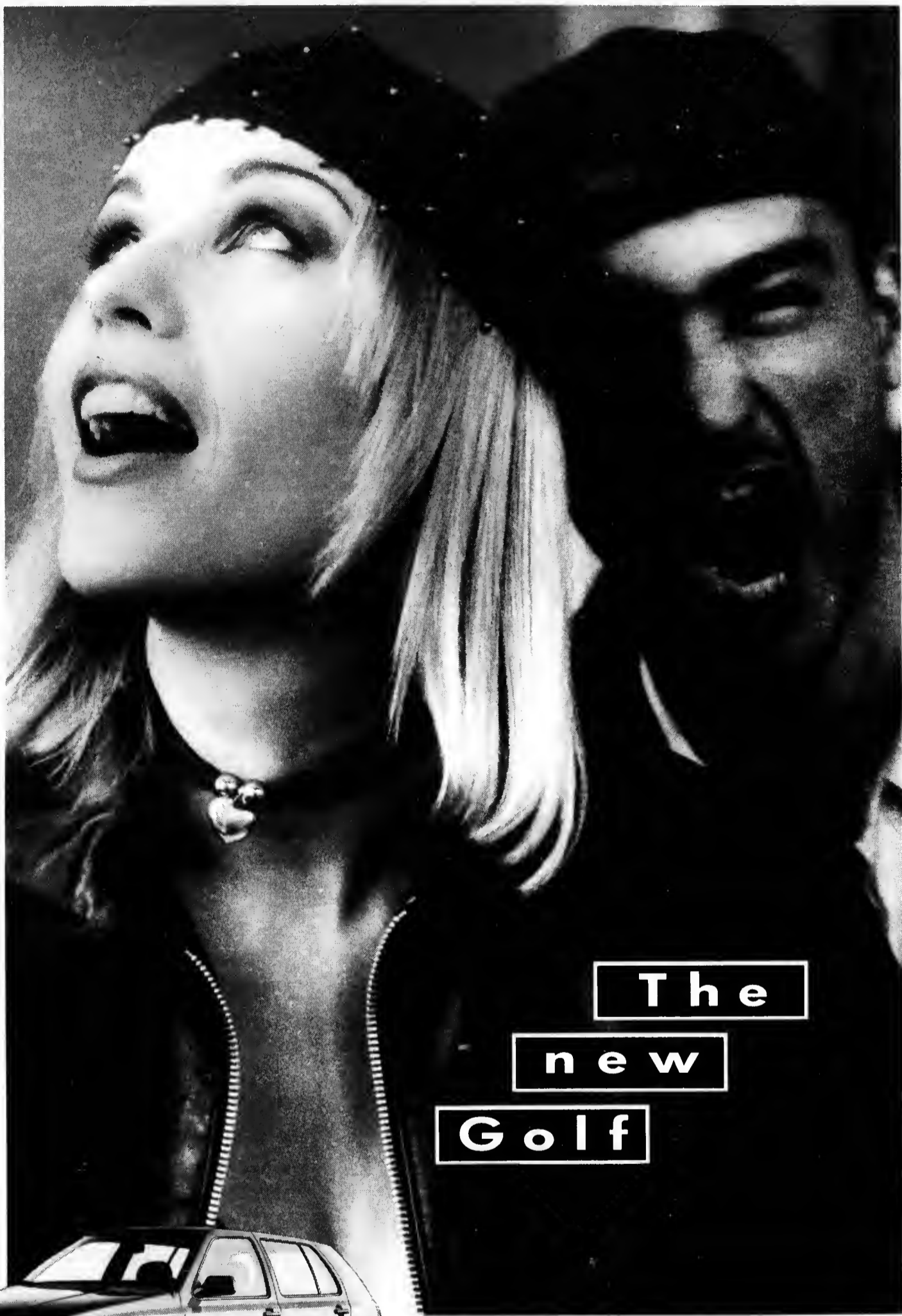
"I think it's relatively safe to be in the buildings, but I'm always aware — always aware that I may be accosted elsewhere," said first-year business student Jaric Lunycz. "Maybe attacks are more power-related outside (of school)."

INSIDE

Check out this week's *Special Section* on income tax information. Get some handy tips on:

Minimizing the Tax Grab.

See pages 8 & 9



SPRECHEN SIE

**The
new
Golf**



groovy?



Cash-strapped students suffer bookstore blues

by Rob Witkowski

Students are accusing the Student's Association Council (SAC) of selling out to the Campus Stores.

This winter many students have found they have been left out in the cold when trying to purchase used books.

In the spring of 1992, Campus Stores purchased from SAC the exclusive right to sell new and used books within the college. The new deal stripped students of the only on-campus alternative for buying books.

Hargunar Rendhawa, Director of Academic Concerns for SAC, is upset over the bookstore's prices.

"It's their Humber College monopoly," said Rendhawa. "I get two or three students who talk to me because they are not able to afford a used book from the bookstore. I found some other store who sells and they have it cheaper."

Many students say they are having a hard time understanding the prices at the bookstore. "Sometimes they can rip you off," said Lina Rumao, an Office Administrations Legal student.

John Mason, Director of Ancillary Services at Humber, doesn't agree that the student government should have the right to sell used books.

"The bookstore is responsible for the sale of textbooks on campus, and therefore always had the



FILE PHOTO

Book monopoly — Campus Stores are now the only on-campus place for Humber students to buy used books.

right to handle used books," said Mason.

In the agreement, SAC received several perks from the bookstore as compensation for giving up the used book rights.

In a letter to Humber lawyer Dale Hewat in November 1991, Mason wrote that a meeting on November 12, 1991, SAC and the bookstore agreed that: "Campus Stores will pay \$2,500 to SAC on December 15 and May 15 each year. In addition, Campus Stores will support the SAC Handbook each September by guaranteeing the placement of an advertisement valued at not less than \$1,000." SAC lost virtually no revenue despite the transfer.

Current SAC President Dave Thompson, who was not involved with the deal, said "they made a deal that the bookstore would turn over a certain percentage of their profits to us for giving up the sale of it."

"We didn't make that much on it, which is something you don't want to lose anyway," said Thompson.

Mason denied the bookstore gains profits from used book sales.

"It doesn't give it any revenue — it's a decline in revenue actually," he said. "For every used book we sell, the dollar is lower than if we were selling a new book for example. So it's actually a change

in attitude on the part of college and university bookstores to handle used books."

In previous years, SAC held used book sales on a consignment basis. At the beginning of each semester, SAC accepted books from students. The student set a price and SAC added a service charge for selling it. The charge paid salaries of people who worked there and the extra money SAC made was put back into other student services.

"It's better for the bookstore to manage new and used books," said Mason. "Otherwise there is the problem if we order too many new books. I think in that way the more the bookstore can control their operating costs the better value it is for the students."

When asked if used book prices in the bookstore were fair Mason said, "it comes back to the whole issue just like a used car. No one is generally happy. I think they're fair ... the fact that the students probably are generally getting a price of 40 per cent of the value the original new value of the book."

A survey of ten books in the campus store showed that nine of ten used books were being sold at about 75 per cent of the value of new books. The one book that was slightly less was sold at 72 per cent of the new book price.

While the agreement with SAC says that "used books will be priced at a level not to exceed 75 per cent of the selling price of the

equivalent new text", nine books were priced above 75 per cent.

The bookstore doesn't see cost as a main concern. "The biggest problem has been in building a consistent inventory of used books to be available," said Mason. He said they can do that by offering a daily buy-back service.

One business student said he doesn't think the current system is fair at all. "They should be a lot lower because used books decrease a lot," he said.

"And when you go back to the bookstore to sell them it costs a whole lot less, like a third of the price that you bought them for in the first place," he said.

An example is new psychology books priced at \$38.75 — used ones save you \$9.65.

Some students have been forced to find alternatives. "I haven't bought them yet because they're too expensive," said Terry Fitz, an Advertising and Media Sales Student.

"But the one text is \$52 and I'd just rather share it with someone else or not even buy it, just borrow it, we couldn't buy the used one," said Fitz.

Correction

In the March 11 issue of Coven, it was incorrectly reported that the pill at Humber is subsidized. In fact, it is available to students at a price which does not include the regular dispensing fees.

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SAC lacks cultural 'perspective', says council director

by Alan Swinton

The Students' Association Council (SAC) lacks perspective when it comes to multicultural events, according to its director of multiculturalism, Lesia Bailey.

"To do an overall evaluation of SAC — when it comes to anti-racism education and awareness — I think SAC is just doing what it's comfortable doing, or what it knows how to do, and that's to serve the students," said Bailey.

She said that she does not believe anyone in SAC is racist, but they seem unwilling or unable to commit themselves to multicultural programming.

"It's easy to be in the comfort zone. Nobody wants to be looked upon as the person who aggravates, or challenges," she said.

Fellow SAC councillor John Johnstone said some councillors

did help with Black History Month, but he said more awareness is needed.

"Martha (Toth) did posters for her. I did a poster on the (computer). Brent (Roach) did a poster for her... so we did something for her. Maybe more people outside of SAC could have been involved," said Johnstone.

"I think it (Black History Month) was good. It could have been more advertised — regarding individual events," said SAC Chairperson Geoff Ball. He felt there could have been more participation, "if we knew what to do."

Bailey said SAC councillors should take steps to understand and accommodate multiculturalism for Humber students.

As the primary person working for multiculturalism, Bailey said she feels isolated. "It's not worth

the headaches, it's not worth the hardships, it's not worth me missing my schooling because of it. It's not worth a lot of things, but it is important that somebody takes some interest in the issues and does something about it."



Lesia Bailey

She said a lot of work went into Wintercourse, while she was

left alone with Black History Month and felt a need to schedule events around Wintercourse. She said she would have liked to have seen Wintercourse scheduled in January or March to remedy the situation.

Johnstone said promoting any event in Humber is difficult.

"There's so much chaos in this school, it's hard to get anything noticed," he said.

Bailey said she believes multiculturalism should not only be a part of the institution, but a concern for everyone.

"I think anybody in any position in SAC or in Humber College should show more sympathy and empathy," said Bailey.

She said she would like people to take an active interest in helping her celebrate and promote cultural events. Bailey said that multiculturalism is important so that

people can experience the best of all cultures and discover things they have never seen before.

She said she would also like to see changes in the way multiculturalism is handled, including changing the name of her directorship to "anti-racism", instead of multiculturalism.

"Multiculturalism is sweeter than anti-racism. You need to call it for what it is. I wouldn't make it a directorship, I would make it a part of SAC — make it a position, give it some validity, make it part of the framework," she said.

Bailey said her directorship will become a major part of SAC in years to come, receiving a large budget. Her biggest problem is the lack of previous programming in the area of multiculturalism.

"(I) have nothing to follow. No guidelines, no rules. This year is the working model."

Lakeshore campus has a 'Spiritless Week'

by Natalie Vujaktija

Humber's Lakeshore SAC put on its annual 'Spirit Week', only to discover that the campus did not have any.

Though events were planned from March 8-11, the only big success was the sumo wrestling contest which took place on the last day.

For \$2, Humber students donned 50 pound costumes and tried to pin their opponents to the

ground. The only difficulty was that the costume made it impossible to get up without assistance.

The event went over so well that students have already approached student council members, asking if they could bring the event back.

The event was hosted by Lock Promotions and sponsored by the Jose Cuervo tequila company.

According to Alexander Lamm who works for Lock Promotions, the sumo wrestling outfits are

usually a big hit at the schools.

"We've gone to colleges and universities around southern Ontario, and the students seem to really like it. Right now it's a fad, and business is really good because these are the only suits (sumo wrestling) in Canada," said Lamm.

The event, which originated in Australia as a form of bar entertainment, is getting so popular that Lamm — and the suits — have appeared on the Dini Petty

Show.

"We spend a lot of our time at clubs, and it's good publicity for everybody since the \$2 goes to the Canadian Cancer Society," said Lamm.

Other than the wrestling contest, the rest of 'Spirit Week' was basically a flop, despite the efforts of student council.

Only 15, out of a campus of 2,000, entered the week long scavenger hunt. And as of Friday, March 12, there was no official

winner of the hunt because no one had returned any items.

On March 10, the Lakeshore campus hosted a toga pub night which was attended by approximately 40 people. SAC Vice-President, Russ Benner, blamed the poor turn-out on the fact that students are usually have no money after the March break.

"Also a lot of people didn't want to wear a toga and they thought you had to, to attend the pub," said Benner.

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Industry shirking job training burden: Union rep

by Nadia Shousher

Corporate pressure to change the college system to meet the needs of the economy will put education at risk, says the Ontario Federation of Labour's Director of Education.

In a speech to Humber faculty March 10, Dr. Jim Turk accused Canada's business community of having "an agenda for education" which would narrow the focus on job preparation and skills training.

"I think it's an explicit aim of the corporate community to reshape education," he said.

"Education is a substantial new market for businesses, and they stand to gain the most by restructuring the education system," said

Turk. He added that by passing the responsibility of job preparation to the public, business won't have to spend money to retrain employees as the economy shifts and develops.

Schools would bear both the burden and the cost, he said.

It's estimated that today only one-third to one-fourth of businesses provide any sort of formal training for their employees, said Turk.

And, the "bulk of that is for senior management and sales people," said Turk.

Yet, a common complaint in the business community, says Turk, is that the present school system "produces illiterates": workers who are limited in the skills Canada needs in order to

remain competitive in a globalized economy.

Turk charges that corporate

interest in education is only to "prepare individuals for immediate entry into jobs; make them

job-ready, both in skills and in attitude."

Although popular within government and business circles, this perspective is viewed by Turk as a "too narrow vision" of education.

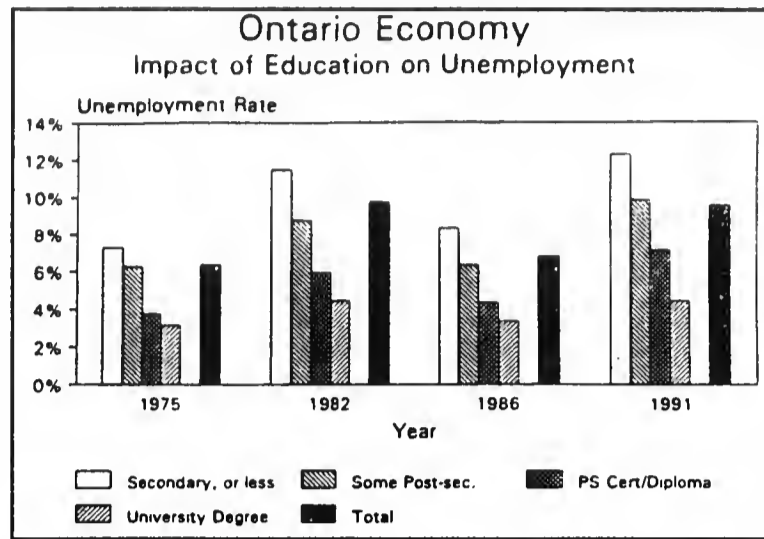
Many educators and students disagree, insisting that economics should be a critical factor in the goals of the education system.

"If the only thing we're doing is training people for a specific job, then you're really narrowing the focus of education," said Paul Michaud, a Humber Computer Engineering instructor.

"We have to provide training that allows them to function, period, in society and the economy is part of that."

Humber Economics instructor Gary Berman believes college prepares students as much as it can for the workforce, but recognizes that "the economy is changing and the education system should change along with it."

A recent study by Employment and Immigration Canada predict-



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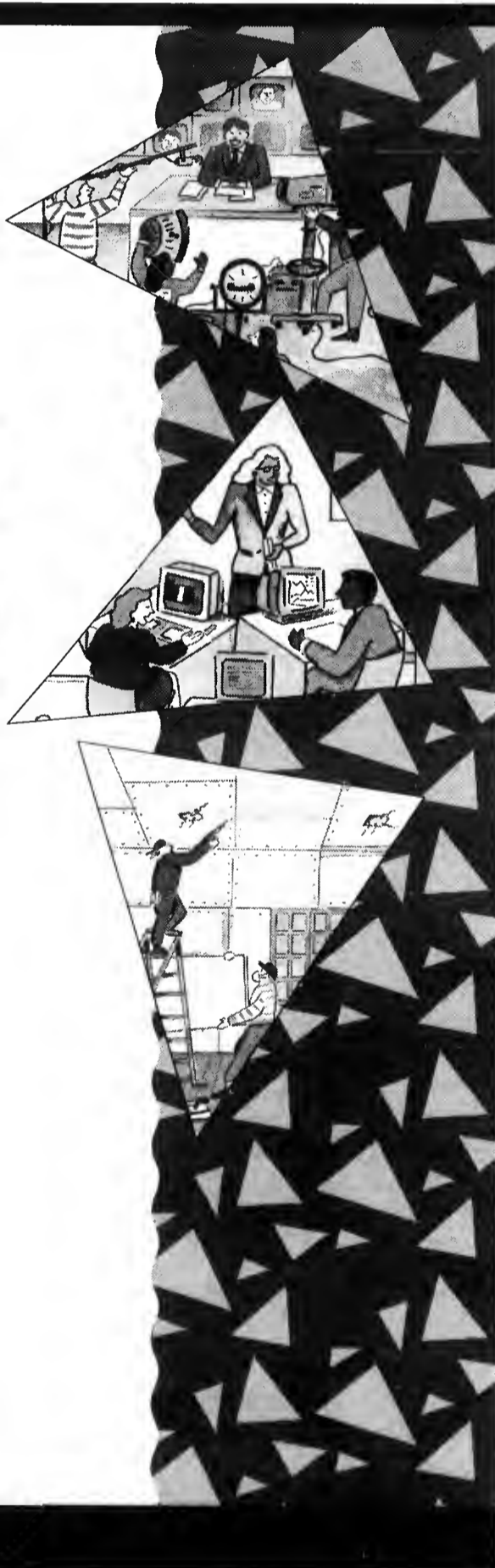
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"The business community is not taking enough responsibility for preparing people for work"

ed that by the year 2000, 40 per cent of occupations will require more than 16 years of training. This figure is up 17 per cent from 1986.

At the centre of the debate lies the question of accountability: who is responsible for teaching skills Canadians need to become, and remain, employed?

"The business community is not taking enough responsibility for preparing people for work," maintains Michaud.

"The training they provide now is incredibly small; they are not using the workforce they already have."

Leon King, a Humber Computer Engineering instructor, maintains that one of the aims of his department is to "teach students industry-required skills, as much as we can afford to and as much as we have the time to."

Yet despite both funding and time constraints, King and Michaud say their graduates have done "incredibly well" finding work in their fields.

They attribute this success to students being taught "not only what they need to start in a job, but also to continue in careers," said Michaud.

With the recent release of some predictions of the future workforce, the "academics versus economics" debate may prove irrelevant.

The Canadian Occupational Projection Service has categorized which fields will produce the highest number of jobs in the next decade and of the top ten, eight are considered low-skilled. The list is headed by retail salespeople, nurses, and cashiers.

For Dr. Turk, this underlies the danger in changing education so it prepares people for what the corporate community calls "highly-skilled" jobs of the future. "The evidence just doesn't stand up."

COVEN

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Skimming off the top

To the concerned academic observer, a series of disconcerting events continue to unfold within our most sacred institutions — colleges and universities.

In the last few months alone, Humber College and the University of Toronto have taken measures to cut costs and keep the growing cost of higher education in check.

At Humber, the first push of the panic button was the discontinuation of the Equine program. Lack of funding and limited enrolment prompted the decision; the uniqueness of the program and what it offered to students was not considered.

And what student at Humber can forget Humber's switch to computerized scheduling at the beginning of the winter semester. The reason given was improved space utilization (i.e. improved cost efficiency).

Huge gaps in timetables at great inconvenience to students was apparently not enough to make administration think twice.

The latest talk around the school is a longer academic year — again, to save money. Making the semesters longer would enable a smaller number of instructors to teach the course load.

Although it is the obligation of every post-secondary institution to administer programs with the utmost efficiency, meaning cost and otherwise, they shouldn't have license to compromise academic integrity by axing programs and faculty without due course and processes.

At U of T, the undergraduate Forestry degree program was cut after only two months of limited committee consideration. The concerns of Forestry students and the uniqueness of the program were not deemed as important as the underlying budgetary agenda.

Forestry at U of T was the only program of its kind south of Thunder Bay.

The cutting of programs, like Humber's Equine and U of T's Forestry, do not benefit the institution as much as it may think. Skimming off the top, cutting a little here and there, does not make or break a budget goal.

What these measures more noticeably accomplish is a compromise of higher education — the true measure of health in society.

The NDP gamble

The Ontario government has decided that, for the best interests of the province, a gambling casino would relieve a bit of the economic burden presently being felt by every citizen.

Legalized gambling, even at one establishment, will raise money for much-needed social programs and would fight the provincial deficit. The casino would cost approximately \$50 million to build and would turn a profit almost immediately.

It would also boost Ontario's sagging tourism figures by bringing in people from other provinces and the United States.

However, there are some serious problems with legalized gambling. The biggest risk of all is that gambling is one of the most compulsive habits around. Just as lotteries have shown over years, people will squander away large amounts of money for a chance at "freedom."

Many may argue that not allowing a legalized casino is a punishment against a person who can show restraint at the blackjack table.

The issue of legalized gambling is an undertaking that must be looked at because of its serious nature and the societal effect it will have.

When the NDP was opposition, it fought tirelessly against legalization of gambling. Now they are in power, why is legalized gambling a positive?

Gambling, as the NDP knew five years ago, is a compulsive habit which only gets worse. The government would be an accessory to any gambler who throws away his/her money at the casino.

Legalized gambling will make money for the province but the social costs will far outweigh the benefits.



feedback

Do you think that post-secondary institutions should cut programs in order to save money?

With the news of Humber's Equine program and U of T's Forestry program being cancelled, the issue of colleges and universities saving money is in the news.

Just like every other institution, these people need to save money but are they really helping society by cutting these important programs.

No you're limiting people's choices. Eventually you will have to limit the size of classes, then enrollment will be down and it will be harder to get into Post Secondary education—Mike Santaguida, Advertising and Media

Yes to a certain extent. It's always a question of economics. You still have to provide for the student—Jens Pfister, Radio

Yes and no. I guess it depends on the program. Academics are more important than sports and stuff—Leona Richman, G.A.S.

No. They shouldn't be cutting back on our chances and our education. They should find other ways—Karen Salt, Travel and Tourism

No, cut back on the teachers' salaries first. Don't hurt the students—Jerry Young, Radio

No. How are you supposed to get a proper education if they are cutting programs—Mary Anne Wakelin, Nursing

Yes, because if enough people don't sign up for less interesting courses, then there isn't any need to waste money on them—Ryan Narhi, Advertising and Media

by Paul McDougall and Blair Streeter

CHEERS ✓ AND JEERS ✗

CHEERS ✓ To Canada's medal winning performances at the World Figure Skating Tournament.

JEERS ✗ To the Progressive Conservative Party for rolling over and playing dead while Kim Campbell runs for the party's leadership virtually unopposed.

CHEERS ✓ To Mark McCoy for once again proving that he is the best hurdler in the world and Canada's biggest athletic secret.

JEERS ✗ To this winter. Enough snow already!

CHEERS ✓ To Humber PR students for trying to raise money to send kids with cancer to Muskoka's Camp Oochigeas.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

Your student newspaper invites you to express your opinions. All letters to the editor should be sent to room L231, they must include your full name and signature, along with a student number and phone number. We can not acknowledge anonymous letters.

Coven reserves the right to edit all letters but will take care to preserve the core of the author's argument. Views expressed are that of the letter writer and not our own.

Stop the Press

One in six a victim

by Patrick McCaully

"Pick six of your closest female friends, now pick the one who will be date raped this year."

It's a disturbing slogan that has become as visible in the nineties as "AIDS can kill." It's also something that you think will never happen to you, or someone you know.

Recently, one of my closest friends told me that her previous relationship was abusive, that her boyfriend manipulated her both physically and mentally. She had been date raped.

It happened almost ten months ago, with a boyfriend whom Susan (not her real name) had been seeing for over a year. Susan didn't want it to happen and her boyfriend obviously didn't care.

She was in tears explaining to me what he had taken from her. For one moment of demented pleasure, Susan had lost her self-esteem, and felt as though she would never have or deserve happiness.

I suggested that she should talk to her parents. I secretly hoped that they had the comforting words that I could not find. Susan cringed at the idea of telling her parents since she felt they would be ashamed of her. She felt that being date raped was somehow her fault because she didn't fight hard enough.

What makes a man think that he has the right to violate the rights of any woman? How can he be so conceited and ignorant as to think that a woman is playing games when she says "no," and really means "yes?" How can he possibly justify destroying the life of someone whom he is supposed to care about just to satisfy sexual urges?

That's the difference between rape, and date rape. Rape is often a random crime with a person whom you have probably never met. Date rape is a crime with someone you do know, usually a person you think is your friend.

How do we change the stupid "macho" perception that it's an insult not to "get lucky" on a date? Maybe the fault lies in social conditioning through the media and television. They create the perception that "real men take what they want ... and never take no for an answer."

Any given day we can watch some shallow James Bond movie that has Bond making out with every woman he wants, or even a degrading skin flick that portrays women as mindless sex kittens.

Our society needs to expose date rape for the crime that it is. Everyone needs to understand its immorality, and the emotionally crippling side effects.

The sad reality is that most date rape victims are too afraid, or too ashamed to come forward. They keep the painful memory a secret and pretend that it doesn't affect them. Date rape victims suffer in silence because they feel somehow responsible.

Who can blame them? Have we provided an environment where it is acceptable to bring rape out in the open? Reporting an instance of date rape to the authorities is often called "the second rape" because of the indignities of testifying in painful detail. The victim usually has to defend her sexual history and defend herself against charges of leading the man on. Are we ready to convict date rape offenders and send them to jail like the criminals they are?

Probably not, since society will continue to rationalize it. Excuses like, "you could have fought harder," and "I just lost control," will still manage to sweep it under the carpet.

What will you do? Think about it before one of your closest friends becomes the next victim.

Deficit reduction: each and every Canadian's duty



by Marilyn Beaton

My share of the deficit has risen to \$250,000 — but then so has everybody else's.

A study by the C.D. Howe Institute has predicted that Canada may face a debt crisis if nothing is done to control the rising deficit. Canada's federal and provincial governments have a combined debt of \$665 billion. Canada's foreign debt is \$300 billion.

Obviously, Canadians are just a bit too free and easy with their money. Canadians are going to have to put more effort into deficit reduction. Changes to unemployment insurance, cuts in social programs and health care are for deficit reduction. Patriotic Canadians realize this.

Our politicians show so much fiscal responsibility and set such a fine example, that we must meet the challenge of deficit reduction.

Deborah Grey, a Reform Party MP, suggested, in 1991, the creation of a special fund into which people could make contributions to

paying off the debt. Tax deductible of course.

A splendid idea, but why stop there?

When income tax time comes, taxpayers could donate their refunds to the deficit fund and if they have to pay, they could double the amount — half to Revenue Canada and half to the deficit. Donations to the deficit would be tax deductible. A total credit of up to \$500 could be claimed. These credits mean that taxpayers will have even more to donate.

Children could drink water for lunch and their milk money could be donated to the deficit fund. As they are going to inherit this deficit, it is only fitting that they start looking after it early on in life.

Communities could be organized around deficit reduction. The possibilities are endless. How about "Diet for the Deficit"? It could be a national program bringing together Canadians from all walks of life. For every pound lost, a dollar could be donated to the deficit.

Bowling for Dollars could become Bowling for the Deficit. Bowling leagues would spring up across the country. This could become bigger than Hockey Night in Canada.

Our prime minister could be gently urged to travel tourist class. In 1991-1992, we spent \$2.95 million for him to tell the rest of the world how great we are.

The ways to give are endless. The United Way could channel all of its resources to deficit reduction. The name could stay the same as debt reduction is a united action.

Working together for a debt-free Canada would bring Canadians together. It would do more for national unity than 20 Charlottetown Accords. Canadians would feel they have a bigger stake in this country because they have actively donated to the deficit fund.

According to the United Nations, Canada is the best place on earth to live.

Debt-free, we'd blow them away.

SAC Elections

Humber's student body will choose a new SAC president on March 23. Here's a look at the candidates with some insight into who they are, what they stand for and their qualifications for the job.

by Jaymee Cuddy

Having trouble deciding who to vote for? Wondering why people are posting pictures of themselves all over the school? Unsure of who is running for the position of President for the Students' Association Council? Well, now is the time to find out because elections are on March 23.

DOROTHY WEMER

Experience

Is VP- Finance for SAC.

Why are you running?

"I'm here for students and I want to listen to their ideas and problems. Then I want to solve those problems."

Why would you make the best president?

"I am honest, open and ethical. I'm also a great listener which is important when you're helping students."

Changes you would make if

elected?

"I want to implement a financial plan creating student jobs. For example, a job cleaning up the student centre and being paid using SAC money which could be cashed at registration. Students could use it as a credit to take money off their next year tuition or use it towards food services."

What's the first change you would make?

"I want to improve issues that are happening now. For example the parking problem and safety on Campus. I want to work more closely with the Student Athletic Association and the registration office."

What makes you different from the other candidates?

"We are all qualified in our own way. I don't want to put down anyone who is running. We just have some different views as to how SAC should be run."

LESIA BAILEY

Experience

Director of Multiculturalism.

Why are you running?

"I could make a difference. I would be a good voice for students because I am not afraid to stand up for what I believe."

Why would you make the best president?

"I am objective. I'm not doing this for selfish reasons. It's true this position would look good on a resume but I want to make students' life better. I consider this a job. I would be working for students."

What changes would you make if elected?

"I would improve upon situations that are happening now. I wouldn't make changes. I would cut back on spending and make transportation passes cheaper."

What's the first change you would make?

"Make the SAC council more accountable for its actions."

Council members need to have more input in the meetings. This means they need to know of the plans being made before they vote on them. I also want to make students more aware of SAC and what it can do for them."

What makes you different from the other candidates?

"I want to work. I'm not here for a free ride. I want to improve student life."

DENNIS HANCOCK

Experience

Vice-President SAC

Why are you running?

"I believe in students. They are the most important issue. The administration and student government relationship is low. I want to change this and I want to give students a stronger voice."

Why would you make the best president?

"My track record speaks for

itself. I promised things in the past and have come through with all of them."

What changes would you make if elected?

"I would make sure the students' voice was heard. Right now student council has low voter turnout. This has to change so students will have a recognized voice."

What's the first change you would make?

"I would make Humber a member of the Metro University College Caucus. This committee would apply pressure on the Provincial level. The students' voice would be heard. For example, this would give students better discounts on the TTC passes."

What makes you different from the other candidates?

"Everything I promised as Vice-President I've done."

So what's new for 92?

by Debbie Jenkins

Ontario residents will get something new from Revenue Canada this year — an error notice.

You could pay more Ontario tax or get a smaller refund if you were to follow the erroneous instructions in section 1 of the pink Ontario Income Tax form.

The original form tells you to work out your basic Ontario tax using the federal tax figure that you would look up in Tax Table A. But don't do this.

You should first subtract all your various non-refundable tax credits totalled at line 350. Revenue Canada will be correcting everyone's return form but this could cause delays in your return.

Some other things to keep in mind while doing your taxes:

Education Amount: You can claim \$80 for every month you were enrolled full-time at Humber, this is up from \$60.

The money you claim will not be refunded to you, but it may help to lower the amount of income tax you pay.

Tuition: If you were a full-time student in 1992, you can claim all of your tuition fees.

If you were a continuing education student in 1992, you can only claim tuition fees if the total paid to Humber is more than \$100 and you were not enrolled in a general interest course.

Tuition fees will not be refunded, but claiming them may also lower the amount of tax you pay.

Many students don't need to claim



their education amounts and tuition fees because their income is so low. Generally, if you're single, have no children, and earned less than \$6,450 (including OSAP grants), it makes no difference if you claim these student credits — your refund will remain the same.

But you can transfer the tax savings opportunity to your parent, grandparent, or former guardian, even if you aren't living at home or dependent upon them.

There's no limit on the student's age: mature students who are grandparents

themselves can still transfer what they don't need to their own parents if they wish.

Married students can transfer the education and tuition amounts to their spouse, but students who live common-law cannot.

OSAP Grants: If the total of your 1992 Ontario or Canada student grant is larger than \$500, some of this money — the amount greater than \$500 — is considered taxable income.

But remember, this is your total for

1992 only (last fall and last winter's semesters). If you received a grant in January 1993, it will show up on your 'T4A' next year.

Rent: If you lived in residence you can only claim \$25.

If you lived off campus, you can claim all of your rent expenses. Up to \$250 plus 2% of your total expenses may be refunded to you.

Heat, hydro, and water are not included in the calculation of your total rent expenses if you paid for these separately.

Electronic Filing: According to Revenue Canada, if you file your income tax return by a new electronic filing method, you'll receive your refund within two weeks.

For a fee, a private company will electronically enter your tax information into their on-line computer, and Revenue Canada will begin working on your file immediately.

The usual filing fee is between \$10 and \$15, but you must provide the company with a completed tax return on paper. If you bring them a shoebox full of receipts, they'll charge you an additional preparation fee.

Electronic filing, known as E-file, is available from Student Tax Services at Humber's north campus and at tax preparation agencies throughout the Woodbine Centre.

Revenue Canada will, in fact, refund your money within two weeks.

The companies are not responsible for any delays you may experience.

Less in returns for students living in residence

By Amie Heaslip

Students living in residence are in for a big surprise when they file their tax returns.

Because residence falls under the category of a government assisted building, students can only claim a small portion of their residence fees.

Under the Ontario Tax Credit portion, students can claim only \$25 for the year lived in residence.

"When I did my income tax I

could have gotten back \$250, but because I could only claim \$25, I don't get any sort of Ontario Tax Credit," said Lesley Knights, a first-year Nursing student.

Other students were not aware that they could not claim all of their rent while living in residence.

"I don't think it's very fair considering it is an apartment. We should be getting the same amount back as people who live outside the residence," said

Michelle Terrio, a first-year Nursing student.

Students are outraged at the differences in tax returns between those living in residence and those students living off campus.

"I know that I am claiming more of my rent than that. If they want to come after me they can," said Julie Witke, a Public Relations Certificate student living in residence.

"We are paying more rent than other people so we should

be able to claim it on our income tax," she added.

Many students, like Shannon MacLean, a third-year Nursing student also staying in residence, do not think the \$25 deduction is fair especially since students in residence are paying as much as someone living off campus.

"It doesn't seem very fair considering the fact that I'm broke. That is an awful lot of money just to not have back," said MacLean.

Students who actually made some money last year are outraged by the fact that some may be forced to pay taxes.

"I made over \$8,000 last year, and because I could only claim \$25 for my residence, it works out that my tax credit is less than \$187," she said.

Lesley Knights figured out that if he had claimed the \$1,390 he paid in residence rent we would have gotten another \$248 back on his income tax return.

File early to ensure Child Benefits, experts say

by Debbie Jenkins

Students and faculty with children should file their 1992 income tax returns by April 30th, an H&R Block tax expert warns.

Why?

Because the amount of money you'll receive this summer — if any — from the new monthly Child Benefit depends on it.

"If Revenue Canada doesn't receive your return, the money will just stop," says Peter Premachuk, H & R Block's national director of administrative services.

"On the other hand, if you

file, the money could increase because the Child Benefit is based on the information in your old 1991 tax return," he adds.

Revenue Canada plans to recalculate the amount of the benefits, starting with July's monthly payment, but first they'll need to check your new information.

And even if you stopped receiving a baby bonus cheque last December, you could be entitled to the Child Benefit this year if your family's income has decreased.

Just what is Revenue Canada's definition of a family?

"Right now, a common-law relationship is considered to be a family when the Child Benefit is calculated," Premachuk says, but overall it depends on which section of the tax return you're referring to.

For example, a common-law relationship is considered to be a family, even if there are no children, when applying for a Goods and Services Tax Credit. But it's not considered to be one, even if there are children, when claiming a credit for a financially dependent spouse.

"That's changing in 1993, and starting with next year's tax return, Revenue Canada will

consistently treat common-law relationships the same ways as marriages," says Premachuk.

According to the tax guide, a common-law spouse is "a person of the opposite sex who, on December 31, 1992 ... had been living common-law with you for at least one year" or has lived with you for less time, but is "the natural or adoptive parent of your child".

Special conditions apply if there has been any separation or break up during a relationship.

"Parents should also be reminded that Refundable Child Tax Credits are still available for 1992," says Marie Kerr,

District Manager of H&R Block in the Woodbine Centre.

A credit of up to \$814 per child can be claimed, less any prepayment received last November, by a parent who usually claims one.

This is the last year anyone will be able to do so however, because the new Child Benefit was designed to replace Refundable Child Tax Credits.

If you're not sure of where you stand, call one of Revenue Canada's general enquiry lines at 869-1500 (during business hours) or 1-800-267-1233 (evenings from 5 to 9 p.m.). Or consult an income tax specialist.

MINIMIZING THE TAX GRAB

Software and books ease woes of tax returns

by Joanna Turcewicz

There is now a quicker and easier way to complete tax returns.

Computer programs are now available for people who do not want to rely on their own mathematical skills to fill out their tax returns for Revenue Canada.

The programs have been used by many tax companies for years but have recently become available to the general public for personal tax returns.

Richard Hawkins, a financial consultant, began using the

CanTax1 computer program last year. He said it is a lot faster to use for personal and corporate tax returns.

"The computer program is set up exactly like a tax form. But you don't have to worry about making any adding mistake or figure errors because it eliminates the margin of error," said Hawkins.

He points out that the only drawback to the computer program are that users will need to consult the accompanying manual.

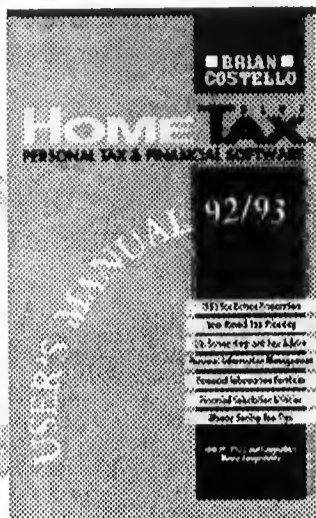
"What the program doesn't do

is give you any tax tips and because of this you have to know various tax laws which aren't explained in the program," said Hawkins.

Brian Sammy, from the National Business and Taxation Centre said he prefers completing tax returns manually than with computer programs.

"I think the manual way is better because I can follow what I'm doing which I think is more reliable," said Sammy.

Tony Sandhu, a second-year computer engineering student also prefers the manual method.



If you need help with your income tax this year, free counselling is available from Student Tax Services (STS).

They will be located outside of the Financial Aid Office, across from the Bookstore.

From March 9 until April 28, they will prepare tax returns for a fee. The fee will depend upon the complexity of a return.

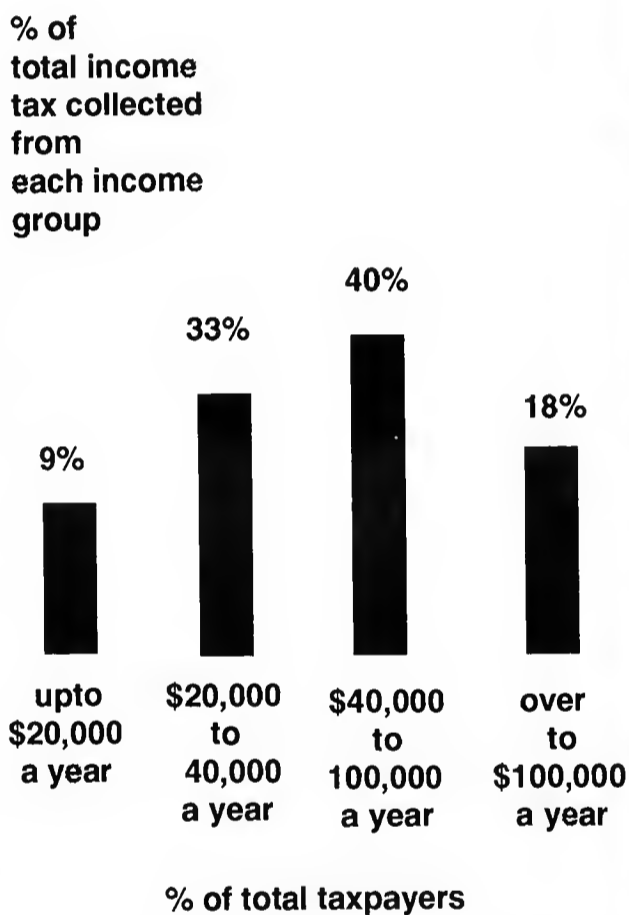
The company advertised its service in the Students' Association Council (SAC) handbook, and pays SAC \$500 in order to set up a booth.

In turn, SAC puts up the company's posters throughout the college.

An STS representative will be available from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., every Tuesday and Wednesday until the end of April.

Faculty are also welcome to use STS which is geared to handle all types of returns.

Who carries the tax burden



Those with taxable incomes over \$40,000 - about 20% of taxpayers - pay almost 60% of total income tax revenues.

Financial planning can help iron out the money crunch

by Lisa Langille

Avoiding credit cards is the best way for students to stay out of debt and secure their futures, says one banker.

According to Sharon Hellas, Personal Banking Officer at the Bank of Nova Scotia, many people have a hard time handling the responsibility of a credit card.

"Stay away from credit cards while you're a student. Once you're in your graduating year, a lot of banks will contact you for credit cards," said Hellas.

Planning your financial future isn't always easy, especially if you aren't making a lot of money.

Hellas suggests waiting until you are working full time to make plans, such as RRSP contributions.

"It's better to wait for graduation for full time money," she said.

Elizabeth Hawkins, Manager of Securities at the Bank of Nova Scotia, agrees that it is best to wait until you have a job and some extra money.

"If you have a job and your obligations are taken care of, then you should invest even a minimal amount which will eventually cause growth, and a more stable financial future for you," said Hawkins.

While many students may think RRSPs are for retirement and that it's too early to start contributing to them, Hawkins says RRSPs can be used earlier.

With the Home Purchase Plan, people can use their RRSPs toward a down payment on a house, but eventually the money has to be repaid into the RRSP account.

Hawkins said you're never too young to think about the future.

"No matter how young you are, RRSPs are always a good

idea because of the investing use of them," said Hawkins.

Once you're working full time, Hellas recommends looking into a plan such as the "Pay Yourself First Plan" which allows you to pay \$25 a month out of your account toward an RRSP.

"For example, if you're making \$400 (a week) that \$25 won't be missed like it would be when you're in school," said Hellas.

But some students prefer to start RRSPs now with money from part-time jobs.

Student Murray Dobson says he saves money throughout the year to make contributions toward his RRSPs.

"I think it's a good idea because I'm planning now, so I'll have some security when I retire," said Dobson.

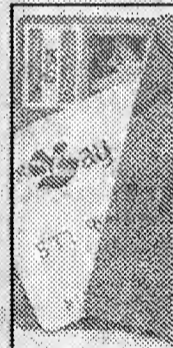
The Bank of Nova Scotia also offers a savings account especially for students.

With Student Advantage, the student has no service charges and gets free cheques.

"It gives you a break on service charges. That \$2 or \$3 you save a month, you can use toward something else," said Hellas.

Hellas said that while she doesn't see many students coming in to set up RRSPs, she tries not to discourage it if a student has the extra money.

"I haven't seen many students. But that's not to say they can't start if they've got the money," she said.



Where your tax dollar goes?

social security/income support	21.7
interest on national debt	20.3
health	13.5
education	12.6
defence, police, fire, justice	7.6
general services	6.1
road, transit	4.9
agriculture, fisheries, forestry	4.1
sewage, waste, environment	2.2
recreation, culture	2.1
government enterprise	1.5
foreign affairs, aid	1.1
housing	1.0
employment, immigration	0.8
research	0.6
regional development	0.5

2

ILLIPE

Peel Host program using education to help immigrants adjust

by Paul Mercado

Peel region is offering a service to help recent immigrants adjust to their new environment.

The Peel Host Program is run by the Multicultural Assistance Services of Peel. It started in September 1992 and matches recent immigrants with volunteers who reside in Peel region.

The Host Program, introduced by the federal government in 1985, has been available in Toronto since 1987.

The Peel program's main goal is to help immigrants deal with everyday obstacles while acclimating them to Canadian life, said Miriam Cahn, a program co-ordinator.

"For the newcomer, some of the information they get is extremely concrete: The bus system, banking, where to send (their) kids to school, learning (their) rights as a parent for (their) child's education. But it's also learning about Canada — philosophy and culture," she said.

The volunteer-immigrant relationship is not as one-sided as it seems.

"Both have a role to play, as givers and receivers," she said.

"Maybe in the beginning the volunteer does serve more as a teacher," said Samina Sami, program co-ordinator. "But we really encourage that the experience is one of a learning opportunity for the volunteer as well as a giving

opportunity. So, there will be a time when the volunteer will get a chance to learn of the culture and background of the newcomer."

Educating the public about the immigrant experience is another goal of the Host Program. There are other barriers for immigrants to overcome, aside from language barriers, the co-ordinators say.

"If we look at a lot of the communities (immigrants) come from they are often extended families," said Sami. "It's often everyone in the community knows one another, so there is a real sense of com-

munity. That's probably one of the biggest differences many immigrants face. Suddenly that sense of family is gone and they are thrown into an alien situation. And that certainly seems very frightening and can cause them to feel alienated."

"There are other things which can be taken as barriers as well," said Cahn. "(Such as) the myth that immigrants take away jobs. Therefore, there will be a lot of enmity and mistrust from the larger population towards immigrants."

The Host Program can also provide an example in diffusing racial tension.

"One of the things we did see in the riot (last year in Los Angeles) is that when something is just brewing under the surface, it takes very little to erupt into violence," she said. "In that respect, Canada has had that criticism against it, in that we may not be as overt in our racist sentiment, but they are a little more well-hidden. And there is a real danger there in that we become very complacent."

Needle exchange working

by Margaret Bryant

Etobicoke City Hall's needle exchange program gives the community a chance to fight the spread of AIDS and sexually-transmitted diseases.

A grant of \$55,000 was given by the Ministry of Health to Etobicoke to get the program started.

The program, which began in November 1992, allows anyone within the community to receive clean needles in exchange for used ones.

Sonia Hylton, supervisor of the Healthy Sexuality program, said it is an HIV outreach program.

"The purpose is to avoid the

spread of HIV and blood transmission of disease," Hylton said.

Every Wednesday, in the Employees' House clinic of City Hall, people can come and exchange needles or receive other free items like condoms, needle bleaching kits or information sheets on sexually transmitted diseases (STD).

"Another option we have is a bleaching kit so they are not using dirty needles," Hylton said.

Bleaching kits provide a solution which cleans and sterilizes dirty needles.

"If people need a condom, we give an information sheet on how to use it and an STD information sheet."

Hylton, however, said the

needle exchange program does not promote drug usage.

"Hopefully, we will be educating and protecting the rest of the community," Hylton said.

"The aim is that some of the people that we counsel will recognize the negative influence on their lives."

Breakaway, an extension of the program, is a mobile unit which goes into the community offering the needle exchange service and supplies for anyone who is in need.

"Part of the needle exchange is for diabetics who can also access this service," Hylton said. "Anyone in Etobicoke can use it."

SAC ELECTIONS '93

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The Female Condom

Reality: Is it really safe?

by A.J. Jenner

A dispute over labelling has delayed the introduction of female condoms into Canada and the U.S., according to a Canadian health official.

The condom — described by one Wisconsin manufacturer as the sex accessory of the future — is already being sold in the United Kingdom, Switzerland and Austria.

"It's a labelling problem," said Claude Mathieu, a medical device inspector at the Canadian Health Protection Branch in Toronto.

The label advertises the *Reality* condom as a "device that will prevent venereal disease," Mathieu said. They "can (re)label it to claim that it reduces the risk ... change the name, change the labelling" and they "could market it right now." But Mathieu added that he hasn't seen any such changes yet.

Women urgently need an AIDS protection product that they can control, said Mary Ann Leeper, senior vice president of development at Wisconsin Pharmalac Company, since they "are the fastest-growing HIV-positive group."

Since the company's resources are limited, it has decided to wait and launch the female condom in Canada around the same time as it does in the United States, Leeper said recently in a report.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) obstetrics and gynaecology devices advisory panel recommended approval

of the device conditionally, in December 1992, if Wisconsin agrees to change its labelling before final approval.

Medical devices in Canada do not have to be approved through a board like the FDA. Instead, devices must comply with testing standards.

"Comply with testing and you can sell it," Mathieu said. "They cannot also advertise it as a condom," since condoms must meet certain regulations prescribed for medical devices. *Reality*, he said, has not as yet been tested for condom standards such as width and leakage.

The condom, shaped into a long tube, is a polyurethane, pre-lubricated sheath with polyurethane rings surrounding both ends of the tube. One ring lies at the closed end of the sheath; the woman inserts this closed end manually into the vaginal canal. The other ring forms around the open end outside the vagina.

According to Leeper, the company's representative, women who liked *Reality* included those who wanted to be in control of their sexual health, women who are allergic to latex, and those who wanted to take turns sharing sexual responsibility with their partner.

Women who like *Reality* are those who don't dislike tampons or other barrier protectives, dislike having anything hang outside the vagina, and dislike the cumbersome appearance of *Reality*.

The 33,000 tests on *Reality*

conducted by the company since 1987, have shown that the occurrence of semen inside the vagina — due to rips, tears, and outer ring movement — at 2.8 per cent, compared favourably as against a 10.9 per cent occurrence for the maleworn condom.

As well, the total of breaks and tears for *Reality* was less than one per cent, lower than the four per cent for male condoms.

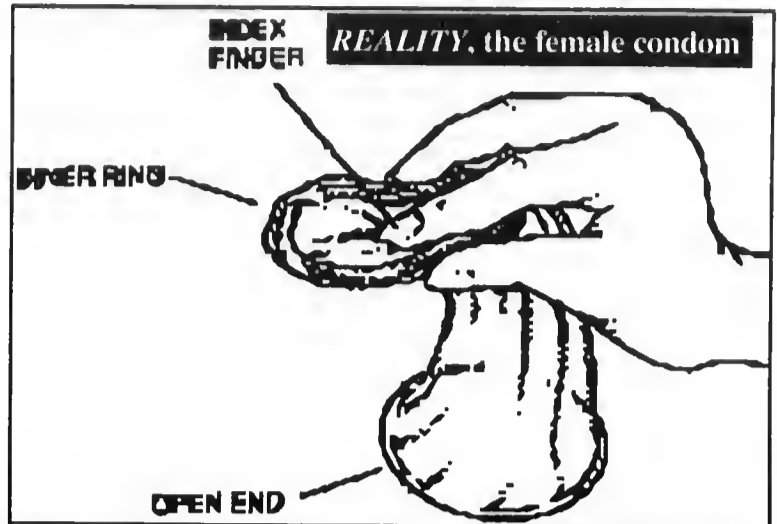
However, company statistics notwithstanding, Dr. Evelyn Wallace, the Public Health Branch's Ontario's senior medical consultant for the STD and AIDS unit said she has yet to see any good reviews about *Reality*.

Doubts as to the efficacy of the condom were also expressed by an AIDS activist. "How do we know it's more effective (than a traditional condom)?" was the question raised by Betty Anderson of Toronto Women and AIDS Protects. "We don't know that other than the statistics that have come out of their testing."

At the Margaret Pyke centre, a family planning clinic, complaints were heard that *Reality* could be sometimes difficult to insert, that it could stick in the vaginal canal and that was noisy.

"You have to take care of yourself and don't rely on them (men) for it," said Yolande Hazell, a second-year, Humber business management student. "To protect myself, I would pay \$10 for one."

Wisconsin Pharmalac has estimated *Reality*'s price at around \$2.50 each.



Cybernetic dating

by Margaret Bryant

The time crunch of the 90s is making a lot of people turn to dating services to find the person they're looking for.

People don't have as much time to go out to look for a companion, according to Jerome Sneiderman of Love Unlimited, a dating service for young adults. "We put information into a computer and find someone compatible with them. Because it's for young adults, we make it cheap."

There is a \$10 fee for one set up, which includes a first name and phone number which is given to the client, Sneiderman said. The ages of the clients range from 21 to 34.

A questionnaire has to be filled out to determine what kind of person the client is looking for. The information is then entered into a computer.

Rob, a York University student, decided to try the service after he broke up with his girlfriend and felt he had nothing to lose.

"It's like a blind date," Rob said. "You have to trust the people's judgement."

Rob said between work and school, there isn't much time left for socializing. He said the dating service helped him with ideas on where to go and things

to do like going out for dinner or a movie.

"I find I have a lot less time than my parents (did)," said Rob. "With the computer (dating), it just seems like the way it's gonna go."

Rob said he was pleased with his match, but didn't tell everyone he used a dating service.

"I don't want to seem desperate," Rob said. "I told a few close friends. It (the date) worked out pretty well."

Adrian, another York University student, said she was tired of the bar scene and wanted to try something different. "I just thought it would be a good way to meet people. I was nervous, but hoping for the best."

Adrian said she went to a restaurant where there were a lot of people, so she didn't feel uncomfortable being with a stranger.

"You take a chance if it doesn't work out," Adrian said. "I felt comfortable after a while."

She hopes to see her date again after he comes back from a trip. "We've only had one chance to see each other," Adrian said. "I hope to see him when he gets back."

Though Love Unlimited has put up flyers at Humber College, Sneiderman said the most positive response came from York University.

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ARTS

Drama waging war over funding

by Heather Mason

In a rundown public school in Toronto's west end, a close-knit group of about 100 theatre students are working day and night to fulfil their aspirations.

Although they are warned in the beginning of the harsh realities of being a professional actor, they eagerly embrace the sometimes 80-hour week of classes and rehearsals they attend.

Mark Schoenberg, coordinator of Humber's performance program, says the students only complain that they don't get enough hours.

"One of the things we discover is this is not work but love," he said.

Although in Canada there is more theatre, television and film work than 10 years ago, most students know that they can't make a living as a stage actor in Canada.

"You don't choose to get into theatre," says first-year performance student Mark Deanna. "You do it because it's something you have to do."

The program is fiercely competitive. Of 300 applicants, only 40 are accepted in the first year. After that, students must be invited back into the program yearly.

Teacher and professional actor David Ferry said that there are far too many actors being trained.



GARY GELLERT

Daring to dance — Despite funding problems, students are trying to succeed in their program like Vicki Goring did in last year's *You Can't Take It With You*.

"The market is flooded with young actors," says Ferry. "The weeding-out process is quite severe in our business. The film and television industry is a hugely sexist, racist industry."

With 80 percent of his unionized colleagues out of work, Ferry said a secondary market of non-unionized actors is developing.

But Ferry would like to see the program at Humber become more competitive, with higher stan-

dards for re-entry after first year.

"We want to be able to say that a certain per cent of students are working to justify the money being spent on the program," said Ferry.

Increased enrolment and lack of available funding this year has hindered improvements to Theatre Humber.

"We don't have the resources to offer the kind of curriculum we'd like to see," said

Schoenberg.

In addition, there are not enough hours of classroom contact and with the maximum number of students in the program, the quality of instruction is lessened, said Schoenberg.

Ferry said one of the main problems for Theatre Humber is the facilities. The drama department is waging "a major battle here trying to upgrade. We've got the poorest

facilities for theatre training in town," he said, pointing to inadequate soundproofing and improper wiring of some of the technical equipment.

A student, who did not wish to be named, said the college has "ripped off" its theatre students.

"The funding structure is such that we are funded for 33 hours per week, per student. Only 28 hours of that money comes to us and the rest is siphoned off elsewhere. When we request funds we are told that there are none," he says.

"We are the part of the college that the public sees and yet the college shackles us."

Despite the financial drawbacks, faculty and students agree that Schoenberg has turned the program around in terms of quality and reputation.

Teacher Alan Guttman says that he has seen a noticeable improvement in the types of students being allowed into the program.

"The level of the work is becoming of a pretty high calibre," he says.

Second-year student Brad Austin is like most of the students when he says he is fairly confident there is something out there for him.

Energetic gospel concert popular among students

by Alan Swinton

Last Friday's gospel concert at the Lecture Theater was standing room only.

The energetic noon-time concert was produced by vocals student Lisa Toussaint who also directed most of the songs. The choir was also backed by drums, an electric guitar, keyboards and a saxophone.

"The Music department has Wednesdays and Fridays booked for the students to put on any concerts that they'd like and they're responsible for getting their own bands and musicians together," said Toussaint.

Toussaint said she simply asked her fellow vocal students if they would like to sing in a gospel concert.

"At the first couple of practices, not many people showed up and then the next couple of practices a whole lot of people showed up. And when we were practising the security guards and everybody just sort of came

around to listen," said Kwasi Thomas, who was one of the students who was involved from the beginning.

When Toussaint introduced the concert, the theatre was only half full.

"I hope you enjoy it and this is gospel music, so if you want to clap and stand up, and dance and stomp your feet and that kind of thing — please do," said Toussaint.

By the end, the theatre was packed solid and the audience was on their feet, singing, clapping, and dancing to the music. Other people outside the theatre held the doors open to sample the flavor of the concert.

No one was more surprised by the turn out than Toussaint.

"I was spreading the word around by word of mouth and having posters put up, but I didn't expect this many people," said Toussaint.

Fellow singer Nathan Junor was glad to have directed the closing song.



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Swing kids lacks swing

by Marg Land

Walt Disney's newest release, *Swing Kids*, makes a gallant attempt at showing the conformity of Nazism from the view point of German youth but ends up being a big swing and a miss.

The film starts with a valid message but gets bogged down with confusing and crowded story lines.

The force behind the film is buried under unnecessary sentiment.

Of course, if you like amazing dance scenes and toe-tapping music, this is the film for you. But even the dancing isn't enough to overcome the over-complicated plot.

Swing Kids is the story of two friends, Peter and Thomas, growing up in Hamburg during the rise of Nazi power in the late 1930's.

The pair, who spend most of their free time listening to "swing" music and dancing up a storm in secret dance clubs, find

their freedom slowly being taken away by the growing Nazi movement.

Peter, played by *Dead Poets Society* star Robert Sean Leonard, is forced by authorities to join the Hitler Youth and Thomas, portrayed by Christian Bale (best known for his performance as the young English schoolboy in Steven Spielberg's film, *Empire of the Sun*) joins the organization to keep him company.

They find their friendship strained by having to choose between the freedom of personal expression and the conformity of the Party.

Leonard gives an honest and, at times, emotional performance as the confused Peter but, in the end, he is let down by the script.

The audience is unable to truly empathize with his character because they never actually manage to understand his motives and feelings.

They find themselves confused and unable to decide exactly who

Peter is and what he represents.

He is too busy being a "Hitler Youth by day, Swing Kid by night."

Bale gives a convincing performance as the easily influenced Thomas.

He develops from a fun-loving youth — to a hate filled paranoid Party member.

The audience has no problem deciding how they feel about his character: they just hate him.

One interesting note to this movie is an appearance by Kenneth Branagh, best known for directing and starring in *Henry V* and *Dead Again*.

Although he's not mentioned in the credits, he portrays a Gestapo official

The audience finds themselves surprised by his appearance and embarrassed by his character's lack of depth.

This reaction helps to explain the anonymity of his performance. Perhaps he's too ashamed to admit he was part of this film.



COURTESY PHOTO

Whole lotta swinging goin' on — but *Swing Kids* doesn't seem to be swinging movie goers into liking the flick.

Bad Lieutenant not really a bad flick

by Paul Mercado

Bad Lieutenant may easily rate as the most shocking film of the year, but it may also be the most enlightening.

Director Abel Ferrara uses New York as the setting for his look into moral and spiritual decay.

Harvey Keitel (*Reservoir Dogs*, *Bugsy*) plays a middle-aged, seemingly amoral cop who spends most of his time gambling with money he doesn't have, indulging his sexual fantasies with prostitutes, and confiscating drugs for his own personal use.

He is also a husband and a father, and part-time Catholic. Keitel wanders through much of the film in a nocturnal, druggy haze that is both frightening and at times comical.

He is a man utterly lost in hopelessness, whose self-inflicted degradation is made all the more moving since it is plain to see he is basically a decent person.

There are many unnerving scenes in this film, which at times seems like an exercise in immorality which reaches the point where nothing is sacred.

That point is reached when two men vandalize a church and

rape a nun on an altar.

Keitel seems powerless to stop his own descent into depravity until he is assigned to the case and forced to confront his religious beliefs.

Keitel is determined to give the nun justice but he is caught off guard when the nun forgives the men and refuses to identify them.

Failing to convince her into revealing the identities of the men, Keitel appears to be on the verge of mental collapse.

Keitel's acting is very good, and the film will probably be remembered for his performance and not the plot.

Poet delivers a dose of culture

by Julie Weeden

Toronto writer Michael Holmes does more than just write poetry. He has made his poetry a performing art.

Holmes, who has written two books of poetry, *Got No Flag At All* and the not yet released, *Satellite Dishes From The Future Bakery*, tours the Toronto bar scene doing readings of his work. Recently, Holmes read at the Harbourfront in Toronto.

Poetry reading as an art form is very different from other types of performing arts. In most cases, it is the poet's voice and presence alone that carry the show.

"It's really easy to lose an audience," he explained.

As most people come to the performances with preconceived ideas about what it will be like, "getting them to like you and listen to you" can be a challenge.

Holmes faces this challenge by putting a lot into his performances and adding that a little

humor never hurts anyone.

Holmes, who is also a university student, sees what he does as not only poetry but as writing.

He refers to it as "border blur", meaning poetry along with a lot of other genres of writing. His work is influenced by what he learns and experiences about life.

He sees himself as a "satellite", and "a receiver of random transmission" collecting bits of life to write about.

So far, the response to his work has been good.

"People really get into it," he said.

Through his work, Holmes wants people to realize that this art form "goes beyond the writer."

He wants people to discover the affects of language, both good and bad, on our lives everyday and what their role is in it.

"Words are already creating art," he explained. Holmes wants to show that language can be fun.



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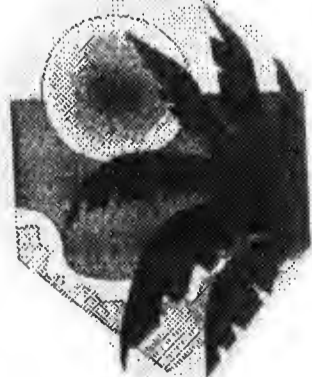
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S P O R T S



Super Saturday memorable for Canadians

by Sofie Kouleas

Boy did I feel good last Saturday.

No, it wasn't because it was the weekend and no it wasn't because I did anything exciting. All I did was sit in front of the television set and watch sports.

There is nothing like settling into a pillow-covered couch with my warm flannel pj's and an afternoon supply of chocolate chip cookies. Saturday was a sports fans' dream. There was skiing from Lillhammer, Norway, curling from Ottawa, figure skating from Prague, hockey from the Montreal Forum and the World Track and Field Championships in Toronto.

I could barely control myself with the converter in my hand. I managed to catch all the Canadians competing at home and abroad.

Who cares you say? Well, there is something about sports that is electrifying, imaginative and memorable. Many

Canadians can still remember where they were when Paul Henderson scored the winning goal against the Russians in the 1972 Summit Series. And still more Canadians remember the Blue Jays capturing their first ever World Series.

For me, Saturday was a memorable sporting day. It was a day that a 15-year-old orphan captured the hearts of the skating world when she won the women's figure skating title.

It was a day when a young Canadian skier proved her recent World Championship downhill gold medal was no fluke as she won her first ever World Cup race.

It was a day that proved curling in this country is so strong that any team from the Brier may go on to become world champions.

And to top it off, it was a perfect Saturday night watching "Hockey Night in Canada" from the shrine of rinks — the Forum in Montreal. I wish everyday was Saturday.

Soccer Hawks blast teams to earn top spot in regionals

by Natalie Vujaklija

Like a winter storm, Humber's men's soccer team blasted the competition to earn top spot in the regionals last weekend.

The Hawks went 4-0 facing their only real problems in the first game against Sheridan College.

The Sheridan players came out with a game plan to cover the Hawks tight. The Hawks, who are at their best when they have space to manoeuvre the ball, had a tough time against Sheridan. The result was 1-0 for Sheridan at the half.

Coach, Germain Sanchez must have worked some magic during the half because the Hawks came out looking like a different team. A quick run by the forward line, enabled center mid-fielder, Phil Caporrella to place one in the net. After that, it was basically Humber's game.

Sheridan did manage to get ahead once more during the game, but Humber answered with two goals, both by Caporrella, to give Humber a 3-2 victory.

From then on the Hawks glided to easy victories throughout

the rest of the tournament. They pummelled Sir Sanford Fleming 10-2, in a game where just about everybody scored.

The Hawks then squared off against the Centennial Colts, in what was supposed to be the game of the tournament; however, the Hawks disposed of them quickly.

adapted to the man to man style easily.

The first goal of the game was the result of a Colts mistake. A slow pass back to the goalie by a Colts defender was intercepted by Caporrella.

Though the Colts had a couple of good runs at the net, they couldn't seem to get by Humber's defence, and they were only able to get one goal by Hawks keeper, Adam Morandini.

According to Colt's manager, Audley Taffe, Humber was hungry for this game. "We knew we had already qualified to go to the provincials so we weren't playing as hard," he said.

For the last game against the George Brown Huskies, Sanchez decided to give regular keeper Morandini a rest. He was replaced by back-up goalie, Paul Schaefer.

When the Huskies managed to get through Humber's defence, which wasn't very often, Schaefer seemed to rob them.

George Brown managed to squeak one in, but by this time Humber was leading by two goals. The game ended 4-1 for the Hawks which rapped up the regionals.



Volleyball Hawks upset: Head coach disappointed

by Christina McLean

Humber's volleyball Hawks were sorely disappointed to lose last week's provincial finals. But at least they played well, or so they thought. Coach Steve Corbin disagrees.

Going into the provincial competition the men's team was ranked third behind Sheridan and Durham Colleges. The team assumed they would win, and consequently go on to the national championship.

Dan Salerno, player on the Hawks said "after the provincials we just thought we'd be headed to the nationals, none of us thought we would lose."

Corbin added, "I made the assumption that we would go to the nationals. That was always our final goal."

During the tournament the team lost to Cambrian College crushing their hopes.

Corbin said the team "just wasn't playing very well." There were two key factors which contributed to the teams downfall. One was the return of an injured starter, who had just started practicing with the team three weeks before the tournament and had not fully recovered. The second reason was the "the team as a whole did not practice together enough to enable a win," said Corbin.

Salerno disagrees with the idea the team didn't play a good game against Cambrian.

"I didn't play in that game so I had a chance to see everything that was going on. We played a great game and the score proves it," said Salerno.

Cambrian swept the series three games straight 15-12, 15-13 and 16-14.

This was Corbin's first season coaching at the college level, although he has spent many years coaching at the club level. He said next season he hopes to see a little more dedication and commitment from the team. Corbin has also started to do some recruiting for future prospects for next season.

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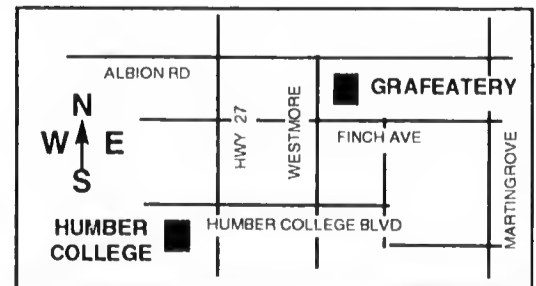
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