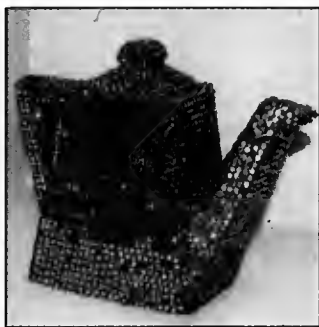




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# Humber Et Cetera

volume 31 issue 19

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February 27, 2003



Jelani Lowe

Students dance it up on stage at the Caribbean Exhibition talent show in the student centre on Feb. 24. February is Black History month. Read about black history, page 16.

## Application numbers are surprising

by Joel Hoidas

next year."

College applications from Ontario students have increased 12.9 per cent for the 2003-04 double cohort year, though experts were surprised that high school students made up less than half of the increase.

Nearly 92,000 Ontario students applied to college before the Feb. 1 deadline, an increase of 10,490 from Feb. 2002.

The majority (5,563) were distinct applications from "non-secondary students" - those who have been out of high school for at least one year - a report released Feb. 20 by the Association of Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology of Ontario (ACAATO) reveals.

The number of distinct applications by students fresh out of high school increased by only 4,927, or 9.9 per cent from 2002-03.

Each distinct application represents one student who applied to college regardless of how many colleges or programs they applied for.

"We're scratching our heads about that one," said Greg Hughes, CEO of Ontario College Application Services (OCAS), who helped prepare the report for ACAATO.

"Our theory why there's a greater number of non-secondaries is because there is an increase in degree programs in community colleges

are being offered by colleges in the fall, which include three degree programs at Humber: paralegal studies, e-Business and industrial design.

Distinct applications at Humber have increased 13.8 per cent from the Feb. 2002 deadline. That includes both secondary and non-secondary applicants.

Hughes said the increase of high school applicants at the deadline was expected, but the majority of non-secondary students normally don't apply by Feb 1.

"Students applying early can't be the only reason for the increase," he said. "I expect there will still be an increase when the school year starts."

Though it is still difficult to predict how many students will be enrolled next year, the report estimates about 59 per cent of the applicants will be accepted, which is consistent with past years.

Hughes said colleges won't be caught off guard if more students are accepted than normal, but they may be short of funds.

"The issue for colleges is less about capacity and more about operating funds," he said. "Colleges need an increase in funding."

Story continued on page 3.

## Humber students say Bush is withholding information

by Vivian Song

Humber students may be overwhelmingly against a war in Iraq but they also believe the United States is hiding secrets about Saddam's weapons of mass destruction, says a recent poll.

First-year students in the journalism program polled 280 students from both the North and Lakeshore campuses and found that 72 per cent

agreed a U.S.-led war is not the answer to end the Iraqi impasse.

Industrial Woodworking student Samuel Gillmore says the looming war is just a personal vendetta waged by a wronged family man.

"Bush is pushing his personal agenda, trying to finish his daddy's business," he said.

First-year Radio and Broadcasting student Larissa Prineau agreed, and said she harbours anti-

American sentiments

"Propaganda, that's what the U.S. is about, and its oil," Prineau said. "It's basically George W. Bush finishing his father's fight."

Though most of the students polled favour a diplomatic, UN-led resolution to the standoff, 65 per cent also believe the United States knows more about Saddam's weapons program than they are letting on.

"The U.S. aided and abetted Iraq.

They put Saddam into power and gave him the materials. I don't think they want to admit to the world everything he has, because they gave him most of the stuff," said Christina Nodecker, a second-year Logistics Administration student.

Jason Field, a third-year multimedia design student, said there must be more sinister and secretive reasons

Story continued on page 2

### What's Inside...

Toronto ghost hunt  
page 8

An hour with the  
author of *The Hours*  
page 10

## News

# Complaints against police made easier

by Leslie Fleischer

A new storefront complaint office will be opened to the public where people can lodge complaints against the police without feeling intimidated.

The changes being made to the police complaints system was announced at a summit on racial profiling held Feb. 25 in Toronto.

Public Safety and Security Minister Bob Runciman named Sylvia Hudson, a former Toronto police services board member and former Jamaican police officer, in charge of the complaints process.

Runciman said there are "bad apples in every barrel" including the Toronto police force, and they

should be weeded out.

Hudson's new duties as vice-chair of the Ontario Civilian Commission on Police Services (OCCOPS) include outreach with the various communities in Toronto, Runciman said.

Lincoln Alexander, Canadian Race Relations Foundation chairman and former lieutenant governor, stressed race relations is an important issue that needs to be addressed.

"Two hundred thousand people in Toronto are visible minorities," Alexander said. "Their concerns are being looked at and action [is being] taken in order to alleviate the suffering which they have [endured]."

Participants at the summit con-



Leslie Fleischer

**Police Chief Julian Fantino (left), former lieutenant-governor Lincoln Alexander (centre) and Public Safety Minister Bob Runciman (right) discuss race relations at a racial profiling summit.**

cluded that changes must be made to policy and education in the police force that was set in motion at a summit meeting held last November.

Toronto Police Chief Julian Fantino said "bad apples" are inevitable and it is unfair to suggest that any misconduct on the part of police services is systemic.

"It's a ludicrous presumption to believe that in any organization in any sector of society there aren't those who don't play by the rules," Fantino said. "But I want to assure you that there are no systemic bad apples in the barrel. We don't have barrels of bad apples."

While Fantino said that he is

excited the summit meetings are moving forward, he added that allegations of racial profiling have already had a detrimental effect on the men and women in police services in Toronto.

"It's reverse discrimination and we take exception to it," he said.

# More things on mind than war in Iraq, students say

Continued from page 1

for war than made known to the public.

"I think there is a lot more going on behind the scenes they're not telling us. They use the threat of weapons to get the public afraid and to control the public."

More than half the students polled also say Bush is only using weapons of mass destruction as a pretext for war and cite oil and economics as hidden motives.

"If they really cared about weapons, they'd be going into North Korea," Nodecker said.

North Korea has openly declared they have restarted their nuclear development program.

But some students say Saddam and his oppressive regime must be ousted by force.

"Iraq will never give up. The only way to disarm them is to go to war,"

said Gracjan Pietrzak, a technical engineering student.

Though the overwhelming majority of students state that war is not the answer, only 38 per cent of respondents believe college students are making their voices heard on the pressing issue.

"They're too busy," says Nodecker. "Students are too busy working on school and their families. They have more things on their minds."

Many students also shared the notion of being powerless as young people, like Anita Duraikannan of Stoney Creek.

"It feels like there is nothing we can do at such a low level," she said. "The idealistic days of the '60s are over. We are [disillusioned] and we don't think our government would listen to us."

A new U.S.-British-Spanish draft resolution was tabled to the UN Security Council Monday Feb. 24.

The council made clear to UN officials Iraq has been warned repeatedly and will face serious consequences as a result of its continued violations.

The resolution needs nine votes from the 15-member Security Council to pass and cannot be vetoed from any of the council's three other permanent members, China, France and Russia.

The vote is not expected to take place until after March 7, when chief weapons inspector Hans Blix is due back from Baghdad with a progress report. President Bush, however, remains defiant and says he will act with or without international support.



Fernanda Caranfa

**Environmental critics say more fuel efficient cars are necessary to tackle climate change.**

# Feds boost environment spending by \$2 billion

**Critics call for transit funding**

by Fernanda Caranfa and Lisa Conlin

The federal government has committed \$2 billion in its budget announced last week to implement the Kyoto accord, but environmental critics say more funding is necessary.

"Two billion dollars is hardly a drop in the bucket," said Sid Vallor, who works at Humber's Arboretum.

With \$143 billion laid out in Finance Minister John Manley's first budget, Vallor added spending in each sector, including health, have been compromised.

"The overall picture is that everyone seemed to get a bit, but no one got nearly what they wanted," Vallor said.

Of the \$2 billion allotted for environmental spending over the next five years, \$250 million will be used to encourage the development of technologies to reduce greenhouse gases; \$1.7 billion to support partnerships, innovation, measures to improve energy efficiency, increase renewable energy, sustainable transportation and alternative energy sources.

Dr. Quentin Chiotti, senior scientist at Pollution Probe, said funding for the environment wasn't being spent on where it was needed.

"If you really want to tackle climate change, you must tie it to public transit," Chiotti said.

Peter Love, Canadian Energy Efficiency Alliance executive director, agrees.

"We need a lot more public funding for public transit and we need regulations to ensure cars on the road are more fuel efficient," Love said.

Another \$340 million over two years will go toward implementing a new Canada-U.S. agreement to improve air quality, the protection of species at risk, and to help clean up contaminated sites on federal lands.

Not included in the environment figures was \$3 billion over 10 years for the establishment of new infrastructure for Canadian cities.

"Water treatment and other infrastructures in urban areas are under stress," Chiotti said. "Three hundred million a year barely scratches the surface of what municipalities need."

But some critics said the budget addressed key environment issues and was a step in the right direction.

"Climate change and air pollution have been identified as priorities within the budget," said Dan McDermott, director of Sierra Club eastern chapter. "This is an advance from past budgets."

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# Lakeshore Campus building vandalized

by Keneisha Walter

A recent wave of vandalism has hit Humber's newly constructed J Building at the Lakeshore Campus.

Graffiti on classroom desks, broken chairs and burned lounge tables have come to the attention of both the HSF administrative staff and fellow students.

Valerie Rothlin, HSF vice president of administration for the Lakeshore campus believes most of the furniture destroyed has not been done by just one individual.

She said students should be aware the money spent to repair or replace damaged furniture comes from their own pockets.

"The school's revenue comes from students and the government," she said. "So really the students will be the ones paying for it, not the school."

The J Building, which cost more than \$3 million to construct, was opened to students in September and is reported to be among the worst cases of vandalism.

Peter Maybury, director of students, campus and community services, said one major reason the building is being vandalized is due

to the lack of security.

"It's one thing to have security in a building that's all under one roof. To secure a number of buildings that are all separate is another issue," he said.

Unlike the North campus, Lakeshore has a number of individ-

**"There are idiots everywhere and there is nothing anybody can do about it."**

ually constructed buildings, which Maybury said will be prone to more vandalism as the campus expands.

The school has implemented a short-term plan where security will patrol the J and F Buildings every 30 to 45 minutes.

Though vandals have been blamed for a number of broken chairs, there is a concern that the actual designs of the chairs is contributing to the damage.

"I think it's part design problem,

part students who are willfully taking knobs off the chairs and snapping the backs," Maybury said.

The lack of staff offices in the building poses another problem for vandalism.

"It's my money that I'm contributing with my tuition to get an education," Rothlin said. "It could be used to get more full-time faculty or to do things that are more productive."

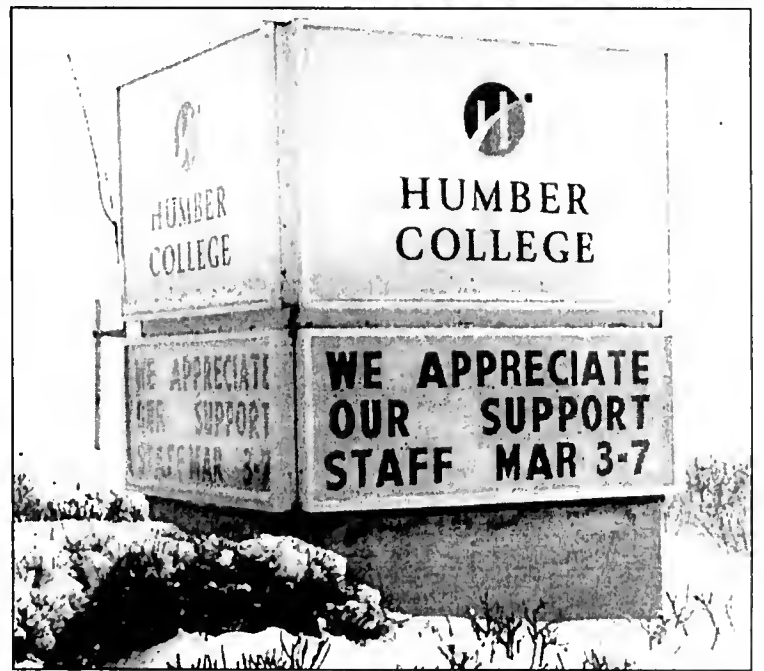
Apart from students marking desks in class with pens or knives, broken lockers have also been seen around the campus.

Concerned students voiced their frustration against some of their irresponsible colleagues.

Third-year music student Ryan Rogers spoke of an incident where he was working in the games room and someone spilled pop on the table, but didn't clean it up even after Rogers insisted.

"I didn't report the incident because it wouldn't make a difference," he said. "There are idiots everywhere and there is nothing anybody can do about it."

The estimated cost to repair the broken equipment in J building has yet to be determined.



Marianne Galloway

Humber will be designated as an Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning and will offer degree programs next fall.

## College's new status criticized by student group

by Tara Dermastja and Noel McInnis

Humber College's new designation as an Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning (ITAL) is politically motivated and a "poor use of taxpayer's money," the College Student Alliance (CSA) says.

"This is an election year and [the government] wants to look good in the public eye," said Thyagi DeLanerolle, CSA executive director. "They want to address the double cohort issue and put parents' concerns at ease."

DeLanerolle said Humber's new status as an ITAL school could hurt colleges in northern Ontario financially since funding depends on student enrolment.

"They want people to go to their schools as opposed to going to others," she said.

Humber President Robert Gordon disagrees with the CSA. He said the bottom line is to provide more opportunities for students with another alternative to university for those who have already grad-

uated.

"Just because there's maybe an issue up north, that's not enough reason to block it," Gordon said. "It's moved to the point where the baccalaureate is almost the currency of admission to the working world."

Gordon added schools in northern Ontario receive geographical allowances not available to colleges in the southern part of the province.

Colleges granted ITAL status don't receive additional funding from the government, but HSF President Craig Wilson said that's what Humber really needs.

"Any college can get applied degrees," Wilson said. "The true issue is colleges need funding."

Gordon said the move to change Humber's status was possible within their existing funding and the provincial government had no interest in creating more expensive institutions.

"We'll raise tuitions because they'll be getting a degree, but we won't raise the government grant," Gordon said.

## Colleges ask for more funding in cohort year

Continued from page 1

ACAATO, an association of college presidents and board members, said it's asking the provincial government for more operating funds to ensure resources and the quality of education remains the same for students next year.

"Each college is asking for an increase of \$1,372 per student enrolled," Hughes said.

The Ontario government currently provides \$4,379 in funding per college student, less than \$6,800 given for university stu-

dents.

Hughes said he hasn't been told when the government will reach a decision on the funding.

"I know the province is in budget considerations at the moment," he said. "I know colleges are very expectantly waiting to hear what the outcome of those discussions will be."

Ontario students account for about 95 per cent of the total first-year enrolment in Ontario colleges. Out of province and out of country applications were not included in the report.

# Biz teacher dismissed after 20 years of service

by Tamara Holmes

A Humber College teacher has been fired following 20 years of service.

School of Business veteran Brian Shaughnessy was handed a letter of termination during a meeting on Feb. 18. The decision, the letter says, was made based on "observations to date regarding [Shaughnessy's] manner in dealing with students."

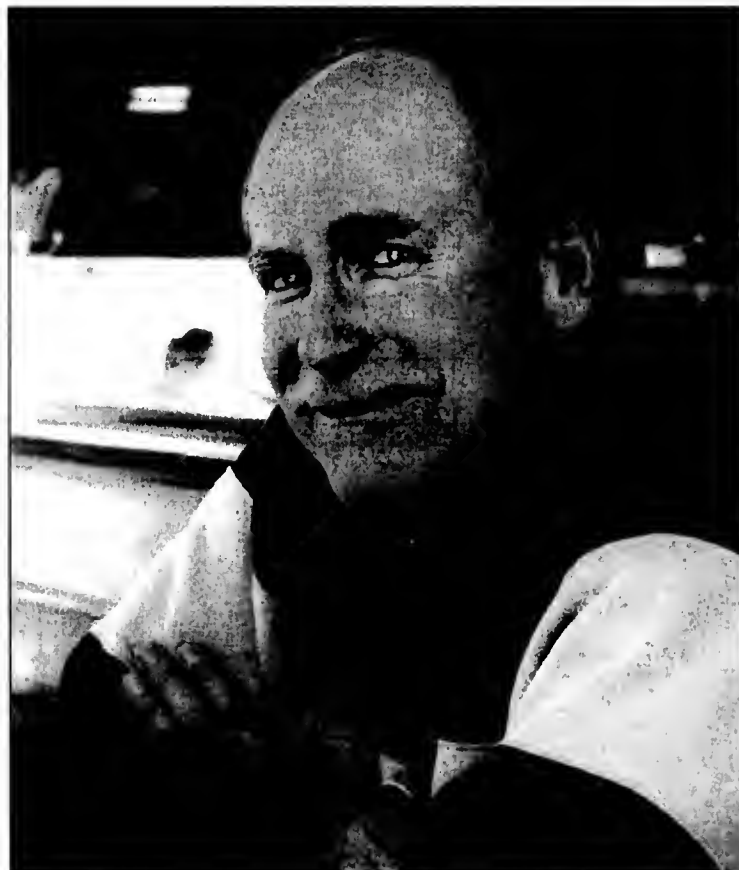
In a series of correspondence dating from Jan. 2, concerns were noted about student complaints and grade appeals and observations made regarding teaching styles and procedural practices.

Shaughnessy refutes the reasons for dismissal.

"This has become a personal attack on my teaching," Shaughnessy said. "[The administration] never asked to see any of the positive responses I get from students about my teaching. They're allowing a handful of cases to counteract what I think has been 20 years of solid and good teaching."

School of Business Dean Michael Hatton and Associate Dean Alvina Cassiani refused to comment on reasons for dismissal or whether Shaughnessy will be replaced for the remainder of the semester.

Faculty union rep Maureen Wall was unable to comment on details regarding the matter and calls to



Tamara Holmes

**Brian Shaughnessy was fired from Humber College after 20 years of service. He says his dismissal was unwarranted.**

Vice President Academic Richard Hook were not returned.

Shaughnessy said he is not seek-

ing reinstatement at this time, but is currently securing legal representation.

## Sensitivity training encouraged for faculty

by Kate Schwass

Sensitivity training is strongly recommended but not mandatory for Humber staff, academic council decided at a recent meeting.

Council voted to suggest the training after several students complained to counseling services about the conduct of staff members throughout the college.

Council member Camille Hannays-King from Humber's counseling services, brought the issue to council's attention at the January meeting.

Deb McCarthy, director of the college's Human Resources department, said sensitivity training would be similar to the Human Rights training staff members are strongly recommended to take.

"There is an absence of discussion about differences among us," Hannays-King said. She said she looked into training for staff members and members of Academic Council are supportive of the idea.

"It will not be mandatory. That's just not the way we do things around here," McCarthy said.

Members of academic council expressed concern about sensitivity at Humber and the need for staff to watch what they say.

"We are getting more diverse every year," president Robert Gordon said. "There are things that are just unacceptable. Some of these things are criminal offences."

Hannays-King said it will be difficult getting faculty members to participate in the training because many staff feel the sensitivity issue is not a problem in their area of study.

"People have said, 'I'm sure that wouldn't have happened in our department,'" she said.

The training will be provided to staff through Human Resources.



Jen O'Brien

Media pundits Robert Lewis, Joel Ruimy and Gordon Pitts discuss the future of media in Canada. The panel was brought together as a part of Toronto's Freedom to Read Week.

# Media convergence threat to free press

*Journalists warn free expression may be at risk*

by Jen O'Brien

The latest problem facing Canada's free press could be the ham-handed management of media conglomerates, a panel of seasoned journalists said at a discussion Monday.

The panel, presented by The Editors' Association of Canada, took place Feb. 24 in Toronto as a part of Freedom to Read Week and aimed to shed light on the impact of media convergence on the freedom of press.

Globe and Mail business reporter Gordon Pitts said continued

dominance of the Asper family over Canadian media is threatening the existence of a free press in this country.

The Asper family currently owns CanWest Global Communications, which is comprised of the National Post, Global Television and a chain of community newspapers.

Also in attendance was Joel Ruimy, executive director of Canadian Journalists for Free Expression, who reiterated Pitts' concern that Asper's domination of media may be harmful to Canada's press.

Ruimy said freedom of expression might end up being sacrificed in cities where CanWest Global owns both newspapers and television stations.

"What we are facing today is not a convergence problem, but an

Asper problem," Ruimy said.

William Hanna, dean of Humber's School of Media Studies, disagrees.

Hanna said CanWest Global does not pose an imminent threat to Canadian media or future journalists.

"There are limits on societal tolerance for conglomerates, but this is not a new theory," Hanna said. "They're a business and will make choices based on what will attract viewers and readers."

"The marketplace will take care of problems with directive control just as it did with Conrad Black and his hardening experience in the fires of adversity," he said.

Hanna said that amalgamations offer resources for research and development and an upsurge in demand for content creation.

## HSF wants full campus coverage

by Chris MacKinnon

HSF President Craig Wilson is still waiting for the green light from college administration to launch a Humber TV network on campus.

Wilson said he started working on the project in the summer and thought the TVs would be up and running by last September.

"What we're hearing now is that the college is worried about the ads," Wilson said. "They have an issue with ads in academic spaces, but we don't want to put TVs in classrooms."

The service would be provided by UCTV Inc. - a company that supplies colleges and universities with their own channel and sells ad spots on the channel.

University of Western Ontario (UWO) and Carleton University are among schools that have already signed on.

The layout of the UCTV screen has six parts similar to the Toronto-based CP-24 channel.

The six parts include a section

"The layout of the UCTV screen has six parts similar to the Toronto based CP-24 channel."

for advertising, the date and time, a regular television channel, a space for news headlines and scrolling text for college topics.

High traffic areas at the North Campus such as the cafeteria, Caps and the student centre, would be likely venues for UCTV if Wilson's plan is approved.

Though it is not known how

much money the HSF will make from UCTV, UWO makes \$4,000 a year with its channel.

Wilson said the Humber channel could be used to broadcast news shows and other productions by Humber film and television students, or possibly Humber Hawks sports.

"But we can't finance it without the ads. The ads are part of the package."

Under the contract with UCTV, the HSF retains control over which ads are shown on campus.

Derek Maharaj, chair of the college advertising standards committee, said his board approved the UCTV proposal "in principle" months ago.

The HSF has made presentations to the college, but have not had an overwhelming response.

Wilson met with representatives from the administration on Feb. 21.

## World Digest

by Joel Hoidas

### Hundreds die in China earthquake

CHINA

A severe earthquake rocked China's far-west border the morning of Feb. 24, killing at least 260 people and injuring 2,000.

The quake's magnitude was measured at 6.8 and struck near the city of Jiashi, about 2,800 kilometres west of Beijing.

Authorities said the quake toppled hundreds of buildings and the army has been brought in to help dig out the living and dead.

### New missile tested

NORTH KOREA

North Korea conducted its first missile launch in five years on Feb. 24, creating further tension between themselves and the United States.

A North Korean official said the test was done for security reasons.

U.S. intelligence described the missile as a "short range tactical missile" typically used to fire on ships.

Newly elected South Korean President Roh Moo-hyun claimed the North's nuclear weapons program was a threat to world peace in his inaugural speech the day after the test.

### Student loans get paid back quicker

CANADA

Canadians are paying off their student loans a lot quicker, a survey released on Feb. 24 by StatsCan said.

Of those who went straight to college or university from high school, graduates from 1995 are paying their loans faster than 1990 grads, despite heavier debts.

StatsCan said young graduates from 1995 paid back an average of 55 per cent of their loans in five years, almost the same as graduates from 1990 have done in 10 years.

### Woman loses arm in alligator attack

UNITED STATES

A 70-year-old woman is recovering in hospital after she was attacked by an alligator outside of her condo in Englewood, Florida on Feb. 24.

The gator chomped down on Helena Couto's arm below the elbow and tried to drag her into a nearby pond. A male resident came to her rescue and dragged her to safety by her legs.

A deputy shot and killed the alligator, which was then cut open to recover Couto's severed arm.

Tampa General Hospital would not say if the operation was a success.

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# Cell phone swap gives hope to poor

by Noel McInnis

Three Toronto charity organizations joined forces this month in a bid to help the city's poor and to protect the environment.

The Canadian Association of Food Banks (CAFB), thINK Food and Daily Bread Food Bank launched a Phones for Food campaign Feb. 6 to encourage people to recycle their old cell phones instead of throwing them away after use.

"We learned that wireless and electronic waste is the fastest growing waste product in North America," said Tamara Eberle, national development director for thINK Food. "There's clearly a need to do something about waste going into the landfills," Eberle said. "Through research

we found there is a market for inactive cell phones and hand sets, so we married the two ideas."

"When people think about throwing out their old phones, hopefully they remember each phone could be worth a carton of milk or an entire meal to their local food banks," she said.

Research done by Phones for Food says cell phone users change handsets about every eighteen months, resulting in millions of old phones being stockpiled in Canadian homes and offices.

Their research also showed handsets contain toxic elements like arsenic, cadmium, lead and mercury which could leak into the ground at landfill sites and infect the environment.

Jim Russell, director of public involvement for Daily Bread Food Bank in Etobicoke, said he is pleased with the partnership with thINK Food and hopes Phones for

Food will generate into dollars for the food banks.

"The part that excites us is that it is environmental, it gets our name out to the public and equates food banks with the environmental concern," Russell said.

Eberle added she hopes the project will become popular across the country.

Food donations have dropped significantly and for the first time Daily Bread had to have an emergency food drive last summer because they were out of needed food items, Russell said.

Charles Seiden, executive director for CAFB, said another reason for increased food bank use has been the federal government's removal of the Canadian Social

Assistance Program.

"People on assistance and welfare have had their rates reduced and the criteria to receive benefits increased," he said. "So what people are finding is they have very little money and have to choose between paying rent and feeding themselves and their kids."

He said the federal government decision to have money processed provincially through a transfer system made the situation worse because of the way the provinces handle the money.

"It's the same as health and education," he said. "There's no guarantee the money is used for its intended purpose."

March has been declared National Phones for Food month and there are plans to turn the program into an ongoing fund raising effort. The kick-off is Monday March 3 at the Allan Lambert Galleria in BCE Place.



Kermin Bhot

The International Student Centre hopes the survey will help the college improve services and attract more foreign students. The tentative deadline for submissions is March 21.

## Foreign students asked to rate college services

by Kermin Bhot

International students will soon get a chance to voice their approval or disapproval of Humber's services, thanks to a survey being conducted by the International Student Centre.

Michael Kopinak, manager of Residence Life and International Student Services, said the survey is an attempt to give foreign students an opportunity to provide feedback, so that the office can get a better idea of what it is doing right and which areas need to be improved.

"We take these surveys very seriously," Kopinak said. "This survey gives me more information to go to the powers that be and say here's some places we need to make changes."

Kopinak said he is already aware of some areas that international students are concerned with.

"On-campus employment is always an issue for students. Unfortunately that's not a Humber issue, [it's] an immigration issue," Kopinak said. "[Also] students would love to see more scholarships. At present we don't offer any."

Students are asked what services

they receive at Humber, the quality of education they receive and what their career plans are.

Ritu Bhatnagar, a recruitment assistant at the International Centre, said the centre wants to know what

names such as Leafs tickets, shoulder bags and gift certificates.

The centre aims to have the surveys reach foreign students mailboxes by Feb. 28, and the tentative deadline for submissions is March 21.

"The survey has a lot of questions," said Mitul Chandrani, an International Marketing student who helped formulate the survey. "Students can write according to their own convenience whenever they are relaxing."

Once results are tallied, prominent issues will be discussed through focus groups.

"This will be a small scale forum of discussion with international students about issues arising from the survey," Bhatnagar said.

Kopinak emphasized student participation in the survey. "We've done a similar survey the last couple of years," he said. "We've only been getting somewhere between 40 and 65 back which isn't a lot. Last year, we got more than the previous years, but it still wasn't enough."

Students can drop off the completed surveys either at the North Campus International Student Centre or at the Career Centre at Lakeshore.

"This survey gives me more information to go to the powers that be and say here's some places we need to make changes."

sets it apart from other schools in other countries.

"We want to know why they chose Humber, why Canada," she said. "Do we need to improve our recruiting, or what needs to be fixed?"

All the surveys are confidential but the International Centre wants students to provide their names so they can be contacted to discuss key issues once the surveys have been tallied. The centre will offer prizes to students who do leave their

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# Editorial

## According to some survey...

An informal poll conducted in the newsroom shows that four out of five student journalists question the validity of informal polls. Would they then use them in a story? Well, that's a different poll...

Yet, polls – both informal and “scientific” – are frequently featured in the news as the main source of information, and often taken to be undeniable fact.

A recent survey from Jan. 21-26 by Leger Marketing, asked Canadians if they consider themselves safe. A whopping 97 per cent of 1,502 people said they do. But does all this random quantification of society actually mean anything? Are the numbers actually giving society a clear picture of itself? If so, why are so many new homes being sold with security systems already installed?

A recent SES/Sun Media poll shows that 69 per cent of Canadians are in favour of the decriminalization of marijuana. 1000 people were surveyed from Feb. 2-11, and the final report is broken down into what age groups are more (or less) likely to support legalization. Is such an issue something those polled are likely to be honest about?

Now, the message here isn't that surveys and polls are fraudulent or useless. The numbers frequently prove themselves again and again. Many polling firms like Ipsos-Reid or Decima are well respected.

The message is to be critical of information presented numerically. There's too many informal polls run by media outlets that may not exactly be unbiased or accurate (think about a *Cosmo* poll on “What Guys Really Want”), or surveys run by special interest groups that have a particular slant or purpose for their report.

Even the polls conducted by the big boys, in as scientific a manner as possible, may not accurately reflect any particular trend in society, even though 110 per cent of those surveyed said it does...

Take the safety poll for instance. About 1,500 people were surveyed. Who were these people? What particular interest do they have in taking a telephone survey? Do people with caller ID even bother answering their phones if they see an unfamiliar name come up? In other words, is this poll really random? If the calls are all made during business hours, it is possible that cross-section fails to incorporate a large segment of the population that isn't home during the day.

Let's consider the possibility that the only people who take telephone polls are lonely shift workers, or people without caller ID who are upset that



their dinner was interrupted by a pollster.

And next time a story on a poll shows up in the newspaper, check the margin of error. The marijuana poll was accurate to 3.1 per cent, 19 times out of 20. What does that mean exactly? Who determines what the possibility of error is? Presumably it's based on solid statistical practices, but how does the reader really know that?

We define ourselves by numbers in the modern Western world but we've placed too much faith in them. Statistics aren't the bottom line, but rather one of many windows looking at the world. They shouldn't be the whole argument, just part of it.

## The signs of peace are everywhere



by Frances Petrucci

Platform shoes and beaded belts are pretty much the fashion norm these days. Low-rise flares—once called bell-bottom hip-huggers—fill the shop windows of Le Château and other stores that cater to the young and the fashion-savvy.

More and more guys are giving up their gel-spiked hairdos and growing Beatles bangs. Sales of afro pinks are on the rise.

But clothing isn't the only fashion of the '60s that's back.

On Feb. 15, over 200,000 people marched for peace in the streets of

over 50 cities and towns across Canada. The Toronto Star reported about 80,000 in Toronto, 100,000 in Montreal and 20,000 in Vancouver.

They carried placards, chanted slogans and sang songs, hoping their collective voices would change the course of history. Hoping to spare the world another war.

Peace is back in fashion. And judging by the size and frequency of mass demonstrations, it's stronger than it's ever been in this country. The Feb. 15 protest, part of an international day of action against the looming war in Iraq, was the third of its kind in Toronto since last November.

The walls of university campuses are plastered with anti-war posters. Student alliances are organizing teach-ins and rallies all over Canada.

One of these groups, Students Against Sanctions and War in Iraq, held a pan-Canadian conference at the University of Toronto Jan. 30 to

Feb. 2, bringing together over 450 college and university students.

They decided to mark March 5 as a national student day of action—a boycott of classes on campuses across the country.

How much more '60s does it get?

There's little doubt that today's peace train is being driven by youth. But people of all ages, political stripes and economic backgrounds are climbing aboard. Clerics from virtually all faith sects in Canada have spoken out against war in Iraq. And they're encouraging their congregations to express their opposition to politicians through petitions, letters—even marching in demonstrations.

Today's peace movement does not just represent the activist “fringe.” An Ipsos-Reid/CTV/Globe and Mail poll released Feb. 7 reports that six in 10 Canadians say Canada should only participate in an attack on Iraq if the United Nations, not

just the United States, decides it's necessary. Another 18 per cent say we should not participate in war even if the UN does sanction it.

But as with any recurring fashion trend, the new peace movement is also different from its 1960s predecessor.

During the Vietnam era, anti-war protests didn't really pick up until fairly late in the game. U.S. troops had already been fighting in Vietnam for several years before protests in North America became widespread. By the end of 1969, 40,000 American soldiers had been killed.

This time, peace advocates are taking to the streets even before the first bombs are dropped on Iraq. Josh Matlow of the Canadian Peace Alliance calls it a “pre-emptive strike on war.”

It may be just a matter of weeks before we know how close they come to their target.

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# Opinion

## When computers start talking dirty to me



by Miriam Osborne

My older sister is often the subject of jokes at my house and, I won't lie, it's because she is legally blind. (That's the official name and I've never understood it. Can someone be illegally blind?)

This may seem cruel, but it's just the way it has always been. She's a good sport about it too. (Except for the time she and my brother got in an argument. He

threw a cup at her and missed. She threw it back and hit him with frightening accuracy.)

A few days ago, my sister asked me to help her set up an e-mail account on her voice-activated computer. Now, before I get into how I helped her choose an e-mail name (she wanted something fun, not the typical first name-last name combo), I should mention her nickname is Bubba or Bubs for short.

She decided on blindbubba (definitely not the e-mail address you want to be putting on the top of your resumé, but completely acceptable for email exchanged between friends). But this e-mail didn't work because somebody already had that name. How could that be? There was another blindbubba out there?

So we typed in blindbubba1 but

that didn't work either. There were not only two blindbubba's, but 19! Nineteen blindbubba's! Could there

**Suddenly, her computer said, in its computerized voice, "Dirty, flea-bitten whores doing anything you want exclamation mark, exclamation mark, exclamation mark."**

seriously be other people out there who are not only blind and not only nicknamed Bubba, but who also

decided to put these names together for their email? Shocked, Bubs decided to join the rest of them and become blindbubba20.

If you're not familiar with a voice-activated computer (most aren't), think of the most unfriendly, monotone voice with absolutely no emotion at all reading you your e-mail, which I think is wrong. You know when a friend has written you and they put exclamation marks at the end of a sentence? Chances are they're happy and you're going to read it that way. But not this computer. It can make any e-mail sound sad and pathetic.

Bubs was checking her e-mail recently and everyone with an account is familiar with how junk mail fills your inbox. More specifically, pornography. I'm not sure how it gets there, but in between e-

mails from friends, an invitation to watch barely legal girls, or 10 ways to enlarge your penis in just 30 days, makes its way into your account, which is what happened to Bubs.

Suddenly, her computer said, in its computerized voice, "Dirty, flea-bitten whores doing anything you want exclamation mark, exclamation mark, exclamation mark."

There are two major things wrong with this. Firstly, it's disgusting! Are there really people who are into un bathed women who have been bitten by tiny insects who usually live in the fur of dogs? Is that considered hot?

Secondly, and I think what I feared the most, if the computer wasn't going to describe the picture on the monitor, was I going to have to?

## Some people have swelled heads, literally



by Christine Atkinson

Goddamn me and my vanity.

I never thought myself to have a swelled head, but lo and behold, I

literally suffered one.

Recently I thought I'd indulge myself with a little pampering. While simultaneously jamming to retro tunes and chatting with buddies online and on the phone, I serviced myself with a refreshing apricot facial, manicure, pedicure and I dyed my hair. Casting Redwood Auburn, number 26.

Little did I know the doomed rinse would cause my head to swell two days later.

I had only dyed my hair once before, same brand and colour. I did the elbow test and had no reaction within 48 hours, so I thought I was good to go. Some friends poked fun at how I did the spot test, but I have very sensitive skin and didn't want to risk turning purple.

Almost immediately after I dyed my hair my scalp was riddled with tiny, white, irritating, itchy bumps. Thank God for *Reactine* the itch

was manageable. Suffer women in the name of beauty.

But then, I turned deathly pale and was subject to a flaming red rash.

The back of my neck and ears were so itchy, that I responded by scratching, and I literally started tearing my skin off. I had to delve into my dad's pharmacy cabinet to find a rejected bottle of prescription lotion for Poison Oak.

That worked like a charm, so by Saturday night, I was good to meet up with a handful of buds and party it up at the *Zen Lounge* and *Velvet Underground*.

The girls and I met up with some hot and spicy leather-bearing charmers at a coffee shop nearby. For a couple hours we debated about religion and sexuality and swapped stories about how the characters of people from Vancouver, Toronto and Montreal vary.

Of course, us girls were all working it, flipping our hair, adjusting our bras and later dancing erotically at the club with the guys. Little did I know that throughout the wondrous night, my head was slowly inflating like a balloon.

By two in the morning, I had to hurry my shameful ass home because my head had swelled from its regular oval visage to a rounder, fatter apple shape.

I freaked.

I was afraid my head would never again look the way it was before. And when my face started swelling more the next day, so much so that I could see a flap of skin folded over my eyelids, I cried. And cried and cried for the rest of the weekend.

What do you mean I deserved it?

Don't judge a book by its cover, right? Kiss it, buddy. No matter

what anyone says, looks do matter. When picking books or people, the cover is what you see first.

But I have realized that this suffering wasn't worth me dying my hair one bit.

I did see a doctor and she prescribed some pills to reduce the effects of my allergic reaction.

What I hadn't known was that the itch that bothered me the first

## A friend who respects you completely: priceless

Friend. Ami. Amigo.

No matter how many times or how many different ways the word is said, I'm surprised by how people belittle the word's meaning.

It's not about your pal who you persuade or charm into helping you. Or that buddy you only call when you're bored.

Webster's Dictionary has a multitude of definitions for the complicated word that range from "an acquaintance" to "an ally."

These definitions dilute the true meaning of the word. Surely no one would trust a secret with "a person who one knows slightly." Just as no one would turn their back on someone they just united with in an alliance.

I've always appreciated the idea of friends. Maybe it started with those idealistic, adolescent novels, *The Babysitter's Club* and *Sweet Valley High*. You know the ones, where a group of friends collided in middle school or knew each other through telepathic contact from the time they were embryos.



by Kelly Lewars

Those friendships would be in peril when a boy appeared or a secret was leaked to the world. I never really got to experience that cliché type of friendship. My experiences, which have undoubtedly jaded me, are a lot more realistic than that.

In high-school, where life starts of course, my group of friends seemed safe and secure. It was a very fake sense of security, unknown to my naïveté. In the middle of high-school I noticed the lack of phone calls from my "friends," the distinct interruptions I received while conversing and the mere struggle that came from keep-

ing up with on-goings I had not been privy to.

You see our group of five had begun to break off and in doing so had formed a clique that grew so strong that one could not help but feel isolated. Five became three, excluding two, and then three became two, excluding three. And with our unpredictable hormones raging, the Young and the Restless had nothing on us.

By graduating year I gave up hoping that my crew would see their wrongdoings. My best friend then, a boy, had turned his back on every promise of loyalty and caring in order to "find" himself.

I don't know how it happened but now I have a best friend who actually lives up to her role. We effortlessly and painlessly thrive on each other's presence, despite our differences in appearance, experiences and tastes. We giggle, swear, and just communicate in a really easily. Part of this connection I attribute to chemistry, but most of it is knowing we've got each other.

## Cash & Gizmos

# Blue skies ahead for tourism job prospects

by Izabela Jaroszynski

Tourism students should not be concerned that the continuing decline of Air Canada could decrease their future job prospects, said Alistair Mathieson, the dean of Humber's school of hospitality, recreation and tourism.

On Feb. 6, the chief executive officer for Air Canada announced a \$218 million operating loss for 2002.

Calling it "a year of ongoing crisis for the airline industry," Robert Milton announced that Air Canada is looking to sell Jazz – a subsidiary airline that services regional markets and employs about 4,000 full time employees.

But Mathieson said any concerns students have regarding employment are unfounded.

"The job market is as good now as it ever has been," he said. "Our students may not get jobs with Air Canada, but they will get jobs."

In fact, WestJet – Air Canada's major Canadian competitor –

announced a 41 per cent increase in revenue over 2001.

"I am pleased to be reporting WestJet's 24th consecutive quarter of profitability," said Clive Beddoe, chief executive officer of WestJet, in a press release.

Mathieson said WestJet's success is due to its ability to operate low-fare, no frills flights.

"Operating costs are determined per passenger mile. Air Canada spends 14 to 15 cents per passenger mile, while companies like WestJet have cut these costs to seven or eight cents," he said.

Air Canada, Mathieson said, has been slow to react to consumers demand for low fares and is now suffering the consequences.

"There has been a change in consumer purchasing behaviour in the travel industry. Consumers are now far more price conscious and less concerned with schedules and fares," he said.

WestJet, which entered the airline market in early 1996 as a low-fare alternative for routes to western



Courtesy / Air Canada

**Air Canada is looking to sell subsidiary airline Jazz after reporting a \$218 million loss in 2002.**

Canada, has expanded to include eastern destinations, like Toronto and Hamilton. The company has further plans of expansion in 2003.

"As WestJet moves forward into 2003, we see an increasing number of opportunities for us to expand our position as Canada's low-fare airline," Beddoe said.

Representatives from Sears Travel, a travel agency that regularly hires Humber graduates, said job opportunities will also increase in the retail sector of the travel industry.

Franca Luele, from Sears Travel, said her company has a high demand

for qualified candidates.

"We have not seen a decline in searching for candidates. In fact there is actually a shortage of good, qualified candidates in the industry that have a travel diploma," she said.

"[The Internet] is really changing the way that airlines do their business," Luele added. "And I think that because of this you are not going to see a lot of jobs on the airline side. But, more jobs are opening on the retail side."

Humber students, she added, are being well prepared for the retail side of the industry and will remain in

high demand.

Although world politics, like the possibility of war in Iraq, is a concern, Luele does not see it as a threat to the industry.

"Political events always happen," she said. "Those are just minor hiccups in the travel sector."

Mathieson agreed.

"The extent of the effects from a war in Iraq will depend on how long it is and how far it extends," he said. "Political situations can have a short-term effect on the industry, but it always bounces back."

## Hunting for ghosts and spirits in Toronto

Internet users, who have an itch to discover the cause behind things that go bump in the night, need look no further than the World Wide Web.

At [www.torontoghosts.org](http://www.torontoghosts.org), Web surfers can find a wealth of stories and information about places in Toronto that are rumoured to be haunted.

"In 1997, I was working (no jokes please) the 'graveyard shift' in one of the large Canadian Internet service providers," says Toronto Ghosts Web master Matthew James Didier. "My

friends had always known I had an interest in ghosts and they asked me to relate some ghost stories for them as they knew I'd always be good for a few good 'spooky-but-true' tales for them."

Didier's interest in the subject led him to do extensive on-line research, but he only found three Web sites with any information about ghosts.

"Two were from the United States and one was based in Alberta," Didier says. "One of these sites even recommended visiting MacKenzie

House in Toronto and then taking an afternoon drive to Calgary to visit a haunted hotel!"

Didier has seen his site grow by leaps and bounds since it was first created. Currently more than 16 active researchers and five administrators.

"We are at well over half-a-million visitors and are growing by about one to two thousand visitors per day. Quite a bit more than the two hundred or so people I expected," Didier says.

Content on the site includes stories, research, new methods of observing ghostly phenomenon and links to other resources.

One such story is related on Didier's Web site. "As we watched, the doorknob turned, the door opened a crack and then swung open full force but did not hit the wall behind it. It then closed about half way, opened wide again, slammed shut and was pulled firmly closed so that the doorknob and lock latched. The one problem with this door issue was that there was no one near the door and no one else was inside the house at the time. My friend immediately became (under-

standably) frightened. 'What was that?' he asked."

Didier says that a ghost story plays one of three roles for the average person. The first is for its historical value, the second for a glimpse of what one may expect from the afterlife and the third is fear.

### Web Wanderings

by Brian E. Wilkinson

"This fear however, when it comes to ghosts, ranges from the fear of the unknown to what some consider a loss of privacy," Didier says. "It's one thing to know someone is watching you, another thing entirely when you feel you cannot 'catch' that person," Didier says.

Whether or not ghosts actually exist has been a topic for debate for years, and Didier says that his group isn't trying to convert people into being believers.

"I don't preach belief or disbelief. We do studies on some phenomena... some of which we ourselves have debunked... but normally, we just say here's the story and here's the history behind it. Make up your own mind."

Didier says the site's content is almost entirely made up of first-hand accounts from local citizens. Every few months, associates of the site set up walking tours of Toronto where people can try and catch a glimpse of a real ghost first-hand.

Didier mentions that if you can't wait for a tour, you can visit a few Toronto landmarks reputed to be haunted right now. These places include the Hockey Hall of Fame, old City Hall, Massey Hall, Casa Loma and Queen's Park.

"I believe in ghostly phenomena," Didier says. "I have experienced things I cannot readily explain or understand that seem to defy 'normal' explanation. As far as ghosts being the 'spirits of the dead', my jury is still out."

"Until one of them stops and has a conversation with me, I remain a 'true' skeptic... needing to see to believe," Didier says.

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## Arts

# The Hours author speaks



Berliner Studio/BEImages.net

Michael Cunningham and Allison Janney at the Paramount Pictures' world premiere of *The Hours*.

by Anna Rozbicka

Most often with screen adaptations, the book is better than the movie. But when the book is a Pulitzer-prize winner written by Michael Cunningham, the movie gets rave reviews and nine Oscar nominations.

"No one really expected the movie to have much in the way of commercial prospects so they were kind of left alone to make the movie they wanted to make," said Michael Cunningham, author of *The Hours*. "All of us connected with the movie feel hugely encouraged by the notion that there is a significant body of people out there who want to see an unorthodox movie."

*The Hours* is the story of three women, living in different eras dur-

ing a single day: Virginia Woolf (Nicole Kidman) who is writing *Mrs. Dalloway* in 1923; Laura Brown (Julianne Moore), a wife and mother battling depression in 1951, who is only happy when reading *Mrs. Dalloway*, and Clarissa Vaughn (Meryl Streep), a modern version of the character Clarissa Dalloway, who is throwing a party for her friend Richard (Ed Harris), a gay poet dying of AIDS.

The story is intricately woven, a challenge for any director, one that Stephen Daldry was ready to take on. Cunningham had no qualms about handing his book over to Daldry to direct.

"I don't have that thing a lot of novelists do about the book [being] your baby," he said in a phone inter-

view on Feb. 19.

"If I'm fortunate enough to find someone who wants to carry the story someplace else and see what he or she can do with it, my reaction is 'Go, let's see what you can do.' I wouldn't want a strictly faithful adaptation," he said. "The whole fun of it is to see what another writer or director will do with what you started."

What Daldry did was go out and cast three of the most successful actresses in Hollywood. It wasn't important to Cunningham that the movie featured stars, as long as their performances did his characters justice.

"I think if anything, it was something for the movie to overcome. We know these people as Nicole Kidman, Meryl Streep, and Julianne Moore so there is a certain suspension of disbelief required," he said. "If you're making a movie and it's

cast with stars, you and the actors have to do a little extra work to make people forget that this is a famous person and believe that it's actually the character that the person is playing."

Cunningham knew going into this project something might get lost in the adaptation and said he realized some-

thing powerful

was also gained. "In a novel you can go inside people's heads, you can refer obliquely to their past in a way that informs the present, you can't do that in a movie," he said. "What I understood when I saw the movie is that you lose those things, but you gain Meryl Streep's ability to separate an egg in a way that tells you everything about what that character is feeling at the moment. You get Julianne's ability to be breaking down in the bathroom and say to her husband in the next room in a perfectly plausible, normal voice, 'I'm fine, everything's fine.' You can't write that."

Oscar night, Cunningham plans to just sit back and enjoy the festivities.

"I'll be at the Oscars," he said. "I am not eligible for an Oscar which puts me in the best possible position: I get to have fun without really worrying about the consequences."



Courtesy/Paramount

Meryl Streep as Clarissa Vaughn in *The Hours*.

## Coming up...

### Video & DVD

March 4

*The Ring*

*Half Past Dead*

*Wes Craven's Summer of Fear*

March 11

*White Oleander*

*Swimfan*

*I Spy*

*Moonlight Mile*

*Inspector Gadget 2*

### Movies

Feb. 28

*Spider*

*Cradle 2 the Grave*

March 7

*Bringing Down The House*

*Tears of the Sun*

*Blind Spot: Hitler's Secretary*

*Expecting*

### CD's

March 4

*Matthew Good: Avalanche*

*Beach Boys: Live At Knebworth 1980*

*Fabulous: Street Dreams*

*Waifs: Up All Night*

*Ed Harcourt: From Every Sphere*

*Lil Kim: Bella Mafia*

March 11

*Skydiggers: Bittersweet Harmony*

*Saga: Marathon*

*Fischerspooner: #1*

*Killer Mike: Monster*

### Things to Do:

It's reading week: SLEEP!

# New Toronto nightclub sexy but pretentious

by Hayley Stephens

*Lotus the Niteclub* opened its doors last Friday night to Toronto's trendiest people, while slamming the door in the faces of every-

one else. In a phone interview, just before "Business Fridays" opened, promotions manager Eddy Kwan offered some advice, "If you want to get in, you've got to look great."

In true New York style, your look is what is going to get you through the doors, said Kwan, who goes by the stage name, Eddy K.

"There is a very strict style code on Friday nights," he said. "We are targeting a fashion, media, business type of crowd."

For some people, looking good isn't good enough. Eddy K. warned that guys don't just need style, they need a girl. "If four or five guys come without a female, they'll have a very difficult time getting in," he said.

His advice for single guys? Call up your sisters and tell them to look good.

If you look too young, you can also forget it. "Kids will be refused tonight, but will be given passes for Saturday night, which is more of a top 40 all-rounder," Eddy K. said.

For the losers of the exclusive beauty contest, the consolation prize wasn't enough. "I just froze my butt off for 20 minutes in line, before I was told I wouldn't be getting in," said Ryan Brandt, a student at U of T, as he left the club. "This is the first time I've gone out in months, and I don't want in badly enough to come

## Hot or Not?



Hayley Stephens

One of the statues floating above at *Lotus the Niteclub*.

back tomorrow night just because I got a pass," he said.

Eddy K said this is not the typical reaction. "People are dying to get in these doors."

Many of the people who were decidedly hip enough to get inside didn't think the club — with its three floors, seven rooms, nine bars, restaurant, jacuzzi and a magnificent statue — was enough compensation for its pretense.

"The lotus for the Buddhist means spiritual enlightenment," said Natalie MacDonald, a freelance photographer, as she stared at the blue flower that was part of the statue. "In this place it seems to represent pretension."

Julie Lynas, a freelance makeup artist in Toronto, attributed this pretense to the people in the club. "The club is cool, but there are so many people who are trying to be something they're not," she said. "I have never seen so many Britney Spears look-a-likes in my life."

The foreign appeal was exactly what the five owners thought Toronto needed, Eddy K said.

After looking at clubs in Miami, New York, Europe and Toronto, *Lotus* was finally born.

"It is a fusion of a lot of different clubs," he said, before referring to the end result as a "three floor historical masterpiece."

If you think you're trendy enough to make it through the doors, *Lotus* is located at 26 Lombard Street. Call 416-368-9710 to try to get on the guest list or to make dinner reservations.

For more information, visit [www.lotusniteclub.com](http://www.lotusniteclub.com).

# Wacky and erotic teapots on exhibit

by Athena Tsavrilis

Some people collect stamps. Others collect beer caps. Sonny and Gloria Kamm have a collection of teapots – more than 6,000 of them.

The California couple has been collecting teapots since 1985. What began as a way to fill some empty shelf space has developed into what may be the largest collection of teapots in the world.

The *Artful Teapot*, an exhibit currently on at the Gardiner Museum, features 260 pieces from this vast collection.

"They're not just flea market aficionados," said Janet Conover, a spokesperson for the Gardiner. "They bring to collecting a knowledge that your average person doesn't have."

Many of the pieces on exhibit are unlike the teapots that live in our kitchen cupboards. "It's a form that can be very imaginative," said Sue Jefferies, assistant curator of contemporary crafts at the Gardiner. "It has limitations, and yet the limitations allow you to be very wacky."

The teapots vary in size, shape and form and make use of unusual materials such as metal, mesh, wire, beads and bottle tops.

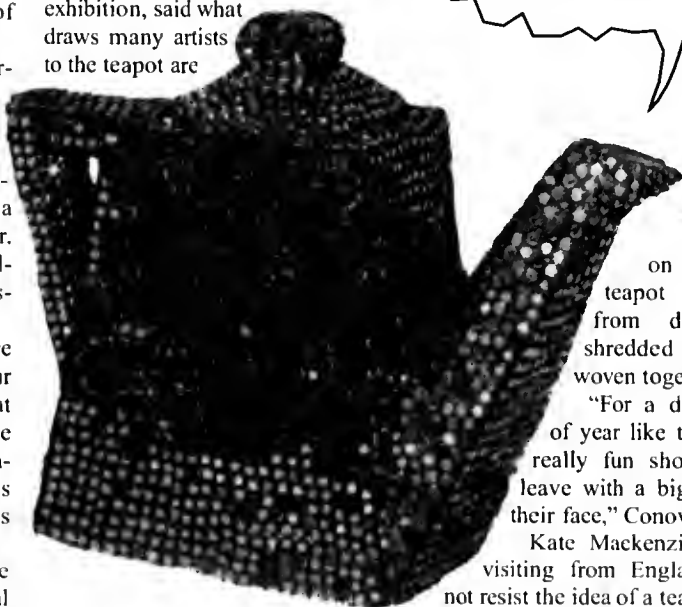
"The fact that it's such a familiar object makes it fun to play around with," said Jean Johnson, craft coordinator at the Harbourfront Centre.

The exhibition includes teapots by Liechtenstein and Hoekney – two of the 20th century's most celebrated artists. Some of the Kamms' com-

missioned works are also on display.

The show features the more contemporary pieces from the Kamms' collection – created in the last few decades. There are a few historical teapots on display such as a silver plated Christopher Dresser from 1879.

Canadian Ceramist Richard Millette, whose work is in the exhibition, said what draws many artists to the teapot are



I'm a little teapot short and stout  
See me at the museum before time runs out!

"on the Line" teapot is made from dozens of shredded \$5 bills woven together.

"For a dreary time of year like this, it is a really fun show. People leave with a big smile on their face," Conover said.

Kate Mackenzie, who is visiting from England, could not resist the idea of a teapot exhibit. "We Brits love our tea but I never imagined people could be so creative with such an everyday object. I don't think I've ever seen so many fabulous teapots in one space. It made me want to rush back and put the kettle on!"

The exhibition continues until May 25. Entry is \$6 with a valid student card.

the challenges it presents. "It is the most complex ceramic object in terms of its parts and shape," he said.

Some teapots are humorous and some erotic, while others just verge on the sublime. For the most part they are not quite as practical as those sitting on a shelf at Zellers.

"The variety is endless," Conover

## Symphony targets younger audience

by Tamara Holmes

An evening of classical music is no longer lost on the under 30 crowd thanks in part to the growing success of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra's *TSoundcheck* program.

Long involved in fostering existing educational programs, the TSO needed to find a new way to secure a turnover audience. They needed to reach outside the classroom, and to do that the *TSoundcheck* program was born and is now heading into its second year.

"We had a noticeably aging audience and not much had been done in some time to develop a new audience," said Mike Forrester, director of marketing with the TSO. "We never want to experience waning numbers so we had to get creative and become more accessible."

"We took that need and turned it into a program specifically designed for those aged 15 to 29 years old."

*TSoundcheck* is primarily reachable through the Internet and special promotion. Forrester and his team have found being able to work with such a Web-savvy demographic has reduced and, in some cases, eliminated extensive costs allowing for more involved communication tactics.

"NOW Magazine is one of our primary sponsors so we hit a large number of readers through advertisements there," Forrester said. "We also attend every Frosh Week event in the city and surrounding area and offer additional programs that might interest our audience. We really

want to give them great performances to attend in various formats and styles."

Registered *TSoundcheck* cardholders can take in any TSO performance as well as several other non-TSO related productions for just \$10 a ticket. Some of the best seats in the house are reserved for these tickets, which is a steal considering prices normally cost up to \$95 each.

Because of this, there is rarely an empty seat in the house.

"[The TSO is] a little surprised by the success we've been having," admitted Forrester. "It is rare that something so new can turn over such noticeable and immediate results."

According to recent numbers, at any given performance no less than 10 per cent of the audience are *TSoundcheck* cardholders. During notable performances and special promotions, that number often doubles to 20 per cent, said Forrester.

Currently, there are more than 7,500 active members, but Forrester predicts numbers will top more than 10,000 by the end of this year. By that time, *TSoundcheck* member numbers will rival closely with regular consumer household ticket buyers. This is a prospect Forrester said is welcomed.

"How many times can I express how much of a screaming success this is?" laughed Forrester. "We are very pleased that we have been able to reach an audience that will hopefully graduate into lifelong attendees of the symphony."

To sign up for a *TSoundcheck* card and check performance dates, log on to [www.tsoundcheck.com](http://www.tsoundcheck.com).



Courtesy

An American Idol contestant auditions for the judges.

# Want to be a star?

by Nicole Gibbs

Canadian TV viewers will soon have the chance to discover the next Shania Twain or Celine Dion from their living room.

The search for the next great Canadian star is underway as CTV's *Canadian Idol* gears up for auditions across Canada beginning with Vancouver in April.

Star wannabes living in the GTA still have time to brush up on their singing skills, as the Toronto auditions don't start until the end of May.

"Canada has a lot of talent," said Mark Lysakowski, the supervising producer of *Canadian Idol*. "The ultimate goal [of *Canadian Idol*] is to find another great Canadian talent and knock the socks off the international [music] market."

*Canadian Idol* is the first Canadian version of the *Idol* series that started in the U.K. with *Pop Idol* and later found great success in the U.S. with *American Idol*.

Other countries like Poland, South Africa, Belgium and Germany have also tapped into the *Idol* success and began airing their own version of the series.

Lysakowski also added that when *American Idol* took off it became very popular and didn't air on any Canadian stations. Broadcasters like

CTV clued into its success and knew they had to get involved.

"The show got a huge number [of viewers]. Everyone was just crazed by the show," Lysakowski said of the viewers who tuned in each week to see which contestant would advance to the next round.

So with the recipe for a successful reality series already set, producers of *Canadian Idol* knew what to expect from watching and visiting the *American Idol* set, but still needed a Canadian hook.

"We wanted to do a show that is very true to the *Idol* format but with a Canadian twist," Lysakowski said.

He said they will be bringing aboard judges that have music credibility and are outspoken and harmfully blunt like British producer, Simon Cowell, on *American Idol*.

"We are looking for judges like that because that is the way it is in the music industry," Lysakowski said.

"As Canadians we watch a lot of American reality shows and never get to be a part of it. I think it is a great opportunity for Canadians to get out there and show the world what they have to offer," Lysakowski said.

*Canadian Idol's* 24-part series will begin airing on CTV in June.



## Can't wait for Canadian Idol?

The HSF is offering you a chance to be discovered with the HSF Campus Music Explosion. Schools across the country will be holding a competition to find the next music star. Winners will all participate in a final competition hosted by the Canadian Organization of Campus Activities. Humber's winner gets \$500. Deadline to enter is March 12, 2003 by noon. For more info or to pick up an entry form go to the HSF office (North, KX105, Lakeshore AX101.)

# Curiouser and curiouser

Humber photography student creates an *Alice in Wonderland* like you've never seen before

by Buket Oktem

Where does your curiosity lead you? For Mykhull Stefancic, it means creating photography that takes bold leaps into the world of visual art.

A fascination with the unknown led the Humber creative photography student to create his latest collection, entitled *Alice*, inspired by the story, *Alice in Wonderland*.

"The whole concept of it [curiosity] and where it eventually leads, intrigues me," Stefancic said. "Despite your inhibitions, you still linger into unknown realms and get

into mischief."

Just four years ago, Stefancic made the decision to pursue photography. It was his first love of music that spawned a creative interest in what has now become his passion, photography.

He was able to incorporate the two by shooting rock concerts for bands like Perfect Circle and Dope. Stefancic soon found himself backstage and on tour buses, and although his work was well received, he began to grow disappointed. "I couldn't help but feel like I could do better than those I admired," he said.

Influenced by photographers like Joel Peter Witkin, William Mortensen and Philippe Halsman, Stefancic turned to fine art and developed an attraction to surreal photography.

"His work is definitely standing out amongst other photographers," said Greg Henderson, coordinator of Humber's creative photography program. "He has an interest that goes beyond the nuts and bolts of photography."

Much of that interest lies in manipulation through digital imaging and special effects, a technique that he used to create *Alice*. Six works from the collection were exhibited at Zypr Gallery in Toronto, from Feb 1 to 16. "Everyone has been very intrigued by his photos. Their noses are pressed up to the glass, wondering, how did he do that?" said Rosa Calabrese, curator for Zypr Gallery.

In March, Stefancic will spend a couple of weeks in New York, assisting fashion photographer, Kevin Hatt. Although the opportunities to meet interesting artists and pick up different techniques will be beneficial, Stefancic admits that he does not want to stay in the United States for too long. "I'd much rather be in Europe," he said. "It's just a different culture and mindset there."

But wherever his curiosity may take him, Stefancic would not stray from Toronto for long. "My roots are here, my parents, my family." Above all, his biggest inspiration is here. "I look up to my mother most of all," said Stefancic. "She's my most compatible, thrift-store junkie partner."

After graduating this year,

Stefancic will focus on new projects that will keep him committed to raising his own level and standards. Next will be images from B-grade horror films.

"I always thought about what it would be like to run into one of those creatures," he said.

The wild images that play out in Mykhull Stefancic's head come to

life through his work. He credits photography as a way to unleash those images into an aesthetic realm. But, even when that is achieved Stefancic still asks: "How far can your imagination go and how meaningful can an image be?"

For more information on Mykhull Stefancic and his work, visit [www.mykhull.com](http://www.mykhull.com).



Mykhull Stefancic

A photograph from Mykhull Stefancic's *Alice* collection.



Mykhull Stefancic

Stefancic uses manipulation through digital imaging and special effects to create photographs such as this one.

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## Celebrity Corner

by Anna Rozbicka

The Grammy Awards were held on Sunday night and our own Avril Lavigne was totally shut out. How sad. Personally, I knew she was doomed from the moment she was nominated and that picture of her imitating a member of KISS was splashed all over the front page of every paper in the country. Some say she didn't win because she was just too young. I think it's because the whole tie-with-a-wifebeater-look is just so like, five minutes ago.

Princess Diana's ex-lover James Hewitt is suing Fox News for a one million dollar breach-of-contract according to [news24.com](http://news24.com). Hewitt was fired as a war correspondent for the network which says that

"they don't believe he had the requisite integrity and trustworthiness to work for the network." Right. Because Fox has so much integrity. Maybe we should look for Hewitt in the upcoming *Millionaire Idol* gets *Married by America* on *Temptation Island*.

Nicole Kidman and Tom Cruise are set to face-off again in dueling movies by the same studio. According to [NYPPost.com](http://NYPPost.com), Kidman will star in the big-screen version of *Bewitched*, playing the nose-wiggling Samantha Stevens. Cruise is contemplating starring in a remake of *I Married a Witch*, a 1942 television series. I still don't know how Cruise became a movie star in the first place. Roller-coast-

ers have those "You must be over five feet to get on this ride" signs - shouldn't studios?

Catherine Zeta-Jones is being forced to eat her words. *Yahoo! News* reports that after she smugly stated in court that the \$1.5 million deal with *OK!* magazine for her wedding photos wasn't a lot of money, a group of 120 students from Notre Dame Catholic school in Plymouth, England wrote to her asking for help in raising money to fund a school for poor Nicaraguan kids. Maybe Zeta-Jones should hold on to that money. The way they're going, she and Michael Douglas will have their own school of kids soon enough. Darned *Viagara*.

# Critic's Comments

## What we read

**Mercy**  
By Alissa York  
Random House Canada



Finishing a novel is a tricky business. You don't want to tie things up in a neat bow, but you don't want to leave your reader unsatisfied either. If this novel's ending was a gigolo, I would have demanded my money back.

A shame really as the novel itself is wonderful. It's split in two: the first half deals with a passionate young priest named August Day, who arrives in the small town of Mercy, Manitoba in 1948 to take over the parish. There he meets Mathilda Rose, the butcher's wife. Immediately a chemistry develops and their mutual attraction caves in to primitive, carnal, and also very sacrilegious desires.

The second half deals with another preacher, a womanizing widower with a three-year-old daughter. He is determined to build a camp in the bog outside of *Mercy* where he meets a fifty-four-year-old woman who will change his life.

The story is well written and fascinating, although the second half stumbles a little at times.

Even though the ending is too abrupt, the book is a great read and impressive for a first novel.

**The Girl Without Anyone**  
By Kelli Deeth  
PerennialCanada



*The Girl Without Anyone* is a collection of 11 linked short stories that tell the story of a girl named Leah, starting out as a child, and by the end having to grow up.

This style of writing is very jarring, as the stories leave you hanging. There is a connection between them but no real fluidity. Deeth is a talented writer, who creates intriguing characters but her talent gets a little lost among the stories.

Leah never becomes likeable, presumably because she isn't supposed to be. She's mean to her parents, whose suffering is evident through Deeth's portrayals. She experiences typical adolescent traumas, but just doesn't handle them well.

The book is enjoyable in many ways, and since this is her first novel, we can expect great things from Kelli Deeth in the future.

by Anna Rozbicka

## What we saw

**The Life of David Gale**  
Universal Pictures

First and foremost I must admit my undying affection for Kevin Spacey. I am completely obsessed and not ashamed to admit it.

So, having said that, I can honestly, unbiasedly and truthfully say *The Life of David Gale* is a great movie. It keeps you on the edge of your seat and leaves you wanting more.

It's based on the true story of a philosophy professor/death penalty abolitionist, played by Kevin Spacey.

He asks a reporter, (Kate Winslet) to tell his story. She only has three days to find out the truth.

While the story is a bit unbelievable and Winslet's character does don the name Bitsey, the story draws you in and you feel sorry for Gale.

Winslet starts off a skeptic who is just out to do her job. She was put in jail for unwillingness to reveal sources in a kiddie porn ring special, so Gale knew she had integrity and wanted her.

Bitsey is a hard-nosed journalist, only out to get the story, that is, until the story gets her.

The movie is well directed by Alan Parker, an advertising mogul by trade. There are flashy, in your face type scenes, reminiscent of a commercial that is trying to sell you something in 30 seconds. But Gale

doesn't need to be sold.

It was a moving picture that makes you think. A good story, great acting and really, how can you not like a Kevin Spacey movie.

by Amy Miles



Courtesy

"I am not gay, I tell you!"

## What we rented

**Tuck Everlasting**  
Walt Disney Home Video



*Everlasting*, Winnie Foster (Gilmore Girls' Alexis Bledel as wide-eyed as

ever), a fourteen-year-old girl feeling stifled by her parents, runs away into the woods outside her home. Lost, she comes across Jesse Tuck (Jonathan Jackson) and his family - Angus Tuck (William Hurt), Mae Tuck (Sissy Spacek), and Miles Tuck (Scott Bairstow). The family is kind and generous and she finds herself missing her own less and less.

In *Tuck* But the Tuck family also has a secret - they discovered a fountain of youth and will live forever.

Winnie falls in love with Jesse and has to make a choice: either to drink and stay 14 for eternity, or return to her family and grow up.

Although the film is a bit cheesy at times (Winnie and Jesse do a lot of running through fields), you can't help but be swept away into its dreamlike world.

If you like fairy tales, historical dramas, or Disney movies, pick up *Tuck Everlasting*.

by Anna Rozbicka

## What we heard

**Lionel Ritchie**  
Motown Records/Universal



You may not even know that you like Lionel Ritchie. But chances are you do.

He started out as a member of the Commodores, and created such huge hits as "Three Times a Lady," "Easy" and "Sail On."

All of these are included on *The Definitive Collection*, a fantastic double-CD set that will have you singing along to songs you didn't

even realize you knew.

Other classics included are "Hello," "All Night Long," "Endless Love" and "Say You, Say Me."

The CD also features two new songs, one of them "To Love a Woman" featuring Enrique Iglesias. I'll admit, even though Iglesias bugs the crap-ola out of me, the song is still great (just try to tune out Enrique's whining - I mean singing.)

The second new song is the beautiful ballad "Goodbye" - something I'm not ready to say to Lionel Ritchie just quite yet.

by Anna Rozbicka

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*"Every woman secretly wants to be a stripper"*

# Meow! Nurse Cat is here to check your vital signs

by Marisa Zucaro

A woman's nipple peeks over the top of her white strapless dress as she dances for her partner at Yorkville's posh Sequel Lounge in Toronto. She doesn't seem to notice, but everyone else around her has.

"Oh my God," someone whispers. "Is that her boob?"

A circle has formed around her. She's waving a tall, rainbow coloured lollipop in the air. The crowd doesn't bother her - she keeps dancing. On her head she's wearing a white nurse cap and a long strip of gauze hangs from her neck. Her partner is sitting on a chair watching her. His hands are bound to the chair with strands of gauze. It's even wrapped around his head as if he has a concussion. He isn't hurt, but she's nursing him anyway.

In a corner near the entrance, former stripper turned author, Mary Taylor, is smiling. She's here to promote her book, *Bedroom Games: Stripteases, Seductions and Other Surprises to Keep Your Partner Coming Back For More* (Three Rivers Press).

The near-naked nurse is her friend, who goes by the name of Nurse Cat. The strip tease is all part of Taylor's book launch party, which has drawn out an interesting crowd.

Conservative businessmen sit in the shadows, sipping their cognacs and sneaking a smile. Young, single girls gather in groups near the bar and laugh over cosmopolitans. Couples stand close to the front, arms wrapped around each other, bodies swaying. Once in a while words are whispered and coy glances are exchanged.

Under ordinary circumstances someone might warn Nurse Cat that her dress is slipping instead of quietly waiting to see if it will end up around her ankles, but there's nothing ordinary about these circumstances.

When the dancing nurse looks down and sees her now fully exposed nipple, the audience is surprised by her expression. She does a subtle double-take and pretends all is well.

Clearly, it's not.

The strip tease she's performing is meant to be just that, a tease - no nudity for this public performance.

The dance continues, but less bouncy - her hands cradle her chest as she attempts to pull the dress back up. She doesn't want anyone to notice, but everyone has. It doesn't matter. The men want to see more of her. The women want to be just like her.

"Every woman secretly wants to be a stripper," Taylor said later from her Live Girl Productions office in Toronto. "I think they're intrigued by it. They wonder what it would be like."

She may have a point. Veronica Jones\*, a 26-year-old Humber College

journalism student, is just one of many women willing to confess their desire to have someone watch them undress - but want to remain anonymous.

"I just think that if people knew that I entertained the idea of stripping, even if it's just for my boyfriend, they would get the wrong impression," she said.

Taylor, 47, was a professional stripper for 20 years before she decided to quit and get a "real job." One of her clients offered her a position in his import/export company as an executive assistant.

It didn't last long. One year later she was fired.

"I barely knew how to use the computer," she said. "I had to do something, but I had no experience doing anything else. I only knew how to strip, but I didn't want to go back to dancing."

Although her attempt at a "real job" was short lived, Taylor had struck a chord with many of her female co-workers.

"During that year I had many women ask me to teach them how to strip for their husbands," she said. "I thought they were crazy. I said 'what do you want to do something like that for?' In my mind, if you weren't getting paid for it, why the heck would you want to do it?"

"Women probably feel that rather than having their partner go to a strip club and be aroused by another woman, why not learn the tricks of the trade themselves?" Jones said.

But for some women, the performance is less about their partner and more about fulfilling their own fantasies.

Nancy Pierce\*, 35, is a Humber College graduate who admits to having stripped for her partner.

"It was a total release," she said. "It's something I had wanted to do for a long time and when I did it, it was such a power trip. I was in complete control of what was going on."

People take their clothes off everyday, whether the task involves sex, showering or simply swapping pyjamas for jeans and a t-shirt. Stripping is no stranger to anyone, but Taylor says there are huge differences between the regular slip off and the daring strip off when it comes to getting naked.

"(Stripping) is a performance," she said. "It takes a really courageous woman to take that step, to say, 'I think I'm going to try this.'"

So, in 1999 - with the help of one of her eager and persistent female acquaintances - a series of work-



Marisa Zucaro

**Nurse Cat teaches women how to strip seductively at Sequel Lounge during the recent launch of *Bedroom Games: Stripteases, Seductions and Other Surprises to Keep Your Partner Coming Back For More*.**

shops were designed called Peel and Play.

Between 2 1/2 - 3 hours long, they teach women dance moves such as "stirring the pot", "the queen's wave" and "boobs on Bob."

The entrepreneur said the classes are not just about taking off your clothes, they also help women overcome their fears and insecurities.

"Women who take my classes may never do a striptease," Taylor said. "But just knowing that they can, really boosts their self confidence."

As the popularity of her workshops boomed, so did business. She produced her own video, *The Art of Seduction* and a CD, *Sounds of Seduction*.

When women began asking if the moves were written down, Taylor decided to write a book.

"The book is for all women," she said. "Women who are single and want to prepare for the next fun relationship and women who are in long-term relationships who want to do something to spice it up."

But she said men also benefit from reading the book because they can learn a woman's secrets of seduction.

"It's just a lot of fun," said Brian, a 58-year-old who attended the launch with his wife. "It's something we can do together. I'll read and she'll perform. I got no complaints."

"The secret to a good relationship," Taylor said, "is communicating with your partner, having fun in your relationship and sharing each other's fantasies."

The video, CD and book are available at [www.peelandplay.com](http://www.peelandplay.com).

\*Names have been changed.



Marisa Zucaro

**A "demonstrator" strips down to her skivvies, while onlookers gaze with excitement.**

# Humber student twirls her way into top ten at U.S. competition

*"Says sport should be funded and better promoted in Canada"*

by Vanessa Mariga

A Humber student has tossed, twirled and twirled herself to the top.

Eighteen-year-old Shannon Henry, a first-year journalism student, competed in "Twirlmania Gold", earlier this month where she placed seventh at the international baton twirling competition held in Florida.

To compete at "Twirlmania Gold," Henry had to receive an invitation from a special committee.

"You have to have finished in the top ten at your country's nationals and then your name is put on a list and the "Twirlmania Gold" committee goes through and picks individuals to compete," Henry said.

The one-time solo dance Canadian champion said baton twirling combines gymnastics, twirling and dance all into one sport and is a far cry from routines of majorettes who used to march and twirl in front of a band.

"I've been twirling since I was six. I really like the competitive edge that it has," Henry said. "Because it's an amateur sport, there is no worry about trying to overcome someone to make it a career."

"I twirl both as an individual and in a group with my club. Twirling as an individual is much more goal oriented, but the group brings us together and we create life long

friendships. We get the team spirit thing happening."

Satyn Ward, Henry's coach for the past three years at The Progress Baton Club in Richmond Hill, calls Henry a great team player.

"If she has a routine that didn't go so well, she puts that aside and cheers on her team members. She works so hard at everything that she does. She's one of the most self-motivated athletes that I've ever met. Her determination and motivation spread throughout the club."

Although Henry has been twirling up a storm for the past 12 years, the sport still seems unfamiliar to the rest of Ontarians. While the sport is recognized by the provincial government, it doesn't receive any funding. That's a very different scene from our neighbours to the south.

"It was refreshing going to the States because whenever we told someone we were there for baton twirling, they knew what that was," Henry said. "Up here in Canada, it's really disheartening to have someone say that baton twirling is not a sport. I put just as much effort into it as a gymnast puts in at the gym."

Ward said she believes the vast difference in the popularity of the sport in each country has deep cul-



Courtesy

**Shannon Henry, third from left, received an invitation from a special committee to twirl in the "Twirlmania Gold" competition held in Florida earlier this month. She placed in the top ten.**

tural roots.

"I think that everything in the States, sport-wise, is just bigger than

here. "They even have college scholarships for baton twirling in the States," Henry said.

Henry said this will be her last year as a competitive baton twirler and she hopes to win gold at the provincial freestyles where she placed second last year.

"I'd like to keep coaching and give something back to budding twirlers," she said.

## Eliminating styrofoam products put on hold because of high cost to students

by Laura Youmans

Paper or plastic is not a phrase you hear when you get your coffee at Humber's North campus because some one else has already made that decision for you.

The difference is quite noticeable here on campus. Java Jazz uses styrofoam while the cafeteria and the staff lounge use paper.

Styrofoam cups are not recycled at Humber College while its paper counterparts will eventually break down at a landfill site.

The staff lounge uses paper cups because Ritazza, the company who supplies the coffee, dictates it, said Don Henriques, general manager of food services.

Anything that cannot be recycled should be discouraged on campus, Carole Smith, member of Humber's Environmental Action Team (HEAT), says.

"I don't know a lot about the issue of styrofoam on campus or why we don't recycle them. But I've never seen a styrofoam recycle bin

at Humber College," Smith said.

There are recognizable recycle bins for paper, plastic and glass located throughout North campus.

In the past, Humber did recycle styrofoam. According to reports sent to The Energy Innovators office

**"Anything that cannot be recycled should be discouraged on campus."**

in July 1996, and July 1998, Humber had an ambitious recycling campaign.

Henriques said Humber recycled styrofoam then and may still be doing so in some areas of the college. But, he said participation in the recycling program was poor because not all customers would separate their food wastes from the styrofoam. So the styrofoam would

get contaminated and the recycling company would refuse the load.

"We review the use of styrofoam cups in Java Jazz annually and the main reason we have not yet changed to the more costly paper cup is because we want to continue providing high quality coffee at a reasonable price to our Java Jazz customers," Henriques said.

Some post-secondary schools have offered other options. For example, according to its Website, since 1989, the University of Waterloo started a lug-a-mug organization that works with the university's food services to sell plastic mugs and give every new student a mug to promote green solutions.

"I believe the greatest factor that prevents us from eliminating styrofoam products altogether is cost. We are challenged by the overwhelming cost impact it would have on our customers. Having said that, as we move into the future, where possible, and when the high cost of paper is no longer a barrier we will make the switch," Henriques said.

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**HSF**

# "The full potential of any nation cannot be realized if the history and achievement of a group of its people is distorted or denied"



Sam Toman

Students took time out to celebrate Black History Month in the North campus' concourse.

*"It motivates and renews me."*

## What Black History Month means to me

Black Canadians have played a significant role in the history of Canada for over 400 years.

Marcus Mosiah Garvey, the organizer behind the 1920's black nationalist movement in the United States, said, "A people without knowledge of its history is like a tree without roots."

I am proud to be a black person in Canada today because, when I study my history, I am renewed knowing I have a rich heritage and my ancestors are survivors of tremendous hardships.

Studying my history has also reinforced my spiritual belief because my ancestors were strong believers in Christ as their deliverer. This they expressed in spirituals like "Go Down Moses" and "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot"

There is an elderly man in my church who enjoys singing "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot". Hearing him sing that song sends a sweet feeling of hope to my heart; it means something dear to me.

Many songs carried through the centuries. Originally known as "corn ditties", the precursor of spirituals, they helped give birth to another celebrated form of songs known today as Gospel.

The songs were an expression of their joys, sorrows, hopes and dreams.

Many of the spirituals describe the slaves as chosen people. This



by Annasta Campbell-Clarke

concept provided them with the comfort that God was with them and would free them from their oppression.

As reminders, they sang songs of the Promised Land or Canaan from the Old Testament story about the Hebrew slaves.

Others spoke of death, where they would be free from the pain and suffering of this world.

Black History Month helps to

educate the nation of the role Canada played in the abolition of slavery, and the roles black Canadians have played and are still playing in many areas such as: education, medicine, art, culture, public service, economic development, politics and human rights.

We are reminded that many of the things we use today were invented by blacks.

We are reminded of the struggles that the black people experienced in their ongoing fight for freedom and equality.

It motivates me to know that I can accomplish anything I set my mind to, because I have so many role models of people achieving what some may have thought was beyond reach.

For example, Mary Ann Shadd published and edited an anti-slavery newspaper in 1853. As an aspiring journalist, that is a great motivation.

Lincoln MacCauley Alexander climbed the political chain. It took him less than 20 years to go from MP to Lieutenant Governor. He is the only black person to achieve this feat to date.

I am the only one that can put limits on myself because my ancestors have set a precedent.

by Annasta Campbell-Clarke

Black History Month celebrations kicked off in Toronto and spread to the rest of Canada to honour the contributions of African-Canadians.

"The former city of Toronto was the first municipality in Canada to celebrate Black History Month. That happened because of a petition that came from a women's group in the 1950s. Black History Month is now celebrated right across the country," says city councillor Sherene Shaw, chair of the race and ethnic relations committee.

But the celebration was not officially recognized by the city until 1979, due to the efforts of the Ontario Black History Society, a group dedicated to the study of black history in Canada. Established in 1978, it aimed to recognize, preserve and promote the contribution of black people and their collective histories through education, research and cooperation.

"The full potential of any nation

cannot be realized if the history and achievement of a group of its people is distorted or denied," said the Honourable Jean Augustine at a Black History Banquet on Feb. 20.

The celebration was adopted by the province of Ontario almost 15 years later in 1993, when a proclamation was issued by Lieutenant Governor Hal Jackson. Two years later, the celebration spread throughout the country.

"Because of Black History Month, Canadians of all origins, across the country, are beginning to discover the extent and the significance of the Black community's many contributions to our society," Augustine said at the banquet

This year, the city celebrates its black heritage in art and exhibition. The exhibition focuses on the history of the Black Loyalists, tracing their roots from Nova Scotia to a settlement in Ontario and honours the accomplishments of African Canadians.

The exhibition is open Saturday's and Sunday's from noon to 4 p.m. at Mackenzie House, 82 Bond Street.

## Notable black Canadians

by Annasta Campbell-Clarke

the British Methodist Episcopal churches for over 20 years.

• **Elijah McCoy**

He earned more than 50 patents, but the most famous was for a metal glass or cup that fed oil to bearings through a smallbore tube. He also earned patents for the lawn sprinkler and rubber shoe heel.

• **Mary Ann Shadd**

First black newspaperwoman and the first female publisher in North America. Shadd published and edited the anti-slavery publication Provincial Freeman in Chatham, Ontario.

• **Lawrence McLarty**

First black policeman in Toronto.

• **Anderson Ruffin Abott**

First Canadian-born black doctor. Received licence to practice medicine from the Medical Board of Upper Canada

• **Rev. Addie Aylestock**

The first ordained black female minister in Canada. She served in

• **Jean Augustine**

Augustine became the first black female elected to the Parliament of Canada. She was the Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister and is now the Secretary of State (Multiculturalism) (Status of Women)

• **Lincoln MacCauley Alexander**

1968: Alexander became the first black MP (PC/ Hamilton West). 1979: First black cabinet minister: Minister of Labour 1985: Lieutenant Governor 1985 - 1991.



Leslie Fleischer  
Lincoln MacCauley Alexander

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# Sports

## Men's volleyball gets ready for OCAA championships

### The Hawks head into the playoffs with a 12-0 record

by Todd Clark

The Humber Hawks men's volleyball team will fly with full force into the playoffs at Loyalist College Thursday, Feb. 27 and make history doing so.

It's only the second time in

Humber College's volleyball history a team has finished a season undefeated.

The Hawks capped off an unbeaten regular season after defeating the Seneca Sting last Wednesday night.

The match went to the fifth and deciding game for the first time this season, with the Hawks coming out

on top 23-25, 17-35, 25-20, 25-22 and 15-11.

Before the game, Hawk's setter Mike Smith guaranteed his team would defeat the Sting.

He almost ate those words as Seneca stung Humber in the first two sets, winning 25-23 and 25-17, and taking a stranglehold 2-0 series lead in front of a boisterous crowd.

"I think [the reality of an] undefeated regular season was playing in their heads a little and whatever effect it had on them it wasn't Seneca doing it. It was us that was doing it to us," said head coach Wayne Wilkins.

Humber started off well with good defensive play by Matt Singh in the backcourt and some nice kills and short serves by captain Dave Hartshorn. The Hawks were in control, but Seneca never quit and battled back to pull off a close win.

The Sting silenced the Hawks crowd early in the second set, developing a 10-5 lead, which they never looked back on.

It looked like the Hawks would be heading into the playoffs on a losing note.

Wilkins opted to shuffle the lineup for the third-set, moving Singh to power position and inserting Alex Ventura into the libero position, where he made some crucial digs later on in the game.

The change worked in the Hawks' favour as they put a stop to a potential Sting sweep.

Seneca made Humber work in the fourth set as they took a 13-9 lead which Wilkins described as the turning point in the game.

Singh replaced Jesse Mabon at power position and his impact was felt immediately. Mabon figured in three of the Hawks' next four points with two kills and a service ace, helping the Hawks tie the game and forcing Seneca to take a timeout.

It was an intense battle to the end, but Humber came up with the big plays on blocks by Daryl Burton, Mike Smith and Singh. Milad Massoudi set up Hartshorn and Randhawa for some wicked kills.

And the Hawks were too good for the Sting in the fifth set.

This win, however, wasn't just about an unbeaten season. Last Wednesday night was about a team unwilling to lose and about a group of players who grew closer together with each victory over the course of the season. Their confidence allowed them to overcome a 2-0 series deficit to finish tops in the central division.

"We accomplished something special this season and we've been through a lot, but it's made us a stronger team," Singh said.



Todd Clark

Dave Hartshorn led his team to victory over the Sting last weekend.

## Men's basketball wins big with style

by Steve Autio

The best writers in Hollywood couldn't have scripted this one better.

Last Thursday night marked the final curtain call at home for Humber stars Ray Morgan, Jeremy Walters and Dejvis Begaj, who were honored in a pre-game ceremony. All three played a starring role in their final home game leading the men's basketball team to a 73-68 come from behind win over the Seneca Sting.

The game featured playoff-type intensity from both sides, which resulted in the nail-biting drama.

"It was good for us because it was a playoff style game, playoff atmosphere, playoff tension," said Hawks head coach Mike Katz.

"They were up in our faces and a lot of words were exchanged on the court, back and forth," said Hawks center Justice Rathwell.

The charity stripe played a key role in the Hawks' win. Humber made 25 of 31 free throws on the

night including many in the closing moments of the game. "It came down to foul shooting and in the end we made our shots," Rathwell said.

Seneca owned a six-point lead at half time, but Morgan, Walters and Begaj cued the comeback with their strong play down the stretch.

Morgan lit it up from the outside

draining three consecutive three-pointers in the second half. "This win showed our character and our poise," said Morgan, who led the Hawks in scoring with 21 points.

Jeremy Walters, who scored nine points on the night, helped compose the Hawks on the floor as the Sting was surging.



Steve Autio

Jeremy Walters is honoured for playing his last season as a Hawk before his team hammered the Seneca Sting 73-68.

### Can watching golf be any more fun? Probably...



by Liz Byers

Well I tried to do it. I really, really did. But I can't. Golf has to be the worst sport ever to watch on the good old boob-tube.

For years I thought that I wasn't giving it a fair chance. I must have been missing something in between one birdie or another.

Playing the sport is a heck of a lot better, but it still lacks the action and excitement many others have. It must be my hyper, overactive personality that does not allow me to find much joy hitting a small white ball with a metal club.

Now back to the topic at hand. I think, if given the opportunity, I could really jazz things up on the green. Of course I would keep things classy, so not to offend the droves of upper crust fans and supporters of the sport, but a little hoopla and fanfare never hurt anybody right?

Don't worry, I am not thinking of hiring Britney or Christina to sing a theme song about sinking a "Hole in One." Lord only knows the repercussions or one-liners that would stem from that. Perhaps a brass quintet could follow the player from one hole to the next. Can't you hear the catchy ditty "Eye of the Tiger" blaring for...you guessed it. I don't have to give you that one, do I?

And why not use a firework here or there. Laser lights could also be dazzling. When the ball goes in, a few coloured sparks would be illuminating and uplifting for the player, the crowd and especially some sucker at home on the couch.

Another possibility would be to hold the game at night. The balls would glow in the dark and instead of khakis and polo shirts, gleaming white coveralls would be the clothing of choice (I am sorry about this one but the first and only time I was at a Putting Edge was a totally delightful experience for me).

Now if my neighbour read this he would not be impressed. An avid golfer for more than 20 years, my thoughts and opinions would not be taken lightly.

I accept this. I realize every sport on television cannot be as flashy as the next. Golf prides itself on many things. Being brash and sassy isn't one of them though.

But when the networks suddenly change their format and go-go dancers are parading around in nothing but green blazers, don't say I didn't see it coming first.

# A brawl song

What would a Notre Dame football game be like without the Irish fight song?

Well last Saturday night the Humber Hawks hockey team won a playoff game and guess what they were missing?

That's right. A fight song.

How could a school with a great hockey team and other top-notch varsity squads be without a fight song?

Passions run high when our teams are in the playoffs. Without a fight song, we're just another team in the sea of mediocrity.

Maybe I'm a homer, so this will seem like a rant by a partisan fan, but please tell me why we are so complacent when our teams are putting their hearts on the line?

This is a challenge to Humber's musical section to come up with a rousing fight song that will put us in a select club of teams that actually care and have pride.

If Knute Rockne and his fighting Irish had to rely on "canned music" they might never have won a championship.

Picture Humber winning the OCAA hockey championship and the only song we could play was "We are the Champions." Don't get me wrong that's a classic, but it wasn't written for Humber.

If this school has any kind of heart and pride, we'll come up with a song to cheer our teams to victory.

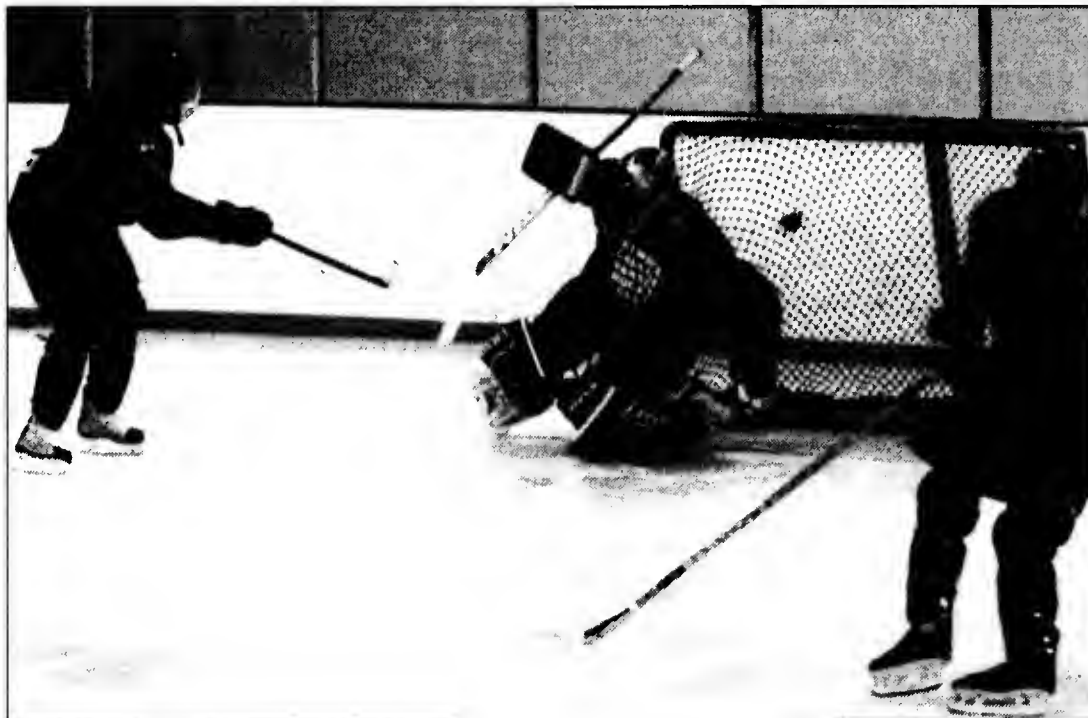
Humber's athletes deserve more than just any song. They deserve a song that will echo through time and always be known as their song.

Athletes will come and go but a true fight song will last as long as Humber and fighting spirit continue to shine.

With more than 12,000 students we're not a small time college, so let's get with the program and be the big time school our athletes do their best to represent.



by Ron A. Melihen



Ron A. Melihen

Power forwards Seth Gray and Jason Fortier take shots on goalie Nick Grainger during practice Monday afternoon at Westwood arena. The Hawks take on Seneca for game two of the playoffs Wednesday Feb. 26. Humber won 6-1 in game one last weekend.

## Hockey team leads Sting in the best of three series

by Ron A. Melihen

Outside Westwood arena a storm raged while inside the Humber Hawks hockey team cruised to a 6-1 victory over Seneca in the first game of their best of three series on Saturday, Feb. 22.

While a severe storm kept attendance down, the Hawks kept their heads high and overcame a slow start in the first period showing their offensive punch in the second and third.

"We were a little nervous in the beginning and they were more physical, but by the second and third our offence showed," said head coach Joe Waskurak.

Players like forward Seth Gray stepped up, despite being injured with a shoulder stinger, and scored back-to-back goals that took the fight out of Seneca.

"We came out flat, but in the end our offence took over," Gray said.

His shoulder was all right after the game and he is sure he will be in the line up for the next game.

"I'll ice it down tonight and I'll

be ready for game two," Gray said.

The second period began with the teams tied at one. One minute into the second period, and Humber down a man, Hawk speedster Chris Pugliese took a pass from Scott Barnes and scored the goal that proved to be the winner.

The defence took over and shut down Seneca's offence. Hawk net minder Nick Grainger had another stellar night between the pipes turning back 32 shots.

"Grainger came out to play and he held us in the game in the first," said defenceman Darryl Baker.

Baker was back in the game after sitting out two games with a neck injury.

"I was happy to be in the game and I'm looking forward to Wednesday," Baker said.

The game lacked a steady pace as the referee made his presence known calling many penalties bemoaned by both teams.

"There were some suspect calls on both sides," Waskurak said.

Humber had to fight off multiple two-man penalties with the help of a

stingy defence led by player of the game Chris Mei. At one point, he fought off three players on a Seneca two-man advantage and cleared the puck out of the Humber zone. He capped off the performance by scoring a goal and notching an assist.

"We emptied the tanks and left nothing back, giving our all to secure the win," Mei said.

Humber capped off the game, with a goal from Corey Kilmartin with three seconds left.

"It was my first goal of the season, but I don't care about scoring as long as I work hard and we win," Kilmartin said.

Humber will be missing defenceman Josh Onyshuk for game two and possibly the rest of the playoffs. He has a hip pointer and groin pull obtained in the last game of the season against Conestoga.

The next game can eliminate Seneca and send Humber to the finals, but Waskurak isn't taking the Sting for granted.

"It'll be tough game on their home ice. They're playing for their lives," Waskurak said.

## Players of the week



Nick Grainger  
Varsity Hockey  
Humber Goalie

Grainger held his team together during the first playoff game against the Seneca Sting.



Kamilia Isaac  
Varsity B-ball  
Humber Guard

Isaac helped her team make it to the OCAA championships.

etc.

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## Varsity Standings

### Men's Volleyball

Central Division	MW	ML	Points
Humber	12	0	24
Seneca	10	2	20
Georgian	8	4	16
Cambrian	8	6	12
George Brown	4	8	8
Sheridan	2	10	4
Boreal	0	12	0

### Women's Volleyball

Central Division	MW	ML	Points
Cambrian	14	0	28
Humber	12	2	24
Georgian	9	5	18
Seneca	9	5	18
Sheridan	5	9	10
Boreal	4	10	8
Centennial	3	11	6
Confederation	0	14	0

### Eastern Division

Loyalist	10	0	20
Fleming	5	5	10
Royal Military	5	5	10
Durham	5	5	10
La Cite	4	6	8
Algonquin	1	9	2

### Eastern Division

Durham	11	1	22
Algonquin	6	4	16
Loyalist	8	4	16
Trent	7	5	14
Royal Military	4	7	8
Fleming	3	8	6
La Cite	0	12	0

### Western Division

Niagara	11	1	22
Fanshawe	8	4	16
Redeemer	8	4	16
St. Clair	7	5	14
Nippising	6	6	12
Mohawk	2	10	4
Canadore	0	12	0

### Western Division

Niagara	15	1	30
Fanshawe	12	4	24
Mohawk	11	5	22
Canadore	10	6	20
Sault	9	7	18
Nippising	7	9	14
Redeemer	4	12	8
St. Clair	3	13	6
Lambton	1	14	2

### Women's Basketball

Eastern Division	W	L	Points
Seneca	12	0	24
Loyalist	8	4	16
Humber	7	5	14
Durham	6	6	12
Algonquin	6	6	12
Georgian	2	10	4
George Brown	1	11	2

### Men's Basketball

Central Division	W	L	Points
Humber	14	1	28
Sheridan	13	2	26
Mohawk	5	10	10
Centennial	5	10	10
Seneca	5	10	10
George Brown	3	12	6

### Western Division

St. Clair	9	1	18
Fanshawe	9	1	18
Niagara	5	4	10
Mohawk	4	4	8
Redeemer	3	6	6
Algoma	0	10	0

### Eastern Division

Algonquin	14	1	28
St. Lawrence	11	4	22
Durham	7	7	14
Georgian	7	7	14
Loyalist	4	10	8
Fleming	0	14	0

### Men's Hockey

Western Division	W	L	T	Pts
St. Clair	13	1	1	27
Humber	13	2	0	26
Seneca	6	6	3	15
Cambrian	5	9	1	11
Conestoga	4	10	1	9
Fleming	1	14	0	2

### Western Division

Niagara	10	2	20
Lambton	7	4	14
Fanshawe	7	5	14
Sault	7	4	14
St. Clair	6	5	12
Redeemer	2	10	4
Algoma	1	10	2

# Guilherme wins Gold at figure skating competition

by Keneisha Walter

Born in a small Portuguese village, the multi-racial Rodolfo Guilherme, who also has a Chinese background, came to Canada when he was only six-years-old.

Now at 22, he's a member of Markham's skating club, and has traveled country-wide in his quest for glory. He pursued his skating to such far-flung places as Germany and the United States. His mother encouraged him to get into figure skating and since then skating has been Guilherme's constant companion.

Recently, Guilherme struck gold when he fired up the ice at a men's free skating competition in Oakville two weeks ago.

Guilherme practices 5-6 days a week. His commitment and determination has formed a deep relationship between him, his blades, and the ice.

"When you are on the ice, you feel a bit nervous, but then, you're kind of in your own little world," he said.

Guilherme has had his share of triumph and glory, but had to overcome several challenges. He faced a difficult decision four years ago when he parted with his coach of eight years. He had to get use to new coaching techniques, and new training altogether.

His decision to change coaches was difficult, but out of the bitterness came a sweet victory when he made his way to a provincial championship.

"I was just happy to know that all the hard work paid off," he said.

Guilherme planned to hang up his skates last season, but the thought of heading to nationals for one more year changed his mind.

"I actually thought of not competing anymore," he said. "I thought it was time to move on because I've been in this business for a long time. But when the season started I wasn't ready to give it up yet."

Guilherme said this might be his final year as a competitive figure skater, but he'll still contribute and stay active in the sport, hopefully as a coach.

"I definitely want to get into coaching because, as much as I am ready to give up skating, I'm not going to give it up entirely. It's been a part of my life for so long. So to give it up entirely, would feel like something is missing," he said.

As a student in his final year of the print journalism program, Guilherme wants to become a reporter for figure skating. He made this decision because there aren't many sports reporters that specialize in that area of journalism.

"The ones that do it are not skaters themselves, so they don't know what's really going on. They are like an outsider, which is OK," Guilherme said. "But when that happens, from some articles that I've read, they get the information

wrong, and it's kind of bad as a journalist."

While figure skating may seem like it consists only of complicated triple-axes, it can be enjoyed at any level. The 13-year veteran said he encourages anyone at any age to get involved in the sport.

"It's never too late to start figure skating."

For now, Guilherme is looking forward to competing at nationals this March in Brampton.



Courtesy

Rodolfo Guilherme is looking forward to one more competition before he hangs up his skates for good.

## Behind the mask with Nick Grainger

by Ron A. Melihen

Humber Hawk hockey goalie Nick Grainger wants to go from stopping

pucks to stopping criminals.

The amiable cowboy was born in Calgary, Alta. and came to Ontario when he was six-years-old.

Grainger grew up in the small town of Leaksdale, north of Uxbridge. He said his parents influenced him while growing up because they taught him important life skills.

"Without my parents I never would have made it this far. They showed me what it takes to be a good provider by giving me everything I needed to succeed," Grainger said. "Being a goalie is not a cheap position and they spent whatever was needed for me to play the game I love."

Aside from hockey, Grainger also enjoyed playing baseball and tennis while growing up playing third baseman and catcher.

"I love any sport where you have to wear a mask," Grainger said.

Before arriving at Humber, Grainger played Provincial Junior "A" for the Bowmanville Eagles. "I went from being an eagle to a hawk," he said.

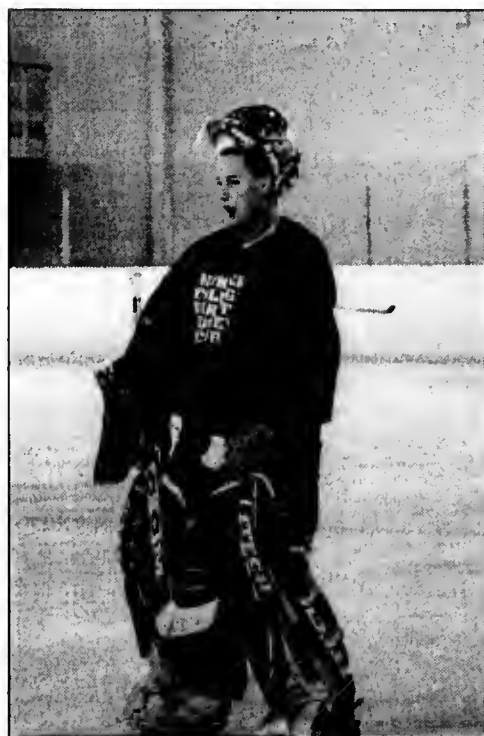
He's also a big fan of Montreal Canadiens goalie Jose Theodore. Grainger said he idolizes Theodore's butterfly technique and it's helped him lead the Hawks through the regular season and into the playoffs.

"[Theodore] is the bomb when it comes to goalies," Grainger said. "My game is about playing at the top of the crease and taking the puck in the stomach."

Currently, Grainger is enrolled in the sports administration program. But next year, he plans to take police foundations and hopes to become what he's always wanted to be, a police officer.

"Nick is not only an outstanding goalie but he's always willing to help and be there for any of his fellow teammates and friends," said back-up goalie Chuck Lea.

According to his teammates, he plays as hard as he trains and when he's on his game, hockey pucks have a hard time getting by. And if everything goes to plan criminals will have a hard time getting by him too.



Ron A. Melihen

Grainger went from being a Bowmanville Eagle to a Humber Hawk.



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# A final victory on the road to Quebec for women's v-ball

Women's volleyball heads into the OCAA playoffs with a 12-2 record

by Liz Byers

The women's volleyball team won its final game of the regular season on Wednesday, Feb. 19, beating Seneca 25-20, 25-13, 25-23.

The Hawks proved they remain a force to be reckoned with going into the playoffs, winning three straight matches in 75 minutes of thrilling



Liz Byers

Humber Hawk Kirsti Goodearle goes for the kill against Seneca last week.

play. Humber has had an impressive season, finishing second in the league behind the Cambrian Shield with 12 wins and two losses. As they head into the provincials, things look good for the 12-member team.

Athletic director Doug Fox is optimistic about how the team will perform. "My prediction is that we will win it all and go to Quebec for the nationals," he said. "I can also see Elizabeth Salas and Kirsti Goodearle being selected as all stars at the tournament."

They will head to Algonquin College in Ottawa this weekend for the three day long competition. Games start on Thursday and the gold medal match is Saturday evening.



Keneisha Walter

Humber dribbles past Algonquin, 63-55 and into the playoffs.

# Women's b-ball silences Thunder

by Keneisha Walter

The Hawks are flying off to another playoff as they silenced the roaring Algonquin Thunder in their final regular season match-up, 63-55.

On Saturday, the ladies remained focused in a crucial win over the visiting Thunder to secure a playoff spot.

"We made it to playoffs. That's what we wanted," said head coach, Denise Perrier. "Our goal is to win one more and get to the Ontario Championships, so it will be tough from here."

The win was a nice recovery for the Hawks, who came off a tough loss against the number one ranked Seneca Sting. The ladies went down against the Sting, losing by eight points in their game last Thursday.

The game on Saturday was closely contested from the start, as the teams were tied at 10-10 with 11:55 in the game. Algonquin later picked up seven team fouls, which gave the Hawks a 23-16 lead.

Humber guard, Kamilia Isaac made two big free throws to send the Hawks into half-time with a six point lead over the Thunder (29-23).

Cool, calm and collected, team

captain Karin Nicholas clawed through the Thunder netting 13 points. Nicholas scored 11 points in the first half of the game, leading all scorers at the half.

In the second half, Julie Yagi broke down the Thunder's strong zone defense to lead the Hawks in scoring with 18 points.

"[The win] means a lot to us because when we went to their house and played them, they beat us by three, and today we beat them by eight," Yagi said.

The Hawks also made a couple layups that didn't result in a basket. But, this didn't keep the Hawks down as the ladies made a number of fast-break points.

"I like the way our team has been playing defense for the last two games. I like the way we are communicating and things are working for us now, so it's a good time for us. And the girls are stepping up, so it's nice to see. It means a lot, especially to win at home," Perrier said.

The defending OCAA Champions have a hard battle in their quarter-final game Monday against Fanshawe or St Clair.

# Humber Hypes it up

Humber's dance team, the Humber Hype, will be defending their National Championship at the Canadian Collegiate Dance Classic at Seneca College Saturday March 8.

The Hype took the title last year and will be competing against 13 other teams this year with moves from hip-hop to jazz and acrobatics.

Louis Campos, who is a member of the Humber Hype and a first-year journalism student, is looking forward to the event.

"I'm hoping we win because of all the hard work and dedication we've put out this year," he said.

**HSF Proudly Presents...**  
**SHAWN DESMAN**  
*Live In Concert*



**WITH HIS HIT SINGLES**  
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**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 2003**  
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**ADMISSION \$5**  
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Supported By: Humber Student Committee

**HUMBER ID AS WELL AS GOVT. ID REQUIRED - 1 GUEST PER STUDENT**

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**NEED MORE INFORMATION?** Call 416-974-9600 ext. 311 [www.keatingtours.com](http://www.keatingtours.com) [suzanne@keatingtours.com](mailto:suzanne@keatingtours.com)

**DEADLINE?** Interviews start in mid February last interviews will be March 1<sup>st</sup> (to get your application in before then!)

**Keating Educational Tours**  
 240 Richmond Street W, Suite 300  
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