

Humber EtCetera

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Rodak Returns

Hawks captain returns from injury, but can't stop 7-5 defeat to St. Clair.

See Sports, Pg. 20

Pretty in Pink

EtCetera's weekly Style Check showcases Humber students' unique fashion sense

See Life, Pg.10



Cops set up on campus

By Dana Brown

In a first for an Ontario college, Humber has provided local police with an office at their North Campus.

College President Robert A. Gordon presented 23 division Superintendent. Ron Taverner with the key to the office at a small ceremony Jan. 14.

"It's a great initiative by Humber and the police to try and make police available for the students," Taverner said. "We hope to have an ongoing dialogue that people feel comfortable with us being there [and] that if they have issues they'll come and speak to our officers."

Located across from the Humber Room in E105B, the office will not be staffed full-time. Instead, uniformed officers from the community response unit will drop by on a flexible but regular basis.

"Our unit is especially designed to be in the school, so we're not out there responding to radio calls per se," said Constable Wayne O'Riordan, one of the officers who will staff the office. "So we'll try and get in on a daily basis. We'll definitely be in every couple of days."

Students are encouraged to talk to the campus officers to discuss concerns, problems, or career-related matters.

"I think it's just terrific that we've opened this office now to provide community policing opportunities for students and staff to ask questions,"

said Gary Jeynes, director of public safety at Humber.

The idea for the permanent police space on campus was developed last October after two violent incidents involving Humber students. As a result of the first incident, Jeynes and Vice President of Administration John Davies began meeting with Taverner to discuss Humber's role in community security.

"Our view is that you can't just sit here at Humber with a sort of perimeter around us and say 'This we keep safe' and 'This we don't look at,'" Davies said. "We're looking for opportunities to help the police and the other people in this community work on overall safety issues."

Stefano Pileggi, constituency assistant to Etobicoke North Councillor Suzan Hall, said the office is a step in the right direction. "Hopefully it will create a safer atmosphere for Humber students within the campus."

Valerie Rothlin, Humber Students Federation president, said that although students may be wary of the police presence at first, over time the initiative will be seen as a positive one.

"I think that this is going to help students feel a lot safer on campus, to know that the police are easily accessible," Rothlin said. "I think this is kind of the goal, that students feel safer and if they have any concerns

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Humber, you've been... "Thunderstruck"

AC/DC tribute band Hells Bells plays to more than 250 Humber students at Caps last week. The event was part of HSF's Frost Week celebrations.

Students to elect HSF reps online

By Michelle Butler and Kate Schwass

Humber College will be the first college in Ontario to introduce an online voting system for student government elections this March.

Nadia Conforti, vice president administration north, said the move to electronic voting will boost voter turnout by making it easier to cast ballots.

Only one in 10 students turned out for the last Humber Students Federation election.

"It provides better accessibility to

enhance voter turnout, a more environmentally friendly approach and moving into the 21st century by establishing an online community," Conforti said.

Valerie Rothlin, HSF president, said online voting will accommodate students who don't follow a traditional nine-to-five school day. She also noted online voting makes the electoral process accessible to everyone, whether they are in school, on internship or studying via distance education.

This means even at 3 a.m., students can cast votes while sitting in

their pajamas.

In order to vote, students will log on to the Student Record Service website. After clicking a 'Vote Now' button, users are taken to another site and prompted to vote. Once a candidate is selected, the student's name is removed from the voters list and an anonymous tally tracks the number of votes for each candidate. I.D. numbers are not recorded with voting information

Michael Parent, HSF business manager, said students shouldn't worry about the confidentiality of their votes.

"It is absolutely safe. The way the data is collected, it's impossible for a voter's name to be matched up with that person's vote," he said.

Parent said the voting system was designed in-house by staff in Humber's Information Technology and Service department and is based on similar technology first used by municipalities during provincial and municipal elections last November.

Parent said a digital polling booth will also be set up on campus for students without computers.

Voting starts March 16 at 9 a.m. and goes until 4 p.m. on March 18.

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NEWS

Office a response to safety concerns

Police want an ongoing dialogue with students

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that they can easily approach the police because they're on campus."

Dorothy Pyszczyński, a second-year hotel and restaurant management student, agrees. "I think it's great because it gives a little bit of security to the students in the school, and because it's more convenient if students have problems or something, they can just go talk to them [the police] and they're right there."

Dave Hosien, a first-year marketing student, said he would access the

office if necessary. "If I had a problem or I needed support or authority, yeah I would [go]."

But not all students feel the initiative is a worthwhile one. "It makes no difference," said Ramone Vacchus, a first-year business administration student. "I used to go to school in Malton and there was a police station right beside it - [that] didn't change anything. Having one on campus isn't going to change anything. Everybody will just go else-

where to do what they're going to do."

But those involved in the project are optimistic about its value and the impact it will have on the community.

"I think it's an excellent initiative," said O'Riordan. "Having a permanent home base like this gives us that opportunity to really get out there and not only meet the students but they can now come to us as well. We're really looking forward to it."



Traffic has been slowed at the Woodbine race track since Saturday when security workers started picketing at the entrances. Drivers going south on Highway 27 have also experienced delays while turning right on to Rexdale Blvd. Despite the inconvenience, a security worker said that drivers have been supportive and "very, very friendly."

Locked out security workers picket Woodbine race track entrances

By Dave Boyington

Security workers at Woodbine race track have taken to the picket lines after being locked out by Woodbine Entertainment Group.

"Basically they (management) locked them out to try to bully them into submissions," Tom Galivan, a union spokesperson said.

The major sticking point in negotiations has been efforts to combine security, maintenance, cleaning and admission staff under one contract. The groups already belong to the

same union, but have different contracts.

"For years they've benefited by keeping the workers divided," Galivan said.

Talks are scheduled for the next two days. If an agreement is not reached, the other groups will join security on the picket lines.

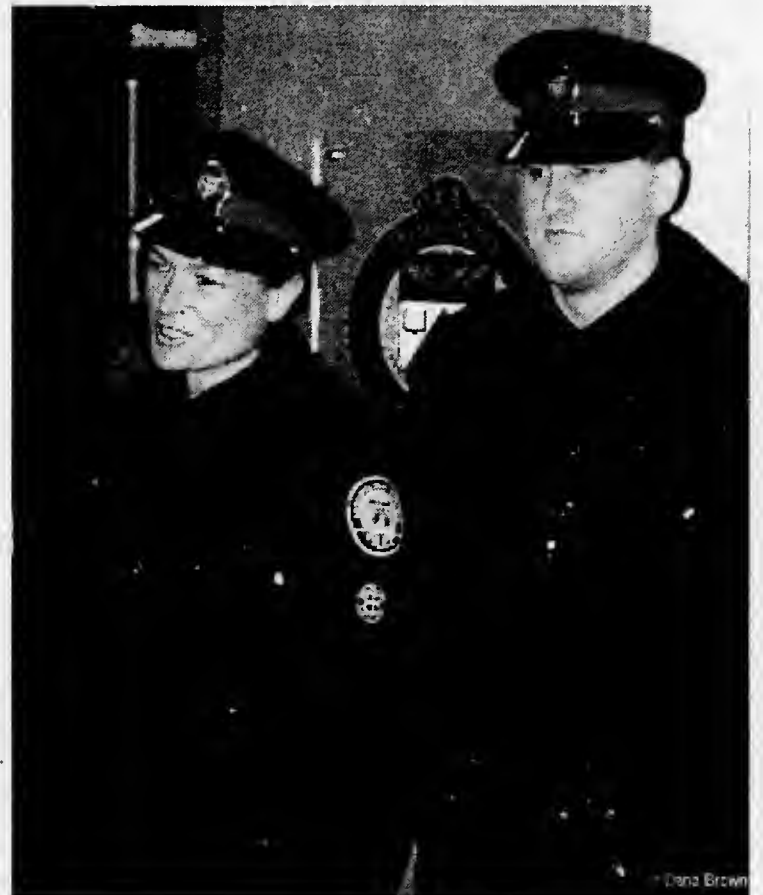
The workers are also requesting a wage increase. Galivan said that when Woodbine encountered financial problems in the past, workers were willing to discuss their contracts. However, since the race track

introduced slot machines in 1998, workers' wages haven't increased along with the profits.

Randy Singh, one of about 140 security employees at Woodbine, said most of the motorists he's stopped have been sympathetic, despite one picketer being struck when a car ran the line.

"Most of them are very, very friendly," Singh said. "The majority who come here are really upset with them (management)."

Calls to WEG had not been returned as of press time.



To Protect and Serve - Officers from 23 Division will drop by on a "flexible but regular basis." Students are encouraged to speak to them about any security concerns. Last semester, students were assaulted twice near campus.

Sucker punched:

Student socked in face; leaves before police arrive

By Bradley McIsaac

Humber's North campus was the scene of a random act of violence at the end of the fall semester.

Police were called in to Caps pub just before midnight on Thursday, Dec. 11, after a student on the dance floor was punched in the face.

Gord Hagen, the assistant operations manager of Caps, said the unidentified student was minding his own business when he was "sucker punched," resulting in a bloody nose.

Before pub security could apprehend him, the assailant disappeared.

"Like any bar or club, it was quite busy. By the time security was notified, the perpetrator had already left the premises," Hagen said.

"We don't tolerate this kind of behaviour in our establishment. The students and their guests are well behaved. This isn't the sort of thing that happens all the time."

A spokesperson from the police said both people had left before they arrived and the incident was recorded as a "non event."

23rd Division Detective Sergeant Les Stesiak said, "they did the right thing to call us. It's important to make sure the injured party sticks

around though, so we can make a report. If pub security and police work together, then the guilty party will have a greater chance of being apprehended."

Shoes taken from locker

By Dana Brown

A locker on the second floor of the F-building was broken into Jan. 13 and a pair of women's running shoes were stolen.

Gary Jeynes, director of public safety at Humber confirmed that he has met with a student to discuss the theft and that the victim mentioned other similar incidents. "I'm only aware of one but there may have been others," said Jeynes. "There was only the one reported to us."

Although locker break-ins are rare, Jeynes said the school is taking the issue seriously and has increased security patrols in the area.

Anyone who has had their locker broken into can contact security at 416-675-6622 ext. 4077 (North) or ext. 3240 (South).

Humber students flunk AIDS/HIV awareness test Health Centre shocked by results

By Joanne MacDonald

Results from a Humber College survey on AIDS awareness show that many students have an inaccurate understanding of the disease.

The survey was distributed in December by the Health Centre to 200 students at an AIDS Awareness event outside the Career Centre.

Ann Foster, a registered nurse at the Humber Health Centre, said more than half of the questions about HIV/AIDS were answered incorrectly. "We anticipated better results," said.

Wrong answers included that the disease was found only in gay men. Recent statistics from the AIDS Committee of Toronto show HIV infection among women in Toronto is rising and now account for 19 per cent of new cases.

Another misconception was that condoms provided 100 per cent protection against HIV/AIDS.

Foster acknowledged that one of the questions on the survey was ambiguous. "[However] from the other answers that were given there is still a relatively low level of understanding about HIV/AIDS," she said.

Foster said she believes sexually active students at any age should look for information about safe sex practices on the Internet or at the Health Centre.

"[Students] should take responsibility and make themselves knowledgeable [about safe-sex practices]," she said.

An estimated 800 students visited the display booth. Free condoms, educational brochures and temporary tattoos of the red ribbon representing AIDS awareness were also available.

Nurses from the Health Centre and the Toronto health department were on hand to answer questions on AIDS and HIV.

As well as promoting AIDS awareness, the Health Centre's staff showed students they are open to students' questions, Foster said.

The Health Centre will have a display on Feb. 11th to provide students with information about healthy sexuality.

This event will coincide with Sue Johanson's annual visit to Humber. Johanson is the host of "Sunday Night Sex Show" on Oxygen and W Network television stations.



Fresh-baked giveaway - Reps from Otis Spunkmeyer were in the residence cafeteria on Tuesday morning giving away cookies to hungry students passing by.

X-rated hypnotist act dazzles crowd at Caps

By Erin Elrick

No subject matter was taboo for Tony Lee, X-rated hypnotist, as he instructed volunteers to imitate performing oral sex, share their thoughts on penis size and demonstrate what a really good orgasm should sound like.

The crowd watched as Lee had his volunteers hump the legs of audience members and as volunteers invented new things to do with lettuce.

It was standing room only for the 90-minute show though some in attendance were asleep for it.

First year pharmacy technician student Amanda Mosur said she enjoyed the show and didn't find the content offensive.

"I may actually participate next time, who knows?" Mosur said.

According to Jen Green, the vice president of campus life at north campus, Lee's act helps to set a good tone for the semester and brings more students to Caps. Although the X-rated show may sound controversial, Green said she has never received any complaints from students.

Lee said people who come to his show know what to expect, but he still likes it when the sexually explicit nature of his show occasionally insults someone.

"I hope that one of 1,000 people do get offended," Lee said. "Bad publicity is really good for us."

An show earlier on the same day at Lakeshore was cancelled due to a power failure and cold temperatures.



Under his spell - Hypnotized students gave their impressions of various sex acts in Tony Lee's X-rated show.

AIDS AWARENESS QUIZ

⌘ Aids is only found in gay men
 Yes No

⌘ Condoms are 100% effective in protecting you against Aids
 Yes No

⌘ A positive HIV antibody test means a person has Aids
 Yes No

⌘ There is no cure for Aids
 Yes No

⌘ The risk of HIV/Aids increases with the number of sexual partners you have
 Yes No

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Would you have passed? More than half of these questions were answered wrong by Humber students.

Et Cetera wins awards in two competitions

The Humber *Et Cetera* is a finalist in two separate competitions, one province-wide and the other against newspapers from across the United States and Canada.

In the Columbia Scholastic Press Association (CSPA) awards, Humber has learned it will receive either a gold or a silver for the non-daily tabloid category at a ceremony in New York on March 20. The *Et Cetera* competed against more than

280 newspapers. The CSPA is owned and operated by Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism.

In the Ontario Community Newspapers Association (OCNA), the *Et Cetera* finished in the top three in all four of the college newspaper categories: overall, photography, student writing, and online.

The first, second and third place awards will be given during the OCNA convention on March 6.

Comments about a story? E-mail us at humbernews@yahoo.ca

Faculty set date for strike vote

Education being "jeopardized"

By Kristen King

The union representing Ontario's college faculty has rejected the latest negotiation offers by the Ontario Council of Regents.

The union said major issues still have to be addressed to avoid the strike vote set for Feb. 17.

The Ontario Public Service Employees Union (OPSEU) met with the government's bargaining agent on Dec. 18 to discuss amendments to their collective agreement.

A failure to reach an agreement could mean college students across the province would be out of class on March 3.

"Accepting this offer would mean we would be losing on all sorts of fronts," president of OPSEU local 526 Maureen Wall said.

"They are not dealing with any of the key issues. The council seriously has to address work load issues and hiring of more full time staff," Wall said.

The offer contained a three per cent wage increase for three years and 0.5 per cent increase half way through the second year, with retroactive pay if the union had agreed to the offer by midnight on Jan. 16.

The union claims this does not match the pay guidelines, which would see college teachers at salaries scaled between high school teachers and university professors.

The union said the offer's biggest failure is workload issues have been ignored.

"Teachers are faced with larger

classes and not enough time for one-on-one student contact, along with huge numbers of non full-time staff," Wall said.

"Students' quality of education is being jeopardized. Our position is that the salary offer should be increased. However, in my opinion, if the team gains in other areas, they will be willing to compromise on salary issues," Wall said.

Shelagh Gill, president chair for the Ontario Council of Regents, said the problem is money.

"If anyone gets a raise or more full-time staff are hired, the government doesn't alter its funding. There is an opening there for discussion.

There is a lot to be discussed and we have and will spend a number of days back and forth," Gill said.

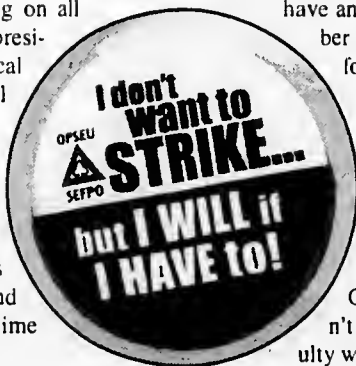
"I feel optimistic that a settlement can be reached without a strike," Gill added.

Humber President Robert Gordon said he doesn't think Humber's faculty wants to strike.

"I don't feel the faculty wants to strike. However, the vote involves college faculty from all over the province," Gordon said.

"The problem right now is the deficit. Right now I am more concerned about the budget being released, than the faculty vote. I'm optimistic. I am not absolutely certain a strike vote can be avoided, but there needs to be movement on both sides," Gordon said.

The appointed mediator for the two parties has set two new dates to begin negotiations again. The dates have not yet been disclosed.



Free sundae giveaway - Second year Interior Design student Sarah Townson adds some caramel sauce to her free sundae during Frost Week. The Humber Students' Federation had events every day during the first week of classes including a winter BBQ, a Frostbite Challenge for the chance to win Leafs' tickets and a Campus Meltdown to see which students could melt a block of ice the quickest with their hands.

Security adds a new help phone

By Sean Besner

Humber security has taken another step to insure the North Campus is safer with the addition of another emergency phone.

The new phone is located near the bus stops at the front of campus and Gary Jeynes, the director of public safety at Humber, said the phones serve as a direct line to security.

"In case a student needed an escort from the stop to the school, or if the student just felt unsafe all a student needs to do is to pick up that phone. We check out what kind of actual emergency it is on the cameras, then we spring into action," Jeynes said.

This brings the total of emergency phones on campus to 23 interior and 17 exterior. The phone's purpose is to give students immediate aid in case of assault, crime, or medical assistance.

Once dialed, the phone rings

inside the security desk connecting the caller to a live person within seconds and security can dispatch an officer to the caller within minutes.

The phones have had played a part in one legitimate emergency call in the past year and a half and that was when security responded to a fainting.

The phones receive a multitude of non-emergency calls ranging from people asking for the time of day and for directions. Jeynes also said the phones receive many nuisance calls concerning spills on the floor and the temperature in classrooms.

Fashion Arts student Sophie Warrington said it's nice to know security is only a phone call away.

"It makes me feel a little safer knowing that they are just that close if I need them," Warrington said.

Students concerned about walking around campus at night can also call security for an escort if they are uncomfortable.

HSF election nominations open

By Michelle Butler

Students have a chance to make a difference on campus by running in the upcoming Humber Students' Federation elections.

Interested candidates can pick up a package outlining the important dates, job descriptions and steps needed to complete submissions from the HSF offices, KX105 North campus and AX101 Lakeshore.

If running for an executive position, students are also asked to submit a \$25 security deposit.

The current president, Valerie Rothlin, said she ran in the elections last year because she wanted to make her mark.

"I wanted to stand out, I wanted to make an impact," Rothlin said. "The only way to truly understand the value of student government is to have first-hand experience."

Paid executive positions include the president and the vice presidents of administration and campus life at both campuses.

The president makes \$28,927.18 (gross) a year. The vice presidents make an hourly wage of \$11.71 in the summer and \$17 for the fall and winter terms.

Program representatives must also run for election. A representative communicates ideas between the HSF and their program of study. Representatives can also become members of the Board of Directors.

In order to run a successful campaign, a person really has to mean what they say, Rothlin said.

Her job entails a minimum commitment of 35 hours per week but it usually ends up being about double that.

The HSF is the official voice of more than 15,000 full-time students

making decisions that directly influence student life.

"Your experience at college is enhanced when you get involved," vice president campus life north Jen Green said. "I feel my role at the HSF has helped me prepare for the real world."

There will be three candidate forums where students can hear candidate platforms: Wednesday, March 10 at the North Campus Student Centre from 12 noon to 1 p.m., and at the Student Residence in the Residence Café Dining Hall and R Building Lobby from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. A forum will also be held on Thursday, March 11 in the large cafeteria at Lakeshore from 12 noon to 1 p.m.

HSF nominations close Friday Feb. 20. For more information about the elections, students can visit the HSF website at www.hsfweb.com

Events raise funds

By Kate Schwass

Humber students helped raise nearly \$1,000 for the victims of violence around campus.

Two fundraising events were held at the end of last semester to raise funds for the Humber Student Relief Benefit fund.

A concert featuring Canadian musician Kardinal Offishall raised \$750.

The money was raised through raffles set up by the Humber Students' Federation. Caps also donated money raised from the door and coat check.

Offishall performed for free at the concert, something that would normally have cost the school around \$7,000.

The second event was a night of comedy, also held at Caps. Comic Marc Trinidad and 16 Humber students performed at the show, which raised \$219.

The Humber Student Relief fund was set up after a home invasion near Martin Grove Road and Finch Avenue on October 31. Seven Humber students lived in the home, which was attacked by four men wielding a gun, knife and machete.

Universities court students



Learning about options – Maria Pianta (left) and Susana Martins, second-year Business Administration students, talk to University of Toronto rep Ted Salagado at the University Fair at North Campus on Wednesday.

Reps from Canadian, American and Australian universities answer students' questions

By Kate Schwass

Students looking to further their education had the chance to research their options at the recent University Fair.

Thirty-two universities had booths at the annual fair where crowds of students asked questions on Wednesday in the concourse at North Campus. Representatives came from as far away as the University of Western Sydney, Australia and the University of Buffalo.

Maria Pianta, a second-year business administration student, said she found the American universities very interesting.

"The one school offers a free night of accommodation if you go down for a tour," Pianta said, talking about the State University of New York at Oswego.

Pianta and classmate Susana Martins said they are both considering options for when they finish their program at Humber and walked away from the event with an armful of course calendars.

The event was the perfect place for Brian Smith, a student in the one year university transfer program.

"I was kind of shocked this was going on today," Smith said, but was happy he had the chance to talk to university representatives. Representatives he talked to answered all his questions from programs to residence to the types of clubs at the school.

Andrew Poulos, coordinator of counselling services, planned the fair and said every year, university representatives are impressed by Humber students.

"The representatives said Humber students are well prepared and are asking lots of questions," Poulos said.

"More students are asking questions about graduate school," Poulos added, noting it's impressive students are looking beyond an undergraduate degree.

Poulos said the turn out at this year's north campus fair was on par with previous years and it was busy from start to finish. He said he expects the Lakeshore Campus fair will be just as busy.

The University Fair is being held at Lakeshore Campus today (Thursday) from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. in the small cafeteria and is a free event.

Students can mix business, pleasure in new program

By Patricia Post

Students will have the chance to study both tourism and business with the approval of a new degree program starting at Humber in 2005.

The Board of Governors has approved a four-year Bachelor of Applied Business and Tourism Management.

It is a joint degree run by the school of Hospitality and Tourism and the School of Business. A program run by two schools is a first for the college.

The new degree program will take students on a different track than the diploma programs Humber now offers.

"The difference between the diploma and the degree programs is that the diploma is more operational. The degree has more of a financial and general management component," Dean Alister Mathieson said.

"The focus will be on general business courses that apply to a broad range of sectors - air, tour operations, hotel, restaurants, resorts," Mathieson added.

Cheryl Paradowski, president of the Ontario Tourism Education Corporation participated in the

development of the program. She said 70 per cent of tourism in Canada is run by small business.

"Good business education is essential to the success of these businesses. Many have failed. That reflects badly on the whole sector, and discourages investment," Paradowski said.

The degree program has two work terms and prepares students to directly enter junior management positions.

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EDITORIAL

Police on campus a welcome move

Since Humber students were attacked in incidents on and around campus last semester, many thought about the possibility of it happening to them.

Our sense of security was severely shaken by these crimes. While attending school, our primary focus should not be whether or not we're going to make it home safely, but our education.

By providing space for a police drop-in centre at the North Campus, Humber's administration has demonstrated it is taking our security concerns seriously. We commend them for their action.

will take time

The police, by making regular appearances on campus, are hoping to make students feel comfortable with their presence. This may take some time. Let's face it, when someone sees a police officer, he immediately thinks that something's wrong, or if someone is approached by an officer, she thinks that she's under suspicion.

But by being here regularly, police hope students will talk to them about any concerns they may have. Again, this may take some time.

It will take a while for a student to walk through the door, but if police are serious about this community policing initiative, they need to be patient. It takes time to build a community.

will eliminate crime

Students who attended campus safety forums last semester said they were more concerned with crime in the area around the school than on campus. This makes sense since last semester's high profile assaults did not occur on Humber property.

And while this effort to try to open dialogue between students and police is worthwhile, it would not have prevented either of those assaults. Nor would it have prevented the sexual assaults that took place in residence.

Common sense is still the best tool you have to protect yourself. While it won't protect you every time, taking such steps such as locking your door and not walking lonely stretches by yourself will go a long way.

This initiative should make students more secure. Resources are now on campus to further improve that security. We encourage students to use them.

Why did we flunk the AIDS quiz?

Since the late 1980's, the AIDS epidemic has been at the forefront of our consciousness. Millions of dollars have been spent to combat the disease and to make people aware of the facts behind it. This is why the results of last month's survey on the disease by the Humber Health Centre are so disturbing.

According to officials at the Centre, 67 per cent of the answers given by the 200 respondents were wrong. One of the most glaring errors showed that a majority of students thought AIDS only occurred in gay men. Students also thought using a condom provided 100 per cent protection from the disease.

This lack of knowledge cannot be taken lightly. This is a step back after 20 years of hard work on behalf of both the gay and straight community to break down stereotypes and dispel myths about the disease.

There may be a few reasons for these disturbing results.

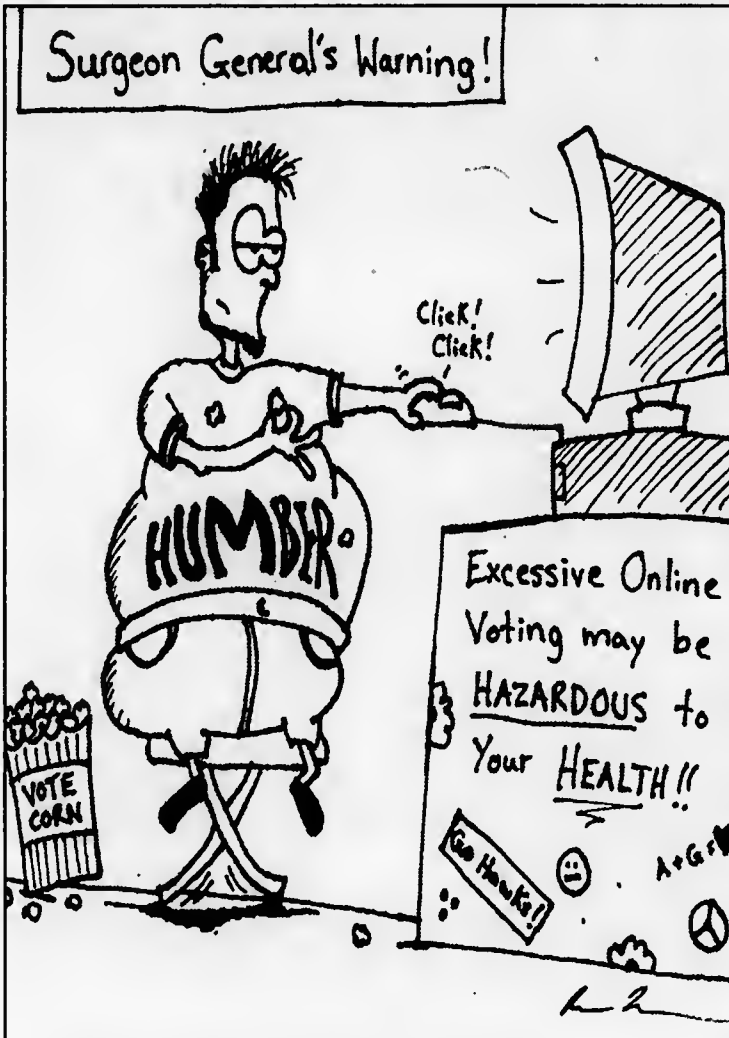
First, the people who filled out the survey may have decided not to take what they were doing seriously. Some of the respondents may have thought it was funny to give the answers they did. This ignorance may have contributed to the results but is unlikely to have been the main reason for the number of wrong answers.

A more realistic option is that as a society we have become desensitized to AIDS. After a decade of struggling for recognition is it possible that AIDS has lost its ability to scare?

The third problem could be a lack of education about the disease. Are teenagers still being told about the dangers of AIDS? If not, schools (and that means us) need to talk about it again.

This plague concerns us all. The results of the Health Centre's survey show not everyone understands that.

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



Student Voices

The week's question is: Did you vote in the last election and how do you feel about having to vote online?

Need to know: The HSF has announced voting for the upcoming student election will be done online only. This will give students the convenience of voting from home in their pajamas, beer in hand, but it also raises questions of online privacy and security.



Marie Hamilton, 3rd year architectural technology
Last Election: Didn't vote
Online Voting: It seems more easy, more accessible because when it's online you can just hop on the computer at home. They should do that for other elections.

Michael Muzzatti, 3rd year business administration
Last Election: Voted

Online Voting: I think it is a fantastic idea. Students are on the computer all the time. I think you will see the voting go through the roof. Whoever thought of it, I hope it works for them.



Dave Hinds, 2nd year travel and tourism
Last Election: Voted
Online Voting: It's faster. It's easier. Less time consuming. It'd be better, instead of waiting in the long line. Yeah, I guess it's good if you really advertise it.

Susan Gabriella, 2nd year early childhood education
Last Election: Voted

Online voting: I think it's a good idea because I think you'd probably get more people to vote, and hopefully they'll know what the candidates stand for if it's online and there for them to read.



Jen Hughes, 2nd year film and tv
Last Election: Didn't vote
Online Voting: I think it would be easier. If I did see something on the wall, somewhere to just go to 'somewhere dot com.' I would do it or at least check it out.

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OPINION

Chrétien's legacy: How he changed our lives

Growing up under one party



Dave Boyington

I was riding the subway, scanning a copy of Metro. I began reading a typical story (so typical I don't recall what it was about). I finished the lead, started the second paragraph, but stopped abruptly after reading the first four words: "Prime Minister Paul Martin."

Although I had followed the

Chrétien/Martin feud/retirement/takeover, since rumours of Chrétien's demise surfaced during the 2000 election, to his handover of power last month, it took finally seeing Martin's name as our country's leader to make me realize the impact Chrétien has had on my peers and me.

When Chrétien took power in 1993, I was 10 years old. I don't remember much about the election only that the lady who liked helicopters didn't matter anymore but the funny looking guy who spoke even funnier now did.

By the time he left office last month, I was grown up - 21 years old and just four months away from graduating college - and paying back some of the money the Chrétien government has loaned me. Now, I knew that Chretein's retirement wasn't just another leadership change, but signalled an overall policy shift to the right led by Martin.

Everything I, and everyone else my age, have experienced of Canadian politics was shaped by Chrétien. Only three other prime ministers served more time consecutively than his 10 years and no one

since Pierre Trudeau during his reign in the 70s.

It's impossible to say exactly what impact growing up under Chrétien had on me, or how I would be different if someone else had been in power. But, until recently, when I heard "Prime Minister," I didn't think "leader" or "ambassador of Canada," I thought "Jean Chrétien." Even as I'm writing this, it still difficult not to follow up typing "Prime Minister" with "Chrétien," because that's what I've done almost every other time I've ever written it.

Before that morning on the sub-

way, every time I had caught a piece of news, wherever comment from our nation's leader was included, it was from Chrétien. During the time of my life when I was forming my first opinions about the world, Chrétien told me where Canada stood.

During his last years, Chrétien was accused of searching for his legacy in every issue from marijuana to the war in Iraq, to gay marriage, to Kyoto. Walking through these halls I find 20 to 30 year olds, I see Chrétien's true legacy; the generation who grew up under his power alone.

Trying to get the elephant off their backs



Nicole Larkin

Following the Summit of the Americas in Mexico earlier this month the Western hemisphere has moved one step closer towards ratifying the Free Trade of the Americas Agreement (FTAA).

The FTAA is essentially the

North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) on steroids. Theoretically, the FTAA would expand the NAFTA zone to encompass the entire hemisphere, from the northern most point of Canada to the very tip of Argentina.

Proponents of the FTAA claim it will level out the playing field for Latin American countries, raising standards of living, free-market trade and the GDP's of all member nations. It all looks good on the surface, but what lies beneath the bureaucracy and jingoistic political rhetoric is a mess of backroom deals, loopholes, and safety nets.

To start, a large majority of the 32

Latin American countries involved in the FTAA negotiations had nation-specific concerns with the early versions of the agreement, which led to a series of drafts being prepared for the next summit that contain various degrees of loopholes, depending on whose draft you read.

Nations are now scrambling to negotiate sovereign trade agreements with the United States, even though no one country is supposed to 'govern' the FTAA.

Brazil has been at the forefront of the "opting out" movement, spurned by a national concern over the FTAA's guidelines on intellectual property, including drug patents.

Brazil has a long-standing policy of distributing HIV and AIDS medications free of charge to its citizens, a practice that is threatened by the FTAA and the money-lust of the American pharmaceutical companies.

In fact, most Andean countries stand to take a hit if the FTAA is ratified in its current state. The Andean countries (Colombia, Ecuador, Bolivia, and Peru) already enjoy zero export tariff rates with the United States under the Andean Trade Preference Act (ATPA). Additionally, Central and South America already have several free trade zones in place. The FTAA would merely assist in opening up American markets to countries that already have access.

Essentially, the FTAA would dilute the positive trade benefits of the ATPA by allowing all Latin countries equal access to the American markets, which would eventually cause Andean exports to fall.

Venezuela stands to lose \$1.7 billion annually in trade tariffs alone, while other Andean countries can expect losses in the range of \$400 million to \$1.5 billion.

Venezuela is one of the fiercest opponents of the FTAA in the way it is being currently proposed. Its president, Hugo Chavez, was quoted by the Venezuela news as saying "signing onto the FTAA is like signing the death certificate of our courtiers."

Chavez has proposed his own draft of the FTAA, one that focuses more on social issues such as welfare and health care. He has also sought to enter the Common Market of the South (Mercosur) - South America's version of NAFTA - in order to conform a stronger FTAA negotiation block along with Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay, and Paraguay.

Brazil has clout within Mercosur, enough clout to garner enough support to overturn a U.S. motion to inaugurate the proposed FTAA ahead of schedule in 2003, instead of in

2005 as initially planned.

If the FTAA is passed this month, it is clear who stands to benefit. While Uncle Sam's pockets will be lined with trade surpluses, Latin America will continue to be exploited by the elephant upstairs.

We need to test potential pet owners



Erin Bell

I adopted a rabbit from the Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (OSPCA) shelter in Scarborough because her previous "owner" had abandoned her in a parking lot. The shelter, which has been around for over a hundred years, is run by volunteers, receives no funding from the government, and exists entirely on charitable donations.

Despite the lack of funding, they wouldn't just take my \$25 and let me leave with the bunny. I was subjected to a grilling by one of the shelter volunteers and had to fill out a multi-paged questionnaire.

How often do you go on vaca-

tion? Who could look after the rabbit for you if you went away? How much do you anticipate spending on the rabbit per year? How will you house the rabbit? How much time do you have to spend with the rabbit? What pets have you had in the last five years, how long did they live, and what did they die of?

It's a strict and wonderful system (and I'm proud to say I passed). I only wish these were the kinds of questions pet store salesman asked of potential pet owners, or potential pet owners asked of themselves.

As I was chatting with the volunteer, one of the OSPCA officers came in holding a small white poodle. The thing was shaking and dirty. Seems it had been spending most of its time shut in a closet because the "owners" had just got tired of having it around.

"It's the worst case of neglect I've seen in my 10 years on this job," the officer said.

This is a plea to all of you out there who think it would be cute to let your un-spayed female cat have litter after litter of kittens - ("we'll

just give them away later...I'm sure someone will take them"). Also to those who would make an impulse purchase from the pet store without doing any research first, or who are thinking about buying someone a pet as a surprise birthday gift.

Don't. Please.

Statistics from 2001 collected by the OSPCA on animal cruelty and neglect.

1. More than 15,000 complaints of animal cruelty.
2. More than 3000 animals removed from homes by officers or abandoned by owners.
3. More than 1500 animals given up to the shelter.
4. The maximum jail time for animal cruelty is two years.



IN FOCUS

Looking under the covers

Night terrors: the sleep disorder experts are losing sleep over

By Brookes Merritt

In September 2002, Mississauga resident Jennifer Bailey woke to sounds of retches and screams coming from her nephew's room, 20-year-old Humber student Alex Anderson. What she saw upon entering his room terrified and confused her. She quickly roused his mother, Olive.

"He was screaming very loudly," Olive said in an interview weeks following the event. "His eyes were open but not focused. He didn't even know I was his mother. He wasn't even really awake. . . that was not my son."

As Olive ran to a neighbour in the adjoining townhouse for help, her son, still in his night terror state, followed. He leaped down a flight of stairs and slammed his fist through the neighbour's glass pane door, severing an artery in his arm. He then returned home and upstairs to his room where he fell back asleep in his bed. Within minutes, he bled to death.

Alex's family is convinced his death was the result of a night terror.

In the mildest of cases night terrors rob their victims of proper rest; sufferers commonly rise from their beds and act out the dream state. In the most severe cases people become fearfully violent and irrational, and can pose a threat to themselves and others.

According to Dr. Colin Shapiro, a sleep clinic director at Toronto Western Hospital, night terrors are unique.

"Terrors are experienced far more acutely than nightmare distress," he said.

While out of bed, individuals can

undertake complex activities while still in a sleep state, "like driving a car, or running from an imagined assailant" he said. That's when the disorder can have tragic consequences, like the case of Alex Anderson.

Laree Fordyce, a clinical associate at the Canadian Sleep Institute, agrees.

"The biggest concern remains the question of safety," Fordyce said.

Night terrors are a sleep disorder characterized by arousal disturbances during deep sleep, just prior to the REM cycle. According to the Canadian Sleep Institute in Calgary, they are most common in young children. Among adults, the occurrence is less than one per cent.

Night terrors are not the only sleep disorder linked to such unusual behaviour. REM Behaviour Disorder (RBD), also threatens an individual's safety while he is asleep. Similar attacks can be caused by both disorders. Trying to distinguish an RBD

episode from a night terror can be difficult.

The biggest distinction between

In the most severe cases, people become fearfully violent.

the two is the stage of sleep during which they occur.

"RBD occurs during REM sleep, when our bodies are normally paralyzed," said Lynn Babin, a registered sleep technician in London.

"It's kind of like a failsafe" she said, "By shutting down our musculature, our brain prevents us from physically acting out vivid dreams, and keeps us from running around and hurting ourselves. However, in RBD, the same muscles work in the opposite manner, and are highly responsive. Individuals are subse-



Pat Kane

Sleep experts say the lack of information about night terrors and REM Behaviour Disorder can leave sufferers and their families feeling helpless and frustrated.

quently able to 'act out' their dreams."

Babin calls these dreams "purple monsters." Because they are more imaginative than dreams during other stages of sleep, people acting out such dreams run a high risk of harming themselves.

On the whole, tragedies are relatively few and far between, Shapiro said.

"I have seen a few rare cases of each" he recalls, "one of RBD in which a man awoke while strangling his wife, and another in which a person in the later stages of non-REM sleep wielded a kitchen knife."

The suspected causes behind night terrors and RBD also differ. "RBD more commonly has an organic basis, similar to those seen in patients with Parkinsons or alcoholism" Shapiro said. "Night terrors are most commonly associated with

stress and anxiety."

Although no cure is known for these disorders, they are treatable using behaviour modification techniques and medicinal therapy. Often a combination of the two works the most successfully, doctors say.

"Behavioural treatments often involve lifestyle changes" Shapiro said. "Things like making sure sleeping areas are safe. If someone knows their attacks characteristically involve them screaming and running around, they'd be advised not to take a room with a balcony on the 10th floor of a hotel while on holiday."

Perhaps the most frustrating obstacle faced by people who suffer from night terrors and RBD is the lack of public awareness and funding. This past year has seen the disintegration of various sleep/wake

support groups across Canada, due to loss of government grants and lagging membership.

"The funding difficulty becomes trying to prioritize one need over another" Shapiro said. "Many people think of sleep disorders as a bit of a joke actually. A secretary who comes into work complaining of a migraine for example, she's allowed to go lie down. Now imagine the same secretary complaining that she hadn't slept very well and wasn't feeling rested enough to work properly, she's told to shrug it off and pull herself together."

People often fail to be diagnosed at all, Shapiro said. "They don't present their symptoms to a doctor because they don't think being tired or sleepy could be caused by a medical condition."

With files from Camille Roy.

Worried about someone you know? Here's help.

People who suspect they may suffer from a sleep disorder are encouraged to participate in a sleep study - something usually covered by health care. The Sleep and Alertness clinic at Toronto Western Hospital is one of the many sleep clinics in the GTA where individuals can go to learn more about sleep disorders, and how to manage them.

The Sleep and Alertness Clinic
416-603-5273
E-mail: suzanne.alves@uhn.on.ca

The ABC's of getting some zzz's

Wacky ways you can wake up refreshed

By Laura J. Kloet

From the taunting red numbers on the alarm clock to the sheep jumping over your head, getting a good night's sleep isn't as easy as it seems.

For some, it means resorting to unusual home remedies, like toe wiggling.

According to Yolanda Bookman, a yoga instructor, wiggling your toes stimulates and relaxes your entire body.

"If energy flows freely and smoothly, you will be relaxed," she said. "If the energy flow in your body is restricted or blocked, you will be tense. And toe wiggling helps to bring about a relaxing, free-flowing energy."

Nurse practitioner Christine Gignac of Burlington recommends a natural sleep regimen. This involves a regular sleep schedule, daily exercise and the avoidance of caffeine, nicotine and recreational drugs after 7 p.m.

"There are many things you can do to deal with insomnia and sleep deprivation," Gignac said. "You have to do some detective work and experiment with a few different things. You'll need to examine your diet,

exercise patterns, sleeping environment, personal habits, lifestyle and current concerns."

A common approach to ease the frustration of sleeplessness is to take a warm bath.

First-year arts and science student, Alexandra Herron, agrees.

"I often get frustrated when I can't sleep," she said. "Taking a bath or a hot shower is relaxing and relieves a lot of tension."

But don't stay in too long. The hot water and steam can cause over exhaustion and the last thing you want is to pass out in the tub.

According to the Canadian Sleep Society, soft soothing music is another option for insomniacs. Dig through that CD collection and pull out that hidden Zen meditation disc. Sounds of rhythmic waves and beating hearts are also effective.

Astrologists suggest sleeping with your head facing north. And, obviously, unless you have a particularly unusual body, feet facing south. This aligns the body with the magnetic field of the planet, bringing one's energies into harmony with those of the Earth. Sound like a pretty bizarre theory? Try it.

For those looking for something a



Remember what mom said: Experts agree that drinking a glass of warm milk 15 minutes before going to bed can help you to fall asleep quickly.

little more comforting, try a glass of milk 15 minutes before bed. The Canadian Sleep Society claims it can actually soothe the nervous system.

According to first-year engineering student, Geoff Venin, it's also a sleep remedy often

recommended by mom.

"She always gave me warm milk

when I couldn't sleep, I haven't tried it lately, but maybe I should."

Trouble waking up?

It's not me, it's my 'phase shift'

By Andrea Jo Wilson

Tardy?

Blame it on your phase shift.

According to psychologist Kimberly Cote of Brock University it's not uncommon for students between the ages of 17 and 25 to have trouble getting up in the morning. That's because between your late teens and early twenties your sleep patterns are likely to change.

"At 20, the body's preferred sleep time is from 2 a.m. to 10 a.m. That means a lot of students aren't able to get the sleep they need because their bodies aren't programmed to go to sleep naturally before one or two in the morning."

This biological shift, called a



Shaun Ramrattan, a first-year packaging and graphic design student, often has trouble staying awake in class.

phase shift by psychologists, is caused by changes to our circadian rhythms, the things that tell our brain when to sleep. We experience several phase shifts through out our lives, most noticeably around 20 and around 60, when most people begin

going to bed earlier.

So while we can train our bodies to adapt somewhat, psychologists like Cote agree that "asking students to perform before 10 a.m. is unnatural. It's just not an ideal time for learning."

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LIFE



Christina Villani, 23, struts her stuff.



A weekly shot of Humber style.

You may have seen Christina Villani, a Fashion Arts student, walking down the halls of Humber College. She tends to wear pink. Lots of it.

What is style? "Fashion is passion. That's the first thing they teach us in our program. But I think style is your own individual look."

What isn't style? "Someone wearing something not because it's their style, but because it's in style."

Name three essentials in your wardrobe. "My pink purse, lip gloss and a great pair of shoes."

What do your clothes say about you? "Outgoing. Fun. Creative. I don't like to brag but...."

Nicest thing someone ever said about your outfit? "Can I stop and take a picture of you?"

And the worst thing? "Oh, I hate pink. How can you wear pink?"

Think you've got the look? Drop by the Newsroom (rm L231) and show us what you've got. You can also contact us at (416) 675-3111 ext 4513.

Compiled by Jelani Lowe

Flu season hits campus:

Do yourself (and us) a favour and stay home

By Brett Walther

When Matt McClanaghan came down with the flu, he was faced with a dilemma.

Suffering from a fever, a raging headache, fatigue and a sore throat, the 24-year-old industrial design student had deadlines to meet, but was concerned about spreading the bug to his classmates and coworkers.

"You've got to weigh your options," he said. "You can either stay at home and wait to get better, or you can slug it out feeling crappy."

Doctors say that despite their recommendations, commitments to school and work are preventing cold and flu sufferers like McClanaghan from recuperating at home.

Infectious disease specialist Coleman Rotstein said that students with the flu should regard sick days as a means of containing a disease and preventing its spread.

"It's similar to SARS in a way," the president of the Canadian Infectious Disease Society, said. "It is infection control through quarantine."

An estimated three to 7.5 million Canadians are infected with the influenza virus every year.

Influenza's (flu) highly contagious nature is due to droplets which can be spread through a cough or sneeze, capable of infecting another person up to a metre away.

Students are at a high risk for contracting the flu, Rotstein said. The classroom setting confines a large group of people in a small space.

Compounding the risk, students may be unaware of exactly when it is important to stay home to prevent spreading the disease to others.

"The flu is most contagious within its first five days," he said. Warning signs during this period include the onset of a fever, chills and exhaustion, in addition to common cold symptoms.

"For these five days at least, you should stay away," Rotstein said.

Rotstein said that in spite of the risk of infecting classmates, the work ethic of most Canadians doesn't allow for sick days.

"The psyche is such that people don't like taking time off," he said.

The manager of Humber's Career Centre, Karen Fast, said the same sense of battling on in spite of illness is common in the workforce.

"A lot of it is pushed by a very good number of employers," she



Second-year Culinary Arts student Cherie Creighton hides under the covers when she feels under the weather.

said. "There are lots of companies that have policies that if you're sick for more than one day, you have to get a doctor's note. Well, it doesn't take one day to get over a sickness and where can you find a doctor who'll take you in a day's notice?"

sions for a set number of sick days per year, Fast said students often find themselves in sectors of the workforce that are less accommodating.

"It's difficult, because a student who's first employed with a company doesn't want to take any time off, because it looks bad on them,"

Fast said. "You're probably not entitled to take any time off for at least the first three months, so you don't dare get sick."

Nevertheless, Fast emphasized that it remains the employee's responsibility to notify supervisors about an illness, if only to get clarification on the company policy regarding sick leave.

"It's all about a sense of professional and personal responsibility," Rotstein said. "People are gradually becoming more understanding of the importance of practicing this responsibility to their community, whether it's their university, college or workplace."

"You can either stay at home and wait to get better, or you can slug it out feeling crappy."

"There's the expectations of employers versus the reality of the health care system," Fast said.

Sick leave policies also vary significantly between types of employers. While unionized labourers tend to have contracts that make provi-

The Best Remedy

Bed rest will always be the best medicine for the flu but Health Canada has a number of suggestions to help ease the suffering, as well as tips to prevent the spread of the bug at work and school.

- * Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze to protect others from your germs
- * Wash your hands frequently
- * Drink plenty of liquids
- * Avoid using alcohol and tobacco
- * Consider over-the-counter medications such as decongestants to relieve flu symptoms
- * Get regular exercise, plenty of sleep and eat healthy

The Ontario Ministry of Health has set up a toll-free flu information line to respond to public enquiries at 1-866-FLU-N-YOU (1-866-358-6968).

Big boobs on the small screen

New wave of reality shows spawns quick-fix culture

By Sarah McCaffrey

A little liposuction, some breast implants, a nose job, laser skin resurfacing and you have a recipe for an entirely new person, or so reality TV would have you believe.

Each week millions of viewers tune in to watch ABC's *Extreme Makeover* as everyday people go under the knife in the offices of some of the most expensive plastic surgeons in the United States.

"It's amazing," Marc Koscieljew said, a student at the University of Western

Ontario and a self proclaimed reality TV junkie.

"The things they do for these unattractive people are incredible, you don't even recognize them by the end of the show," Koscieljew said.

Extreme Makeover is only one of a number of reality shows that focus on improving physical appearance.

Queer Eye for the Straight Guy, *What Not to Wear* and Canada's own *Skin Deep*, filmed here in Toronto and which airs on the Life Network, are a few examples.

But some experts wonder whether these shows are simply entertainment, or if they are symptoms of an appearance obsessed culture gone awry.

"This is not harmless entertainment," Michelle Dionne, a psychology professor at Ryerson University said. "These shows are part of a larger societal problem."

"We live in a society that over emphasizes the importance of attractiveness, particularly for women,"

Dionne said. "These shows are one of the many things out there that make us feel worse about ourselves."

Humber business administration student Carol Kirk agrees.

"I think that certain people, especially if they already have low self esteem, would feel worse by watching these shows," she said.

Susan Tonna is the producer of *Skin Deep*. She said that watching her show or others like it is not harmful, nor is it going to make viewers run out and throw themselves in front of the first plastic surgeon they can find.

"When you actually see what these doctors do to people it does make you stop and think about the

"These shows are part of a larger societal problem."



The hit TV show *Skin Deep* allows viewers into the o. r. to witness a breast augmentation.

actual procedure," she said, "not just about the outcome."

"I can say the first time I watched the show I thought that is a procedure I would never, ever, ever, let anybody conduct on me," Tonna said.

No Canadian cosmetic surgery statistics are available, but in the United States nearly seven million cosmetic procedures were performed in 2002, up more than 22 per cent

from 1997, according to PlasticSurgeryResearch.com.

But do programs that feature cosmetic surgery really have a negative affect on the self esteem of their viewers?

"I never feel bad about myself after watching the show," Koscieljew said. "And besides, most of the people they pick are really below average in terms of their looks, much

more so than the average person."

But Dionne said that not all viewers feel so secure about themselves.

"Particularly for people who are already overly concerned about the looks, these shows can cause huge self doubt," she said.

As Kirk puts it, "They would make people feel that being pretty and looking good is normal, that it's what you have to be to fit in."

Rez assistants to double in number next fall



New residences at both the North and Lakeshore campuses have created more demand for resident assistants.

End of month deadline looms for applications

By Kate Schwass

Being a Resident Assistant isn't easy.

Busting residents for smoking in their rooms, dealing with noise complaints, reminding students to pick up after themselves in lounges and hallways, - it's all in a day's work for the "cop" on the floor.

Think of them as the first line of defense in residence.

Humber College will have to hope that applicants can look past these drawbacks.

Between the current North Campus residences and a soon-to-be completed building at Lakeshore, the demand for resident assistants has doubled to 40.

"You should plan on people hating you," RA and Industrial Design student Paul Farrugia said. It's not uncommon for residents to show up in the fall already disliking the person who will remind them of the residence's rules for the next eight months.

But Aaron Masonville, a radio broadcasting student, said it's important to remain impartial and remember no two noise complaints are ever alike.

"The most challenging thing about being an RA is that no two sit-

uations are the same," Masonville said. "You have to take every situation like it's the first time you've dealt with it and react accordingly."

But it's not all just noise complaints and nagging residents for those who choose the life of an RA.

For radio broadcasting student Justin Oliphant, it's all about the location of the job.

"If you're lazy, like me, then

"You should plan on people hating you."

being able to work from the comfort of your own room is great. Not to mention the fact classes are only a hop, skip and a jump across the parking lot," Oliphant said.

Whether designing an information board, planning a toga party or raising awareness of quiet hours in a unique way, the RA position allows employees to use their imagination.

Radio broadcasting student Andrea Redmond said this is the perfect job for letting creativity flow.

"If you like working with people and you like planning events then go for it because you will love it," Redmond said to students who are considering applying to be an RA for next fall.

"The best part of being an RA is getting to meet different people from all walks of life and just knowing that the work you're doing will be something residents will remember and appreciate for years to come," Masonville said.

And for many RAs, a major perk is working as part of a team.

"You meet a great group of people that become really close friends," Farrugia said of his fellow RAs. The RA team becomes like a support network where RAs can go to find support and encouragement, even when things get really tough.

So if you think you are up for a little bit of a challenge, and really want to make a difference in the lives of students, most of whom are leaving home for the first time to live in residence, here is your chance.

Completed applications should be dropped off at the front desk of the North Campus residence and addressed to Colleen Parton by Jan. 30.

ARTS

Drummer doesn't skip a beat

By Adam Ledlow

Daily life has become a continuous balancing act for Humber student and Jerry Can drummer, Toby Cavan.

Only three weeks into the school term, Cavan's plate seems impossibly full.

On top of completing school assignments, working weekends, and playing upwards of 80 shows annually, he's mastering vocal harmonies for an upcoming track.

Since the band formed in 1996, they have achieved great success in the independent music scene.

Their first release *Yo! Angela* sold over 1,800 copies in southern Ontario alone.

Prog.Ress, the band's most recent album was nominated by Canadian Music Week as the Canadian Metal Record for 2003.

shifting priorities

However, this is nothing compared to the obstacles the band faced last year, when Cavan's brother and fellow band member had a baby.

"We've had to change our priorities completely," Cavan said, who shares a house with the baby, its mother and the band.

"Our rehearsal space is not at our house anymore. We've had to leave shows a lot earlier to go take care of the baby."

On occasion, school responsibilities have also trumped a performance.

"I've been screwed a couple of times by school where I've had to cancel a potentially really good show because of workshops," Cavan said. "But that's a sacrifice I'm willing to make because [school's] important."

But when it comes down to it, music still remains Cavan's number one passion.

"I would drop everything if I knew I could support myself solely making music," he said.

commitment

Seeing the band in action at a recent show in Belleville, complete with sweat, thrashing and screaming, all the effort from hours of practice and a wholehearted dedication to their craft was clearly evident.

Cavan describes their sound as a mixture of influences, ranging from the obscure music of the Swedish hardcore band Refused to the lighter harmonic sounds of the Canadian band Blue Rodeo.

"Ninety per cent of the people that we talk to who are our biggest fans say they didn't 'get' us until they saw us live," Cavan said.

"We want people to come out and see us live and say, 'Holy shit, that's 10 times better than any CD could ever be.'"

Jerry Can will be playing a benefit tomorrow night at Reilly's bar on Yonge Street. Tickets are \$5 with all proceeds going to the Humber Film Arts program.



Jerry Can drummer and Humber student, Toby Cavan (centre) balances school, work and family life with his band schedule.

Fans shmooze with the folks

Stars of *Queer as Folk* thrill fans in Toronto

By Amy Ward

It's been said that there's no time like the first time. And what a time it was.

The first annual Queer As Fans convention, celebrating showtime's *Queer As Folk*, went off with a bang last weekend with celebrity guests, filming locations tours and plenty of dancing.

Shaun Yusefra, a Chicago fan who had travelled to Toronto couldn't believe there was a *Queer As Folk* convention.

"I love talking to everyone," he said. "I'm in my niche here, surrounded by people who are interested in the same thing."

Actors Hal Sparks, Dean Armstrong, Harris Allen and Robert Gant each spent an hour answering questions about the show and their characters.

Sparks, who plays principal character Michael Novotny on the show, spoke in depth about his grueling scenes.

"The hardest scene to do was the birthday party where Michael gets outed in front of Tracy. We shot for two days in Brian's loft. It was the longest we've ever shot in one particular location," he said.

Sparks shared a more personal side with his fans when he told of the lingering effects of shooting emotional scenes.

"Afterwards you just go to your trailer and cry for a half an hour before you go home. You bring up a lot of chemicals in your body. There's just no way to stop them," he said.

The show's music supervisors Scot McFadyen and Michael A. Perlmutter, along with executive story editor Shawn Postoff, were on hand to discuss the finer details such as choosing the perfect song for a setting.

"We go through the top 20 to 25 list that we think would be perfect, that people might remember the scenes associated with the music," McFadyen said. "Like you have with a soundtrack like *Saturday Night Fever* or *Pulp Fiction*."

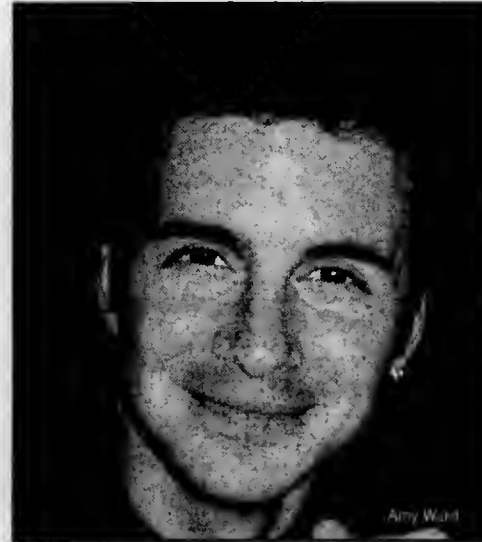
Fans learned that an average of 10 to 15 per cent of the show's budget is spent on rights to play a song in an episode.

"Madonna said yes within three days. She's a

big fan of the show and it wasn't that expensive. [David] Bowie was really excited about it and wanted to get involved, but Jennifer Lopez said no," Perlmutter said.

The convention took place at the Toronto Sheraton Parkway North with fans from all over Canada and the U.S. in attendance. Activities included a one-on-one photo shoot with celebrity guests, a club night at Woody's on Church Street, a Dress-Like-Debbie contest and a charity auction for Casey House, that raised approximately \$5,000 for people living with HIV/AIDS.

For information on next year's show, go to www.conventionadventures.com



Dean Armstrong (left) and Hal Sparks (right) charm audiences on and off the set.

Killer Puppets want you dead

By Jasmin Sandhu

Bill lurks around the corner, freakishly silent, waiting to pounce into the spotlight. His large coal black eyes stare blankly at the busy crew around him.

The camera is finally set and Bill takes his place on stage. His sneaky smile moves with the gesture of puppeteer Gordon Robertson's hand.

Beginning Jan. 30, "Puppets who Kill," a critically acclaimed live-action series, is back on the Comedy network. In its anticipated second season, the disturbingly evil puppets will continue to confront their problems with the help of their human social worker, played by Dan Redican.

In its first season, the show dealt with controversial subject matter like necrophilia, prostitution, castration, religion and sexual addiction.

According to Unit Publicist Stephanie Keating, the public has responded enthusiastically to these anti-Muppets. So have guest stars. Canadian actors Alberta Watson, Joe Flaherty, and Mark McKinney are among the stellar group who've asked to be part of the production.

The show's success isn't a result of its budget, but its unique flavour, the show's director Shawn Alex Thompson said.

"A lot of Canadian shows in the past 10 years really retread territory that has been carried out by American shows and, unfortunately,

they can do it better because they have \$3 or 4 million dollars," Thompson said. "Our effect is quite simple. We are doing it to entertain and we're trying to entertain in a way that is new."

Redican agrees.

"I think the show's completely unique and I think that there's a feeling of truth. When you see puppets like this, you think 'yeah they are creepy.' It wouldn't have worked with people. Puppets are oddly cold and expressionless. So they can be incredibly cute or evil."

But will American audiences appreciate the twisted humour?

Bruce Hunter, the puppeteer who animates Rocko, thinks they should.

"I'd love to see it go to the States. I think that there's a lot of difference in the sensibilities that Canadians have. Canadians don't take themselves as seriously as Americans do. Jokes that relate to subject matter such as terrorism, I think that we could take it and make it work in the Canadian market, but I don't know if the Americans would be too happy," Hunter said.

With depravity covered where can they go now?

According to Redican, they will continue to push comic parameters. "We always take comic movement and go all the way with it," he said.

But audiences still need to relate to the characters on some level, Redican said. "I think that because the characters are insecure, they want to make a good impression and that makes them vulnerable." Vulnerable, maybe. Creepy, definitely.

"They can be incredibly cute or evil."



Prepared for the media firing squad, the Hidden Cameras perform in Toronto this weekend.

Hidden Cameras are so gay

By Pierre Hamilton

With audiences accepting homosexuality on the small screen, the band poised to set Canadian music charts ablaze with the gay "heat wave" fever is the Hidden Cameras.

In 2002, Joel Gibb founded the Toronto-based group, which can include up to 15 members at a time. Known for their elaborate stage theatrics, the live show has a party atmosphere with male go-go dancers parading around in their underwear.

"If *Will and Grace* and *Queer Eye for the Straight Guy* can be huge mainstream successes, then someone who's doing something cheeky can too," managing editor of *Chart Magazine*, Aaron Brophy, said. "They just happen to be gay."

The *Smell of Our Own*, the group's first official release, celebrates homosexuality with songs

about Gibb's personal experiences as a gay man.

"The Hidden Cameras are very overt in what they do," Brophy said. "There is no gimmick; you can't gloss over a song where a guy is peeing on another guy."

Although the album has sold close to 10,000 copies in Britain alone, Brophy admits that not everyone may be ready for queer rock. But he is confident that there is a market for the group. "A segment of the population will appreciate a band like the Hidden Cameras, a band who is more than a hardcore punk band."

According to Brophy, if the group successfully reaches a large audience, record labels will scramble to cash in. Which may in turn spark a wave of bands with a similar look, sound and sexual preference.

"Everyone will be looking for the 'token' gay band to exploit a trend

rather than to inspire the masses," Brophy said.

During concerts, the lyrics of their songs are projected on a wall in order to encourage group participation and create the community spirit that is a large part of the group's appeal.

ExclaimMagazine's editor-in-chief, James Keast said he does not think that people even notice the potentially shocking lyrics, although it helps that the audience is usually queer-positive.

The atmosphere and participation of their live performances helped to tear down the wall between artist and fan, making it so that "anything other than openness isn't acceptable."

Long-time fans and those curious about the group can see them perform with the Toronto Dance Theatre at the Winchester Street Theatre from Jan. 21 to Jan. 25.

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In review

HEAR IT



**The Locust -
Plague Soundscapes**

Musically, The Locust infests your ears like millions of insects, until all that's left is a brainless zombie. Or a devoted fan.

With the release of their latest CD, *Plague Soundscapes*, listeners are shot with 23 songs in 21 minutes. With titles like "Priest with the sexually transmitted disease get out of my bed" the band continues to carve out a distinct niche for their music.

It is "pretty insane music," Keith Maurik of Epitaph Records, said.

Maurik defined the band's music as a takeoff of hardcore punk mixed with Japanese noise band.

The songs in this album have lots of tempo changes and are "erratic and kind of crazy," vocalist and guitar player, Bobby Bray said.

The lyrics themselves are "like an attack on the English language," Bray said.

Bray described the band's on stage look as a "musical terrorist, hug, alien, creature" thing, adding to the visual element of music.

The Locust is on tour with the band Dillinger Escape Plan. They will play on Jan. 23 at the Opera House in Toronto.

-Marcela Colangelo

than yours," brags Kelis during the chorus of the lead-off single from her latest release, *Tasty*. It's no mere idle boast; the sexy singer backs up her words with a solid album of dance ready tracks, some of the best we've seen in quite some time. As always, Kelis' sultry vocals go hand in hand with the bass-heavy beats of long-time collaborators, The Neptunes. Moreover, she shows her versatility this time around, when she works equal magic with other producers. On "Millionaire," Outkast's Andre 3000 supplies some futuristic funk while Raphael Saadiq delivers two soulful grooves in "Glow" and "Attention". Tasty indeed.

-JL



FLICK IT



The Cooler - Dir. Wayne Kramer

The Cooler is a film about changing fortunes set in the city of lights. Sound familiar? Unfortunately, the

producers of this most recent Las Vegas drama forgot to include the key prop of every exhausted theme. They left out the all-star cast.

While Alec Baldwin may stir a small pitter in a few hearts, his role as Shelly Kaplan, a has-been casino dealer is no match for the endearing stamina of characters like Danny Ocean (George Clooney) and Dusty Ryan (Brad Pitt) in *Ocean's Eleven*. And the empathy one feels for the unfortunate Bernie Lootz (William H. Macy), doesn't compare to the distress one suffers for Ace Rothstein (Robert De Niro), in *Casino*. But the real failure of the casting, was not so much that it included the generically bland blonde, but the fact that the girl is practically a nobody off the screen as well. Maria Bello? Not quite the savvy Sharon Stone or Julia Roberts who made casinos sparkle in days past.

If the casting isn't dull enough, the shallow plot ensures the film a place in a well-dug grave once its run is over. The story revolves around "the cooler," an unfortunate man whose contagious black cloud transforms into a good luck charm once cocktail waitress, Natalie Balisario (played by Bello), enters his life.

The only time *The Cooler* does heat up is during a vicious throttling and a repulsively believable sex scene between an equally unbelievable couple.

-HS



Girl with a Pearl Earring - Dir. Peter Webber

Peter Webber's debut film evokes the light, colour and mood of a Dutch painting.

Set in 17th century Delft, *Girl with a Pearl Earring* tells the story of Griet, a young peasant girl who is forced to work as a maid in the home of Johannes Vermeer.

An intimate connection develops between Griet and Vermeer, culminating in her becoming the subject of one of his most celebrated paintings.

Despite hardly touching, their shared scenes are intense and deeply erotic.

Scarlett Johansson is breathtaking as Griet, commanding every scene with her startling beauty and effortless sensuality. Colin Firth makes a departure from his typical manicured, dashing roles portraying the complex, obsessive painter with sensitivity and passion.

The film does an excellent job of transporting the characters, setting and plot of Tracy Chevalier's acclaimed novel to the big screen.

-AT

BOOK IT

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time - Mark Haddon

Mark Haddon lends readers the eyes, ears and mind of an autistic 15-year old boy in *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time*. Christopher John Frances Boone discovers his neighbour's poodle stabbed with a garden fork one evening and is determined to solve the murder mystery. Haddon weaves the tale of the young mathematical genius who is unable to process emotions with grace and quirkiness. It's a quick, moving read. Perfect for a freezing February weekend.

-VM



To Do List

A week's worth of excitement to help you squander your time

By Sam Toman

Thursday, January 22

Written on Water

Check out this acclaimed play that tells the story of local villagers confronted by a dilemma when a flood washes away their written history. The show starts at 8 p.m. and tickets are \$36-77 at the St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts, 27 Front St. E. Toronto, ON.

Friday, January 23

The Locust

Do you like noise? Do you like irreverence? Well San Diego noise rockers The Locust don't care if you do. Quit being so selfish. They're gonna rock Toronto's Opera House whether you show up or not. \$15 at the door, all ages, show starts at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, January 24

Blow Up

Dawn your favorite ironic T-shirt and wipe that smile off of your face because *Blow Up* is back at Lee's Palace. The city's all-star team of cynical sourpusses will be there to dance the night away to music made by people who don't wear a lot of gold. 529 Bloor W. Students get in free.

Sunday, January 25

Miss Universe Canada Pageant Final

The remaining 15 beauties (from a field of 50) will be competing for both your envy and the title of Miss Universe Canada at Casino Rama. Tickets are \$60/80 at the door. World peace never looked so fabulous.

Monday, January 26

Average Joe

Put your self-esteem to the test and check out this mind-bendingly strange reality TV show at 10 p.m. on Global. Now that the latent homoeroticism of the "they have no idea what's coming" scene is over, the show is bound to get less creepy. Plus, one of the hunks cries...poor hunk.

Tuesday, January 27

Clean your apartment

If you've been going to all of these events as well as going to class, your apartment probably stinks. Go ahead, get out the mop, it's therapeutic.

Wednesday, January 28

Danny Michel

The indie rock heartslob is set to begin his four-night residency at the Rivoli. Tickets are \$14.59 and should be well worth the money.

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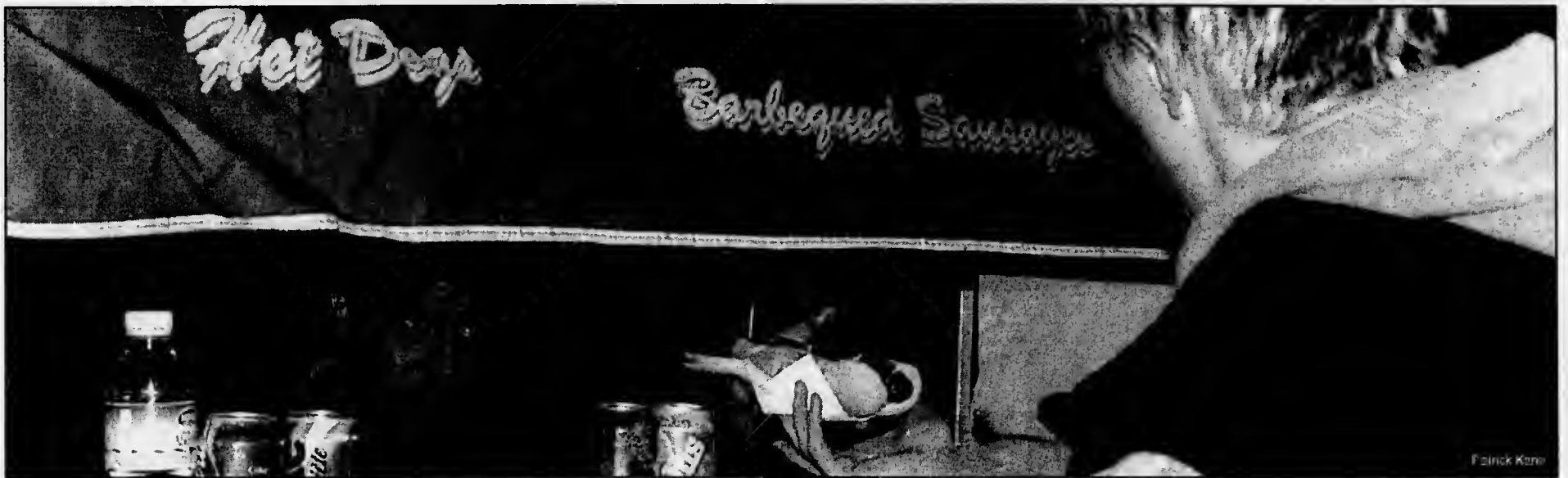
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Hut-dug! Snausage! Two-Fiddy!! Jabbar, Humber's vendor of splendor, serves up his "wurst" weiners to students outside of the rotunda.



A week in the life of ...

Right (top): CAPS manager, Gord Hagan, preps for a Thursday night of tomfoolery.



Right (lower): Students frantically flip through OSAP forms during the first week back.

Bottom (right): Second year Radio Broadcast student, Dylan Green, plays DJ on Humber Radio.



Bottom (left): Humber students waste hard earned money on textbooks they may never use.

Left: A Humber student enjoys a game of pickup between (possibly during) class.



BUSINESS

Humber golf grad swings Down Under

Duncan Savage lands in Sydney as golf coach for wealthy family

By Jon McCarthy

Humber alumni Duncan Savage has found the perfect way to deal with the frigid weather – flee to warmer climates.

Born to a golf-crazed family, Savage grew up around the sport and quickly found himself hooked. So much so that he hoped to make a living at it.

A graduate of Humber's professional golf management program, Savage, 24, is keeping warm in Sydney as the personal golf coach for one of Australia's wealthiest families.

In spring 2000, Savage jump-started his career by landing his first job teaching golf in British Columbia.

"During the golf and tourism

show in Toronto I met up with the head professional of the Whistler Golf Club for an interview. Later that day he offered me a position teaching at the Whistler Golf Club."

Savage's easy going attitude was popular with his students and he quickly put to use the skills he honed at Humber.

Life in the resort town was good. Working hard all day and playing even harder at night, Savage couldn't ask for anything more – but he got it anyway.

In April, Savage – now a head teaching professional – began instructing Robert Oatley, the grandson of Robert Ian Oatley, founder of the Rosemount Estate winery.

The two hit it off instantly, and frequent lessons followed.

"He's 16 now and I'm 24, a lot of golf coaches typically are a bit older," Savage said.

"I can be straight up with him and tell him what's happening with his swing or tell him what he needs to work on."

When it was time for the family to return home, Oatley surprised Savage by asking him to move to Australia and become his personal golf coach.

"I got pretty excited about it obviously and said 'yeah, that seems like something I could do. I've got nothing else to do during the winter.'"

One of Savage's instructors at Humber, Anne Edgar Dodds-Hebron, isn't surprised by his success.

"He doesn't follow a crowd. He tends to do his own thing and always did as a young man," she said. "I didn't expect that he would end up in Australia though."

Savage was met at the airport by the Oatley's driver, who took him to a family beach-house that was to be his home while in Sydney.

"I'm moving into their main home soon because the parents have gone back to Whistler to hang out for a few months. It will just be myself and the kid and his nanny. It's quite a bit nicer than the place that I'm in as far as amenities go and whatnot," Savage said, referring to things such as the family's private tennis court.

Since arriving, he has taken trips on the Oatley's 90-foot yacht and played golf with neighbour and tennis star Patrick Rafter.

Overall, Savage seems quite comfortable experiencing how the other half lives.

"There might be better jobs out there but I'm not sure if I'd give this up just to find out."



Duncan Savage shows off the swing that took him to Sydney.

Apple's iPod mini set for April launch

By Heather Osler

Apple Computer has announced the launch of a new iPod, their immensely popular personal digital music player.

On Jan. 6, the computer giant revealed the new iPod mini, a smaller, sleeker and more colourful version of its big brother.

The device will be available next month in the United States and will appear on Canadian shelves this April.

Unlike the original iPods, which include 15, 20 or 40 GB of memory space, the iPod mini has only 4 GB of space. That means space for about 1000 songs.

"iPod has revolutionized the way people listen to music," Apple CEO Steve

Jobs said in a press release. "We think it's going to be pretty popular, especially with younger music lovers."

Despite the original iPod's reputation as the height of MP3 player technology and as a status symbol for techies and rap stars alike, the cost of the player puts it beyond the range of most students. The original iPod starts at \$399, while the iPod mini will retail for about \$349.

"The price is coming down, but my money needs to go up first,"

Humber student Jeremy Sedge said.

"Other players are available with similar features at the same or better price," technology writer Sean Carruthers said. Carruthers, of *HUB Digital Living Magazine*, predicts that the new iPod minis will sell better as status symbols than for their technological credentials.

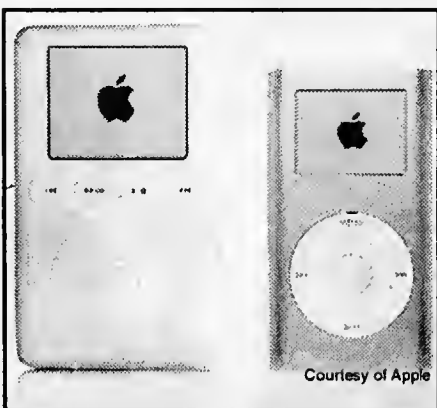
"I would put a MiniDisc above an iPod," RadioShack employee Adam Gallagher said. "The media is cheaper and you can get more recording time than an MP3 player."

The MiniDisc, originally manufactured by Sony, uses removable discs for song storage. With each \$5 disc holding up to 60 songs and with players retailing as low as \$150, it's easy to see why the device could give the iPod some stiff competition.

Other MP3 players on the market, most notably 1.5 GB players by Rio and RCA, come close to the iPod mini in size and features, but with a price tag of \$379, these players can't seem to touch the memory and price combination of Apple's new player.

However it seems that here on campus, the iPod mini won't be making as big of a splash as Apple would hope.

"It's still too expensive" Humber student Jillian Tremblay said. "I'm a starving student after all."



Apple's new iPod mini is smaller and sleeker than the original iPod

Student scholarships online

By Lauren La Rose

When you think of qualifications needed to earn scholarships, designing formal wear out of duct tape doesn't usually spring to mind.

Yet this unconventional task is one of many opportunities available online for cash-strapped students as a way to earn money for tuition.

Online scholarship databases provide students with a one-stop shop to learn not only about academic awards available at their own schools, but about those provided by organizations from across the country.

ScholarshipsCanada.com and Studentawards.com are two Toronto-based websites that launched in 1998. They each provide students with free access to award, scholarship and bursary listings.

What's more, applying for a financial award doesn't always require a sky-high academic average.

Studentawards client services director Tessa Mintz said students are

"interested in finding awards that not only recognize academic performance, but also for people with other skills and qualifications." The site receives funding from corporate sponsors like Scotiabank and MBNA Canada.

Students are required to fill out a short questionnaire to help create an

"You tell us who you are, and we match you with the awards."

online profile. The profile narrows the scope of listings to best match students with potential awards.

"You tell us who you are as an individual and we match you with the database. Instead of you having to sift through thousands of awards, we can say 'This is who you are, this is the way you are in school, these are

your hobbies, sports,'" Mintz said.

ScholarshipsCanada.com has 50,000 visitors to the site every month, while Studentawards.com has 700,000 members registered in Canada, with 15,000 new people signing up every month.

Financial aid office Manager Margaret Antonides estimates that 45 per cent of Humber students rely on government loans like OSAP to offset their tuition costs. Students can apply for a financial need or tuition bursary, or may qualify for the hundreds of academic awards offered at the college.

Both Studentawards.com and ScholarshipsCanada.com feature success stories of students who have received awards and both have been encouraged by the enthusiastic response to the services they offer.

"We know that our students are thrilled because we're able to tell them what's happening out there," Mintz said.

"We break the back of the work for them."

Canadian-made games hit big money

Games also garner acclaim from critics

By Erin Bell

The videogame industry made over \$20 billion in 2003 thanks to hits like *Star Wars: Knights of the Old Republic*, *SSX 3*, *NBA Street Vol. 2*, *Tom Clancy's Rainbow Six 3*, *The Simpsons: Hit and Run* and *Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time*.

It might surprise you to learn that all these games were made in Canada.

It certainly surprised Humber Media Foundation students James Worthington and Maciek Drozdziak.

"I thought most games came from the States and Japan," Worthington said.

"It's kind of cool," Drozdziak said, "but they don't advertise it enough."

2003 was the year that a number of Canadian studios put out more than a handful of A-list titles and made their presence felt in an industry traditionally dominated by the two juggernauts from south of the border and across the ocean.

Alberta-based Bioware Corp. had one of the biggest successes of the year with *Knights of the Old Republic (KotOR)*, a role-playing game based in the Star Wars universe

where players take on the role of a Jedi knight and can progress down either the Light or Dark path.

Released on July 18 for

Microsoft's Xbox console, *KotOR* set records for being both the fastest-selling and the top-selling Xbox title of all-time, according to a sales

report by the National Purchase Diary group.

Besides posting impressive sales figures, *KotOR* also won critical acclaim from many top videogame critics and media outlets. It won a Golden Joystick Award for Best Xbox Game and was voted Xbox Game of the Year by GameSpy.com and GameSpot.com. It was also named the Overall Game of the Year by GameSpy.com and TechTV.

"*KotOR* sold very well," Shawn Donovan said. An assistant manager at a Toronto video game store, Donovan said while games with the Star Wars name sell well, "there have also been some very bad Star Wars games in the past. Fortunately, *KotOR* is very good."

The Montreal studio of Ubi Soft Entertainment had a string of hits in 2003. Top titles included the innovative adventure *Beyond Good & Evil*, the cute platformer *Rayman 3* and the critically-acclaimed remake of a ten-year-old franchise *Prince of Persia: Sands of Time*, praised for its gorgeous graphics and near-flawless controls.

The Vancouver company Radical Entertainment explored the lighter side of gaming with *The Simpsons: Hit and Run*. The game is a spoof on the ultra-violent driving game *Grand*

Theft Auto: Vice City. It keeps the non-linear exploratory gameplay elements of *Vice City* while starring Simpsons characters instead of murderous gangsters.

"It's a great concept," Donovan said. "Anyone who loves the Simpsons would want to be in that world."

Electronic Arts Canada (EAC) has now firmly established itself as a premier developer of sports games for all consoles. Its *NBA Street Vol. 2* was named Xbox Sports Game of the Year by GameSpy.com, and its extreme snowboarding game *SSX 3* was named Best Alternative Sports Game by GameSpot.

"*SSX 3* was a big seller," Microplay games salesman Osaze McGregor said. "It's wicked. Just wicked."



SSX 3 was a popular title for PlayStation 2 in 2003. The snowboarding game was developed by Electronic Arts Canada.

Questions?
Comments?
Suggestions?

Email us at
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Video Game industry ready to wow fans with new titles

Preselling of major games underway

By Joseph Phung

If you thought 2003 was a good year for games, 2004 looks like it may be even better.

With Microsoft's Xbox, Nintendo's Gamecube and Sony's Playstation 2 video game consoles all releasing some popular titles this year, the gaming industry is gearing up for a big year.

Microsoft is getting ready to unload some big hits against the competition for 2004.

"*Halo 2* is the biggest title for Xbox this year," Video Games Plus manager Sidney Dias said.

This franchise series will once again have Master Chief saving mankind from the Covenant forces and features new vehicles, new weapons, destructible environments and Xbox Live support for online play. The game is slated for release in November and will retail for \$74.99.

Next month, Xbox owners can look forward to another big title, *Ninja Gaiden*.

After a couple of years of battling it out with the hunks and babes in the *Dead Or Alive* series, Ryu Hayabusa finally returns in his first solo adven-

ture since 1991 on the Nintendo Entertainment System.

This visually stunning title will have Hayabusa taking on the Vigor Empire and its leader the Holy Emperor.

According to Dias, *Ninja Gaiden* was supposed to be released last December, but the delay has allowed the developers to add Xbox Live gameplay and other enhancements. It will retail for \$69.99.

Not to be outdone by its rival, Nintendo has a couple of big titles for release this year on its Gamecube system.

"Gran Turismo 4 is going to be a big one."

Every gamer's favourite mullet-loving hero, Solid Snake, returns in *Metal Gear Solid: The Twin Snakes*.

"It's going to be a big seller. We already pre-sold quite a few," Dias said.

Interestingly, the game is being developed by Silicon Knights, based in St. Catharines. Expect a release sometime early in March and a price tag of \$57.99.

The most popular role-playing game series worldwide returns next month for the Gamecube. *Final*

Fantasy: Crystal Chronicles looks to be a huge seller regardless of its \$59.99 cost.

"It's pre-selling well too. You can play it alone or with three friends and it has good connectivity with the Gameboy Advance," Dias said.

Crystal Chronicles combat will be in real-time unlike the usual turn-based combat in most RPG's.

Sony also has some tricks up its sleeve with some huge releases for 2004.

"*Metal Gear Solid 3* and *Gran Turismo 4* are going to be big ones," Dias said.

Metal Gear Solid 3: Snake Eater is taking place in a jungle environment and will feature improvements to the stealth gameplay that gamers all know and love. Look for it to be released in November, retailing at \$74.99.

The *Gran Turismo* series has been hailed by many as the best racing game and with the upcoming release of *Gran Turismo 4* in the summer, it's racing to keep that reputation intact.

For \$69.99, *Gran Turismo 4* will feature more cars, courses, race modes, an all-new physics engine and online gameplay against six other players.

Fans of the series are excited about this game.

"I'm looking forward to *Gran Turismo 4*, it's going to be sick," Humber first year computer-engineer student Garreth Douglas said.

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SPORTS

Hawks smash rival teams

By Mark Ilczyszyn

After failing to live up to expectations in the first half of the season, the Humber Hawks men's volleyball team is looking to turn things around in 2004.

The team took the first step towards that goal this past weekend at the Seneca Volleyball Challenge. Before beginning play, the team was upbeat about their chances and excited about getting back into the swing of things.

"As a team we regrouped over the Christmas break, and in the process we got our house in order, and now we are going to come back with a vengeance," Hawk player Bart Babij said.

Humber's first match was against Seneca College and after trading points in all three sets they eventually lost the game.

Instead of folding, the team thrived and reeled off two straight wins, beating Fleming and Algonquin.

In order to get into the championship round the Hawks needed some luck and got it. They won a tiebreaker against Seneca, relegating the Sting to the consolation bracket.

Humber finished the round robin with a 2-1 record.

In the semi-finals the Hawks faced the scrappy Durham Lords. Durham pushed the Hawks to the



Humber starts the second half of the season on a winning note. Milad Mousoudi goes up for the spike during a round robin match at the Seneca Volleyball Challenge.

limit before Humber was able to put them away. Humber player Sokol Sakrama took control of the game with his precision setting and good decision-making.

"Sokol is an extremely talented player who is the quarterback of this

team, and he is an extension of the coaching staff on the court," Humber head coach Wayne Wilkins said.

Humber was off to the finals against the Algonquin Thunder, winning by scores of 25-17 and 25-21.

"They are a good team and when

you make 16 errors, a team such as Humber will pounce all over that. The team played smooth and eventually they will contend for the OCAA championships in late February," Algonquin head coach Brian Rourke said.

Two players win all star MVP awards

Humber slams competition

By Corey Higgs

Humber players brought home two MVP awards at the 2004 OCAA basketball all-star games in Windsor last week.

Sarah Moxley and Dejvis Begaj of the Hawks were both named MVP's for the east in Saturday's competition.

"It was a pretty good time for us all, especially getting to know the players from the other teams in the

league," Begaj said.

First-year Hawk forward, Moxley, finished the game with 14 points. "It was fun to play against the other girls in the league," Moxley said. "I think with hard work and lots of conditioning we will finish first overall this year."

Aleisha Colquhoun, of the women's team, and Jonathon Wyse, of the men's team, did well in the slam-dunk competition.

"All our players represented

Humber very well and it was a good weekend overall," Humber women's head coach Denise Perrier said.

Colquhoun finished in the top four in the slam-dunk competition. Wyse finished second.

The crowd at the game disagreed with Wyse's second place finish and booed loudly.

"His last dunk, a double-handed reverse was far superior to his competitor's tomahawk jam," spectator Garret McRae said.



Aleisha Colquhoun slam-dunks in the top four.

Sports Rap



Parity has come to the National Football League in the form of the Carolina Panthers.

The small market team and the pride of the Carolinas is ready to take 'em on the New England Patriots in Super Bowl XXXVIII.

Much has been said about 'super teams' like the New York Yankees and the Detroit Red Wings. They regularly have the highest payrolls and, while successful, money doesn't always buy championships.

You need look no further than the Oakland Athletics of major league baseball to see how small payroll teams can also win.

The Athletics and their general manager Billy Beane adopted a program in which they use rookie players and fringe players that save them salary. Once a player becomes eligible for free agency and the price to keep him goes up he is either traded or released to keep the team's payroll to a manageable level.

The Panthers are definitely a small market team relying on support from more than one state (never mind only a city like the Yankees do).

Certainly the Yankees are an older team steeped in tradition and have fans in most cities of America but that alone doesn't guarantee fiscal liquidity and a championship team.

The Green Bay Packers have been around as long as professional football has been played south of the border.

They have a large following across America. But, that alone didn't help them in trying to resign big name players such as Gilbert Brown when they became free agents and demanded large contracts. The Green Bay fans had to buy shares of the team just to keep them in 'cheese land' let alone ponying up big bucks to sign marquee players.

The Patriots have a wealthy owner and are situated in a football hotbed surrounded by many large cities such as Boston. This draw alone enables them to sign big name players and keep fans satisfied.

The Panthers are forced to draw fans from two states and with a restricted payroll are left to sign older players on the cusp of retirement or must play first year rookies who lack experience.

When Super Bowl Sunday rolls around, this is one person who hopes the little guy takes his slingshot, loads a football in it and strikes down Goliath.

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Women's v-ball team loses killer instinct

Hawks can't squeak win over Cambrian in semi's

By Josh Grunberg

The women's volleyball team is looking to regroup after a disappointing performance last weekend at Durham College's Killer Instinct Cup.

Although finishing second in their pool, the Hawks played poorly throughout the round robin making countless errors and often looking unsettled on the court.

"All weekend we didn't play very well. In order to be successful we've got to play as a team," Head Coach Chris Wilkins said.

While the team didn't play up to standard, the three games they lost in the round robin were only by two points.

The Hawks lost in the semi-finals to their nemesis, the Cambrian Golden Shield 2-1 (25-23, 17-25, 16-14).

Humber and Cambrian are arguably the two top teams in the province. When these two teams meet, it provides very exciting volleyball.

In a must-win scenario, the Hawks swept St. Clair 2-0 (25-15, 25-12), in their final round robin

match. Humber had help from Durham and squeaked into the playoffs by virtue of a tiebreaker.

It was not the way Wilkins had planned on advancing.

"We played like a bunch of individuals, and when you do that it's tough to win," he said.

The Hawks are a team loaded with talent, yet have struggled to come together and realize their full

Hawks player, Amanda Arlette said. "We'll have moments of brilliance and then a loss of focus."

In the semi-final match against Cambrian, Humber picked up their play winning one game 25-17.

In the third and deciding game, trailing 14-10 and facing elimination, the Hawks scored four straight points to tie the game but it wasn't enough.

The Hawks continue to confound, dominating their opponents some nights and other nights appearing disinterested. Given the quality of opponents within their division, the Hawks have been able to get away with poor play.

"We've identified that we have two different teams, an A team and a B team. The B team is the error team and when that team shows up it bites us right in the ass," Wilkins said.

Without a doubt the Hawks A team needs to show up if they want to have any chance at winning the provincial championship or the national championship to be held at Humber in March.

The Hawks will look to get back on track this weekend as they host Lambton on Saturday and St. Clair on Sunday.

"We played like a bunch of individuals."

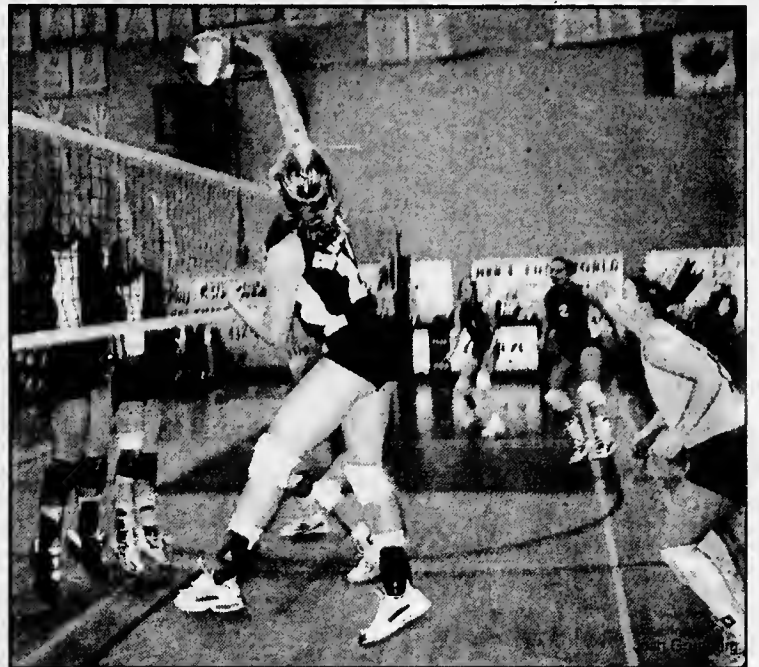
potential.

The team's defence, improving immensely from the start of the year, stepped backwards this past weekend.

"It's back to the drawing board with defence and passing. Those are the two things hurting us the most right now," Wilkins said. "If we can't play defence, we can't be successful."

The Hawks shot themselves in the foot by committing many service errors.

"We are serving away games,"



A Humber player goes for a kill. The Hawks remain undefeated in regular season play with a 6-0 record.

Men's soccer envisions repeat of gold medal

By Rishi Lal

Indoor soccer tryouts began last week for the men's and women's teams.

While medal hopes are a possibility for both teams, the men's squad is the defending provincial champion and have won the gold medal five out of the past six years.

"We are going to have a skillful team and we are going to be difficult to beat again," said Arturo Alava, a player/assistant coach for the men's squad. "We expect nothing less than a gold medal."

The men's tryout drew 25 players. Alva said 12 to 14 players will make the final roster.

Key players to watch in the upcoming season are: midfielder Matt Palleschi, an All-Canadian last year; defender Jason Mesa, midfielder Cameron Medwin and

defender Arturo Alava.

The women's team is also optimistic but their goals are more pragmatic.

"I will be very happy if the team finishes in the top three as last year the squad failed to move on to the medal round at the provincials," Pileggi said.

The women's tryout had a far smaller turnout than the men's. But Pileggi said he is not concerned.

"All the players trying out played on the outdoor team and have the experience to compete in the indoor game."

The women look to regain their past success. They won the gold medal at the provincial championships for three consecutive years from 1998 to 2001.

The Championships for both the men and women take place March 25-26 at Conestoga College.

Men's b-ball blows away opponents

Defence solid in Humber victories

Team takes one game lead over Sheridan Bruins

By Branko Belan

The men's basketball team stayed in first place netting two victories last week.

The Hawks cruised to a 63-41 win over the Mohawk Mountaineers last Thursday and a 70-52 win over arch-rival Sheridan Bruins Tuesday.

At first, against the Mountaineers, they struggled, failing to convert many scoring chances to points.

"We were kind of sluggish in the first half," Hawk's forward, Aron Bariagabre said. "In the second half we started to play together and everyone contributed today."

Humber's defensive strategy was able to limit Mohawk's scoring to the outside.

The Hawks defence shut down the Mountaineers in the second half holding them to only two field goals in the first 10 minutes. Humber maintained a 30-point lead with less than nine minutes to play.

Dejvis Begaj led the team with eight points.

Mohawk coach, Frank Lostracco,



Hawk's player, Jonathan Joseph, watches team-mates battle for ball possession with a Seneca player in yesterday's game.

was not pleased with his team's play.

"We weren't in the game," Lostracco said. "They totally dominated us."

Humber Assistant Coach, Darrell Glenn, was much more positive

about the result.

"In the first half we were a little selfish with the ball. In the second half, we got the ball to our guys inside and we really got down to playing Humber basketball."

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ADVERTISE IN THE HUMBER ETCETERA

Captain Rodak returns with a passion



"He's a big part of the team and to have him out hurts," coach Joe Washkurak said.

By Brett Standen and Eric Collins

Humber's strength became their Achilles heel in a bitter 7-5 loss to St. Clair last Saturday.

After last week's 7-1 win over Fleming, Humber's goaltending took a turn for the worse as St. Clair scored only 25 seconds into the game.

"It's tough to win when your usually strong goaltending has a tough game," Humber coach Joe Washkurak said.

The St. Clair game was captain James Rodak's second game of the season after being out with a hernia.

"He's a big part of our team and to have him out with an injury hurts," Washkurak said.

By the second period St. Clair was ahead 4-0. Needing a boost, Washkurak pulled the starting goalie, Nick Grainger and put in back-up Tucker Madden.

The Hawks showed grit and determination battling back with goals from Steve Nobili and James Rodak. They went into the dressing room at the second intermission trailing by three goals.

"We showed that we never give

up and that our team has the heart to come back from a big deficit to make it a close game," Rodak said. "We're improving as a team."

The start of the third period mirrored the start of the first, with the Hawks giving up two quick goals only minutes apart.

Once again the Hawks showed resiliency and continued creating scoring chances.

Jason Goldenberg scored 15 minutes into the third to bring Humber within two goals.

"[The game] was a big confidence builder," Washkurak said. "I liked the character of the guys not to give up."

Adding to Humber's misfortunes was Seth Gray, last season's scoring leader, breaking his skate blade in the first period. Humber forward Scotty Nicolls put team before individual and gave his skates to Gray enabling him to play.

"It was an outstanding gesture," Washkurak said. "He knew the seriousness of the game. He impressed everyone and is the ultimate team player."

The Hawks get a chance for revenge on Saturday Jan. 31 when they host the Saints at Westwood Arena.

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